



SENATOR THE HON. GARETH EVANS Q.C.

MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

12 APR 1990.

Mrs J Fraser  
President  
Australian Lithuanian Community  
1A Honiton Avenue  
CARLINGFORD NSW 2118

Dear Mrs Fraser

Thank you for your letter dated 8 March concerning an imminent Lithuanian declaration of independence.

Since then, of course, the Lithuanian Parliament has proclaimed the restoration of the sovereign rights of the Lithuanian state.

The Australian Government was one of the first Western Governments to acknowledge the 11 March resolution of the freely elected parliament of Lithuania. Please see the attached copy of my statement of 12 March urging the Soviet Government to recognise and respect the Lithuanian declaration. In a recent letter addressed to the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Landsbergis conveyed the appreciation of the people and Government of Lithuania for this prompt expression of support.

The Australian Government has been watching with some concern the escalation in tension between the USSR and Lithuania. In response to recent actions of the Soviet authorities I issued a second statement on 28 March, calling on them to refrain from actions inimical to the peaceful resolution of the present crisis, and expressing the hope that both sides would enter into a constructive dialogue leading to full and viable independence for Lithuania. A copy of this statement is also attached.

Yours sincerely

GARETH EVANS

Lietuvos valstybės naujasis archyvas  
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