

COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA) AS A COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE

MAGISTRATE DR. ANTONIO MICALLEF TRIGONA

Sitting of the 22 nd April, 2008

Number 1452/2007

The Police
(Inspector Louise Calleja)
(Inspector Raymond Aquilina)

Vs.

Svetlana Tsareva Anna Babina Mariya Andreeva

The Court,

Having seen the charges brought against the accused, all Russian nationals, and respectively with Russian passport no.325046, 2565651, 3381507, with having at the Law Courts in Valletta, on the 21st November 2007 and 22nd November, 2007, gave false evidence in criminal proceedings for a crime liable to a punishment higher than

the punishment of imprisonment for a term of two years, either against or in favour of the persons charged or accused.

Anna Babina and Mariya Andreeva together:

With having on the 16th November 2007 and in the preceding months, in these Islands, by several acts committed by them, even if at different times, which constitute violations of the same provision of the law, committed in pursuance of the same design:

- 1. kept or managed or shared with others in the management of a brothel or of any house, shop or other premises or any part thereof which is or are, or is or are reputed to be resorted to for the purpose of prostitution or other immoral purposes;
- 2. in any street or other public place or in any place exposed to the public, loitered or solicited for the purpose of prostitution or for other immoral purposes;

And Svetlana Tsareva alone:

With having at the Law Courts in Valletta, on the 22nd November, 2007 with intent to harm Inspector Louise Calleja, accused such person before a competent authority with an offence liable to a punishment higher than the punishment of imprisonment for a term of two years which she knew such person to be innocent;

She is also being charged with having on the same date, time, place and circumstances mentioned immediately above, fraudulently caused any fact or circumstance to exist, or to appear to exist, in order that such fact or circumstance may afterwards be proved in evidence against another person (Inspector Louise Calleja), with intent to procure such other person to be unjustly charged with, or convicted of, any offence.

Having seen the articles at law transmitted to this Court by the Attorney General on the strength of which the records were remitted to this Court to decide on the guilt or otherwise of the accused.

Having heard the accused declare that they had no objection that the case be heard and decided by this Court.

Having seen all the acts and records of the proceedings.

Considers:

That accused are charged with various offences varying from perjury, calumnious accusation, fabrication of false evidence and defamation, as directed against such accused according to the charge sheet.

That accused have at this stage of the proceedings filed a plea of guilt after having been detained in custody for several months on matters unconnected with these proceedings and touching upon their legal status in Malta.

That accused have insisted on their plea of guilt not withstanding and even after this Court gave them time to reconsider.

In the circumstances and for the benefit of the accused this Court accepts their plea of guilt as being a voluntary and unconditional one.

Having considered the age of the accused, their purpose of coming to Malta, the time spent in prevention custody this Court having seen Articles 104, 105, 109, 101, 110(1), 252, 17, 641 of Chapter 9 and 602 of Chapter 12 decides to acquit them applying Article 22 of Chapter 446 for a period of 18 months as regards accused Anna Babina and Mariya Andreeva and three years as regards accused Svetlana Tsareva.

