

TRANSLATION

SOURCE: Editorial in "Vaba Eestlane" ("Free Estonian"), 8 June, 1960, Toronto  
Estonian newspaper - normally friendly to us. (Raus)

WE NEED CLARIFICATION

The recent announcement that the USA National Security Council has entered into the Erik Heine-Juri Raus case by presenting a secret document relating to the rights and duties of the CIA, increases the probability that Judge Thomsen will dismiss the case when it again comes to trial at the end of August in Baltimore. Heine has the right to appeal to the Supreme Court of the USA, but this is time consuming process and there is little hope that the USA Central Intelligence Agency will reveal secret information based on which CIA had J. Raus announce publicly that E. Heine is a Soviet agent.

Such a result which is without precedence in USA legal history would not satisfy anyone and would be quite unacceptable to our community. In this case, we would have no clarification whether CIA's allegations are really based on certain facts or whether E. Heine is an innocent sufferer who fell victim to some mistake or some unknown behind-the-scenes combination. This would further split our community and make impossible to take a firm stand regarding E. Heine, who apparently has decided to continue taking active part in Estonian organizational activities despite the shadows of suspicion upon him.

We need clarification and in order to obtain that our central action organization - Estonian Central Council - should turn to the Canadian government. We understand completely that the USA Central Intelligence Agency cannot possibly reveal their information and we are resigned to accept that the details of the entire story remain unclarified. We only want to know whether or not Erik Heine is a Soviet agent and if the USA court will not give this answer then we have to get an answer from Ottawa.

The leader of the opposition, John Diefenbaker, reportedly raised this question in parliament and we hear that Canadian officials have taken steps to obtain clarification. We should show initiative on our part, indicating that this question is of vital importance to our nationality group. This would hasten the respective agencies to more energetic action. The Canadian Security Police - RCMP - is undoubtedly in close cooperation with USA security agencies and materials of proof which would endanger USA security, if made public, should be at least partially accessible to friendly Canadian government representatives. Based on such information, it is only necessary for Ottawa to tell us in respect to the suspicions simply "yes" or "no" and we shall accept this as a fact.

It caused us very strange feelings to hear the remark by USA Senator, Eugene J. McCarthy, at the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee meeting that it is of no significance whether communists penetrate our nationality group or not and a reply to this has already been sent by the President of the Estonian National Committee in the United States, Heikki Leesment. There is no reason to believe that the Canadian officials would assume a similar position and would treat this complicated question with relative indifference. Since

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Continued

Estonians here in a large majority are Canadian citizens, it is the duty of the government to serve their interests. Canadian politicians have repeatedly emphasized at our gatherings and elsewhere the importance of Estonians in enriching the Canadian society and in exposing the true nature of communism. Based on these testimonies, it is unthinkable that the solidarity and peace of mind of our nationality group would be considered unimportant in Ottawa.

The Canadian officials have already agreed to obtain clarification in this question, but these actions at times move slowly. Initiative on our part would undoubtedly have a hastening effect as we have experienced in several previous occasions. We cannot remain passive bystanders and wait for developments inactively, because we need clarification as soon as possible.

SOURCE: Editorial in "Vaba Eestlane" ("Free Estonian"), 8 June, 1966