

# DISPATCH

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PROCESSING ACTION

TO	Chief, Bonn Operations Base	X	MARKED FOR INDEXING
INFO	Chief, Munich COS, Germany, COB, Berlin, Operations Base		NO INDEXING REQUIRED
FROM	Chief, SB via Chief, EUR		ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING
SUBJECT	REDTOP LCIMPROVE AEJETSET Erik HEINE Case		MICROFILM

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

ACTION: Per Paragraph 1

REFERENCES: A. EGNW 4301, 5 April 1965 (Not sent to Berlin)

B. EGNW 29985, 17 August 1965

1. This dispatch is a follow-up to discussions held in Bonn on 7-8 September 1966 among [redacted] and [redacted] concerning the ERIC HEINE case. As noted in these talks, this case has been assigned a high priority at Headquarters and we hope that CAVATA will give full support in a prompt and extensive examination of certain elements of HEINE's background noted below. In particular, a number of questions have arisen which pertain to the various periods when HEINE claims he was in Germany, in the Germany Army and in Estonia during the German occupation. Forwarded herewith is a list of questions, requests for action, documents and CAVATA comment. We are aware that some of the requests are probably impossible of fulfillment because pertinent records may have been destroyed or fallen into Soviet possession at the end of World War II. However, because of the importance of the case, we would hope that CAVATA will make every effort to check out to the fullest extent possible the questions contained herein. We are particularly interested in obtaining expert opinion and comment from CAVATA on HEINE's testimony about his military service, which they are best able to analyze.

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ATTACHMENT: As stated

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2. HEINE's Parents. During his interrogatory under oath in February 1965 (Chronological summary forwarded in Reference A) HEINE stated that he participated in an anti-Soviet, flag-raising incident in Tartu in July 1940, had thus come to the attention of the police, but had escaped capture. His parents were held hostage so he decided to turn himself in to free them from danger. He was held in various prisons in Tartu and Tallinn from August 1940 to April 1941. Sometime during this period his parents, Oscar HEINE, DPOB: 17 September 1892, Ahrensburg (Kuuresaare) and Margarete HEINE (nee KUUSIK), DPOB: 10 November 1895, Dorpat (Tartu), were repatriated to Germany from Estonia on the grounds that one of Mrs. HEINE's parents had been a German. HEINE stated in the interrogatory that at this time there was an agreement between Germany and the Soviet Union that people with German blood could apply for immigration to Germany (Ribbentrop-Molotov agreement). He stated that, because his life was in danger in a Soviet prison, his parents decided to emigrate to Germany as "the only possible way to save" his life. On their arrival in Germany HEINE's parents were interned in Schwabish Hall until HEINE met them there in April/May 1941 after his own "repatriation". The only documentation his parents had at this time consisted of their Estonian passports and some sort of identification card which was issued them by the German organization (unnamed) which arranged their repatriation.

3. Based on this part of HEINE's story we have the following questions and requests for comment:

- a) Is there any record extant of HEINE's parents' application for immigration from Estonia? Where and how did they apply?
- b) When did HEINE's parents enter Germany, where and with what documentation?
- c) What is CAVATA's opinion of this part of HEINE's story about his parents--given the political situation between Germany and the Soviet Union at that time? Would HEINE's parents have qualified for repatriation under the Ribbentrop-Molotov agreement, or under any other exchange agreement?

4. HEINE has stated that his parents returned to Tartu during the German occupation of Estonia and returned again to Germany in 1943 or 1944. After the end of World War II HEINE's parents emigrated from Germany to Canada via England. We would appreciate any information which can be developed on these travels by the HEINES. We would also appreciate receiving copies of any documents which are found relating to HEINE's parents and grandparents. Information on his grandparents apparently is available in his citizenship

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CONTINUATION OF  
DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION:  
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DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER  
EGNW 5687

file (Per Paragraph 1, BONN 9322, July 1965). In particular we would like a copy of Oscar HEINE's Umsiedlerausweis, if it is available.

5. HEINE's Wife. On at least one occasion HEINE has been contradictory about when he first met his wife Elsa, nee VARRES, DPOB: ca 1922, Estonia, whom he married in Canada in 1957. HEINE has stated that he met Elsa VARRES at Schwabish Hall at the time he was reunited with his parents. We would appreciate any information indicating the presence of Elsa VARRES at Schwabish Hall in April/May 1941.

6. HEINE's Repatriation 1941. HEINE gave the following story about his own repatriation to Germany in 1941. After his arrest when he turned himself in to the police, he was confined in prison in Tartu until February 1941 when he was transferred to the Tallinn city prison. In March/April 1941, after about nine months of imprisonment during which he was interrogated, often tortured and kept in solitary confinement, the torture and questioning suddenly ceased and HEINE found himself in a group of prisoners who, he was told, were awaiting extradition from Estonia to Germany. HEINE's reaction to this situation apparently was one of disbelief and surprise, since he claims he had not made any kind of application for repatriation and continually had made it clear to his Soviet captors that he was an Estonian. Near the end of April HEINE was taken before a tribunal of Russian officers where he was questioned about his date of birth and nationality. Shortly after this hearing HEINE was taken with about twenty other prisoners by bus to a special train for repatriates which travelled to Germany via Tilzit, Lithuania. During the train trip HEINE stated he was told by a German official that his parents had been trying to secure his release from prison. HEINE's destination in Germany was an "old German Castle" in Southern Germany which, he states, served as a holding area for the repatriates while they awaited job assignments and received medical examinations. HEINE stated that he was told that he had been sent to this camp because the German authorities were trying to locate his parents. After about two weeks the parents were located at Schwabish Hall and HEINE joined them there in May 1941. HEINE's parents had been "waiting" for him to come out of Soviet Estonia. HEINE stated that he had been released from prison and repatriated because of efforts made on his behalf by his parents from Germany. In his interrogatory HEINE gave the following version of the effort to obtain his repatriation from Estonia. He stated that the "real Germans" had been repatriated in 1939, but in 1941 it was still possible for some Estonians to be repatriated to Germany. The German organization which arranged the 1939 repatriations was still in existence in Estonia in 1940/41. so HEINE's mother went to the organization, told them of the arrest of her son, and asked for advice about how his release could be obtained. Apparently she was told that if the HEINES repatriated to Germany it would be possible to have their son repatriated also. HEINEA

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CLASSIFICATION  
S E C R E T

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stated that the German officials were impressed when his mother told them of the flag incident and said that "We have to get that boy out at all costs." According to HEINE's story about his parents above, they did emigrate to Germany and, one way or another, HEINE's release from prison and "repatriation" were effected.

7. Soon after HEINE's arrival at Schwabish Hall, passports were issued to the people in the camp. HEINE and his parents were given "alien passports". (Note: HEINE's father's Fremdenpass, a photogopy of which we are forwarding as attachment, classified the father as "stateless.") HEINE stated that he and his parents received alien passports because they were German only to the extent that one of his maternal grandparents had been German.

8. Headquarters has the following questions related to HEINE's repatriation.

- a) Does CAVATA feel that a person of HEINE's ostensibly anti-Soviet, nationalistic Estonian bias would have been released by the Soviets and allowed to repatriate? Are there precedents for this known to CAVATA?
- b) Would the German government which later classified HEINE's father as "stateless" have made an effort to have such a person as HEINE repatriated as HEINE claims?
- c) Could the German officials normally have been successful in obtaining the release from prison and passage out of Soviet-occupied Estonia of a person such as HEINE who had been imprisoned for anti-Soviet activity?
- d) Does CAVATA have any record or knowledge of any cases of other Soviet agents apprehended at this time whose legends and cover stories resembled the story told by HEINE.
- e) A copy of HEINE's Umsiedlerausweis was forwarded as attachment to Reference B. Are there any other documents available which relate to HEINE's 1941 repatriation?
- f) In connection with HEINE's Umsiedlerausweis, we have the following questions. How and where would it have been issued? We note that the form apparently was printed in Riga, Latvia and contains provision for its application to either an Estonian or Latvian national.

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EGNW 5687

9. HEINE's Military Career. In July 1941 HEINE joined an Estonian military unit which was being formed in Germany. He was sent to a training camp at Frankfurt am Oder where all the trainees were Estonian. HEINE stated that at this camp he was given an opportunity to become a German citizen, which he did not accept. He became a member of the "Ostland Battalion" (Also known as the "Kiev Battalion") which was sent to the Ukraine in November 1941, first to guard an "electricity factory" in Kiev and later to the Pripet Marshes near Cherkassy to combat Soviet partisans. HEINE's SS Record (Photocopy forwarded from BDC as Attachment to EGBA 76957, 25 February 1964. Copies sent as Attachment to Addressees of Reference A) indicates that he was in the "Polizei" from 16 July 1941 to 1 March 1942. Was the Ostland Battalion considered a police unit?

10. HEINE stated that in February 1942 he was detached from the Ostland Battalion on the orders of the government of German-occupied Estonia and sent to Tallinn. He said that his presence in Estonia was desired by the German-sponsored government of Estonia because he had suffered beatings and tortures at the hands of the Soviets and was known as a fierce anti-Communist. After a train trip via Kiev, HEINE arrived in Tallinn in February 1942. He became an "assistant second-class" in the Estonian Political Police under the S.D. From February to August he acted as an interrogator of Communist agents and collaborators. During this period he evidently was receiving on-the-job training as he questioned prisoners who had already been broken by other interrogators. He stated that, among others, he interrogated a Neeeme RUUS whom he has variously designated as "Minister of Welfare" and "Minister of Soviet Republic." HEINE stated that in August 1942 he was transferred to Haapsalu on the west coast of Estonia where he continued his political police duties with the new rank of "assistant first-class." This part of HEINE's story is particularly suspect since it is hard to believe that the Government of German-occupied Estonia would request the transfer from the war zone of a twenty-two year old private soldier with no police experience. Moreover, there is no record of this alleged transfer in his SS record which evidently does record his service with the Ostland Battalion. Also, we have no evidence other than his own story that he was in fact in Estonia and a member of the political police at this time. Does CAVATA have any comment on this part of HEINE's story?

11. HEINE stated that he decided to terminate his service with the Estonian Political Police because the organization was being used against innocent Estonians. HEINE states that at the end of August 1942 he volunteered in Tallinn for the Estonian Legion and went to Debica, Poland where he was trained from September 1942 until March 1943. The commanding officer of HEINE's training unit was a Col. FNU EBERHARDT. In March 1943 HEINE was sent with his unit to the Ukraine where it was held

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CONTINUATION OF  
DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION  
S E C R E T

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER  
EGNW 5687

in reserve. HEINE stated that in May 1943 he was transferred to the officers' training school at Bad Tolz. After three months training he became a non-commissioned officer and entered the officers' course. HEINE's SS file indicates that he was in the "11 K.O.L." or "11 K.J.L." (Possibly Kriegs-Junker-Lehrgang) from 6 September 1943 to 11 March 1944, but there is no indication of a period of NCO training. Aside from his SS record we have no concrete evidence that HEINE was at Bad Tolz when he said he was. He has been unable to identify pictures of instructors who, according to a fairly reliable source, were at Bad Tolz when he was allegedly there. One person who HEINE "remembers" as having been at Bad Tolz when HEINE says he was there cannot verify his presence. The following questions are pertinent to this part of HEINE's story. Is there any record extant of HEINE having received NCO training at Bad Tolz? Are there any other records of training at Bad Tolz (other than HEINE's SS file) which mention Eerik HEINE or a similar name? In connection with the last question, it would be of particular interest to Headquarters to determine if there was another HEINE at Bad Tolz at this time, since it has been reported that there was in fact another HEINE, an engineer who was probably an Estonian, who graduated from the Bad Tolz officers school in December 1943.

12. After completion of training at Bad Tolz HEINE allegedly received the rank of "Ober-Junker" and was sent to the Narva front where he arrived in February or March 1944 as a member of the 1st Battalion, 45th Regiment of the 20th Waffen SS Division (1st Estonian). On this journey HEINE was accompanied by a Harry NIIDRE who presumably finished training at Bad Tolz at the same time as HEINE. NIIDRE was assigned to the same unit on the Narva front as HEINE. Please ask CAVATA to initiate traces to determine if there was a Harry NIIDRE at Bad Tolz at this time and in the 1st Battalion, 45th Regiment of the 20th Waffen SS.

13. HEINE's SS Record contains the entry "18-5-42" or "18-9-42" apparently indicating the date when he joined the Waffen SS. This entry is of considerable interest for the following reasons. If the entry is "18-5-42" it contradicts HEINE's story that he was in the Estonia Political Police in May 1942. If the entry is "18-9-42" it corroborates his testimony that he left the Estonian Political Police to join the Waffen SS in September 1942. However, the entry itself appears to have been changed or at least badly smudged and appears very sloppy in comparison to the neat entries on the other parts of the form. As was stated in Paragraph 9 above, the copy of this document in our possession was obtained from BDC in February 1964. Would it be possible to check the original BDC document to determine if the entry was changed and, if so, from what?

14. HEINE's story concerning his service on the Narva front, capture by the Red Army, subsequent imprisonments and exploits as anti-Soviet partisan is outlined in Reference A. No questions concerning this period are being posed to CAVATA because it is felt that

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PAGE NO.  
6  
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CONTINUATION OF  
DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION  
S E C R E T

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER  
EGNW 5687

it is unlikely that there exist in the West any records pertinent to this part of HEINE's story.

15. HEINE's Repatriation, November 1956. HEINE was repatriated as a POW to West Germany on 26 November 1956. In the interrogatory he stated that, prior to his release, he was in a Soviet prison camp near Potma- and subsequently near Moscow in August and September 1956 where he was held at a dacha where Field Marshall von PAULUS had been detained. In early October or November he was taken to the West German Embassy or Ambassador's residence in Moscow where he was inter-rogated briefly in the presence of some Soviet of- ficials by a German official who obtained biographic data from him. On approximately 20 November 1956 HEINE was shipped out of the Moscow area by train to East Berlin. He stated that, at this time, he had no documentation. When interviewed by WOPACT in 1957 HEINE stated that in June 1953 while in a Soviet prison camp he sent his name and parents' address to the German Red Cross via a German POW, Walter ENDE, who in 1957 was possibly at the University of Heidelberg. HEINE stated that he received a "reply" from the German Red Cross in Hamburg on 26 June 1956. He stated also that the Red Cross arranged his ultimate release from Soviet custody in November 1956. HEINE also received food packages from the German Red Cross and has supplied photocopies of the customs declarations which pertained to the packages. (See Attachment) From the declarations it appears that the packages were addressed to him per- sonally at Post Office Box 5110/33, Central Post Office, Moscow. Does CAVATA or the German Red Cross have any record as to how and when HEINE first came to the at- tention of the West Germany authorities? Does CAVATA have any information about what particular prison camp, if any, the post office box above indicated.

16. Per Paragraph 2 of Reference B, CAVATA reported that the Bundesarchiv in Kornelimuenster, contained a trace on HEINE indicating a date when he received a promotion. Apparently it was unclear whether HEINE was at Bad Tolz when he was promoted. Please ask CAVATA to clarify this point. Would it be possible to obtain copies of the documents in this file?

17. Bonn: Forwarded as an Attachment for passage to CAVATA are photocopies of documents which HEINE has provided through his lawyers at the request of RAUS' counsel.

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PAGE NO.

7