



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 21, 1989

Dr. John Kunca
President of the Lithuanian Community
in Melbourne
112 High Street,
Doncaster 3108
Australia

Dear Dr. Kunca:

The Secretary has asked me to reply to your letter drawing his attention to the situation in the Baltic States.

The United States does not recognize the forcible incorporation of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania into the USSR. Our policy in this matter is firm and unequivocal. We share your view that economic autonomy for the Baltic States would be of great benefit and could well be the first concrete step on the road back to independence.

The Secretary discussed the Baltic States with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze during their Wyoming meetings. The Soviet side understands that any use of force to resolve Baltic matters would have serious repercussions for the entire bilateral relationship. Foreign Minister Shevardnadze said the Soviets do not plan to use force to resolve these issues.

Thank you for your interest and support for our Baltic policy.

Sincerely yours,

James W. Swihart

James W. Swihart
Director
Office of Eastern European
and Yugoslav Affairs

Lietuvos valstybės naujasis archyvas
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