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Soviet Aims Assailed at 'Latvian Day' Fete

By JAMES K. ANDERSON

A free country until it was seized by the Russians in 1940, Latvia was remembered yesterday afternoon on the 43rd anniversary of the tiny Baltic nation's independence day.

Speakers in the program, at the Detroit Institute of Arts declared Communist and Soviet aims are world conquest and slavery.

"The very essence of 'peaceful co-existence' means the opportunity to achieve Khrushchev's boast, 'We'll bury you,'" said Rep. Johansen (R-Mich.).

A member of the House Un-American Activities Committee, Johansen said, "I deplore reckless, indiscriminate accusations of communism because someone disagrees with you, but I dispute President Kennedy's assertion the Communists are no danger inside the country. They use infiltration, subversion and propaganda here the same as they do in every other country.

SEES BRUTE FORCE

"Communism is not to be dealt with as if it were an idea, an interesting debate topic or an economic theory. Its symbol is a firing squad and its method is brute force and extermination, as the Latvians well know."

Johansen was critical of former President Eisenhower's invitation to Khrushchev to visit the United States, of the present administration's "Cuban fiasco," the Supreme Court for "showing little understanding of the Communist Party U.S.A. in the past," and the John Birch Society for "foolish, wild statements."

Sigurd Rudzitis, counselor of the American Latvian Association and chairman of the observance, criticized former captives that have recently gained freedom and admission to the United Nations for failing to seek justice for the "imprisoned millions in the 22 captive nations."

RESISTANCE REPORTED

"If there are people who prefer to forget the fate of the Baltic peoples or are ready for a new Munich, they should re-

member Hungary and just recently East Berlin," Rudzitis said.

Vilis Hazners, of New York, chairman of the Committee for a Free Latvia, said that on the basis of reports from Latvia the people after 21 years of Soviet rule still carry on a passive resistance.

This takes the form, he said, of flying the old maroon-white-maroon flag of free Latvia on banned national holidays and the people's pride in their Latvian heritage.

Council President Mary V. Beck read a proclamation of Latvian Day by Mayor Miriani and added that despite a feeling of futility expressed toward liberation of Iron Curtain countries, man's "greatest desire is for freedom and all despots have met their Waterloo eventually."

Representing Gov. Swainson, Probate Judge Frank S. Szymanski read the governor's proclamation of Latvian Day. Joining in the commemoration were representatives of Hungarian, Polish, Estonian, Lithuanian and Ukrainian organizations.



REP. JOHANSEN



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