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JAV pagerbs partizanų vadą A. Ramanauską–Vanagą

Partisan Leader Ramanauskas-Vanagas will Be Honored in US

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Great news have arrived from the USA: next year, during the commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of partisan Adolfas Ramanauskas-Vanagas' birth, a monument will be built for him there.

The monument will stand in New Britain, Connecticut, where, on March 6, 1918, one of the leaders of the guerilla resistance was born and christened in the Church of St. Andrew.

New Britain's authorities worked hand in hand with the Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania to commemorate Ramanauskas-Vanagas at his birthplace.

The city suggested an honorable spot for the monument next to the tourist-favored Museum of American Art, in a park loved by the citizens, where city holds its celebrations. An interesting fact is that the author of the project of this park also authored the project of the most famous recreational space in the US, New York's Central Park.

The monument will stand in a little square of its own; the city authorities promised an informational stand and benches next to it, as is common next to the most important city spots.

The monument will be cast in Lithuania and paid for by the Genocide and Resistance Research Centre and "Tautos fondas" ["National Foundation" of Lithuanian Americans]; Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs will pay for its transportation and erection.

Author of the monument is sculptor Jonas Jagėla; his composition will consist of the sign of the Lithuanian Freedom Fighters: one vertical and two horizontal parallel lines, transformed into an image of a branchy oak. The sign emphasizes the importance of the forests that were home to the Lithuanian partisans for ten years, and oak symbolizes the strength and invincibility of the Lithuanian nation; the symbol was widely used during the guerilla resistance years.

The lower part of the monument will have text in Lithuanian and English on it, with Vytis, the Lithuanian Coat of Arms, cast above it.

The monument will be cast from pink and grey granite and erected on pavement. Its height will be 3.5 meters, it will weigh 7 500 kilos.

This beautiful idea comes to life as a joint effort of the Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania, Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lithuanian Consul General in New York Julius Pranevičius, "Tautos fondas", and the New Britain Lithuanian Society.

On March 11 this year, a monument to signatory of the Lithuanian Freedom Fight Movement's Declaration of February 16, 1949, and leader of the defense forces Adolfas Ramanauskas-Vanagas was unveiled at the central square of Lazdijai. The square is named after Ramanauskas-Vanagas.