

BALTIC PEOPLE EXPECT LIBERATION BIRUTA RAMOSKA TO APPEAR AT THE CHATAUQUA MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Baltic States since their liberation in the fall of 1944 have been subjected to the alien Soviet regime illegally imposed on them in 1940. This anomaly has to be stopped. In harmony with the promises of the Crimea conference, announced on Feb. 12, 1945, a commission of the United Nations with an effective participation of the United States and Great Britain should be set up immediately in the Baltic States, which are now liberated from the Nazi German occupation. This United Nations Commission should assure freedom of assembly, speech and press, and guarantee free elections of governments without pressure from outside.

The Soviet occupation organs should be urged immediately to stop persecutions, executions, political trials, imprisonments and deportations. No puppet governments and staged elections can be invoked to thwart the free exercise of the peoples' rights to choose their own representative governments and constitutional institutions. The present set-up in the Baltic in the form of the reestablished illegal puppet governments of 1940 is a mockery of justice, international law, morals and human rights.

The Baltic States deserve all consideration: they cannot be blamed for this war. They were most cooperative with Soviet Russia when accepting the mutual assistance treaties of 1939, which were then presented as a contribution to the measures of strengthening peace, and were meant only for the duration of the war. Their Underground Central Councils acclaimed the Atlantic Charter, supported the Declaration by United Nations, they struggled as best they could against Nazi tyranny. Numerous Balts fight in the ranks of the Allies. The representatives of the Baltic peoples immediately in response to the invitation expressed in the Declaration by United Nations demonstrated this readiness to join the United Nations and to sacrifice everything for victory.

Now, when Germany, the primary aggressor, is defeated — and mostly thanks to the efforts of the great Democracies and also by the Soviet Russian armies supplied so magnificently by the great Democracies — there is absolutely no ground to perpetuate a situation in the Baltic, which might only upset the security equilibrium in Northern Europe. The Baltic Nations will never agree, however, although terrorized and silenced today by Soviet Russia, to any decision which might be taken against their fundamental right by any single power or any international conference.

The Prussian King Frederick II ordered to be engraved on his guns the Latin sentence: *ULTIMA RATIO REGIS*, which means — the gun is the last argument of the king. Hitlerite Germany acted in this spirit when the Germans defied its international obligation, defied the League of Nations and proclaimed its might to be right.

The Baltic peoples are glad that this spirit will be now erased for ever and that, instead of might, international law, justice and morals will govern international relations.

The Baltic peoples strongly believe that the Declaration of

the Crimean Conference (Feb. 12, 1945), made by the late President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin, will be justified. They promised:

"we reaffirm our faith in the principles of the Atlantic Charter, our pledge in the Declaration by the United Nations, and our determination to build in cooperation with other peace loving nations world order under law, dedicated to peace, security, freedom and general well-being of all mankind." And further

"The establishment of order in Europe and the rebuilding of national economic life must be achieved by processes which will enable the liberated peoples to destroy the last vestige of Nazism and Fascism and to create democratic institutions of their own choice. This is a principle of the Atlantic Charter — the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live — the restoration of sovereign rights deprived of them by the aggressor nations."

On July 23, 1940, the United States Government solemnly condemned the devious processes and predatory activities by which a neighbor nation (the Baltic States), which from July 1, 1941, suffered under the most oppressive German Nazi occupation and were liberated in the fall of 1944 thanks to the common efforts of the Allied armies, and should not be considered a prey of Soviet Russia, whose armies, and Bolshevik administration still continue to function in the Baltic.

The Baltic people firmly believe that justice will be done to them and that they will regain their sovereignty and democratic self-government.

(Reprinted from the Latvian Information Bulletin).

Ben Grinces captured 16 nazi soldiers

The tale Ben Grinces of Amsterdam, N. Y. is most likely to tell when he arrives back home is this one:

When the armored column of the 14th Armored Divisions 68th Armored Infantry Battalion had conquered a German town, Grinces, who is an MP, set out in search of some potatoes.

He found the potatoes, but he also found 16 Nazi soldiers asleep on the pile of potatoes. Grinces was unarmed

PEACE

I turned the page of a book
The words looked black and still —
I read a paragraph or two
With listless will.

"The League of Nations was a plan..."
The words had lost their meaning —
I leaned back in my chair,
My head with memories teeming.

I felt a warm, gentle caress —
A kiss brushing my cheek —
But when I opened up my eyes
The room was empty, bleak...

Then I remembered —
And the book I held became
A telegram instead,
As once again I read the words:
"Was killed in action... dead."

I closed the pages of my book
Until another day —
I could not study about peace —
Peace was too far away.

Nele Lape



Biruta Ramoska

Biruta Ramoska, soprano, has appeared successfully in numerous recitals and as soloist with the Montreal Philharmonic (Canadian Tour), the Rochester Civic Orchestra and the Kansas City Philharmonic. During the summer she will be featured with the Buffalo Philharmonic and has been invited to appear in opera at the Chatauqua Musical Festival. Already for next season she booked for thirty six recitals in cities throughout the country as well as appearances with leading symphonies and in opera. Needless to say the "Met" is eyeing her progress.

Miss Ramoska first came to the attention of the New York critics when she made her recital debut in November of 1943 at which time she was unanimously acclaimed and enthusiastic predictions were made for her future.

and all of the enemy had weapons.

Unwilling to return without any food, Grinces, who is six feet tall and weighs 220 pounds, placed his hands on his hips and shouted at the top of his voice.

Rudely awakened, the Germans jumped to their feet with their hands in the air. Grinces then escorted them to a PW cage.

He is the son of Adam and Mary Grinces of Amsterdam, readers of Vienybe. His wife and five months-old daughter reside in that city. Prior to induction in April, 1942, Ben worked for his father at the Happy Grill.

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