

STATE OF MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

A Proclamation for "Memorial Day For Baltic Deportees
to Soviet Slave Labor Camps"

WHEREAS, on the single night of June 14, 1941, over 56,000 Latvians, Estonians and Lithuanians were forcefully taken from their homes and deported into slave labor camps by the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, every year since that time, Baltic people throughout the free world have commemorated this shocking act by participating in special church services and meetings in memory of their homeland friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, following their independence from Russia in 1918, the Baltic peoples have shown a real love for freedom, and by cooperative and hard work have achieved a good measure of economic well-being, a high standard of social justice, and have won world wide respect as exemplary members of the family of nations; and

WHEREAS, these Baltic peoples, in the face of every oppression, retain their will to be free and maintain their steadfast opposition to Soviet despotism;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Orville L. Freeman, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim June 14, 1955, as

"MEMORIAL DAY FOR BALTIC DEPORTEES
TO SOVIET SLAVE LABOR CAMPS"

and do call upon the citizens of this city to recognize the aims of sovereign rights and self government now being denied the Baltic Republic States, and to share with these peoples our spiritual, intellectual and material principles dedicated to the eventual freedom of all nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this thirteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-five, and of the State the ninety-eighth.

ATTEST:

Orville L. Freeman
GOVERNOR

Joseph L. Donovan
SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RECORDED
JUN 13 1955

Joseph L. Donovan
Secretary of State

12551