

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1487430-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 5
Page 6 ~ Duplicate;
Page 11 ~ Duplicate;
Page 17 ~ b3; b5; b6; b7C; b7E;
Page 19 ~ Duplicate;
Page 21 ~ Duplicate;

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X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X For this Page X
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Case File Summary

File No:

b3
b7E

Title: Theft of Russian Painting

Communication	Request	Response
FSB ltr to MC 8/23/00	info on provenance	D
MC EC to SF 10/10/00	contact museum	SF telcal to MC
SF telcal to MC	photo of painting	MC EC to SF 11/17/00
MC ltr to FSB 10/18/00	photo of painting	FSB hand-delivery 11/16/00
FSB hand-delivery 11/16/00	N/A	N/A
MC EC to SF 11/17/00	contact museum	SF EC to MC 1/24/01
SF EC to MC 1/24/01	copy of sticker	D
MC ltr to FSB 1/31/01	copy of sticker	D



Case Notes

12/27/01 - reviewed case, took copy of Russia 10/5/01 request to FSB to see if they wanted to continue their request.

Do Not Serialize

FEDERAL SECURITY SERVICE
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

U.S. SIDE USE ONLY

The Russian FSB is providing operations support to a criminal case initiated by the General Procurator's Office of the Russian Federation.

In the course of the investigation it was established that one of the close contacts of the target in the criminal investigation has in his possession a picture by the artist K. Makovsky depicting a woman against the background of a wide open door (oil, canvas). The back side of the picture has a label stating "M.H./De Young Memorial Museum. San Francisco. Konstantin Makovsky, Russian, 1839-1915". Thus far, the investigation has failed to develop any information indicating that the picture was legally brought into the Russian Federation.

Based on the above, we would appreciate any information confirming that the stated picture was sold or presented by the San Francisco Museum.

Thank you for cooperation.

August 23, 2000

No. 204

② A to ALAT [redacted]

[redacted]

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Title: UNSUB(S);
~~THEFT OF RUSSIAN ART~~
~~BY KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY,~~
~~M. H. DE YOUNG MEMORIAL MUSEUM,~~
~~SAN FRANCISCO, CA.~~
FPC - GC.

ms 7/5/00

[redacted]

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[redacted]

AW

(Handwritten mark)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 10/10/2000

To: San Francisco

Attn: SSA [redacted]
Squad 15A

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b7E

From: (Moscow)

Contact: [redacted] 011-7-095-728-5162

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] mav *MP/STW*

Case ID #: [redacted] (Pending)

Title: THEFT OF RUSSIAN ART
BY KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY;
M.H./DE YOUNG MEMORIAL MUSEUM,
SAN FRANCISCO, CA;
FPC-GCM

Synopsis: Request from Federal Security Service, Russian Federation, for determination of provenance of painting by captioned artist.

Details: On August 24, 2000, Legal Attache Moscow received a request from the Federal Security Service (FSB) of the Russian Federation, seeking assistance in the determination of the provenance of a painting by the artist KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY.

According to the FSB, an unrelated criminal investigation led to the discovery of a painting by MAKOVSKY which was in the possession of a close associate of the investigation's primary subject. The oil-on-canvas painting depicts a woman standing against the background of an open door, and bears a label on its reverse stating "M.H./De Young Memorial Museum. San Francisco. Konstantin Makovsky, Russian, 1839-1915."

To date, the FSB has been unable to develop any information indicating the picture was legally brought into the Russian Federation. Our assistance has been requested in order to determine whether the painting ever belonged to the museum, and if so, if the museum sold or presented the painting to someone, or if it was stolen.

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[redacted]

SF

SA



fax

415/553-7674

ltr for photo +/or
further description

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b7c

To: San Francisco From: Moscow
Re: [REDACTED] 10/10/2000

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b7E

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1:

SAN FRANCISCO

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CA

San Francisco is requested to contact the M.H. De Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco, California, and determine if the captioned painting was ever in the possession of the museum. If so, it is requested that any documentation dealing with the painting's disposition be provided to Moscow for forwarding to the FSB.

◆◆



Embassy of the United States of America

Office of the Legal Attache
United States Embassy
Moscow, Russia

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File No. [redacted]
Your File No. 204

18 October 2000

Federal Security Service

RE: THEFT OF RUSSIAN ART BY
KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY

Dear Sir,

With regard to your letter dated August 23, 2000, concerning the possible theft of an oil-on-canvas painting by the artist KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY, our San Francisco office has contacted the M.H. DeYoung Memorial Museum in San Francisco, California, in an effort to ascertain the provenance of the questioned painting. The curators of the museum were unable to identify the painting based on the limited description provided in your letter, i.e. "a woman against the background of a wide open door." In order to determine whether or not the painting was once in the possession of the museum, they have requested a more detailed description of the work, and if possible, a photograph. This information should allow the museum to answer the questions posed in your original letter.

(X)
JAW

REQUEST OF THE FEDERAL SECURITY SERVICE

The FSB is requested to provide this office with a detailed description of the oil-on-canvas painting by KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY bearing a label on the reverse of the canvas stating, "M.H./De Young Memorial Museum. San Francisco. Konstantin Makovsky, Russian, 1839-1915." If possible, a photograph of the painting would be very helpful in assisting the museum in determining if the painting was once a part of their collection.

Thank you for your continued assistance.

Sincerely,

[redacted]
for [redacted]
Legal Attache

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b7C

By:

[redacted]
Assistant Legal Attache

to [redacted] 10/18/00
292MAV01.LTR ✓

[redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 11/17/2000

To: San Francisco

Attn: SA [redacted]
Squad 15A

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b7E

From: Moscow

Contact: ALAT [redacted] 011-7-095-728-5162

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] mav

Case ID #: [redacted] (Pending)

Title: THEFT OF RUSSIAN ART
BY KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY;
M.H./DE YOUNG MEMORIAL MUSEUM,
SAN FRANCISCO, CA;
FPC-GCM

Synopsis: To provide a photograph of the captioned painting for use in further identification.

Reference: [redacted]

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Enclosure: Enclosed for San Francisco is one color photograph of the captioned oil painting.

Details: In response to a telephonic request from SF for a more detailed description of the captioned painting, Moscow contacted the Federal Security Service (FSB) of the Russian Federation and forwarded this request for additional information. On November 16, 2000, the FSB provided Moscow with the enclosed photograph. It is hoped that this photograph will be of assistance to the museum curators in identifying the painting.

Investigation continuing.

Revised on 11/28/00

SF COPY REDEYED
322MAV02.EC ✓

[redacted]

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To: San Francisco From: Moscow
Re: [REDACTED] 11/17/2000

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LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1:

SAN FRANCISCO

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CA

For information.

◆◆



18:24:41
19 7 2000



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 01/24/2001

To: Moscow ✓

Attn: ALAT [redacted]

From: San Francisco
Squad 15A

Contact: SA [redacted] 415/553-7675

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

:nd

Case ID #: [redacted]

(Pending)

Title: THEFT OF RUSSIAN ART
BY KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY;
M.H./DE YOUNG MEMORIAL MUSEUM,
SAN FRANCISCO, CA;
FPC-GCM

Synopsis: To provide status of lead assigned to San Francisco on October 20, 2000.

Reference: [redacted]

Details: On November 30, 2000, [redacted]

[redacted] M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, was shown a photograph of the captioned painting. [redacted] advised that she did not recognize the painting; however, she would show the photograph to the records department in an attempt to produce historical documentation for the painting. On January 11, 2000,

[redacted] M.H. De Young Memorial Museum, was contacted by FBI San Francisco. She advised that the museum could not identify records of the painting based on the photograph and requested that a copy of the painting's identification sticker be sent to her.

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SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
FEB 16 2001	
LEGAL ATTACHE - MOSCOW	

To: Moscow From: San Francisco
Re: [redacted] 01/24/2001

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b7E

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

MOSCOW

AT MOSCOW

As requested by [redacted]
[redacted] M.H. De Young Memorial Museum, please provide a copy of the
sticker that is on the reverse side of the captioned painting.

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b7C

♦♦



Embassy of the United States of America

Office of the Legal Attache
United States Embassy
Moscow, Russia

File No. [redacted]
Your File No. 204

b3
b7E

5 October 2001

Nikolay Platonovich Patrushev
Director
Federal Security Service
Moscow, Russia

RE: THEFT OF RUSSIAN ART BY
KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY

Dear Director Patrushev,

This letter is a continuing response to your request of August 23, 2000, concerning the possible theft of an oil-on-canvas painting by the artist KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY. As detailed in our letter dated January 31, 2001, [redacted] M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, was unable to identify the painting based on the photograph and description provided by your service. [redacted] requested a copy of the painting's identification sticker, so that she might be able to better determine if the painting was ever held by the museum.

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A review of our records indicates we have not received the sticker requested by [redacted]. Accordingly, the following request is made of the FSB:

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REQUEST OF THE FEDERAL SECURITY SERVICE

The FSB is requested to provide this office with a copy of the identification sticker affixed to the reverse of the captioned painting. If your service no longer requires our assistance in this matter, please advise our office so that we may place it in a closed status.

Thank you for your continued assistance in this matter.

Handwritten: Close
CLOSED
3/21/02
JFO
3/13/02

Sincerely,

[redacted signature box]

Legal Attache

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b7E

By: [redacted]

Acting Assistant Legal Attache

[redacted box]

Handwritten: TO DIRECTOR PATRUSHEV
10/5/01

Handwritten: 278 JB01. LTR ✓



Embassy of the United States of America

Office of the Legal Attache
United States Embassy
Moscow, Russia

File No. [redacted]
Your File No. 204

Nikolay Platonovich Patrushev
Director
Federal Security Service
Moscow, Russia

*Done
4/13/01*

31 January 2001

b6
b7c

RE: THEFT OF RUSSIAN ART BY
KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY

Dear Director Patrushev,

This letter is a continuing response to your request of August 23, 2000, concerning the possible theft of an oil-on-canvas painting by the artist KONSTANTIN MAKOVSKY (see our previous letter dated October 18, 2000). On November 30, 2000, the San Francisco Division of the FBI contacted [redacted] [redacted] M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, and presented the photograph of the captioned painting provided by your service. [redacted] advised that she did not recognize the painting, but that she would show the photograph to the records department in an attempt to produce historical documentation for the painting.

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UW b7c

On January 11, 2001, [redacted] M.H. de Young Memorial Museum was contacted by FBI San Francisco. [redacted] advised that the museum could not identify records of the painting based on the photograph and requested that a copy of the painting's identification sticker be sent to her. Accordingly, the following request is made of the FSB:

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REQUEST OF THE FEDERAL SECURITY SERVICE

The FSB is requested to provide this office with a copy of the identification sticker affixed to the reverse of the captioned painting.

Thank you for your continued assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

MP/9820
[redacted]
Legal Attache

b6
b7c

By:

[redacted]
Assistant Legal Attache

Ko [redacted] 1/31/01