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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York

NOV 15 1968

Boleslavs Maikovskis
Internal Security - Russia

"The New York Times", a daily and Sunday New York City morning newspaper, issue of June 12, 1965, contained on page 9, an article captioned "Soviet Demands U. S. Extradite L. I. Man", which article contained a Moscow dateline of June 11, and read as follows:

"The Soviet Union has asked the United States for the extradition of a man living in Mineola, L. I., as an alleged World War II war criminal.

"Tass, the Soviet press agency, said the man Boleslavs Maikovski, lives at 232 Grant Street, Mineola.

"Two other persons, one a resident of Canada, and the other of West Germany, were also listed as wanted for war crimes. Tass said the Foreign Ministry has sent notes to embassies of the three countries concerned demanding extradition.

"Tass said that 'it had been established' that the West German resident and Mr. Maikovski, 'on orders of the Fascist authorities', had burned the village of Audrini, in Latvia, and arrested all inhabitants, of whom 170, including 51 children, were shot.'

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"The United States has refused similar requests on the grounds of uncertainty whether procedures for fair trials existed.

"Boleslavs Maikovski, in a telephone interview last night, said he is a Latvian. He said that the Latvians could do nothing during the German occupation and that the Germans did "everything".

Mr. Maikovski called the Soviet charges propaganda, of which 'not 1 per cent is right'.

"Mr. Maikovski, who said he was 61 years old and came here from Germany in 1952, said he did not live in Audrini during the war. He said that during the occupation he worked as a police clerk in Rezekne, near Audrini. The West German resident, named by Russians as Eichelis, was his supervisor, he added."

On April 13, 1966, NY T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in regard to the Council of Latvian Organizations in New York, an election of the officers was held in February, 1966. The Executive Vice President in the past had been B. Maikovskis. However, because of the unfavorable publicity he had received concerning alleged war atrocities, he declined to seek re-election to this office. A new office was created in the form of an Assistant Secretary. It was suggested that B. Maikovskis be elected to this office and was so elected. According to NY T-1, it was well known that Maikovskis was under investigation by the immigration authorities, apparently because of his alleged involvement in war atrocities.

A characterization of the Council of Latvian Organizations in New York is contained in the Appendix attached hereto.

On March 24, 1967, NY T-1 in commenting about the Council of Latvian Organizations in New York advised that Boleslavs Maikovskis continued to be a Vice President

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in the Council even though his retention of this position somewhat tarnished the reputation of the Council. According to the source, Maikovskis was retained in this position primarily by default since he is also the friend of the Council president, who used his influence to maintain this position for Maikovskis. It was the impression of NY T-1 that Maikovskis was involved in trouble with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and that efforts were being made to deport him.

On September 4, 1968, NY T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that on this date Howard Cohen of Mineola, New York, whose telephone number is 741-0747, was in contact with a female employee of the Consular Division of the Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), Washington, D.C., at which time he inquired as to the status of the extradition proceedings against Boleslav Maikovskis, who was tried in Riga, Latvia, in March, 1965, and whose extradition was requested in June, 1965. Cohen stated he represented a group which desired the extradition of Maikovskis. The employee, whose identity was not known to the source, informed Cohen that Vitautas M. Zenkevichyus handles matters of this type and that he would contact Cohen later that day.

The source has received no information indicating that Zenkevichyus contacted Cohen regarding above matters.

The August, 1968, issue of the "Diplomatic List", a publication of the United States Department of State, reflects that Vitautas Zenkevichyus was then a First Secretary of the USSR Embassy, Washington, D.C.

The 1967-1968 Nassau County, New York, telephone directory reflects that telephone number 741-0747 is listed to Howard R. Cohen, Attorney, 158 Third Street, Mineola, New York

On October 3, 1968, NY T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised of the following:

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Source has knowledge of Boleslavs Maikovskis and the charges against him. Maikovskis was charged by the Soviets of having committed wartime atrocities under the Germans in Latvia during World War II. Maikovskis, along with three or four other individuals, had been tried in absentia by a court in Latvia, found guilty and sentenced to death. There was some effort on the part of the Soviets to have Maikovskis extradited as a result of the charges and trial.

The source first became aware of the charges against Maikovskis as a result of an article in the newspaper "Dzimtenes Balss". Source described "Dzimtenes Balss" as a pro-Communist newspaper published in Latvia. The article which appeared in 1958 or 1959, related that Maikovskis had committed certain atrocities while under the German regime during World War II.

Prior to the time of the charges against Maikovskis, Maikovskis had been very active in the affairs of the Latvian church and in general in the affairs of the Latvian community. He had been active in the American Latvian Association (ALA) and the Daugavas Vanagi (DV). Shortly after the story about Maikovskis had appeared in "Dzimtenes Balss", an election was held in the ALA and Maikovskis was not re-elected. The source feels the defeat of Maikovskis at this time was due to the newspaper article. The source does not believe most people in the Latvian community believe all the charges against Maikovskis. Some individuals in the Latvian community believe that some of the facts in the charges are accurate but that not all of the facts are necessarily true or accurate. Although most of the individuals in the Latvian community are not sure of the charges, they want to be careful in regard to their relations with Maikovskis and feel it best if he was not active in groups where he formerly was associated.

Two or three years ago Maikovskis stated he was being investigated by INS and he was quite angry about the investigation. Maikovskis said as a result of the charges brought against him, he had received letters advising him that he had better move and return to Latvia as if he didn't, there might be some action taken against him or his house.

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Source stated he was not aware of any current action on the part of any individual or group, pro or anti-Communist, in regard to having Maikovskis extradited. In this respect, the source related that two to four months ago, while watching an evening newscast on one of the local New York City television stations, possibly channel two or four, an unidentified male was being interviewed. This male had traced a woman to New York City, Queens. This woman had formerly worked in a concentration camp in Europe during World War II. According to this male, this woman was guilty of certain atrocities. This male was asked of any other individuals known to him who had committed wartime atrocities and he mentioned a Latvian male residing on Long Island. Although this male did not mention a name, the source feels he was referring to Maikovskis.

Characterizations of both the ALA and DV are contained in the appendix attached hereto.

On October 3, 1968, NY T-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised of the following:

Boleslavs Maikovskis is a very mild mannered, even tempered individual who resided in Mineola, Long Island, New York. Late in 1959, or early 1960, the source became aware of the fact that Maikovskis had been charged by the Soviets of being a war criminal and having committed atrocities under the German occupation of Latvia during World War II. Maikovskis, along with several other individuals, had been tried in absentia by a court in Riga, Latvia, found guilty and sentenced to death. There had been some effort on the part of the Soviets or the Latvian Government to have Maikovskis extradited, however, source did not know the results of this action.

Maikovskis formerly had been very active in the affairs of the Latvian community. At one time Maikovskis was on the board of the ALA and was also active in the DV and the Latvian church. Maikovskis, for the most part, has dropped out of Latvian activities and the source feels this is a direct result of the charges against Maikovskis, the publicity

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surrounding the trial and extradition attempts. The source does not feel that the average Latvian necessarily feels that Maikovskis is guilty of the charges against him, but feels that it is the usual Soviet propaganda. However, the source feels that Maikovskis did not feel comfortable in his official capacity as a member of various Latvian organizations and due to the tension, decided to withdraw from most of the Latvian social groups with which he was involved.

The source advised he personally knows of no action on the part of any group or individual, anti or pro-Communist, to have Maikovskis extradited. However, source related, one or two months ago while viewing television, on one of the major television channels in the New York City area, possibly channel five, on the ten o'clock news, a reporter was interviewing a male named Wiseman (phonetic) or Riceman (phonetic). He had been active in trying to locate war criminals who had committed atrocities under the Germans during World War II. This male had been responsible for locating a woman in the United States who, during World War II, had been an official or attached to a concentration camp and according to this male was guilty of certain atrocities. This woman in the meantime had married a United States citizen. When asked if he had been successful in locating any other individuals guilty of atrocities, this male indicated that a Latvian male residing on Long Island was also guilty of having committed atrocities under the German regime. Although this male did not provide the name of this Latvian male, the source feels sure he was referring to Maikovskis. The source stated there was no mention of this male taking any action in regard to the extradition of Maikovskis.

The source added it is possible the main reason behind the charges against Maikovskis is an effort on the part of the Soviets to create confusion, suspicion and distrust in the Latvian community. Source said he did not know how much distrust the situation regarding Maikovskis might have caused, but it is certain some suspicion had been created in the minds of a number of Latvians.

On October 7, 1968, Miss H. Woelfe, Clerk, Carpenters District Council of Nassau County, 1 Commercial Street, Garden

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City, New York, advised that her records failed to reflect any employment for Boleslavs Maikovskis in Nassau County. She advised, however, that he is carried on the Pension and Welfare rolls as residing continuously at 232 Grant Avenue, Mineola, as of January, 1968.

The above records reflect Maikovskis is a member of the Suffolk County Local of the Carpenters Union located at Route 112, Medford, New York, and that his last known employer was the Vi-Nor Construction Corporation, 825 Jericho Turnpike, Huntington Station, New York.

On October 9, 1968, NY T-5, contact with whom has been insufficient to determine the reliability of the information furnished, but who has knowledge of some activities of Maikovskis, advised that Maikovskis and his wife are presently residing at 232 Grant Avenue, Mineola, New York.

On October 14, 1968, Mr. George Babcock, Secretary-Treasurer, Suffolk County District Council of Carpenters, Route 112, Medford, New York, advised from his records that Maikovskis is a member of Carpenters Local 1837, Sunrise Highway, West Islip, New York, and has been a member of the Union since October 21, 1955. His residence is recorded as 232 Grant Avenue, Mineola, New York. Mr. Babcock advised that Maikovskis is presently employed by Valda Construction, RD Number 1 Hilldale Avenue, Miller Place, New York.

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APPENDIX

1.

Council of Latvian Organizations in New York

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, has advised that the Council of Latvian Organizations in New York is the central body for Latvian organizations in the New York area and about 30 or 32 organizations belong to it. This source said that the Council of Latvian Organizations in New York is anti-Communist in character.

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APPENDIX

American Latvian Association (ALA)

A confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, has advised that the American Latvian Association (ALA) was organized in Washington, D.C., in 1950, and incorporated in that city. According to this confidential source, the object in forming this organization was to unite all Latvians and Latvian organizations in the United States for the purpose of promoting citizenship, cultural activities, and advocating the principles of an independent Latvia free from Soviet control.

This confidential source continued that the membership of the ALA consisted of approximately 100 Latvian organizations, among which were included church groups, social clubs, and fraternities, as well as a few hundred individual members who were unaffiliated with any particular Latvian organization.

A second confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, has advised that the ALA is the biggest of approximately over one hundred Latvian organizations in the United States, and the ALA is the parent body for most of these Latvian organizations in the United States.

This second confidential source continued that the ALA, in turn, is affiliated with the Latvian World Federation (LWF) and, among other groups affiliated with the LWF, are the Latvian Federation of Canada and the Latvian Federation of Australia.

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APPENDIX

DAUGAVAS VANAGI (DV)

A confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that the Daugavas Vanagi (DV) (Falcons of Daugava) was an organization of former Latvian soldiers who fought as a unit with the Germans against the Russians in 1943-1944, and became known as the Latvian Legion. According to this confidential source, after World War II, these veterans organized themselves into a veterans' organization known as the DV.

This confidential source continued that the purposes of this organization were the same as those generally associated with veterans' organizations, such as fraternalism, mutual aid and assistance, and to arrange for the care of those veterans who had been wounded or disabled during the Russian campaign.

This confidential source advised that the headquarters of the DV, known as the Central Board of Officers, was established in Germany, as most of the Latvian Legionnaires, and practically all of the disabled veterans, were located in Germany. However, many of the able veterans emigrated to other countries, where they organized local branches of the DV.

This confidential source indicated that, during the years immediately following World War II, because of the Latvian Legion's association with the German Army, the members of the Legion were excluded from entering the United States as Displaced Persons. However, in about 1950, some Latvians in the United States, who were sympathetic toward the Latvian Legionnaires and their organization, DV, as well as the DV's efforts to assist disabled Latvian veterans, began to form informal groups throughout the United States, which groups eventually became known as the Falcons of Daugava or DV.

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2.

DAUGAVAS VANAGI (DV) (Cont'd)

This confidential source explained that, even though the Latvian Legion had fought alongside the German forces, many patriotic Latvians did not regard the Latvian Legion as German collaborators, but rather as Latvian heroes, who had fought the Russians, not for the purpose of assisting the Germans in any manner whatsoever, but for the sole purpose of fighting Communism and preventing the Russians from invading Latvia. The fact that, at the same time, the Germans were also fighting a war of their own with the Russians, was regarded as coincidental and the alliance between the Latvian Legion and the German forces was generally regarded as one of necessity, rather than desire.

This confidential source said that, in 1951, the restrictions against former members of the Latvian Legion entering the United States were lifted. As a result, a number of these Legionnaires came to the United States and joined the various informal groups of DV, which had already been established. In addition to these groups, they also formed a number of new branches. However, since there were not enough actual members of the Latvian Legion to create an effective organization, about one year previously, membership in the United States organization of the DV was opened to all Latvians, both men and women, regardless of whether or not they had been actual fighting members of the Latvian Legion in Latvia. This confidential source estimated that, at that time, there were about 15 to 20 branches in various parts of the United States, with a membership of from 400 to 600, and all of the branches were known by the same name, that is, DV or the Falcons of Daugava.

This confidential source continued that regular meetings of the DV were held and an intra-organizational bulletin was published. Principal activities consisted of social affairs, such as picnics, dances and other functions, all held for the purpose of raising money to be sent to Germany, where it was to be used for the care of veterans of the Latvian Legion, who had been wounded and disabled in the Russian campaign.

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3.

DAUGAVAS VANAGI (DV) (Cont'd.)

This confidential source stated that the DV was militantly anti-Communist and supported all activities tending toward the eventual liberation of Latvia from the Soviet Union.

A second confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, has advised that the second largest and most active Latvian organization in the United States is the DV, a Latvian veterans' organization, which is anti-Communist.

According to this second confidential source, the DV has about 55 branches, and the majority of heads of the branches are former career Latvian Army officers.