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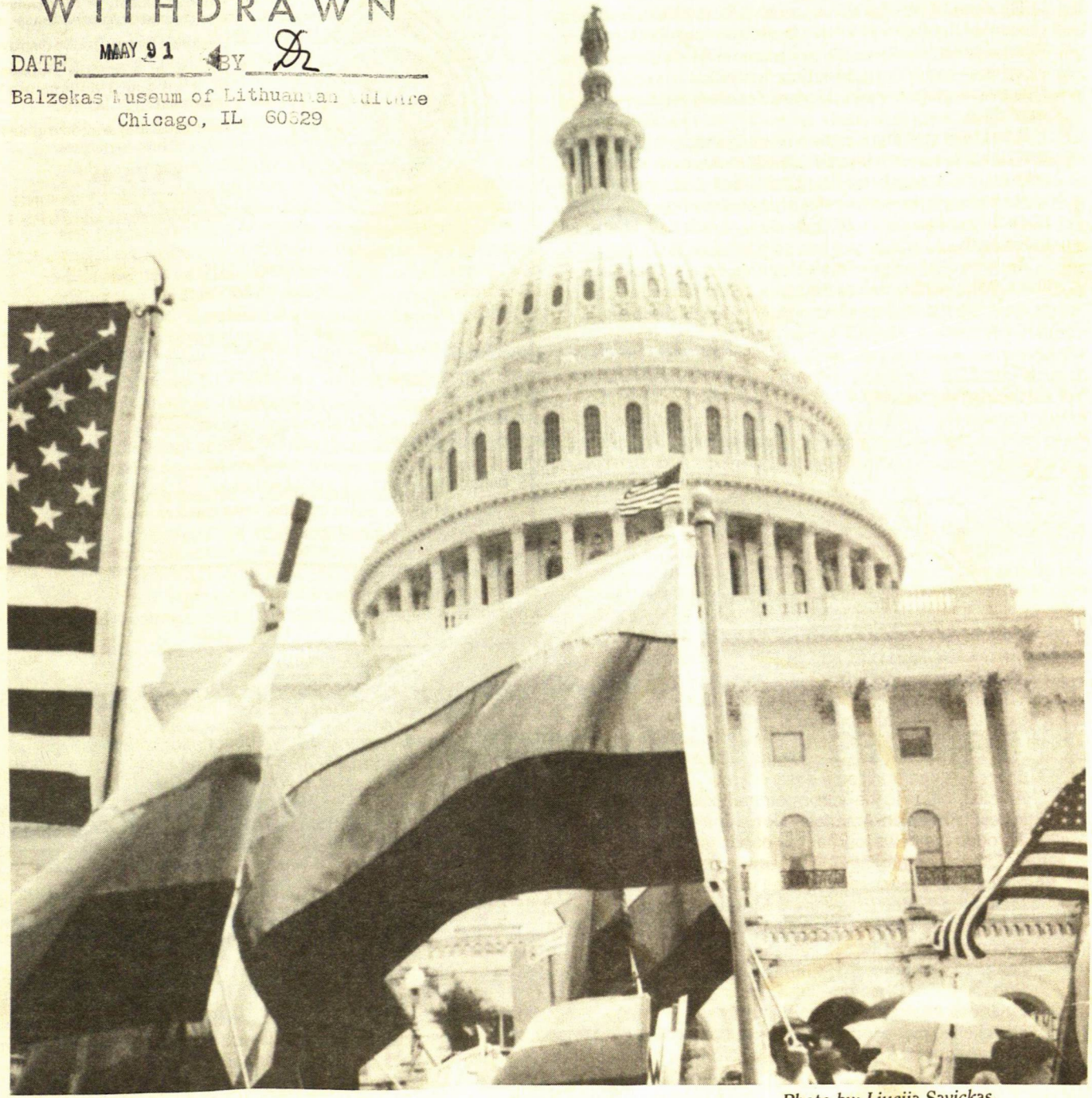
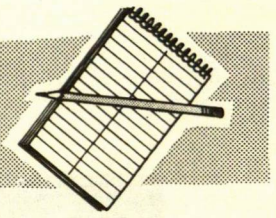


Photo by: Liucija Savickas

From the Desk of the Managing Editor



Bridges, Volume 14, Number 6, is a special commemorative edition dedicated in its entirety to document extensively and in the English language, the Washington, D.C. demonstrations that coincided with the 21st US-USSR Summit held in our Nation's Capitol between May 30 and June 3, 1990.

The foundation for this issue is the excellent eyewitness account of the events as written by *Bridges* contributing editor, Rita Likander. Her in-depth, yet personal article sums up the emotions — pride, joy, and at time frustration — events of this type and magnitude evoke. Her article makes you feel as if you were there.

It has been said that a picture is worth a thousand words. In that light, this issue has nearly 50,000 words in it, witness the amount of pictures that is being published. Our thanks go out to the photographers who submitted photos of the demonstrations for publication in *Bridges*. Photo credits are published individually.

We hope that our readers enjoy this issue. Please, let us know. We're waiting to hear from you. In the future, we plan to publish other special commemorative or thematic editions.

Eduardas V. Meilus, Jr.



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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.

Managing Editor: Eduardas V. Meilus, Jr.

Contributing Editors: Rita Likander, Thomas A. Michalski, Ph.D., and Rev. William Wolkovich-Valkavičius

Technical Editor: Terese I. Meilus

Featured Contributor: Ramunė Kubilius

Subscriptions Director: Zina Dreslius

Financial Affairs Manager: Asta Karosas

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The Washington Demonstrations — An Eyewitness Report

by Rita Likander

May 30 to June 3, 1990 were very historic for American citizens, especially those living in the Washington, D.C. area. This was the week that George Bush, president of the United States played host to the president of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev for the 21st US-Soviet Summit in the Nation's Capital. These summit talks covered everything from arms control and trade agreements, to the reunification of the two Germanys and the Baltic "problem." Even though the Baltic "problem" was not officially scheduled as top priority during the talks for both presidents, it was an issue that neither of them could avoid. They also could not avoid the fact that there were thousands of demonstrators showing solidarity with the struggling brothers and sisters in Lithuania. The protestors, who convened on Washington from all over the country, were hoping that Mr. Bush would recognize the governments of the three free Baltic Republics and wanted to show Mr. Gorbachev that he is not as popular here as he thinks.

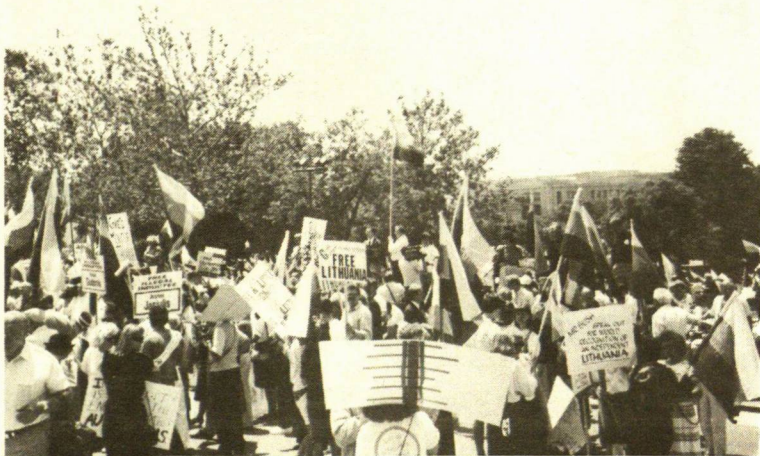
The Baltic "problem" also presented another issue; beefed-up security all over D.C. This was because demonstrators, on behalf of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, were to be out in full force to hassle Gorbachev wherever he appeared. Local Washingtonians could not understand why these "rebels" would want to hassle such a peaceful, pleasant, always smiling man, why some of us wanted to create problems for the ever-popular Mr. Gorbachev...

These demonstrations were organized by the Lithuanian-American Community — National Executive Committee, together with the Washington, D.C. chapter of the LAC. The idea for these demonstrations started circulating after our first trip to Washington in early April. The "Bus" committee in

Chicago, having done such a great job the first time around, was "volunteered" to organize not only the buses this time, but hotel accommodations as well. The bus committee worked diligently for four weeks, urging people to sign up early, trying to assign roommates and making sure that everybody was travelling with their friends, etc. It was a tedious job that had to be done quickly. Of course there were (and always will be), people that complained about everything, but all in all, the committee ran things smoothly and the registration was carried out very efficiently. The Lithuanian-American Community was providing demonstration information updates as fast as they could, but the program was always changing. It seemed like every group, organization and community wanted to contribute its special part to the whole demonstration, and so the organizers in D.C. were forced to rearrange already set-up schedules in order to incorporate everything into the program.

Eight buses pulled out of Chicago toward the Nation's Capital. The buses were color-coded by hotels, so that all the yellow buses were assigned to one hotel, the green ones to another and the red buses went to hotel number three. The bus committee was rather depressed that Chicago managed to send out only eight buses for such an important event. True, many Chicagoans went on their own, but many more could have and should have gone.

After 15 sleepless hours on the bus, we arrived in Washington early in the morning of Friday, June 1. Last time we were greeted by rain and gloom, but this time, Washington was sunny and very hot. The buses dropped us off on the West front steps of the U.S. Capitol. Even though there is supposedly a crowd control law for the Eastern side of the Capitol, there is obviously no such rule for the West side — the lawn and the steps were already crowded with demonstrators of all ages — many carrying posters and waving the Lithuanian tri-color of yellow, green and red. It was an impressive sight, but it could have been even more impressive — we should have covered the entire lawn from front to back with a sea of yellow, green and red!! Beside all the colorful posters and flags that were every-





Baltic prisoners — from left: Vytas Saulis, Aras Tijunelis and Dr. Vidas Nemickas.

where, there were also two other very strong visual presentations. Right by the steps of the Capitol, members of the Washington, D.C. Lithuanian Youth Association Chapter had erected three black flags symbolizing the not-so-free Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. A little closer to the speakers stand, were three prisoners linked together with a ball and chain standing in front of a banner proclaiming that Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia are still prisoners of USSR. The prisoners, each representing one of three Baltic Republics, were Aras Tijunelis, Vytas Saulis and Dr. Vidas Nemickas. All the photographers were vying for the best shot of this symbolic threesome. The Lithuanian genocide poster was quite informative, as were little postcards depicting various war atrocities that the Lithuanian people had suffered under Soviet rule. All the participants were urged to send these postcards to the president, Congressmen, heads of other nations, embassies and newspapers. Many others were selling buttons and tee-shirts with many different freedom slogans on them. The crowd was definitely excited and anxious to get things going.

The program was opened with the signing of the Star Spangled Banner, and Lithuanian National Anthem. Many speakers followed all of whom supported Lithuania's cause and rallied in our behalf. Among the many distinguished guests that addressed the crowd that day were Audronė Pakštienė and Darius Sužiedelis, chief organizers in Washington, and Dr. Antanas Razma, president of the Lithuanian-American Community — National Executive Committee. Jonas Bobelis, member of VLIKAS Information Center introduced Senator Alfonse D'Amato of New York, who not only supports our cause in public, but also speaks for us in the Senate. The senator started his speech with the words "Lietuva bus laisva" in Lithuanian, which means, "Lithuania will be free," and was greeted by cheers and ovations. He ended his very powerful statement by saying that the Soviet Union will not get Most Favored Nation status until Lithuania is truly free.

AFL-CIO president Lane Kirkland promised his total support to Lithuania in her continued struggle towards freedom. Congressman Richard Durbin, without whose help and backing, we never would have gained any support or recognition, encouraged all to continue fighting for our cause until we get what we want — total freedom and full diplomatic recognition. Former Polish ambassador, Richard Davies said that the United States should recognize the government of Lithuania and should send an ambassador to Vilnius. We also heard from the various groups that were demonstrating with us — Jews, Latvians, Estonians, Ukrainians, Chinese, Cambodians and Cubans — all supporting the Lithuanian quest for freedom, all promising continued unity in our fight against Soviet terror.



The first part of the program was ended by a song "Daina nuo Kauno" (in English) written and sung by a young Lithuanian-American, Kestutis Počius from Beverly Shores, Indiana. The refrain of the song said "We will survive, we will burn the flame for freedom." Also present among the demonstrators were members of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property who were collecting signatures supporting Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis.

During the time that we were rallying for our cause, the two super-power presidents were inside the White House discussing events that were shaping their future and hurting Lithuania's. I'm sure they were well aware of the fact that we were demonstrating even though they didn't actually see us. We should have made our presence more well-known and demonstrated in front of the White House. The organizers should have also made sure that some of the masses of people stayed closer to the street by the Capitol, so that everybody would know what this rally was all about. There were many tourists driving by the Capitol that day, and they could see that something was going on, but they did not know exactly what it was. It must have looked like we were just demonstrating to ourselves and patting ourselves on the back! We probably should have followed Gorbachev's limo more closely — I'm sure somebody in Washington could have provided us a route that the cars followed. We then could have been there with our flags and posters when his car stopped on the street. We would have gotten media attention, and at the same time, let Mr. Gorbachev know that we don't agree with his policies towards Lithuania.



Some of the demonstrators and their posters.

Photo by: Rita Likander

After checking into the hotels and getting a brief rest, the demonstrators moved to the Soviet Embassy for the evening demonstration and the candlelight vigil. It was here at the Soviet Embassy that the Gorbachev's hosted the Bushes for a formal dinner — I wonder how they enjoyed their dinner,

knowing that just a few blocks away, people were demonstrating against them. The streets by the Embassy were completely blocked off and we could get no closer than two blocks to the Embassy. That prevented no one from yelling even louder. As far as the eye could see, there were Lithuanian flags and posters demanding freedom and justice for Lithuania. Because 16th Street was closed off, the demonstrators were scattered on all corners and were blocking the sidewalks. People broke into song, they shouted cheers and slogans and waved their flags. In our midst was a group of Armenians who were not only calling for a free Armenia, but for a free Lithuania as well. People driving by in cars would honk their horns in support. Many cars driving by had Lithuanian flags sticking out of the windows. One of the cars that circled those blocks several times had the words "Free Lithuania" painted on its side in big yellow letters with red outlines (of course it was a green car!).



This car provided more publicity for us than anything else!

Photo by: Liucija Savickas

In the evening, after many of the demonstrators started to disperse, the Collegiate Lithuanian Scouts — Akademikai, presided over the candlelight vigil. Once again, there seemed to be a communication problem. I had actually heard that this vigil was going on at two different places at the same time, while many scouts that were in Washington for the demonstrations did not even know about this candlelight vigil. As the noise died down, the scouts started their vigil with a prayer. Among the many participants were Antanas Kalanta, brother of Romas Kalanta, who was a victim of self-immolation in 1974 crying "Freedom For Lithuania," and Rev. Sigitas Tamkevičius, spiritual leader of Lithuanian Scouts and a former prisoner of conscience. Two scouts from Chicago joined in the program with some thoughts and poems about Romas Kalanta, freedom and Lithuanian independence. Candles were lit and placed on the ground. This ended the official part of the program, but no one was in a hurry to go anywhere. People broke out in spontaneous song and sang sad, patriotic songs. The journal-

ists, noticing the candles and the quiet songs focused their cameras on us and captured the feelings, emotions and tears on film. Too bad nobody else saw those films, nobody saw the pictures. Since our driver was picking us up at 10:00 p.m., we had to head back towards the meeting point. The rest of the scouts moved the candles and their vigil to Lafayette Park and were out there most of the night.

We came back to the hotel rather drained emotionally, yet eagerly turned on the television to see what part of the demonstration made the news. Boy were we disappointed!!! All that was broadcast was a quick 5-second scan of the crowd — no speeches, no posters, no chants, no tears. It was as if we weren't even there!! The following question comes to mind — why did our demonstration get so little media coverage?? We know the reporters and journalists were out in full force — there were many photographers, cameramen and others present during each part of the program, taking notes, writing down names, doing live interviews. Why did so little of our demonstrations actually make it on the TV stations and local Washington newspapers? It was as if the reporters did their job, but then the editors and producers acting from a higher authority decided not to use the demonstration footage in their news stories. Was this done deliberately, not to offend the visiting Soviet President Gorbachev???



weren't doing much of anything, even the demonstrators were restless, slightly bored and trying to hide from the sun. It was as if everyone was out to socialize, to have a good time instead of demonstrate for our cause. For the second day in a row, Senator D'Amato addressed the crowd, speaking against the signed trade agreements between Bush and Gorbachev. He once again reinforced his previous words that the Soviet Union cannot get "Most Favored Nation" status until the economic blockade in Lithuania has been lifted.

The crowd went wild when Vytautas Landsbergis was introduced. Not the president of Lithuania, but his son, who was visiting the States. (Yes, he's the same one that danced with Rutilio when they toured North America last year. Unfortunately, I did not get a chance to talk to him!) The son passed on his father's words and thoughts and the crowd reacted with cheers, applause and accolades. As he was walking away from the platform, many people surrounded him, trying to get a picture of him, or a picture with him, trying to touch him, or just to get a closer look. After all, he is the son of the Lithuanian President. I'm sure he will be bringing back a very positive report to his father about the turnout of the demonstrations, as

Arlington National Cemetery. Photo by: Rita Likander

The following morning, the buses headed out for Arlington National Cemetery. There, at precisely 10:35 a.m., a wreath was laid by the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This wreath-laying ceremony was organized by the New Haven chapter of the Lithuanian-American Community. In the hot sun, two Lithuanian-Americans, dressed in full national dress, following the commands of the National Guard, placed the wreath by the tomb. As Taps was played, people bowed their heads out of respect for all those who had fallen in the line of duty. The cemetery itself was very impressive — as far as the eye could see, there were rows and rows of white tombstones honoring all of our dead soldiers.

After this, we headed back to the Capitol for part two of the demonstrations. Today, presidents Bush and Gorbachev were not even in town. They escaped to Camp David for private one-on-one talks, where they no doubt, discussed that "rebel" country, Lithuania, and what to do with the situation. The demonstrations at the Capitol on June 2 were seemingly a waste of time — it was a Saturday, so there were no congressmen going to work, both presidents were out of town, the journalists



The Lithuanian Statue of Liberty on display in Lafayette Park on loan from the Baltimore Festival Committee.

well as the feelings of Lithuanian-Americans. Fellow Latvian Ojars Kalniņš stated that Gorbachev should carry on talks, not with president Bush, but with the presidents of the countries wishing to leave the Soviet Union. During these two days, across the street in Lafayette Park, stood a replica of the Lithuanian Statue of Liberty, on loan from the Baltimore Festival Committee, the work of Algimantas Grintelis.



The two-day manifestation ended with a Solemn Eucharist for Freedom and Justice for Lithuania at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The Shrine, which holds about 2,500 people, was jam-packed with Lithuanian-Americans asking God to hear their prayers and deliver Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia from their tormentors. Principal celebrant of the Mass was His Excellency, Bishop Paulius Baltakis, Bishop for Lithuanians in Exile, concelebrated with His Excellency, Bishop Leonard Olivie, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Washington. The homily was delivered by Father Sigitas Tamkevičius, who asked that the Holy Ghost descend on the people of Lithuania, so that they may persevere in their struggle for freedom. (A translation of the complete text of his homily is found in this issue of *Bridges*.) Čiurlionis Ansamble from Cleveland, under the direction of Gediminas Purlys sang at the Mass. They sang Alfonsas Mikulskis' *Mišios už Kenčiančią Lietuvą* Mass for a Suffering Lithuania. A Lithuanian wayside cross, symbolically representing the entire Lithuanian nation was carried by Vytautas Landsbergis, son of Lithuania's President. The Mass was a very emotional experience, since many brushed away tears gently rolling down their faces.



Vytautas Landsbergis, son of the president of Lithuania, surrounded by the curious and well wishers (in white shirt) with him is Gintaras Grušas (blue shirt) who acted as interpreter.

After the Mass, people had a chance to talk to other participants before heading home after an emotional, draining two-day manifestation for Lithuania. One can only wonder how much these demonstrations actually helped the people of Lithuania. We know that people in the homeland knew about these demonstrations. Up-to-the-minute details were being beamed across the Atlantic, because Voice of America was there recording it all. No doubt the demonstrations were necessary, even if they did not accomplish quite what we had expected them to do. Our presence was felt in the Capital and maybe it gave the two presidents something to think about. But we can't give up now — there is so much work to do.

Let me share some food-for-thought on these, and possibly other demonstrations.

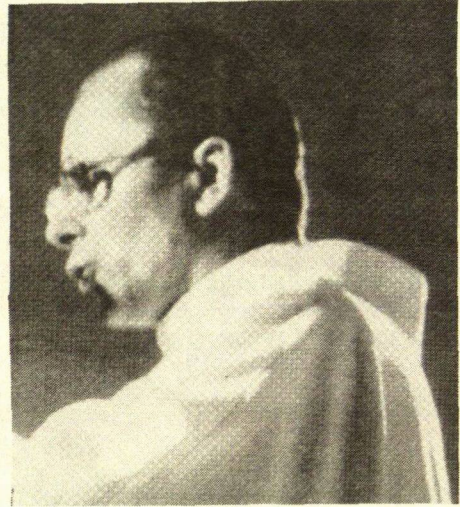
There should have been more people, not only Lithuanians, but more Latvians and Estonians. The Lithuanians don't know how to demonstrate. We have to learn how to be more assertive, more vocal, more "together." We have to stop being so quiet and so law-abiding all the time. (some rules were meant to be broken . . .) Maybe if we all ran around naked or burned a few Soviet flags, we would have gotten more coverage!!! The demonstrations should have been held during the whole week of the summit, not only during the last two days when everything was already pretty much decided. We definitely needed to be out on the streets more, so that others can become even more familiar with our situation and our concerns. We also should have been following Gorbachev's car route more closely — that way we would have been there when he stopped his limo and got out. A visitor from Lithuania commented that if this would have been a demonstration or meeting in Vilnius, there would have been hundreds of thousands of people attending, shouting at the top of their lungs. We need to be in touch with each other more often, so that one group knows what the next one is doing. We also have to keep demonstrating, writing letters, sending telegrams and letting people everywhere know the truth about the injustice our nation has suffered, and why we can't wait any longer for freedom. We must continue to show our support for our brothers and sisters back home — if our government won't recognize them, we must at least let them know that we are still with them. Most of all, we must remember that "We will survive, we will burn the flame for freedom!"

Pentecost in Lithuania

by Rev. Sigitas Tamkevičius

This is an English translation of the homily given on June 2, 1990 in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

Father Sigitas Tamkevičius was born on November 7, 1938, in Lithuania. Ordained to priesthood in 1962, Father Tamkevičius became an outspoken defender of religious and human rights against the Soviet regime. Continually harassed by the KGB for his activities, in May of 1983, he was arrested, tried and found guilty of "malicious and pre-meditated... anti-Soviet activity" and was sentenced to, what was later announced as, six years of labor camp and four years of exile. Deported to Siberian Gulag, he repeatedly refused to sign any admission of guilt and finally was returned to Lithuania and released on November 4, 1988, having served over five years under extremely harsh conditions. His spirit unbroken, he remains one of the most eloquent speakers for Lithuania's freedom.



For several years, Jesus Christ taught and healed the people of Palestine. Although his Apostles were able to see and hear more than others, many (of His) essential ideas did not reach their minds and their hearts.

Before ascending into heaven, Christ promised to send the Counselor, the One that brings the Spirit of Truth, in order to give courage to the Apostles and to teach them what they had not understood in listening to the Teacher's words.

The Pentecost changed everything; the fearful disciples were transformed into courageous witnesses of the Gospel of Christ. Their doubts and their distrust of the Teacher disappeared. They went out into the world, proclaiming the Good News and even by their own death, they gave testimony about the Crucified and Risen Jesus Christ.

This descent of the Counselor, the Spirit of Truth is especially needed in Lithuania today.

During the course of the past fifty years, we in our country lived through all the horrors of the soviet system:

- We recall the martyrs of Rainiai and Budavone;
- We saw the defiled bodies of the Freedom Fighters laying in our streets;
- We were witnesses when Lithuanians, crammed into cattle cars were taken to Siberia and many died on the way, or in the far North from cold and starvation;
- We saw Lithuanians who, only because they loved and defended their homeland and their Church, had to endure imprisonment and the hell of the Gulag. I have experienced only a small part of what many had suffered for ten, twenty, and even as long ago as thirty-seven years;

- Thousands of our brothers and sisters, in order to save themselves from imprisonment in Siberia, and perhaps even death, had to leave their homeland and were doomed to lifelong exile;
- Lastly, those who were not exiled or physically tortured, for fifty years, became exiles in their own country; they had lost their freedom, their right to express their love for their homeland, they were persecuted when they practiced and defended their faith. In the pages of history of the Catholic Church of Lithuania, we find inscribed, the names of Father Juozas Zdebskis, who was twice imprisoned for teaching catechism to children, Father Virgilijus Jaugelis, who was imprisoned for distributing the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania* — the clandestinely written record of persecution of the Lithuania people and the Church — and died, his health destroyed by life in prison. While deported to Siberia, I saw crosses blackened by passage of time on the graves of our brothers and sisters, who had innocently suffered and died far from their homeland and their loved ones.

Today, some dare to reproach us for, allegedly, seeking freedom too soon. Can fifty years of suffering, waiting, and struggle, be called "too soon?" On the contrary, we have suffered too long and have become forgotten by almost the entire world. Had it not been for our brothers and sisters in the West, and for their help, God alone knows what would have happened to the present-day Lithuania.

Many, now question Lithuania's decision to re-establish its independence on March 11th of this year. Indeed, this declaration was not made by (some) nationalists or extremists, not by (Prime Minister) Prunskiene, or by (President of the Parliament) Landsbergis — it was made by all of Lithuania, and, therefore, no one can revoke it.



During the Mass, Vytautas Landsbergis, Jr., son of Vytautas Landsbergis, president of the Lithuanian Republic carrying wooden sculptured cross.

Photo by: Liucija Savickas

To some, it appears that Lithuania's quest for freedom was expressed at the wrong time, and that it may be endangering security of the world. I am deeply convinced that the greatest threat to the safety of the world comes from those who support the preservation of the last empire on the face of this planet Earth. Humanity is best served by those who, in every way possible, struggle for the freedom and rights of all people. Speaking here, in the heart of this great democratic nation, I want to ask, how the despicable outcome of the Stalin-Hitler conspiracy can still be tolerated and what arguments can still be advanced to justify it?

The fifty years of physical and spiritual genocide have crippled the Lithuanian nation beyond recognition. In the hearts of many, their faith in God was destroyed, their moral fiber was broken; many, in their despair and confrontation with meaningless life, began to drown themselves in alcohol. Today, in our homeland we lament, how shall we ever restore the image of our nation.

Today, our nation is facing a critical question: to seek freedom or to submit again to the same chains of slavery that Stalin placed on us in 1940? A blockade has been declared against us; we have been denied fuel, oil, natural gas. With every passing day, we feel more severely, the burden of this blockade. Are we going to withstand this trying test? It is, in truth, extremely difficult; soon all means of transportation, all places of production, will come to a halt, soon we shall have no electrical service, hundreds of thousands of people soon will be without work and without bread.

Within our nation itself, there are many who do not support the Lithuanian cause, who use the hardships brought on by the

One side of the Lithuanian Chapel in the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



Photo by: Rita Likander

Soviet blockade, to incite among people, disturbances and strikes, in order to overturn the legally elected government.

Where can a God-loving nation find support during such times? With great sorrow, I must say, that even Christian nations of the world are skeptical toward Lithuanian aspirations. Just recall, when a communist sympathizer like Angela Davis was imprisoned, the entire world did not cease its hue and cry, demanding her freedom. When several million Catholics, however, are suffering, when an entire nation is confined in a large concentration camp, who is raising their voices in protest? How will history and the judgement of God measure this behavior?

Today, Lithuania needs the miracle of the Pentecost. The Great Light must descend, so that our fellow countrymen in the homeland and in the West would realize that freedom is more precious than anything else. It is necessary for the leaders of nations and for all the people to understand that our small country's lawful pursuit of freedom is equally as valuable, as the vital concerns of every large state.

Lithuania needs great perseverance and courage to resolve — even if no one will support us — to bear every possible burden and affliction. In attaining its freedom, Lithuania will sustain not only the aspirations of all the nations within the Soviet Union, but will also contribute to the more stable future on the entire world.

The miracle of the Pentecost today, is needed in the hearts of our every brother and sister here, in the West, but especially, there, at home. Therefore, we beseech: "O Holy Spirit, descend!"

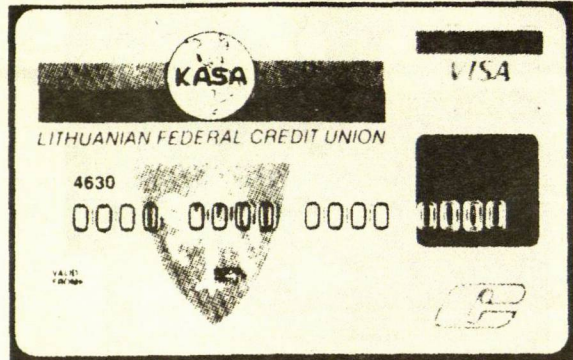
(Translated by Kristina Vygantas)



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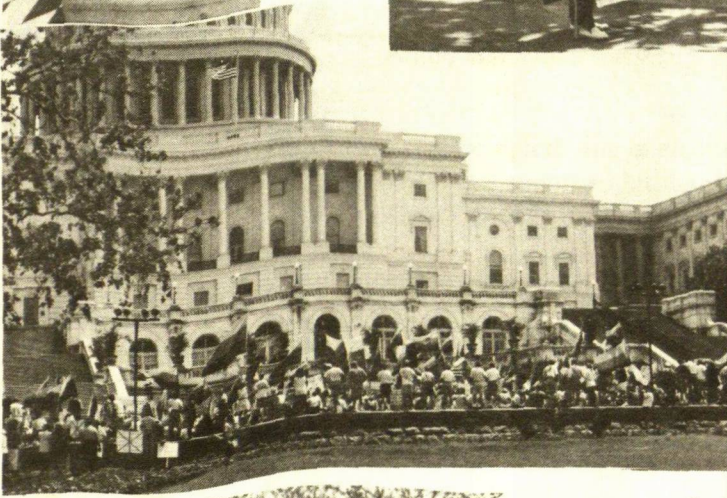
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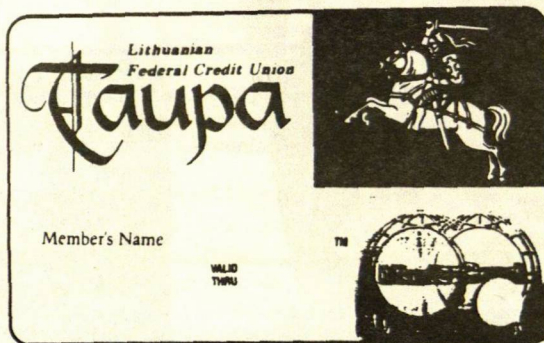
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To the Editor:

I am a first-generation American, born of Lithuanian immigrant parents. By their example, I became fiercely proud of the Lithuania and Lithuanians they represented, and despised the politics and politicians that have subjugated or simply ignored these most noble of the world's population. Helpless, like they, do anything that would focus world attention on Lithuania's plight, I looked around at the Lithuanian "intelligentsia" and Lithuanian organizations here in America to try to discover some "live wire" "can do" types of individuals, activities, or organizations. All I could perceive, even now, when the brief moment of the public eye was focused, in all media, on Lithuania, was a kind of passivity. I don't know how to describe this peculiarly Lithuanian attitude of a kind of almost sickeningly sweet politeness, of doing things in a very proper manner, of just plain standing back, willingly, in the background, never wishing to appear rude. Great, this is just what President Bush and Congress would like to see — nice, well-behaved Lithuanians whose most daring attempt at demanding freedom for their enslaved brothers and sisters in Lithuania is to "organize," "write letters," "have meetings," "wave some flags," etc.

No wonder no one is noticing Lithuania, even when she recently was on all the media — there was a golden opportunity, that will probably never happen again, and the Lithuanian "intelligentsia" here in America blew it!

What Lithuania's cause needs is a counterpart of Martin Luther King, or Bishop Tutu, or Nelson Mandela — get the picture? **Action!!! People Power!!! Make the media see Lithuanians, like the blacks made the whole world see them.** Look at how the **cleaver, cleaver blacks** (and they don't worry about being polite!) made the world and its giant corporations **kneel** in South Africa. What have the free Lithuanians here done for Lithuania to compare to what the blacks have done for **their** homeland??? For Pete's sake, I get sick and tired of reading, reading, reading, about grand and glorious Lithuania, while in the **real** world, Lithuania is still **easily** ignored by the world and its politicians. I really think the reason that Lithuania is being ignored by the world **is** because it's too darned polite! They say, "imitate success." Well, all I can say is, learn the techniques the blacks have used here in America to **gain their** freedom. They must be doing something right. They now have the world at their fingertips. Wish that Lithuania could say the same.

Sincerely,
Theresa James
 Lansdowne, PA



A placard in Lithuania which reads: Lithuania without sovereignty is Lithuania without a future.

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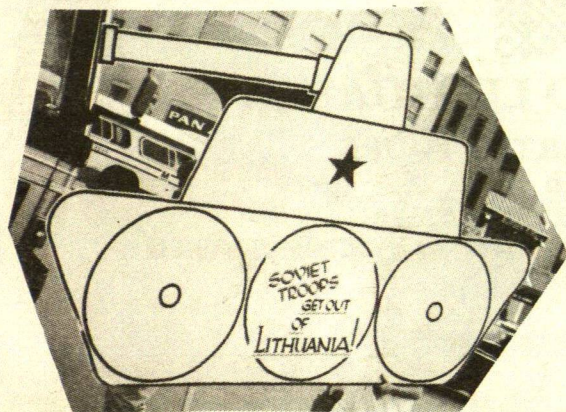


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