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REPORT ON JURI RAUS

Biographic

1. RAUS was born on 4 January 1927 in Tartu, Estonia where his father was serving as a regular officer in the Estonian Cavalry. RAUS attended elementary and secondary schools in Varska near Petseri until 1937, when the family moved to Tallinn in connection with his father's assignment to duty in the Estonian Ministry of War. RAUS attended Gymnasium (high school) in Tallinn from 1940 until 1944. For a three-month period in 1943 and later in July 1944, RAUS served with the Estonian Aerial Observation Group, an element of the Estonian Air Force. In December 1944, as defense against approaching attack by the Red Army, RAUS' unit was incorporated into the German Army and its members were provided with weapons. He was ultimately transferred to the German 5th Armored Division and he participated with this unit in defensive front line combat against the advancing Soviet forces. In March 1945 RAUS was wounded in both legs by Soviet machine gun fire. He was evacuated to Germany and was confined to a hospital in Sonnenberg when the United States Army occupied the area in April 1945.

2. Upon his discharge from the hospital RAUS found a job on a farm near Kassel, where he worked until March 1946. He was then successful in locating his parents in a DP camp near Stuttgart, and he was taken to live with them. Here he attended an Estonian school for children of displaced persons; after graduating in 1947 he enrolled briefly in the University of Tubingen. From the summer of 1948 until the summer of 1949 he worked as a jeep driver for the IRO office in Ulm. The family then emigrated to the United States under the auspices of the Lutheran World Federation.

3. The RAUS family settled in Willimantic, Connecticut and in September 1949 RAUS went to work for the American Crew Company in that city as a machine operator. In September 1950 RAUS was drafted into the U.S. Army. He took basic training with the Transportation Corps at Fort

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- 2 -

Fustis, Virginia. In April 1952, his unit was assigned to Orleans, France, where he remained until September of that year. He was discharged on 4 September 1952 at Fort Devins, Massachusetts, with the rank of Corporal.

4. Immediately upon his separation from military service RAUS enrolled at the University of Connecticut under the GI Bill to study civil engineering. In the fall of 1953 he enrolled in the advanced ROTC course at the University. In 1956 he graduated from the University of Connecticut as a civil engineer and was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant, USAR. He joined an Active Reserve Unit shortly thereafter. RAUS was naturalized on 10 March 1954 at Hartford, Connecticut.

5. In June 1956 RAUS went to work as highway engineer intern for the Connecticut State Highway Department. From September 1957 to May 1958 he attended a highway traffic course at Yale University. In January 1963 he moved to Washington when he obtained employment as a highway research engineer with the Bureau of Public Roads, Department of Commerce.

6. After a 1951 marriage which ended in divorce in 1953, RAUS was married to his present wife, Maire Helda ANNAST in March 1959. She is a naturalized U.S. citizen of Estonian birth who came to this country from Germany with her parents in 1950. The RAUS family has two young children. RAUS' father died in 1955 in Willimantic; his mother resides in an apartment in the Washington area. RAUS currently lives at 6508 Osborn Road, Hyattsville, Maryland.

Assessment:

7. RAUS has been assessed by Agency officers as a man of superior intelligence by comparison with general standards. He is well rounded/ with a wide range of interests in cultural subjects. He is well read on current political events and closely follows world affairs. Testing has indicated that he is a self-reliant and capable individual, able to learn and work on his own. No signs of emotional problems have been noted.

8. RAUS is a convinced anti-Communist who continues to be dedicated to the liberation of Estonia from Soviet

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domination. For this reason he has been active in Estonian emigre organizations, particularly the Legion of Estonian Liberation, an organization of United States citizens of Estonian origin. Until April 1966, he served as National Commander of this organization. In August 1961 he addressed a letter to the White House to volunteer the services of the Legion in behalf of the struggle against world communism. This letter was ultimately referred to the Agency. RAUS is proud of his status in the Army Reserve program and of his present Reserve rank of Captain, believed to be the highest achieved by any post-World War II Estonian-American.

Association with CIA

9. The Agency's first contact with RAUS was in December 1959, when he was interviewed and assessed by Agency officers, acting under Department of Army cover, for a hot-war contingency reserve training program. RAUS was subjected to intensive debriefing as to his background and was afforded thorough physical and psychological testing. He was finally adjudged to be an excellent candidate for training as leader of an Estonian guerrilla warfare group. He signed appropriate secrecy agreements and was accepted for the program, which involved an initial training period followed by subsequent periodic refresher training designed to assure retention of acquired intelligence and para-military skills.

10. In January 1963, at his own initiative, RAUS accepted employment as a highway research engineer with the Bureau of Public Roads. When his handling officer was apprised of this fact, arrangements were made for an Agency liaison officer to contact the responsible Security Officer of the Department of Commerce in order to apprise him on a confidential basis of Agency interest in RAUS and to obtain concurrence for his continued use. The Agency liaison officer was advised that there was no objection, and the Commerce Security Officer subsequently briefed RAUS' supervisor appropriately.

11. At approximately the same time RAUS was also employed by the Agency in his capacity as leader of the Legion of Estonian Liberation, his function being to provide biographic data on individuals who could be used either as

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-4-

foreign intelligence sources or for operational missions for collection of foreign intelligence. It was in this context that discussions were held with RAUS in 1963 concerning Erik HEINE, who was then visiting the United States from Canada in order to make contacts with Estonian-American emigre groups and to show an amateur film depicting his Estonian partisan adventures.

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