

League for the Liberation of LITHUANIA

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MAR 13 1944

Dear Mr. Karpin:

This is to acknowledge receipt of a copy of a resolution adopted in New York on February 6, 1944, at the National Convention of Americans of Lithuanian Descent.

The President, in his Executive Order of January 22, 1944, creating the War Refugee Board, has declared it to be the policy of this Government to take all measures within its power to rescue the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death, and otherwise to afford such victims all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war. The purpose for which this Board was established is to effectuate with all possible speed the rescue and relief of such victims of enemy oppression.

I assure you that every effort will be made to achieve these objectives.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle  
J. W. Pehle  
Acting Executive Director

Mr. K. S. Karpin,  
League for the Liberation  
of Lithuania,  
6820 Superior Avenue,  
Cleveland 3, Ohio.

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RESOLUTION

ADOPTED AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF AMERICANS OF LITHUANIAN  
DESCENT HELD AT THE PENNSYLVANIA HOTEL, NEW YORK, FEB. 5th and 6th, 1944.

Whereas, Russia invaded and occupied Lithuania in June, 1940, and Germany invaded and occupied Lithuania in June 1941, and both invasions and occupations were without justifiable cause and in violation of International Law and of the Treaties and covenants freely concluded and executed by Russia and Germany on the one side and Lithuania on the other; and

Whereas, by the Peace Treaty of July 12, 1920, between Lithuania and Soviet Russia, the latter recognized a free and independent Lithuania, within its ethnographic boundaries and each renounced for all time any and all rights over the people or the territory of the other; and by the Non-aggression Pact of September 28, 1926, both countries agreed and promised to respect, under all circumstances, the sovereignty and territorial integrity and inviolability of each other; and

Whereas, by the Boundary Treaty of January 29, 1928, between Lithuania and Germany, the latter voluntarily confirmed and recognized the boundaries between her and Lithuania, as fixed by the Versailles Treaty and acknowledged the Klaipeda (Memel) Territory to be an integral part of Lithuania, and

Whereas, Lithuania has demonstrated that she is worthy of being a free and independent state, and has demonstrated peaceful respect for International Law and a scrupulous discharge of her obligations and therefore deserves to become an independent member of the family of nations, and

Whereas, The Atlantic Charter and the Declaration of the United Nations, provide that sovereign rights and self government shall be restored to those nations forcibly deprived of the same, and the principles of the Atlantic Charter are applicable to Lithuania, whose people are so valiantly fighting against their and our common enemy, the Nazis and the Axis satellites,

Therefore, upon motion duly made and seconded, The National Convention of Americans of Lithuanian Descent, assembled at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York on February 5th and 6th, 1944, has unanimously RESOLVED:

1. To condemn the German invasion and occupation of Lithuania, and the Nazi brutalities, plundering and spoilation committed by them in Lithuania.
2. To protest against the so-called Molotov plan for "partial autonomy" and against other Russian attempts to usurp the rights of sovereign Lithuania contrary to International Law, the Atlantic Charter, the Treaties between Lithuania and Russia and the Moscow and Teheran Declarations.
3. To urge the restoration of the Independence of the Republic of Lithuania with Vilna as its capital city.
4. To state that the Republic of Lithuania has always and does still demonstrate its desire to maintain friendly and peaceful relations with Russia, and to abide by the treaties now existing between Russia and Lithuania.

5. To urge the President of the United States and the Department of State to adhere to and defend vigorously the policies and principles set forth in the Statement of the Department of State on July 23, 1940, which condemned the deliberate aggressions committed against the Baltic States.

6. To urge the President of the United States and the Department of State and the Senate of the United States to adhere to the principles of the Atlantic Charter and the Joint Declaration of the United Nations to the end that sovereign rights and self government be restored to the Republic of Lithuania and its people, when the Nazis are driven from its territory.

7. To urge that the Republic of Lithuania be permitted to be included as a member of the United Nations, in order that the people of Lithuania stand on common ground with other occupied nations in the fight against our common enemy.

8. To urge the War Refugee Board and the American Red Cross to furnish aid and assistance to the helpless people of Lithuania who have been exiled from their homes and who have suffered by the exigencies of War.

Resolved that copies of this Resolution be mailed by registered mail to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Senate of the United States, the United States Ambassador to Great Britain, the American Red Cross, and the War Refugee Board.

Done at New York, this 6th day of February, 1944.

Certificate

This is to certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at the National Convention of Americans of Lithuanian Descent held in New York, N.Y., on February 5th and 6th, 1944.



Secretary of the Convention.