

bey Ihrer anwesenheit zu Königsberg den ChurFürsten von der mit mir getroffenen undt so hoch undt thewer versicherten bündnüß abwendig zu machen zu helffen, ihr eußerstes ahngewandt, undt keinen scheu getragen allerhandt bedrohungen undt beschimpfender reden gegen meine alda geweßene Ministren auszustoßen; Also undt nachdem dergleichen nachtheiliges procedere undt feindseeligkeit nicht die geringste ursach gewest, zu der ruin undt gefahr, welche meine Lande und Leuthe eine zeithero betroffen, habe Ich selbe so wenig alß angeregte verunglimpfung länger erdulden noch verschmertzten können, besondern meinem FeldtMarschall Graff Douglas bey seiner abfertigung aus Schweden Instruction undt ordre gegeben, sich des Fürsten undt seiner Lande zu versichern, daß aber derselbe sothaner seiner Instruction directo zuwiedern gelebet, undt sich verleiten laßen, mit dem Fürsten in einen gütlichen tractat zu tretten, nicht aber meinen erwehnten beföhlich ahn Ihm undt seinen Landen sofort zu exeqviren, solches stehet zu deßelben künftigen verantworttung.

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SUMMARY

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*Duke Jacob of Courland's Captivity  
in Ivangorod in 1659–1660*

Sweden, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Russia and Denmark fought the Second Northern War (1654–1661) during which Sweden occupied Courland in autumn 1658. In the last days of September the Swedes invaded the castle of Mitau. For the time being, Duke Jacob continued to rule Courland nominally, but soon Swedish authorities realised their attempts of collaboration with the Duke were futile since the latter refused to acknowledge the King of Sweden as his liege lord. Insurgent mentality of Courland and its further incitement from neighbouring countries forced the Swedes to take the Duke, his family and part of his court in captivity and send them to Riga on 30 October (9 November) 1658. In April 1659, as the threat of war grew, Swedish King Charles X Gustav decided to send the Duke and his family even further away to Ivangorod. The Duke's captivity in the Ingrian border castle lasted from August 1659 to the end of May 1660. Only the Peace of Oliwa on 23 May (3 April) 1660 put an end of Jacob's captivity and he was able to return to his war-torn land.

Based on archive materials, this article provides insight into the time Duke Jacob and his family had to spend in Ivangorod regarding everyday life as well as economic and political aspects. Simon Grundel Helmfeldt, the governor-general, was held responsible of guarding, hosting and

supporting the Duke and his family in Ivangorod. At first, Helmfeldt had to oversee various repairs in the fortress, later his main task was provision of food. Ingria had been the battleground for the Russian-Swedish War, and therefore cattle, fish, crops and beverages had to be obtained from Livonia, Estonia and Finland in addition to Ingria. Following the orders of King Charles X Gustav, Helmfeldt held several conversations with Duke Jacob about the political situation of Courland. He then passed on the information he had gathered to the King. Generally, the Duke and his family and court were maintained well in Ivangorod according to their social standing. Sweden spent at least 20,000 silver thalers on the captives' maintenance. At the same time, there were several restrictions for Duke Jacob. Initially he and his wife Louise Charlotte were forbidden of all written correspondence; later the content of their letters was monitored. Also, their mobility was restricted. Finally, the last important task for Heimfeldt was to escort the Duke from Ivangorod back to Riga.