

Heine Clears U.S. Customs On Way to CIA Court Fight

By ORR KELLY
Star Staff Writer

What happens to a person accused as a spy when he tries to cross the border into the United States?

The same thing that happens to ordinary tourists. He loses his luggage.

Erik Heine, who has been described by the Central Intelligence Agency as "a dispatched Soviet intelligence operative, a KGB agent," went through U.S. customs and immigration inspection at Toronto without a hitch yesterday on his way here to attend a court hearing in Baltimore today.

The only trouble on the whole trip came at Washington National Airport when he tried to find someone who knew where he could claim his baggage with the little red claim check the customs agents had given him in Toronto.

Finally, he was sent to the air cargo office in the hangar farthest removed from the terminal. There, he was given a piece of paper and told to take it to the customs office, another half mile away.

Finally, he got the luggage.

Seemed Pleased

Heine, who was half expecting to be arrested when he went through customs in Toronto, seemed pleased when one of the agents said he thought he recognized his name.

But the other agent nudged him and said, "Aw, you're thinking of Sonja Heine."

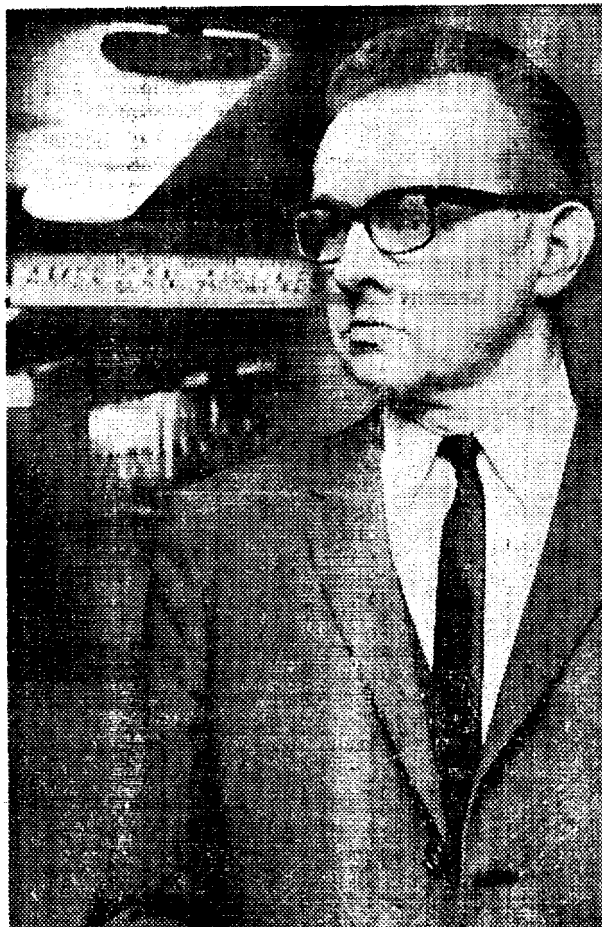
Heine, a resident of Rexdale, a suburb of Toronto, checked in at the American Airlines ticket counter at the Toronto International Airport a little before 8:30 a.m. He was directed to the U.S. customs counter just behind the ticket counter.

A polite and cooperative U.S. customs agent asked the usual questions about what he was carrying.

Heine told him he had with him a film of a two-hour movie based on his experiences as a guerrilla fighter against the Russians in the forests of Estonia.

Heine showed the agent a brochure printed in both English and Estonian describing the film.

The agent then suggested he get a certificate from Canadian customs so he would have no trouble bringing the film back into Canada.



—Star Staff

EERIK HEINE
Man without luggage.

"He was very cooperative, most helpful," Heine said.

When Flight 402 was called, Heine went to Boarding Room 30 in the new circular terminal building.

His ticket was checked by an airline agent and he then showed his plastic, wallet-sized Canadian passport to a blue-shirted U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service officer. The card carries his picture and both his signature and his type-written name.

Routinely, the agent asked where he was from, where he was going and how long he would be there.

He then stamped the ticket, "Admitted, April 27, 1966."

"Wheew," said Heine, as he stepped into the waiting room.

"I really hoped they would arrest me. Then I would have my day in court."

A spokesman for the Toronto office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service ex-

pressed surprise when informed of the CIA's description of Heine. "We've heard nothing about him," the spokesman said. "We've received no instructions of any sort about him. It was just another routine clearance for us."

Juri Raus, who made the accusations against Heine, has pleaded absolute immunity against the slander suit because he said he was making the statements in the course of his job as an agent of the CIA. Thus, the truth or falsity of the charges may never be tried in court.

As he settled himself in a window seat on the new twin jet BAC-400, Heine talked freely about his case.

"It is sad, very sad," Heine said.

No Hard Feelings

"CIA and I are both on the same side.

ways.

"If they destroy me, they will remove a fighter. If I am cleared, it hurts the CIA. I want to make it clear that I have no hard feelings against the CIA. We fight the same fight."

The ground below was not visible as the plane carrying Heine crossed the U.S.-Canadian border at 27,000 feet about 9:35 a.m.

He landed at LaGuardia Airport in New York a little less than an hour later.

As he stepped off the plane onto a red-carpeted boarding ramp he remarked with a chuckle:

"Here I am on American soil." Then he flew on to National.

After finally getting his luggage, he met with his attorneys, Ernest C. Raskauskas and Robert J. Stanford, in preparation for today's hearing, in which they will attempt to take a deposition from Raus.