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Slander Case Stalled by CIA Secrecy

BALTIMORE, April 21 (UPI) — The Central Intelligence Agency which jealously guards the identity of its agents, has identified one of them — as a Bureau of Public Roads engineer — as the result a civil suit.

The CIA admitted to Federal District Judge Roszel C. Thomson here that Juri Raus, 39, of 6508 Osborne Road, Hyattsville, has indeed served as an agent — but it wouldn't say any more.

A slander suit has been brought against Mr. Raus by Erik Heine, 48, of Rexdale, Ontario, Canada.

Mr. Raus is national commander of an Estonian veterans organization dedicated to overthrowing Soviet control of their former country, and Mr. Heine is an Estonian working for the same cause.

Mr. Heine claimed Mr. Raus slandered him by telling other leaders of the Estonian cause

that he, Mr. Heine, was in reality a double agent serving the Russians. Mr. Raus' attorney claimed immunity from the suit for him because he gave information on CIA orders. Judge Thomson has refused to dismiss the suit, in hopes the CIA would gain more.