

My lord,

1. I consider my painful duty to inform you that my country has become a victim of unprovoked aggression committed by the Soviet Government in violation of a series of treaties by which the Soviet Government had solemnly undertaken to abstain from direct or indirect aggression against Lithuania.
2. As late as 10th October, 1939, a treaty was concluded between the Soviet Union and Lithuania, providing for the stationing of a limited number of Russian garrison troops in Lithuania, ostensibly for the mutual protection of both States. This treaty contains the following provision:  
  
“The fulfilment of the present treaty shall not in any way affect the sovereign rights of the contracting parties, particularly their State organization, economic and social system, military methods, and generally, the principle of non – intervention in internal affairs. (Article VII)”
3. On June 14. 1940, on the pretext of entirely false charges, the Soviet Government abruptly confronted my Government with an ultimatum, presented at midnight of that day and expiring nine hours later; demanding unlimited occupation of Lithuania by Soviet military forces and the formation of a new Government acceptable to the U.S.S.R. while the entire country came under the rigid occupation of the Soviet military forces.
4. (...)
5. On July 14th and 15th, elections were staged for the return of a new Parliament which, on July 21st, decided unanimously, it is claimed, to surrender the independence of Lithuania and asked for incorporation into the U.S.S.R.
6. It must be obvious to any impartial and unprejudiced observer that neither the “elections” held under the pressure of foreign occupational troops nor the so – called Parliament constituted under such conditions can in any manner whatsoever reflect a shared of electoral liberty or the remotest possibility of expressing their true wishes.
7. In these circumstances, my duty as a representative of the Lithuanian people in this country, is to voice a most solemn protest against this wanton act of aggression against my country. At the same time, I wish to declare that I am unable to recognize as valid and binding any decision of the Government formed and acting under duress.
8. Bringing the above to the notice of His Majesty’ s Government, I venture to hope that His Majesty’ s Government, themselves engaged in a struggle “till freedom for ourselves and others is secured” (to use your Lordship’s own inspiring words of yesterday) will decline to recognize the acts depriving Lithuania of her freedom.

I have the honour to be with the highest consideration, My Lord, Your obedient Servant, B.K. Balutis