



LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY IN MELBOURNE

P.O. Box 128 Nth. Melb. 3051

Melbourne, 26.12.89

Mr. François Mitterand
President of France
Paris

Sir,

On behalf of the Lithuanian Community in Melbourne and also in response to an urgent call from the Lithuanian Popular Front Sajudis, I would like to express my gratitude for your support of the independent Baltic States.

The Baltic nations which have been condemned to annihilation by Moscow's imperialist dictators could now free themselves if assisted by the West. The Soviet president knows that the 1939 Nazi-Soviet pact, which led to the incorporation of the three Baltic republics into the Soviet Union, was illegal. The Soviet Congress of People's Deputies decided so. We are aware that Mr. M. Gorbachev could probably not proclaim the liberation of the Baltic States even if he so wished (which we doubt!), but full economic autonomy with their own currency and the separation of the Baltic region from the rest of the Soviet Union by border controls would be possible and even beneficial for Mr. Gorbachev himself. This would be the first concrete step towards total independence for the Baltic States.

I ask you also to intercede before the Soviet Government asking Mr. M. Gorbachev to abstain from any sanctions against the Republic of Lithuania for its decision to introduce the multi-party system and for declaring the Lithuanian Communist party independent from its equivalent in the Soviet Union. Both the above named measures do not harm the USSR in any way. It is only a natural democratization process.

The Soviet Union would listen your voice because it desperately needs economic and technological assistance and Western Europe's friendship.

Free and prosperous Baltic neighbours would be of more benefit to Russia than the poor slaves they are today.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. John Kunca—President of the Lithuanian Community
in Melbourne, Australia

Lietuvos valstybės naujasis archyvas
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