Helsinki University Library

Date 13.4.1984 Your letter of Our reference 255/611-61-82 Your reference

Mr. Janis Krēsliņš 3413 Giles Place Bronx, NY 10463 USA

Dear Mr. Krēsliņš,

your letter of March 16, 1984 and the check for 7 500 dollars arrived already some time ago. I have delayed my answer in order to be able to answer your questions at the same time.

First of all, I would like to send you our most sincere thanks for all the efforts which have resulted in the grant given to our library. We shall do our best to use the grant as efficiently as possible. Quite a lot of the work has already been done, but the original newspapers are very brittle and in a bad shape.

You will find an enclosed list of the names of those Latvian newspapers which we already have on microfilm and which are in such a condition that positive copies can be produced out of them. In addition to this listing we have quite a number of films but their quality is so poor that no copies can be drawn. This was a very sad discovery for us too. But the standards and methods of microfilming in the early 60's seem not to have been satisfactory.

The price of additional copies of microfilms is independent from the number of orders. The library has to pay all the basic costs necessary for the production of negative films. The price of the copies, which is 125 Finnish marks for a reel, includes only immediate costs (material, labour). This arrangement is stipulated by the existing laws, which prevent the Library from keeping any part of the sales income. The same price also applies to microfilms mentioned above.

According to Mrs. Leena Pärssinen the following newspapers are going to be filmed this spring: Balss, Tehwija and Deenas Lapa. The microfilming continues during the summer and it will start from the items mentioned in your letter of November 30, 1983. The

first item will be Mahjas Weesis. We will inform you about the progress. The next report will be sent to you when we have received the first films.

I hope that I have succeeded in answering your questions. Should there still be some points to be clarified, we are happy to send more detailed information which may be needed when the project is discussed by the board of the Latvian Foundation.

Sincerely yours

Sincerely yours

Esko Häkli

MUSEOVIRASTO.

NATIONAL BOARD OF ANTIQUITIES

Helsinki May 2, 1984

Our ref 1165

Mr. Janis Kreslins 3413 Giles Place Bronx N.Y. 10463 U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Kreslins,

I am sorry that we have not been more effective with the photographs you ordered of our Latvian materials. There have been problems with the photographing, and most of all, we have had almost no time to assist the photographer. The museum building is being renovated and this means lots of extra work which cannot wait.

We have 69 slides ready to be sent to you. They cover most of the various types of objects in the Latvian collection. The shirts and most of the headgear have not yet been photographed. There are some black and white prints of the shirts, nevertheless, taken previously, in case you want representatives of those now as well. We hope to continue photographing the Latvian material some time during the summer. Both the hats and the shirts as well as some of the other unphotographed objects require a visit to the textile laboratory and are waiting their turn. The laboratory has been unable to receive our objects all winter because of a large exhibition.

The bill for the 69 slides á 50 Fmk plus 47 Fmk for packing, bank and mailing costs adds up to 3497 Fmk (about 583 U.S. dollars). We shall send the slides as soon as we have received the check.

You asked where you might be able to buy a copy of A.O. Heikel's report dealing with his expedition to Latvia. It has been published in the ethnographical series of the Finno-Ugric Society, Helsinki, about 1909, and is has definitely been sold out. With good luck you might eventually get a copy giving a permanent order to a good antiquarian bookstore or you could also order a photo copy from the Society or from us. Perhaps it is worth the while to write to the Society, address Säätytalo, Snellmaninkatu 9 - 11, 00170 Helsinki 17, in case they have a spare copy in their library.

Sincerely yours,

Pirjo Varjola