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DATE: February 10 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: c.o.b. February 14

SUBJECT: H.R. RES. 60 - LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GERGEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HARPER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLARK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SS	WILLIAMSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLE <i>CAVANCY</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VON DAMM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BRADY/SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FELDSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>LIVINGSTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Remarks:

Please provide any edits/comments on the attached draft proclamation by c.o.b. Monday, February 14th.

Thank you.

Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President
(x2702)

Response:

SIGNED

I have reviewed and concur in the subject proclamation (HR-60) on Lithuanian Independence Day.

William P. Clark
William P. Clark
for FEB 1 4 1983

MEMORANDUM**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**

February 14, 1983

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM P. CLARK

FROM:

PAULA DOBRIANSKY ¹⁷**SIGNED**

SUBJECT:

HR-60 re Draft Proclamation on Lithuanian
Independence Day

I have reviewed and concur with the draft proclamation, HR-60 on Lithuanian Independence Day. Please sign and forward the White House Staffing Memorandum to Richard Darman at Tab I.

Roger Robinson concurs.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign and forward the Staffing Memorandum to Richard Darman at Tab I.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Attachment:

Tab I Staffing Memorandum to Richard Darman with draft
proclamation

National Security Council
The White House

540

1347

Package # _____

FEB 1 4 1983

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	ACTION
John Poindexter	<u>1</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>A</u>
Bud McFarlane	_____	_____	_____
Jacque Hill	_____	_____	_____
Judge Clark	_____	_____	_____
John Poindexter	_____	_____	_____
Staff Secretary	<u>2</u>	_____	<u>D</u>
Sit Room	_____	_____	_____

FEB 1 4 1983

I-Information A-Action R-Retain D-Dispatch N-No further Action

DISTRIBUTION

cc: VP Meese Baker Deaver Other _____

COMMENTS

no today



FEB 10 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res 60 - "Lithuanian Independence Day"
Sponsors - Rep. Russo (D) Illinois and 17 others

Last Day for Action

As soon as possible and no later than February 16, 1983.

Purpose

Designates February 16, 1983, as "Lithuanian Independence Day."

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget	Approval
Department of State	Approval (unofficially)
National Security Council	No objection

Discussion

H.J. Res. 60 directs the President to issue a proclamation designating February 16, 1983, as "Lithuanian Independence Day" and calling on the people of the United States to celebrate such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. Sixty-five years ago, on February 16, 1918, founders of the Lithuanian Republic declared their country's independence.

The enrolled resolution passed the House and the Senate by voice vote. A draft proclamation, prepared by the Department of State, is attached for your consideration.

James M. Frey
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

5

LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

Sixty-five years ago a small nation achieved freedom in the aftermath of a world war. Proclaiming the Lithuanian Republic, its founders stepped forward on February 16, 1918, to assert their country's independence and commitment to a government based on justice, democracy and the rights of the individual.

Twenty-two years later Soviet tyranny imposed itself over Lithuania and denied the Lithuanian people their just right of national self-determination. The United States has never in the intervening years recognized the forcible incorporation of Lithuania into the Soviet Union.

An enduring belief in freedom for all people unites Americans everywhere. But we must be vigilant in the protection of our common ideal, for so long as freedom is denied others, ours is not secure. Therefore, we mark this anniversary of Lithuanian independence with a renewed pledge that the blessings of liberty should be restored to Lithuania.

The Congress of the United States has, by House Joint Resolution 60, authorized and requested the President to proclaim February 16, 1983, as Lithuanian Independence Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim February 16, 1983, as Lithuanian Independence Day.

I invite the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and deeds and to reaffirm their dedication to the ideals which unite us and inspire others.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
day of _____, in the year of our Lord
nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence
of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

> Baltic-American
DAY
Paula Jabriansky
7/1
7/1
7

1-35 P.

2 -13-83 07:21 PED

BY HELEN THOMAS

UPI WHITE HOUSE REPORTER

WASHINGTON (UPI) - DECLARING THE UNITED STATES HAS DEMONSTRATED FLEXIBILITY ON ARMS CONTROL, PRESIDENT REAGAN URGED THE SOVIET UNION MONDAY TO CONCENTRATE ON SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA "INSTEAD OF MAKING MEANINGLESS GESTURES."

"THE BALL IS NOW IN THEIR COURT," REAGAN SAID IN A SPEECH IN THE EAST ROOM WHERE HE SIGNED A PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING TUESDAY AS BALTIC FREEDOM DAY.

"WE SHOULD NEVER DELUDE OURSELVES AS TO WHO AND WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH" WHILE NEGOTIATIONS PROCEED, REAGAN TOLD THE GATHERING OF SOME 200 GUESTS WITH ETHNIC TIES TO THE BALTIC STATES.

"I PROMISE YOU THAT IN THE PROCESS OF SEEKING PEACE WE WILL NOT BE LURED FROM OUR MORAL COMMITMENT TO THOSE CAPTIVE PEOPLE WHO ARE NOW HELD IN BONDAGE," HE SAID.

IN THE PROCLAMATION, REAGAN SAID THE UNITED STATES HAS NEVER RECOGNIZED THE "FORCED INCORPORATION OF LITHUANIA, LATVIA AND ESTONIA INTO THE SOVIET UNION AND WILL NOT DO SO IN THE FUTURE."

HE TOLD THE AUDIENCE, WHICH CHEERED HIM ENTHUSIASTICALLY: "THE SOVIETS HAVE TRIED THEIR BEST TO RUSSIFY THE BALTIC PEOPLES ... THE WORSHIP OF GOD HAS BEEN BRUTALLY SUPPRESSED ... ANY LEGITIMATE ATTEMPT AT INDEPENDENCE FROM MOSCOW HAS BEEN SUPPRESSED ... ANY TANGIBLE EFFORT TO PRESERVE THEIR NATIONAL IDENTITY HAS BEEN DENIED ... BUT THE SOVIETS HAVE NEVER BROKEN THEIR SPIRIT."

"IT SEEMS IRONIC THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REPRESSION I'VE BEEN DESCRIBING ARE NOW PROPOSING AN ATOM-FREE BALTIC AND A NORDIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE, ESPECIALLY SINCE UNIDENTIFIED SUBMARINES HAVE REPEATEDLY VIOLATED THE TERRITORIAL WATERS OF NORWAY AND NEUTRAL SWEDEN," REAGAN SAID. "THIS KIND OF CONDUCT DOESN'T LEND ITSELF TO A SPIRIT OF TRUST."

HE SAID THE "CURIOUS THING, IF YOU REALLY STOP TO THINK ABOUT IT," IS THAT THE SOVIETS DESCRIBE A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE AS A PLACE WHERE NO NUCLEAR WEAPONS WILL BE DEPLOYED, WHILE, "THE KIND OF NUCLEAR FREE ZONES THAT WE WANT IN THE WORLD ARE ... ZONES WHERE NUCLEAR WEAPONS WILL NOT BE LANDING AND EXPLODING."

"I URGE THE SOVIETS TO CONCENTRATE ON SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA INSTEAD OF MAKING MEANINGLESS GESTURES," REAGAN SAID. "LAST WEEK I UNVEILED A NEW ARMS CONTROL PROPOSAL IN GENEVA. WE HOPE THE SOVIETS WILL TAKE THIS PROPOSAL SERIOUSLY. WE'VE DEMONSTRATED FLEXIBILITY. THE BALL IS NOW IN THEIR COURT."

"THERE ARE THOSE WHO BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD MUFFLE OUR CRITICISM OF TOTALITARIANISM IN THE MISTAKEN NOTION THAT THIS WILL FURTHER THE CAUSE OF PEACE," HE SAID. "THIS WILL NOT BRING PEACE."

UPI 06-11 00 07:21 PED

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 24, 1983

UNCLASSIFIED

FILE - BALTIC Countries

DDSR/MSK

action to lead

8



MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WILLIAM P. CLARK
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Draft Presidential Message to Baltic American
Freedom League

The Department recommends that the President send a message as requested to the Baltic American Freedom League on the occasion of its annual Human Rights Conference and Banquet. A draft message is attached.

Attachment:
As stated.

L. Paul Bremer, III
L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

I am delighted to send greetings and best wishes to the Baltic-American Freedom League on the occasion of your annual Human Rights Conference and Banquet.

Baltic Americans exemplify the highest ideals of concerned citizenship. Your staunch commitment to democracy has enriched our great country. Your dedication to the cause of freedom for the peoples of the Baltic states reminds us of the blessings of liberty that we in the United States enjoy. We must all rededicate ourselves to ensuring that some day those same blessings will again be shared by the citizens of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

The United States has never recognized the forcible incorporation of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia into the Soviet Union and remains committed to supporting the just aspirations of the Baltic peoples to live in peace and freedom.

I salute the activities of the Baltic American Freedom League and wish you an enjoyable evening.

Sincerely,

The Baltic American Freedom League
P. O. Box 29657
Los Angeles, California

REFERRAL

8304615

DATE: 15 FEB 83

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

10

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: WHEELER

SOURCE: LIVINGSTON, D

DATE: 14 FEB 83

KEYWORDS: HUMAN RIGHTS

USSR

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR PRES MSG FOR HUMAN RIGHTS CONF & BANQUET OF BALTIC

REQUIRED ACTION: RECOMMENDATIONS / DRAFT MSG

DUE DATE: 18 FEB 83

COMMENTS:

Cathy Milleson
FOR MICHAEL O WHEELER

STAFF SECRETARY

*Received in 5/5-I
2/16 at 10:12 AM (2/27)*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 14, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR MICHAEL WHEELER

FROM: DODIE LIVINGSTON *DL*

SUBJECT: Baltic American Freedom League

A Presidential message is requested for the Human Rights Conference and Banquet of the Baltic American Freedom League, which will be held in Los Angeles on March 12, 1983.

We would appreciate your advice and recommendations. If a message is suggested, please provide a draft.

Happy Valentine's Day!

BALTIC AMERICAN FREEDOM LEAGUE

Tel. (213) 666-1820

(714) 760-0477

12

P.O. Box 29657, Los Angeles, California 90029

8304615

Honorary Members:

Simas Kudirka

Vladas Sakalys

January 10, 1983

Chairman:

Anthony B. Mazeika

United States Mission
to the United Nations
799 United Nations Plaza
New York, New York

Organizing Committee:

Danute G. Barauskas

Dr. Ansis Blakis

Saulius Damušis

Karlis Kalejs

Juozas Kojelis

Jonas Matulaitis

Heino Nurmberg

Valdis Pavlovskis

Avo Piirisild

Viivi Piirisild

P. Algis Raulinaitis

Leonard Valiukas

Attn: Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick
c/o Ms. Irene Payne, Public Relations
Officer

Dear Ambassador,

This letter follows up my recent (1/7/83) telephone conversation with Ms. Irene Payne and once again serves to cordially invite you to attend as keynote speaker the League's spring Human Rights Conference and Banquet reception. The Conference and Banquet will be held in Los Angeles, Saturday evening, March 12, 1983. As previously noted the keynote speaker at last spring's Conference (May 23, 1982) was Melvyn Levitsky, Deputy Asst. Secy. of State.

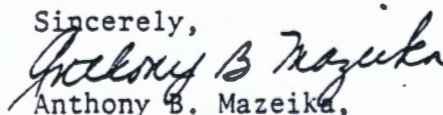
The Baltic American Freedom League, founded in 1981, is a nationwide organization representing Americans of Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonian descent and their friends. Its purpose is to mobilize Americans of Baltic ancestry into an effective and concerned citizenry, and to raise public consciousness about Balts and Baltic American issues. A listing of activities has been submitted to Ms. Payne under separate cover (11/10/82).

Baltic Americans continue to be interested in raising the Baltic Nations Issue at the United Nations and at other appropriate public and international forums.

We enthusiastically and sincerely extend this invitation to the Ambassador as an opportunity to inform the Greater Los Angeles public concerning current events, issues, and U.S. expectations at the U.N. this year.

Anticipating your positive response,

Sincerely,



Anthony B. Mazeika,
President

Baltic American Freedom League

714 859-0340

213 426-6272

MOBILIZATION FOR FREEDOM

SMA076(1841)(1-0156451141)PD 05/21/82 1838

13

TX WHITEHOUSE WSH DLY PD
014 DLY GOVT WHITE HOUSE DC MAY 21
PMS THE BALTIC-AMERICAN FREEDOM LEAGUE
C/O _____
~~215 21ST PLACE~~
~~SANTA MONICA CA 90402~~

member -

IT IS A PLEASURE TO SEND WARMEST GREETINGS TO THE BALTIC-AMERICAN FREEDOM LEAGUE AND ALL ATTENDING THIS HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE DINNER.

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM AND LIBERTY FOR ALL MANKIND AND FOR THEIR CONCERN ON BEHALF OF THE BALTIC NATIONS OF LITHUANIA, LATVIA AND ESTONIA.

BALTIC AMERICANS ARE PARTICULARLY AWARE OF THE PRICELESS VALUE OF FREEDOM. LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT OUR CITIZENS SHARE YOUR HOPES FOR REGAINING FREEDOM ONE DAY FOR YOUR ANCESTRAL HOMELAND ON THE BALTIC SEA.

THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO RECOGNIZE THE FREE STATES OF LITHUANIA, LATVIA AND ESTONIA AND WILL NEVER ACKNOWLEDGE THE FORCIBLE INCORPORATION OF THESE REPUBLICS INTO THE SOVIET UNION. WE REMAIN STEADFASTLY COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE TO CHOOSE THE FORM OF GOVERNMENT UNDER WHICH THEY LIVE.

YOU HAVE MY BEST WISHES FOR A MOST ENJOYABLE EVENING AND FOR

A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE.

SINCERELY,

RONALD REAGAN

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

14

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: WHEELER

SOURCE: LIVINGSTON, D

DATE: 14 FEB 83

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REQUIRED ACTION: RECOMMENDATIONS / DRAFT MSG

DUE DATE: 18 FEB 83

COMMENTS:

Cathy Milleson
FOR MICHAEL O WHEELER

STAFF SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

15

February 14, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR MICHAEL WHEELER

FROM: DODIE LIVINGSTON *DL*

SUBJECT: Baltic American Freedom League

A Presidential message is requested for the Human Rights Conference and Banquet of the Baltic American Freedom League, which will be held in Los Angeles on March 12, 1983.

We would appreciate your advice and recommendations. If a message is suggested, please provide a draft.

Happy Valentine's Day!

BALTIC AMERICAN FREEDOM LEAGUE

Tel.(213) 666-1820 (714) 760-0477

P.O. Box 29657, Los Angeles, California 90029

16

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Vladas Sakalys

Chairman:

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Jonas Matulaitis

Heino Nurmberg

Valdis Pavlovskis

Avo Piirisild

Viivi Piirisild

P. Algis Raulinaitis

Leonard Valiukas

January 10, 1983

United States Mission
to the United Nations
799 United Nations Plaza
New York, New York

Attn: Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick
c/o Ms. Irene Payne, Public Relations
Officer

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TVX WHITEHOUSE WSH DLY PD

17

014 DLY GOVT WHITE HOUSE DC MAY 21

FMS THE BALTIC-AMERICAN FREEDOM LEAGUE

C/O

~~215 21ST PLACE~~

~~SANTA MONICA CA 90402~~

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YOU HAVE MY BEST WISHES FOR A MOST ENJOYABLE EVENING AND FOR

A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE.

SINCERELY,

RONALD REAGAN

FILE
Baltic
Dobriansky
Countries
1001
50
18

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 28, 1983

I am delighted to send greetings and best wishes to the Baltic-American Freedom League on the occasion of your annual Human Rights Conference and Banquet.

Baltic Americans exemplify the highest ideals of concerned citizenship. Your staunch commitment to democracy has enriched our great country. Your dedication to the cause of freedom for the peoples of the Baltic states reminds us of the blessings of liberty that we in the United States enjoy. We must all rededicate ourselves to ensuring that some day those same blessings will again be shared by the citizens of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

The United States has never recognized the forcible incorporation of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia into the Soviet Union and remains committed to supporting the just aspirations of the Baltic peoples to live in peace and freedom.

I salute the activities of the Baltic American Freedom League and wish you an enjoyable evening.

RONALD REAGAN

Mr. Anthony B. Mazeika
President
The Baltic American Freedom League
P. O. Box 29657
Los Angeles, California

RR:LIVINGSTON:
cc: K.Osborne/J.Burgess/W.P.Clark/M.Wheeler/D.Livingston/CF
(Draft information provided by State Department)
EVENT: MARCH 12, 1983

(A) * do not recognize the subjugation of Lat, Est, Lith as a permanent condition.

1. East/West: 2 principles: restraint/reciprocity 19
Poland / Afghanistan treaties, agreements, visa extension
public/private

2. Baltic countries: US Govt. policy - PC 97-196 -

(a) Baltic Freedom Day (June 14, 1982) -

"The indep. of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia was extinguished in 1939 as a result of a nefarious deal struck between the Sov. Union & Nazi Germany. Hitler handed Stalin the 3 Baltic republics as a bonus to secure his cooperation in the destruction of Poland & a green light in launching war against the Western democracies. Subsequently, hundreds of thousands of Baltic nationals were deported to the Sov. Union, where many of them perished in prisons & forced labor camps: The darkest day in that human tragedy occurred on June 14, 1941,

- Some survivors are citizens of US
- their aspirations for a better future for the peoples of E., Lat, Lith. - new meaning to our own nation's commitment to freedom.

> goal of democratic freedom & self-determin.

(b) Jeanne Kirkpatrick - distrib. a copy of the Pres.'s proclamat. to U.N.

(c) Baltic-Amer. Freedom League Conf. on H.R.

(d) designation on maps - geog. boundaries - Est, Lat, Lith.

Wh. H. - receipt for Baltic-Americans

(B) "We should never delude ourselves as to who & what we are dealing with." "I promise you that in the process of seeking peace we will not be allowed from our moral commitment to those captive people who are now held in bondage." USG has never recognized forced incorp. & will not do so in the fut.

Contrast - those subject to repression & Sov. prop. for Baltic clear free zone.

1) E/W - 2 principles

2) Baltic - 2 prs.:

(public / private) -



a.

statements: w/ req. to the resp. indep. days

FMs / CSCE / bilaterals to raise specific h. rights viol., as well as indiv. cases

(b) Baltic Freedom Day 1982 / 1983.

(events, statements broadcast by VOA / RFE - Est., Latvian, Lith. Ukrain. Russians)

such we share your hopes for regaining freedom one day for ↓ ancestral homelands.

> alicies, targeting - all audiences.)

domestic, regional, overseas.

c. On July 26, 1983 we mark the 61st anniversary of the de jure recognition of the 3 Balt. Reps. Lith, Lat, Est, by the US.

On July 26, 1983, we mark the sixty-first anniversary of the de jure recognition of the three Baltic Republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia by the United States. Each of these states was a full member of the League of Nations and had signed non-aggression treaties with the Soviet Union. Yet all three countries were forcibly incorporated into the Soviet Union more than forty years ago as a result of the infamous Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact which divided Eastern Europe into Nazi and Soviet spheres of influence.

By continuing the illegal occupation of the Baltic States under the provisions of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, the Soviet Union violates international law, particularly the right to self-determination as set forth in the United Nations Charter and in subsequent resolutions of the General Assembly. Resolution 1541 of the General Assembly, dealing with self-determination, stipulates that the decision to incorporate into another state "should be the result of the freely expressed wishes of the territories' peoples acting with full knowledge of the change in status, their wishes having been expressed through informed and democratic processes, impartially conducted and based on universal adult suffrage." Far from respecting such democratic processes, the Soviet Union used brutal force in absorbing the three Baltic States into its empire.

In 1940, the Soviet Union invaded, occupied, and annexed the Baltic States, after which it embarked upon a policy of ruthless Sovietization. Then, on a single night of terror, June 14, 1941, the Soviets deported huge numbers of Baltic peoples to the Gulags where many of them perished.

Following the Nazi occupation of the Baltic States, the Soviets again invaded the Baltic States and reconsolidated their control through killings, repression, and new mass deportations. Between 1944 and 1949, some 600,000 Baltic people, out of a population of just a little over 4,000,000, were deported to Siberia. The resistance to Soviet occupation continued until 1952, eight years after the re-entry of the Red Army.

FILE
JL
PD
FILE
BALTIC

↓
Handwritten signature/initials

22

Since then, the Soviets have pursued a conscious policy of forced Russification aimed at the denationalization of the Baltic States. The religious, cultural, and historical heritage of the Baltic peoples has been denigrated and suppressed. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union has been unable to force the acceptance of an alien life of totalitarian domination.

Today, the Baltic peoples continue to struggle to attain their freedom and their right to self-determination. Broadly based dissent movements have emerged demanding national, political, and religious rights. In Lithuania, for example, where 15 unofficial journals are circulated regularly, some 148,000 people recently submitted a protest petition to Moscow, a figure unprecedented in any place under Soviet control. Typically, the Soviet response to these efforts to restore Baltic freedom has been to deny Baltic national rights and to subject these brave Lithuanians, Latvians, and Estonians to imprisonment, exile, or confinement in psychiatric institutions.

Americans share the just aspirations of the people of the Baltic nations for national independence. We cannot remain silent in the face of the continued refusal of the government of the USSR to allow these people to be free. We uphold their right to determine their own national destiny, a right contained in the Helsinki Declaration which affirms that "all people always have the right, in full freedom, to determine, when and as they wish, their internal and external political status, without external interference, and to pursue as they wish their political, economic, social, and cultural development."

For this reason, the government of the United States has never recognized the forced incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union and will not do so in the future.

On this occasion, we wish to reaffirm this policy as we note the anniversary of the 1922 recognition by the United States of the three Baltic Republics. In so doing, we demonstrate our continuing commitment to the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and to the cause of peace and liberty in the world.

To Linas Kojelis for dispatch.

RR:ck

cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/B.Kimmitt, NSC/L.Kojelis/CF

DUE: JULY 26

BALTIC
COUNTRIES

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

25

April 26, 1983

TO:

BOB SIMS
WALT RAYMOND
JOHN LENCZOWSKI
PAULA DOBRIANSKY

FROM:

CARY LORD

KOMMUNIST CANDOR (OUR03)

Annex:

Next, a VOA Editorial, reflecting the views of the U.S. Government.

Voice:

Every now and then a member of the Soviet leadership reveals more about the Kremlin's real motives than he intended to. That happened recently when the theoretical journal, *Kommunist*, published an article by the First Secretary of the Estonian Communist Party, Karl Vaino.

Mr. Vaino described a movement in Estonia in the fall of 1981 to conduct short protest strikes for one-half hour on the first day of each month. The proposal for work stoppages, he said, was "similar to those advanced in Poland by Solidarity."

The fear that resistance in one captive nation might lead to similar resistance efforts in another is one the Kremlin leaders must live with every day. They -- and their subordinates, such as Mr. Vaino -- must fight a constant battle against popular opinion to prevent the break-up of their empire.

Estonia, like Poland, must be a special source of anxiety. As in Poland, there is virtually no indigenous support for continued Soviet domination of Estonia. Historically, Estonia like Poland is part of the Western world. As a people the Estonians, like the Poles, have no love for the Russians, and continue to resist Moscow's policy of Russification.

Even worse, from the Kremlin's point-of-view, is the fact that the Soviet annexation of Estonia and the other Baltic states, Latvia and Lithuania, has never been recognized by the international community at large. We, for one, specifically reject their incorporation into the Soviet Union.

- 2 -

In his article, Mr. Vaino admitted that the Communist Party in Estonia is weak and that Party units at various economic enterprises have limited influence. The thought that the independent labor movement that started in Poland might spread to Estonia must have been terrifying to Mr. Vaino and his bosses in Moscow.

The Kremlin leaders, along with other imperial leaders throughout history, are preoccupied with continuing their dominion over the provinces of the empire. For the most part, they conceal their purposes in ideological rhetoric. Mr Vaino has revealed them for what they are.

Anncr:

That was a VOA Editorial, reflecting the views of the U.S. Government.

- 0 -

June 9, 1983
6:00 p.m.

FILE -
Baltic
Countries.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR BALTIC AMERICANS
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 1983

26

Welcome to the White House. Today we are gathered to draw attention to the plight of the long suffering Baltic people and to affirm to the world that we do not recognize their subjugation as a permanent condition.

The Soviet occupation of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania is a living reminder of the cynical agreement between Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany that precipitated the Second World War. The Soviets would like the world to forget this dark chapter of history, but it is something the Baltic people, and freedom-loving people everywhere, can never forget.

The Soviet Union invaded these small but proud countries in 1940. Then in June of 1941, only days before Hitler turned on his partners in the Kremlin, the Soviets arrested tens of thousands, executed many, and began a mass deportation to Siberia. At the end of the war, the horror continued as hundreds of thousands were sent to the gulag.

Today it is no coincidence that a large percentage of people living in these occupied countries are not of Baltic descent. The Soviets have tried their best to Russify the Baltic peoples, as they have with so many of the other oppressed minorities within the Soviet Empire. ~~The Catholic Church and~~ The worship of God, once at the heart of Baltic culture, has been brutally suppressed. Any legitimate attempt at independence from Moscow

has been smashed -- any tangible effort to preserve their national identity has been denied.

It seems ironic that those responsible for this brutality are now proposing what they call an Atom-Free Baltic, a Nordic nuclear-free zone -- especially since unidentified submarines have recently violated the territorial waters of Norway and neutral Sweden. This kind of conduct doesn't lend itself to a spirit of trust. I urge the Soviets to concentrate on the serious negotiations in Geneva, instead of making meaningless gestures.

Last week, as you are aware, I unveiled a new arms control proposal. We hope that the Soviets will take this offer seriously. We've demonstrated flexibility. The ball is now in their court. We are seeking verifiable and equitable agreements because we are firmly convinced that such agreements are in the interest of both our countries, and all the people of the world.

However, we should never delude ourselves as to just who and what we are dealing with. I can promise you: We will not in the process of seeking peace be lured from our moral commitment to those captive peoples who are now held in bondage.

There are those, of course, who believe we should muffle our criticism of totalitarianism in the mistaken notion that this will further the cause of peace. We Americans want nothing more than to remain free and at peace. Nevertheless, ignoring reality, giving up the moral high-ground, refusing to speak the truth, will not engender the respect needed for the preservation

of peace and human liberty. Totalitarian regimes must know that free men will not cower; only then can conflict be avoided.

I'm happy to report that after the Williamsburg Summit I've never been so confident that freedom and peace can be preserved. The leaders of the Western democracies, gathering there in the cradle of liberty, met as friends and allies. A new spirit is emerging in the West -- a ^{community} ~~comraderie~~ of decent and free people. We have the strength of our convictions and we are not afraid.

June 14th, the day in 1941 when the massive deportation of Baltic people began, is a day which reaffirms our commitment to our ideals. The people of Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania -- and all the other captive nations -- look to the United States. We must keep the peace, and we will. We must also keep the beacon of freedom shining, and from that sacred responsibility we will never shrink.

Last year the Congress unanimously passed Public Law 97-196, proclaiming June 14th Baltic Freedom Day. I will now read and sign the proclamation making this designation:

4000

Document No. _____
Paula

29

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

NOON FRIDAY
June 10, 1983

DATE: June 9, 1983 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____

SUBJECT: RECEPTION FOR BALTIC AMERICANS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HARPER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLARK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SS	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FELDSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BRADY/SPEAKES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Fischer</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GERGEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Bakshian</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments/edits directly to Aram Bakshian, with a copy to my office, by Noon tomorrow, Friday, June 10.

Thank you.

RESPONSE: June 10, 1983

Telephonic concurrence phoned directly to Bakshian.
Robert M. Kimmit
Robert M. Kimmit
Executive Secretary

Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President

(Rohrabacher/AB)
June 9, 1983
6:00 p.m.

30

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR BALTIC AMERICANS
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 1983

Welcome to the White House. Today we are gathered to draw attention to the plight of the long suffering Baltic people and to affirm to the world that we do not recognize their subjugation as a permanent condition.

The Soviet occupation of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania is a living reminder of the cynical agreement between Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany that precipitated the Second World War. The Soviets would like the world to forget this dark chapter of history, but it is something the Baltic people, and freedom-loving people everywhere, can never forget.

The Soviet Union invaded these small but proud countries in 1940. Then in June of 1941, only days before Hitler turned on his partners in the Kremlin, the Soviets arrested tens of thousands, executed many, and began a mass deportation to Siberia. At the end of the war, the horror continued as hundreds of thousands were sent to the gulag.

Today it is no coincidence that a large percentage of people living in these occupied countries are not of Baltic descent. The Soviets have tried their best to Russify the Baltic peoples, as they have with so many of the other oppressed minorities within the Soviet Empire. ~~The Catholic Church and~~ The worship of God, once at the heart of Baltic culture, has been brutally suppressed. Any legitimate attempt at independence from Moscow

has been smashed -- any tangible effort to preserve their national identity has been denied.

It seems ironic that those responsible for this brutality are now proposing what they call an Atom-Free Baltic, a Nordic nuclear-free zone -- especially since unidentified submarines have recently violated the territorial waters of Norway and neutral Sweden. This kind of conduct doesn't lend itself to a spirit of trust. I urge the Soviets to concentrate on the serious negotiations in Geneva, instead of making meaningless gestures.

Last week, as you are aware, I unveiled a new arms control proposal. We hope that the Soviets will take this offer seriously. We've demonstrated flexibility. The ball is now in their court. We are seeking verifiable and equitable agreements because we are firmly convinced that such agreements are in the interest of both our countries, and all the people of the world.

However, we should never delude ourselves as to just who and what we are dealing with. I can promise you: We will not in the process of seeking peace be lured from our moral commitment to those captive peoples who are now held in bondage.

There are those, of course, who believe we should muffle our criticism of totalitarianism in the mistaken notion that this will further the cause of peace. We Americans want nothing more than to remain free and at peace. Nevertheless, ignoring reality, giving up the moral high-ground, refusing to speak the truth, will not engender the respect needed for the preservation

of peace and human liberty. Totalitarian regimes must know that free men will not cower; only then can conflict be avoided.

I'm happy to report that after the Williamsburg Summit I've never been so confident that freedom and peace can be preserved. The leaders of the Western democracies, gathering there in the cradle of liberty, met as friends and allies. A new spirit is emerging in the West -- a ^{community} ~~comraderie~~ of decent and free people. We have the strength of our convictions and we are not afraid.

June 14th, the day in 1941 when the massive deportation of Baltic people began, is a day which reaffirms our commitment to our ideals. The people of Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania -- and all the other captive nations -- look to the United States. We must keep the peace, and we will. We must also keep the beacon of freedom shining, and from that sacred responsibility we will never shrink.

Last year the Congress unanimously passed Public Law 97-196, proclaiming June 14th Baltic Freedom Day. I will now read and sign the proclamation making this designation:

FOR RELEASE AT 5:00 P.M. EDT

June 13, 1983

BALTIC FREEDOM DAY, 1983

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

In 1940, Soviet armies invaded and occupied the independent countries of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. The peaceful, Western-oriented Baltic nations were crushed by the force of arms of their hostile neighbor. Under the cynical arrangements of the infamous Ribbentrop-Molotov agreement, the Soviet Union forcibly incorporated the three Baltic Republics into its empire.

Following the Soviet takeover, tens of thousands of the Baltic peoples were subject to imprisonment, deportation, persecution, and execution. Their religious, cultural, and historical heritage has been denigrated. The foreign political system which now controls their homelands has attempted to force these unwilling people to accept an alien life of totalitarian domination. But it has failed.

Today, the Baltic peoples continue to struggle to attain the freedoms we enjoy. These men and women still suffer harsh imprisonment, banishment, and persecution for their beliefs. Brave Lithuanians, Latvians, and Estonians still seek to exercise their human rights to think, speak, and believe as their conscience directs them.

The people of the United States of America share the just aspirations of the people of the Baltic nations for national independence, and we cannot remain silent in the face of the continued refusal of the government of the U.S.S.R. to allow these people to be free. We uphold their right to determine their own national destiny, free of foreign domination.

The government of the United States has never recognized the forced incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union and will not do so in the future.

In its defense of the rights of the Baltic people, the United States does not stand alone. On January 13th, the Parliament of Europe passed a resolution by an overwhelming majority on "The situation in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania," calling for the restoration of self-determination for the Baltic States.

By House Joint Resolution 201, the Congress of the United States has authorized and requested the President to designate June 14, 1983, as "Baltic Freedom Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate June 14, 1983 as Baltic Freedom Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate remembrances and ceremonies and to reaffirm their commitment to principles of liberty and freedom for all oppressed people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

#

FOR RELEASE AT 5:00 P.M. EDT

June 13, 1983

BALTIC FREEDOM DAY, 1983

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

In 1940, Soviet armies invaded and occupied the independent countries of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. The peaceful, Western-oriented Baltic nations were crushed by the force of arms of their hostile neighbor. Under the cynical arrangements of the infamous Ribbentrop-Molotov agreement, the Soviet Union forcibly incorporated the three Baltic Republics into its empire.

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RONALD REAGAN

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

36

June 13, 1983

TO John

FROM Linas

SUBJECT: Baltic American
Freedom League

John, here is a copy of a memorandum the Baltic American Freedom League representatives will be giving you this afternoon at the private meeting in your office. I thought I would send it to you so that you could get a heads-up on the topics they'll want to raise.

Linas



BALTIC AMERICAN FREEDOM LEAGUE

P.O. Box 29657, Los Angeles, California 90029

June 13, 1983

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Simas Kudirka
Vladas Sakalys
Sergei Soldatov

Executive Board:

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President
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Vice President
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Maris Manteniaks
Cleveland, Ohio

Jonas Matulaitis
Los Angeles, California
Danute G. Mazeika
Los Angeles, California

Editor, Baltic Bulletin

Agris U. Pavlovskis
(805) 393-4325

File Baltic States

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Baltic American Freedom League, together with other Baltic organizations, submits the following Policy Recommendations for your consideration.

We express our great appreciation for the United States Government's policies and actions, designed to stop the worldwide aggression of the Soviet Union. The Baltic American Freedom League has always strongly supported President Reagan's leadership in foreign and domestic policies and it will do so even more strongly in the future.

The Baltic American Freedom League urges the President to:

1. Renew the United States diplomatic, moral, and economic offensive in supporting the continuing active national resistance in the Baltic Nations. The long-term goal is the restoration of full national independence to Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania by:
 - A. Continuing the United States policy of nonrecognition of the forcible, illegal seizure and annexation of the sovereign republics of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania by the Soviet Union and ensuring that the United States Baltic policy is properly reflected on government maps and other pertinent government publications;
 - B. Expanding Voice of America broadcasts to those nations;
 - C. Transferring the Baltic language broadcasts from Radio Liberty to Radio Free Europe and providing expanded programming;

-continued-

- D. Reintroducing Lithuanian, Estonian, and Latvian language courses into American Army Language Schools;
 - E. Extending United States foreign aid and assistance to the Baltic legations and consulates in the United States.
2. Instruct the United States Ambassador to the United Nations to annually and officially inform all of the members of the United Nations that the United States does not recognize the forcible annexation of the Baltic Republics into the USSR.
 3. Raise the issue of the Baltic nations on the agenda of the General Assembly of the United Nations by actively and vigorously supporting the European Parliament's Baltic resolution on decolonization.
 4. Expedite, through all public and diplomatic means, the immediate release from Soviet prison of American-born citizen Benedict Scott Skuodis and secure his and his family's emigration to the United States.
 5. Provide continuing public, diplomatic, and moral support for all Baltic Prisoners of Conscience held in Soviet prisons, concentration camps, and psychiatric institutions, and seek the release from Soviet prisons of Baltic Prisoners of Conscience Juris Bumeisters, Ints Calitis, Janis Rozkalns, Rev. Alfonsas Svarinskas, Balys Gajauskas, Viktoras Petkus, and Mart Niklus.
 6. Expedite full United States public and diplomatic support for guarantees that, under any international arrangements, any and all Baltic Prisoners of War taken prisoner in Afghanistan by the Afghan Freedom Fighters will not be forcibly returned to the U.S.S.R. against their will. The United States is mindful that the Baltic Prisoners of War in Afghanistan are not recognized by our government as Soviet citizens, but as citizens of the occupied nations of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.
 7. Critically review the collaboration between the United States Department of Justice Criminal Division, Office of Special Investigation (OSI),

Honorable Ronald Reagan

-3-

June 13, 1983

and the Soviet government. While the Baltic American Freedom League and all the Baltic American Community support legal pursuit of all war criminals through just and due process, the use of Soviet KGB-presented evidence and documentation is viewed with great alarm. The Baltic American Freedom League strongly recommends that the President instruct the FBI and CIA to investigate the seriousness of these Soviet disinformation activities, which undermine United States interests while intimidating and harming U.S. citizens.

We appreciate the opportunity to present our views to you, Mr. President, and your staff. Please be assured that we share and vigorously support your goal of a strong America in a free world.

Sincerely yours,

Valdis V. Pavlovskis
President

- U.S.G. maps - do not ~~signify~~ signify non-recognition policy of Baltic countries.
- Only seven in each language service
- Baltic community should be told about presence of Soviet propaganda in U.S.

BALTIC
COUNTRIES

P. ... 39
D. ...

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 14, 1984

BALTIC FREEDOM DAY, 1984

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

It has been over 40 years since invading Soviet armies, in collusion with the Nazi regime, overran the three independent Baltic Republics of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and forceably incorporated them into Moscow's expanding empire. The new regime then ordered the illegal deportation, murder, and imprisonment of tens of thousands of Baltic peoples whose only "crime" was to resist foreign tyranny and to defend their liberties and freedoms.

Oppression and persecution continue to this day, but despite this long dark night of injustice, the brave men and women of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have never abandoned the battle for their national independence and God-given rights. Although the full measure of their struggle and sacrifice is screened by the oppression and censorship under which they live, the friends and families of the Baltic peoples all over the world are aware of their heroic endeavors and aspirations.

Their peaceful demands for their rights command the admiration of everyone who loves and honors freedom. All the people of the United States of America share the just aspirations of the Baltic nations for national independence, and we uphold their right to determine their own national destiny free of foreign domination. The United States has never recognized the forceable incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union, and it will not do so in the future. The Congress of the United States, by Senate Joint Resolution 296, has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation for the observance of June 14, 1984, as "Baltic Freedom Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim June 14, 1984, as Baltic Freedom Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate remembrances and ceremonies and to reaffirm their commitment to the principles of liberty and freedom for all oppressed people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

To P
June 7/25
10/2

40

June 22, 1983

To: Paula

From: Linas *fr*

Subject: Declaration of US
Policy on Baltic States
at the UN

Attached is a bootleg copy
of a memo from Faith to Judge
Clark. I would appreciate
your taking a quick look at
it as the fuse is short.

I'll be looking forward to
your views and comments.
Thanks.

Concur - w/ 1 change on
p. 2 (Balts → to Baltic
people)
(State also concurs.)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
July 22, 1983

TO: JUDGE CLARK
FROM: FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY
SUBJECT: Presidential Statement to the United Nations on US
Policy Toward the Baltic States

Jeanne Kirkpatrick would like to circulate a statement from the President to the membership of the United Nations outlining US policy toward the Baltic States on the occasion of the sixty-first anniversary of the recognition by the US of the three Baltic Republics. While the President did recently sign the Baltic Freedom Day Proclamation, Mrs. Kirkpatrick's staff does not believe that text would be fully suited for distribution at the UN and they have drafted a new statement (attached).

I strongly support Mrs. Kirkpatrick's proposal, and request that you and your staff review her proposed draft. Mrs. Kirkpatrick would like the President's statement dated July 26th, thus time is short. Please have your staff contact Linas Kojelis, x2741, with your comments.

STATEMENT ON ANNIVERSARY OF DE JURE RECOGNITION OF THREE
BALTIC STATES

570-2
42

July 26, 1983, marks the sixty-first anniversary of the de jure recognition by the United States of the three Baltic Republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. Each of these states was a full member of the League of Nations. Each had signed non-aggression treaties with the Soviet Union. Yet each of these small states was forcibly incorporated into the Soviet Union ~~more than~~ more than forty years ago as a result of the infamous pact between Adolf Hitler and Josef Stalin which divided Eastern Europe into Nazi and Communist spheres of influence.

~~That~~ action by the Soviet Union violates international law, in particular the right of self-determination as set forth in the United Nations Charter and in subsequent resolutions of the General Assembly. Resolution 1541 of the ~~General~~ General Assembly, dealing with ~~self~~ self-determination, stipulates that the decision to incorporate into another state "should be the result of the freely expressed wishes of the territories' peoples acting with full knowledge of the ~~change~~ in status, their wishes having been expressed through informed and democratic processes, impartially conducted and based on universal adult suffrage." Far from respecting such democratic processes, the Soviet Union used brutal force in absorbing the three Baltic states into its empire.

In 1940, ~~Soviet~~ the Soviet Union invaded, occupied, and annexed the Baltic states, after which it embarked upon a policy of ruthless Sovietization, ~~which~~ ~~ensured~~ ~~the~~ ~~total~~ ~~annexation~~. Then, on a single night of terror -- June 14, 1941 -- Gulag is
The Soviets deported almost the entire Baltic intelligentsia to the the ?
Siberia where most of them perished.

Following the Nazi occupation of the Baltic States, the Soviets

reconsolidated their control through killings, repression, and new mass deportations. Between 1944 and 1949, some 600,000 Baltic ^{Baltic people} Balts out of a population of just a little ~~more~~ over 4,000,000 were deported to Siberia. Baltic freedom fighters continued to resist the Soviet occupation until 1952, eight years after the re-entry of the Red Army. ~~xx~~

Since then, the Soviets have pursued a conscious policy of forced russification aimed at the denationalization of the Baltic States. The religious, cultural, and historical heritage of the Baltic peoples has been denigrated and suppressed. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union has been unable to force these people to accept an alien life of totalitarian domination.

Today, the Baltic peoples continue to struggle to attain their freedom and their right to self-determination. Broadly based dissent movements have emerged demanding national, political, and religious rights. In Lithuania, where there is an active underground church and where ~~x~~ 15 underground journals are published regularly, some 148,000 people -- one-tenth of the population -- recently submitted a protest petition to Moscow, a figure unprecedented in the totalitarian Soviet state. Typically, the Soviet response to these efforts to secure restoration of Baltic national rights has not been to allow self-determination but to subject these brave Lithuanians, Latvians, and Estonians to imprisonment, exile, or confinement in psychiatric institutions.

The ~~x~~ people of the United States of America share the just aspirations of the people of the Baltic nations for national independence, and ~~and~~ we cannot remain silent in the face of the continued refusal of the government of the U.S.S.R. to allow

these people to be free. We uphold their right to determine their own national destiny, ~~xxxxxxforeignxxxxxxdominationxxxxxxthis rightxxxx~~ a right contained in the Helsinki Declaration which affirms that "all people always have the right, in full freedom, to determine, when and as they wish, their internal and external political status, without external interference, and to pursue as they wish their political, economic, ~~x~~ social and cultural development."

For this reason, the government of the United States has ~~is~~ never recognized the forced ~~inf~~ incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union and will not do so in the future. ~~xxxxxxthexxxxxx~~
~~xxxxxx~~
~~of the xxxxxxxxxx of xxxxxxxxxx recognition xxxxxxxxxx in 1922 xxxxxxxxxx~~
~~Baltic xxxxxxxxxx~~

We wish to reaffirm this policy at this time, on the occasion of the anniversary of the recognition in 1922 by the United States of the three Baltic republics. ~~xxx~~ In so doing, we wish to reaffirm as well our commitment to the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and to the ~~xxx~~ cause of peace and ~~human~~ human liberty.

5135
FILE
BAL TIC
JL
PD

45

On July 26, 1983, we mark the sixty-first anniversary of the de jure recognition of the three Baltic Republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia by the United States. Each of these states was a full member of the League of Nations and had signed non-aggression treaties with the Soviet Union. Yet all three countries were forcibly incorporated into the Soviet Union more than forty years ago as a result of the infamous Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact which divided Eastern Europe into Nazi and Soviet spheres of influence.

By continuing the illegal occupation of the Baltic States under the provisions of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, the Soviet Union violates international law, particularly the right to self-determination as set forth in the United Nations Charter and in subsequent resolutions of the General Assembly. Resolution 1541 of the General Assembly, dealing with self-determination, stipulates that the decision to incorporate into another state "should be the result of the freely expressed wishes of the territories' peoples acting with full knowledge of the change in status, their wishes having been expressed through informed and democratic processes, impartially conducted and based on universal adult suffrage." Far from respecting such democratic processes, the Soviet Union used brutal force in absorbing the three Baltic States into its empire.

In 1940, the Soviet Union invaded, occupied, and annexed the Baltic States, after which it embarked upon a policy of ruthless Sovietization. Then, on a single night of terror, June 14, 1941, the Soviets deported huge numbers of Baltic peoples to the Gulags where many of them perished.

Following the Nazi occupation of the Baltic States, the Soviets again invaded the Baltic States and reconsolidated their control through killings, repression, and new mass deportations. Between 1944 and 1949, some 600,000 Baltic people, out of a population of just a little over 4,000,000, were deported to Siberia. The resistance to Soviet occupation continued until 1952, eight years after the re-entry of the Red Army.

Handwritten notes on the right margin, including a vertical line of text and an arrow pointing downwards.

Since then, the Soviets have pursued a conscious policy of forced Russification aimed at the denationalization of the Baltic States. The religious, cultural, and historical heritage of the Baltic peoples has been denigrated and suppressed. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union has been unable to force the acceptance of an alien life of totalitarian domination.

Today, the Baltic peoples continue to struggle to attain their freedom and their right to self-determination. Broadly based dissent movements have emerged demanding national, political, and religious rights. In Lithuania, for example, where 15 unofficial journals are circulated regularly, some 148,000 people recently submitted a protest petition to Moscow, a figure unprecedented in any place under Soviet control. Typically, the Soviet response to these efforts to restore Baltic freedom has been to deny Baltic national rights and to subject these brave Lithuanians, Latvians, and Estonians to imprisonment, exile, or confinement in psychiatric institutions.

Americans share the just aspirations of the people of the Baltic nations for national independence. We cannot remain silent in the face of the continued refusal of the government of the USSR to allow these people to be free. We uphold their right to determine their own national destiny, a right contained in the Helsinki Declaration which affirms that "all people always have the right, in full freedom, to determine, when and as they wish, their internal and external political status, without external interference, and to pursue as they wish their political, economic, social, and cultural development."

For this reason, the government of the United States has never recognized the forced incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union and will not do so in the future.

On this occasion, we wish to reaffirm this policy as we note the anniversary of the 1922 recognition by the United States of the three Baltic Republics. In so doing, we demonstrate our continuing commitment to the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and to the cause of peace and liberty in the world.

To Linas Kojelis for dispatch.

RR:ck

cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/B.Kimmitt, NSC/L.Kojelis/CF

DUE: JULY 26

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L

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 3, 1983

TO: PAULA DOBRIANSKY

FROM: LINAS KOJELIS *Linas*

RE: Attached article

Paula, I thought you might
be interested in this
article.

Andropov-ordered crackdown attempts to halt Baltic dissidence



Ints Calitis, 53, sentenced to 10 years imprisonment and 5 years internal exile, is shown here with his wife and three children. He was sentenced for anti-Soviet agitation because he joined other Baltic dissidents in signing a petition requesting Western powers and the United Nations to nullify the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact, by which the Baltic states were handed over to Soviet control by Hitler in 1944.



The Rozkains family, relatives of Latvian Baptist activist Janis Rozkains, 34, who was tried this week in Riga. The family applied for permission to emigrate to the West in January shortly after the KGB confiscated 40 Bibles from Janis Rozkains' home, because they wish to practice their faith without reprisals and persecution. Their request has not been granted.



Gunars Freimanis, 57, is a Latvian nationalist and poet, arrested last March after the KGB confiscated his writings and some Western publications. He is awaiting trial.



The Lithuanian Committee for the Defense of Rights of Believers was established in 1977. Two of the five Catholic priests making up the committee have been charged by Soviet authorities: Alfonsas Svarinskas, center, who was recently sentenced to 7 years imprisonment and 5 years internal exile, and Algis Tamkevicius, right of center, who is awaiting trial.

Since January this year, Soviet authorities have mounted a concerted campaign against nationalists, human rights supporters, religious believers, writers and poets in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

Julius Kadellus, 47, a former public relations officer for a West German industrial concern, monitors and publicizes dissident activities and trials in Latvia, based on information from sources within the Soviet Union, for the World Federation of Free Latvians.

Kadellus, who was born in Latvia and fled with his parents from the Soviet occupation in 1945, made a brief trip to the United States this week to meet with the directors of the federation at its world headquarters in Rockville, Md.

During his stay, he spoke with Jane Stefflich, a staff reporter with the New York Tribune.

Q: Riga, the capital of Latvia, seems to have become a center for dissident trials in recent months. What accounts for this?

A: Jan. 6 was a very special day, because that was the day when the Soviets began to crack down. They searched about 50 or more houses in 1 day in Riga, and this has been repeated over the weeks and months since then.

Because Yuri Andropov, the former KGB boss, is now in charge in Moscow, Communist Party functionaries want to do a good job. In recent months there has been one trial after another — a new trial starts each week.

But there are a wide variety of dissidents — artists, nationalists, folklorists, Catholics and Baptists. It is the first time in the past 15 years or more that Catholic priests have been jailed. The Soviet Union was very proud of saying that no Catholic priests were in jail, but this has changed now. There are two Lithuanian priests, Alfonsas Svarinskas, who has been sentenced to 7 years in prison and 5 years in exile, and Algis Tamkevicius, who was arrested at Svarinskas' trial and is waiting trial.

Q: What is Andropov's purpose in the crackdown?

A: His purpose is very simple: it is the purpose of all the feudalistic totalitarian functionaries, from the top right down to the lowest levels in the party structure — it is to keep their positions, to maintain their power.

For this reason they are most afraid of information. The spreading of information, freedom of the word, is very dangerous to any dictatorship.

When they search people's homes, that is what they look for: typewriters, copies of the Declaration of Human Rights charter, the Helsinki Agreement.

Q: How do you obtain your information?

A: I have friends in Latvia. There are also tourists. When tourists go to Latvia, I ask them to find out if this or that person is in jail. If somebody is not in jail, they can tell us who is in jail. Sometimes contacts phone me in Munster.

Q: Are there many emigrants leaving Latvia at this stage?

A: No, it's very difficult. There are some cases now of family reunification.

One is a Latvian physician, now



Julius Kadellus expresses his concern about increasing "Russification" in the Baltic republics.

"For this reason [the Soviet authorities] are most afraid of information. When they search peoples' homes, that is what they look for: typewriters, copies of the Declaration of Human Rights charter, the Helsinki Agreement."

about 40 years old, who is fighting to get her twin sons out. ... They are 19 years old. She is very much afraid that they will have to go into the army and fight in Afghanistan.

That case was included by the U.S. delegation at the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Madrid last July.

Q: Do you have any idea how many people have been arrested since January?

A: It is very hard to say. The six cases that we are publicizing became very well-known because their families were prepared to speak out. But most people are afraid to talk about people who are arrested.

Q: Before this crackdown, had there been any increase in expression of religion and nationalist interests?

A: It is different in each of the Baltic countries (republics). In Lithuania the Catholic Church has always been strong and it was getting even stronger because a Polish pope was elected. The Catholics gained more confidence and their self-consciousness was raised. They felt: "We are Catholics and we have our pope now, who will care about us," so most of the dissidents in Lithuania are Catholics. It is not so in Latvia, where only

20 percent of the population is Catholic. But in Latvia, instead of the church, there is a very strong national movement expressed in folklore groups. In the last 3 years about 200 folklore groups were established because "Russification" is very strong there, with the Soviets bringing in thousands of Russian workers.

In Latvia only 53.7 percent of the population is Latvian. The Soviets kept bringing more and more Russians and other Slavs.

These folklore groups take care of the children, teaching them the Latvian language. In 1979 the Soviet government enacted a law requiring Russian to be taught to children, starting from 6 years of age. Because so many women in the Soviet Union work, more than in the West, the state kindergartens take care of the children and teach them their games in Russian.

In Estonia the student movement is very strong. In 1980 there were student demonstrations in Estonia against Russification. Estonia is about 64 percent Estonian — the rest are Russians and other Slavs.

Q: Do the people that you have contact with believe things may improve in the future?

A: I have talked to some people who were visiting the West on leave and asked them what could be done to help the situation. One of them told me: "We can teach our children the Latvian language, but we cannot stop masses of Russians from coming into our country."

Estonian intellectuals wrote a letter this year to the people of Finland asking them not to aid the establishment of the Tallinn military seaport, because if it goes ahead, some 40,000 Russian workers will come to help build and operate it.

Riga has no subway system, as the Soviet authorities are planning, to establish one by 1990. The Latvian people are very concerned about this because it will mean probably about 20,000-30,000 Russians coming to Latvia to construct it, and they will stay there.

Q: How does the economy in the Baltic states compare with other parts of the Soviet Union?

A: A symposium was held at Munster University in conjunction with Glasgow University to find out why the economic situation in the Baltic states is better than in the rest of the Soviet Union. One of the main conclusions reached was that these three countries were free, independent republics only 30 years ago and they know how to manage their economies.

That is why the Russians are coming voluntarily to Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania — because you can obtain more things there than in Moscow and other parts of the Soviet Union. They are developed republics — Russians who come to the Baltic republics think they are in the West already.

Q: Does this mean the Baltic people can invest more time and energy on their nationalist interests than if they were in a lower economic bracket?

A: I think people aim for higher standards in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia because they know what freedom is and they have a lot of relatives in the West who want to visit them and send parcels and books to them.

For example, National Geographic magazines are allowed in Soviet countries. National Geographic has about 2,500 subscribers in the Soviet Union, and of these about 700 are in Estonia, 600 in Lithuania and 500 in Latvia. The remaining 700 are distributed throughout the whole Soviet Union. This is a very good indicator. Latvians abroad also send a number of women's fashion magazines, which contain a lot more information [about the West] than merely fashion.

Their expectations are higher than, for example, a Russian living 1,000 miles east of Moscow. Also the Estonians can look at Finnish television, because the two languages are very similar and the Soviets cannot jam it.

Q: How do the Soviet authorities deal with the accusations that they are obliterating the local languages and cultures?

A: The Russians are trying to conceal this. They say there is no Russification. I witnessed this last week at the Frankfurt Book Fair in West Germany. At the Soviet book stand the catalog listed some 140 books in the Latvian language, but when I asked to see them, they were in reality only four, and three of them were picture books. The fourth was a translation of some unknown East German poet whom the West Germans did not even know.

The Baltic States: US Policy

January 1984

Background: The US does not recognize the unlawful incorporation by force of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania into the USSR in 1940. As a part of overall US policy toward these occupied countries, the US Government continues to recognize and conduct business with the diplomatic representatives of the last independent Baltic governments. The Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian chiefs of mission in the US enjoy full diplomatic privileges and immunities. A major part of their role is to continue to uphold the ultimate goal of a free Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Helsinki Final Act and US policy: ~~The US espousal of freedom for the Baltic States has enjoyed broad bipartisan support since it was first enunciated in 1940. To clarify our stand on the interpretation of the Helsinki Final Act during the review conference in Madrid in 1980, the Deputy Chairman of the US delegation said:~~

The United States does not recognize the illegal incorporation, by force of arms, of the States of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia by the Soviet Union. I would also recall the statement in Principle IV [territorial integrity of states] that no occupation or acquisition of territory in contravention of international law will be recognized as legal. And I would reiterate my government's consistent interpretation that this provision is applicable to the Baltic States.

President Reagan's Baltic statement: In July 1983, on the commemoration of the 61st anniversary of the de jure recognition of the three Baltic States, the US Ambassador to the UN delivered the President's statement to the UN Secretary General. It noted in part that:

Americans share the just aspirations of the Baltic nations for national independence. We cannot remain silent in the face of the ~~continued refusal of the Government of the USSR to allow these~~ people to be free. We uphold their right to determine their own national destiny, a right contained in the Helsinki Declaration which affirms that "all people always have the right, in full freedom, to determine, when and as they wish, their internal and external political status, without external interference, and to pursue as they wish their political, economic, social, and cultural development."

For this reason, the Government of the United States has never recognized the forced incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union and will not do so in the future.

On this occasion we wish to reaffirm this policy as we note the anniversary of the 1922 recognition by the US of the three Baltic Republics. In so doing, we demonstrate our continuing commitment to the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and to the cause of peace and liberty in the world.

The value of US policy: The US position upholding the right to freedom and liberty of the Baltic peoples is a reminder that the democratic West has not forgotten the injustice done to these peoples, and it is also a symbol of hope for the future. This position is fully consistent with the importance which the US and most other countries in the world place on human rights, particularly as enunciated in the Helsinki Final Act.

Baltic diplomatic representation: The Baltic missions in the US remain important symbols to the Baltic peoples, and we continue to deal with their diplomats on a full range of appropriate matters. The three legations are diplomatic entities, fully independent of US Government financing. They are paid for out of Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian Government funds that were blocked by the US in 1940.

Policy applications: Our policy toward the Baltic States is manifested in several ways:

- The Secretary of State annually issues National Day greetings to the Baltic peoples through their Charges d'affaires, and senior representatives of the Department attend the official national day functions of the three legations.
- We support the flow of news and information to the Baltic peoples in their native languages through Voice of America and Radio Liberty broadcasts.
- We reiterate on all appropriate occasions our policy of legally not recognizing the forcible incorporation of the three countries into the USSR.
- Our Ambassador in Moscow and Cabinet-level officers of the US Government do not visit the Baltic States.

Effect on US-Soviet relations: The Soviet Union has been fully aware of our policy since its enunciation in 1940, and our espousal of this position has not affected in any significant way the substance or the course of our bilateral relations. From time to time we deal with the USSR on such items as US citizen' interest cases involving family reunification of persons living in the Baltic States or in the course of criminal investigations. However, the need to deal with the Soviets on specific topics does not in our view detract from the integrity or substance of the nonrecognition policy.

FILE 51
BAL TIC
COUNTRIES

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

February 27, 1984

TO:

WALT RAYMOND
JACK MATLOCK
SVEN KRAEMER
PAULA DOBRIANSKY
JOHN LENCZOWSKI

FROM:

STEVE STEINER

THE LESSON OF THE BALTICS (2EX10)

✓
To: 1) Paula P.
2) John. WK
M. ...
K...

Anncr:

Next, a VOA Editorial, reflecting the views of the U.S Government.

Voice:

Yesterday, February 24, was the sixty-sixth anniversary of Estonian independence. Estonia and the two other Baltic nations of Latvia and Lithuania, long ruled by the Czarist empire, realized national independence in 1918. In 1939, two regimes of different ideology but shared cynicism -- the totalitarian states of Adolf Hitler and Josif Stalin consorted with one another to divide northeastern Europe. In 1940, Stalin's armies invaded all three states. Since then, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have been ruled by foreigners.

During their independence, the three Baltic states made progress toward democracy. Estonia, for example, adopted a constitution in 1938 that was similar in many respects to that of the United States. But the fact of overriding importance was that all three Baltic states were independent, and free to choose their form of government -- in short, free to determine their own future.

Today, unfortunately, self-determination in that part of the world is only a hope. The Baltic states have little influence over developments that closely affect their national welfare. All three are filled with military installations -- quartering the troops and weapons of the power that oppresses them. In Lithuania, a nuclear power plant recently began

operations -- but several Lithuanian scientists believe that the plant has inadequate safety measures. In all these nations, the delicate natural environment of the Baltic coast is endangered by development that the people themselves have no say in. Those who do speak up -- for human rights, for religious freedom, for national culture -- are simply muzzled.

Our government has never recognized the forced incorporation of the Baltic states into the Soviet Union, and -- as President Reagan said last year -- "will not do so in the future." We uphold their right to determine their own national destiny, free of foreign domination.

In the past, some have called this policy unrealistic. But we think it's unrealistic to think that governments founded by violence and sustained by terror can ever represent the will of the people -- or hold out the hope of good government. After all, we believe in freedom for all men, and that means the right of self-determination for all nations. Those who suppress that self-determination demonstrate the equal contempt they hold for the idea of freedom and for those to whom they would deny it.

Anncr:

That was a VOA Editorial, reflecting the views of the U.S. Government.

TELEGRAM

The White House
Washington

Jack Wells 54
2941
File Baltic

FULL RATE
(STRAIGHT TELEGRAM)
NIGHT LETTER
MAILGRAM

STRAIGHT WIRE - MARCH 16, 1984

Mr. Valdis V. Pavlovskis
President
Baltic American Freedom League
2551 Michael Torena Street
Los Angeles, California 90039

It is a great pleasure to send my warm greetings and best regards to all those gathered for the Third Annual Human Rights Conference of the Baltic-American Freedom League.

This event presents a fine opportunity to recognize the significant contributions Baltic Americans have made to the advancement of the ideals of liberty. Your organization has repeatedly demonstrated its deep concern for the cause of freedom and human dignity for the peoples of the Baltic States.

Baltic Americans serve as an inspiring reminder of the priceless value of our nation's freedom and independence. Let me assure you that our citizens share your hopes for one day regaining the liberty of your ancestral homeland on the Baltic Sea.

America continues to recognize the free states of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia and will never acknowledge the forcible incorporation of these republics into the Soviet Empire. We remain steadfastly committed to the principles of self-determination and the right of all people to choose the form of government under which they live.

You have my best wishes for an enjoyable and rewarding conference.

APPROVED FOR DISPATCH

RONALD REAGAN

File
John
L. ...

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 14, 1984

BALTIC FREEDOM DAY, 1984

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

It has been over 40 years since invading Soviet armies, in collusion with the Nazi regime, overran the three independent Baltic Republics of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and forceably incorporated them into Moscow's expanding empire. The new regime then ordered the illegal deportation, murder, and imprisonment of tens of thousands of Baltic peoples whose only "crime" was to resist foreign tyranny and to defend their liberties and freedoms.

Oppression and persecution continue to this day, but despite this long dark night of injustice, the brave men and women of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have never abandoned the battle for their national independence and God-given rights. Although the full measure of their struggle and sacrifice is screened by the oppression and censorship under which they live, the friends and families of the Baltic peoples all over the world are aware of their heroic endeavors and aspirations.

Their peaceful demands for their rights command the admiration of everyone who loves and honors freedom. All the people of the United States of America share the just aspirations of the Baltic nations for national independence, and we uphold their right to determine their own national destiny free of foreign domination. The United States has never recognized the forceable incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union, and it will not do so in the future. The Congress of the United States, by Senate Joint Resolution 296, has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation for the observance of June 14, 1984, as "Baltic Freedom Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim June 14, 1984, as Baltic Freedom Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate remembrances and ceremonies and to reaffirm their commitment to the principles of liberty and freedom for all oppressed people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

#

US Policy: The Baltic Republics

August 1984

Background: The US does not recognize the forcible and unlawful incorporation of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania into the USSR that occurred in 1940. As an integral part of US policy toward these occupied countries, the US Government continues to recognize and conduct business with the diplomatic representatives of the last independent Baltic governments. The Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian chiefs of mission in the US enjoy full diplomatic privileges and immunities. Part of their major role is to continue to uphold the ultimate goal of a free Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Helsinki Final Act and US policy toward the Baltic Republics: The US espousal of freedom for the Baltic Republics has enjoyed broad bipartisan support since it was first enunciated in 1940. To clarify our stand on the interpretation of the Helsinki Final Act during the review conference in Madrid in 1980, the deputy chairman of the US delegation said:

"The United States does not recognize the illegal incorporation, by force of arms, of the States of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia by the Soviet Union. I would also recall the statement in Principle IV [territorial integrity of states] that no occupation or acquisition of territory in contravention of international law will be recognized as legal. And I would reiterate my government's consistent interpretation that this provision is applicable to the Baltic States."

Reaffirmation of US policy at the UN: In July 1983, on the commemoration of the 61st anniversary of the de jure recognition of the three Baltic Republics by the US, President Reagan had delivered to the UN Secretary General a statement in which he said:

"Americans share the just aspirations of the Baltic nations for national independence. We cannot remain silent in the face of the continued refusal of the Government of the USSR to allow these people to be free. We uphold their right to determine their own national destiny, a right contained in the Helsinki Declaration which affirms that 'all people always have the right, in full freedom, to determine, when and as they wish, their internal and external political status, without external interference, and to pursue as they wish their political, economic, social, and cultural development.'"

"For this reason, the Government of the United States has never recognized the forced incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union and will not do so in the future.

"On this occasion we wish to reaffirm this policy as we note the anniversary of the 1922 recognition by the US of the three Baltic Republics. In so doing, we demonstrate our continuing commitment to the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and to the cause of peace and liberty in the world."

The value of US policy: The US position upholding the right to freedom and liberty of the Baltic nations is a reminder that the democratic West has not forgotten the injustice done to those peoples, and it is also a symbol of hope for the future. This position is fully consistent with the importance which the US and most other countries in the world place on human rights, particularly as enunciated in the Helsinki Final Act.

Baltic diplomatic representation: The Baltic missions in the US remain important symbols to the Baltic peoples, and we continue to deal with their diplomats on a full range of appropriate matters. Those three offices are diplomatic entities, fully independent of US Government financing. They have been paid for by Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian Government funds that were protected from seizure by the Soviets in 1940 and blocked by the US at that time.

Policy applications: Our policy toward the Baltic Republics is manifested in several ways:

- The Secretary of State annually issues National Day greetings to the Baltic peoples through the Charges d'Affaires; and senior representatives of the Department of State attend the official National Day functions of the three missions.
- So that the US Government speaks with a consistent voice regarding our nonrecognition policy, we seek to coordinate actions of other US agencies on such matters as captions and place names relative to Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on official US Government maps.
- We support the flow of news and information to the Baltic peoples in their native languages through broadcasts of the Voice of America and the Baltic Services Division of Radio Liberty.
- We reiterate on all appropriate occasions our policy of not legally recognizing the forcible incorporation of the three countries into the USSR.
- Our Ambassador in Moscow and Cabinet-level officers of the US Government do not visit the Baltic Republics.

Effect on US-Soviet relations: The Soviet Union has been fully aware of our policy since its enunciation in 1940, and our espousal of this position has not affected in any significant way the substance or the course of our bilateral relations. From time to time we deal with the USSR on items such as US citizen interest cases involving family reunification of persons living in the Baltic Republics. However, the need for such de facto contacts with the Soviets on specific topics concerning individuals does not in our view detract from the integrity or substance of the nonrecognition policy.