

TRANSLATION

15 April 1965

SOURCE: Soviet Estonian newspaper "For Return to Homeland" - February, 1958

If Additional Light Should Be Cast on a Modern "Enlightener of People".....

We have noticed an announcement in the emigre press (Free Estonian) that a complementary school was activated in Toronto where Erik Heine is one of the teachers. Who is this new pedagogus who has enriched the emigre establishment with a new event? What can the upstart enlightener of people, Erik Heine, teach to the emigre youth?

It is not too difficult to find an answer. We all know that teaching depends on the type of teacher and the subject and directions of the education is related to the activities and interests of the teacher. Who then is this Erik Heine? His father was a decent piano manufacturer in Tartu, the son a hoodlum in the school and on the street. In 1940 Erik Heine received a prison sentence for hoodlumism, and was released only because his parents followed Hitler's call to Germany. Former prison inmate Erik Heine returned to Estonia in 1941 in the uniform of Hitler's army.

We don't know what subjects this functionary, who was specially baked to lieutenant in Hitler's army, will teach in the Estonian complementary school in Toronto. Since, however, such "Estonian patriots" are well known, we can make some predictions in regard to this education.

When teaching the emigre youth to "retain Estonian heritage" or "remain faithful" to their people and the like, SS lieutenant Erik Heine can pass on his own experiences such as how in 1941 he became a genuine German and not the pseudo-German known from Estonian literature, who on Hitler's invitation went to "waterland". Erik Heine can tell plenty about such strength of character of Estonian men (which is directly in contrast with the convictions and actions of the majority of our people). He can tell lively tales of how in Germany he put on the SS uniform and came to "liberate" the Estonian people from their independence and property. He can also tell to his students that this "liberation" was not quite successful. We think that Heine will not forget to enlighten his students as to how he with similar "Estonian patriots" was captured by our forces at the Janose bridge in 1944. Heine can also tell about his behaviour and activities later on. Escaped from a prison camp, Heine emptied the pockets of working people and returned to homeland, where he played the role of a genuine bandit.

This is no invention. Numerous articles and interviews in the emigre press testify to this. That he is certain in his "nationalism", Erik Heine has told himself: he escaped to Germany only because he declared himself a German. In this way it was possible for Konrad Adenauer's Red Cross to assist the escape of this bandit to Germany. Now this Estonian who had converted to a German so many times, is a teacher of Estonian youth in emigration. We do not believe that his life and experiences can become an example to emigre youth. We believe that his work as a teacher is of a temporary nature, because such dirt can not last long. We are convinced that the influence of this SS-man and bandit "Enlightener of people" will not be contagious to no one he is teaching. That is because those who know Erik Heine's life story are aware that garbage in Estonian is called nothing else but garbage.

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SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2003 2006

TRANSLATION

SOURCE: Soviet Estonian newspaper for emigrants "Homeland", 27 May, 1964

About an Angel with Pink Wings

The Canadian emigrants' "Estonian Central Council" is justifiably called a "Sonderkommando" (Translator: Special activities group in German such as execution detachments, etc.) Its membership included, until the end of their filthy lives, mass murderers, Axel Luitsalu and Aleksander Laak. Currently there are active SS-lieutenants, Ilmar Heinsoo and Dino Kurist, SS-Legion staff member Harri Parkna, Gestapo police commissioner Samuel Kook, August Kala and others.

This "selected society also includes SS-lieutenant Erik Heine.

The emigrant aces have saved no effort in setting Erik Heine up on a pedestal and enclosing him with an aura of martyr and an angel with pink wings.

"Arrested in 1940 for underground activities", "suffered heavy concussion in battles of Tartu and as a prisoner sent to special forced labor camp," "in 1945 escaped from the camp and as partisan until 1950 in Estonia", "arrested and sentenced to death", "death sentence converted to 25 years of hard labor", "escaped to free world in 1953", etc, etc., are the epitaphs whenever there is mention of Erik Heine in emigrant publications.

Based on Erik Heine's stories, Arved Viirldaid has even nailed together a tale, "Spirit and Chains" where Erik Horn, alias Heine, undergoes fantastic adventures. This tale is not lacking for arrest in 1940 for leading underground activities, special slave labor camps, escapes, death sentence and much else which belong to a good "crime novel." If one were to add up all the teeth which Erik Heine, with the assistance of Arved Viirldaid, has lost in "NKVD cellars" then he should have had more teeth to begin with than all the horses in a cavalry regiment.

The real life of Erik Heine, however, is quite different.

He was born in 1919 in Tartu to a family of pseudo-Germans. The parents had a house and a business and it is therefore no great wonder that the events of June, 1940, was not appreciated by their offspring. When the workers demonstrated on the streets of Tartu, Erik Heine yelled insults to them for which he was arrested. (COMMENT: Here Heine has scribbled on the margin "the reason was quite different"). Meanwhile, his parents had followed the fuhrer's call to "waterland", being so scared as to leave their offspring behind. This mistake by the "loving parents" was corrected and Erik Heine was deported to "waterland" to follow them. That is all Erik Heine's "underground activities" consisted of in 1940. This differs like night and day from the version concocted by Erik Heine in the "free world", however, one should be understanding toward Heine, because this is the easiest way to profit there.

On 22 July, 1950, a suspicious person was halted on the grounds of the Song Festival in Tallinn. A search revealed a weapon in his pocket, gold coins and documents in the name of Helmut Helenurm. (COMMENT: Heine's note on margin: "True") A further check revealed that the person was actually Erik Heine who had stolen documents in Helenurm's name from the pocket of a fellow passenger on a train. (COMMENT: Heine's note on margin: "Getting the passport - my explanation to the comics").

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What became of Erik Heine after expulsion from Estonia to "vaterland" and how did he happen to be at the Song Festival grounds in Tallinn in 1950?

Here we will let Erik Heine speak for himself, since his explanation has been preserved in the files.

"In August, 1941, I volunteered for the police battalion, "Ostland", which was formed at Frankfurt am Oder. In December, 1941, the battalion was sent to Kiev. Early in February, 1942, I received orders to go to Tallinn where upon arrival I was assigned to the grade of assistant with the German Security Police, where I worked until August, 1942.

From August, 1942 through April, 1943 I was at a training camp for SS troops in Poland. In April, 1943 I was transferred to the SS division, "Viking", which was sent to Ukraine. At that time I had the rank of SS-Rottenfuhrer.

In August of 1943 I was directed to Officers' School in Bad-Tolz (Germany). Upon graduation in March, 1944, I was sent to the 20th SS-Division, 45th Regiment, I Battalion as an adjutant. Upon graduation I was given the rank of SS Untersturmfuhrer.

With the 20th SS-Division I participated in battles against the Soviet forces at Narva front where I was wounded. In August, 1944, I suffered a concussion near Tartu and I was captured. I stayed at a prison camp for German officers. I have been awarded with an Iron Cross, II class.

In the spring of 1947 I escaped from the prisoner of war camp and started living illegally, traveling from one place to another. I was in hiding until the moment of my arrest, since I was afraid that I would be punished for the crimes committed during the period of German occupation. (COMMENT: Heine's note on margin: "Incorrect date - 1948 is correct). During that time I have not committed any political crimes." (COMMENT: Heine's note on margin: "My explanation to "Ruskies" - the correct story will appear in the next book).

We do not have much to add to Erik Heine's explanation. Perhaps only a few additions which Erik Heine and witnesses revealed during the course of the investigation.

Traveling from city to city Heine engaged in thievery and speculated with gold coins. He said that in 1947, after his escape from the prisoner of war camp, he had 120 5 and 10-ruble gold coins. Erik Heine explained the origin of these coins as follows: before going to "vaterland", his parents had cached these coins in the ground in Tartu, and in 1947 he went there and dug them up. Let the validity of this statement remain on Erik Heine's conscience, although this seems more than doubtful. (COMMENT: Heine's note on margin: "Gold rubles - explanation in the soon to be published book "Fading Light").

We know that Heine's parents trailed after the fascists back to Tartu, since in "vaterland", as they explained to friends, life was miserable. Why then did they, during their stay in Tartu and after their escape to Germany with the fascists, leave the gold in the hands of fate? Heine did not know how to answer that.

Didn't this gold originally come from Ukraine after all, where Erik Heine served in the police battalion "Ostland, and SS-division "Viking". These units participated in "punishment operations", more plainly stated, murders. Or perhaps this gold originated from people who Erik Heine sent to death as assistant with the Security Police during the German occupation?

And now we come to the "point" in Erik Heine's "life history", which according to him and the emigre aces should add the final feather to his glorious hat - to his death sentence. However, we must disappoint them. No one has sentenced Heine to death - not even to 25 years hard labor. On April 7, 1951, the court sentenced him to a correction labor camp for ten years, for service in German punitive organizations and illegal possession of a weapon. (COMMENT: Heine's note on margin: "Was the political police assistant, officer of the Narva battalion, etc., get only ten years!?!")

Also the escape to the "free world" was not mysterious at all. In 1956 he was sent out of the Soviet Union for the second time, even though he had not served his full sentence.

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