

DATE: 11-14-2017

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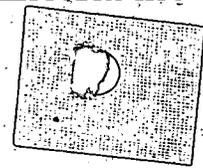
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DATE: 11-14-2017



~~SECRET~~



JULY 29, 1949

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SAC, NEW YORK.....URGENT.....

TOLSTOJ; TOLSTOY, [SPECIAL INQUIRY, RCMP] REBULET

JULY TWENTYSEVEN LAST, DISCONTINUE INVESTIGATION. (S)

61-10448-28 HOOVER

RECORDED - 7
SGR:EFF

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
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SLIP(S) OF *Class*
DATE *6-1-85*

~~Classification 6855
Exempt from
Date of Dec 3/13/78~~

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308 Mac/rude 5-26-94 (SFK)
Classified by *SP6 BJA/GCL*
Declassify on: *OADR 4/3/85*

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- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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AUG 8 1949

DATE: 11-14-2017

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United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Liaison Office, Ottawa, Canada

CONFIDENTIAL
AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

July 25, 1949.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

~~Classification upheld~~
6855 on 3/13/78
DML/DKC

Baumgardner

Re: Tolstoj; Tolstoy
Special Inquiry - R.C.M.P.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to a letter from this Office dated July 13, 1949, captioned as above forwarding a request from the R.C.M.P. to have Countess Tolstoj, who owns a farm in the vicinity of New York City, interviewed relative to a person of the same name claiming to be a relative of hers and who had come under suspicion in connection with a visit to one M. Chramtchenko in Ottawa. (S)

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

The R.C.M.P. now advise that their investigation has shown that the original suspicions of Tolstoj are unfounded, that he actually had been in Ottawa during June, 1949 and contacted Chramtchenko in connection with his desire to dispose of some paintings, and that he had through mutual acquaintances obtained considerable information concerning Chramtchenko. (S)

In view of the results of the R.C.M.P. inquiry they now advise that it is not necessary to interview Countess Tolstoj and that no action is necessary relative to this matter. (S)

Very truly yours,

Glenn H. Bethel
Glenn H. Bethel

SP8-Mac/rude 5-26-84 (SPK)
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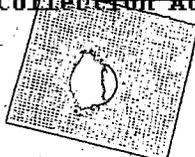
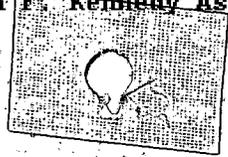
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DATE: 11-14-2017



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SAC, New York
Director, FBI

July 27, 1949

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TOLSTOJ; TOLSTOY
SPECIAL INQUIRY, RCMP

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61-10448-27

There is enclosed with this letter a copy of a letter dated July 13, 1949, received from Glenn H. Bethel of the Liaison Office in Ottawa, Canada. As you will note, Mr. Bethel encloses a six page memorandum with his letter. A copy of this six page memorandum is also enclosed with this letter. These two enclosures are self-explanatory. (u)

The investigation desired is also outlined in these two enclosures. It is believed that the Countess Tolstoj mentioned in the enclosure is in fact Miss Alexandra Tolstoy, aka., Countess Tolstoy, ND-483. You are instructed to interview ND-483 concerning the information outlined in the enclosed memorandum. This interview should be conducted immediately and the results submitted promptly so that the information can be furnished to the RCMP. (u)

Enclosure

SR:ofm

Classified by 6855/1+2
Date of Declassification 2/13/85

SP8-magnitude 5-26-94 (GFK)
Classified by SP6BJA/GCL
Declassify on: OADR 4/3/85

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF clay
DATE 5-1-85

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
JUL 27 1949 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
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SLIP(S) OF classification
DATE 3/21/85

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DATE: 11-14-2017

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United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Liaison Office, Ottawa, Canada

AIR MAIL

July 13, 1949

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OTHERWISE



Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

61-10448

Barry

*Classification of held
63550 3/13/78
DMC*

Re:

TOLSTOJ;

TOLSTOY

Special Inquiry - RCMP

(6)

whip

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are two copies of a statement submitted to the RCMP by one M. CHRAMTCHENKO covering details of a visit he had in Ottawa with an individual who furnished his name as TOLSTOJ. CHRAMTCHENKO, a former White Russian now residing in Ottawa where he is employed by the Canadian National Research Council on work of a classified nature, and where he is considered quite reliable, voices certain suspicions of TOLSTOJ. These suspicions, which are set forth in some detail in the enclosure, were aroused since TOLSTOJ told what appeared an illogical story concerning the circumstances leading up to the contact of CHRAMTCHENKO. TOLSTOJ claimed that a person by the name of RITCHIE in Montreal furnished CHRAMTCHENKO's address to him and CHRAMTCHENKO claims that he knows nobody by the name of RITCHIE, that it was very odd that TOLSTOJ should know as much of CHRAMTCHENKO's background as he was able to relate, and further, that he, CHRAMTCHENKO, had only recently changed his address in Ottawa and that it would have been impossible for any casual acquaintance, such as RITCHIE would have to have been, to have known his present address. Further, CHRAMTCHENKO indicates that TOLSTOJ's background and past activities as related during a conversation did not appear logical. It is quite evident that CHRAMTCHENKO believes that TOLSTOJ may be connected with the Russians and that this contact was for a purpose other than endeavoring to solicit CHRAMTCHENKO's assistance in disposing of some paintings as TOLSTOJ tried to have the informant believe.

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Declassify on: OADR 1/3/85
SP8 Muc/pud 5-26-94 (DK)

ENCL.

It will be noted that in the paragraph starting at the bottom of page five of CHRAMTCHENKO's statement it is

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5-26-94
Ritchie
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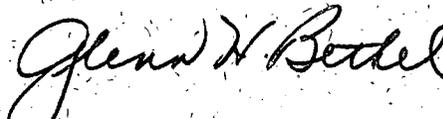
mentioned that TOLSTOJ stated that after returning to Montreal he was proceeding to New York to visit his cousin, Countess TOLSTOJ, who owns a farm in the vicinity of New York City. ⁶¹⁻¹⁰⁴⁴⁸ (S)

The RCMP are conducting an investigation in Montreal in an effort to trace the man named RITCHIE who TOLSTOJ claimed had put him in touch with CHRAMTCHENKO. The RCMP have also asked that if it is possible an effort be made to determine if the TOLSTOJ who was in Canada actually has recently visited the Countess TOLSTOJ. If he has visited the relative in New York and brief information can be obtained relative to his background and confirmation that he is a painter, then the suspicions aroused while he visited in Ottawa will be shown to be without foundation. (S)

The RCMP advise that the Canadian immigration records reveal that one ALEKSANDER TOLSTOY arrived in Quebec City, Canada on May 31, 1949 aboard the "Empress of France." He was allowed entry on a three months temporary visa to visit the Norwegian Consul in Montreal. This individual's age is given as 53, born in St. Petersburg, Russia, and a Norwegian citizen of Russian race. He is in possession of Passport No. 203 issued at Oslo, Norway on April 6, 1949. Although the individual on whom the Immigration have a record arrived in Canada by boat and the subject claimed to have flown to Montreal, Canada from London, it seems that there is a distinct possibility these persons are identical. (S)

It would be very helpful if inquiries could be made at the residence of the Countess TOLSTOJ as requested by the RCMP and this office advised of the results at as early date as practical. (S)

Very truly yours,



Glenn H. Bethel

Enclosure

SECRET ⁶¹⁻¹⁰⁴⁴⁸⁻²⁷

DATE: 11-14-2017

Dear Sir:

SECRET

Upon returning home from the office on Friday 10th (1845 hours) I found in my apartment a visitor awaiting my return. He was conversing with my wife in halting French. My wife introduced him to me as a compatriot of mine by the name of TOLSTOJ.

The gentleman was over 6 feet tall, inclined to stoutness and slightly stooped. Blond but greying and had a slight beard. His eyes were green, watery and very insincere.

I asked him to remain for lunch. After lunch (as well as during the meal) he told me the purpose of his visit and some details of his past. His whole visit and all that he told me convinced me that that the purpose of his visit was not the one he insisted it to be but something quite different, and that I was simply being "sized up".

Before starting my report on my conversation with Mr. Tolstoj, I wish to state that I did not want to leave him with the impression that I was not taking him at his face value or as the person he wished me to believe him to be. Because of this I did not do any cross examining and did not ask for any proof of his statements. My first remark to him was an expression of surprise that he came to me and I asked him who told him to contact me in Ottawa. Mr. Tolstoj replied that a good friend of his, a Mr. Ritchie, a director of a Canadian Testing Chemical Company in Montreal, advised him to go to Ottawa and see me. (Tolstoj's one-day visit to Ottawa was according to him for the special purpose of visiting me.) When Mr. Ritchie mentioned my name, Tolstoj (according to his statement to me) demurred and said that he was afraid to meet any of his compatriotes as they may be communists. Mr. Ritchie laughed and replied that he should have no fears on my account, as I am an ex-page of the Emperors Court, an ex-horse guardman, an almost fanatical monarchist, a man who joined the White Army at the very start, an ex Russian intelligence officer, a man who served with the Canadian Military Intelligence and who even now is engaged in "Secret Service" work. Before I go any further I must make the following points:

I have no friend in Montreal by the name of Ritchie

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nor any friends by that name in any part of Canada. To the best of my knowledge I have never met a man by that name during my army career or elsewhere, therefore it is very strange that this Mr. Ritchie could have so much information about my past.

(2) If such a man exists and he gave Mr. Tolstoj so much information about me I would very much like to know from whom he obtained it.

(3) Up to the 1st of June I was residing at 362 Friel St. and moved to 311 Laurier East (Apt. 3) only on that date. I have not written to any of my friends in Montreal or elsewhere since, so that nobody knows my new address with the exception of the office in which I work and a very few people in Ottawa.

(4) Mr. Ritchie, or for that matter, nobody in Montreal could know my present address. My former address could be obtained from the voters lists posted on street corners, but then Mr. Tolstoj would have had to visit 362 Friel and ask for me there.

(5) On the evening of Friday 10 June, my wife phoned our ex land-lady and her brother and found that no one was inquiring about me on that day. My wife also phoned the owner of the house, a Mrs. Brunet, who also told her that no one inquired about me. Later Friday evening at my request my wife phoned long distance and asked to be connected with a Mr. Ritchie in Montreal who is a director of a Canadian Testing Chemical Company. Long distance was very cooperative but finally replied that there are three companies in Montreal dealing with chemistry and none has a Mr. Ritchie as an executive.

(6) When Mr. Tolstoj was talking to me about all that he know about me from Ritchie, he was talking in Russian and very quickly. Before saying "connected now with the Secret Service" he paused as if looking for the right word. The importance of this pause is as follows: "secret service" is a term not having an equivalent in Russian and it cannot be translated very well literally. There is no word for intelligence - if Tolstoj used the words RAZVEDKA or KONTERRAZVEDKA he would be using a purely new bolshevik term which he obviously did not want to do. The old Imperial word for Military Intelligence would not do for Secret

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Service either, and Espionage or Counter-Espionage work would sound too strong and jarring on the ear in Russian. Because of this, Tolstoj had to hesitate and at this moment I became aware of the falsity in the atmosphere and prepared myself for either "Secret Service" or a detailed description of the work I was engaged in.

When finally Mr. Tolstoj said, smilingly, "Secret Service" I replied that I was very much puzzled by the knowledge of Mr. Ritchie who apparently knew so much about my past and could be so wrong about my present occupation. The description of my past was correct - I was not going to deny it, but was proud of it. As far as the immediate past was concerned, Military Intelligence was simply guarding German prisoners of war. At present I work in one of the Departments of the National Research Council which has nothing to do with any work so melodramatically referred to as "Secret Service". With this I changed the conversation and said that when Russians meet abroad they want (very naturally) to know all about each other and past experiences. Since Mr. Tolstoj knew so much about me, I would like to know something about him.

His account of his past was very involved, was not related chronologically and had many gaps. Since I did not wish to make him feel that I had certain suspicions about him I did not cross question at all. He told me that he belonged to one of the branches of the TOLSTOJ family. The family is large and has many branches. Such a statement cannot be challenged by any one but another member of the Tolstoj family. His father, a Major General, had no land but depended for his income on apartment houses in Petrograd, (many members of the Tolstoj family had large and well-known apartments there). He was educated in the NIKOLAEVSKIJ cadet school in Petrograd. That is strange for a Tolstoj. The School of His Majesty's Pages was a much better school in every way and entry into this school was a great privilege. Up to the Revolution the Tolstoj's had 32 members at that school. His parents certainly had the right to enroll him as a page, instead they preferred for some inexplicable reason to enroll him in an ordinary cadet school, which seems very unlikely. If they refrained from entering their son in the Corps of Pages, they would have entered him in the Imperial Lices. I took this statement of Tolstoj's as a statement which I could not disprove. If he said he was a page, I could easily convince myself of his being a page.

After completing his studies at the cadet school, he would normally have gone to an Officers Training School i.e. the first

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first Company of the Corps of Pages (for which he had the necessary qualifications) or to the NIKOLAEVSKIJ Cavalry School (natural enough for a NIKOLAEVSKIJ cadet). After two years of either of these two he would graduate as an officer. Instead, Tolstoj enlisted as a volunteer in the Chevalier Guards Regiment. This for an ex cadet is an unbelievable performance and can be explained only by two considerations. He had to say that he was a Chevalier Guard to make me feel more sympathetic; he could not very well say that he was an officer in that regiment as there would be cross questioning on my part. So Mr. Tolstoj told me that he enlisted as a volunteer (private) and went to the Training barracks (KRECHEVITSKIE KAZARMY). Such a career made it impossible for me to check its veracity, especially as all this happened years before I even finished the Corps of Pages (Tolstoj told me that he is now 55).

Since he never served with the regiment as an officer he must have left the regiment in a year with the rank of Ensign of the Reserve and would have been called up during World War I. He did not mention by a single word his further military service. He went to study at the School (University) of Railroad Engineering. Such a career can be described only as erratic and makes it impossible for me to check.

Then comes a rather long gap in his recollections. He does not mention his participation in World War I at all (strange for a soldier talking to another soldier, and being an Ensign of the Reserve he could not escape it.) He did not mention the Revolution. He did not excuse himself, a Tolstoj and an ex guardsman, for not having joined the White Army - this is almost a rule for any Russian who wants to ingratiate himself with a White Army man. Next I find that after the Revolution Tolstoj lived in France (his French is rather poor for a man who lived in France for a number of years), in Germany, Sweden, and finally settled as a well-known portrait painter in Oslo, Norway. He is now a Norwegian subject. Sometime during his life abroad he married a Latvian girl. While he was in Norway his wife, a cousin of his and a school "comrade" made their way from east Germany to the western zone, occupied by the Americans. There they took a small house and settled down to wait for Tolstoj to make it possible for them to go to Norway. One day Russian soldiers came into the American zone and visited the house of Mrs. Tolstoj. The next night they returned and "shot up" the whole household. Mrs. Tolstoj escaped with a wound. The two men were killed. Tolstoj nearly cried while telling me this

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story. After this he broke up his story and went on to tell me how difficult it was for him, a Russian-born Norwegian subject during the German occupation of Norway - difficult, that is, politically. Financially he fared very well. He became a well-known portrait painter. His pictures sold very well and he was able to bring his wife to Norway, built himself a villa outside of Oslo and spent his leisure hours hunting. He showed me many snapshots of his wife, villa and hunting dogs. I was interested in seeing the snapshots in which he appeared himself, as having seen the man plus his photographs is very helpful for identification purposes. (Incidentally, all these photographs bear my fingerprints).

Finally Mr. Tolstoj came to the point of his visit. According to him the present Norwegian government is very socialistic and taxes his income (from pictures) very heavily. He cannot complain about his life in Norway but needs money and wants to bring his cousin and school "comrade" out of Germany. I mentioned here that I understood that these two had been shot while in the American zone but was told that this is another cousin and another school "comrade". So he decided on the following course. He took 15 of his oil paintings and photographs of many of his other pictures and flew from Oslo to London. There he left two pictures with friends (for sale). From London he flew to Montreal where he contacted his good friend Ritchie and Ritchie sent him to me. The idea is that I should find a way of selling these pictures here. The cash (I am to have 25% of the sales price) will be placed in Ritchie's name or mine if I wish. When there is enough money it will be used for bringing Mr. Tolstoj, Mrs. Tolstoj, the cousin, and the school comrade from the American Occupation Zone of Germany to Canada. Besides arranging for the sale of pictures I was asked to see a way of bringing the two men to Canada. The last I brushed aside saying that besides some old friends in the Army and a few in my present job I have absolutely no friends or acquaintances in any of the Government offices and would not know even how to begin any arrangements for bringing two DP's to Canada. Since Tolstoj came to Canada for the express purpose of seeing me on these two matters it is strange that he accepted my refusal of help so easily and never brought the matter up again.

As far as the pictures are concerned, he showed me three very nice oils of Norwegian girls in national dress, and a group of photographs of his other pictures, but could not leave any with me as he was leaving Ottawa on the same day for Montreal and leaving Montreal for the States where he was to visit his cousin the Countess

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Tolstoj (who owns a farm near New York). He wanted to show his pictures in the States in order to arrange for some sales there too. He said that from New York he will fly back to Oslo (via London) and upon his return will write me a letter asking for a great deal of information re possible sales of oil paintings. will send one painting (for sale) and photographs of other pictures on hand in his studio in Oslo.

I remain Sir,

(sgd) M. Chramtohenko.

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