

fully apply their influence and contribute to assure:

1) that the Soviet Union end all threats as well as its policy of applying political and economic pressures, and begin, without delay, inter-state negotiations with Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the realization of their independence;

2) the withdrawal of the U.S.S.R. Army from the territories of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania within the shortest possible time period, and until such time, its compliance not to interfere in the affairs of the Baltic states;

3) free, direct relations between Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania and the world, primarily with Western countries;

4) the participation of third nations as mediators in inter-state negotiations between Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and the Soviet Union;

5) the inclusion, without delay, of the issue of the Baltic states, as one threatening constant conflict, in the deliberations of all the executive bodies of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Appeal to the Fourth U.S.S.R. Congress of People's Deputies

We, the deputies of the Supreme Councils of the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia, and the Republic of Lithu-

Landsbergis deplors Western indifference

While visiting London the week of Nov. 13, Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis confronted British journalists with the disparity in Western policies toward the Iraq-Kuwait crisis on the one hand, and the Baltic situation on the other. As he told them, there has been no willingness on the part of Western governments to pressure Moscow to grant independence to the three Baltic nations, illegally occupied by Stalin's Red Army five decades ago.

"The difference is that the Soviet Union is much bigger than Iraq and we have no oil fields," Landsbergis told the Nov. 13 *Times* of London. When journalists said the comparison between the two situations seemed far-fetched, the Lithuanian leader replied that the only difference was that a half-century had passed in the case of the Baltic nations, whereas Kuwait was taken over only three months ago.

British duplicity was underscored by a report in the Nov. 13 *Times*, that British Foreign Office senior official William Waldegrave sent a letter to the Baltic Council (the umbrella organization representing Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia) in October, to inform the council that Britain would *not* support the three states in their efforts to achieve observer status at the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) summit meeting in Paris later that month.

A Lithuanian-emigré associate of Landsbergis told *EIR* on Nov. 27 about reports that a deal had been clinched in November, between the United States and the Soviet regime of Mikhail Gorbachov, whereby the U.S. assured Moscow it would do nothing to hinder Moscow's freedom of action "as far as the Baltic states were concerned," in

exchange for a modification of the Soviet position on the Gulf, to be more accommodating to the Bush administration drive for military action. The arrangement, presumably established during U.S. Secretary of State James Baker III's trip to Moscow earlier in November, would have been reinforced during the CSCE summit. One concrete sign that a "deal has been struck," he claimed, was a recent U.S. Senate decision to stop \$10 million in humanitarian aid to Lithuania.

Soon after the Baker visit, the emigré source noted, Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov began to noticeably harden Moscow's position in negotiations with a Lithuanian government delegation, which then broke down. According to reports, Ryzhkov threatened to impose a blockade on Lithuania far more damaging than that enforced by Moscow earlier this year, if Lithuania refused to comply with laws passed by Moscow.

On Nov. 16, Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene announced that Lithuania would be halting all negotiations with the Soviet government because of Ryzhkov's "intransigence." She said that if Lithuania suffered another blockade, it would take far more resolute action than last time, according to a report by the news agency Interfax.

Landsbergis arrived in Washington, D.C. Dec. 7 on an emergency visit, but President Bush rejected his plea for help. According to the Dec. 11 *Washington Post*, Landsbergis "appealed to President Bush for strong public support of his republic's effort to gain independence from the Soviet Union. In return, he got a low-key restatement of longstanding U.S. policy that calls for self-determination for the Baltic states."

After his meeting with Bush, Landsbergis said his republic was being threatened by the Soviets with "economic catastrophe," and said he is seeking "some sort of political protection from the United States," and "some very clear statements in response to Soviet pretensions that they have a sovereign right over Lithuania."