

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

2003-04

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on
Colleges &
Universities
(AC-CU)

(Form Updated: 11/20/2008)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

➤ Committee Reports ... CR
**

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES
**

➤ Public Hearings ... PH
**

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP
**

**INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE
FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL ...**

➤ Appointments ... Appt
**

Name:

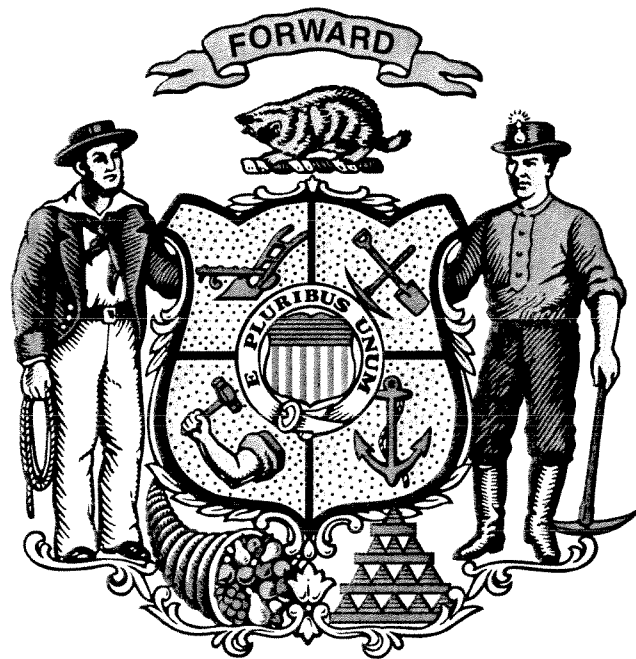
➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule
**

➤ Hearing Records ... HR (bills and resolutions)
**

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

****03hr_AC-CU_Misc_pt04a**

Latvia



Ladwig, Chris

From: Paulis Lazda [lazdapi@uwec.edu]
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2002 4:14 PM
To: Rep. Kreibich
Subject: date confirmation

copy Krivins
414 352 - 5583
sent 24 easels

Dear Rob,

Pursuant to our conversation with your staff in June regarding the exhibit "Latvia Returns to the Free World, we have now set the date and time "in stone." The opening will be on Saturday, September 7 at 10 o'clock. We would very much appreciate it if you could attend and say a few words.

*Part of opening ceremony
Like to speak
- initiator - solution
entity in NATO
spirit - desire of independence*

The exhibit has been to 15 European capitals and to Washington, D.C. and recently had a very successful stay in the state capital in St. Paul.

The exhibit is part of an on-going effort to persuade the US government to favor the inclusion of Latvia in NATO. It is sponsored by the American Latvian Association and by the United American-Latvian Organizations in Wisconsin. We expect 200 to 300 people in attendance.

We would appreciate your advice on how to approach your colleagues in order to encourage as many of them as possible attend. What is your feeling about the governor? We would be honored if he would attend.

Gov. Be there?

Best regards,

- in MADISON

*Easels - 1 week
24*

Paulis Lazda
Professor of History
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Author and Director of the Exhibit
FAX 1 715 836 35 40, tel. 715 834 1874
lazdapi@uwec.edu

--



Eriks Krūmiņš, ALA/SAL-PBLA

715 E. Juniper Lane, Fox Point, WI 53217-3635 U.S.A.
 Tel. (414) 352-5583, Fax (414) 352-5039
 E-mail: krumins@execpc.com

~~From~~ / To: REPR. ROBIN G. KREIBICH - 93RD DIST. ASSEMBLY

~~Returns~~ / Date: 8/11/2002 Lapp. / Pages: _____

Ref. / Subject: MADISON EXHIBIT / SUPPORT RESOLUTION

DEAR MR. KREIBICH:

AS PER TELEPHONE DIRECTIONS FROM
 PROF. PAULIS LAZDA (UNIV. OF WISCONSIN -
 EAU CLAIRE), I AM SENDING YOU THE
 FOLLOWING (BY "FAX"):

1) EXHIBIT ANNOUNCEMENT

(STATE CAPITOL - 9/7/02 TO 9/14/02)

2) PROPOSED "SUPPORT RESOLUTION"

(I HAVE REVISED THE ADOPTED
 "BEAWARE RESOLUTION" - ADDING ONE
 "WHEREAS" PARAGRAPH & CHANGING
 THE "RESOLVED" SECTION. - PLEASE
 REVIEW THE WORDING ON WISCONSIN
 ASSEMBLY, WI. SENATE TO MAKE SURE
 IT CONFORMS TO THE REGULAR FORM

① OF ③



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~~Kom~~ / To: REPR. KRETBACH - STATE ASSEMBLY

Datums / Date: 8/11/02 Lapp. / Pages: _____

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FOR "CONCURRENT" RESOLUTIONS - ASSEMBLY &
STATE SENATE. I HAVE ALSO ATTACHED
"SAMPLES" FROM DELAWARE & U.S. COUNCIL
OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR AGREEING TO
BE THE CHIEF SPONSOR OF THIS "SUPPORT
RESOLUTION" IN THE ASSEMBLY. YOU WILL
NEED TO FIND A CHIEF SPONSOR ALSO IN
THE STATE SENATE - PERHAPS ALBERTA
DARLING, STATE SENATOR, 8TH DISTRICT COULD
HELP. I UNDERSTAND SHE HAS A LITHUANIAN
BACKGROUND. - ONCE THE RESOLUTION IS
INTRODUCED, PLEASE LET US KNOW THE CORRECT
NUMBER OF THE RESOLUTION. WE WILL ASK OUR

② OF ③



Ēriks Krūmiņš, ALA / SAL - PBLA

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FRIENDS TO URGE THEIR REPRESENTATIVES /
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PLEASE CALL IF YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL
QUESTIONS (SEE MY NUMBERS / E-MAIL ABOVE.)

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WILL RETURN AUGUST 31. / HE WILL BE
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HOPe YOU WILL BE THERE TO SAY A
FEW WORDS! SINCERELY, *Erīks*

cc: PAULIS LAZDA (3) OF (3)

Krumins

P.S. WE HAVE ALREADY ARRANGED FOR THE TRIP TO THE EXHIBIT.

LATVIA RETURNS TO THE FREE WORLD: FROM OCCUPATION TO FREEDOM

An exhibit created by the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia. Previously shown in the capitals of Europe, Washington D.C. (Russell Rotunda, Senate Office Bldg.), Chicago (Daley Center) and other major cities.

Where: Wisconsin's State Capitol, Capitol Rotunda, Capitol Square, Madison, Wisconsin.

When: Saturday, September 7, 2002 – Saturday, September 14, 2002.

Official Opening: Saturday, September 7, 2002 at 12:00 noon.

(The opening will be attended by the original Founder of the Museum – Prof. Dr. Paulis Lazda, History Department, University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire)

Sponsors:

- American Latvian Association, Inc.,
- United American Latvian Organizations of Wisconsin

PROPOSED
ERL - 8/11/02

State of Wisconsin

A Concurrent Resolution supporting the admission of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are free, democratic and independent nations with a long and proud history; and

WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania struggled long and hard to overthrow the yoke of oppression visited upon them by the former Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is dedicated to the preservation of freedom and security for its member nations; and

WHEREAS, since 1994, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have been active members of NATO's Partnership for Peace program of cooperation between NATO and individual Partner countries and are contributing to NATO's peace operations in the Balkans and currently also in Central Asia, and are developing their defense through close coordination with NATO through the Membership Action Program; and

WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania desire to share in both the benefits and obligations of NATO in pursuing the development, growth and promotion of democratic institutions and ensuring free market economic development; and

WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania recognize their responsibilities as democratic nations and are exercising such responsibilities in concert with members of NATO, example being their declaration along with full NATO members of solidarity and support for the United States in the common fight against terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and the United States, as well as members of NATO, and other qualified NATO candidate countries find that their security is indivisible from the stability of Central Europe and the Baltic Sea Region; and

WHEREAS, The Council of the State Governments of the United States passed a Resolution in April 2002 endorsing the enlargement of NATO to include Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and other qualified candidate nations who share the values fundamental to NATO.

PROPOSED

EA - 8/11/02

State of Wisconsin (cont'd.)

NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STATE ASSEMBLY, THE SENATE CONCURRING therein, that the Wisconsin General Assembly urges President George W. Bush and the members of the Wisconsin's Congressional Delegation to support and promote the admission of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and other qualified candidate nations into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent by the Chief Clerk of the Wisconsin State Assembly to the President of the United States; the President of the Senate of the United States; the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate of the United States; the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives of the United States; and members of Wisconsin's Congressional Delegation.



DELAWARE
(SAMPLE)

SPONSOR: Rep. Keeley & Sen. Marshall
Reps. Boulden, Buckworth, Carey,
Caulk, DiLiberto, DiPinto, Ewing,
Lee, Lofink, Mulrooney, Plant, Price,
Quillen, Reynolds, Spence, Stone,
Thornburg, Valihura, Van Sant, Viola,
Wagner; Sens. Adams, Bonini,
Bunting, Cook, Henry, McDowell,
Simpson, Sokola, Vaughn, Venables,
Winslow

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

141st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

MEMORIALIZING PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH AND THE MEMBERS OF DELAWARE'S
CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE ADMISSION OF ESTONIA, LATVIA AND
LITHUANIA TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION.

1 WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are free, democratic and independent nations with a
2 long and proud history; and

3 WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania struggled long and hard to overthrow the yoke of
4 oppression visited upon them by the former Soviet Union; and

5 WHEREAS, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is dedicated to the preservation of freedom
6 and security for its member nations; and

7 WHEREAS, since 1994, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have been active members of NATO's
8 Partnership for Peace program of cooperation between NATO and individual Partner countries and
9 are contributing to NATO's peace operations in the Balkans and currently also in Central Asia, and
10 are developing their defense through close coordination with NATO through the Membership Action
11 Program; and

DELAWARE (SAMPLE - CONT'D)

12 WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania desire to share in both the benefits and obligations of
13 NATO in pursuing the development, growth and promotion of democratic institutions and ensuring
14 free market economic development; and

15 WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania recognize their responsibilities as democratic nations
16 and are exercising such responsibilities in concert with members of NATO, example being their
17 declaration along with full NATO members of solidarity and support for the United States in the
18 common fight against terrorism; and

19 WHEREAS, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and the United States, as well as members of NATO,
20 and other qualified NATO candidate countries find that their security is indivisible from the stability
21 of Central Europe and the Baltic Sea Region.

22 NOW THEREFORE:

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 141st General Assembly of the State
24 of Delaware, the Senate thereof concurring therein, that we hereby memorialize President George W.
25 Bush and the members of the Delaware congressional delegation to support and promote the
26 admission of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and other qualified candidate countries into the North
27 Atlantic Treaty Organization.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon passage, suitable copies of this Resolution be forwarded
29 to President George W. Bush, Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Senator Thomas R. Carper,
30 Representative Michael N. Castle and the Embassies of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in Washington,
31 D.C.

SYNOPSIS

This resolution, recognizing that Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are free, democratic and independent nations, requests Presidential and Congressional support to promote the admission of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and other qualified candidate countries into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

krumins

From: "NEDB" <NEDB@Latvia-USA.org>
To: <nedb@yahogroups.com>; <nato@topica.com>; <nato1-post-nedb@topica.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2002 3:05 PM
Subject: NEDB: Tue, 21 May 02
 NATO ENLARGEMENT DAILY BRIEF (NEDB)
 Tuesday, 21 May 2002, 15:06 EDT

-
- * POWER AND WEAKNESS - Policy Review / Robert Kagan
 - * AMERICA'S TRUSTY PARTNER - FT/ Javier Solana, EU's high representative for the common foreign and security policy
 - * EUROPEAN SECURITY ILLUSIONS - Neue Zurcher Zeitung (Switzerland)
 - * FOR NATO, LITTLE IS SURE NOW BUT GROWTH - NYT/ Steven Erlanger
 - * ~~U.S. COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS ENDORSES NATO ENLARGEMENT~~
 - * KYRGYZSTAN REFUSES ENTRY TO BALTIC PEACEKEEPERS, TROOPS READY FOR MISSION
 - * GEORGIA KEEN TO SEND DEFENSE OFFICIAL TO ESTONIA FOR PRACTICAL TRAINING
 - * SLOVAK EX-PREMIER'S PARTY CONTINUES TO LOBBY IN USA
 - * RUSSIA WILL UNLIKELY PREVENT NATO ENLARGEMENT - FOREIGN MINISTER
 - * RUSSIA TO ASK FOR BROADER ROLE IN NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
 - * UKRAINE-NATO POLITICAL RELATIONS OUTPACED BY PRACTICAL COOPERATION
 - * NATO NATO BEGINS LAND-SEA WARFARE MANEUVERS IN SPAIN
 - * BUSH TO OUTLINE PLANS FOR U.S.-EUROPE TIES - WSJ/ Jeanne Cummings and William Boston

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Send your contributions & comments to NEDB@Latvia-USA.org

POWER AND WEAKNESS

Policy Review, Jun-Jul 2002, by Robert Kagan

<http://www.policyreview.org/JUN02/kagan.html>

It is time to stop pretending that Europeans and Americans share a common view of the world, or even that they occupy the same world. On the all-important question of power — the efficacy of power, the morality of power, the desirability of power — American and European perspectives are diverging. Europe is turning away from power, or to put it a little differently, it is moving beyond power into a self-contained world of laws and rules and transnational negotiation and cooperation. It is entering a post-historical paradise of peace and relative prosperity, the realization of Kant's "Perpetual Peace." The United States, meanwhile, remains mired in history, exercising power in the anarchic Hobbesian world where international laws and rules are unreliable and where true security and the defense and promotion of a liberal order still depend on the possession and use of military might. That is why on major strategic and international questions today, Americans are from Mars and Europeans are from Venus: They agree on little and understand one another less and less. And this state of affairs is not transitory — the product of one American election or one catastrophic event. The reasons for the transatlantic divide are deep, long in development, and likely to endure. When it comes to setting national priorities, determining threats, defining challenges, and fashioning and implementing foreign and defense policies, the United States and Europe have parted ways.

Read full text @: <http://www.policyreview.org/JUN02/kagan.html>

AMERICA'S TRUSTY PARTNER

5/21/02

that box," as some in the Pentagon would like to do." NATO's credibility depends on its military capability."

Lord Robertson, who met with Mr. Bush in April, said his view was winning in Washington. But he and senior American

officials believe they must work to present a positive picture of what NATO will be.

NATO has been considered dead before, but it found a new post-Soviet role in the Balkans - in Bosnia, Kosovo and

Macedonia. But this probably delayed a fundamental examination of what NATO stands for.

"There is no question that this is a defining, transformational year for NATO," said the American ambassador to the alliance, R. Nicholas Burns.

Richard C. Holbrooke, a former ambassador to Germany and to the United Nations, said: "NATO is our strategic presence

in Europe. It is indispensable to our own national security, for political, logistical and military reasons.

Even the world's greatest superpower can't go it alone."

After Sept. 11, a senior administration official said, NATO has "gone global," committing to operations outside Europe

and dealing with new contingencies and threats.

Lord Robertson and other NATO officials set out several military goals for the leaders who will meet in Prague.

Beyond enlargement and Russia, the meeting should focus on strategic lift, to get troops out of Europe by air; on

rapid-reaction forces; on more precision-guided munitions; on better air-to-air refueling capacity; on secure

communications that are alliancewide; and on establishing missile defenses.

Even then, the question of what NATO is for remains fuzzy, said Ronald D. Asmus, a former deputy assistant secretary

of state for Europe. "In the 1990's, the question was whether you could stabilize the rest of Europe, the east

and the Balkans, without a train wreck with Russia," he said. "Today, having largely succeeded in that and now

after 9/11, the question is: Can the United States and Europe come up with a common strategy to deal with this new

challenge of the greater Middle East?

"If NATO doesn't address the central strategic issue of our time, which is terrorism, weapons of mass destruction and

the remaking of the Middle East, it will cease to be America's premier alliance."

U.S. COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS ENDORSES NATO ENLARGEMENT

JBANC, 20 May 02

The Council of State Governments (<http://www.statesnews.org>) recently passed a Resolution Endorsing NATO Enlargement stating that enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance is "is consistent with U.S. policy objectives".

Seven aspirant countries - Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia - are singled out in the resolution. The Council of State Governments (CSG) passed a similar resolution in December 1997, supporting the NATO aspirations of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

The resolution was signed by Maryland Governor Parris N. Glendening, current CSG President, on April 7 at the Spring Meeting in Florida.

The members of The Council of State Governments include all elected and appointed officials and staff in the executive, legislative and judicial branches of state government and the U.S. territories.

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS RESOLUTION ENDORSING NATO ENLARGEMENT

WHEREAS, The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is recognized as the most successful defense alliance in the world today and is working to expand and deepen political and military cooperation throughout Europe based on dialogue, cooperation, and transparency; and

WHEREAS, NATO policy seeks to foster stability and security through enlargement of membership to selected new democracies in Europe in order to provide a stronger basis for security and prosperity for both Europe and North America; and

WHEREAS, NATO enlargement is a stated goal of U.S. foreign policy as expressed both by President George W. Bush and by former President William J. Clinton; and

WHEREAS, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia share values fundamental to NATO and have demonstrated their ability to support NATO-led operations and to operate with the military forces of NATO members, thus contributing to the security and stability of Europe and the worldwide effort against terrorism; and

WHEREAS, The Council of State Governments passed a resolution in December 1997 endorsing the enlargement of NATO to include the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland; and

WHEREAS, NATO's decision in April 1998 to include these nations has served to strengthen the alliance;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments endorses NATO enlargement consistent with U.S. policy objectives; and that this resolution be transmitted to the President and to appropriate members of Congress.

Adopted this 7th day of April, 2002, at the
CSG Spring Meeting in Coral Gables, Florida.
Governor Parris N. Glendening, Maryland
2002 CSG President

**KYRGYZSTAN REFUSES ENTRY TO BALTIC PEACEKEEPERS, TROOPS READY FOR MISSION
BNS, 21 May 02**

TALLINN-VILNIUS, May 21, BNS - Kyrgyzstan has refused to allow Lithuanian and other Baltic peacekeepers on its territory to serve at a base supporting NATO's anti-terrorist campaign. Refusing entry to the Baltic peacekeepers is explained by their delay to submit respective requests for participation.

Vilnius received a letter from Bishkek, informing that Lithuanian peacekeepers are banned from coming to Kyrgyzstan, Petras Zapolskas, director of the Information and Culture Department at the Foreign Ministry, said. Latvia and Estonia have received similar letters. In the words of Zapolskas, Kyrgyzstan claims Lithuania was late with sending an official request to allow its peacekeepers coming to the country, where part of the forces attending the international operation Enduring Freedom are deployed.

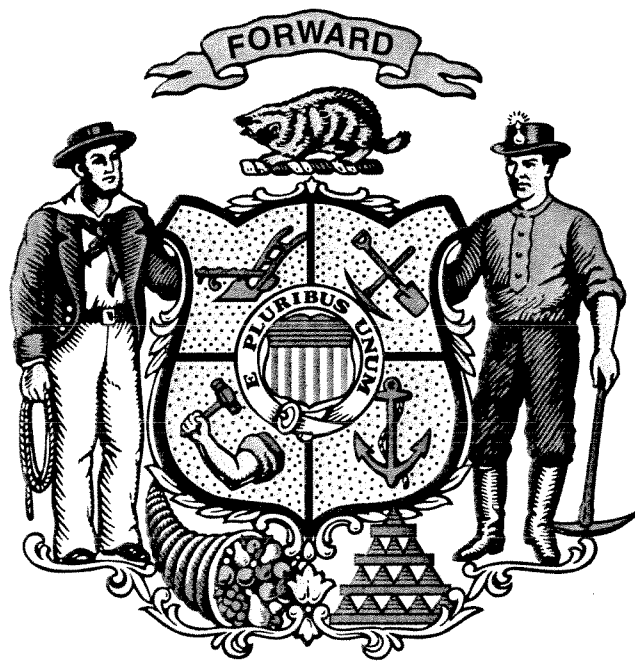
Deputy Lithuanian Foreign Minister Giedrius Cekuolis discussed this problem during his visit to Kyrgyzstan in mid-April, Zapolskas said. Also, Foreign Minister Antanas Valionis talked about the issue with his Kyrgyz counterpart in Reykjavik last week.

"We are taking all diplomatic measures and we hope that we'll manage to reach an agreement and Lithuanian peacekeepers will be allowed to attend the mission in Kyrgyzstan," Zapolskas said. Lithuanian Defense Minister Linas Linkevicius told BNS on Monday the peacekeepers are ready for the mission but are unable to join it due to both "the political will of Kyrgyzstan and the procedural aspects".

"We are not yet a NATO member state, therefore, the attitude of Kyrgyzstan to us is different from that to the alliance members, and different procedural requirements are applied. Much will be determined by the political will of Kyrgyzstan," Linkevicius said.

In the words of the minister, if Bishkek agreed to allow Lithuanians coming, the peacekeepers could leave for a training session in Denmark already in May.

The Lithuanian parliament gave a go-ahead to sending of approximately 10 Lithuanian troops to Kyrgyzstan to join the allied forces in the U.S.-lead anti-terrorist operation Enduring Freedom in





Eriks Krūmiņš, ALA/SAL-PBLA

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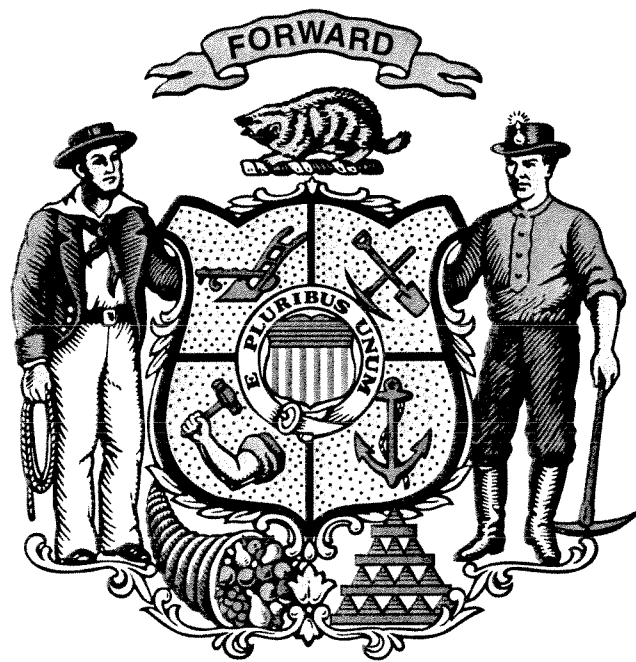
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cc: PAULIS LAZDA

(3) OF (3)

Krumins

P.S. WE HAVE ALREADY ARRANGED FOR THE TRIP TO THE EXHIBIT.





University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

105 Garfield Avenue • P.O. Box 4004 • Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

August 14, 2002

The Honorable Rob Kreibach
Room 107 West
State Capitol
PO Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952

Dear Representative Kreibach,

Pursuant to our telephone conversation regarding the traveling exhibition "Latvia Returns to the Free World," please find the attached information on the history and description of the exhibition.

The exhibit will come to Madison, in the Capitol Building, on September 7. We would be very pleased if you would address your constituents with a few words at the exhibit's opening at 12 noon on September 7. The exhibit will remain in the Capitol through September 14.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at lazdapi@uwec.edu. Erik Krumins may also answer your questions at (414) 352 5583 or krumins@execpc.com.

Sincerely,

Paulis Lazda
Professor of History, UWEC
Author and Director of the Exhibit

*Permt
Sue Barcia
26th 7840
Friday set up*

Mara

*Bld → 61ands
Claire Frans
6-1485*

Traveling Exhibition "Latvia Returns to Free World"

The exhibition "Latvia Returns to Europe" was created by the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia. In 1993, the Museum was founded in Riga, Latvia to show the 50-year history of the occupation of Latvia by the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany. Beginning with a short introduction of the establishment of Latvia's independence and relations with its near and distant neighbors in Europe, the more than 120 displays of photos, documents, relics and texts in four languages reveal the first year of the Soviet occupation and the mass deportations in 1940-1941, the subsequent Nazi occupation and the murder of Latvia's Jewish population, and the second Soviet occupation, which lasted from 1945 until 1991.

A Short History of the Exhibit

In 1998, the Latvian government asked the Museum to create a traveling exhibit of Latvia's recent history for a presentation to the European Parliament in Brussels. On November 10, with the leaders of the Parliament, accredited diplomats, Latvia's Prime Minister Gundars Krasts, and members of the press in attendance, the exhibition "Latvia Returns to Europe" was opened in the "capital of Europe" for a 10-day stay. In the last two years, the exhibit has traveled to sixteen other capitals or major European cities.

In Liege, Belgium, the university hosted the exhibit and organized a seminar on Latvia's history in January 1999. Exhibits in Luxembourg, Oslo, and Copenhagen followed this. In October, the Latvian Ambassador Georgs Andrejevs opened the exhibit in Strasbourg for the diplomats of the member countries of the Council of Europe, the representatives of the European Court of Human Rights and the members of the press corpus. In February 2000, the city of Stockholm welcomed the exhibit. In conjunction with

the exhibit, the Swedish International Relations Institute organized a seminar on the topic of Latvia from 1940 to 1991 in which the former US ambassador to Moscow, Jack Matlock, and several other distinguished diplomats and professors participated. The exhibit traveled to Warsaw in early March and later that month to Paris. In May 2000, the Latvian Ambassador Lappuķe organized the exhibit for the meeting of the European Union ambassadors in Lisbon at the parliament of Portugal. Professor Lazda, the Chairman of the Governing Board of the Museum of Occupation, participated with a lecture on Latvia, Portugal and Europe. There followed an exhibition in Madrid and, in October, a month long exhibition in Prague, with the participation of Latvia's Foreign Minister, Indulis Bērziņš. The exhibit has since opened in Florence, Budapest, and Helsinki. On February 5, 2002 a new edition of the exhibition, "Latvia Returns to the Free World" opened in the Russell Rotunda for a special viewing by US Senators, Congressmen, and accredited diplomats. Senator Richard Durbin, the sponsor of the exhibit and Latvia's President Dr. Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga, opened the exhibit. From Washington the exhibit traveled to St. Paul, Minnesota, where Senator Mark Dayton was the principle speaker at the opening in the capitol on June 15.

The Exhibit

The exhibit consists of 24 large panels. (Photographs available on request) which measure 1m x 1,27m. and requires a floor space of 120 square meters. The text is in four languages: Latvian, English, French and German. In order to make the content of the exhibit comprehensible to viewers who do not understand one of these languages, a brochure is provided in the language of the exhibition city, i.e. Italian, Spanish, Czech,

Polish, Swedish, etc. The exhibition also provides a guide, Dr. Dzintra Bungis, who is fluent in Latvian, English, French and German.

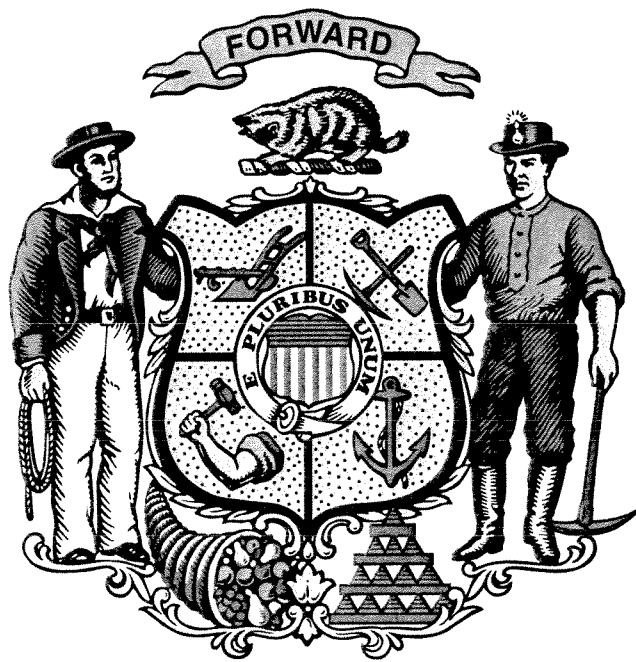
The 24-panel exhibit attempts to give an objective, comprehensive view of Latvia's experience of occupation during the past fifty years without accusing any nation or group of collective responsibility for crimes or violations of human rights suffered by the Latvian nation. The exhibit puts the history of Latvia in a European and world context and seeks to analyze problems of totalitarian aggression, losses of population, cultural values, collaboration, suffering and survival. The exhibition concludes with displays showing the political, cultural, diplomatic steps that Latvia has taken to return to the family of free nations.

The exhibit story of Latvia begins with the loss of independence as a consequence of the Soviet -Nazi Secret Pact of August 1939. The Soviet occupation of Latvia is shown as occurring at the same time as the Nazi occupation of Paris. The destruction of Latvia's statehood, Sovietization of Latvia's society, and annexation of Latvia follows. Lithuania and Estonia shared the same fate. All democratic governments condemned the occupation and the annexation was recognized as legitimate only by Nazi Germany. An entire poster is devoted to the terror employed against the Latvian people and the mass deportations to Siberia. Next come the Nazi occupation, the terror and the policy of the extermination of the Jewish population with the participation of some local collaborators. The Nazis' inhuman treatment of Russian prisoners of war, which led to their mass destruction, is revealed. The Latvian nation was subjected to Nazi racist policies of resettlement (deportation) and the country was destined to be colonized by Germans.

Latvians were forced to fight in both opposing armies. Latvian diplomats accredited in Western capitals were the only remaining legitimate authority of the Latvian state. They ordered the ships of the Latvian merchant fleet, under the Latvian flag, to serve the Western Allies in the Atlantic. Nazi submarines sank most of the ships and the crews suffered heavy losses.

Latvia did not share in the peace and freedom after 1945 with rest of Europe. Instead there followed another 45 years of Soviet occupation. The Latvian people waged guerrilla warfare against the occupying power, suffered more deportations, cultural, intellectual suppression and Russification. Many tens of thousands of exiles in Siberia perished but the exhibit shows how those who survived strove to keep their humanity in the inhumanity of the GULAG. Dissident activities in Latvia were severely punished but these acts helped the nation to survive spiritually.

The last part of the exhibit shows the national reawakening, the struggle against the reactionary elements of the crumbling Soviet Union and finally---independence. The last several display panels show the steps that Latvia has taken in the last ten years to achieve full integration into Europe and the Free World from which Latvia had been isolated for fifty years.





Ēriks Krūmiņš, ALA / SAL - P B L A

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Kam / To: REPR. ROBIN G. KREIBICH - ATTN. CHRIS
(OR) BRAD

Datums / Date: AUG. 15, 2002 Lapp. / Pages: _____

Ref. / Subject: MADISON LATVIAN EXHIBIT

SIR :

ON AUGUST 11, 2002 I "FAXED" TO YOUR OFFICE CERTAIN ITEMS FOR THE "BALTIC SUPPORT RESOLUTION" TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE STATE ASSEMBLY BY MR. KREIBICH (AS PER HIS AGREEMENT WITH PROF. PAULIS LAZDA - UW-EAU CLAIRE, HISTORY DEPT.).

TODAY I AM SENDING YOU THE FOLLOWING:

a) "BALTIC CAUCUS UPDATE" (MAY 2002)
(SEE ITEM #3 - "DELAWARE'S STATE LEGISLATURE RECOMMENDS BALTIC MEMBERSHIP IN NATO")

b) "LATVIA IN NATO"
(BACKGROUND MATERIAL)

PLEASE CALL ME FOR ANY QUESTIONS!
SINCERELY, E. Krūmiņš

BALTIC CAUCUS

UPDATE

Published by Baltic American Freedom League, Inc. • Avo Piirisild, BAFL President • Valdis V. Pavlovskis, Editor

Volume 2 Number 5

May 2002

U.S. Senate Supports NATO Enlargement and \$21 Million in FMF Funds to the Baltic Countries

Underscoring the importance of NATO enlargement and the vision of a new Europe as articulated by former President Clinton in October 1996 and by President George W. Bush in his Warsaw declaration of June 2001, the U.S. Senate by an overwhelming vote of 85 to 6 approved the Freedom Consolidation Act. The bill endorses the enlargement of NATO and authorizes \$21 million in military assistance to the Baltic countries. Speaking in support of the bill Senator Richard Lugar noted that, "The defining issue will be the Baltic States... They are among the great success stories of Europe's post-Communist transition. Their illegal annexation by the former Soviet Union 60 years ago should not determine Western policy today. If the Baltic States continue to perform and meet our standards, we should bring them in, all of them, at the Prague summit." The House approved a companion bill in November by a vote of 372 to 46.

Speaking in support of the bipartisan bill were Senators G. Allen (VA), J. Biden (DE), T. Daschle (SD), R. Durbin (IL), C. Hagel (NE), J. Kyl (AZ), C. Levin (MI), J. Lieberman (CT), R. Lugar (IN), J. McCain (AZ), G. Smith (OR), G. Voinovich (OH).

According to a statement issued by the White House (AP 5/19/02), "The vote is a strong show of support for NATO enlargement, one of the President's priorities, and an essential element of a Europe whole, free, and at peace."

NATO Parliamentary Assembly Calls for Baltic Membership in NATO

Meeting in Sofia, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, citing the progress Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia have made toward meeting NATO membership criteria, recommended that the countries be invited this year to join the Alliance, reports RFE/RL on line magazine (5/28/02). The resolution introduced by Germany and Italy was adopted by 65 votes with 29 abstentions.

Delaware's State Legislature Recommends Baltic Membership in NATO

On April 24, 2002 by a unanimous vote, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the State of Delaware adopted resolution (HCR 42) recommending to President George W. Bush and the members of Delaware's congressional delegation to support and promote admission of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to NATO. The resolution praises the three countries for their accomplishments in pursuing the development of democratic institutions and free market economies. It emphasizes that the Baltic countries recognize the responsibilities of NATO membership and are ready to carry them out. Iowa, Minnesota and Michigan state legislatures have adopted similar NATO/Baltic resolutions.

NATO Will Go Ahead With Enlargement Despite Russian Objections

RFE/RL on line magazine (5/28/02) reports that according to Secretary of State Colin Powell, NATO will push ahead with expansion despite Russian objections. The Secretary made the announcement in response to a Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' communiqué opposing the enlargement. "That does not surprise or shock me—it's been the Russian position for some time. [But] I think we have succeeded in making the enlargement of NATO once again less of a problem for the Russians and less of an irritant in our relations," said the Secretary at the press conference in Rome. Russia's President Vladimir Putin observed: "We accept that the views of NATO and Russia on certain security issues may not always coincide. But what unites us is far more serious than what divides us."

Belarusians Residing in Lithuania Support Baltic Membership in NATO

In a letter to the Lithuanian government, the officers of the Belarusian Culture Center in Lithuania pledged their support for Lithuania's membership in NATO. "We believe that Lithuania and other Baltic states accession to NATO and EU will ensure political security and economic well-being," the letter said, reports BNS (5/14/02). The majority of Lithuania's ethnic minority communities--Polish, Russian, Jewish, Ukrainian and others--have expressed their support for Lithuania's membership in NATO.

NATO Membership Brings Economic Benefits to the New Partners

Economic data from NATO's new members the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary, show that NATO membership confers not only security benefits but economic ones as well, writes Mark Baker in the RFE/RL on line magazine (5/10/02). He notes that something that might be called "NATO effect" is becoming evident. Since 1999, foreign investment in the Czech Republic and Hungary each year roughly double from the previous year. Poland is also experiencing increases. Ms. Vike Gronenberg, an analyst with Salomon Smith Barney in London said the investors are responding to the reduced risk. According to her, investment in the three countries has been increasing "because of NATO, because of stability, democracy, in terms of policies. And that's all conducive to economic growth and investment."

Russians Do Pretty Well on the Business Front in Latvia

Non-Latvians, most of who are Russians, are a prominent part of Latvia's business arena, reports Valentinas Mite in RFE/RL magazine on line (rferl.org 5/17/02). The Latvian magazine *Klubs* points out that nearly half of some 100 millionaires in Latvia are Russian speakers. Aigars Freimanis, Director of Latvijas Fakti, a sociological and market research agency, says that one of the main contributing factors to Russian speakers' business successes in Latvia is that businesses operate along non-ethnic lines. "There are no economic restrictions in economic activities [for non-citizens in Latvia] and nobody prevents [Russian speakers] from doing business," concludes Freimanis.

Latvia Drops Language Requirement for Candidates From Election Law

On May 9, by an overwhelming vote of 67 to 13 the Latvian Parliament amended the country's election law eliminating requirements for Latvian language proficiency for candidates in parliamentary and local elections (Reuters 5/9/02). "This important decision shows that most of the people's representatives see Latvia as a country with equal rights for everybody... We rejoice at Latvia's continuous efforts to build an integrated, tolerant and generous community open for all, who believe in the nation's future and help to form it," said a senior official of the U.S. Embassy in Latvia. The amendment was viewed positively by OSCE High Commissioner Rolf Ekeus.

Special NATO Role for the Baltic Countries

NATO's Supreme Allied Commander of Europe, U.S. General Joseph Ralston, during his visit to the Baltic countries suggested that the three countries consider specializing their militaries to better meet the needs of the alliance, writes T. Jacobs in The Baltic Times (5/3/02). General Ralston said that he was satisfied with the progress they have made in restructuring and reforming their militaries and praised them for their missions in the Balkans. The General also suggested that it was not worthwhile for smaller nations to copy larger countries as examples when creating a military, and he emphasized the need for all three countries to specialize their militaries, said Lithuania's Minister of Defense Linas Linkevicius.

Joint NATO-PFP Mine Clearing Operation Off the Coast of Lithuania

Ships from ten nations took part in joint NATO and Partnership for Peace (PFP) mine clearing off the coast of Lithuania, May 16-30. The purpose of the exercise was to clear Lithuania's territorial water and its exclusive economic zone of mines and to test PFP's ships operation capabilities and interoperability with NATO ships, according to Lithuania's MOD (www.kam.lt). More than 250 nautical miles were cleared of unexploded ordnance left from World Wars I and II. Planning and command was the responsibility of Lithuania's Naval Forces. Countries participating in the operation included Belgium, Estonia, Finland, France, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Great Britain.

LATVIA IN NATO



NATO IS COMMITTED TO BUILDING A SECURE EUROPE, WHOLE AND FREE. SO IS LATVIA.



Latvia has always been part of Europe, and has every reason to be vitally interested in the stability, security and prosperity of Europe. That's why Latvia welcomes the commitment made by NATO to enhance European stability through the enlargement of NATO. Latvia is awaiting and preparing for the NATO Prague Summit in 2002, which will decide on further enlargement.

The people of Latvia know that Latvia's membership in NATO will contribute to enhanced stability and security in Euro-Atlantic area by:

- supporting democratic values;
- fostering cooperation, consultation and consensus building;
- promoting good neighbourly relations;
- reinforcing integration and cooperation in Europe;
- strengthening NATO's ability to contribute to European and international security;
- strengthening the trans-Atlantic link.

Since restoration of independence in 1991, Latvia has been a leader among Eastern and Central European countries in the speed and success with which it has rebuilt its democratic institutions and free market economy.

Latvia joined the World Trade Organization in February 1999 and is an associate member of the European Union. Membership in NATO will bring Europe and the United States closer to their collective goal of a secure Europe and prosperous trans-Atlantic relationship.

For the last 50 years, NATO has been good for Europe, the United States, and Canada. We believe that a NATO that embraces all of Europe will be even better.

HOW WILL NATO BENEFIT FROM LATVIA'S MEMBERSHIP?



- **THE WEST GAINS AN ALLY**

By admitting Latvia, NATO gains a reliable ally in Europe. As Latvia's response to crises in Kosovo, Bosnia and Iraq has shown, Latvia can be counted on for help and support. Latvia's ongoing participation in international peace operations demonstrates that it is a responsible partner, ready to contribute to international security.

- **STABILITY WIDENED**

NATO membership will expand the area of democracy and stability in Europe. Western values will be protected throughout the Baltic Sea region and reinforced in the nations on the eastern shore.

- **INCREASED SECURITY FOR FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS**

Latvia's European and US investors and business partners will gain confidence that their investment in Latvia is more secure.

- **EUROPE'S ROLE ENLARGED**

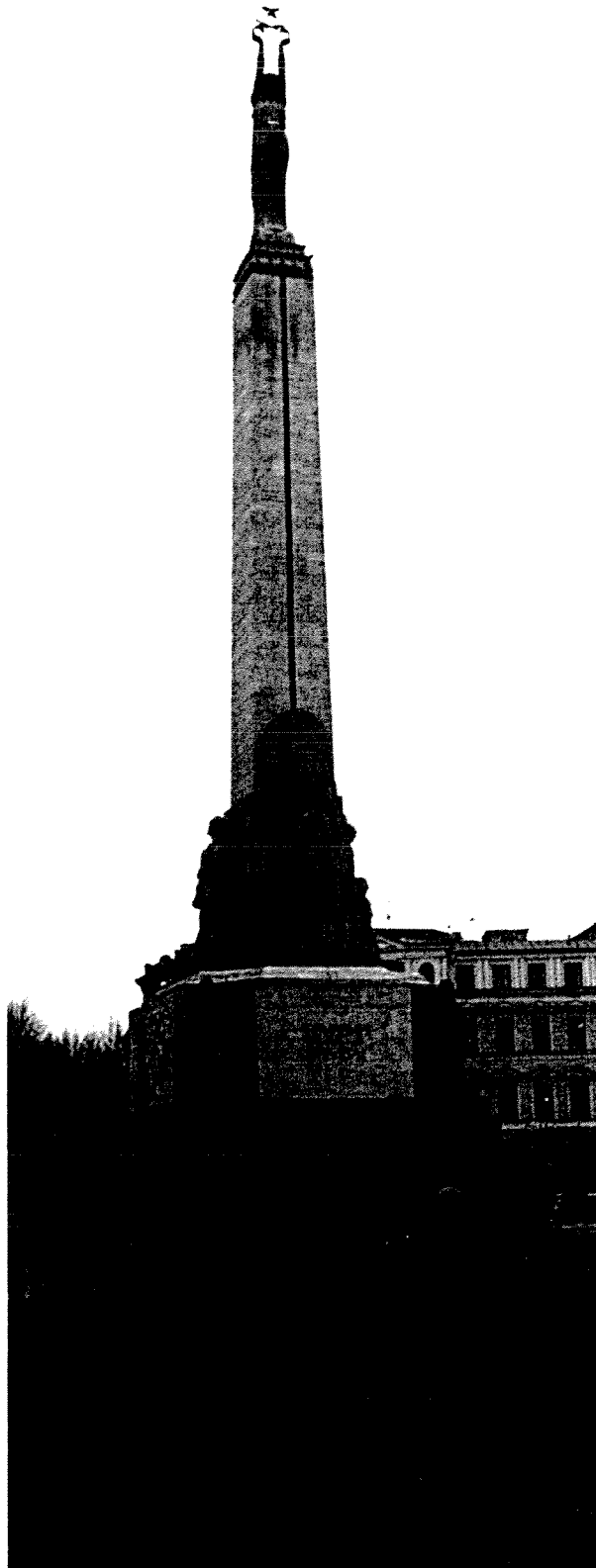
Latvia's participation will enlarge and reinforce the European contribution to the security of the continent.

- **BALTIC CONSENSUS-BUILDING WILL PROVIDE ADDED VALUE**

The Baltic States have developed sound experience in consensus - building through years of extensive and constructive intra-Baltic cooperation. This experience will serve them well as they help Alliance members develop consensus approaches within NATO.

- **BENEFITS OF INTEROPERABILITY**

As the Latvian military becomes fully interoperational with NATO countries, benefits will be derived through cooperation in budgets and procurements. The National Armed Forces are rapidly attaining NATO language skills.



WHY DOES LATVIA STRIVE FOR NATO MEMBERSHIP?

LATVIA IS PART OF EUROPE

Latvia is an integral part of Europe, not only geographically, but also economically, politically and culturally. Riga, Latvia's capital, with nearly 1 million people, is one of the largest cities on the Baltic Sea and celebrates 800 years anniversary in 2001. Riga was key member of the Hanseatic league and continues to serve its centuries-old role as a strategic trading centre for the Baltic region. Once the largest city in the Swedish empire, Riga has also been home to Richard Wagner, who composed many of his masterpieces in the city. Today Latvia is at the centre of economic and political rebirth taking place throughout northern Europe. Latvia's ice-free ports are the busiest on the east Baltic rim. The Latvian economy continues to strengthen in European and global markets.

For Latvia, joining NATO is a practical way to contribute to the rebuilding of a new Europe, whole and free, for the 21st century.

A STRONG ECONOMY AND RESPECT FOR DEMOCRACY

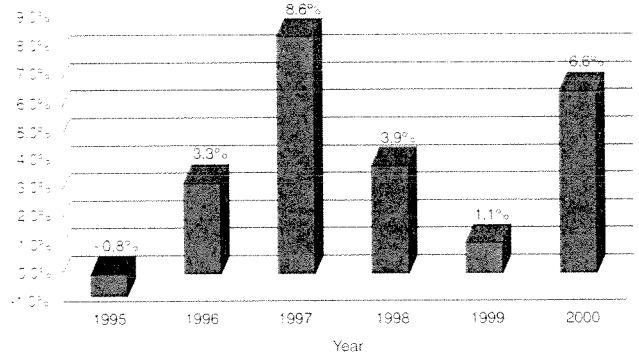
The independent Republic of Latvia (established in 1918) rose from the ruins of World War I to develop into a modern, economically stable country. In the course of twenty years it took a leading role in the League of Nations and achieved one of the highest standards of living and education in Europe. National minorities flourished and actively participated as loyal members in Parliament and government.

In 1940, Latvia's independent statehood was interrupted by war and foreign occupations. A half century later that independence - and its democratic, free market traditions - have been restored.

Latvia seeks to safeguard these important achievements through comprehensive economic, political and military cooperation with its neighbours.



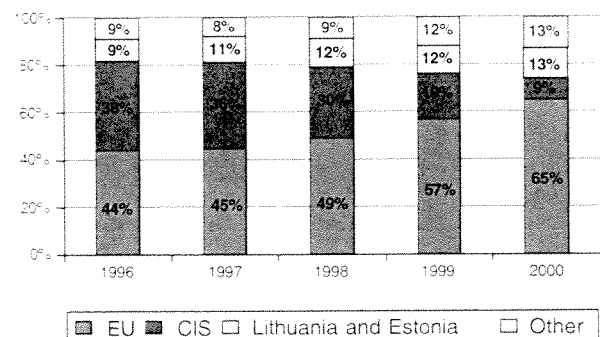
REAL GDP GROWTH (% YEAR TO YEAR)



In the middle of 1999 the slow down of national economy caused by the Russian crisis was gradually overcome.

Source: Central Statistical Bureau

FOREIGN TRADE

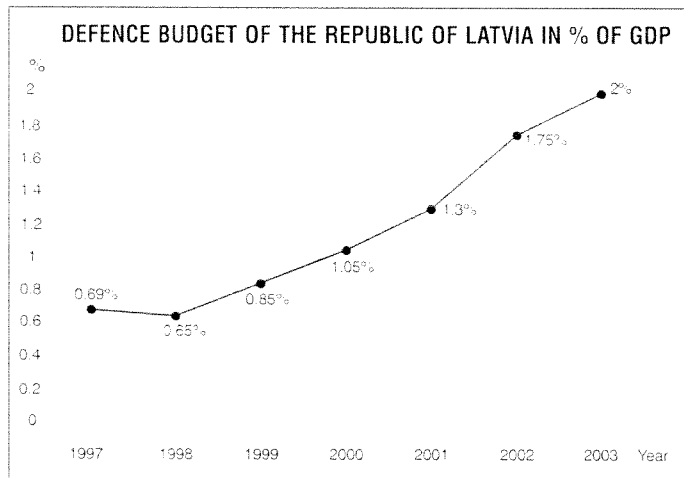


Source: Central Statistical Bureau

IS LATVIA READY FOR NATO MEMBERSHIP?

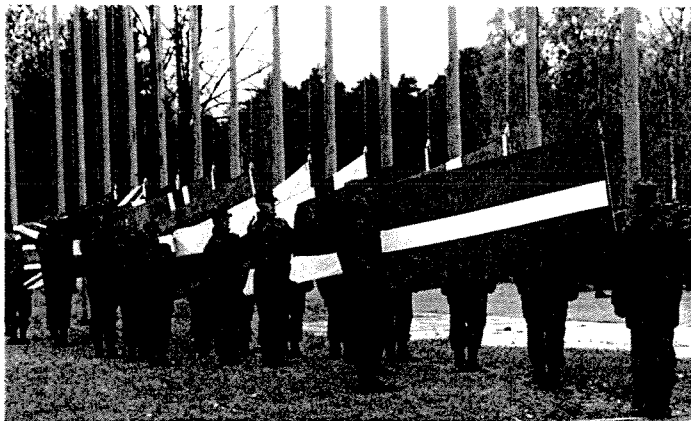
LATVIA'S DEFENCE PRIORITIES:

- Increase the defence budget toward the goal of 2% of GDP in 2003 according to the State defence financing law passed by the Parliament of Latvia;
- Ensure the long-term development planning system of the National Armed Forces and to promote goal-directed strengthening of the self-defence capability of Latvia, aimed to the implementation of NATO standards till the year 2003;
- Expand and coordinate Annual National Programme under the supervision of Prime Minister and in cooperation with all ministries involved;
- Continue cooperation with other Baltic countries within common projects - BALTBAT, BALTRON, BALTNET, BALTDEFCOL as a notion of increased contribution the Baltic countries can provide to NATO in the future;
- Improve quality of life for military personnel;
- Maximize effectiveness of the national conscript system.



IN LINE WITH NATO CRITERIA

According to the criteria identified in the NATO Enlargement Study, Latvia is no less prepared for membership than the countries which have joined recently - Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary. Democracy and democratic institutions have been re-established. The Defence Ministry is under civilian control and the defence budget is fully transparent. Steady economic growth has been achieved through stable monetary policies and the consistent implementation of market reforms. Social stability has been guaranteed by legislation and government policy in support of an integrated multi-cultural society.



International military exercise *The Baltic Eagle* in Ādaži, October 10, 2000

READY FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION, READY FOR NATO

Latvia is an Associate Member of the EU and has started accession negotiations in 2000. As a member of WTO, OSCE, Council of Europe and EAPC, Latvia meets the political and economic requirements of NATO membership. Latvia's readiness to assume responsibility has been proved during successful Chairmanship in the Council of Europe in 2000/2001.

IS LATVIAN MEMBERSHIP COSTLY?

SMALL SIZE MEANS EASIER INTEROPERABILITY

Latvia is not much larger than the Netherlands. A modest, well planned investment will enable Latvia's armed forces to become fully interoperable with NATO in a short period of time.

BUILDING NEW FORCES IS LESS COSTLY THAN REBUILDING OLD ONES

The National Armed Forces are in their stage of development and need not to be restructured or reformed. Latvia is building anew - "the NATO way" - and thereby creating a sound basis for integration into the Alliance.

NO CHEAPER ALTERNATIVE

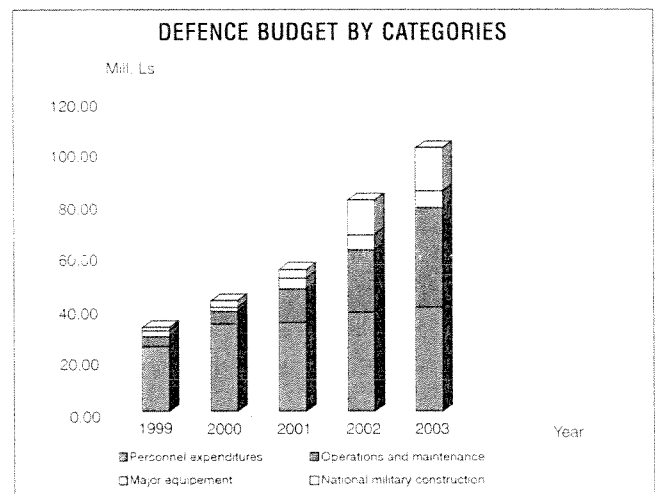
Ensuring sufficient defence within the Alliance will be less expensive for Latvia than doing the same on its own. Latvia is committed to bringing defence expenditure in line with Alliance requirements.

ENLARGEMENT COSTS ARE MANAGEABLE

The integration of Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary has shown that the costs of enlargement are manageable. This process is proceeding smoothly and it sets an example for Latvia that will be easy to follow.



International military exercise *The Baltic Hope*. Tank T-55 and artillery units on a pontoon bridge near Suži, August 13, 2000



BALTBAT soldiers having returned to Riga airport from Bosnia, August 22, 1998

THE NATURE OF RISKS HAS CHANGED

DEFENSIBILITY DEPENDS ON POLITICAL WILL

The Alliance's experience during the Cold War years has shown that defensibility is linked to political will. West Berlin was a completely isolated outpost of NATO and yet, the Warsaw Pact did not dare to challenge it. There have been special arrangements for the defence of northern Norway which made sure that these remote territories will be defended in case of conflict. Latvia's membership certainly does not present more difficult problems.

THE END OF THE COLD WAR HAS CHANGED THE NATURE OF RISKS

Old Cold War-based strategic scenarios are no longer relevant. Full scale cross border attacks are no longer a primary threat. The post-Cold War era will deal more with crisis management contingencies, for which both Latvia's and NATO armed forces are being increasingly prepared.

DETERRENCE MAKES DEFENSIBILITY ISSUES IRRELEVANT

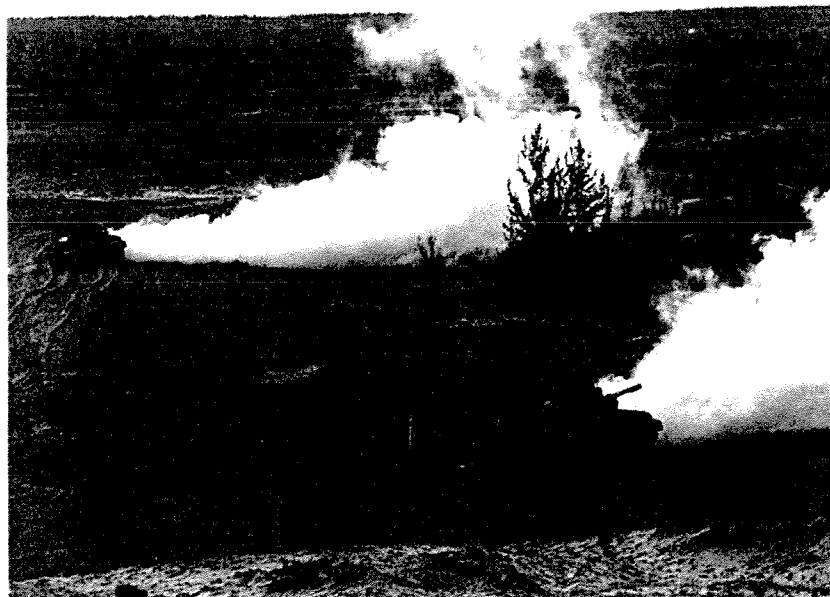
The goal of the NATO Alliance is not to go to war; it is to avoid going to war and deter from the need to go to war. The credibility of the Alliance preparations for possible contingencies deters risks. Latvia's membership in NATO ensures peace in Latvia. NATO enlargement with the inclusion of Latvia is an essential component for ensuring security in Northern Europe.

NATO IS THE DEFENDER OF VALUES AND TERRITORY

The reason for NATO's existence is the defence of certain territories and common values - democracy and the market economy. Purely military considerations about which countries are entitled to be «defensible» and which are supposedly «indefensible» should not determine which nations can thereby enjoy the security and stability that NATO membership brings.

ISOLATION LEADS TO INDEFENSIBILITY

Latvia's defence system is geared towards dealing with foreseeable security challenges. Complete re-assurance about meeting such challenges can only be attained with the support and assistance of Western allies in dealing with potential contingencies. Latvia's defence could become an excessively demanding task only if Latvia is left alone to deal with it.



JOINT BALTIC PROJECTS ILLUSTRATE DETERMINATION TO SHARE THE BURDEN

Together with other Baltic states, Latvia has made impressive progress in developing joint military capacities. The Baltic battalion BALT-BAT, the mine-sweeping squadron BALTRON, the joint air surveillance network BALTNET, the joint defence college BALTDEFCOL, all show the resolve of the Baltic states to take care of their security, and to carry their share of the burden.

Journalists' day in the National
Armed Forces - demonstration
of destruction of tanks,
August 18, 2000

THE REASONS WHY LATVIA SEEKS MEMBERSHIP NOW

A STEP CLOSER TOWARD FULL RE-INTEGRATION INTO EUROPE

NATO membership will enable Latvia to complete its full re-integration into a new Europe that has closed the chapter on the Cold War and World War II. NATO also strengthens Latvia's trans-Atlantic link. In NATO, Latvia can join Europe and North America in building a secure and prosperous future for all our children.

PARTICIPATION INCREASES CONFIDENCE AND SECURITY

NATO membership will provide Latvia's population with greater confidence in their future. It will strengthen the sense of security, encourage cooperation and social integration, and help people in the government and private sector direct their energies to focus on the real challenges of the day.

LATVIA'S EFFORTS TO JOIN THE EU WILL BE REINFORCED

Participation in both the EU and NATO are seen as essential for re-emerging democracies with vital market economies. While EU membership strengthens the economic basis of a country's security and enhances other soft security elements, NATO membership is essential to ensure that democratic values are defended against outside threats.

THE REGION'S SECURITY AND STABILITY ZONE WILL BE EXTENDED

The zone of security and stability in North-Eastern Europe will be extended by Latvia's membership of NATO. It will ensure a more predictable environment at Russia's borders.

INCLUSION INCREASES DETERRENCE

NATO membership has provided a powerful deterrent effect during the last half century. Membership *per se* deters eventual risks from arising, because nobody dares to challenge NATO. Exclusion from membership can have the opposite effect.

INWARD INVESTMENTS WILL INCREASE

NATO membership will strengthen investor confidence and promote a business-friendly environment for western industry and commerce. An increase in foreign direct investment will further vitalize the economy, increase well-being and foster growth and development. The stronger the Latvian economy, the greater Latvia's contribution to NATO and European prosperity as a whole.



SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA

NATO membership will allow Latvia to deal with Russia in a confident, open and constructive way, thereby further developing good neighbourly relations. The dialogue between the two countries will become more balanced and exclude uncertainties about Latvia's future status.

Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga,
President of Latvia, visiting the National
Armed Forces training centre at Ādaži.
From right - Raimonds Graube,
Commander of the National Armed
Forces, March 14, 2000

CAN EU MEMBERSHIP ALONE PROVIDE THE SOLUTION?

IT WILL PROVIDE ONLY LIMITED SECURITY

European Union membership will add to Latvia's security. It will encourage greater investment and cooperation with other EU member states. It will bring confidence to our economy and prosperity to the people. It is important that the EU does more for its security, and more to protect our common values internationally. It is natural for the Union to have the military and political weight to match its economic strength, but the development of European Security and Defence Policy does not diminish the role of NATO. NATO still plays the leading role when it comes to securing Europe. But as the EU candidate country Latvia has demonstrated seriousness about increasing European capabilities in peacekeeping and crises management and has offered its contribution.

IT EXCLUDES THE IMPORTANT TRANS-ATLANTIC LINK

NATO embodies the trans-Atlantic link, which is as important for Latvia, as it is for present NATO members. There can be no regional solutions to the security of the Baltic region. There is a broad consensus in the region that involvement of North American partners in the Baltic area is indispensable, which was confirmed by the signing of the US-Baltic Charter on January 16, 1998. NATO provides the instrument for this involvement.

LATVIA NEEDS THE EU AND NATO

Latvia's main foreign policy goals since regaining independence have been to join both organizations. As with other European members of the Alliance, Latvia considers that being a member of both is entirely compatible. Indeed, as the contours of European security architecture are being re-drawn, there is logic in aligning EU candidate aspirations with their aspirations to join NATO.

WHY NEUTRALITY IS NOT AN OPTION

- **It is no longer relevant.**

With the end of the Cold War the notion of neutrality has become obsolete. With respect to whom can Latvia be neutral? Neutral towards partner countries, with whom Latvia shares the same values? Or neutral towards Russia, who is by no means considered as an adversary? Neither NATO enlargement nor Latvia's membership is directed against Russia.

- **It reduces the sense of responsibility.**

Latvia wishes to play an active role in European security. Only full integration with NATO, Europe and the United States will allow this type of constructive engagement.

- **There is movement away from traditional neutrality.**

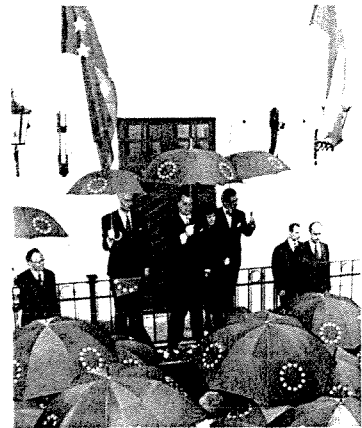
Traditionally neutral countries are now actively discussing the options for future security arrangements. Most have entered the Partnership for Peace programme, others the EU. The advantages of an active security policy are increasingly being recognized. Experience in the Balkans shows that today's challenges need to be met collectively.

- **Neutrality is no cheap option.**

Latvia's investment in the defense area within the Alliance will be more cost-effective than safeguarding the neutrality of a single country.

- **Latvia has no positive experience of pursuing neutrality.**

Latvians still remember the bitter experience of 1940, when neutrality led to 50 years of occupation. Latvia shares common values with the West and wants to help defend them.



WHAT FACTORS MAKE LATVIAN MEMBERSHIP A PLUS FOR NATO?

MEMBERSHIP IS A THREAT DETERRENT

It would be irresponsible to conclude that all military threats can be permanently ruled out, even if there is an absence of direct military threats to Latvia at present. NATO membership is a way of deterring potential threats.

NEW RISKS ARE BEST MET COLLECTIVELY

The Alliance's Strategic Concept approved in Washington Summit is addressing the «new risks» of the increasingly globalized 21st century. Threats such as proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, international terrorism and regional ethnic conflicts can be effectively addressed only in a collective manner. NATO will allow effective involvement of Latvia in the Alliance's efforts to deal with these threats.

WHY IS LATVIA'S MEMBERSHIP IN NATO GOOD FOR RUSSIA?

• Increase in Confidence and Predictability

Russia's border with NATO is the most stable and secure of all its border regions. Membership in NATO of Russia's neighbours will not bring instability or insecurity, but predictability and confidence between neighbours. NATO's policies are decided in a transparent way and give no cause for mistrust. There is a positive dialogue developing between NATO and Russia that also increases confidence.

• Not a Concern for Ordinary Russians

The protracted enlargement process has prompted some in Russia to develop a campaign against it. Russian public opinion is largely indifferent to the enlargement issue. It has become an artificial problem, created to overshadow the real daily economic and other concerns that need urgently to be addressed. A speedy and clear-cut enlargement process is the only way to bring an end to this fictitious debate.

• Enlargement Benefits Democracy in Russia

By admitting Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary to NATO, Russia's emerging democracy has not been adversely affected. None of the apocalyptic predictions about destabilization in Russia as a consequence of enlargement has proved correct. On the contrary, it is learning to adapt to the new circumstances. NATO's policy of engagement has created a positive stabilizing effect, illustrated by the constructive relations that exist between both Russia and NATO.



• Russia Needs a Clear and Firm Message from NATO

NATO reaffirmed in Washington Summit its stand on the "open door" policy to include Latvia and the other Baltic countries and acknowledged that no third country has a veto over NATO enlargement decisions, thus sending to Russia a clear, comprehensible and ultimately acceptable policy stand.

• Enhanced Confidence and Regional Cooperation

The membership of neighbouring countries will enhance confidence. Perceived obstacles to economic cooperation (i. e. pretexts for economic pressures) will be removed, thereby supporting Russia's economy and reinforcing the efforts of Western partners. Neighbouring countries membership will open new possibilities for practical cooperation between NATO and Russia in the Baltic Sea region.

REAFFIRMING POLITICAL RIGHTS

LATVIA'S ELIGIBILITY IS ACKNOWLEDGED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The UN Charter and OSCE documents recognize the right of countries to choose their own security arrangements. All OSCE Participating states, including Russia, have subscribed to these principles. Attempts to block this legitimate right undermine the authority of these international institutions and encourage a lack of respect for international law.

IT IS IMPLICIT IN THE WASHINGTON TREATY

The Washington Treaty that lays the foundations of NATO foresees that every country that is in a position to further the principles of the Treaty and can contribute to the security of the Atlantic area can accede to the Treaty. The Washington Summit opened a new chapter in the enlargement process and recognized Latvia as being among aspiring members. Summit approved Membership Action Plan which Latvia considers as the main tool for practical preparedness for NATO membership allowing the harmonization of national plans with NATO programs.

NO OUTSIDE VETO SHOULD EXIST

NATO has repeatedly stated that no country outside NATO has a right of veto over the Alliance's decisions. Latvia's membership is therefore an issue to be decided between Latvia and NATO. No third country should influence the process.



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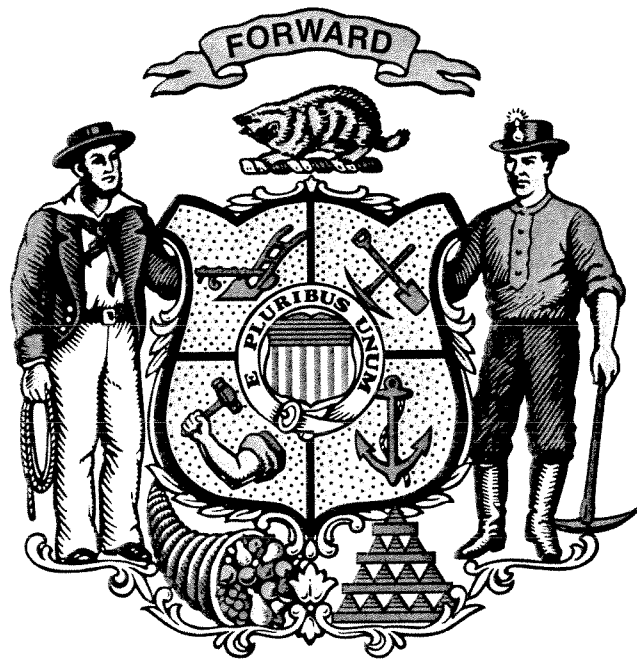


"NATO has been serving its existing member countries well. It has been serving them so well that more and more countries have been joining the Alliance in successive wave of enlargement. Latvia wants a part of the next wave of enlargement at the Prague Summit in 2002".

*Her Excellency Dr Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga
President of the Republic of Latvia
Washington D.C, 24 April 2001*

"The nations to our East and South-East have a legitimate claim to get their fair share of "Europe" - in all its dimensions, including its Atlantic one".

*The Rt. Hon. Lord Robertson of Port Ellen
NATO Secretary General
Warsaw, 29 March 2001*



Hub, Brad

From: Hub, Brad
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2002 9:50 AM
To: Hub, Brad
Subject: FW: date confirmation

-----Original Message-----

From: Paulis Lazda [mailto:lazdapi@uwec.edu]
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2002 4:14 PM
To: Rep.Kreibich
Subject: date confirmation

Dear Rob,

Pursuant to our conversation with your staff in June regarding the exhibit "Latvia Returns to the Free World, we have now set the date and time "in stone." The opening will be on Saturday, September 7 at 10 o'clock. We would very much appreciate it if you could attend and say a few words.

The exhibit has been to 15 European capitals and to Washington, D.C. and recently had a very successful stay in the state capital in St. Paul.

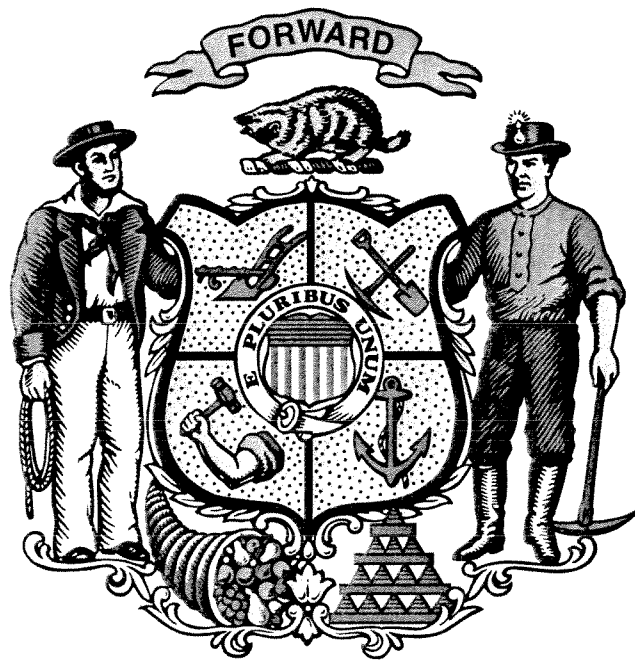
The exhibit is part of an on-going effort to persuade the US government to favor the inclusion of Latvia in NATO. It is sponsored by the American Latvian Association and by the United American-Latvian Organizations in Wisconsin. We expect 200 to 300 people in attendance.

We would appreciate your advice on how to approach your colleagues in order to encourage as many of them as possible attend. What is your feeling about the governor? We would be honored if he would attend.

Best regards,

Paulis Lazda
Professor of History
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Author and Director of the Exhibit
FAX 1 715 836 35 40, tel. 715 834 1874
lazdapi@uwec.edu

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FAX LETTER**SENT TO:** (608) 282-3693**TO:** THE HONORABLE
ROBIN G. KREIBICH
WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY**DATE:** AUG. 18, 2002**SUBJECT:** LATVIAN EXHIBIT,
MADISON, WI. - SEPT. 7, 2002**NO. OF PAGES:** 4 + 1**NOTES:** HERE IS YOUR "OFFICIAL
INVITATION". HOPE YOU
CAN MAKE IT TO THE
OFFICIAL OPENING!
(9/7/02 - 12:00 NOON)
THANKS FOR ALL THE HELP!**BY:** Erika Krumins

ATTACHED: ALSO LIST OF INVITED
OFFICIAL GUESTS (INVITED TO SPEAK).
(P.S. WILL CALL "BRAD" IN YOUR OFFICE
TO REVIEW DETAILS)

**UNITED AMERICAN LATVIAN
ORGANIZATIONS OF WISCONSIN
8845 W. LYNX AVENUE,
MILWAUKEE, WI. 53225**

August 17, 2002

**The Honorable
Robin G. Kreibich
Wisconsin State
Assemblyman – 93rd Distr.
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI. 53708-8952**

Dear Mr. Kreibich :

United American Latvian Organizations of Wisconsin representing several thousands of Wisconsin citizens of Latvian extraction, cordially invite you to the opening of the exhibit “Latvia Returns to the Free World: from Occupation to Freedom” in the Capitol Building, Capitol Rotunda, Madison, Wisconsin on Saturday, September 7, 2002 at 12:00 noon.

We would be honored, if you could attend the opening and address the people attending. I am certain that many will be from your Assembly District – your direct constituents.

This exhibit was previously shown in the capitals of Europe, Washington DC (Russell Rotunda), Chicago (Daley Center) and other major cities. Now we bring it to our State.

As you may already know, Latvia and its two Baltic neighbor nations of Estonia and Lithuania, were brutally occupied by the Soviet Union in May of 1940. Then it suffered almost four years of Nazi German occupation and the Holocaust. At the end of World War II Latvia did not share in the restoration of freedom and independence, as was the case for western Europe. Instead, the brutal Soviet Russian occupation continued for the next forty-six years. During these occupations Latvia lost almost one-third of its pre-war population – the native Latvian people almost became a minority in their own country (52% of the total in 1991). Murdered and deported Latvians as well as other pre-war minorities were replaced by a massive influx of Russian speaking new arrivals. The Iron Curtain kept this tragedy hidden from the rest of the world.

This exhibit is an attempt to re-introduce Latvia to the Free World. In ten short years, since it regained its independence, Latvia has made remarkable progress.

**The Honorable Robin G. Kreibich (cont.)
August 17, 2002**

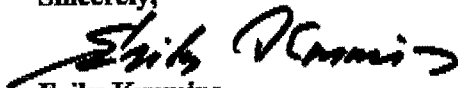
This progress includes the very serious work it has completed and continues to complete to become a nation qualified to be a member of the expanded North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

We sincerely hope to receive a confirmation of your acceptance of our invitation.

At this time we also wish to thank you and your office staff for the help extended in organizing this exhibit in Madison.

In addition we want to thank you in advance for agreeing to introduce and be the chief sponsor of a Joint State Assembly / State Senate Resolution supporting the admission of the three Baltic Nations of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to the expanded NATO. The text of the proposed Resolution was "Faxed" to your office last week.

Sincerely,



**Eriks Krumins
Special Events Coordinator**

P.S. A confirmation of your plans would be appreciated. You may reach me as follows:

**Mr. Eriks Krumins
715 E. Juniper Lane
Fox Point, WI. 53217-3635
Tel. (414) 352-5583
Fax (414) 352-5039
E-mail: krumins@execpc.com**

LATVIAN EXHIBIT
MADISON, WI. - SEPT. 7, 2002

LIST OF INVITED OFFICIAL GUESTS

- 1.) U.S. SENATOR FEINGOLD
- 2.) U.S. SENATOR KOHL
- 3.) U.S. CONGRESSMAN RON KIND (3RD DIST.)
- 4.) (---) TOM BARRETT (5TH DIST.)
- 5.) (---) MARK GREEN (8TH DIST.)
- 6.) (---) JERRY KLETZKA (4TH DIST.)
- 7.) (---) TOM PETRI (6TH DIST.)
- 8.) (---) PAUL RYAN (1ST DIST.)
- 9.) STATE SENATE:
MAJORITY LEADER - CHARLES CHVALA (D)
- 10.) STATE ASSEMBLY:
REPUBLICAN A.S. LEADER
- SCOTT JENSEN (R)
- 11.) REPR. ROBIN G. KRÄBICH - ASSEMBLY
(SPONSOR OF BALTIC "SUPPORT"
RESOLUTION IN STATE LEGISLATURE)

THIS IS THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF
PEOPLE WE CAN INVITE AS "SPEAKERS"
(5 MIN. E.A.) FOR THE ONE (1) HOUR LONG
OFFICIAL OPENING.

LATVIA RETURNS TO THE FREE WORLD: FROM OCCUPATION TO FREEDOM

An exhibit created by the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia. Previously shown in the capitals of Europe, Washington D.C. (Russell Rotunda, Senate Office Bldg.), Chicago (Daley Center) and other major cities.

Where: Wisconsin's State Capitol, Capitol Rotunda, Capitol Square, Madison, Wisconsin.

**When: Saturday, September 7, 2002 –
Saturday, September 14, 2002.**

Official Opening: Saturday, September 7, 2002 at 12:00 noon.

(The opening will be attended by the original Founder of the Museum – Prof. Dr. Paulis Lazda, History Department, University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire)

Sponsors:

- American Latvian Association, Inc.,
- United American Latvian Organizations of Wisconsin