



# BALTIC NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF HELP THE ESTONIAN, LATVIAN AND LITHUANIAN PEOPLES ASSOCIATION (HELLP)  
P.O. BOX 272, SANDY BAY, TAS. 7005 (AUSTRALIA).  
Registered for posting as a publication: Category B.

Vol. VII, No. 1 (29)

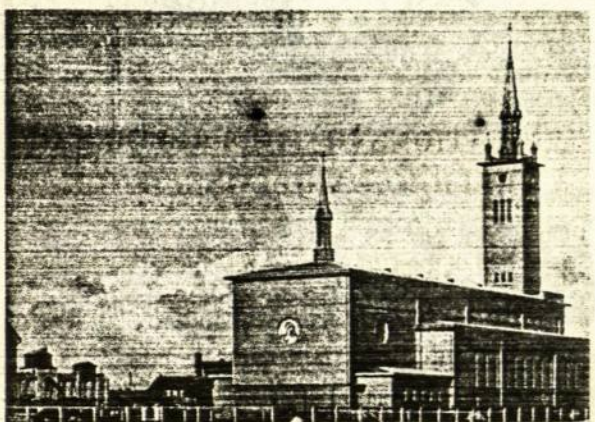
January-February, 1981

Complimentary Copy

## KLAIPEDA CHURCH:

# Strong Tasmanian Support

Two leading statesmen in Tasmania have asked the Soviet authorities to reopen a church for Christian worship, in Russian-occupied Lithuania.



Tasmania's Attorney-General and Minister for Ethnic Affairs (Brian K. Miller, M.L.C.) has written to the U.S.S.R. ambassador in Australia, Dr N. G. Soudarikov, requesting that St Mary's Queen of Peace Church in Klaipėda (pictured, above) be reconverted to the service of Christianity. The Premier of Tasmania, Mr Doug Lowe, arranged for Mr Miller's submission to be presented to Dr Soudarikov through appropriate diplomatic channels.

Mr Miller's move followed a news item published in the last issue of *Baltic News* which described the fate of St Mary's Church in Klaipėda, Lithuania's largest Baltic port. Built with official approval in 1954-60, the church was confiscated and converted into a concert hall in 1961. Since then, local parishioners have sent three appeals to Moscow, but have received no written replies. The last appeal, dated July 1, 1979, carried more than 140,000 individual signatures — an unprecedented proof of the believers' courage.

### Enthusiastic

"I enthusiastically support their petition and would ask that you kindly present it to your Government for consideration," Mr Miller wrote to Dr Soudarikov.

"As a Christian myself, Your Excellency, I share the feelings of people in this State which has generated this approach," Mr Miller continued. "I would opine that similar feelings would exist in Christian countries right throughout the world."

### Smuggled Out

In the meantime, a copy of the Klaipėda Christians' 1979 appeal to Mr Brezhnev has been smuggled out of Lithuania and has reached the West.

Photographs accompanying the appeal show the only Catholic church still open in Klaipėda today. It is too small to cater for a city of 170,000. The document also contains a few sample pages of the petitioners' signatures.

- New Wave of Passive Resistance, Page 3.
- Latest Clampdown on Christian Press, Page 2.
- Psychiatric Abuse: More Evidence, Page 6.

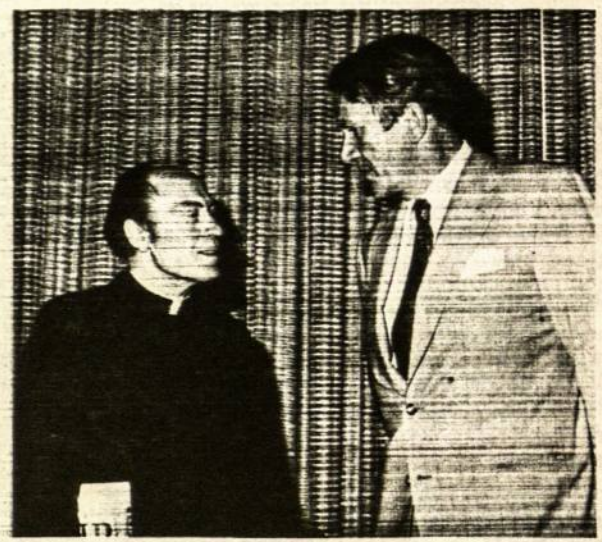
### Melbourne Choir to Visit Hobart

Tasmanian music lovers will soon have a chance to hear a live performance of Lithuanian folk-songs and original compositions.

The well-known Melbourne Lithuanian mixed choir "Daina" will give one concert only, in the Polish Hall (22 Main Road, New Town) on Saturday February 21, at 7 p.m.

Further details are on Page 8, in this issue.

## Federal Action Sought



● At a recent press conference in Melbourne, the editor of Lithuanian weekly *Teviskes Aidai*, Rev Fr Dauknyš (pictured, left) asked Australia's Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser (right) to intervene on behalf of the Baltic prisoners of conscience. In particular, Mr Fraser was urged to take up the cases of two better-known Lithuanian dissidents, Viktoras Petkus and Balys Gajauskas.



## NEW DOCUMENTS FROM LITHUANIA:

# Help Sakharov Appeal

The Catholics of Soviet-occupied Lithuania have made a public appeal to Pope John Paul II, seeking moral support for the exiled Russian human rights activist, Academician Andrei Sakharov.

The request is contained in Document No. 30 of the Catholic Committee for the Defence of Believers' Rights /CaCDBR/. The document is among a half-dozen recently smuggled out to HELLP (Help the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Peoples Association in Hobart/Australia).

The CaCDBR was formed in 1978 by five Roman Catholic Lithuanian priests to attain rights for Catholics equal to those of atheists. Lithuania, annexed by the U.S.S.R. in World War II, is the only predominantly Catholic colony in the Soviet Union.

The members of the CaCDBR themselves are often targets of government oppression, repeatedly threatened with arrest.

## Defender of the Persecuted

CaCDBR Document No. 30, addressed to Pope John Paul II, pays tribute to Sakharov, especially for his defence of human rights for persecuted Catholic Lithuanian believers, priests and prisoners of conscience, such as Petras Paulaitis, who at 75 is in his 32nd year in a Soviet labour camp.

Document No. 31 requests Leonid Brezhnev to release the secretary of the Christian Committee for the Defence of Believers' Rights, Viktor Kapitanchuk, from prison. "The time has come to give full religious freedom to Soviet citizens . . . The first step toward goodwill by the government would be to return freedom to the noble sons of the Orthodox Church — Rev. Gleb Yakunin, Rev. Dimitri Dudko, Viktor Kapitanchuk and others imprisoned for their faith . . .," the document states.

In Document No. 32, the Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party is petitioned to drop charges against four religious activists: Povilas Buzas, Anastazas Janulis, Genovaite Navickaite and Ona Vitkauskaite.\* They were reportedly arrested for involvement in reproduction and dissemination of the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*, an underground publication whose forty-four issues to date have documented the violation of human rights in Soviet Lithuania since 1972.

## Discrimination, Interference

Document No. 32 further asserts, that "there would be no need for a *Chronicle* to register instances of discrimination against believers and the Church" if the elementary human rights of believers were observed and if the Soviet authorities did not interfere in Church affairs.

\* See previous report in the last (Aug.-Sept. 1980) issue of *Baltic News*, Page 5.

The latest information received from Keston News Service (U.K.) confirms that these two men and two women have no criminal record. "They were merely trying to publicize violations of believers' rights which had been guaranteed in the Soviet constitution and in international agreements ratified by the Soviet government," the Committee points out again in its latest releases.



HERBLOCK in Washington Post.

Document No. 33, also addressed to the Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party, argues that even minimal religious freedoms guaranteed by the Soviet Constitution are not honoured.

The CaCDBR also reports that children are forbidden to take part in religious processions, churches must pay six times the national average for electricity, and when the Pope visited Poland, people from neighbouring Lithuania were expressly forbidden to go see him.

## Breach of Helsinki

Document No. 34, published in issue 44 of the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*, appeals to the signatories of the Helsinki Final Act and all people of goodwill to bring up the plight of Petras Plumpa-Pluirs at the Madrid Conference. Pluirs was sentenced in 1974 to 8 years in a strict regime labour camp for reproducing the *Chronicle*.

Document No. 35 is addressed to the Ordinaries of the Lithuanian Catholic Church and the rector of the only existing seminary in Lithuania, located in the city of Kaunas. In light of recent events, it voices the grave concern of Lithuania's bishops and priests over the fate of the seminary.

One of the most recent incidents is the order given by the Director of Religious Affairs in Lithuania, Petras Anilionis, to expel seminarian Aloyzas Volskis for associating with "clerical extremists," a term often directed toward members of the Catholic Committee. Such a demand, reports the CaCDBR, is in violation of Soviet law.

## State has Final Say

Apparently, last year, eleven highly qualified candidates were prevented from entering the seminary. The Council for Religious Affairs blocks the admission of the best candidates, substituting the less qualified, often recruiting them into service of the secret police as informers.

The final selection of candidates is determined by the government, not by religious leaders.



# Unrest in Baltic Colonies

In the wake of Polish workers' strikes, a new wave of passive resistance is sweeping across the neighbouring Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The latest information gathered by HELLP shows that, four decades after the armed invasion by the Soviet troops, the native people on the east coast of the Baltic are still refusing to accept Russians as their masters.

HELLP (Help the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Peoples Association) is a voluntary watch-group which checks and documents current human rights breaches in the Baltic region. Based in Hobart, Tasmania, the group has so far collected over 1,000 pages of original documents and eye-witness accounts. New evidence keeps arriving from behind the Iron Curtain at frequent intervals.

The current unrest in the Baltic States started on September 22, when a group of more than 1,000 youngsters marched through Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, demanding their country's freedom.

## Message to Walesa

At about the same time, 20 dissidents from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania sent a short message to the Polish strike leader Lech Walesa. The message said, "We congratulate you and all Poles on your beginnings in democratic reform. This is of great significance for all Socialist States."

As word of strikes in Gdansk reached Riga, only 450 km north-east along the Baltic coast, Latvians snapped up copies of the official Polish paper, *Trybuna Ludu*, and tuned in shortwave radios.

The Soviet colonial authorities reacted quickly by removing *Trybuna Ludu* and all other Polish publications from sale in Latvia and Lithuania. The same ban was extended to State Libraries. Polish students at the Soviet Institute of Civil Aviation in Riga were also forbidden to share living quarters with local students.

Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, was closed to all foreigners — Western tourists, foreign correspondents as well as casual visitors from neighbouring Poland.

## Demonstrations Spread

About 150 Estonians were arrested after the first large-scale public protest on September 22. This led to further demonstrations in four parts of Tallinn, the seaside town of Parnu and the university city of Tartu, during the first week of October.

Some 1,000 Estonian workers went on strike at the Katseremonditehas tractor plant on October 1 and 2. The strike was settled in the workers' favour on October 3, on the advice of two Soviet officials who travelled to the plant.

On October 11, the colonial Minister of Home Affairs appeared on Estonian television and warned against any further disorders. A few days later, the head of the KGB, Yury Andropov, arrived in Tallinn from Moscow and personally took charge.

Several better-known dissidents were arrested. Sternly worded warnings appeared in the official Government papers in all three Baltic countries.

## Open Letter

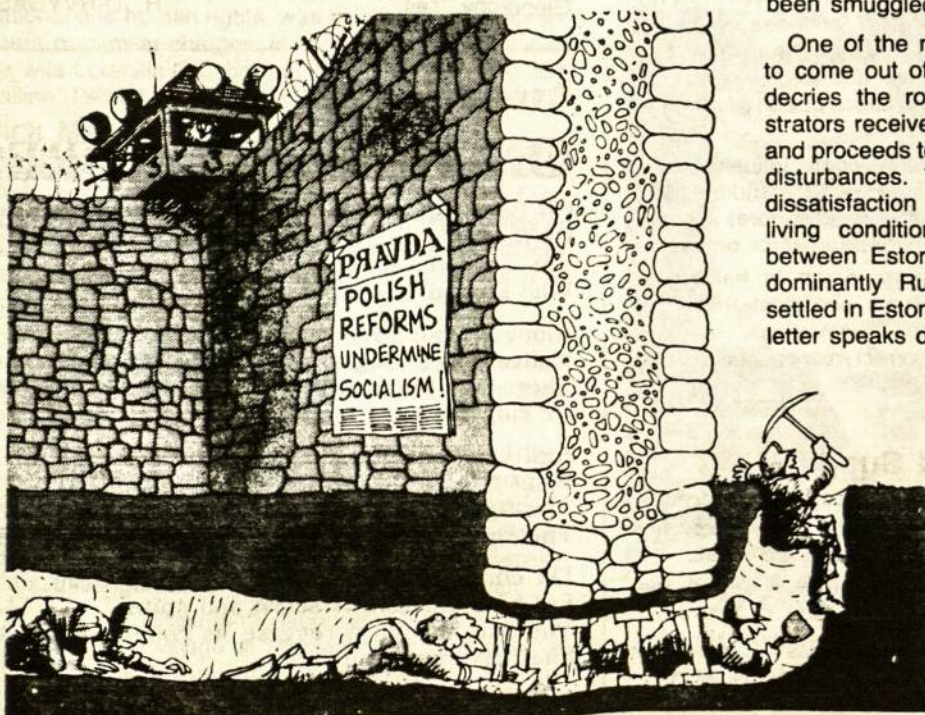
These social upheavals prompted 40 members of the Soviet Estonian intellectual elite to write "An Open Letter from the Estonian SSR" to *Pravda* in Moscow and the local Party newspapers *Sovetskaya Estonia* and *Rahva Haal* in Tallinn. Dated October 28, 1980, the letter was not published in the USSR, but has since been smuggled out to Australia.

One of the more impressive documents to come out of Estonia recently, the letter decries the rough treatment the demonstrators received from the KGB and police, and proceeds to analyze the reasons for the disturbances. The letter reveals growing dissatisfaction in Estonia, not only with living conditions but also with relations between Estonians and newcomers, predominantly Russian colonists, who have settled in Estonia in the post-war years. The letter speaks of insecurity and fear among Estonians for their future.

Extracts from the letter will be published in the next *Baltic News*.

— BATUN, Easti VVA, EL-TA, DPA, UPI, AP, Stampa Sera.

— Cartoon, by courtesy of *The Guardian Weekly*.



AVTH



# LETTERS

## Religious Persecution

Your documentation of religious persecution in the U.S.S.R. is precise and very much to the point. It will provide a useful reference to future researchers of East European history.

May I add that the severe measures described by you are directed against ALL believers, and not just Christians. The latest data published in the May 1980 issue of *East-West Digest*\* are most revealing:

The Moslem population of about 50 million inside the Soviet Union has been subjected to an intensive secularisation campaign since the early 1920s. The campaign was conducted with considerable savagery in its early stages, leaving only 500 mosques still open — compared with about 25,000 in Tsarist Russia.

The last printing of the Koran took place eight years ago in a restricted edition of a mere 20,000 copies. The number of believers allowed to make pilgrimage to Mecca each year has been reduced to a tiny handful. The possibility of a practising Moslem being allowed to rise to a position of responsibility in present-day Soviet society is almost non-existent.

Birmingham (England).

(Dr) H. SINGH.

\* EAST-WEST DIGEST, 139 Petersham Road, Richmond, Surrey, England. Annual subscription £10 or \$24 (Air mail \$48). ISSN 0012-8627.

## Media Terminology

It is very fashionable for mass media to refer to the left bank of the River Jordan as "Israeli-occupied territory." This is part of the current fashion of supporting "liberation of Palestine." I wouldn't wish to make any comment on those subjects whatsoever, only to ask: where is journalistic consistency?

Why do we not read about the events in "Soviet-occupied Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania"? Why is it not fashionable to support liberation for these countries, too? One might also ask why one hears constant reference to U.S. imperialism and criticism of U.S. naval bases, but Soviet imperialism doesn't appear to exist.

The media wield a disproportionate influence over public opinion. The terminology they use and the facts or issues they choose to highlight (or ignore) account almost totally for what the public knows or believes.

Your publication does a good job in helping to balance this unfair bias. I am confident that your readers also take it upon themselves, in their discussions with others, to correct misconceptions and misinformation.

Madrid (Spain).

G. KAMINSKAS.

## Continued Support

Please be assured of my continued support for the Baltic cause and particularly for the liberation of the Baltic States from continued Soviet domination.

Please also assure everyone that I regard the liberation of the Baltic States as one of the most pressing and important issues in international politics today.

Michael HODGMAN, M.H.R.  
Minister for A.C.T.



● Secret trail of Father J. Zdebskis, S.J., in Vilkauskis (Russian-occupied Lithuania), January 10, 1979: spectators were not admitted.

## Coffins from Afghanistan

Last year, some 300 coffins arrived from Afghanistan in Vilnius, capital of Lithuania. Presumably, the coffins contained bodies of Lithuanian conscripts in the Soviet Army occupying Afghanistan.

I cannot but reflect on the parallels between the Soviet takeovers of Afghanistan and Lithuania. In 1940 the Soviet forces marched into Lithuania "temporarily", also. Today, 40 years later, the Russians are still there. Lithuanians, too, fought a guerilla war against the occupying forces, but were eventually overwhelmed.

The irony of the situation is that the Kremlin is using as cannon fodder the young men of a country which fought against it. However, unlike their fathers in the guerilla movement, these young Lithuanians are dying for their tyrannical oppressors, and not in resisting them.

Glenorchy, Tas.

R. TARVYDAS.

## Arved Viirlaid

### ON BALTIC SHORES

On Baltic shores we stood and fought, the last  
Of Europe's guards, age after age,  
Yet when the tempest sent its final blast,  
Who stirred to stem its rage?

Alone we bore your shame, alone our loss;  
Unheard, we fought; unseen, we fell.  
There was no hand to raise the martyr's cross  
Or ring the hero's knell.

And yet whatever fate we still may face,  
What fire or flood of storming seas;  
The fighters for their right will not debase  
Their pride by beggars' pleas.

Let cunning score, let malice have its run,  
Let hate unleash its scorn and spite:  
The Sun, though it reverse its course — the Sun  
Shall rise upon our night.

Translated from the Estonian by Ants Oras.



## PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE:

# Jail for Flying a Flag

Four of Estonia's youngest prisoners of conscience have been transferred from Tallinn labour camp at Tisleri Street 31-a to the town of Kohtla-Järve, near Narva, where they are labouring as construction workers.

All four are former students at a technical school in Tallinn, the capital city of Russian-occupied Estonia: Raivo Hermlin, Vello Sostar (both born 1962 in Tallinn), Olev Tiitson (born 1962 in the village of Aste, Saaremaa, Estonia) and Viljo Vilba (born 1962 in Tartu, Estonia).

Last year, the four youngsters made an Estonian national flag of blue-black-white in Tallinn. Three of them — Hermlin, Sostar and Tiitson — travelled to the old university city of Tartu and hoisted the flag on the ruins of the Dome Cathedral on Estonian Independence Day, 24 February 1980. The fourth classmate Vilba remained in Tallinn.

They were arrested on the same day. The trial took place on 15 May 1980 in Tartu, and all four were indicted under Article 195-2 of the Estonian SSR Criminal Code for "hooliganism". The People's Court of Tartu sentenced Hermlin, Sostar and Tiitson to 1½ years labour camp each, and Vilba to 2 years labour camp.

The camp conditions at Kohtla-Järve are reported to be somewhat easier and the parents of the students are allowed to visit them more frequently.

However, contact with the free world is still prohibited, and several letters sent to Vilba from Australia have remained unanswered. —Eesti VVA, FOC.

## Free — At Last!

Friends of the Captives Association reports that, following an intensive letter-writing and prayer campaign, the Soviet authorities have released twelve prisoners of conscience. Seven workers for Baltic human rights are amongst them: Matik, Soldatov, Kasak, Pirn, Koop, Vool and Sadunaite (see picture and story on Page 8). Another Lithuanian woman, Miss Kirsnauskaite, is also believed to have been set free, but her release has not yet been confirmed.

Kalju Matik spent six years in strict regime labour camps for "Anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda." He is now living temporarily at this address: Estonian SSR, 200 015 Tallinn, Lehola 27, MATIK Kalju — USSR.

Sergei Soldatov, a leading activist for Estonian national and human rights, was also imprisoned for six years on similar charges. He now lives in Tallinn with his wife Ludmilla Grunberg at: Estonian SSR, 200 001 Tallinn, Lembitu 8-49, SOLDATOV Sergei — USSR.

### Sick Man

Soldatov is suffering from coronary arteriosclerosis. Their son, Aleksander Soldatov, was arrested on trumped-up charges by the Russian colonial police in August 1976. He is detained at the Vasalemma labour camp in Estonia and is expected to be released in August 1981.

Jaan Kasak and Peeter Pirn, both engineers and radio hams, were released in mid-December 1980 after nine months' imprisonment at Voru, Estonia. Both men remain under police investigation.

David Koop, having spent 3½ years in ordinary regime labour camp for printing religious literature (Articles 148-2, 181-1 and 201-2 for the Estonian SSR Criminal Code), is now living with his family at this address: USSR, Leningradskaya oblast, Kingissepsky raion, g. Ivangorod, ul. Novaya 6, KOOP David.

41-year-old State-farm labourer Otto Vool was arrested in the village of Maetaguse in Kohtla-Järve region, in Russian-occupied Estonia. Vool was accused of having hoisted the blue-black-white

Estonian national flag on the chimney of the boiler-house of the local state farm, on the anniversary of the establishment of Free Estonia. After prolonged interrogations, he was released without trial.

### Ecumenical Group

Friends of the Captives is an ecumenical Christian charity group. The Association's aim is to help Soviet prisoners of conscience and their families.

Friends of the Captives formed in Tasmania in July 1980, after the visit of Simas Kudirka (himself a former prisoner in the U.S.S.R.). The Association has been growing rapidly since then, and now has active members in all States of Australia.

FOC and Eesti VVA (Sweden).



● 20-year-old Latvian Janis Tilgals (above) is still languishing in a Russian gaol. He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, because he had prepared and distributed patriotic leaflets.



● *Continued from last issue*

## Psychiatric Abuse

Further evidence of psychiatric abuse is printed below. In all cases, the victims' surnames appear first, followed by their Christian names. Except where otherwise indicated, the prisoners are male.

8. STATKEVICIUS, Algirdas. Medical practitioner, born 1923. Sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment in 1951, was released before the expiry of full term. Re-arrested in 1970 for having written a book manuscript, entitled ABC OF SOCIAL LIFE. Back in Vilnius before the end of the decade, Statkevicius joined the Lithuanian Helsinki Monitoring Group, signed Baltic Charter 45 and was present in Moscow at the peaceful protest demonstration on August 23, 1979. Arrested for the third time in 1980, present whereabouts unknown.

9. POSKIENE, Birute (Mrs), former school caretaker, mother of three children. Dismissed from work in 1974 because of her religious persuasion. In a subsequent court case, the Soviet state prosecutor made explicit reference to her excellent health. In spite of this, Mrs Poskiene was sent to Kaunas psychiatric hospital, where heavy dosages of drugs caused permanent damage to her eyesight and body muscles. After release, her last known private address was: Lithuania, KAUNAS, Demokrata g. 36-1, POSKIENE Birute, USSR.

10. PASKAUSKIENE, Agnele (Mrs), daughter of Antanas. While still at school, she was first interrogated and subjected to severe drug treatments in 1962, because she had distributed leaflets calling for free Lithuania and withdrawal of Soviet troops from her country. Re-arrested towards the end of 1974, she was held in Vilnius and Lukiskiai prisons and was forcibly given injections of aminezine. Released with chronic heart trouble in July 1976, she was deserted by her husband and left alone with two small children. Mrs Paskauskiene is currently fearing for her life, because she was a signatory to Baltic Charter 45 and she took part in the Moscow peaceful demonstration on August 23, 1979.

*The following three Lithuanian prisoners of conscience are receiving "treatment" in Naujoji Vilnia psychiatric hospital (full address unknown).*

11. GRIGAS, Romas, born 1958. Former student at the University of Vilnius. Arrested on January 23, 1977, because he had protested against Soviet occupation by throwing a portrait of Lenin into the River Neris.

12. LAZINSKAS, Vytautas, arrested on October 10, 1972.

13. SUMSKAUSKAITE (Miss), arrested in 1976, last reported in Ward 1 of Naujoji Vilnia hospital/prison.

14. ZUBAVICIUS has been deported to Serbskij psychiatric institute, but no other details have been released by the authorities.

15. MAJAUSKAS, Vladas, born 1947, was arrested and committed to forced psychiatric treatment in 1972, because he had raised the Lithuanian national flag. His present whereabouts are not known.



● The psychiatric hospital/prison of Chernyakhovsk where Cechanavicius, Karaliunas and other Baltic dissidents have been subjected to forced "treatment". Chernyakhovsk is a new name allocated by the Russian colonial office to the old Prussian town of Insterburg (Isrūtis). This happened during the massive "russification" programme in the late 1940's when the entire German population of East Prussia was liquidated and replaced by Russian settlers — complete with total renaming of rivers, towns, villages and all other landmarks.

16. JONAITIS, Egidijus, student from Vilnius/Lithuania, cannot be contacted since his arrest and psychiatric incarceration in November 1977. He was charged with having removed Soviet flags from Vilnius Electrographic Institute.

17. BAGDONAS, arrested in 1945, held in various Russian concentration camps and psychiatric hospital-prisons. Last heard from in 1976, while prisoner at this address: 215280 Smolenskaya obl, g. Sychevka, uch. Ya 0 100/5, BAGDONAS, USSR.

18. BUTKUS, Donatas, former employee of Lithuanian ethnographic museum, Oriental expert. Seized in Ulan Ude (Soviet Asia) in November 1972 and "treated" by force in psychiatric hospital/prisons. Present whereabouts unknown.

Constant campaigning on behalf of these, and many other, prisoners CAN bring relief to their plight. For example, Bronius NAUDZIUNAS, a veteran of Siberian Gulags since 1948 and a living witness of Pravieniskiai concentration camp and Moscow's notorious No 15 hospital/prison, was finally released in 1975 and is now living in Canada. The Soviet authorities are very sensitive about bad publicity in the Western press. So, let us keep on exposing the truth about the prisoners of conscience in the USSR!



# OUR THANKS

When first published six years ago, this newsletter was intended to serve merely as a communication medium for Tasmanian members of HELLP (Help the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Peoples Association). 75 copies were printed of the first issue; and, as the Association grew, so did the circulation — reaching 600 copies by July 1975.

It soon became apparent, however, that, in addition to advertising HELLP meetings and other coming events, there was an urgent need for informing the Australian public about the Baltic States. The average Australian knew very little of the Baltic history or the current events on the east coast of the Baltic Sea. Our daily media were seldom covering that remote part of the world. So, the *Baltic News* undertook to fill this information gap.

Since then, *Baltic News* has developed into the most authoritative English-language Baltic periodical in the entire Southern hemisphere. Concentrating on factual reporting and in-depth investigative journalism, *Baltic News* has established its credibility and is increasingly accepted as a non-partisan source of news from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Over 2,000 copies of *Baltic News* are now mailed regularly to leading libraries, statesmen, academic researchers, newsmen and individual readers in Australia and 22 overseas countries.

Perhaps the most interesting feature of *Baltic News* is its financial policy. *Baltic News* is distributed free of charge, and it exists entirely on readers' donations. We

believe very strongly that "the proof of the pudding is in the eating." So, if people enjoy reading *Baltic News*, they will not allow it to go to the wall. Total independence from Government subsidies and welfare handouts also ensures total freedom of the press, to seek and print the truth.

So far, this policy of self-sufficiency has found sufficient private support for *Baltic News* to continue and to grow. Once again, we thank the following donors who have helped to pay for the present issue:

Lithuanian Co-op Credit Union TALKA (Vic.), \$300; Ramovenai (S.A.), \$200; E. Hanhiniemi (Qld.), \$62; J. Strazdas (Canada), \$50; S. Jarembauskas (N.S.W.), \$40; J. Bociulis, V. Mikelaitis (Tas.), \$30 each; L. Kojelis (U.S.A.), \$25; A. Jakstas (N.S.W.), V. Ilugunas (S.A.), Rev L. L. Cusack, A. Griepelis, P. Morkunas (Vic.), \$20 each; V. Lipping, N. Balton (N.S.W.), \$15 each; A. D. From (N.S.W.), A. M. Kaminskas (S.A.), J. P. Prendergast, A. Bumane, L. A. Pergl, S. Valaitis (Vic.), G. Kuzis, K. Rand, J. Picius, J. Parums, A. Dilba, E. Kujath (Tas.), B. V. Gedvilienė, B. Lazauskas, J. Slavenas (U.S.A.), J. Andrikoniene (Tas.), \$10 each; G. Straukas, (S.A.), \$8; H. Heinastu (U.K.), \$6; J. Randazza, R. Milasas, A. M. Mukans (N.S.W.), O. Maciukienė (S.A.), E. Aleksejevs, P. Masylis, V. Cosmans, E. Seikiene (Vic.), E. Mrozowski, M. Wisoky, J. Valius, V. Mulligan, J. Remes, J. Luker, E. Kujath, Mrs. Modzelewska, B. E. Burbo, Anon. (Tas.), A. Leveika (N.Z.), M. I. Nowak, J. Kesner Kahn (U.S.A.), \$5 each; V. Comans (Vic.), V. Gurstans (N.Z.), \$4 each; L. Nobelius (Vic.), J. Klara, E. Daivson (Tas.), \$2 each.

## Receipting Policy

*Baltic News* has no paid employees; all office work is done by volunteers. Every donation is acknowledged in *Baltic News*, but individual receipts are not posted to donors unless specially requested. This saves money and energy.



TO: H.E.L.L.P. (Help the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Peoples Association),  
Post Office Box 272,  
SANDY BAY, Tasmania, 7005 (Australia).

I do not recognize the Russian sovereignty over the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania).

Please send me the *Baltic News*, free of charge and without any obligation.

Name .....

ADDRESS .....

..... POSTCODE .....

Optional:

I enclose my donation of \$.....Cash/Cheque/M.O.

## In memoriam

Genuine IN MEMORIAM notices for Baltic victims are printed in the BALTIC NEWS free of charge. All copy must be clearly legible and (to prevent bogus advertisements under Section 44 of the Police Offences Act 1935) must show the name and address of the person submitting copy. If requested, these personal particulars will not be published.

BORISEVICIUS, The Rev Vincent. — In memory of the former Bishop of Telsiai (Lithuania), shot in Russia, January 1947.

DAUNIUS. — A tribute to a deported Lithuanian girl who froze to death in Trofimovsk camp, January 1943.

GAILITIS, Rev Pauls. — A tribute to the former Lutheran minister of Lielvarde (Latvia); deported to Siberia in 1940 where he died in 1943.

GUSTAITIS. — In sad memory of the Rev Pranas Gustaitis, deported from Lithuania and shot in Russia, January 1947.

KAULINS, Karlis. — Died in Krasnoyarsk slave camp (Siberia), 1943.

KEMESIS, Prof Fabijonas. — Deported from Lithuania, died in Krasnoyarsk (Siberia), January 21, 1954.

MIRONAS, Rev Vladas. — Died 1953 for his faith in Vladimir prison. — Remembered by his fellow prisoner, Frank Kelly.

MOROZAS, Juozas ("Nemunas"). — A tribute to a leader of the Lithuanian Freedom Army, killed in action at Kamsciai, January 1949.

ROZE, J. — One of many deported Baltic journalists; died in Siberia, 1942.

RUDZIONIS, Rev Stepas. — Shot in Lithuania by Russian firing squad, January 1946.

SAMS, M. — Died in Siberia, 1942.

SAMSONAS. — In sad memory of the Rev Vytautas Samsonas, murdered in his own church at Imbradas (Lithuania), January 23, 1961.

TINDZIULIS, Albinas. — One of many Baltic resistance fighters, died in uneven battle, January 1949.

ULMANIS, Dr Karlis. — A tribute to the last President of free Latvia, died in a Caucasian slave camp (Russia), in 1942.

VESMANIS, Fricis. — In memory of the former Latvian Ambassador in London; died of hunger in a Russian slave camp in South Ural, 39 years ago. — Inserted by Ben and Mary Matthews.

VITKAUSKAS. — In sad memory of Vitkauskas (mother and son), who froze to death at Trofimovsk (Siberia), January 1943, 17 months after deportation from their native Lithuania.



## Nijole Freed, Two Others Arrested



● Nijole Sadunaite (pictured), one of the best known workers for the free press in Russian-occupied Baltic States, has been released from her Siberian exile. She arrived in Vilnius (capital city of Lithuania) on July 9, 1980 and is staying with her brother at this address:

CCCP — Lietuva  
232043  
LTSR  
Vilnius 43,  
Architektu 27-2  
Sadunaite Nijole, pas Saduna Jona.

Sadunaite was arrested by Russian colonial authorities on August 24, 1974, because a partly transcribed issue of the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania* was found in her typewriter. She was held without trial until June 16, 1975, then sentenced to a total of six years in concentration camps and Siberian exile.

During the trial, Nijole Sadunaite assumed her own defence. Her final speech, smuggled out through the Iron Curtain, has since been acclaimed worldwide as "a brave woman's stand against the modern-day Goliath."

Two days after Nijole's return home, on July 11, 1980, she was visited by a friend, Miss Jadvyga-Gemma Stanelyte. That evening, Miss Stanelyte disappeared without trace. On July 22, Stanelyte's relatives found out that she was held in the Lukiskiu prison, in Russian-occupied Lithuania. On KGB instructions, criminal charges are being prepared against her for "parasitism."

Lithuanian journalist Gintautas Jasmantas (50) has been arrested for his alleged activity in the underground press. A graduate of Vilnius Institute of Education, Mr Jasmantas had worked as a full-time reporter for the official Soviet publication *Komjaunimo Tiesa* (Komsomol Truth), but resigned from the Communist Party in 1970.

In spite of persecution, new censor-free periodicals continue appearing in the three Baltic States. Lithuania alone now has 20 different *samizdats*.

## COMING EVENTS

### ● 21st FEBRUARY (Saturday)

at Polish Hall  
22 Main Road, New Town  
Combined 63rd anniversary of the restoration  
of independent Estonia and Lithuania:  
7 pm

### CONCERT

by Melbourne Lithuanian Choir DAINA  
(40 mixed voices)  
Admission \$2  
9 pm-1 am

### SOCIAL and DANCE

Good Band . . . Floor-Show . . . Novelties  
BYO or buy refreshments next door  
For table bookings (optional), please phone  
Joe Paskevicius 72 6360  
Admission \$4 single (or \$6 for both events)  
Organised by Lithuanian & Estonian Associations  
in Tasmania

### ● 2nd MARCH (Monday)

8 pm  
Migrant Resource Centre,  
222 Elizabeth St, Hobart  
(upstairs)

### - MONTHLY MEETING

of

### FRIENDS OF THE CAPTIVES

Association

New members welcome . . . Admission free

## Georgi Vins for Hobart?

One of the better-known former Soviet prisoners of conscience, Pastor Georgi Vins, will be visiting Australia from 28 February to 19 March. The former leader of unregistered Baptists in the U.S.S.R. was originally scheduled to stay in this country for six weeks, but had to cut his visit short because of an injured ankle.

Friends of the Captives Association has invited Pastor Vins to stop over in Hobart, but it is not yet known whether he would be able to make this detour.

## President re-elected

At the annual general meeting held on 8 November, 1980, Mr A. Kantvilas was re-elected President of HELLP (Help the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Peoples Association) for 1981. Dr J. Madden and Mr S. Smyth were among the new people elected to the Executive Committee.

The guest speaker was Dr Jan Pakulski, of the University of Tasmania. His topical talk on "Recent Events in Poland" was received by the capacity audience with great interest.

BALTIC NEWS is published by HELLP (Help the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Peoples Association) in Hobart, Australia. HELLP is a non-denominational and non-party-political group of concerned Australians, who (1) do not recognise Russian sovereignty over the three Baltic States; and (2) are working to publicize the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian people's continuing struggle for survival and freedom. New members are welcome to join at any time. Postal address: P.O. Box 272, SANDY BAY, Tasmania, 7005 — Australia.

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