



ENTENT-TÚ



A journal of free Talossan news and opinion

IBù 3- 27 August 2005/xxvi

Are dual citizens traitors?

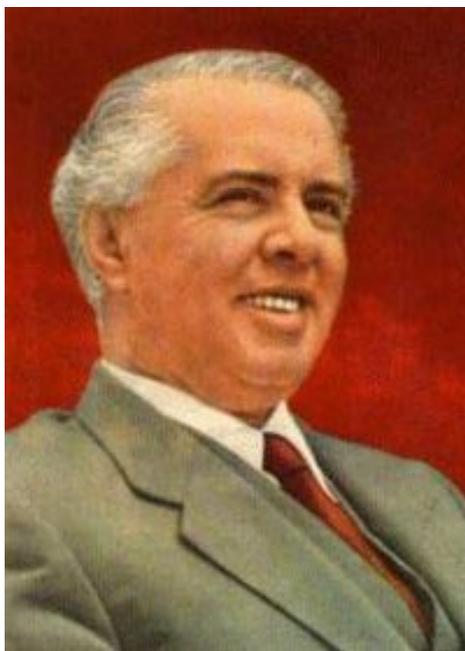
Recent debate in the Kingdom of Talossa has centred around the law forbidding dual citizenship between the Kingdom and any other micronation. Well, the laws, as a matter of fact. Justice Marc Moisan has found two laws in force on this topic - The Dual Citizenships Act and the No Dual Citizenships in Fake Countries Act. Both these bills were proposed by Vuodean legislator R. Ben Madison, the former King.

What's the real deal with this? Why did Madison consider dual citizenships such a big deal he had to ban them legally twice?

Certainly, in the beginning of Talossa, the King had no problem with other micronations. In fact, he encouraged his friends to start their own one-person bedroom kingdoms (Kingdom of Thord, Glib Room Empire etc) and founded the League of Secessionist States as an umbrella organisation for them.

After Talossa went online in 1995 and other Talossa-like entities were discovered on the Internet, Madison revived LOSS to include these newer micronations. Of course, most of these entities were ridiculous role-playing-game-like entities, mainly concerned with inventing classy titles for their founders and conducting pompous "diplomatic relations" with one another. In other words, more like the Talossa of 1981 than the Talossa of 1996. So it's no surprise that Talossa tired of these children's games, and under the Gruber government told them to get lost on a permanent basis.

So how could such silly, irrelevant entities pose a threat to the stable, multi-



Paranoid, isolationist Albanian dictator Enver Hoxha - hero of the ex-King

ego Talossa - so much so that the King felt the need to ban dual citizenship with them *twice*? The answer is, they didn't. The dual citizenship laws were aimed at one micronation and one micronation only - the Free Commonwealth of Penguinia, formed by Talossan citizens and rejected prospectives who had been "blackballed" by the King.

Madison had never been confronted with enemies who refused to either play by his rules or disappear for good before. The Penguinians were outside his control - and thus a threat to Madison's sole right to determine what was reality within Talossa. So the answer - as Albanian dictator and Madisonian idol Enver Hoxha knew - was total isolation from foreigners, who might question the Maximum Leader's judgement.

The original Dual Citizenship act was aimed squarely at Deputy Prime Minister C. O. Sauls, one of the hardest working and friendliest of all Talossan citizens, who saw no conflict between working for Talossa and participating with his friends in building Penguinia. The Dual Citizenship Act was a Madison

loyalty test of the kind we're all familiar with - fall in behind the King, or no longer be a real Talossan. No wonder Sauls decamped for Penguinia soon afterwards - and his talents were lost to the Kingdom for good.

Accusations of treason have been thrown around by the King on a regular basis since 1997. As the leaders of the American war of independence knew, treason trials were often used by monarchs to shut down debate and persecute oppositionists. This is why in the Constitution of the United States, treason is tightly defined as only "levying war against the United States".

Compare this to the Talossan Dual Citizenship Act, which reveals the ex-King's paranoia about "foreign (and potentially hostile) heads of state". Note the slippage that often creeps into Madison's rhetoric - that anyone hostile to him (for example, a political enemy who had been slandered mercilessly) was therefore hostile to Talossa.

Madison's attempts to turn Talossa into a "hermit kingdom" where only his royal view of reality was heard were reinforced later in 1998, when he actually proposed a law to the Ziu which would have made it illegal for Talossans to even *talk* to ex-Talossans! This law was thankfully voted down - by a small margin. Its Hoxhaite spirit continued to live on, however. In 2001, when a former member of the Talossan Liberal Party was found to have been chatting by email with Talossan citizens, Madison wrote a blistering article declaring that "no Talossan citizen should have any contact with these people whatsoever, if their commitment to Talossa means anything".

The anti-dual citizenship acts are vestiges of the ex-King's paranoia and determination to cast all opposition to him as treason to Talossa. The micronational world, meanwhile, is no longer teeming with ridiculous "bug" nations like the old Porto Claro. In light of this, the Republic of Talossa has dropped the anti-dual-citizenship laws as unnecessary. Surely the Kingdom might want to conduct a similar rethink.

Who we are

Entent-Tú is published by citizens of the Republic of Talossa in the interest of better understanding and mutual relations between the two Talossan states. It is not the mouthpiece of any government or political party. Contact our editorial team at heatherblackrose@paradise.net.nz