

# DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION

**SECRET** E T

PROCESSING ACTION

TO	Chief, Soviet Bloc		MARKED FOR INDEXING
INFO.	Chief, European Division		NO INDEXING REQUIRED
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SUBJECT	REDTOP SMABOVE Interview with HEINE Contact		MICROFILM

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

*selcirk*  
OCOW-5907, 22 July 1966

SMABOVE has provided the attached interview with Fred TAMM  
for our files.

Attachment: a/s

Distribution: 2 - SB (w/att 3 copies)  
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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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CROSS REFERENCE TO	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER OOOA-11528	DATE 10 February 1967
	<b>SECRET</b> E T	HQS FILE NUMBER

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On the 13 and 20 January, 1967, Mr. Fred TAMM was contacted at Centrex Electric, 5614 Fenwick Street, Halifax, N.S., where he is employed as the General Manager.

Mr. TAMM stated that his full name is Fred Karl TAMM, born on the 14 February, 1924, at Viljandi, Estonia. His father's name is Karl August TAMM, born 24 July, 1894, and he, at present, lives in Toronto, Ontario. Fred TAMM's mother is deceased and he has no brothers.

According to TAMM, the Germans organized and armed the "Ostland" Battalion which was composed of Estonians dedicated to fight the Russians due to the latter's treatment of Estonia in 1940-41. In 1942 this Battalion was disbanded and the Estonian Legion formed. In September 1942, TAMM joined the Estonian Legion and was sent to a training camp located at Debica, Poland. Shortly after, TAMM became aware of HEINE being in the camp and knew him to see and to casually speak to. At this time HEINE was a member of the 1st Battalion, 1st Company, which was an infantry unit. TAMM was in the 1st Battalion, 4th Machine Gun Company. About 20 members of the 1st Battalion, including TAMM and HEINE were selected to take additional training of 5 hours a day for 2 weeks in a course for promotion to corporal. During this time they began to know each other fairly well. After two weeks each returned to his respective unit and saw very little of each other thereafter.

In the spring of 1943, TAMM was transferred to Headquarters of the Estonian Legion in Tallinn, Estonia, where he held the position of a clerk. In the early part of 1944, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and in the summer of 1944 he was promoted to sergeant-major, a position he held until the end of the war between Estonia and Russia (September, 1944). During this term in Headquarters, TAMM was in the personnel branch and had some knowledge through official channels of HEINE's movements. He recalls that, between the spring of 1943 and the spring of 1944, HEINE received officers' training. TAMM had heard through other people and not officially that, from the training camp in Poland, HEINE's battalion was transferred and engaged in fighting in the Ukraine. At that time HEINE was wounded. Through official records TAMM learned that HEINE's battalion was transferred to a town named Narva, which is located on the border of Estonia and Russia. The battalion's identifying mark was changed from the 1st Battalion to Battalion "Narva". Shortly after, HEINE received a promotion to 2nd lieutenant.

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In September 1944, when the Russians overran Estonia, TAMM left his headquarters and, with about 12 other men, escaped to Latvia by vehicle and from there to Germany by ship. No word of HEINE came to TAMM's attention, and he believed that HEINE must have been captured by the Russians.

After the war TAMM voluntarily went to a displaced persons' camp and on or about the 28 May, 1950, he immigrated to Canada. He received no correspondence or heard anything about HEINE until sometime in 1957. At this time TAMM was living in Toronto and had read of HEINE's exploits in the Toronto Estonian newspaper. TAMM received an invitation to a party for Estonian veterans and knew that HEINE would be in attendance. At the party HEINE greeted TAMM as a friend and they engaged in lengthy conversation.

After that they visited each other's homes approximately once every three or four months. They were friends, however TAMM did not consider them to be close friends. During the many visits, HEINE told TAMM what had happened to him during the war and his story coincides with what TAMM read in Estonian newspapers.

HEINE stated that his battalion was defeated by the Russians in the latter part of 1944. He was captured and taken to a prison camp in Siberia. In 1946 he managed to escape alone during a severe snow storm and made his way west across Russia. In Leningrad, U.S.S.R., he was captured and sent to the prison near Tallinn, Estonia, to await trial. Prior to his trial he managed to escape from a work party and made his way to a free Estonian guerilla group who were living in the woods of Estonia. Sometime in the 1950's he and two others were captured. He was committed to trial and sentenced to death. From this point he was taken to a prison near Moscow, U.S.S.R., where he made it known to prison officials that he was not Estonian but a German. His story was believed and his death sentence commuted. He was then taken to a forced-labour camp located at Vorkuta, Siberia. This camp contained Estonians, Germans and some Latvians.

Sometime in 1956 HEINE and many others were released and taken to Germany due to an agreement between Konrad ADENAUER, then Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, and Nikita KHRUSHCHEV, then Premier of the U.S.S.R., for the release of German prisoners of war held in the U.S.S.R. The Russians were under the mistaken belief that HEINE was a German.

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In 1957 HEINE immigrated to Canada and settled in the Toronto area.

TAMM believes HEINE to be the most anti-Communist person he has ever met. He added that he was like this in 1942 when he first met him and he is like that today. A few years ago a monument was erected for Estonians killed fighting the Russians, and all Estonians were asked to contribute. The usual contribution was \$5.00 - \$10.00, however, HEINE gave all the money that he had which was about \$200.00. He now owns his own home in Ontario, which, it is believed, his wife largely paid for as she is employed. HEINE appears to have no sense of values for money and has no materialistic desires. He married his wife, Ilse (maiden name unknown) in Toronto in April 1958. She is an Estonian who came to this country from England in April 1947. Neither HEINE nor his wife has relatives living in Estonia or any other Iron Curtain country as far as is known to TAMM.

HEINE is respected among the majority of Estonians that he knows or who know him by reputation. It is believed that this is because of HEINE's prolonged and determined fight against Communism. He is well respected and in a sense a hero to many Estonians living in Canada, including TAMM. HEINE is believed to be a member of two anti-Communist groups in Toronto, the R.V.M. and the Estonian Veterans' Association.

TAMM believes that HEINE's troubles started because of a motion picture film he and several other Estonians made in the Muskoka district of Ontario. The film was financed by HEINE and other Estonians, with many Estonian people donating time and effort towards the project. The film was about guerilla action against Communism and the setting is depicted as Estonia. The film is based on actual events that happened to HEINE during his time with the Estonian guerillas in the 1940's and 1950's. When the film was completed HEINE took it on a speaking tour of Canada and the U.S.A. At about this time he started to receive accusations that he was a Communist spy. TAMM believes without any foundation or fact that, as the film started the Estonian people to thinking again of the way the Russians ravaged their homeland and to bring to life the Estonian hatred of the Russians, the Communists actually accused HEINE of being a spy to discredit him and stop the anti-Russian feeling among Estonians.

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TAMM knows of only one other person living in Canada who was in the Estonian Legion with HEINE for a short period of time and who may know more of HEINE's activities during this period. He is identified as Mr. SILM, a foreman with Chromalox, a heating and plumbing firm in Toronto, Ontario.

The Toronto City Directory for 1965 reveals an Elmer SILM of 30 Torbolton Drive (Etab) as an inspector with Chromalox. The Toronto telephone directory issued March, 1966, reveals the Chromalox Canadian Company is located at 210 Rexdale Bl., Toronto, Ontario.

Questioned about the Albert or Alfred TAMM who, according to HEINE was once interned at Potma, TAMM stated that he never was a butcher by trade or occupation and was not interned in a camp for invalids at Potma. He added that he has never been interned at any time, however, was at a displaced person camp in Germany. TAMM further stated that he does not have any brothers and that no member of his immediate family or any relative has ever been a policeman. He also stated that while the name TAMM is most common in Estonia, he has never met anyone by the name of Alfred or Albert TAMM, nor does he know anyone who was interned at Potma.

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