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offering information and  
documentation on current  
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## LITHUANIA

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is situated at the southern end of the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea, right at the European continent's geographic center. It emerged as a unified state in the early decades of the 13th century and became internationally recognized as the Kingdom of Lithuania in 1251 A.D.

After centuries of vast expansion eastward and southward, in 1569 Lithuania became a partner in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, which lasted till 1795 when it was partitioned between Austria, Prussia and Russia. Lithuania fell under the Russian rule.

Lithuania succeeded in re-establishing its independence in 1918, at the end of World War I, but was occupied again in 1940 by the armed forces of Russia, now known as the Soviet Union. It has been held in Soviet bondage since then.

### Population

as provisionally estimated for January 1,  
1975

3,290,000

as estimated in the same area on January 1,  
1939

3,215,000



### CARTER AND MONDALE RECEIVE BALTIC LEADERS

#### US Restates Refusal to Recognize Incorporation into USSR

Delegation of Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian American leaders was received by the Vice President Mondale and greeted by President Carter himself during a one-hour visit in the executive office building, Washington, D.C., June 13.

The government of the United States of America continues to refuse to recognize the illegal incorporation into the Soviet Union of the Baltic States of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, Vice President Mondale reassured the delegation. Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia were forcibly occupied by the USSR in 1940.

Mr. Mondale also assured the Baltic Americans that the human rights policy of the Carter administration would continue.

The visitors reminded the Vice President of the specific Soviet transgressions of the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 with regard to human rights in the Baltic States. They named members of the Lithuanian Group for Furthering the Implementation of the Helsinki Agreements, who have been arrested, harassed or deprived of citizenship by the Soviet government. The Balts requested the United States Government to intervene, in keeping with the Helsinki agreement.

The visitors asked that, in preparation for the Madrid Conference of 1980 to discuss compliance with the Helsinki Act, a Baltic-American be included in the US delegation and on the staff.

The United States Government was also requested, as a co-signatory of the Helsinki Act, to raise with the Soviet government the issues of Russification and of Russian colonialism in the Baltic States, which are in violation of the Helsinki Final Act.

The Baltic-American delegation was headed by Dr. J. K. Valiūnas, President of the Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania, and Mr. B. Nainys, President of the World Lithuanian Community.



NEW DECLARATION OF "LITHUANIAN NATIONAL PEOPLE'S FRONT"

A new declaration of the "Lithuanian National People's Front" dated April 30, 1978, was received in the West this June. The previous declarations were dated June 9-14, 1974 (ELTA July 1975), May 30, 1976 (ELTA December 1976), and January 1, 1977 (ELTA April 1977). Similar ideas have been expressed in the samizdat periodical Varpas (The Bell), four issues of which have reached the West in 1977 (ELTA, November 1977), published by the "Revolutionary Liberation Front of Lithuania." The new declaration, as the previous ones, differs in its terminology from the mainstream samizdat press in Lithuania (Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania, The Dawn). The very existence of a "Lithuanian National People's Front" is still to be confirmed by the established samizdat periodicals. The possibility of a KGB provocation should also not be excluded. Nevertheless, the document may be a genuine one. Excerpts and summaries from the Declaration follow.

Nacionalinis Liaudies Frontas (NLF, The National People's Front) asks the Lithuanian emigration to make public the NLF declarations and other materials in the "free West."

The present NLF Declaration has been issued on the occasion of the so-called "holiday of solidarity of the international proletariat." The NLF appeals to all Lithuanians at home and abroad to "join our struggle for national liberty and political independence" that will lead to the "restoration of our lost state and creation of a Free Independent People's Lithuania." Despite its present power, "Soviet imperialism is heading toward dissolution, in view of the internal situation in the USSR, where all the non-Russian Soviet nations are waging a fight of resistance for their national freedom and identity as well as for political sovereignty (the Baltic, the Ukraine, the Caucasus).

"All illegal groups and organizations are undergoing today, as never before, the process of consolidation and unification.... The NLF and its allies - Lietuvos Laisvojo Demokratinio Jaunimo Sajunga (LLDJS, The Free Democratic Youth Alliance of Lithuania), in existence for a long time, and Lietuvos Patrioty Sajunga (LPS, the Patriots Alliance of Lithuania), born in 1970, in Vilnius -- are going over to an ideological attack in the cultural, national and political areas of the battle front."

"Students, soldiers, Communist Youths, wake up and join the LLDJS... that leads you to the restoration of an independent state. The NLF appeals to the Lithuanian spirit of the Komsomol and declares that it is time for you, Lithuanian Communist youths, to throw away the Komsomol membership cards that are alien to the Lithuanians, and to go over automatically to the LLDJS, whose program is already known to the patriotic youth of Lithuania. Although LLDJS is still illegal ..., it will be soon legalized, because its program is in harmony with the spirit of humanism, liberty and the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen and does



not contradict the paragraphs of Brezhnev's Soviet Constitution that speaks of the freedoms that are due to USSR citizens, although these freedoms have not been fully embodied in the entire Soviet Union (despite the Helsinki and Belgrade agreements on that question)."

"Communists of Lithuania..., by serving the Party of a foreign imperialist state, you are betraying your country's national interests. The NLF has no essential quarrel with the communist ideology as such, but it has denounced and will always denounce the ideology that is alien to our nation and that has been imposed on us, Lithuanians, and on all the Balts, by violence, force and annexation.... The new national awakening, after the long armed partisan resistance (1944-1951. Ed.)..., which began in the post-Stalin era, especially after 1972, and even more so after the October 1977 events in Vilnius (political riots triggered during soccer matches. Ed.) is so great and obvious that it is high time for you, Lithuanian Communists, to make a complete turn and to join the nation .... The NLF, basing itself on the working people and on the idea of national freedom, invites all communists, active supporters of the Soviet administration, to move over to the platform of national unity whose... goal is... a Lithuanian People's Republic within the framework of a Union of Baltic States, in a united and free Europe of the future...."

"... The NLF declares June 15 the Day of Tragedy of the Lithuanian Nation (of the Baltic Nations) -- an all Union Day of Mourning. Work boycott should be organized on this occasion. All this is to remind the Soviet LSSR administration that the Lithuanian nation continues its political struggle for freedom and refuses to recognize the present-day status quo, the legitimacy of which is also denied by some Western states, in which the legations and consulates of the Lithuanian Republic are still active today."

The NLF asks emigre organizations to organize demonstrations against Soviet offices in the West and expresses its wish for a rebroadcast of its program first made public in 1975.

"The NLF General Headquarters (the patriotic-intellectual core), known to the studentry and to the intelligentsia, is a widespread all-peoples organization with a considerable network of fighters in the republic and outside its boundaries. Recently, the NLF GHQ has established new links of cooperation with the Lietuvos Katalikų Susivienijimas (Lithuanian Catholic Alliance) and the publishers of the Lithuanian samizdat Aušra (The Dawn)."

"The NLF guides itself by the decisions of VLIK (Vyriausias Lietuvos Išlaisvinimo Komitetas -- The Supreme Committee for Liberation of Lithuania) and ALTA (Amerikos Lietuvių Taryba - American Lithuanian Council) and asks their assistance in the field of information.... The General HQ suggests that all political organizations functioning abroad invigorate political demonstrations in connection with the isolation of N. Sadūnaitė and V. Petkus who, as well as other newly arrested intellectuals and priests, are imprisoned in camps, prisons and in the Vilnius KGB isolation cells."

"In April 1978, the NLF General Headquarters has established the main Liaison Committee, consisting of three representatives (... two from Lithuania, and one NLF member from abroad). The purpose of this group is... ideological cooperation with abroad, in order to consolidate national action and the national freedom movement in the enslaved Fatherland."

The NLF describes itself as the "inspirational source and the organizer of



all national and resistance forces."

"Long live the present fraternal unity of the fighting nations of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia and their strong political-military alliance in the future."

"Long live the friendship between Lithuanians and the Baltic nations as well as Poland.... According to the program of the Lithuanian Patriots' Association, former Prussia, at present an area - colony of the RSFSR, must be under the jurisdiction of the future Lithuanian state, in order to abolish forever the Russian and German imperialist designs in ethnic Baltic territory, by transforming the city of Karaliaučius (Königsberg, at present Kaliningrad. Ed.) into a city of Peace and Friendship among Poles, Lithuanians and Germans."

"Long live a democratic, peaceful and united Germany with a capital in Berlin, without the US and the USSR army units in it."

"Long live a free, democratic, socialist Russia that will renounce its imperialist policies, employed in the course of history toward Finland, the Baltic states, Poland, the Ukraine; Caucasus, and other nations and states."

"Long live the free Ukrainian nation and its long-year national movement for the creation of an independent Ukraine."

"Long live peace and coexistence among nations and states in Europe and in the whole world."

Lithuanian National People's Front,  
(General Headquarters, Vilnius, April 30, 1978)

#### CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA (No. 32)

A new issue of the Lithuania Chronicle, the oldest samizdat journal in Lithuania, has arrived in the West. It is dated March 26, 1978, and is 31 pages long.

Among the highlights of the new Chronicle are letters from the labor camps by Vladas Lapienis and Ona Pranckūnaitė; new KGB attacks against the samizdat press; official documents on the trial of Lapienis, Matulionis, and Pranckūnaitė; excerpts from a 73-page open letter to Leonid Brezhnev on religious and national persecution; letters of protest by priests and believers; and a survey of discrimination against believers in schools.

A special five-page annex, "The Situation of Catholics in Moldavia," provides information on the region which is seldom covered by Western journalists.

In the next issue of ELTA we shall publish excerpts and summaries of the entire No. 32.



NEW ISSUE (No. 10) OF "AUŠRA" (THE DAWN)

The issue No. 10 (50) of the Lithuanian samizdat journal Aušra is dated March 1978 and is 26-pages long. It contains information on the incarceration of the daughter of M. Šumauskas in a psychiatric hospital, the trial of Henrikas Jaškūnas, searches and interrogations. The further persecution of the four Vilnius youths -- Bogušis, Sasnauskas, Masilionis and Tučkus -- is detailed. Of special interest are the articles on Balys Gajauskas' mother, a workers' strike in Kaunas, the arrest of two youths for tearing down 36 red flags, and others.

"SOS! SOS! SOS! -- Searches, Arrests, Trials

"The elder daughter of M. Šumauskas, former Chairman of Presidium of the LSSR Supreme Soviet, was detained in Moscow at the end of 1976 for publicly expressing her opinion. (She had graduated in journalism from the P. Lumumba university in Moscow.) She was brought to Vilnius and put into the fourth section of the psychoneurological hospital of Naujoji Vilnia, where various nervous disorders are treated. In the spring of 1977, she secretly got hold of the history of her 'illness' and escaped from the hospital. This time she was imprisoned in the first section housing psychiatric patients. Here she was daily injected with two kinds of drugs.... One of these drugs is aminozine, which darkens a healthy individual's mind.

"In June 1977, she was still kept in the hospital. Her further fate is unknown. (Other data, e.g. her first and last name, dates are unknown.)

The trial of Henrikas Jaškūnas

"Henrikas Jaškūnas was arrested on December 22, 1976, in Jonava. Some forty copies of the "Manifest of the Association of the Independent Nations of USSR" were seized during the search. The Manifesto accuses the USSR of the enslavement of nations and demands a referendum that would enable them to determine their future destiny.

"The trial of Jaškūnas took place on November 24-25, 1977, in Jonava. Prior to the trial, the KGB wrote a letter to the members of Jaškūnas family (in his name), asking not to send him any letters or parcels. Meanwhile, Jaškūnas himself was told that his family has renounced him. His trial was a closed one. The only participants were people specially invited from factories. Jaškūnas delivered a profound speech in court. Here is one sentence from it: 'Do whatever you wish with me, I will still keep saying that you are liars and occupiers.'

"The court verdict was pronounced on November 28: Ten years of severe regime camps and five years of exile."



### The Search of Pašiliai House

The house of Birutė and Aleksas Pašilis was searched by the KGB from 7:00 p.m. of August 23, 1977, till 2:30 p.m. of August 24, 1977. The search order specified that the action was undertaken in connection with case No. 38, concerning Balys Gajauskas, who was accused of having violated article 68, part two, of the LSSR Penal Code.

Eight typewritten documents were discovered in a drawer of the writing-desk. The first document starts with the words: "The Act of Formation of the Supreme Committee of the National Movement of Estonia-Latvia-Lithuania," dated August 20, 1977, and ends with the words "to Mr. Kurt Waldheim." Five of the documents are addressed by the "Supreme Committee of the National Movement of Estonia-Latvia-Lithuania" to the Government of Great Britain, President Jimmy Carter, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Government of Israel, Leonid Brezhnev, respectively. The remaining two documents deal with the election and the tenure of the "Supreme Committee."

Also seized was a 478-page typewritten copy of Solzhenytsin's novel, The First Circle, in Russian.

Mrs. Pašilienė asserted that she saw the above documents for the first time and did not know to whom they belonged. As for the Russian-language text, she said she had borrowed it a long time ago and has forgotten who had lent it to her.

A typewriter (Moskva) with a Lithuanian lettering was discovered in a concealed ditch. Mrs. Pašilienė refused to reveal anything about it.

The following day, the interrogation was continued at the Klaipėda KGB. Mrs. Pašilienė said that she had received the Solzhenytsin book from Kęstutis Jokūbynas who had gone abroad.

On December 21-22, 1977, Mrs. Pašilienė was summoned to Vilnius, where she faced interrogator Lazarevičius. He asked if she knew Viktoras Petkus; she denied it. An expert's testimony revealed that all the documents of the Lithuanian-Latvian-Estonian Committee were typed on the typewriter that was seized from Mrs. Pašilienė.

### Interrogations

On October 18, 1977, Ona Lukauskaitė-Poškienė (res. in Šiauliai, Kleinerio g. No. 32-77) was interrogated by the KGB in Šiauliai, "as a witness in the case of Viktoras Petkus." The interrogation focused on "the establishment of the Lithuanian Public Group to Monitor the Implementation of the Helsinki Agreements, her meetings with the members of the Group, her acquaintanceship with Ginzburg and Orlov (both in Moscow), with Latvians, as well as with Lithuanians B. Gajauskas and J. Volungevičius, and on the clarification of her views."

"She replied that, with the exception of the members of the Lithuanian Helsinki Group, she did not know any of the above individuals, had no contacts with Moscow, and that her activity was limited to the signing of the Group's documents...."

"O. Lukauskaitė-Poškienė asked for the release of V. Petkus, pointing out the lack of logic -- Tomas Venclova (a member of the Lithuanian Helsinki Group. Ed.)



was allowed to go abroad..., where he completed the mission entrusted to him by the Group, while V. Petkus is under arrest for his activity in the same Group. Her interrogation lasted some six hours.

"On October 10, Vilnius KGB interrogated the Rev. K. Garuckas, member of the same Group. The dialogue lasted seven hours.

"Many persons were interrogated in the KGB headquarters in connection with the case of Balys Gajauskas, arrested on April 20, 1977. Among them was Gajauskas' fiancée, Irena Dumbrytė, and his mother, Mrs. Adelė Kilčauskienė. The letter was reproached for having added her signature to a collective protest against the arrest of her son and of V. Petkus. On December 22, 1977, Jadvyga Petkevičienė of Šiauliai was questioned about Gajauskas' links with the Solzhenytsin Fund, her ties with political prisoners. She was asked by what route information on her previous interrogation got into the Chronicle.

#### The Four Youths

"In 1976, the KGB kept terrorizing students of the 8th A.Vienuolis High School in Vilnius for their national and religious views. They assisted at the Mass in St. Michael's Church, consorted with former political prisoners, showed interest in Lithuania's history and culture. Only one of them was allowed to pursue his studies beyond high school.

"In November 1977, four of them -- Vytautas Bogušis, Julius Sasnauskas, Algis Masilionis, and Andrius Tučkus -- were drafted into the army. Before leaving, they appealed to the President of Lithuania, A. Barkauskas, asking him not to send them to Russia, but to allow them to do their military duty in Lithuania. As one might have expected, all four were dispersed to the farthest reaches of the empire. Bogušis was sent to BAM (Railway construction project in the Amour River area. Ed.), Masilionis to Chita, Sasnauskas to Tikhvin (north of Leningrad), Tučkus to Krivoj Rog. There are specific reasons for worry about the fate of these youths.

"Bogušis enraged the KGB by writing an open letter to the Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party in 1976, in which he demanded that the authorities stop the persecution of the four for their national and religious views. Later on ... he met with Russian dissidents in Moscow. Since then he was constantly shadowed by the KGB.....

"Masilionis several times accompanied Viktoras Petkus, former political prisoner and recently member of the Lithuanian Helsinki Group, on his journeys to Estonia and Latvia. On the day Petkus was arrested (August 23, 1977), Masilionis was accompanying him to Raseiniai and was also detained. On the same day, Sasnauskas' apartment was searched. Inside a book with prof. Orlov's autograph, the KGB men found a piece of paper with the drawing of a 'fig' and a dedication to the KGB, ostensibly in Sasnauskas's handwriting. The KGB men pledged never to forgive Sasnauskas for this 'arrogance.' The KGB also suspected that Sasnauskas knew how to type and assisted in the publication of the underground press.

"Tučkus' (father Lithuanian, mother Polish) only fault was his association with Bogušis, Masilionis and Sasnauskas. This alone prevented him from being accepted to the Vilnius University, although he had passed the tests very well. This injustice had a great impact on the young man. "He was searched, interrogated and maltreated by the KGB." Tučkus refused to testify anything about his friends and acquaintances. Barred from the university, he began studying in a technical



school, but was soon expelled, allegedly because his application had been lost. On November 22, he was drafted into the army.

On October 18, 1977, Masilionis and Tučkus were seized by two KGB men and handed over to the militia. They were kept all night long in the militia precinct of the Lenin raion and "repeatedly beaten." On October 20, both were taken to the Tarybų raion precinct, where lieutenant Eugienijus Mačiulaitis beat them again .... "The Party has taken some of the 'dirty work' from the KGB and assigned it to the militia and the army."

"On All-Souls Day 1976, Sasnauskas lit candles in the Rasų cemetery of Vilnius, on the graves of Lithuanian Army volunteers who perished fighting the Poles in 1920. Two days later... he was seized by the militia at his home and taken to the Lenin raion precinct, where he was interrogated in Russian. Sasnauskas refused to converse in Russian. Thereupon, the militia officer struck him in the face and, pointing at another militiaman, delivered this threat: 'This is your Russian language teacher! In several days he'll give you such a background in Russian that nobody'll be able to distinguish whether you're a Lithuanian or a Russian.' The youth was kept there the whole day without food, interrogated every several hours, and cruelly beaten.

"As for Bogušis, the War Commissariat sent him to BAM, where many criminals have been deported to work on construction projects. They frequently murder one another and soldiers, guards. The KGB likes to use the criminals for the destruction of actual or potential dissidents....

"Sasnauskas' state of health gives cause for special worry.... He had meningitis, suffers from curvature of the spine, has poor vision and is flat-footed. His mother appealed to the LSSR Minister of HealthCare and to the War Commissariat, asking that her son be excused from military service. It is not the Lithuanian bureaucrats who determine the fate of the Lithuanian youths.

"... The four youths have already been subjected to an 'educational process' in the army. The 'special section' is paying special attention to them and to Andrius Ažubalis, who is serving in Volgograd. In November 1977 he was expelled from the Vilnius State University, where he was a second-year student specializing in journalism, and was drafted into the army, allegedly for having missed two lectures on military subjects. But the real reason was his earlier acquaintance with Viktoras Petkus.

#### Continuation of the Old Drama

When the tsarist armies put down the Lithuanian-Polish rebellion in 1863, Lukiškiai square in Vilnius served as a hanging place for the rebels, including one of the leaders, Zigmuntas Sierakauskas, and Kostas Kalinauskas.

In 1952, the Lukiškiai square was rebuilt. A massive monument of Lenin took the central place and the square was named after him. The only memento of the 1863 events was a modest memorial plaque to Sierakauskas and Kalinauskas.

May 23, 1977, marked the 150th anniversary since the birth of Sierakauskas. But no government officials came to the square to honor the men "who gave their lives in the struggle against Russian imperialism." It was no accident. "The drama of contemporary history is the continuation of that old drama: Lithuania is oppressed by the same imperialism, the only difference being that its flag features a five-cornered red star, and not a two-headed black eagle."



Official Document "in Helsinki Spirit"

Text of a resolution, issued by the board of the LSSR Ministry of Culture, November 13, 1977 No. 83, Vilnius: "On Strengthening the Political Vigilance and State Discipline of the Workers of Cultural and Art Institutions."

The resolution states that at present, "when the ideological struggle between two social systems is becoming sharper in the entire world," discipline and political vigilance must be bolstered among the culture and art workers.

"The ideological enemies of our country are building up the fight against the socialist system, looking for new forms and methods of struggle, trying to influence the less politically mature segments of our society, seeking to revive the private owners' mentality among us, fomenting nationalist moods, religious customs and other negative phenomena. All that is directed against our socialist way of life, against the political foundations of our country's life. Cultural exchanges are frequently exploited for such purposes. In specific cases, attempts are made through such exchanges to impose qualities that are alien to the socialist way of life. The enemies of our country are making loud noises about the so-called 'violation of human rights', all of those things being channeled to serve the struggle against the socialist countries.

"Under such conditions, any facts of political apathy, lack of dutifulness, violation of discipline are inexcusable. The practice of our life shows the imperative necessity of a stricter application of regulations in the agencies receiving foreigners, to improve the selection of the workers for trips abroad with a view to their moral qualities and political maturity."

The board of the Ministry of Culture instructs the leading city and raion culture and art officials to beef up political vigilance and discipline without, however, "raising suspiciousness or distrust toward the workers."

The Resolution, signed by the Chairman of the Board, J. Bielinis, was issued in 120 copies.

Example of Guarantee of Human Rights

"The young people of Vilnius, gathered in the clubs of Lithuanian Folksong, have been persecuted for many years by the KGB. (Even the Lithuanian folksong is regarded as dangerous for the power and security of the USSR!)

On January 14, 1978, a group of singers of this club travelled to "Gervėčiai Lithuanian island" in the Belorussian SSR, not far from Vilnius, to visit their friends and acquaintances and to organize sing-ins. They were met by the KGB men who were trying to obstruct the get-together. One KGB-man told the visitors that they would be allowed to sing, but "only in Russian." The KGB also forbade the showing of color slides with Lithuanian scenes. Many local people demanded that the guests be allowed to take part in the singing, and the KGB eventually relented.

"This event grafically demonstrates how Lithuanians living in Soviet Belorussia or in Soviet Lithuania itself can enjoy human rights."

Workers on Strike

"Kaunas. In December 1977, workers of the Kaunas Rubber Enterprises, Inkaras, had their wages lowered. (They received only 30-50 rubles each.) It turned out



that the management of the enterprises (with the consent of the trade unions, of course) reduced the percentage of the allowable rejects, inevitable in the production process.

"On December 14, 1977, workers in the footwear shop refused to work in protest (against the reductions). The first shift in this shop remained on strike the entire eight-hour working period. KGB officials, headed by Mackus, promptly arrived on the scene to subdue the strikers. They were accompanied by the former chief of the industrial section of the party committee of Požėla raion in Kaunas. He tried to terrorize the striking workers, but they forced him to leave. The workers of the second shift also refused to work, but they were influenced by a stronger blackmail and by the promise of the management to review the whole question of norms, with a possible restoration of the old ones. And so they resumed work in the middle of their shift.

"The old norms were restored, but interrogations and penalties were instituted. The shift foreman, Grumadienė, and the shop technologist, Skrebulis, were fired. The chief engineer of the enterprises, Valaitis, received a severe reprimand. The dismissal of the party secretary of the enterprises is also planned. Worker Binkis was arrested during the strike, taken to the militia premises, and beaten (despite the fact that his father is a lieutenant colonel of the militia)."

#### What Are Our Demonstrations Worth?

The director of the Vilkaviškis canned goods factory, Pranas Kavaliauskas, wanted to ensure a good turn-out for the May First Demonstration by offering the participants 200 glass jar covers, which are usually in short supply. The number of participants did not increase, despite the offer. The present director, Valentinavičius, is using the same incentives.

#### Hatred for the Red Flag

"During the night of November 7-8, Albertas Zabrauskas (b. 1960, residing in Vilnius, Žirmūnų g-vė 103-118, student of Vilnius Polytechnic) and Konstantinas Zakševskis (b. 1960, residing in Vilnius, Žirmūnų 103-91, student of Vilnius Trade School) tore down in Žirmūnų street 36 flags that were hanged out to honor the October socialist revolution. Both youths were arrested that same night."

#### The Historical Significance of Lithuania

Soviet historians ("with the exception of V. Pashuto, perhaps, among the Russians"), schools and media maintain that the "Lithuanian nation has achieved its greatest gains and victories only together with the great Russian nation, and that the Lithuanian desire to separate themselves from Russia has been and remains a crude error." During the entire period of "Soviet occupation," only two Lithuanian works of fiction were published on the "most majestic period of our history" -- the fight against the Teutonic Knights of the Cross. Many Lithuanian writers have written books on historic subjects, but cannot have them published. Scholarly studies face the same obstacles."

"Should we be then surprised that our young people have a reasonable knowledge of Russia's history and its dukes and tsars, but are acquainted with Lithuania's past only in a perfunctionary manner.



A survey of the main themes of Lithuania's history follows. Lithuania, a small nation, was threatened with mortal danger by the rise of the Livonian and then Teutonic Knights. But in rising to meet the danger, Lithuania became "stronger and more powerful!" Mindaugas and his successors began annexing Belorussian and later Ukrainian lands, threatened by the Tartars. Lithuania compelled almost all the East European nations to fight against the common enemy.

"In vain would one look in Soviet historiography for a fair evaluation of the events of that period. One is told instead that Lithuanians won the bloody struggle against the Teutonic Knights only because it fought shoulder to shoulder with its Slavic neighbors, above all, with the great Russian nation.... Sometimes the latter assertion is made paramount and the significance of Lithuanians is reduced to a minimum.

"For 200 years Lithuania was between the pincers of two orders of Teutonic Knights... and protected, dam-like, the entire East Europe from the Germanic peril ... If Lithuania had succumbed, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia would have been inundated by German colonists -- all the three nations would have experienced the fate of the Prussians.... Their Drang Nach Osten would have continued into Polish and Russian lands... If Russia survived at all, it would have been squeezed into a small territory near the Arctic Ocean."

USSR history textbooks emphasize the battle of Peipus (Chiud) as "one of the decisive battles against the Teutonic Knights" (next to Žalgiris -- Grünwald). In the History of the USSR by M. Nechkina and Pleibengrub (1975) one reads:

"The significance of this victory for the history of Europe is enormous: it stopped the eastward march of the Teutonic Knights of the Cross. The Baltic nations enslaved by the German Knights, especially Lithuanians, found it easier to marshal forces for a new fight against the German feudal lords."

This is a rather "astonishing" statement: "one of the episodic clashes with the Knights of the Sword is elevated to the rank of a leading battle.... And all this to do only because in that battle Russians alone fought against the Knights of the Sword."

"Most interestingly, in the 1974 issue of the same textbook, the battle rates only one and much more modest sentence: 'The victory of the Russian nation, under the leadership of Aleksander Nevsky, saved northwestern Rus' from enslavement by German and Swedish feudal lords! We should not be surprised if several years later this rather insignificant medieval battle would acquire... global dimensions.' If measured by the number of Teutonic Knights killed, the battle of Peipus occupies only the eleventh place (R. Batūra, "Battles Against Knights of the Cross," Mokslas ir Gyvenimas, No. 4, 1976). Only 20 knights were killed in the battle. Meanwhile, more than 50 knights perished in the battle of Saulė in 1236, or Puobė (1260) with 150 casualties, etc.

"The singling out of the battle of Peipus lake is a mark of Russian nationalism." Equally dubious are Russian claims that the Russian Smolensk regiment decided the victory against the Teutonic Knights in 1410."

And what about the claim that "the struggle of Rus' against Batyi's bands.... saved Western Europe from the yoke of the Mongol and Tatar khans." Actually, during the first two hundred years many Russian princes joined the Tatars in their attacks against the West. "It was the Hungarians, Poles and Lithuanians who stopped the Tatar march to West Europe." In 1362 Algirdas' armies crushed the Tatars at the Blue Waters.



"Let us be proud of our history, let us be proud that we are Lithuanians."  
(J. Medvėgalis, pseud.)

### The Empire of Fear

When leading Party or Government members drive by in their Chaikas, militia stops all traffic in Moscow and does not allow the people to cross the street. These Chaikas do not stop if someone should run into the street. These are the individuals "elected" and "fervently beloved" by the people. In contrast, many leaders of Western countries are readily accessible and unassuming. American presidents, despite the attempts against their lives, like to shake hands with average Americans. Bruno Kreisky of Austria and Pierre Trudeau of Canada mingle with their people.

What is the reason for this contrast? "Fear, grim animal fear compels the Soviet leaders to cower in the back seat, between two beefy bodyguards.... Another reason is the lack of mutual trust between the people and the leaders.

The boundaries of the Soviet Union, both with their enemies and friends, are guarded with "abnormal thoroughness." The reason for this is "distrust not as much of foreigners as of one's own citizens... and a panic fear of change. When the Polish workers staged demonstrations in Gdansk, in protest against Gomulka's attempt to raise the prices of food items, the events immediately found an echo in Lithuania. In the Vilkaviškis, Kapsukas and Lazdijai raions, which have a common border with Poland, the border zones were enlarged.... Barricades appeared and border guards began checking documents and special permits. Many people could not visit their relatives in this new border zone..."

"... The fighters for human rights... also fight against the all-pervasive fear -- the fear which has helped the party to rule the people as an obedient herd.... This human rights movement shall be victorious!..."

A. Žuvintas (pseud.)

### Balys Gajauskas -- On the Altar of Freedom

The arrest of Balys Gajauskas is another "sacrifice in the fight for freedom." Ever his mother's diary was confiscated as a "particularly dangerous material." "I had the opportunity to read some of it... Each sentence is blood-stained with a mother's tears. She describes her son's first arrest, house searches, visits to prison, hopes and disappointments... misery, starvation, waiting, letters, sleepless nights, when the son with other political prisoners joins hunger strikes for the rights of prisoners, when the son is put into a solitary cell to suffer hunger and freezing cold... day and night.

"The mother gave up everything, each tastier morsel, each warmer piece of clothing was for her son. And the waiting, endless waiting...

"Gajauskas' mother is more than seventy years old. This new arrest of her son almost robbed her of her life; her poor health has been completely undermined...."

February 4, 1978

Vytis (pseud.)



### Unity and Openness !

Jonas Kastytis Matulionis is no more in prison, but the KGB goes on "shadowing" and persecuting him. "He suffered ten months in KGB cellars before his trial." Following the trial, the Party organ Tiesa put an "exaggerated emphasis on his repentance." This is one of the KGB methods to "set his own people against him." It is an attempt to create an "artificial climate of pressure" against a "martyred" individual. At the KGB's orders, he was dismissed on December 1, 1977, from his job in the Vilnius University Scientific Library. Now, he works as a sexton at the St. Anne's Church.

"... Our duty is not to reproach or distrust people who have returned from the KGB's hands, but to sympathize with them and to support them, especially morally... Anybody who is being interrogated, threatened or terrorized... by the KGB, should not conceal it... They could have picked us up one by one a long time ago, but only through common efforts and sacrifices can we withstand it and survive. Therefore KGB actions... must be reported as soon as possible to one's friends, relatives and to the underground press. If the KGB men keep offering their services or ceaselessly demand assistance, one should write open statements, complaints to the government that the KGB is obstructing one's normal work....

"... Finally, these KGB agents and Party members -- aren't they also members of our nation? We must do everything to awaken their national conscience, consciousness, honor, and responsibility for the future of their nation. On this occasion, they should be told the following:

"Brothers, Lithuanians -- interrogators, KGB men, judges, party workers, office managers, pedagogues and militiamen -- all of you who hold some power in your hands, remember that one day you will have to answer for your deeds... Give whatever help you can to those who get into your hands. Your help, even the smallest favor, may bring much benefit to the nation and may save you from ruin or condemnation... on the day when oppression will cease in our land."

T. Gluosnis (pseud.)

### The Significance of the Theoretical Foundations of Propaganda

First part of a study of totalitarian propaganda, based on scientific principles, mainly as it is used in the Soviet Union. Some examples of the application of this propaganda in Lithuania:

\* Conjuring the feelings of danger and fear (of "nationalism," "zionism," "clericalism").

\* "Personal humiliation of the enemy, disdain for his dignity, ridicule.... The main weapon of anti-religious propaganda is not the theoretical critique of religion, but the personal contempt and slander of clergymen, caricaturing and ridicule of cult rituals."

\* "Brain-washing."



...and the day when oppression will cease in our land."

Remember that one day you will have to answer for yourselves. Give whatever help you can to those who are in your hands. Your help, even the smallest favor, may bring much benefit to the nation and may save your fellow citizens from condemnation.

Brothers, Lithuanians -- interrogators, KGB men, judges, party workers, officials, managers, pedagogues and militiamen -- all of you who hold some power in your hands, think that you are also doing them a favor. A favor which is almost always a trap.

of our nation. We must do everything to awaken their national consciousness, connections, hopes, and responsibility for the future of their nation. On this occasion, they should be told the following: ...depression over their nation and, finally, to these KGB agents and party members, and further also members of our nation. We must do everything to awaken their national consciousness, connections, hopes, and responsibility for the future of their nation. On this occasion, they should be told the following: ...depression over their nation and, finally, to these KGB agents and party members, and further also members of our nation.

...and the day when oppression will cease in our land."

...and the day when oppression will cease in our land."

T. Dinevicius (pseud.)

Moderns to rule the world -- a new world order

The significance of the theoretical foundations of propaganda

First part of a study of totalitarian propaganda, based on scientific principles, mainly as it is used in the Soviet Union. Some examples of the application of this propaganda in Lithuania.

...and the day when oppression will cease in our land."

Personal humiliation of the enemy, degradation of his dignity, ridicule of his religion, but the personal contempt and abuse of clergyman, caricaturing and ridicule of cult rituals.

"Brain-washing"

...and the day when oppression will cease in our land."