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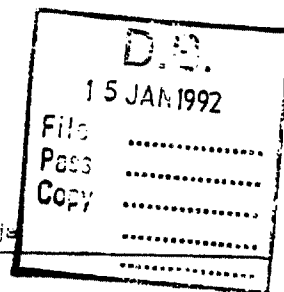
SUOMEN TUPAKKA OY

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Date 15.1.1992

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Enclosed please find STOV's draft statements as agreed.

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SUOMEN TUPAKKA OY

VICTORY VERSION
DRAFT STATEMENT

S. Kaarenoja

January 1992

THE TOBACCO TRIAL BROUGHT TO CONCLUSION IN THE CITY COURT
SUOMEN TUPAKKA AND RETTIG NOT LIABLE TO INDEMNIFICATION

The Helsinki City Court has today passed judgement on the so called tobacco trial. The Court found the defendants Suomen Tupakka Oy and Oy Rettig Ab not liable to indemnifications.

The issue has been thrashed out in a court of first instance since June 1989. The plaintiff of the case was a pensioner from the City of Tampere who claimed a total of 500,000 Finnmarks in indemnification for his illnesses by referring to product liability.

The visual purpose of the suit was to obtain an indemnification for the plaintiff. The actual character of the court proceedings is, however, revealed by a report prepared in the year 1986 by the plaintiff's attorney, Professor Erkki Aurejärvi, for the National Board of Health.

In the report Professor Aurejärvi, among other things, proposes that "also in our country court proceedings might be a good way to settle tobacco issues. Such proceedings attract the interest of the media. A part of the trials could be cases that were known in advance to be lost". It also seems that the plaintiff has not been involved in the case on his own behalf, but has lent his name for the purposes of his attorney as a patient beneficial from the publicity point of view.

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SUOMEN TUPAKKA OY

LOSS VERSION
DRAFT STATEMENT

S. Kaarencja

January 1992

THE TOBACCO TRIAL BROUGHT TO CONCLUSION IN THE CITY COURT

The Helsinki City Court has today given judgement on the so called tobacco trial. Contrary to what has happened anywhere else in the world, the court in our country judged the defendants, Suomen Tupakka Oy and Oy Rettig Ab. to pay indemnifications. In the United States more than 300 product liability suits have been brought against the tobacco industry since the early 1950's and not in a single one of these suits has the tobacco industry been found liable to indemnifications. Suomen Tupakka and Rettig, both separately, will lodge an appeal on account of the City Court's judgement.

The issue has been debated in a court of first instance since June 1988. The plaintiff of the case was a pensioner from the City of Tampere who claimed indemnification for his illnesses, in total 500,000 Finnish marks, on the basis of product liability.

The visual purpose of the suit was to obtain an indemnification for the plaintiff. The true character of the trial is, however, revealed by a report drawn up by the plaintiff's attorney, Professor Erkki Aurejärvi, in 1986 for the National Board of Health.

In the report Professor Aurejärvi e.g. suggests that "court proceedings might be a good way to clarify tobacco issues in our country, as well. Such proceedings interest the media. A part of the trials could be cases that were known in advance to become lost". It also seems that the plaintiff has not been advocating his own issue, but has lent his name for his attorney's purposes as a suitable patient with respect to publicity.

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