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DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION	PROCESSING ACTION
TO	Chief, WE		MARKED FOR INDEXING
INFO.	Chief, SR		NO INDEXING REQUIRED
FROM			ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING
SUBJECT	REDWOOD Berik HEINE		MICROFILM
ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES			
Ref: OTTA 2276			
<p>1. Subject was interviewed by a member of the SMABOVES on 23 January 1965. Subject was approached by the SMABOVES on the grounds that they were interested in the activities of the Estonians who accompanied a delegation of Soviet tourists to Canada in September 1964.</p> <p>2. Subject appeared most cooperative. He was aware of the visit of the Soviet group and advised the SMABOVES that the delegation included a group of Estonian writers headed by Rudolph Ionhannovich SIRGE, the Secretary of the Estonian S.S.R. Writer's Union and a holder of the Order of Lenin. According to Subject, SIRGE held a secret meeting with 8 Toronto writers of Estonian origin during his visit. This secret meeting has succeeded in dividing the Estonian community in Toronto. The pro-SIRGE group among the eight writers has fostered the idea of Estonians in Canada visiting the home country and possibly repatriating. Subject claimed that he did not attend the secret meeting but heard of it by word of mouth and as a result he had written a leaflet questioning the right of Toronto Estonians to hold private conversations with Communist writers from Estonia. In recounting this incident, Subject stated that he had assumed that the SMABOVES were aware of the meeting. Subject stated that he wanted to make it clear that there were no Communists among the group of eight Toronto Estonians who met with SIRGE. He described these people as liberal dupes of the Communist plan for peaceful co-existence, and said that he would campaign to ensure that similar meetings did not take place in the future.</p> <p>3. The Estonian Nationalist publication MEIE ELU (Our Life) published the following two accounts of the SIRGE meeting with the writers from Toronto:</p> <p>A. Heading in English - The R. Sirge Incident Subject - Meeting with the Estonian Red-writer</p> <p>Distribution: ✓ Orig & 2 - C/WE 2 - C/SR</p>			
CROSS REFERENCE TO	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER	DATE	
	OOOA 9352	26 February 1965	
	CLASSIFICATION	HQS FILE NUMBER	

MICROFILMED
MAR 8 1965
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That R. Sirge has accomplished his mission, what his report to his superiors will be, is of no interest to us, but, what the Estonian people will hear in interviews over the radio and television - that should concern us. They will hear that the Estonian refugees do not resist Communism any longer, that no help can be expected from abroad - this is the service, that a group of politically naive persons has done.

But, there is also the question of trust against our leading personalities and our wish to break down the "Iron Curtain". We will not polemize about this at present.

We know from Sweden, that this is the usual way to contact refugees: a letter or a parcel is delivered, old acquaintances renewed and clever propaganda used to disrupt the unity of the refugee society and the organizations.

R. Sirge's intentions were the same - to make contacts, to break up our unity and undermine the trust against our leaders. This he has accomplished already.

We have to state the fact, that though R. Sirge succeeded in making contacts, he met the "wrong" people. We have no reason to mistrust these persons, because they have accepted the invitation. It is a good lesson for the future, that such invitations should be rejected. Let's forget the incident for the present.

B. Heading in English - K. Eerme Resigned from the Executive of the Estonian National Foreign Campaign Council.

Subject - The R. Sirge Incident

R. Sirge, a writer from Soviet Estonia, came to Canada as a member of a delegation from Russia, which was invited by the Canadian-Soviet Union Friendship organization. A meeting was arranged between him and a group of Estonian writers in Canada. The meeting took place in the apartment of Karl Eerme; present were also Salme Ekbaum, Hannes Oja, Magda Pihla and Arvo E. Naelapea, all of Toronto.

R. Sirge arrived in Toronto as a member of a group of 11 on September 19. Next day he called on an Estonian writer and brought the person a parcel and a letter from a sister in Estonia. R. Sirge wished to meet Estonian writers in Toronto. The president of the Worldwide Estonian Literary Association H. Oja and K. Eerme were contacted. Invited were also writers S. Ekbaum and M. Pihla and the representative of the periodical "Vaba Eesti". The meeting was in camera, the public was not informed, nor the Estonian National Foreign Campaign Council, of which K. Eerme was a member. Despite this, the news spread rapidly in Toronto. The Estonian National Foreign Campaign Council called a meeting and afterwards made the following statement to the newspaper "Meie Elu":

The Estonian National Foreign Campaign Council after hearing the report by K. Eerme about the meeting with R. Sirge, declares, that such a meeting with a representative of hostile power was a mistake, contrary to the principles of the Council and therefore condemnable. K. Eerme agreed, to have made a mistake and asked for his resignation, which was granted.

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4. The SMABOVES had previously been advised of this meeting by another source. According to the SMABOVE source, [] in speaking privately to one of the eight writers, stated that ninety percent of the Estonian population, especially the Estonian youth, are against the Communist regime. SIRGE said that he feared that the youth of Estonia would create some trouble in the near future. The writer to whom SIRGE offered these views attempted to get SIRGE to express them in front of the group but was unsuccessful.

5. Following the discussion of the visiting Estonians, an attempt was made by the SMABOVE interviewing officer to discuss Subject's impending law suit against Yuri RAUS. Subject stated that at one time he and RAUS were friendly and shared similar views. However, during a visit to Baltimore a couple of years ago, Subject met with RAUS and the relations between the two were normal. During their discussion RAUS received a telephone call and he immediately changed his attitude toward Subject. In subsequent speaking engagements, RAUS compared Subject to Arthur HAMAN, the Russian spy and claimed that there were close parallels between the accounts of their lives. Subject, in fact, agreed that there were similarities and that he and HAMAN were approximately the same age at the start of the war with the Russians and the later invasion by the Germans. They both engaged in underground activities against the Communists but were not known to each other. They were both arrested by the N.K.V.D. and it is there that the similarity ends according to Subject. Subject stated that he cannot say how the Russians succeeded in making an agent out of HAMAN. Subject stated that they tortured him and applied electric rods to his reproductive organs but that in spite of this he did not break down. The purpose of the torture was to elicit facts about the underground and not to induce co-operation and that he was not asked to cooperate by the Russians.

6. ^{Erik Heine} Subject described ^{U.S. Gov't} ~~GRAH~~ as an employee of ODYOKK and said that he once thought that RAUS was employed by KUBARK. He expressed the opinion that RAUS was part of a Soviet conspiracy to nullify the efforts of the anti-Communist Estonians. He appeared determined to pursue his legal action against RAUS. ~~Heine determined to press lawsuit against RAUS~~

7. Subject owns his own home in Toronto and he gave no indication that he is planning to leave the country. The SMABOVES note that it is difficult to establish a source close to Subject as his employers and all of his friends and associates are closely connected with the Estonian emigres. The SMABOVES intend to maintain a casual personal contact with Subject and have alerted other sources so that they will be advised should he attempt to leave the country.

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