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**August 23, 1944**

**Federal Bureau of Investigation Report on Activities  
of Mikhail Konstantin Kalatozov**

**Citation:**

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**Summary:**

Soviet film director Mikhail Kalatozov has left Los Angeles for New York and Washington, DC, and will likely be returning home to the Soviet Union. A list of contacts by Kalatozov's staff and his wife to various American film producers and directors is recorded, including Orson Welles.

**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. 100-19404

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8/23/44</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>5/29 - 8/16/44</b>	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted]	<b>GIF</b>
TITLE <b>MIKHAIL KONSTANTIN KALATOZOV, w.as.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY (R)</b>	

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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

MIKHAIL KALATOZOV and other representatives of the Soviet motion picture industry departed for New York and Washington, D. C. on June 20, 1944. KALATOZOV has been in New York City since that date. [Redacted] continues to maintain contact with prominent persons in the motion picture industry many of whom have apparent Communist sympathies. Background of [Redacted] Tass News Agency, obtained. Strong indication that KALATOZOV will return to Soviet Russia in the near future. No information concerning his successor received to date.

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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [Redacted]  
Los Angeles, June 13, 1944.

**DETAILS:**

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

The activities of MIKHAIL KALATOZOV and [Redacted] have been closely followed during the period of this report by [Redacted]. This source advised that on June 4, 1944 KALATOZOV received a wire from [Redacted] in Mexico City, which stated "URGENT MEETING NECESSARY ON DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS AND COORDINATION WITH [Redacted] in New York City) WIRE WHEN I SHOULD MEET YOU IN LOS ANGELES. GREETINGS."

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12-19-99 BY SP-183/BJP

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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On June 5, 1944 [ ] contacted JACK WARNER'S office stating that three more Soviet film workers had arrived, referring to [ ] and stated that Mr. KALATOZOV wanted them to see the studio. On that same date [ ] telephonically contacted [ ] and advised that Mr. GOLDWYN could not be with "them" that day and that he would arrive a day later.

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On June 6, 1944 the [ ] (to Warner brothers) contacted [ ] and advised her to come to the studio on Thursday at 1:00 P. M. and go to [ ] (ph) office. She stated that they would get a complete tour of the studio. [ ] advised that she wanted to meet JACK WARNER.

On this same date an unknown woman contacted [ ] and talked with her regarding Russian War Relief. She was advised to contact [ ]. Later one [ ] called [ ] and he, too, was advised to contact [ ] then asked if she expected that man down from San Francisco in the near future, apparently referring to GREGORI KHEIFETS. [ ] stated that she did, but that no date had been set as yet.

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On June 9, 1944 [ ] contacted [ ] advising her that they had met at the Russian Vice Consulate in Los Angeles. [ ] gave [ ] her address and invited her and her husband to dinner at the KALATOZOV home on June 15, 1944. It was later determined that in addition to the [ ], Mr. HANNS EISLER, [ ] WILLIAM DIETERLE and [ ] HEINRICH MANN, as well as [ ] BERT BRECHT, all subjects in the Comrap investigation, were invited to this dinner.

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On this same date [ ] advised that KALATOZOV sent a telegram to [ ] St. Regis Hotel, New York City, stating "EXPECT TO ARRIVE NYC AROUND JUNE TWENTIETH. WARMEST REGARDS."

During the visit of GREGORI KHEIFETS [ ] representatives of the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco, between June 11 and June 19, 1944, it was noted through physical surveillance that these individuals visited at the home of KALATOZOV on four separate occasions. On some of these occasions dinners and cocktail parties were in session and numerous other people were in attendance.

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On June 12, 1944 [ ] contacted Mr. BORIS MORROS, also a subject in the Comrap investigation, advising him that KALATOZOV wanted

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MORROS to attend a luncheon. They finally decided on June 16th as a date and set the place as the Savoy Cafe.

On June 13, 1944 KALATOZOV sent the following telegram to [redacted] Soviet Embassy, Mexico City: "EXPECT YOU IN NEW YORK BY JUNE TWENTY FIFTH PLEASE WIRE YOUR ANSWER REGARDS".

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On June 20, 1944 MIKHAIL KALATOZOV, [redacted] [redacted] all prominent representatives of the Soviet motion picture industry, departed from Los Angeles for Washington, D. C. and New York. [redacted] indicated that they would be in Washington, D. C. until the end of July where they would contact [redacted] with regard to priorities for movie equipment. KALATOZOV intended to proceed to New York where he would meet with [redacted] [redacted] both representatives of the Soviet motion picture industry. The New York and Washington Field Divisions were advised by teletype concerning the movements of these persons.

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On July 3, 1944 [redacted] sent the following telegram to [redacted] "HOPE WE HEAR FROM YOU. LOVE. [redacted]"

On July 6, 1944 [redacted] contacted [redacted] and advised that [redacted] was then in London. [redacted] stated that the [redacted] were fine. There was some discussion concerning the showing of a picture and [redacted] then advised [redacted] that she would contact her later.

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On July 13, 1944 one [redacted] who said he was [redacted] of Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, contacted [redacted] and said he wanted scenes of hanging bodies, burning buildings, mob violence, bread lines, etc. He stated that he is making an anti-Fascist propaganda picture. [redacted] said that she would contact KALATOZOV and let him have the [redacted] telephone number, [redacted] She then suggested "The Ukraine in Flames" and "The City that Stopped Hitler". She then contacted [redacted] who stated that "The Ukraine in Flames" was in Sacramento but that it would be back by the next Monday. "The City that Stopped Hitler" belongs to Paramount and "Moscow Strikes Back" was put out by Republic Pictures. [redacted] then recontacted [redacted] stating that she could not get "The Ukraine in Flames", but that she could arrange for the rest of the pictures for him.

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On July 14, 1944 [redacted] of the "Hollywood Reporter" contacted [redacted] and wanted to know if she had any news for him. She stated that [redacted] was out of town for a month visiting various plants that produced things Russia needs. He was then in Richmond, Virginia. She also stated that KALATOZOV was in New York and she did not expect him back for another month.

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On July 17, 1944 ANDREW VOYNOW contacted [redacted] office which is the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, and talked with [redacted] stated that he wanted some pamphlets on Soviet policies and Soviet-Czech relations and postwar plans. [redacted] stated that she was not too familiar with the available material. She stated that she had several newspaper clippings, and [redacted] advised that he was in a hurry for the material and could not write to their national headquarters. She stated she would mail him what she had. He then asked about [redacted] in New York City, who is a mutual acquaintance.

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On this same date [redacted] of the Hughes and O'Donnell Advertising Agency, Mutual 8331, contacted [redacted] with regard to his appearance on the radio the coming Thursday. He was to speak on "Can We Have Peace in Europe?" [redacted] read a forty or fifty word prepared statement which he could use as an introduction. [redacted] stated he would call him later.

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On July 31, 1944 [redacted] contacted [redacted] CBS Studios, Hollywood, and made application for a job as a writer. He was later transferred to [redacted] and was told to appear for an interview.

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Through subsequent contact with [redacted] a copy of [redacted] was obtained by Special Agent [redacted] and the writer. [redacted] listed the following information concerning his background. He was born [redacted] He listed his home address as [redacted] [redacted] would accept a \$50.00 per week minimum salary. He was referred to this position by [redacted] He gave his Social Security number as [redacted] and stated that [redacted] He claimed to be acquainted with [redacted] already employed at CBS. He listed his draft classification as 1-A (H) and his religion as non-sectarian. He stated that he speaks Russian fluently and reads it slowly, having learned

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it in Russia. With reference to his education he stated that he attended the [redacted]

[redacted]

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During his University days, [redacted] was active in the [redacted] under the direction of [redacted]

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With regard to his employment, he worked for [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

In addition [redacted] stated that while in Moscow [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] he listed the following persons as references: [redacted]

[redacted] (he stated this person was

[redacted]

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In addition, [redacted] stated that he has lived at his present residence for [redacted]

[redacted] He stated he has one child and his wife dependent upon him. His father is [redacted]

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With regard to [redacted] he stated she was born in [redacted] He stated that [redacted] live in Moscow.

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Investigation will be continued concerning [redacted] activities inasmuch as he is closely connected with KALATOZOV and other members of the Soviet Vice Consulate in Los Angeles.

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On August 1, 1944, [redacted] advised that [redacted] who is [redacted] noted motion picture producer, contacted [redacted] advising her that he wanted to use her services as a technical advisor, and made an appointment to see her the following day.

On August 3, 1944, [redacted] contacted CHARLES CHAPLIN and congratulated him on the recent birth of his child.

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On August 4, 1944, [redacted] contacted the Esquire Theatre and asked if [redacted] had left any tickets there for them. She stated that she worked for [redacted] Later [redacted] contacted [redacted] and stated that she would like to see the picture then at the Esquire Theatre. He said he would take care of it and for her to call him at any time for any picture.

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On August 4, 1944, [redacted] contacted a [redacted] (ph) and advised her that her husband was coming from New York with a Russian cameraman who had just arrived from the Soviet Union. She stated they would be there the middle of next week and she would contact [redacted] when they arrived.

On August 5, 1944, a [redacted] contacted the KALATOZOV residence and asked for KALATOZOV. He was advised that KALATOZOV was in New York and that he did not know when he would return.

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On this same date [ ] sent the following telegram to [ ] ORSON WELLES, 136 Carmelina, West Los Angeles: "THANK YOU FOR INVITATION. WOULD LOVE TO BE PRESENT YOUR PARTY. UNFORTUNATELY MY HUSBAND IN NEW YORK. VERY SORRY. HOPE TO SEE YOU IN OUR HOUSE WHEN HE ARRIVES. BEST REGARDS /s/ [ ]

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On August 10, 1944 [ ] contacted a [ ] [ ] apparently her [ ] She advised him that she would have to discontinue her lessons as she was leaving California soon. She stated she was waiting for her husband and at that time the two of them would leave together. She stated she may be gone for a long time.

On August 11, 1944 one [ ] contacted [ ] and stated that [ ] apparently [ ] a friend of KALATOZOV, could do nothing about placing [ ] in the studios. [ ] then stated that he must get something to do. [ ] asked whether KALATOZOV was going back. [ ] said "Probably" and attempted to evade any further questioning. [ ] then informed [ ] that she would have less trouble getting work than would [ ]

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On August 13, 1944 [ ] was contacted by [ ] a friend of hers and also of the KALATOZOVs, who is an artist. Following a general discussion [ ] advised him that she was not working after August 15th, apparently referring to her position as [ ]

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As an additional indication that KALATOZOV will be returning to Soviet Russia in the near future, [ ] advised that on [ ] had a conversation with one [ ] of Washington, D. C., at which time [ ] stated "You know that man for whom we have petitioned has to go home. You know who I mean of the kino industry; his name starts with K." [ ] replied, "Yes, I know."

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[ ] advised that this conversation probably referred to MIKHAIL KALATOZOV and that the conversation would indicate he would be returning to Russia in the near future.

- P E N D I N G -



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UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION:

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At Los Angeles, California, will through [redacted] continue to maintain coverage of KALATOZOV'S activities in the motion picture industry.

Will make an effort to develop another confidential informant in the motion picture industry who is familiar with KALATOZOV'S activities.

Will continue to monitor KALATOZOV'S banking activities at the Vermont and Melbourne Branch of the Bank of America.

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Will continue to follow the activities of [redacted] the latter of whom is [redacted] and who will apparently remain in Los Angeles in the event of KALATOZOV'S departure.

Will consider the advisability of contacting [redacted] [redacted] motion picture producer, who will employ [redacted] as a technical advisor.

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Will maintain contact with [redacted] of the residence at [redacted]

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CONFIDENTIAL

b2 [redacted] Confidential National Defense  
Informant [redacted]

b2 [redacted] - [redacted]

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(requested his name be kept  
confidential)

b2 [redacted] - Teletype from New York to Bureau  
and Washington Field 8/10/44  
in the case entitled "COMINTERN  
APPARATUS, INTERNAL SECURITY (R)"  
(Los Angeles file 100-18710).

(One copy of this report is being sent to the New York and San Francisco Field Divisions for information purposes, inasmuch as KAIATOZOV is a frequent visitor in those cities; also because he is in close contact with members of the Russian Vice Consulate and subjects of the case entitled "COMINTERN APPARATUS, INTERNAL SECURITY (R)", of which San Francisco is the office of origin.)