



EMBASSY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN CANADA

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Comments by MFA Spokesman Andrei Nesterenko on the Gathering in Estonia of Veterans of the Estonian 20th Waffen SS Division

Moscow has received with a feeling of deep indignation the fact of the holding the other day in Estonia of yet another gathering of veterans of the Estonian 20th Waffen SS division.

The Estonian authorities persist, contrary to the Judgment of the Nuremberg Tribunal, and other international documents, including the well-known United Nations General Assembly resolution of last year, with blasphemous attempts to rehabilitate the ex-SS men and their accomplices, using the pathos of pseudo-patriotism as a cover and calling them today none other than «fighters for the freedom» of Estonia.

The now, regrettably, traditional gatherings in the small town of Sinimae owing to the encouragement policy of the authorities are acquiring a massive and international character, by luring «guests» from other European countries. A particular worry is the fact that members of extremist nationalist youth organizations flock to these Nazi get-togethers.

The criminal connivance of the Estonian authorities at the conduct of such gatherings that not only desecrate the memory of the millions of victims of fascism, but also propagandize the ideology of neo-Nazism, xenophobia and racism must not remain without attention and principled assessments from Estonia's European Union partners and from specialized international organizations.