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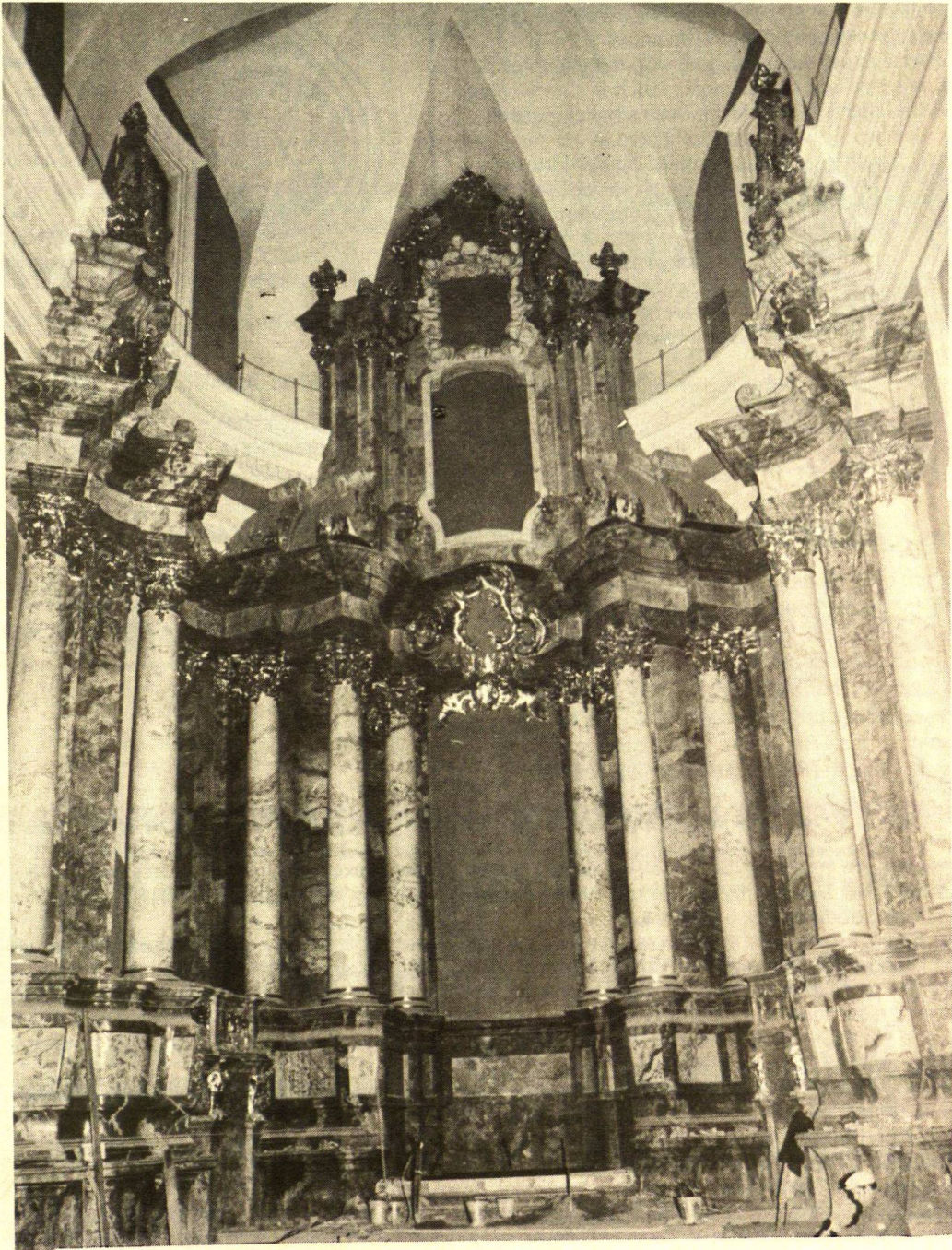
BRIDGES

LITHUANIAN-AMERICAN NEWS JOURNAL

P.O. BOX 3050, WORCESTER, MA 01613-3050

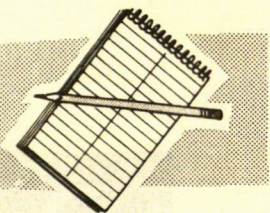
Volume 14, No. 5

Summer 1990



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From the Desk of the Managing Editor



Summer is here. For some, it is a time for vacation, while for others, it is a time for increasing knowledge for a chosen vocation or avocation.

This issue of *Bridges* intends to satisfy the needs of all. We've named it *The Bridges Summer Issue*, because some people associated with our news journal have decided to rest and relax, while our collective aim is to continue to increase our readerships' knowledge regarding things Lithuanian.

It is a diverse issue, dealing in part with the effects of the Soviet Union's blockade of Lithuania, which is slowly being lifted, and the effects of President Bush's policy regarding Lithuania. Summer activities are spotlighted as are summer-time recipes. A call to action is sounded by the Lithuanian Information Center of Philadelphia, which we welcome with this issue to the ever-expanding *Bridges* contributors base.

In short order, our next issue will hit the stands — a special issue dealing exclusively with the demonstrations in Washington, D.C., during the Bush-Gorbachev Summit. This issue is already being typeset and the pictures are being prepared. Keep your eyes on your mailbox or your newsstand for this *Bridges* special.

Stay healthy. Stay cool, and all the while, let's all continue to do our part on Lithuania's behalf.

Eduardas V. Meilus, Jr.

FRONT COVER:

The Church of St. Casimir in Vilnius has been designated the church for young people and is expected to open for worship in the fall of 1990. The Soviet government confiscated the church and turned it into the Museum of Atheism. The keys were given to Church officials on May 1, 1989, and the church was entirely empty and badly damaged. By April of this year some of the 17th century altars had been restored. Progress is slow due to lack of equipment and funds.

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Through the news journal, 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 goal that Lithuania must and will be an independent free nation again.

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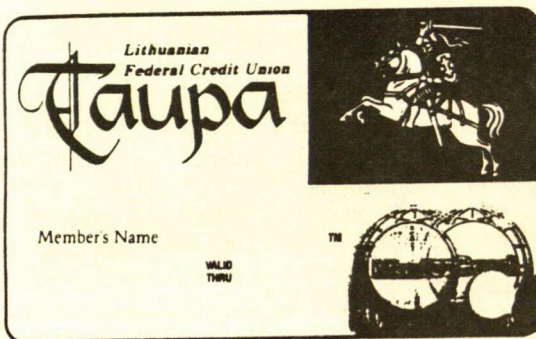
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Bush and the Lithuanians

by Albert Cizauskas

Using a catchy, but essentially meaningless campaign slogan, "Read my lips," George Bush hoodwinked the American public into believing this nation could eat its cake and have it too. Had we looked more carefully, we would have seen that the man had no lips, just as he had no tax policy then and has none today. "Read my lips," in fact, seems to sum up our President as a man of little conviction, except that he like clean air and good schools, and doesn't like new taxes and habit-forming drugs. Because of his stand against new taxes, however, he has painted himself into a corner so that he lacks the budgetary resources to convert good wishes into reality.

This man is now saying in effect to the Lithuanians, "Read my lips," that is, expect no help from me in your confrontation with the Soviet Union, except for words. We hear a lot of pious cant from him about the goodness of freedom and the need for Lithuania to adopt a more conciliatory approach toward the Soviet Union even as Gorbachev slowly chokes the economic life out of the country. A more conciliatory approach toward the Soviets by both Latvia and Estonia, however, is earning them no brownie points.

Gorbachev has made it abundantly clear that he will not tolerate the separation of non-Russian nationalities from the Soviet Union no matter how slow the process may be. The folderol of a five-year waiting period mandated by *post facto* Soviet legislation is just sand in Bush's face. If any doubts still remain about Soviet intentions, they ought to have been dispelled when Gorbachev frankly told Secretary of State Baker, at a pre-summit meeting, that he is under intense pressure to take "more direct steps" to keep Lithuania within the Soviet Union. That such a possibility, which implies military force, is even being contemplated on the eve of the Bush-Gorbachev meetings, suggests how little the Soviet leader is concerned about the impact of his words and actions upon President Bush.

Appeasement

The truth is that, up to now, it's been easy for Bush and his predecessors in the White House. All they had to do was invite the Lithuanian Charge d'Affaires to the annual White House Diplomatic Ball, issue cliché-filled statements on February 16th, and then promptly forget the human tragedy of Lithuania for the rest of the year.

But, the time has come for something more than words and invitations. Bush now faces the challenge of giving substance, for the first time since the end of World War II, to America's painless stance of not recognizing the illegal Soviet seizure of Lithuania. If Bush thinks he can appease Gorbachev through a soft line on Lithuania, however, he is in for a rude surprise. Gorbachev won't bother to ask Bush to read his communist lips, but will bluntly tell our President that the Lithuanian issue is an internal matter and none of the President's business, whether Bush adopts a soft or hard line on Lithuania.

Gorbachev will also tell the President other unpleasant things, that the Soviet Union is back-sliding on strategic arms control, that it will not tolerate a unified Germany with NATO,

and that it is unwilling to negotiate on the reduction of conventional forces despite the drain on a deteriorating Soviet economy. All this portends a sea-change in the Soviet position, from chummy, good-guys in white hats back to the bad old days of Brezhnev. Even the Soviet ambassador, Dubinin, a friendly extrovert, who helped to dispel the gloom and doom of previous ambassadors, is being returned to Moscow on the eve of his boss' visit here, a most unusual move in the diplomatic game.

How will Bush react to these changes? The probable answer is that the man who sent his top officials to toast the Chinese communist leaders after their massacre of students is hardly one to stand up to Gorbachev. He might even give the Soviet dictator the go-ahead signal for another Tiananmen Square in Lithuania in exchange for seeming concessions on other issues. But appeasement has never worked in the past and won't in the future.

Goodies for Gorbachev

Bush is said to be preparing a plate-full of significant economic concessions during the summit negotiations to bribe the Soviet President. Prominent among these is most-favored nation (MFN) tariff entry into the American market for Soviet goods which, as one expert calculates, would reduce the cost of these goods by at least one-third.

Not publicized is the fact that the Export-Import Bank, a US government institution, is also prepared to unveil during the Gorbachev visit, a program of insurance and guarantees on private US company credits as well as financial loans on better-than-market terms, to stimulate the export of badly-needed American goods to the Soviet market. Few American enterprises, with the exception of the McDonalds and the Pepsicos, would be rash enough to risk trading with the Soviets without the back-up of the Eximbank's subsidized facilities. These concessions, one for exports to the USSR from the US and the other for Soviet imports into the US, can be of vital importance in shoring up a badly disintegrating Soviet economy.

Why Not For Lithuania Too?

If our President is willing to consider MFN status and Eximbank facilities for the Soviets, why not for Lithuania too? It is, after all, only the logical next step for the US to deal with a freely-elected government in a nation whose sovereignty the US has continued to acknowledge on paper. Trade assistance to the Lithuanian economy as it is being squeezed by the Soviets would be a humanitarian gesture. It would also be a powerful signal to Gorbachev that we are willing, as a nation, to stand up and be counted on an important matter of principle. Corollary action would be US support for Lithuanian membership in the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations. An exchange of ambassadors would facilitate the implementation of such a policy.

Of course, there would be an angry outcry from the Soviet Union, but Bush could take the high ground that Lithuania now has an elected government in a country whose forcible

annexation into the Soviet Union, the United States has never recognized.

Even the hint that the Bush administration is looking into the possibility of such steps could conceivably clear the air quickly for genuine negotiations between Vilnius and Moscow leading to an exit for Lithuania under peaceful and just conditions. While the parallels are not exact, we do have the Soviet precedent of providing billions of dollars annually to the Castro government in Cuba, a country virtually contiguous with the US mainland. Bush would only be giving Gorbachev the same thumb-in-the-nose salute he and his predecessors have been giving us for years on Cuba.

Decisive action on Lithuania, or at least the credible threat thereof, could have a beneficial spill-over effect on the other important issues too, like strategic arms control, German unification, and reduced conventional forces. Above all, it's important for Bush to keep in mind that the Soviet economy is approaching chaos and badly requires America's economic support. The bottom line is that Gorbachev needs Bush more than Bush needs him.

Whatever happens, it's vital for Bush to remember that, in the matter of Lithuania and the Soviet Union, the honor and good faith of the United States is at stake.

(This article has been written two weeks before the summit. It should be judged in the light of what transpires there, hopefully to Lithuania's benefit, and that of the West in general.

One of the changes reported just before the summit is that Bush is now said to be cancelling the notion of conferring MFN status upon the USSR. This, however, need not prejudice the extension of such rights upon Lithuania.)

Political Seminar
LITHUANIA
1990

Washington, D.C. May 4-6, 1990



Paulius Mickus and sister Nida, thank the prime minister. Photo by G. Gaska.



Newly elected officers of the Lithuanian-American Youth Association during the Political Seminar, May 4-6 in Washington. Seated: President, Sigute Šnipas, standing from left to right: (L) Linas Orentas, Rūta Kalvaitytė, Gailė Rastonytė, Vilius Srvoginis, Regina Kulbytė, Elena Kazlas, Vita Spakevičiūtė, Nida Veitaitė. Photo by G. Gaska.



Effects of Soviet-Imposed Economic Blockade on Lithuania (as of June 8, 1990)

As compiled by the Lithuanian Information Center, Brooklyn, NY

MEDICAL SUPPLIES:

1. Syringes — need (per year) — 100 million; received (this year) — 142,000 disposables, 73,000 reusables; 0.5% of needed amount.
2. Scalpels — 6,000 received; 1/7 of the amount allocated to the Republic.
3. X-Ray Film — 10% of allocated amount received.
4. Sutures — 10% of allocated amount received.
5. Insulin — needed — 287,000 vials short-acting and 300,000 intermediate-acting; received — 200 vials short-acting and 0 vials intermediate-acting.

Antibiotics and all forms of intravenous solutions are also in critically short supply.

EFFECTS:

- Preventative medical examinations, injections, elective hospitalizations, laboratory work-ups, x-rays and other testing procedures have been limited to the most critical cases.
- Elective surgical procedures have also been suspended due to the lack of sutures, surgical gloves, sterilizing solutions and other surgical necessities.
- Dialysis treatments are compromised, neonatal care imperiled and emergency ambulatory service severely curtailed.
- Reduced supplies of gasoline have resulted in reduction of ambulance service, travel restrictions on medical personnel providing service to outlying areas and home visits by medical doctors. New ambulances and spare parts are not being provided. Transportation difficulties are also contributing to inadequate supplies of instruments and medicines.
- Heating in hospitals was discontinued as early as April. Electricity has been limited, although hospital operating rooms still have enough power.
- The blockade has also affected drinking water and the food processing industry which cannot apply sanitation technology due to energy shortages and lack of purifying agents. A considerable rise in the incidence of intestinal diseases is expected. These conditions may also have a negative effect on the enactment of health measures normally used in the prevention of epidemics.
- A letter received by Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid from a mother in Lithuania states, "My son is 11 years old and has suffered from diabetes for a year. Already, we are not receiving the prescription medication he needs, and will not receive it in the future. This is a question of his life or death."

ENERGY AND FUEL SUPPLIES:

1. Natural gas — needed — 18 million cubic meters per day on average; since April 19, 3.5 million cubic meters per day have been provided; 16% of total supply needed to function fully.
2. Crude oil — need — 20,000 tons per day on average; none is being delivered.
3. Gasoline and diesel fuel — None is being delivered, reserves on hand expected to last until June 15-20.
4. Electricity — Temporary stoppage at the Ignalina nuclear power plant and exhaustion of oil supplies has resulted in a 25% cutback in production of electricity.

EFFECTS:

- Eight industrial enterprises have ceased operations: the Mazeikiai oil refinery, 4 sugar factories, sock factories in Klaipeda and Kaunas and the Kaunas synthetic fiber factory.
- Gasoline sales to private automobile owners were stopped last week, supplies being reserved only for ambulances, militia, fire fighters, and delivery of agricultural products and food-stuffs.
- Fuel supplies for public transportation will be cut back, resulting in unemployment for approximately 23,000 drivers.
- Hot water to residents was cut off as of May 24. It is being provided only to hospitals, preschools and public food enterprises.
- Power to most industries has been interrupted due to electrical shortages, except for essential enterprises (e.g., food, medical).

UNEMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC LOSSES

- Since the beginning of the blockade, losses incurred by industry, agriculture, construction and transport due to lack of fuel and resources amount to approximately 73.5 million rubles.
- Approximately 236.7 million rubles worth of goods have gone unmanufactured.
- Loss to the Republic budget during this time period is more than 80 million rubles.
- A financial blockade has also been imposed by the USSR State Bank, delaying payment of Lithuania's accounts to suppliers of goods.
- Figures on industrial production for May show a decrease of 11.4% in comparison with May 1989 (equivalent to 109 million rubles) and a drop of 12% (113 million rubles) from April 1990.

- Unemployment figures: (of 1,103,790 registered employed individuals)
47,200 unemployed workers
22,500 (47.7%) — industry
9,600 (20.3%) — agriculture
7,900 (16.7%) — construction
7,200 (15.3%) — transportation
- Percentage of workers laid-off within specific branches of the economy:
industry — 4.42%
construction — 6.41%
transportation — 8.58%
agriculture — 2.48%
- In addition, 358 enterprises with over 360,000 workers have reportedly been intermittently idled.
- The number of "workers in enterprises no longer operating at full capacity" (potential layoffs) is 464,765. Within sectors of the economy:
industry — 34.29%
construction — 58.38%
transportation — 69.32%
agriculture — 41.30%
- The government is allowing enterprises to pay unemployed workers no less than two-thirds of their pay for three months, after which they are entitled to three months unpaid leave.
- Expenditures for capital improvements in nursing homes have been cut by 50%.
- General government spending has been reduced 30%.
- Liquified natural gas deliveries have commenced from Perm, Novopolotsk and Kirishi.
- The government is making plans to utilize solid fuels for power plants and home heating. This will require an additional 300,000 - 350,000 tons of coal or 600,000 - 700,000 cubic meters of wood for home heating and 10,000 tons of coal for power plants in order to satisfy minimal needs.
- Attempts are being made by the Republic's trade unions to deal directly with the USSR railworkers' trade unions to insure deliveries of ordered goods.
- The Lithuanian Ministry of Agriculture is cooperating with local authorities to try to solve the problem of displaced urban workers and expects to find employment for between 7,000 and 14,000 persons between May and September. A key obstacle, however, is a housing shortage preventing relocation of a portion of the labor force to the country.

Other embargoed items include:

steel and steel sheeting
all types of piping
phosphate concentrates
wood products (incl. materials for furniture, flooring, etc.)
paper
synthetic fibers and textiles
automotive spare parts
bulldozers
diesel generators
tin
plastics
rubber products
prefabricated construction materials
aluminum construction materials
metal construction materials
asbestos
trucks and automobiles
tractors
diesels

FOOD

Delivery of the following food stuffs has been cut off:

vegetable oils	coffee
sugar	tea
cocoa	citric acid
fish and fish by-products	nuts
margarine	dried foods

Supplies of products and packaging materials needed for food processing have also been cut off.

EFFECTS:

- Sugar has been rationed to 0.5 kg per person per month.
- Also being rationed are flour, macaroni and grains.
- A Lithuanian blockade fund has been formed to assist those hardshipped.
- Attempts will be made to carry out the previously planned delivery of gasoline by road caravan in a barter arrangement. The first attempt made on the Polish Lithuanian border on May 28, was prevented by Soviet customs.
- Some crude oil has reportedly come from the USSR in exchange for cement.
- The government has assigned the Ministry of Agriculture 1,000 tons of butter to barter for glass packaging materials.
- The Ministry of Material Resources has received 1,200 tons of meat and 300 tons of butter and dairy products for barter purposes.
- Most power plants fired by crude oil will last until June 18-20 with a few expected to hold out until September 30. The Republic's second-largest city, Kaunas, is in the worst situation with regard to fuel reserves, while the northern city of Siauliai is in the best position.
- The shortage of raw materials will halt the sizeable construction materials industry, the Alytus refrigerator plant and two furniture factories.
- If there is an interruption in thermal energy, over 40,000 workers in 127 enterprises will be immediately idled.

continued on next page

Darius Sužiedelis and the new president of the Lithuanian-American Youth Association, Sigutė Šnipas at the Lithuanian consulate in Washington, May 6, 1990. Photo by G. Gaska.



Prime minister Prunskienė being introduced by World Lithuanian Community President Vytautas Bielauskas. Photo by G. Gaska.



COUNTERMEASURES

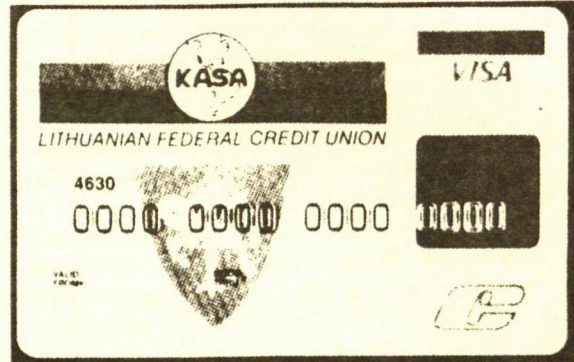
- A number of trade agreements have been completed with some areas of the Russian Republic, Lvov, Tiumen, Latvia, Estonia and Eyelorussia. However, these agreements have been impossible to implement thus far because rail access to Lithuania is controlled by Soviet authorities and only goods distributed by central Soviet trade ministries are shipped into the Republic.
- The government is encouraging Lithuanian cooperatives not to sell products outside Lithuania which could be sold for hard currency.
- The Ministry of Energy is preparing the port of Klaipeda for oil imports by sea.

Source material for this report was received from: The Lithuanian Supreme Council Information Bureau, Vilnius. The Lithuanian Ministry of Health, Vilnius. The Lithuanian Legation, Washington.

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Community with a Capital "C"

Summer is here, but the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc., is not taking a vacation yet. On June 9-11, the National Executive Committee had a chance to meet the new Association of Young Lithuanian-Americans president, **Sigutė Šnipas**, a student at Boston College. She became acquainted with the many projects of the Lithuanian-American Community, and discussed with the National Executive Committee members the new officers' commitments to the internship program and other projects begun by the former officers.

The Helsinki Act Conference (Human Rights section) took place in Copenhagen, Denmark June 5-29. The Lithuanian World Community was registered as a non-governmental organization. The World Lithuanian Community attempted to organize as effective representation as possible, to include Lithuanian Community representation from various countries (the U.S., Canada, France, Switzerland) and from Lithuania. The Lithuanian-American Community, Inc., financed the trip of two Lithuanian-Americans, both of whom work in the Lithuanian Information Center; Ginte Damusis (the New York office) and Viktoras Nakas (the Washington office). The Lithuanian World Committee prepared a memorandum, which included the latest examples of blockades of human rights; the non-receipt of visas, which meant that those outside of Lithuania were unable to attend conferences, congresses, etc., in Lithuania.

The Lithuanian-American Community, Inc., produced a new edition of its "Lietuva-Lithuania" brochure in May. It is sent free of charge to the Lithuanian Legation and the Lithuanian consuls, but a donation is requested from other who request it in larger quantities (at cost for single copies 15¢). This helps defray printing costs. Another brochure which is being planned, is a bilingual brochure or booklet about the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc., its history, purposes, about the work of its Councils. Many letters to the National Executive Committee ask for that kind of information, and chapters around the country should also find it useful. The "Media Guide" project (mentioned in another *Bridges* issue) has been deferred since matching funds from outside sources never materialized. Short news releases, fact sheets, and brochures have been prepared as the need arises as it did during the Bush-Gorbachev summit and the Lithuanian-American demonstrations (June 1-2) in Washington, D.C. Much assistance in publicity and media preparation for the demonstrations came from the Communications Center operating in Philadelphia. Its projects are under the auspices of the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc., National Executive Committee and will also largely involve helping keep the Lithuanian-American Community's chapters informed during coordinated efforts, political action, etc.

The arrival of unexpected letters and donations at the National Executive Committee office is always a pleasure to see. The Polish National Alliance sent a letter of congratulations to the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc., on the occasion of its March 11th declaration of independence from Moscow. The

letter included a donation to the Gift for Lithuania "**Dovana Lietuvai**" fund. A family in Lake Oswego, Oregon, wrote requesting "Lietuva-Lithuania" brochures and sent a donation to help the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc., defray the costs of some of its work. Some follow-up letters are received from *Bridges'* readers and others, with thanks for some information received, letting us know how penpal correspondence with Lithuania is going. It's all very gratifying — thank you for your interest and support.

The President of the Religion Council, Rev. Antanas Saulaitis, S.J. announced that June 11-14 were declared "Lithuania with Christ" days of prayer by Bishop Paulis Baltakis. A sad story with a happy ending, was one relayed by Rev. Saulaitis in his report to the National Executive Committee. The Archdiocese of Chicago (as are other dioceses around the country) is being forced for financial and other reasons to close older parishes. In Chicago, this meant closing the oldest Lithuanian parish in the Midwest. St. George's (founded in 1892). Some far-seeing parishioners and clergy decided that if the parish is to be closed, then the internal ornaments, etc., should be shared with Catholic brethren in Lithuania. Appropriate plans are now being made, with the consultation of Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. Also, Rev. Saulaitis relayed that Vatican Radio is always looking for information about Lithuanian-American religious and parish life, and in general, about customs, success stories about new pastoral directions, etc. The address is Programma Lituano, Radio Vaticana, 00120 Vatican City.

Due to blockages of visas, the Faculty Senate of Vytautas Didysis University (members who live outside of Lithuania) was unable to gather in Lithuania. Instead, the Senate met in Chicago's Lithuanian Youth Center on May 25-27. Members of the Senate had an opportunity to meet with members of the National Executive Committee on May 26th, and presented their recommendations to the Lithuanian public and press representatives on May 27th. Vytautas Didysis University, which just completed its first academic year after being closed since World War II, is presenting healthy academic competition for Vilnius University, the Faculty Senate members say. Several recommendations of the Senate would put the university in a better position to be competitive in the world academic community. The Lithuanian-American Community, Inc. National Executive Committee was approached about the possibility of funding some desktop publishing and photocopying equipment from its "Gift for Lithuania" ("**Dovana Lietuvai**") fund. Students are now at a definite disadvantage when they have to take copious notes, due to lack of textbooks and photocopying facilities. A sum will probably be designated.

Various communities around the United States have become familiar with the situation in Lithuania thanks to the efforts of Lithuanian-Americans who live in various cities and towns where there may be fewer Lithuanian names in the phone books. The city of Highland Park (Illinois), for example, on May 29th, issued a "Proclamation in Support of Lithuanian Independence," signed by its Mayor, Daniel M. Pierce, and attested by

the city clerk. So, one Lithuanian-American, with the support and advice of the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc. chapter officers in her area (Waukegan/Lake County, IL) was able to accomplish this project. This certainly is not the only such case.

The president of the Educational Council, Mrs. Regina Kučas, informed the other National Executive Committee members of various projects accomplished by the Council and in the Lithuanian language schools. An attempt was made by the Council to make children involved in and a part of assistance for Lithuania. A drive was held to collect vitamins, aspirin, and other over-the-counter medications to send to Lithuania; 8 Lithuanian language schools participated in the drive which also collected \$2,500. Everything was turned over to a Lemont, Illinois parent and physician who was helping coordinate the transport. The "Easy Way to Lithuanian" is being printed, and will be distributed with audiotapes. The University of Minnesota Immigration History Research Center has requested two periodical publications of the Council for its collection — "Švietimo gairės" (Educational guidelines) and "Musu vaikas" (our child).

The president of the Cultural Council, Mrs. Dalia Kučėnas reported on the Tenth Cultural Awards ceremonies which took place April 21st in St. Petersburg, Florida. It's nice to see that the award winners continue to be active in cultural affairs. The winner of the art award — Kestutis Zapkus put a great deal of time and work into preparing a large and very moving poster on the genocide in Lithuania, which was widely distributed to politicians in Washington D.C. during the demonstrations (June 1-2). The winner of the theater award — Arunas Ciuberkis serves as translator during the performances of the Vilnius Youth Theater (Vilniaus Jaunimo teatras) during the International Theater Festival in Chicago in late June. During a visit by the director of the Vilnius Museum (Valstybinis Vilniaus muziejus), Romualdas Budrys in Chicago, the Cultural Council organized a meeting with Chicago artists. Mr. Budrys presented a large gift (the first to the emigre population) of 180 representative art works from Lithuania to the Council. The Council, in turn, donated them to the Lithuanian Art Museum (Dailes muziejus) in Lemont, Illinois. The Cultural Council is gearing up for a (Lithuanian) Theater Festival of its own, featuring troupes from the U.S. and Canada in November. Also, the Song Festival which was postponed from July 1990 will take place in May 1991, together with other cultural events (the Lithuanian opera, etc.) More will be announced as the dates and arrangements for the events are formalized.

(Items were compiled by Ramunė Kubilius of the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc. National Executive Committee, 2713 West 71 Street, Chicago, IL 60629.)



The 1990 Lithuanian Seminar

It seems we all know somebody these days that is over in Lithuania studying at the University of Vilnius. Now everyone, however, can afford such an expensive and time-consuming trip. Luckily, there is a place where you can get a university-level Lithuanian education right in North America. Lithuanian Seminars is a two-week intensive course in Lithuanian language and culture. Though the Seminar is primarily for university-aged students, older students have always been welcome. Some rudimentary knowledge of Lithuanian is required, but no matter what the level of your language skill may be before you attend the Seminar, it is guaranteed that you will have a better knowledge of the Lithuanian language after attending the Seminar.

The golden rule at the Seminar is to speak, read and dream Lithuanian. The atmosphere is academic, but community-oriented as well. The lecturers, mostly professors at American and Canadian universities, are willing to take the time to help students on an individual basis after lectures. The emphasis of the lectures themselves is language study, but there is a wide variety of other courses, like literature, history, and comparative culture, to choose from.

In many ways, the Seminar is an ideal preparation for those considering a trip to Lithuania. In two weeks you will have acquired knowledge that will make your dialogue with friends and relatives in Lithuania more interesting and meaningful. This year, the Seminar will be from August 5 to August 19 in a retreat house in Plano, Illinois, a town about 100 miles west of Chicago. Stipends for students with financial difficulties are often available. For further information, write Lithuanian Seminars, c/o Vida Kupryte, 1806 S. 49 Court, Cicero, IL 60650, USA.



Baltimore Lithuanian Festival



Baltimore's Lithuanian Festival: A Participant's Perspective

For the 18th consecutive year, the Baltimore Lithuanian organizations have successfully hosted a Lithuanian Festival in Festival Hall in Baltimore, Maryland, near the beautiful Baltimore Inner Harbor. The two-day event was held this year on June 9 and 10. I had the pleasure, along with my wife and two children to participate in the festival for one of the two days — Saturday, June 9 — at the invitation of the Lithuanian Festival Committee. It was truly a memorable experience, one that I would recommend to anyone interested in Lithuania. This year's festival committee included:

John F. Maskavich	Chairman
Nijole Kaltreider	Treasurer
Danute Balciunas	Secretary
Robert & Beth Waslov	Publicity Coordinators
Algimantas Grintalis	Art Director
Elena Okas	Advisor
Patricia Bakunas	Advisor
Jonas Kardokas	Advisor
Frances Kazlauskas	Advisor

The sponsoring organizations included:

- St. Alphonsus Roman Catholic Church, Rev. Antanas Dranginis, Pastor
- Lithuanian Hall Association, Inc.
- Taryba — Council of Lithuanian Societies
- Bendruomene — Lithuanian-American Community of Baltimore
- American Legion Lithuanian Post #154
- Lithuanian National Library
- Lithuanian Museum of Baltimore
- Baltimore Lithuanian Athletic Club
- Lithuanian Melody Time — WBMD 7:30 a.m.
- Daina Chorus
- Malunas Folk Dance Ensemble
- Ratelis — Children's Folk Dance Group
- K. Donelaitis Lithuanian School
- Lithuanian Language and Culture Club
- Free Lithuania Committee of Baltimore
- Lithuanian National Society

Each participating group had its own BAKUZE — a truly innovative booth reminiscent of the moss-covered huts of Lithuanian song and love.



DAIVA ČESONYTĖ

Photo by: Terese Meilus



**BRIDGES EDITOR WITH K. LAZAUSKAS
BALTIMORE LITHUANIAN HOUR HOST.**

Participants were treated to food for the soul and delicacies for the palate. Traditional folk dancing, choral singing, and music of the Lithuanian national folk instrument KANKLES filled Festival Hall as festival goers filled-up on traditional Lithuanian food and drink. The pictures you see accompanying this article best convey the beautiful displays and articles which were for sale.

To tell you the truth, I never knew of this Baltimore Lithuanian Festival, until the committee invited us. It sounded interesting, so we decided to make this seven-hour car trip in our Blazer. It was well worth it. I would recommend that various Lithuanian Societies from other Lithuanian communities organize excursions to this festival, which is held at the beginning of June each year. Not only can you share in things Lithuanian, but also establish ties with a fine group of Lithuanian Activists who live and work in the Baltimore area.

Bridges salutes the Baltimore Lithuanians wishing them continued success. We'll see you next year at the Lithuanian Festival.

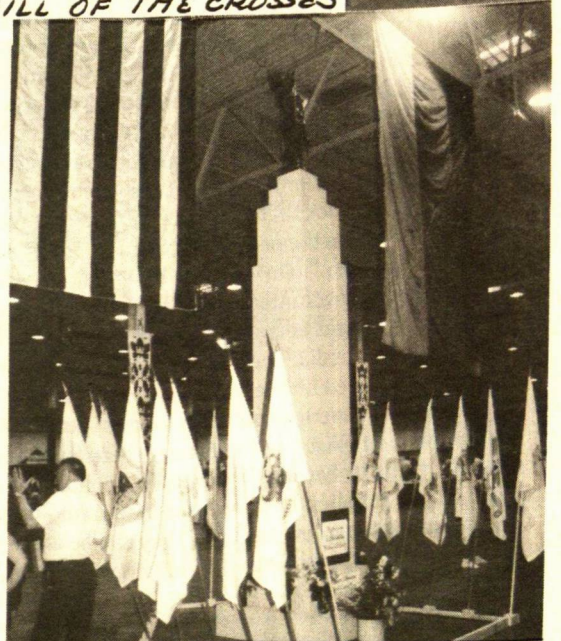
— Eduardas V. Meilus, Jr.



FESTIVAL CHAIRMAN



HILL OF THE CROSES



**LITHUANIAN FREEDOM MONUMENT
BY A. GRINTALIS** Photo by: Terese Meilus





Seated left to right: Tomas Nenortas, Jonas Macys (member of Lithuanian Parliament), Jim Gust. Standing Zina Dreslius, Vaiva Vebra at Lithuanian Resource Center.

The Lithuanian Resource Center

On May 14, 1990, the Lithuanian Resource Center (LRC) was established in West Hartford, Connecticut. The purpose of the center is to gather information about events concerning Lithuania in both the United States and Lithuania. People are able to call in to the center and find out a variety of information from what new resolutions are on the Congress floor to current events in Lithuania. The LRC was set up as a response to a need for centralized information at a time when people were not sure where to turn for that information. The first project the LRC took part in was the petition drive initiated by "Americans for a Free Lithuania." On a daily basis, in between compiling petitions, the volunteers who man the LRC answer phones, gather data and encourage people to call their government officials and media. The LRC is financed by generous donations from concerned Lithuanians and Americans and will continue to serve the American public as long as the need for centralized information exists. In the future, there are many projects the LRC plans to become involved in, such as collecting books, medical supplies and food for Lithuania. If you have any questions regarding the LRC, they can be answered by calling (203) 521-7057 or writing to P.O. Box 1370, W. Hartford, CT 06107.

Zina Dreslius

Lithuanian Friendship Day in Putnam, CT

School children, who last year had difficulty pronouncing "Lithuania," can now tell you that Lithuania is in Eastern Europe and is fighting for its independence from the Soviet Union. Travellers, who wanted a different vacation flew right past Vilnius and went on to Moscow and Leningrad. That is no longer the case. More and more travellers want to see the miniature Baltic country that is daring to tell the behemoth Soviet Union it wants its independence now.

This year, as in the past fifty years, it is possible to go to a tiny slice of Lithuania in beautiful New England . . . if only for a day. No one needs a visa, nor a plane ticket and everyone is bilingual. On Sunday, July 29, 1990, the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception will host their traditional Friendship Day on their beautiful convent grounds in Putnam, Connecticut, at the intersection of Routes 44 and 21. It is an easy drive from any of the New England or Mid-Atlantic States. If driving is inconvenient, there are numerous organizations that sponsor buses for a reasonable fee. It is best to call the Convent at 203-928-7955 to find out the specifics on bus transportation.

Anyone visiting the Convent for the first time, may well experience a pleasurable culture shock. It is Lithuanian throughout. Its vast grounds of gardens, fields and woodland hold unique treasures. The stone castle of King Mindaugas was built by the Convent's late chaplain, Father Stasys Yla, who had been imprisoned in a Nazi concentration camp. He lies in the nearby cemetery which is a study in Lithuanian folk art and Catholic tradition. The stations of the cross lead worshippers among weeping willows and rustling pines. The children of Fatima gaze at the serene statue of Mary, as in the distance bees bring home honey from clover-filled fields.

The air is fragrant with blossoming trees, shrubs and flowers. Pungent pine needles recall Lithuania's abundant forests and provide a soft mattress for picnicking, relaxing and socializing. Throughout are the mouth-watering aromas of traditional Lithuanian dishes such as "Kugelis," kielbasa, sauerkraut, home-baked black bread and Lithuanian pastries.

Friendship Day officially begins with the celebration of Mass at 11:00 a.m. This year, the main celebrant is Reverend Casimir Pugevicius, who heads the Lithuanian Information Center in New York. After Mass, Nijole Sadunaite will speak about the struggle in Lithuania to keep alive its Catholic faith. At 3:00 p.m., children from Neringa Camp in Vermont, will perform traditional folk dances and songs in the pine tree-lined quadrangle near the Convent building. An added feature this year is a Prayer Hour for Lithuania to be held in the convent chapel.

Perhaps the finest testament to the uniqueness of Friendship Day is an observation by a Lithuanian from Vilnius at the Picnic last year. He was describing how different life was in the United States. Then he stopped and corrected himself. "Except here. This feels exactly like Lithuania. I feel right at home."

by Jūra Strimaitis

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Nijole Sadiunate at one of her many speaking engagements. This one at Maironis Park, Worcester, MA. Photo by E. Meilus, Sr.

An American Petition for Lithuanian Freedom

"Americans for a Free Lithuania," a six-week old coalition of grass roots organizations, initiated a nationwide petition calling upon the United States government to demonstrate a significantly increased level of visible support for Lithuanian independence. This petition resulted in over 114,000 signatures from 49 states and over 30 countries.

On Tuesday, May 29, five representatives from "Americans for a Free Lithuania" presented their petition to the Honorable Sihan Siv, Deputy Assistant to the President for Public Liaison. The representatives were Vaiva Vėbra, Zina Dreslius, Gražina Kudukis, Linas Muliolis and Angelė Nelsas. Mr. Siv echoed President Bush's concern about the situation in Lithuania and the nonrecognition policy of the United States. The representatives emphasized the immorality of using food and medicine as political weapons.

"Americans for a Free Lithuania" was established on April 13, by students and young adults in Connecticut and Ohio to increase public awareness and support for Lithuania and her drive for independence. The petitions were counted, sorted, copied and bound at the Lithuanian Resource Center in West Hartford, CT. There was continuous press coverage beginning with the departure of the petitions from the center and lasting well beyond the meeting. Elena Bonner, Andrei Sacharov's widow, conveyed her concern for the Lithuanian people and voiced her support for the right of Lithuania to independence and freedom. She asked that her recent letter, urging President Bush to immediately recognize Lithuania, be included in the packet to the President.

It is obvious to Lithuanians that the American people care about events in Lithuania, and hopefully, now it will be just as obvious to President Bush.

Laima Šimanskis

Political Action Fund Established

Political Action to ensure and hasten the Recognition of the Lithuanian Republic and its Declaration of Restoration of Independence by the United States is in desperate need of your financial support. A fund has been established by the Lithuania Federal Credit Union **TAUPA** of South Boston to help defray these costs. All contributions to this effort should be mailed to:

**TAUPA Lithuanian Federal
Credit Union
P.O. Box 95
368 West Broadway
So. Boston, MA 02127**

Time is of the essence. Let's all do our part.
EVM

U.S. Sacrifices Lithuania to Save Summit

Not all Americans support President Bush's policy of refusing to impose sanctions against the Soviet Union for the actions it has taken against Lithuania (news story, April 26, "President says American people back stand on Soviet sanctions").

Thousands of disappointed Lithuanian-Americans, including me, have sent letters and telegrams to President Bush and called the White House to seek support for Lithuania and sanctions against the Soviet Union. We also have written to or called our U.S. senators and representatives. We have rallied and marched in Washington, protested in front of the Soviet Embassy and held rallies and marches in New York and other major cities to protest the hypocritical policy of the U.S. government. While the U.S. government has steadfastly refused to recognize the Soviet annexation of Lithuania, it is hesitant to extend forthright recognition of the Lithuanian government that was democratically elected by the Lithuanian people on March 11.

Recently on the evening television news, Bush was shown shaking hands with a Lithuanian delegation. He told delegates that the American people support his Lithuanian policies. One delegate asked, "How about the Lithuanians?" Bush turned his back and walked away.

We feel the U.S. government is sacrificing Lithuania so as not to jeopardize the upcoming summit meeting between Bush and Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev. Lithuania seeks independence with justice and the freedom and self-determination that Bush has so often talked about. As Lithuania's president, Vyatautas Landsbergis, has said, hope with love is now sustaining the people in Lithuania.
Florence Morkus, Hartford

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Single Supplement \$299.00

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Single Supplement \$199.00

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TOUR #913 \$2,209.00 from Boston & N.Y.
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Single Supplement \$219.00

LITHUANIA & CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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TOUR #105 \$2,159.00 from Boston & N.Y.
OCTOBER 1-15 \$2,359.00 from Chicago
Single Supplement \$199.00

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TOUR #1225 \$1,799.00 from Boston & N.Y.
DECEMBER 21-JANUARY 4 \$1,999.00 from Chicago
Single Supplement \$219.00

FOR DETAILED INFORMATION AND BROCHURE,
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FAX (617) 332-7781



Kansas City, Kansas Writes...



Kaunas Banga Team Visits Kansas City

Kansas City Lithuanians and the Aidas Dance Group hosted the Banga Girls Basketball Team from Kaunas, Lithuania May 18-21, 1990. The Banga team was invited to participate in the 37th Annual Women's Basketball Association National Tournament. Kansas City Official Commissioner, Kay Nies, welcomed the team to Kansas City, Kansas and honored them with the "Key to the City" in a ceremony preceding the tournament. Banga won their 1st game by over 30 points, and qualified for the finals round and won that game to take 1st Place in the Championship! The Aidas dancers performed at the halftime entertainment. The 9-member Banga Team played superb basketball and Association Director, Robert Peck, said they were the best he has seen!

The 17-member group and coaching staff were housed in different individual homes of the Aidas dancers — which proved to be a much rewarding and enriching experience for all. English-Lithuanian dictionaries were in high demand for four days. Only one member of the Banga team, Dalia Belickaite, the team captain spoke fluent English. But this did not dampen any

Kansas City Aidas Dance Troup with BANGA team from Kaunas, Lithuania.



Kansas City, Kansas, commissioner, presents key to the city to BANGA team Dalia Beličkaitė.



Kansas City Bendruomene heads Kazys Zemaitis (left) and wife Margaret (right) with BANGA Director, Aleksas Makulavičius (center).

spirits though! Other highlights of the weekend was a trip to the Worlds of Fun Amusement Park in Kansas City, Missouri. Park officials welcomed the team and honored them with a permanent plaque with their name and country on a billboard of "Visitors from Abroad!" The first ride the group chose was the wooden roller coaster called the "Timber Wolf," which was quickly dubbed the "Howling Wolf!" All were eager and surprisingly brave when entering the ride, but when it was all over, they left laughing and grabbing their heads!

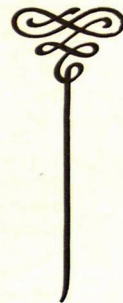
Other events included a dinner party at the home of Aidas Director, Anita and Bill Strumillo, where gifts were exchanged and promises of reciprocal hospitality were extended from Banga to Aidas when Aidas travels to Lithuania in 1991! A goodbye dinner party at the home of Kazys and Margareta Zemaitis was most touching when the Banga Group serenaded the Aidas Group with Lithuanian songs. There wasn't a dry eye in the house! The Kansas City Group reciprocated when Aidas dancer Joe Stegeman on guitar taught the Banga Group an American song — "You Are My Sunshine." They also enjoyed rock-n-roll favorites like the Beatles, John Denver and Billy Joel. It was a night to remember! And a weekend to remember! BANGA WAS A TOTAL DELIGHT!!!



AIDAS Dance Director, Anita Strumillo, with BANGA team coach, Arūnas Serva, and team captain Dalia Belickaite.



First place champions, BANGA team with trophies and coaches. (standing).





Going My Way?

If you have a potential group interested in going to Lithuania, we will meet you more than half way.

In fact, we will travel to your city to help you present the tour to your group.

We will assist you in planning, organizing and supporting the tour.

FUNDRAISING FOR ORGANIZATIONS

With the increased freedom in Lithuania, which has eased internal travel restrictions to visit ancestral homelands, a trip to Lithuania for 7, 10 or 15 days can be used by an organization — social club, church group, special interest group, fraternal groups, etc. — to raise funds for its purposes or projects.

TOUR ORGANIZER

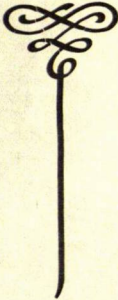
Whether your purpose may be raising funds or putting together a friendly group of co-workers, friends or relatives, a tour organizer can receive either tour or monetary consideration, based upon the number of persons in the group.

Since 1975, we have helped Lithuanian parishes, societies of Lithuanian-American social clubs, special interest groups and individuals who have organized groups for that visit to the land of their ancestry.

If you should have an interest in organizing a group, please contact:

Mr. Algirdas Mitkus, President

BALTIC TOURS
77 Oak Street, Suite 4
Newton, MA 02164
Telephone: 617-965-8080
Fax: 617-332-7781



The Communications Center

Action Information Source For Lithuanian Issues

The National Executive Committee of the Lithuanian-American Community, Inc. (LAC) recently established a "**Communications Center**" operating out of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; in order to serve as a distribution hub for action information to chapters of the LAC, various Ad Hoc groups and individual Lithuanian-Americans residing in those parts of the United States where local chapters of the LAC have not yet been organized.

The need for timely and correct information on impending United States governmental action and policy initiatives, which will affect Lithuania and the interests of Lithuanian-Americans is evident to all of us.

The offices of the LAC **Communications Center** have been set up with the necessary phone bank, fax machines, computers and laser printers to facilitate this information process. A hard working, highly motivated staff of volunteers provides the necessary personnel. The voice telephone number at the **Communications Center** is: (215) 739-9353. The fax # is: (215) 739-6587.

When Congressman Durbin (D-IL) recently offered a floor amendment which was to be voted on the following day, that restricted trade with the Soviet Union until the Lithuania issue was substantially resolved, the phone banks at the **Communications Center** remained busy through the night advising LAC Chapters and supporters from New Jersey to Hawaii of the impending critical vote.

The amendment passed by a vote of 392-24 and Congressman Durbin's office later informed the Center that his fellow congressmen had heard from many constituents on the morning of the vote.

The information which follows has been prepared by staff members of the **Communications Center**. *The following letters, resolutions, bills of interest to Lithuanian Americans were introduced by United States SENATORS during the last three months:*

**The following is a "Report Card" on individual
US Senator actions on the aforementioned**

Lithuanian Issues (Codes: Y: Voted Yes

C: Co-sponsored /or/ Co-signed N: Voted No):



(1) Senator Levin's (D-Michigan) letter to President Bush:

This letter urged the President to inform Mr. Gorbachev that unless the Soviet Union enters into negotiations about the future bilateral relations with the Baltic States and

shortly thereafter agrees to recognize the democratically elected government of Lithuania, the US will recognize the government of Lithuania and will exchange ambassadors as the result of that recognition.

• Co-signers of this letter are noted below.

(2) Senator D'Amato's (Republican-New York) amendment to HR 4404:

This amendment urged the President not to submit any US/Soviet trade agreements for consideration by the Senate until the blockade of Lithuania was lifted and the Soviet Union has entered into negotiations that would result in Soviet recognition of Lithuania.

• Those Senators who voted for this amendment are noted below.
/This amendment was later "killed" in Conference Committee/

(3) Senator Dodd's (Democrat-Connecticut) amendment to HR 4404:

This amendment provided \$5 million emergency humanitarian assistance for Lithuania through international relief agencies.

/This amendment was later "killed" in Conference Committee/
/No record of vote available - Voice Vote/

(4) Senator Byrd's (D-West Virginia) amendment to HR 4404:

This amendment provided \$10 million for establishment of a US Embassy in Lithuania.

/This amendment was later "killed" in Conference Committee/
/No record of vote available - Voice Vote/

(5) Senator Helms' (R-North Carolina) and Senator Byrd's (D-WV) letter to President Bush:

This letter urged the President to add an appendix to trade agreements signed at the Summit stating that the trade agreements do not affect the de jure independence of the Baltic States or imply the right of the Soviet Union to speak on behalf of the Baltic States.

• Co-signers of this letter are noted below.

(6) Senator Helms' (R-NC) letter to the Nobel Peace Prize Committee:

This letter recommended that Vytautas Landsbergis, the President of The Republic of Lithuania, be nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

• Co-signers of this letter are noted below.

(7) Senator Moynihan's (R-NY) Bill S2757:

This bill provides \$10 million for emergency humanitarian aid to Lithuania.

/Passed out of the Foreign Relations Committee on June 28, 1990/
• Co-signers of this bill are noted below.

Senator's Name - State (Party)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(6)	(7)
Adams, Brock - Washington (D)	C	N			
Ahala, Daniel A. - Hawaii (D)					
Armstrong, William L. - Colorado (R)	C	Y	C	C	C
Baucus, Max - Montana (D)		N			
Bennett, Lloyd - Texas (D)					
Biden, Joseph R. Jr. - Delaware (D)		Y			
Biggs, Jeff - New Mexico (D)		Y			
Bond, Christopher S. - Missouri (R)		Y			
Boren, David Lyle - Oklahoma (D)		N			
Boehner, Rudy - Minnesota (R)		Y			
Bradley, Bill - New Jersey (D)	C	Y			
Breast, John B. - Louisiana (D)	C	Y			
Bryan, Richard H. - Nevada (D)		Y			
Bumpers, Dale - Arkansas (D)		N			
Burdick, Quentin N. - North Dakota (D)		N			
Burns, Conrad - Montana (R)		Y			
Byrd, Robert C. - West Virginia (D)		Y	C		
Chafee, John H. - Rhode Island (R)		N			
Coats, Daniel R. - Indiana (R)	C	Y	C	C	C
Cochran, Thad - Mississippi (R)		Y			
Cohen, William S. - Maine (R)		Y			
Cornak, Kent - North Dakota (D)		N			
Cranston, Alan - California (D)		N			
D'Amato, Alfonse M. - New York (R)	C	Y	C	C	C
Danforth, John C. - Missouri (R)		Y			
Daschle, Thomas A. - South Dakota (D)		N			
DeConcini, Dennis - Arizona (D)	C	Y	C	C	C
Dixon, Alan J. - Illinois (D)	C	Y	C	C	C
Dodd, Christopher J. - Connecticut (D)		Y			
Dole, Robert - Kansas (R)		Y			
Donnenici, Pete V. - New Mexico (R)		Y			
Durenberger, David F. - Minnesota (R)		Y			
Enos, J. James - Nebraska (D)		N			
Ford, Wendell H. - Kentucky (D)		Y			
Fowler, William W. Jr. - Georgia (D)		N			
Garn, Edwin J. "Jake" - Utah (R)		Y			
Glass, John H. Jr. - Ohio (D)	C	Y			C
Gore, Albert Jr. - Tennessee (D)		Y			C
Gorton, Slade - Washington (R)	C	Y			
Graham, Robert - Florida (D)		Y			
Gramm, Phil - Texas (R)		Y			
Grassley, Charles E. - Iowa (R)		Y			
Harkin, Thomas R. - Iowa (D)		N			
Hatch, Orrin G. - Utah (R)		Y			C
Harfield, Mark O. - Oregon (R)		Y			
Harkin, Howell T. - Alabama (D)		Y			
Heinz, John - Pennsylvania (R)		Y		C	
Helms, Jesse A. - North Carolina (R)	C	Y	C	C	C
Hollings, Ernest F. - South Carolina (D)	C	Y			
Humphrey, Gordon J. - New Hampshire (R)	C	Y	C	C	C
Isaacs, Daniel K. - Hawaii (D)		Y			C
Jeffords, James M. - Vermont (R)		Y			
Johnson, Bennett Jr. - Louisiana (D)		Y			
Kassebaum, Nancy L. - Kansas (R)		Y			
Kassot, Robert W. Jr. - Wisconsin (R)		Y	C	C	
Kennedy, Edward M. - Massachusetts (D)		Y			
Kerry, Joseph R. - Nebraska (D)		N			
Kerry, John - Massachusetts (D)		Y			
Kohl, Herbert H. - Wisconsin (D)		Y			
Lausche, Frank R. - New Jersey (D)		Y			
Leahy, Patrick - Vermont (D)		Y			
Levin, Carl M. - Michigan (D)	C	Y			
Lieberman, Joseph I. - Connecticut (D)	C	Y	C		C
Loft, Trent - Mississippi (R)		Y			
Lugar, Richard G. - Indiana (R)		Y			
Mack, Connie III - Florida (R)	C	Y	C	C	C
McCain, John S. - Arizona (R)	C	Y	C		
McClure, James A. - Idaho (R)	C	Y	C		
McConnell, Mitch - Kentucky (R)		Y			
McIntosh, Howard M. - Ohio (D)	C	N			
Mikolajski, Barbara A. - Maryland (D)	C	Y	C	C	C
Mitchell, George J. - Maine (D)	C	Y			
Moynihan, Daniel Patrick - New York (D)		Y			C
Murkowski, Frank H. - Alaska (R)		Y		C	
Nickles, Donald L. - Oklahoma (R)		Y			
Nunn, Samuel A. - Georgia (D)		Y			
Packwood, Robert W. - Oregon (R)		Y			
Pell, Claiborne - Rhode Island (D)		Y			C
Prestner, Larry - South Dakota (R)		Y		C	
Pryor, David H. - Arkansas (D)		Y			
Raisi, Harry M. - Nevada (D)		Y			
Riegle, Donald W. Jr. - Michigan (D)		Y	C	C	C
Robb, Charles S. - Virginia (D)		N			
Rockefeller, John D. IV - West Virginia (D)		Y			
Roth, William V. Jr. - Delaware (R)		Y			
Rothman, Warren D. - New Hampshire (R)		Y			
Sandford, Terry - North Carolina (D)		Y			
Sarbanes, Paul S. - Maryland (D)		Y			
Sasser, James R. - Tennessee (D)		N			
Shelby, Richard C. - Alabama (D)		Y			
Simpson, Paul - Illinois (D)	C	N	C	C	C
Simpson, Alan K. - Wyoming (R)		N			
Speiser, Arlen - Pennsylvania (R)	C	Y	C	C	C
Stevens, Ted - Alaska (R)		Y			
Symms, Steven D. - Idaho (R)	C	Y	C	C	
Thurmond, James S. - South Carolina (R)		C			C
Wallop, Malcolm - Wyoming (R)		C	Y	C	
Warner, John W. - Virginia (R)		N			
Wilson, Pete - California (R)	C	Y	C		C
Wirth, Timothy E. - Colorado (D)		Y			

Cooking Lithuanian Style

FRUIT BREAD

Vaisių Pyragas

2 - one ounce cakes yeast
 1½ cups sugar
 1½ cups milk, scalded and cooled
 1½ tsps. salt
 8½ cups flour
 ¾ cups melted butter
 3 well-beaten eggs
 ¾ lb. mixed candied fruit, chopped fine
 1½ cups raisins
 2/3 cup chopped nuts
 1 tbsp. cinnamon

Mix yeast with ½ cup sugar until liquified. Mix with milk. Beat in salt and 3 cups flour until smooth. Cover and let stand in a warm place for 1 hour. Add ½ cup butter, eggs, ½ cup sugar, and remaining flour. Knead on a floured pastry cloth until smooth and elastic. Place in a large greased bowl. Cover and let rise until double in bulk. Turn out on pastry cloth and sprinkle with fruit and nuts. Knead into dough. Divide into 2 parts. Roll each into a rectangle about 12 by 16 inches. Spread with remaining butter and sugar, mixed with cinnamon. Roll up lengthwise and place in 2 large greased loaf pans. Cover and let rise until double in bulk. Bake in hot oven (400 degrees) for 10 minutes. Lower heat to 350 degrees and bake 50 minutes longer.

Egg Ham Rolls

Pyragaičiai Su Kumpiu

1 oz. yeast
 ½ cup sugar
 ½ cup butter
 1 tsp. salt
 1 cup milk
 3 eggs
 4½ cups flour (sifted before measuring)

Break yeast into small pieces. Mix with sugar until liquified. Scald milk, pour over butter. When melted, add salt and beaten eggs. When lukewarm, add yeast, then sifted flour. Let rise in warm place until double in size — about 2 hours. Beat vigorously with spoon. Let rise a second time about 1 hour. Place all of dough on well-floured board. Divide dough into four pieces. Roll each section of dough about ¼ inch thick, into a round — about the size of a plate or pie. Brush dough with melted butter. Cut dough into 8 triangular sections as you do a pie. Sprinkle dough with chopped cooked or baked ham or crumbled fried bacon. Roll each triangle carefully from the wide end to the narrow point. Curve each roll into a crescent shape. Place on greased tin with open end down. Brush with egg yolk beaten with 1 teaspoon milk. Let rise until very light, about 1 hour. Bake in 400-425 degree oven about 20 minutes. Recipe makes 32 medium rolls.

Above recipe (omitting ham) can be used as a basic recipe for plain rolls, Dutch apple cake or coffee cakes.

MUSHROOM SOUP

Grybų Sriuba

12-15 dried mushrooms
 or 1 pt. canned mushrooms
 6 cups water
 1 onion
 1 potato
 1 carrot
 2 bay leaves
 1 cup sour cream

Soak, wash and pre-cook dried mushrooms. Canned mushrooms — drain and rinse in cold water. Slice mushrooms, dice vegetables. Simmer in water with bay leaves and salt until vegetables are done. Remove from heat. Stir a ladleful of cooled soup into cream, blend thoroughly, then pour back into soup. Keep hot but do not boil.

SOUR MILK

(Lithuanian Yogurt)

Rūgštus Pienas

Unpasteurized milk is best for souring. Since this type of milk is difficult to obtain, use pasteurized, *not homogenized* milk. (Homogenized milk does not sour, turns bitter). Rinse earthen container (bowl or pitcher) in hot water. Place in it, 3-4 tablespoons buttermilk or commercially soured cream. Pour in milk to fill bowl. Cover. Place bowl in warm spot for about 24 hours. Test with spoon: when solid curds have formed, place soured milk in refrigerator. Serve thoroughly chilled sour milk in soup bowls. Hot potatoes, boiled in jackets, are usual accompaniment to sour milk.

Save several tablespoons of soured milk to use as a culture for next souring, instead of buttermilk or sour cream.

SWEET AND SOUR SPARERIBS

4 lb. spareribs
 1 c. orange juice
 ¼ c. vinegar
 ½ c. sugar
 2 onions, sliced
 dash of Worcestershire sauce
 2 Tbsp. prepared mustard
 2 tsp. salt
 ½ tsp. pepper
 1 lemon, sliced
 1 c. ketchup

Cut ribs into serving size pieces; brown in oven. Pour off excess fat.

Combine ALL remaining ingredients in saucepan and simmer for 15 minutes. Pour over browned ribs.

Bake for 45 minutes or until tender in 350 degree oven.



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The Communications Center
Lithuanian-American Community, Inc.
Tel: (215) 739-9353

The Communications Center

Lithuanian Activist Ideas!

We're fighting for Lithuania, in a country (the United States) where up to 70% of the people have said, in recent polls, that they endorse the US Government's support of Mikhail Gorbachev over Lithuania!

Talk about being "underdogs"! Talk about having a real, solid mission/goal!

Where, and how, should we begin? Anywhere and any way; because "the only way is up!"

Our mission is to "turn around the American public"; and to "turn around our government's policy relative to The Republic of Lithuania". The latter simply won't happen without positive movement on the former.

We must make the American people see Lithuania's struggle in a favorable light; as something with which they can associate/something they want to support.

The American people are compassionate, by nature. But, nobody can show compassion for something they don't know/understand. And, right now, obviously, they don't really know Lithuania. So, that's our first mission!

The Lithuanian people can do very little, for themselves, in "winning over the hearts of the American people". They're existing in an environment which is restricted to the press of the world; so no press stories of the kind we'd normally expect to come from a nation living under the conditions Lithuania now faces, are coming from Lithuania - the kinds of stories which would raise the level of compassion in the American people.

The Soviet Union has executed a brilliant coup in this particular situation. They have blockaded a nation; and then they've restricted the press enough to limit most stories; but they haven't TOTALLY banned the press - so the press accepts the present situation as an undesirable one; but not as one over which a "fight" is warranted!

So, this mission rests on our shoulders, alone!

Below, are just a few ways that we, as individuals, or as small, informal groups, can "turn America towards Lithuania's goals".

Give Your Local Radio Station "Disc Jockeys" Something Meaningful To Say

Develop a series of "one liners", about Lithuania (culture, geography, history, crafts, arts, etc.); for use by radio station personalities, as part of their scripts; in between records, etc. Yes, "trivia", or "neat to know facts", etc. NOT POLITICAL; but, instead, low key, interesting information which will "put Lithuania in front of the audience in a favorable way"; and will make Lithuania/Lithuanians a place/people to which/whom the average American can relate - in a POSITIVE WAY.

Give Your Local Radio Station Something Meaningful To Play

Provide them with a "package" of popular songs, from Lithuania, - for use as something "unique", "interesting", "quaint". (Something like this should be especially effective on college radio stations, and on the "free form" format radio stations.)

Give your Local Newspapers Something Meaningful To Print

Develop a series of newspaper articles for distribution to newspapers throughout your region - especially to weekly conventional newspapers, and to "alternative newspapers"; so that these newspapers can use this material about Lithuania as "filler material". For example, write an article about Lithuanian food - and include some recipes; or write an article about Lithuanian crafts - and include some photos (or even send the newspaper editor some examples of crafts, along with the article - a perfect example of something like this would be some of the paper type of Christmas ornaments). These articles could be historically, geographically, culturally, etc., oriented, as well. Anything which is "different" about Lithuania. AGAIN, NOT POLITICAL. All of these techniques are intended to be low key, subtle - in order to gain a favorable impression of Lithuania - without the "hard sell".

Don't Stop With Just Newspapers and Radio

"Tap into" any local magazines and TV stations; and get them to do articles, and programs, on Lithuania oriented local subjects. Insure that the local media interviews

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LABEL

Lithuania oriented visitors to your community. (For example, if a member of the Lithuanian Parliament comes through your community, MAKE SURE that arrangements are made to cover his/her visit by the news media.) (Bring Lithuanian artists to the foreground, when they are in America. Right now, in far too many cases, when Lithuanian singers, dancers, writers, etc., come to the US, they spend their time giving performances and presentations in Lithuanian Halls/in Lithuanian American churches. That's great; but that's also an incredible WASTE of the potential good that these people could do, here in America, for the Lithuanian cause. Lithuanian Americans almost tend to keep these things "secret"; when they should be, instead, inviting the news media, from as far as possible, to attend these events; so that the news media could take pictures/videos/write. BRING LITHUANIA/LITHUANIAN CULTURE out into the MAINSTREAM of American Society!)

Other Opportunities

Develop systems for realizing the FULL POTENTIAL of something. Recall, please, Prime Minister Prunskiene's presentation at the Lithuanian Youth Congress Political Seminar, last May, in Washington. Let it serve as an example, ONLY, for what is about to be said. Many other events are handled the same way; so there is no intent to "knock" that particular event. What should have been done there, during that event, was a set aside of about 1 hour of the Prime Minister's time for nothing more than "Photo Opportunities" with people present at that Seminar. For example, if attendees could have gotten their picture taken, while talking to the Prime Minister, they could have brought that picture back home with them - and then could have given that picture to their average sized, local newspaper. THEIR LOCAL NEWSPAPER WOULD MOST CERTAINLY HAVE PRINTED IT - because here is "homeboy" talking to the Prime Minister of a nation which is on the front pages of our newspapers - the same Prime Minister who was pictured, last week, with the President of the United States! By employing such techniques we can get EVERY SINGLE DROP out of something - by thinking ahead/by planning.

Economics

Approach US industry about trade with/investment in Lithuania, by simply writing letters, on your own. We know that Lithuania is not going to enjoy the same kind of attention that Poland, Hungary and East Germany have had, in this area; because Lithuania has one fifteenth the population of these countries (and, thus, the "market" for goods, is only one fifteenth the size). So, what we need to be doing is "selling" the prospect of Lithuania as a good place from which to do business in Eastern Europe, etc. POINT OUT LITHUANIA'S IMPORTANT SUCH ROLE IN THE PAST. Help get Lithuania into the world economic mainstream, as rapidly as possible; by getting US based companies to jump in there. (One

of the things we can promote is the fact that Lithuania has DEMONSTRATED economic resourcefulness, as witnessed by the reaction to the economic blockade.

Let's search through our communities; and line up scientists, agronomists, etc.; who would be willing to give advice to Lithuania. For example, right now, nobody outside the Soviet Union wants to buy Lithuania's agricultural goods, because they are grown with chemicals/pesticides which are banned in western nations. Who is doing anything to solve this problem? (A way to do this sort of thing is NOT through paid consultants who are looking to do nothing more than to make dollars. Instead, it is through attracting people who want to ESTABLISH A REPUTATION IN A PARTICULAR FIELD, as the result of something they accomplish. We should be looking for these kinds of people - in universities, associations, "think tanks", etc.)

Write/submit proposals to US based foundations, on a systematic basis; asking them to fund/tackle projects in Lithuania/related to Lithuania. There are many, many foundations which are looking for worthy causes on which they can spend money. The money from those foundations goes to those who ASK FOR IT.

Communication With Lithuania

Write to US based telecommunications companies; encourage them to establish communications with Lithuania, directly. After all, tell them, there is a ready market for their services. With more than one million Lithuanian Americans in the United States, they simply couldn't ask for a more favorable, customer base for their services. Tell them that it is simply ridiculous for us to have to place a call to Lithuania by being forced to call through Moscow; and that we won't be able to "forget" which company was first to give us this convenience which we deserve. And, along these same lines, we should be encouraging international package handling/courier services like DHL, Federal Express, UPS, to include delivery information into Lithuania (even if, now, they would still have to route it through the Soviet Union - at least we could get Lithuania's name into their "delivery point" books; and such a thing would add to the legitimacy of Lithuania.). (NOTE: Yes, part of our purpose in "pushing" for things like this is to LEGITIMIZE Lithuania, as a nation. When Lithuania is recognized as a separate entity, in commerce, Lithuania will have gained a legitimacy which is just as important - or which is perhaps even more important, than a limited political legitimacy.)

Pressuring The News Media

We, Lithuanian Americans, should be exerting immense pressure on the news media, for their failure to push, hard, to reverse the Soviet Union's ban/restrictions on an unrestricted press presence in Lithuania. Why is the news media not being more forceful

about this ^{is} the news media ^{is} pressure the ^{is} news media, if Lithuania, will simply not go there as often as they could. They'll go there only when there is "hard news". Yet, we want them there all of the time - reporting "soft news" - the kind of news which, when shown in America, will raise the level of concern for Lithuania, among Americans!

Letter Campaigns

With letter campaigns to international organizations, to the American representatives of those organizations, and to others (i.e., universities, trade organizations, etc.) we need to be facilitating Lithuania's applications to the International Telecommunications, International Airline, International Postal, and other organizations which govern activities like phone, air traffic and mail service between countries. There are many of these organizations/entities to which a civilized nation must belong, by which a civilized nation must be recognized, in order to function as a member of the world of nations. (And, as each one of these organizations accepts Lithuania's application, such a step gives LEGITIMACY to Lithuania as a free nation!). (NOTE: Yes, someone needs to get together the addresses, necessary contacts, etc; and then that person needs to SHARE that knowledge with as many Lithuanian Americans as possible; so that we, all, can do the necessary letter writing/pressuring, etc.)

THE ABOVE ARE JUST SOME IDEAS.

Virtually everyone can come up with more ideas/better ideas. Remember the goal: Increase the awareness of Lithuania among the American people; so that they will show legitimate concern for the plight of the Lithuanian people. We know that Lithuanians deserve our support; and the rest of America will recognize that fact, as well - if we do our jobs well!

As you, personally, gain knowledge in a particular area, SHARE THAT KNOWLEDGE with others; so that others can, more easily, assist in pursuing specific goals.

By working together - by sharing our successes, we will become more influential than anyone can imagine. If we, instead, "protect our turfs", and fail to share our knowledge, we'll end up with nothing more than some individual ego satisfaction. And, Lithuania will still be looking for essential assistance!

One more, final note: There are literally thousands of Lithuanian Americans who possess unique, valuable skills which can be harnessed for Lithuania's cause. And, there are as many, more, Lithuanian Americans who work in companies, organizations and institutions which have the potential for helping Lithuania. Where do YOU work? What skills do YOU have, which are unique? Re-orient you thinking! Step back, and ask: how what you possess can be used for Lithuania.

We are limited only by the limits we impose on ourselves!

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