



**EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND TO THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES**

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The Honorable Brad Sherman
Member of Congress
Washington, DC 20515
USA

Washington, May 13, 2026

RE: Follow-Up Regarding Statements on Juozas Ambrazevičius-Brazaitis

Dear Congressman,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your letter of March 20, 2026. We deeply value and share your continued commitment to preserving historical accuracy and remembrance. Lithuania greatly appreciates the strong partnership between Lithuania and the United States and is committed to addressing the tragic legacy of the past, especially the Holocaust, with responsibility, transparency, and respect for the victims.

I would like to assure you that the issues outlined in your letter receive due attention at the governmental level. Therefore, in response to your inquiry, I would like to share a letter addressed to you from Viceminister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania Vidmantas Verbickas.

Please accept, Congressman Sherman, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Enclosed:

1. Lithuanian Viceminister of Foreign Affairs' Letter, 2 pages.
2. Letter from the United States Department of Justice Immigration and Naturalization Service and related congressional correspondence, 6 pages.

Sincerely,

Ambassador Gediminas Varvuolis
Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS UŽSIENIO REIKALŲ MINISTERIJA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

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The Honorable Brad Sherman
Member of Congress
Washington, DC 20515
USA

12-05-2026 No. (19.2.3)3-2806

RE: Follow-Up Regarding Statements on Juozas Ambrazevičius-Brazaitis

Member of Congress Sherman,

I am writing in response to your letter of March 20, 2026, addressed to Lithuanian Ambassador to the U.S. Gediminas Varvuolis. Allow me to assure you that the matters you raise are being treated with due attention at the governmental level.

We appreciate your continued engagement on the important issue of historical accuracy and remembrance. Lithuania deeply values its close partnership with the United States and shares your commitment to addressing the tragic legacy of the past, especially the Holocaust, with responsibility, transparency, and respect for the victims. Lithuania's state institutions have repeatedly and publicly condemned both the Holocaust and the actions of local collaborators who participated in Nazi crimes. This position has been clearly reflected in parliamentary resolutions, official commemorations, and consistent public statements by official authorities acknowledging the responsibility to confront this painful chapter of history openly and honestly.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to provide clarification based on the information supplied by the Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania, the institution responsible for historical research in this area.

First and foremost, the Centre has acknowledged that its earlier public formulation from 2018 referring to the "complete exoneration" of Juozas Ambrazevičius-Brazaitis was legally imprecise and has expressed regret for this miswording. This formulation has since been corrected to more accurately reflect the nature of the findings.

At the same time, it is important to emphasize that this correction concerns the legal terminology used by the Center, rather than the underlying factual outcome of the U.S. investigation. The archival records of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service show that, following an extensive and internationally coordinated inquiry, no evidence of a probative nature was found to substantiate allegations of involvement in anti-Jewish or pro-Nazi activities.

On this basis, in 1974 the case concerning Juozas Ambrazevičius-Brazaitis was discontinued, and the individual was removed from the list of alleged Nazi war criminals residing in the United States.

For full transparency, I would like to draw your attention to the attached original U.S. documents, including the 1974 letter of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to the Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and International Law of the House Judiciary Committee, as well as the related Congressional correspondence, which confirm both the scope and outcome of the investigation.

At the same time, the Lithuanian side fully acknowledges the important distinction you raise: the administrative discontinuation of an investigation does not constitute a formal judicial exoneration under U.S. legal standards. Lithuanian institutions do not seek to attribute to the United States authorities any formal determination beyond what is supported by official documentation, and the earlier wording has been corrected precisely to avoid any misunderstanding.

Lithuania remains firmly committed to a responsible, evidence-based, and transparent approach to historical evaluation. Over the past decades, our country has undertaken significant efforts to address the legacy of both Nazi and Soviet occupations with integrity, including through scholarly research, legal frameworks, and education. We honor the memory of Holocaust victims and continue to support efforts to preserve historical truth and counter any distortion.

We greatly appreciate your engagement on this important issue and your support for strong U.S.–Lithuania relations. We trust that the clarification provided above, together with the attached original documents, contributes to a shared understanding grounded in historical evidence and mutual respect.

Please accept, Congressman Sherman, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Respectfully,

Viceminister of Foreign Affairs



Vidmantas Verbickas

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP, AND
INTERNATIONAL LAW

JOSHUA EILBERG, PA., CHAIRMAN
JEROME R. WALDIE, CALIF. WILLIAM J. KEATING, OHIO
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Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

GARNER J. CLINE, COUNSEL
ARTHUR P. ENDRES, JR., ASSISTANT COUNSEL
DONALD G. BENN, ASSOCIATE COUNSEL
FRANCES F. CHRISTY, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

2429 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515
January 13, 1975

Mr. Stanley A. Gecys
Executive Vice-President
Lithuanian-American Community of the U.S.A., Inc.
1004 Robinson Building
42 South 15th Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

Dear Mr. Gecys:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from the Immigration and Naturalization Service which states that Juozas Brazaitis and Jonas Slepetyts have been removed from the active list of Alleged Nazi War Criminals residing in the United States and that the investigations relating to them have been stopped.

These actions are based upon the INS's determination that there is no evidence of anti-Jewish or pro-Nazi activities on their part.

I trust that this document will serve to relieve the pressures and frustrations these two men and their friends have been living under because of the charges which had been brought against them.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,


JOSHUA EILBERG

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Encls.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20536

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PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO

AND REFER TO THIS FILE NO.
CO 703.951

DEC 6 7 1974

Dear Chairman Eilberg:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated December 20, 1974 requesting a status report on this Service's investigation of alleged Nazi War Criminals Juozas Brazaitis and Jonas Slepetyts. The Service investigation of Messrs. Brazaitis and Slepetyts was conducted jointly by reason of the almost identical predicated allegation to wit: that during the life of the interim Provisional Government of Lithuania from June 23, 1941 to July 12, 1941 (3 weeks) Mr. Brazaitis as Minister of Education and acting Prime Minister and Mr. Slepetyts as Minister of Interior were responsible for the issuance and enforcement of repressive edicts against the Jewish minority.

In the interest of clarity, brevity and expediency I have attached for your information and retention copies of the following listed material pertinent to these cases:

1. Memorandum of Information concerning Jonas Slepetyts.
2. Memorandum of Information concerning Juozas Brazaitis.
3. Print-out of a biographical profile of Mr. Brazaitis, extracted from the Lithuanian Encyclopedia (English Language) published in 1958 by Juozas Kapocias and printed by the Spaude Lithuanian Encyclopedia Press, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts.
4. Memorandum for files of both subjects setting forth a list of War Document Centers, organizations, individuals, German District Attorneys, journalists, and other recognized authorities in the field of war crimes who were contacted during the course of this investigation.

In addition to the foregoing approximately forty (40) other potential sources of information were contacted throughout the United

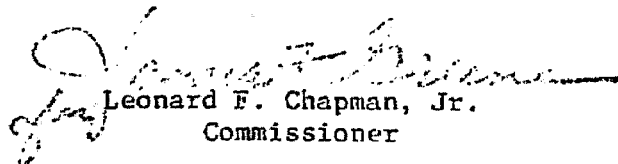
States, Europe and the Near East. No information of an evidentiary nature was elicited from any of the sources outlined. Mr. Slepety's voluntarily appeared before Service officers and testified in depth under oath as to his service in the Provisional Lithuanian government and activities related thereto. Mr. Slepety's categorically denied the veracity of the allegations. In an attempt to elicit similar testimony from Mr. Brazaitis, it was ascertained that he had recently sustained his fourth heart attack and was hospitalized. Mr. Brazaitis' physician advised that the prognosis of his patients' condition was unfavorable, and he could project no time frame within which Mr. Brazaitis might be questioned without detriment to his personal well being.

A review committee, composed of highly qualified officers from each Service operational activity, responsible for oversight monitoring and evaluation of all cases involving Alleged Nazi War Criminals residing in the United States, has recently completed a comprehensive examination of the cases relating to Messrs. Brazaitis and Slepety's. It was this committee's opinion that the investigation in these cases had elicited no substantive evidence to substantiate the predicated allegations (supra). It was their further opinion that in the absence of any probative information to the contrary, further investigation in these matters appeared unwarranted.

Based upon the foregoing, the names of Messrs. Brazaitis and Slepety's have been removed from the active list of Alleged Nazi War Criminals residing in the United States and the investigations relating thereto deactivated. Despite the foregoing action, it is a standard practice in cases of this type, to continue to query all new sources of information developed, for identification and possible information of probative value. Should meaningful information be elicited thru this procedure, the investigation is reactivated to pursue same.

It is hoped that the foregoing is responsive to your request and of some assistance to you.

Sincerely,


Leonard F. Chapman, Jr.
Commissioner

Honorable Joshua Eilberg
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Enclosures

September 21, 1974

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MEMORANDUM TO FILE

re: BRAZAITIS, Juozas AB 222 100

DELY
Jew
9/21/74

The below listed overseas War Documents Centers, German District Attorneys, organizations, individuals and other sources of information have been contacted regarding the above named Subject. To date no information of an evidenciary nature has been elicited from any of these sources.

- 1- American Federation of Jewish Ghetto Fighters, Camp Inmates and Nazi Victims, 505 5th Avenue, New York, New York
- 2- Jewish Cultural Clubs and Societies, 1133 Broadway, New York, New York
- 3- Morning Freiheit, Chaim Sullor, editor; 35 E. 12 Street, New York, N.Y.
- 4- Jewish Currents, Morris Schappas, editor; 22 E. 17 Street, New York, N.Y.
- 5- World Jewish Congress, 15 East 84 Street, New York, New York
- 6- American Jewish Congress, 15 East 84 Street, New York, New York
- 7- Center of Russian Jewry, 20 West 72 Street, New York, New York
- 8- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, 315 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York
- 9- Jewish Labor Committee, 25 East 78 Street, New York, New York
- 10- Federation of Polish Jews, 345 8th Avenue, New York, New York
- 11- Committee Against Nazism and Anti-Semitism, 345 8th Ave., New York, N.Y.
- 12- United Restitution Organization, 1241 Broadway, New York, New York
- 13- Ukrainian News, Michael Manuslak, editor, 85 E. 4 Street, New York, N.Y.
- 14- YIVO Institute, 86 Street, New York, New York
- 15- Dorothy Rabbowitz, reporter, 55 East 9 Street, New York, New York
- 16- Fritz Weinschenk, ~~German~~ for German Consulate in New York, 630 5th Ave. New York, New York



File # 100-30
RE BRAZAITIS, Juozas
CC WF - Stepan, John
Auth. [Signature]
Date 11/21/74
Filed [Signature]

(List of Report Nazi War Criminals Residing in the United States) (Cont'd)

- 17- Frederick Alberti, attorney, 1180 6th Avenue, New York, New York
- 18- Shirley Korman, authority, 69-12 Exerter Street, Queens, New York
- 19- Charles Allen, 175 West 79 Street, New York, New York
- 20- Henrika Mitron, camp survivor, 65-39 171 Street, Flushing, New York
- 21- Elmar Rauch, Consul, German Consulate General, New York, New York
- 22- David Trager, United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York, Brooklyn, New York
- 23- Robert Wolfe, Captured Records Branch, Military Archives Division, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- 24- Rabbi Wornik, President, Suffolk Board of Rabbis, East Northport Jewish Center, East Northport, New York.
- 25- Leonard Lieberman, Oklahoma City, Jewish Community Council, 1100 N. Dewey Street, Ste. 103, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- 26- Nathan Loshale, Tulsa Jewish Community Council, 3314 East 51 Street, Ste T., Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- 27- George Wald, Mosaic Law Congregation, 2300 Serra Blvd., Sacramento, California.
- 28- Rabbi Martin Sandberg, Beth-el Synagogue, 903 Ponce de Leon, Santurce, Puerto Rico.
- 29- Mark Solsetka, Jewish Communities of Concentration Camp Survivors, Hartford, Conn.
- 30- Self-Help, 137 Woodbine Street, Providence, Rhode Island
- 31- LACR, 531 South Plymouth Court, Chicago, Illinois, c/o Sol Godstein
- 32- Janusz Korgzak Lodge, 2628 W. Touhy, Skokie, Illinois, c/o David Rosencwajq
- 33- New Citizens Club, 6916 Algonquin, Chicago, Illinois, c/o Allen Kredow
- 34- Shalom, 555 West Roosevelt, Chicago, Illinois, c/o Leo Seifman
- 35- Yom Hashoah Holocaust Memorial Program, Buffalo, New York
- 36- TMA Club, 69 Carpenter Avenue, Buffalo, New York
- 37- New Americans Organization, 5 Greenside Lane, Rochester, New York
- 38- Kol Israel Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio
- 39- Jewish Survivors of Nazism, 1580 Summit Road, Cincinnati, Ohio
- 40- New Hope Synagogue, 1625 Crest Hill, Roselawn, Cincinnati, Ohio
- 41- Benjamin Muller, authority, 3818 Castano, Dayton, Ohio
- 42- Jewish Community Relations Council, St. Paul, Minnesota
- 43- Jewish Counseling Service, Newark, New Jersey

(List of Report Nazi War Criminals Residing in the United States (Cont'd))

- 44- Harry Feldman, authority, 2616 Murray Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 45- Survivors of the Nazi Holocaust, 1523 Joy Road, Detroit, Michigan
- 46- Rabbi Harry Sky, 400 Deering Avenue, Portland, Maine
- 47- Rabbi Alexander, Congregation B'nai Emanuel, 3536 Travel Street, San Francisco, California
- 48- Rabbi Traub, Congregation Adath Israel, 1851 Moriega Street, San Francisco, California
- 49- Congregation B'nai Israel, 1575 Annie Street, Colma, California
- 50- Rabbi Zucheu, 795 Carey Drive, San Leandro, California
- 51- American Jewish Congress, 7803 Clayton Road, Clayton, Missouri
- 52- Jewish Community Centers Association, 11001 Schuetz Road, Creve Couer, Missouri
- 53- B'nai Brith Society, 9378 Olive Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri
- 54- Jewish Federation of St. Louis, 611 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri
- 55- Jewish Community Relations Council, 722 Chestnut Street, St. Louis, Missouri
- 56- Jewish Employment Service, 1727 Lowst Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri
- 57- New Americans Club, 603 West 86 Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri, c/o Jack Igielnik
- 58- New Life Association, San Diego, California
- 59- Jewish Community Center, 2562 Balltown Road, Schenectady, New York
- 60- Jewish Family Service, 291 State Street, Albany, New York
- 61- New American Association, 17 Silverbrook Road, Newton, Massachusetts
- 62- Simon Wiesenthal, Documentation Center for Nazi War Crimes, Vienna, Austria
- 63- Ruth Kluger, author, Tel-Aviv, Israel
- 64- Jewish Ghetto Fighters Museum, Tel-Aviv, Israel
- 65- Yad W'shem Documents Center, Jerusalem, Israel
- 66- Documents Center for Nazi War Crimes, Ludwigsburg, Germany
- 67- Berlin Documents Center, Germany
- 68- Documents Center, Wiesbaden, Germany
- 69- District Attorneys Offices in Frankfurt, Hannover, Dortmund, Hamburg, Germany
- 70- Wiener Library, London, England

Samuel H. Zutterman