



VOL. 3, No.11

NOVEMBER, 1979

BRIDGES IS PUBLISHED BY THE LITHUANIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF THE U.S.A., INC. THROUGH THIS NEWSLETTER, THE PUBLISHERS HOPE TO RE-ESTABLISH TIES BETWEEN THE DETACHED, MOBILE LITHUANIAN-AMERICANS AND THEIR LITHUANIAN HERITAGE BY PRESENTING ITEMS ON LITHUANIAN CULTURE, CONDITIONS IN THE HOMELAND, EVENTS AND PERSONALITIES IN AMERICA, AND THE ASPIRATIONS OF ALL WHO SUBSCRIBE TO THE IDEA THAT LITHUANIA DESIRES TO BE AN INDEPENDENT AND FREE NATION AGAIN.

A PETITION BY CITIZENS OF LATVIA, LITHUANIA AND ESTONIA

On August 25, 1979, articles appeared in major Western newspapers relating the fact that a group of 45 citizens from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia had signed a document demanding self-determination for the three occupied republics on the grounds that they were annexed illegally under the 1939 Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. The Pact is so-named because it was signed by the Soviet Foreign Minister, Vyacheslav M. Molotov, and the German Foreign Minister, Joachim von Ribbentrop.

The 45 Balts issued their statement to Western reporters on August 23rd, the 40th anniversary of the treaty which threw the then-independent nations within the Soviet sphere of influence. Soviet dissident leader Andrei Sakharov, Arina Ginzburg, and other prominent Moscow dissidents released a separate statement supporting the Baltic group, according to reports in the Paris daily *Le Monde*.

"The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact turned out to be [a] conspiracy of the two greatest tyrants in history, Stalin and Hitler, against peace and humanity, which laid the basis for the Second World War. We consider the 23rd of August a day of infamy," the statement by the Balts read according to a translation by Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, of Brooklyn, New York. The statement also called on the Soviet Union to "publish the full text of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, including the secret protocols" and for the Soviet Union, the Federal Republic of Germany (West) and the German Democratic Republic (East) to declare the pact null and void from the moment of its signing, in the same way as the 1938 Munich Agreement between Hitler and British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain was voided.

The statement called on the Western powers to condemn what were called the consequences of the treaty and on the Soviet Union to live up to its obligations to respect the right of sovereign peoples to self-determination. "National sovereignty is characterized by political, territorial, cultural and linguistic independence — manifesting itself in a state with full sovereign rights in all social aspects, with a guarantee of their

full realization. National sovereignty cannot be bestowed or taken away; it can only be damaged or restored." The 45 also reminded the Secretary General of the United Nations "that this international organization is the successor of the League of Nations, of which Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania were full and active members until the... Pact went into effect. Consequently, upon you rests the juridical responsibility for the fate of the Baltic States." *Bridges* readers need not be reminded that all Western nations save the Netherlands have withheld formal recognition of the incorporation of the three Baltic republics into the Soviet Union.

According to a Reuters dispatch of August 24, 1979, "the official Soviet media... issued several commentaries accusing the West of distorting the true nature of the 1939 Pact. Soviet historians argue that Stalin was obliged to enter into the alliance with Hitler because of the refusal of the Western powers to join the Soviet Union in an anti-Nazi coalition. The commentaries depict the Pact as purely defensive. The partitioning of East Europe into Soviet and German zones is not mentioned in Soviet histories."

All of the 45 signers of the petition have already experienced harassment by Soviet authorities. One in particular, Antanas Terleckas, was arrested in November and his fate looks grim (December's issue of *Bridges* will have more on Terleckas). The names of the signers are reproduced below. Make note of them, because you'll probably be hearing their names again as the media begins to report their arrests, trials, and convictions.

Romas Andrijauskas
Stasė Andrijauskienė
Alfonsas Andriukaitis
Edmundas Bartuška
Vytautas Bastys
Vytautas Bogušis
Rev. Vladas Bobinas
Romas Vitkevičius
Jonas Dambrauskas
Jonas Eišvidas
Rimas Žukauskas
Ivars Žukoviskis
Alfredas Zeideks
Juris Ziemelis

Liutaras Kazakevičius
Leonas Laurinskas
Rimas Mažukna
Rev. Mocius
Mart Niklus
Rev. Napoleonas Narkūnas
Sigitas Paulavičius
Angelė Paškauskienė
Kęstutis Povilaitis
Jadvyga Petkevičienė
Jonas Petkevičius
Jonas Protusevičius
Sigitas Randis
Henrikas Sambore

Julius Sasnauskas
Leonora Sasnauskaitė
Algis Statevičius
Kęstutis Subačius
Enn Tarto
Antanas Terleckas
Erik Udam
Ints Calitis
Petras Cidzikas
Arvydas Čekanaavičius
Jonas Šerkšnas
Zigmas Širvinskas
Mečislovas Jurevičius
Rev. Virgilijus Jaugelis

It is painfully ironic that, even after forty years, the world has not yet paid serious notice to the warning that was unveiled by the Soviet transgression of Baltic soil. The invasion of Hungary in 1956 should have been confirmation of that warning. The invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1969 should have put all doubts to rest. Will the invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 become a prelude to a new war, or will it dwindle to a ghostly echo as Soviet occupation becomes an "accepted" fact to the West? It doesn't take very penetrating hindsight to recognize that the first dominoes fell forty years ago, but maybe the truth will hit home when Soviet tanks rumble into Yugoslavia in 1984, or Iran in 1987.

Rimantas A. Stirbys

COMMUNITY WITH A CAPITAL "C"

The Cultural Committee of the World Lithuanian Community (Pasaulio Lietuvių Bendruomenė) has arranged a series of exciting concerts for Lithuanian communities in North America. The Lithuanian folk-dance troupe "Ažuolynas" from Uruguay and

"Žibutės", a singing group from Argentina, will be presenting concerts in the United States and Canada during February and March of 1980. The World Lithuanian Community will be sponsoring these groups. Check with your local Bendruomenė officials for details.

On November 29, 1980 Bendruomenė representatives **S. A. Gečys, Aušra Zerr, and Algimantas Gureckas**, and Knights of Lithuania representative **Ernest Kaskauskas** visited the head of the State Department's Baltic Desk, **Thomas Longo**, to discuss the matter concerning the Lithuanian legation in Washington, D.C. The Discussions centered on H.R. 5407, the resolution sponsored by Cong. C. F. Dougherty (R-Pa.) to fund the legation. A positive response is sought from the State Department since it would greatly assist the passage of the bill through the House of Representatives and the Senate. Congressman **Clement J. Zablocki**, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, has already requested such a statement from the State Dept. concerning the bill. Mr. Longo's response to the Lithuanian-American delegation was that the State Department is currently studying the request and should present its opinion in early 1980.

With or without State Department support, the passage of the bill will not be easy since it involves a question of money.

While in Washington, the Bendruomenė representatives also met with **Patricia Darien**, an influential member of the **Commission for Security and Cooperation in Europe**. CSCE is the Congressional Helsinki Watch Group. At the meeting, the upcoming Madrid Conference was discussed as it will relate to Lithuania. The Bendruomenė members were informed that a CSCE report, soon to be published, would raise the question of the Baltic States and the violations of human rights



Aušra Mačiulaitytė-Zerr, right, presenting a copy of Bendruomenė's latest edition of "Violations of Human Rights in Soviet Occupied Lithuania" to D. Thomas Longo, head of the Baltic Desk at the U.S. State Dept.

Photo by V. Gureckas

there. It was then requested of Ms. Darien that, since the U.S. does not recognize the incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union, the report should not refer to Lithuania, Latvia, or Estonia as parts of the U.S.S.R. Aušra Zerr took the opportunity to inform Ms. Darien about the Coalition to Free Petkus and Gajauskas and the recent arrest of Lithuanian nationalist Antanas Terleckas.

THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM

It seems a more and more frequent occurrence that Soviet artists, performers, journalists, and other figures whose prominence allowed them to travel to the United States or western Europe are defecting and seeking political asylum. A recent case that made international headlines involved Russian ballet stars Alexandr Godunov and his wife Lyudmilla Vlasova. Godunov decided to remain in the U.S. and requested asylum. Although there were contradictory reports, Vlasova apparently decided to return to the Soviet Union. She was "helped" aboard the Aeroflot jetliner at Kennedy International Airport by Soviet officials, but doubts arose as to how much coercion was involved in her choice. U.S. officials decided to detain the airliner until an investigation could be made and a decision reached as to whether her departure was voluntary or not, despite sharply worded Soviet protests to the U.S. State Department.

Although after many days of intense negotiations the plane was allowed to take off with Vlasova aboard, the incident proved at least that the U.S. had learned its lesson. American authority for detaining the aircraft stemmed from an experience on November 23, 1970 when a Lithuanian sailor tried to defect by jumping from the deck of a Soviet fishing trawler onto a Coast Guard cutter off the coast of Martha's Vineyard, Mass. The sailor, **Simas Kudirka**, was literally handed back to the Soviets on orders from senior Coast Guard officers. Kudirka subsequently suffered punishment in a Soviet prison camp until 1972 when the perseverance of concerned Lithuanians and Americans secured his release.

The outgrowth of this affair, highly embarrassing to the administration of then-President Nixon, was the incorporation of Section 215 of the Immigration and Nationality Act into Section 1185 of Title 8 of the United States Code. This section, cited by the State Department in its handling of the Vlasova case, gives officials the authority to hold up the departure of persons who might be seeking asylum. According to an article published in the *New York Times*, Section 1185 is intended "to protect aliens from subtle forms of coercion" and is designed to permit blocking departures if it is suspected that "false statements" were made

in the application to leave. The incident with Lyudmilla Vlasova was not the first time that Section 1185 has been invoked against actions by the Soviet Union. It will probably not be the last.

A brief policy statement issued by the U.S. Department of State in July, 1979 reiterated America's policy toward the Baltic Republics. The statement, issued as a "gist" report by the Bureau of Public Affairs, began with this background comment: "The United States does not recognize the forcible and unlawful incorporation of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania into the U.S.S.R. in 1940. As a corollary of this nonrecognition policy, we recognize and continue to deal with representatives commissioned as diplomats by the last three independent Baltic governments. The Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian charge d'affaires in the U.S. enjoy full diplomatic privileges and immunities. Their role is to uphold the ideal of a free Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania."

The report goes on to give more details of State Dept. policy toward the Baltic diplomatic missions, pointing out that the State Dept. does not regard the legations as governments-in-exile. The report also describes several applications of this general policy, including the annual National Day greetings; the coordination of actions of other U.S. agencies, such as those pertaining to U.S. Government maps; an "attempt to stay in touch with the Baltic peoples through Voice of America and Radio Liberty broadcasts in their native languages;" the reiteration of the non-recognition policy on all appropriate public occasions; and barring the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow and cabinet-level officers of the U.S. Government from visiting the Baltic States.

The policy report does point out that the U.S. will continue to deal with the U.S.S.R. on certain U.S. citizen-interest cases, such as family reunification and emigration. The report concludes with the statement that, "In the era following the Helsinki Final Act — with heightened interest in human rights worldwide — (U.S.) Baltic policy remains relevant and important to overall U.S. policy interests."

JBANC (Joint Baltic American National Committee) reports that the House of Representatives has adopted a resolution concerning the Baltic States. The resolution (House Concurrent Resolution 200), approved by a vote of 390-0, draws "attention to Soviet occupation of the Baltic States and the recently promulgated Soviet citizenship law," according to a detailed report prepared by the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The report also point out that the resolution calls "for certain responses on the part of the executive branch. The resolution

reiterates the U.S. commitment to the principle of self-determination and seeks to have the Soviet Union implement principle VIII of the Helsinki Final Act and restore equal rights and self-determination to the Baltic people through free elections." For copies of the resolution or the Congressional Report, write your congressman or senator and ask for *House Report No. 96-575*, November 1, 1979, Committee on Foreign Affairs (to accompany H. Con. Res. 200).

COALITION

More names have been added to the Honorary Committee for the Coalition to Free Petkus and Gajauskas. The new members are: **Sol C. Shaikin** (President of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union); **Jack Greenberg** (Executive Director of the Education and Legal Defense Fund of the NAACP); the Rev. **Virgil C. Blum, S.J.** (President of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights); **G. F. Otero** (International Vice-President of the AFL-CIO's airline, train and maritime union); **Gen. Pyotr Grigorenko** (co-founder of the Moscow and Helsinki Watch Groups, former Major General in the Soviet army and lecturer at a Soviet Military academy, he was stripped of his Soviet citizenship in 1978 while in the U.S.); and **Edward M. Krause** (Director of Athletics at the University of Notre Dame). (For more on Lithuanian-American Edward "Moose" Krause, see the Personality section of next month's issue of *Bridges*.)

The Coalition would also like to extend a heartfelt *ačiū* to Birutė Ciplijauskaitė of Madison, Wisconsin for her donation of \$25.00. You too can help the Coalition in its struggle to secure the release of Lithuanian prisoners of conscience Viktoras Petkus and Balys Gajauskas. Just send a check or money order to **The Coalition to Free Petkus and Gajauskas, 708 Custis Road, Glenside, PA 19038.**

MEDIA

On October 28, 1979 the *National Catholic Register*, a widely read American Catholic newspaper, published an article and photographs dealing with Lithuania. Featured across six columns of the newspaper were the photographs of members of the **Committee to Defend the Rights of Believers**. This Committee is an organization formed in Lithuania to defend and publicize human rights violation of believers. The article emphasized that the members of the committee are threatened with arrest because of their work. The committee is made up of Fathers Laurinavičius, S. Tam-

kevičius, V. Velavičius, J. Zdebskis, J. Kauneckas; and A. Svarinskas, some of whom have already served up to 16 years in jail for their human rights activities. The *Register* received its information about the Committee from Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid of Brooklyn, New York.

ORGANIZATIONS

A pamphlet has been published by **Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid** entitled *Child Abuse in Soviet-Occupied Lithuania — Some Case Histories*. It details recent incidents of Soviet persecution of children in Lithuania, belying Soviet claims that the U.S.S.R. supported the United Nations-sponsored International Year of the Child.

The U.N. recognized that the growth of a child into a healthy and complete individual poses requirements beyond the purely medical and nutritional. A child needs a climate which encourages free inquiry and the development of a personal concept of morality. An important part of this formation must include the right of an individual to express his or her personal or religious beliefs. The Soviet Union approved this concept when, on December 10, 1948, in the General Assembly of the United Nations, it signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Child Abuse

In
Soviet-Occupied Lithuania
Some Case Histories



International Year
of the Child 1979

Cover of *Child Abuse in Soviet-Occupied Lithuania*, pamphlet published by Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid.

Soviet harassment of children is also in violation of the Soviet Constitution as well as other international agreements signed by the Soviets, including the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (also known as the Helsinki Accords of 1976).

The pamphlet released by LCRA takes its examples from specific cases reported in *The Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*. Some of the facts in the *Chronicle* were also documented in a petition signed by 1,750 Catholics of Lithuania, addressed to the Secretary General of the United Nations in 1972. The pamphlet describes the persecution of children by teachers, administrators, and police just because the children chose to exercise their rights as religious believers. For a copy of this pamphlet on Soviet Child Abuse, please write to **Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, 351 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, NY 11207**. *The Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania* can be obtained from **The Lithuanian Roman Catholic Priests' League** at the same address.

THE LITHUANIANS

October 3, 1458 marks the birthdate of Lithuania's patron saint, **Saint Casimir (Šventas Kazimieras)**. Honored for his justice, his self-discipline, and his simple, ascetic way of life, St. Casimir was born at the royal palace of Cracow. His father was Casimir IV, king of Poland and Grand Prince of Lithuania; his mother, Elizabeth of Austria, was daughter of Emperor Albrecht II Hapsburg. Educated at the royal court in Poland, Casimir impressed his elders as a gifted, virtuous youth. In his teens, he was given some military and administrative duties throughout the Polish kingdom. From 1481 to 1483, while his father was in Lithuania, Prince Casimir acted as regent in a manner both stately and efficient. While in power, he maintained tight control of the kingdom's purse strings but still repaid debts on mortgaged estates; while he curbed banditry in the provinces, he also improved relations with the Holy See. During his rule, Casimir maintained a simple, devout life in accordance with ascetic practices of the time. He wore a hairshirt under his royal robes, slept on wooden pallets, gave alms to the poor, widows, and orphans, and remained celibate throughout his life. This strict observance of his faith overwhelmed him when he contracted tuberculosis.

In the spring of 1483, the ailing Prince, grandson of King Jogaila and great-grandson of Grand Prince Algirdas, arrived in Lithuania and lived in Vilnius and Trakai. His father, returning to Poland, gave him charge over the Chancellery of the Grand Principality of Lithuania, but Prince Casimir died in Gardinas on March 4, 1484. His body was brought to the Cathedral of Vilnius for burial.

The chastity and piety of Casimir had drawn admiration even while he was still alive. After his death, people began to pray at his tomb, seeking strength and guidance. He was canonized by Pope Leo X in 1521. Pope Urban VIII declared him patron saint of Lithuania in 1636. During the seventeenth century, cults to St. Casimir began to flourish throughout Central and Southern Europe. An ornate reliquary of St. Casimir is still preserved in the basilica of St. Lawrence in Florence, Italy. The Knights of Lithuania (Vyčiai), founded in 1912 as an American Catholic organization for young people of Lithuanian descent, venerate St. Casimir as their official patron. On June 11, 1948, Pope Pius XII pronounced St. Casimir a special patron of Lithuanian youth. In the liturgical calendar, his feast day falls on March 4th.

Although there are many miracles ascribed to the intercession of St. Casimir, the most famous occurred in 1518, when a large army from Moscow threatened to occupy the Lithuanian fortress of Polotsk. A small group of Lithuanians who came to defend the city and fortress were unable to find a crossing over the swollen Dauguva river. Suddenly, an armored rider appeared to the frustrated defenders. Wearing a white cloak and astride a white steed, the rider waved the army on with his sword held high, leading the band across the river to at least a temporary victory over the eastern advance of the Russians. The conviction of the soldiers that they had seen an apparition of St. Casimir was accepted by the papal nuncio of the time, Zacharias Ferrerri, who had come to Vilnius in 1520 to begin investigations into Casimir's life for the canonization proceedings. Since that time, St. Casimir has been a symbol of struggle against the Russians.

The remains of the Lithuanian patron were preserved after his death and later kept in the chapel of St. Casimir at the Cathedral of Vilnius. The coffin had to be hidden during the first Russian invasion of Vilnius in 1655 because he was such a vital symbol to the peasants: the Orthodox bishop of Moscow officially "excommunicated" St. Casimir that same year, according to the rite of the Orthodox Church. When the Russians occupied Lithuania again in 1795, the widely celebrated feast of St. Casimir was forbidden and the church bearing his name was converted to a Russian Orthodox church. After World War II, the Soviets desecrated the chapel and transformed the cathedral into an art gallery. St. Casimir's remains were transferred to the church of Ss. Peter and Paul in the suburb of Antakalnis in 1953.

PERSONALITIES

One of America's top TV news cameraman, reports the October 4th Issue of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*,

is a former Philadelphian of Lithuanian-German ancestry — **Walter E. Dombrow**. For the past 11 years he's been a staff member of CBS' "60 Minutes," although he's also worked on "CBS Sunday News," "CBS Reports," and "Eyewitness to History." He's won two Emmy Awards for cinematography... for a three-part documentary series entitled "The Greek American Novel," and for a "60 Minutes" feature, "Ballerina." He's also been involved in camera-work with six other Emmy-winning productions such as the current children's program "Razzmatazz." His assignments have included wars, revolutions, Marijuana smugglers, and "every major riot in the United States." His is not a job for the timid.

Dombrow has rubbed elbows with "presidents, kings, queens, dictators, and a pope." His all-time favorite subject for news coverage became a close friend, the late Robert F. Kennedy. Mr. Dombrow, says he, would love to publish a book, but adds with a grin, "it would have to be done posthumously." He's been told too many secrets he can't reveal and has too many unprintable stories about Richard Nixon, Lyndon Johnson, John F. Kennedy, Winston Churchill, and others. At parties, he claims that no matter which corner of the world is discussed, he finds it "embarrassing" to mention that he's been there.

★ ★ ★

During **Pope John Paul II's** visit to the U.S., he offered Mass in Chicago's Grant Park where millions gathered to hear the Pontiff. During the Mass, the Pope proclaimed "Glory be to Jesus Christ" in ten different languages. However, when he came to the Lithuanian segment, he departed from just those few words and, in very clear Lithuanian, said: *Mano nuširdus sveikinimas Amerikos lietuviams. Likite ištikimi Kristui ir Bažnyčiai. Branginkite kilnius jūsų tautos tradicijas. Tegu globoja jus Dievo Motina Marija. Garbė Jėzui Kristui!*

Translated: "My sincere greetings to the Lithuanians of America. Remain faithful to Christ and the Church. Value the noble traditions of your people (Lithuania). May Mary, the Mother of God, protect you. Glory be to Jesus Christ."

★ ★ ★

If you saw Pope John Paul II during his recent historic trip to the United States, you could not help but notice a 6-foot 2-inch, 225-pound, burly, silent figure dressed in black clericals always hovering nearby. His name is **Bishop Paul Casimir Marcinkus** and he often acts as the Pope's bodyguard and advance man. He was always at the Pope's side during the trips he made to Poland and Mexico as well.

Affectionately nicknamed the Pope's "gorilla" by his colleagues in the Vatican, Bishop Marcinkus became the Vatican's traveling security boss after an incident during which hardpressed Vatican officials were attempting to clear a path for the late Paul VI in Rome. While at a basilica the Pope was visiting, a crowd of frantic faithful had closed in on the Pope, threatening to envelop and crush the frail pontiff. Suddenly, above the melee, loomed the figure of a massive, muscular monsignor. Elbows and huge, sloping shoulders working, he slowly shoved the crowd back and made some breathing room for the Pope. From then on, the future of this Lithuanian immigrant's son from Cicero was assured.

The good bishop is a unique personality, quite different from the stereotype one might have about members of the Vatican hierarchy. According to an article which appeared in the *Boston Herald American* on August 21st, he doesn't care about the airs of his office; all that matters is the Pope's safety. He stays in small hotels while traveling and covers his Bishop's ring. He is generally affable, but in matters regarding the Pope's safety, he is inflexible. While still a monsignor, he once refused entrance to the late Francis Cardinal Spellman at a reception for Paul VI at the United Nations in New York in 1965. The reception was for U.N. personnel only, every diplomat had been



Bishop Paul Marcinkus

Encyclopedia Lituanica

counted, and the reception had been timed to the minute. Opening the door for anyone not on the official list would mean admitting another half dozen. Sorry, your Eminence, but no.

Marcinkus attends to every detail of the Pope's visits, from pacing off each step the Pope is scheduled to take to checking every exit and every lavatory the Pope might use. Even fire extinguishers are examined.

Aside from these seemingly exhaustive tasks, Marcinkus is also president of the Vatican Bank. Known as the Institute for Religious Works, the Vatican Bank handles funds for church orders. Marcinkus is so multi-talented, he is often pressed into service to organize other projects. He even helped design the Villa Stritch in Rome, a beautiful villa where American Cardinals, bishops, and priests live while in Rome. An athlete, Marcinkus had been a champion golfer when he first came to Rome. He also organized softball clubs for Italian youth. It is not known if he still finds time to relax and play golf.

To those who don't know him, **Vitas Gerulaitis, Jr.** appears to be nothing more than the acrobatic Lithuanian Lion while on the tennis court and the free-wheeling, high-fashion jet setter when away from it. This one-dimensional image has been sensationalized in the press, on television, and in celebrity magazines, and has been further accented by his appearance in commercial ventures.

What you may not know about him is that he is also an enthusiastic tennis instructor. He can be frequently seen teaching tennis to willing and eager youngsters — not in some private Long Island tennis club — but in public parks throughout New York City's five boroughs. With his squad of teaching pros, some "special" guests, and very few spectators other than parents of the fledgling tennis superstars, Gerulaitis has completed his second season touring the city with his clinics. His "guests" included such big name talent as Bjorn Borg and his new bride, Mariana Simionescu; Guillermo Vilas and his coach and doubles partner, Ion Tiriac; Chris Evert Lloyd and her husband, John Lloyd; and other stars such as Arthur Ashe, Billie Jean King, John McEnroe, Ilie Nastase, Peter Fleming, and even Dr. J — basketball great Julius Erving of the Philadelphia 76ers.

Gerulaitis, who grew up in Queens and attended Columbia University, says he wants to give back something to the city he loves. He's already been involved in charitable fund-raising events, such as a \$250-a-plate dinner at the nightclub Regine's which brought in \$90,000. Some of this money went towards giving away 6,000 tennis raquets and sending some of the more talented youngsters to tennis camps. The real goal for Gerulaitis, however, is a permanent home for

his clinics somewhere in Queens, a fixed facility that would be a center for children who can't afford to belong to tennis clubs.

OTHER NATIONALITIES

This past summer, the **Latvians** of the free world held an international song festival on the island of Gotland. This island, which belongs to Sweden, is a mere 100 kilometers from Soviet-occupied Latvia. Apparently, Moscow felt this was too close for comfort and lodged a threatening protest with Sweden's Minister of Foreign Affairs. The protest stated that the Latvian festival in Gotland was an unfriendly action and definitely provocative.

Perhaps the Soviets were afraid that the oppressed Latvians, having found out about the festival, would remember what it was like to be free and might get the urge to stretch their vocal muscles. The Lithuanians also hold song festivals every four years. The last one was in Chicago during the summer of 1978 and the next one is scheduled for 1982. Hmmm.

Credits

This month's contributors to *Bridges* include G. Ardys, K. Pugevičius, S. A. Gečys, V. Musonytė.

Gotland is only 150 kilometers from Lithuania. I wonder . . . ?

GERA ŠEIMININKĖ

HUNGER SOUP (Bado sriuba)

Ingredients:

4 pints (heaping) sauerkraut
4 to 5 medium potatoes
1 medium onion
1 3/4 ounces oil
5 1/4 pints water
bay leaf
peppercorns
salt to taste

Finely chop the onion and saute in the oil. Cut the potatoes into small pieces and put into the water. Boil until the potatoes are somewhat but not completely tender. Wash the sauerkraut and put it into the potato-water mixture. Also put in the sauteed onion, bay leaf, a few peppercorns and salt to taste. Tightly cover the pot and simmer for another 20 minutes. If desired, add a finely shredded carrot to give the soup a light yellow color.

"Hunger soup" is eaten with bread and nothing else. The soup is also called *Bobutyne* by some folks.

BRIDGES — LITHUANIAN-AMERICAN NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Lithuanian-American Community of the USA, Inc. Editor: Rimantas A. Stirbys. Assistant Editor: Jūratė Krokytė-Stirbienė. Entered as Third Class Matter at the Post Office in Brooklyn, New York. Subscription rates: \$3.00 for one year. Editorial address: P.O. Box 2158, Jenkintown, PA 19046. Subscription address: BRIDGES — Lithuanian-American Newsletter, c/o J. Jankus, 84-55 86th Ave., Woodhaven, NY 11421

After 5 Days, Return to

Bridges - Lithuanian American Newsletter

c/o DARBININKAS
341 Highland Blvd.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11207

Non-Profit Org.

U. S. POSTAGE
PAID

Brooklyn, N. Y.
Permit No. 5417

90.790,165