

Alfred Baker Fonds

Chemistry and Art
More Adventures of a Chemist Collector

The Rt. Ambassador

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
LOCATOR	5095.5
BOX	10
FILE	2 (3086)

Museumplein 19
1071 DJ Amsterdam
Tel.#: 31-20-5755338
Fax# 31-20-5755341

April 27, 1999

Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue, Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Fax : 414 277 0709

Dear Dr. Bader:

This is in response to your letter of March 26 to Ambassador Schneider concerning the tragic loss of several of your paintings. It must have been especially horrifying for you to learn that after the paintings were recovered, they were sold at auction.

The Ambassador asked me to look into your case as it involved police in Amsterdam. The police received a letter from your Dutch lawyer, Mr. W.O. Russell, early this year. They subsequently responded to Mr. Russell by letter dated February 12. Hopefully you will now be in receipt of that letter.

Because this case is now in the hands of lawyers, the police are unable to provide any more specific information. At the same time, State Department officials are unable to become involved in any legal actions. In most cases we provide American citizens a list of lawyers considered reputable if they anticipate legal actions. Mr. Russell is indeed known to this office. I think you are in very good hands.

I hope you have received more positive news by now. If I can be of further assistance to you, please don't hesitate to write.

Sincerely,

Dianne Andruch
Consul General

*sent original
on April 27.*



*Embassy of the United States of America
The Hague, the Netherlands*

May 25, 1999

*Cynthia P. Schneider
Ambassador*

Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue, Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Dr. Bader:

Thank you for sending me the photographs of the Rembrandtesque landscape painting. It is an interesting addition to the sizable group of Rembrandt-inspired landscape paintings. Off the top of my head, I do not have a name for the artist. For your information, I do not believe that the Rhenen drawing is by Rembrandt either.

I am glad to hear that you expect to be able to recover your stolen painting. I hope you will eventually receive satisfaction from the Amsterdam police.

I hope that I will have the chance to see you on one of your trips to Holland. Please come to see me if you have time.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia P. Schneider".
Cynthia P. Schneider



1943



FAX FROM:

Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue
Astor Hotel -Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Ph: 414 / 277-0730
Fax: 414 / 277-0709
e-mail: baderfa@execpc.com
November 1, 1999

TO: Ambassador Cynthia Schneider

Page 1 of _1_

FAX #: 011 31 70 361 4688

Dear Dr. Schneider,

As you know, we very much hope to have a chance to meet you during our stay in The Hague, from Tuesday evening, November 16th, until Friday morning, November 19th.

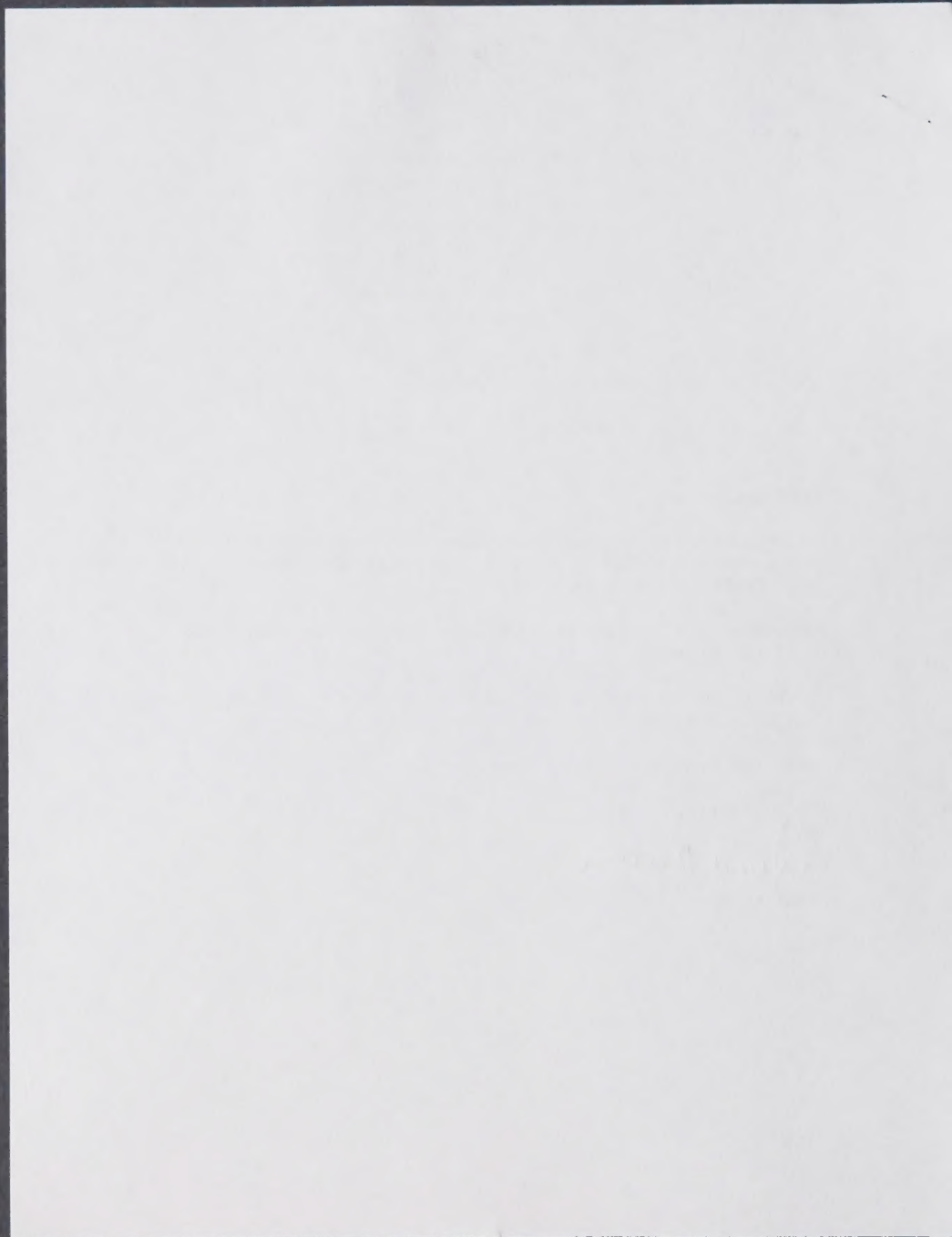
We will be staying at the Paleis Hotel in the Molenstraat 26, surely not far from you.

On Wednesday we will spend most of the day studying at the RKD, but Thursday the 18th is completely free.

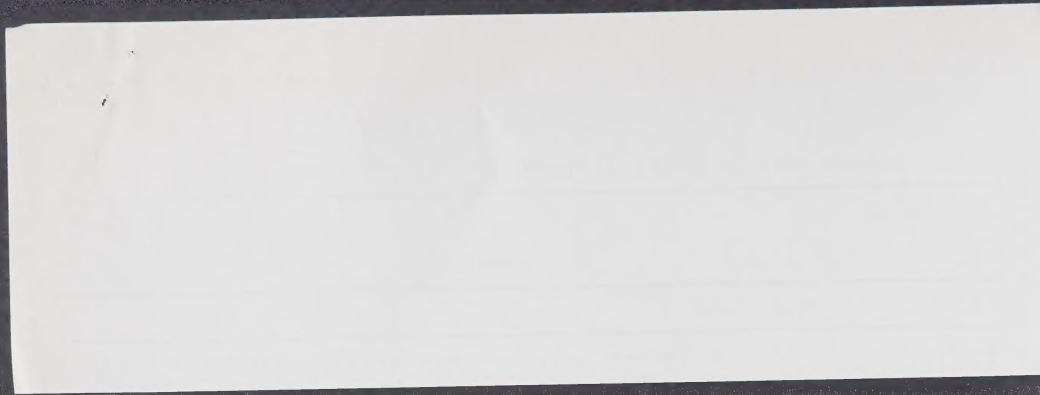
With best personal regards I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB/az



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+ TRANSACTION REPORT
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+ FOR: ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS 4142770709
+
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+ RECEIVER PAGES NOTE
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+ 01131703614688 1 OK
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Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau, Suite 622
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
Phone: 414/277-0730
Fax: 414/277-0709

A Chemist Helping Chemists

May 24, 1999

Ambassador Cynthia P. Schneider
American Embassy The Hague
PSC 71 Box 001
APO AE 09715
THE NETHERLANDS

ALSO BY FAX TO: 011-31-70-361-4688

Dear Dr. Schneider,

Thank you for your note of May 12th alerting me to a letter from Consul General Dianne Andruch.

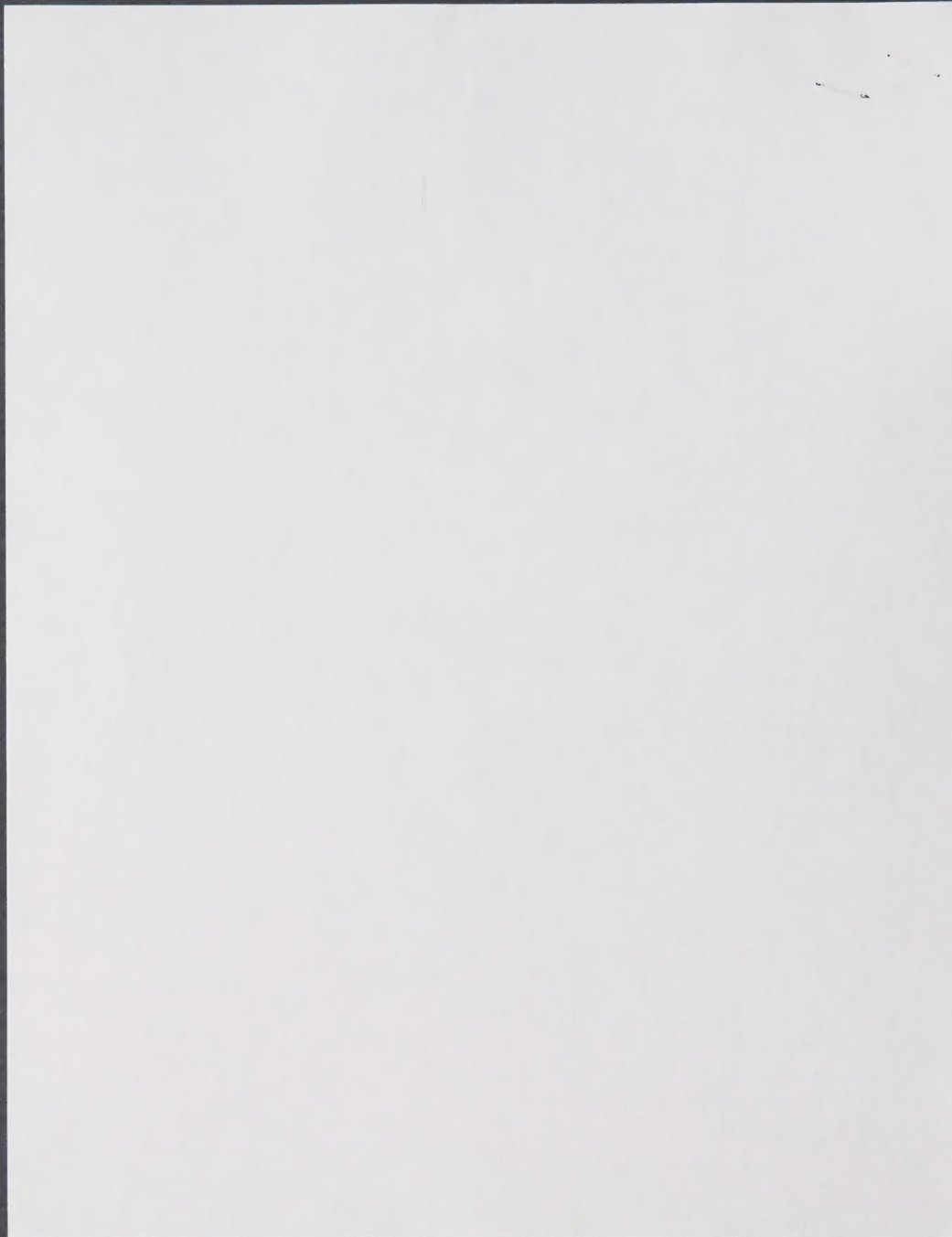
Unfortunately, I have not received that letter and fear that it may have gotten lost in the mails. Could you please ask Ms. Andruch to fax me her letter.

I will be leaving for England on June 9th and would very much like to have this letter to discuss with Dr. Willem Russell.

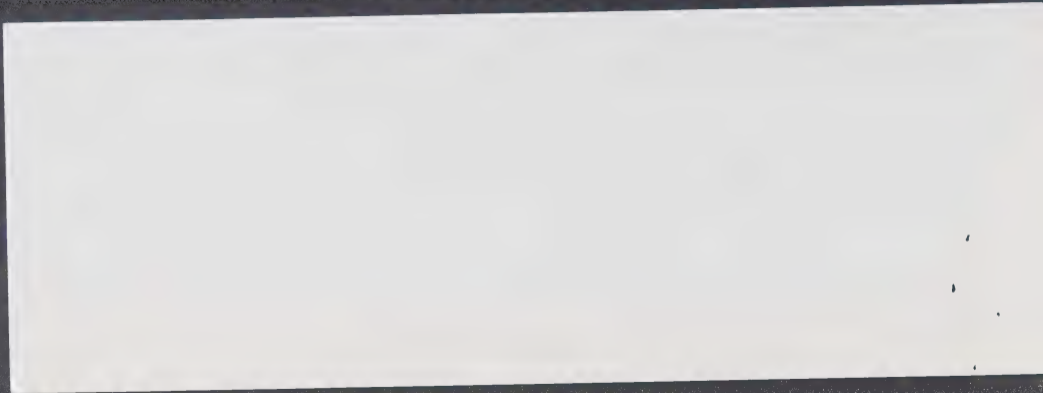
With many thanks for your help I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB/az









*Embassy of the United States of America
The Hague, the Netherlands*

*Cynthia P. Schneider
Ambassador*

May 12, 1999

Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue, Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Dr. Bader:

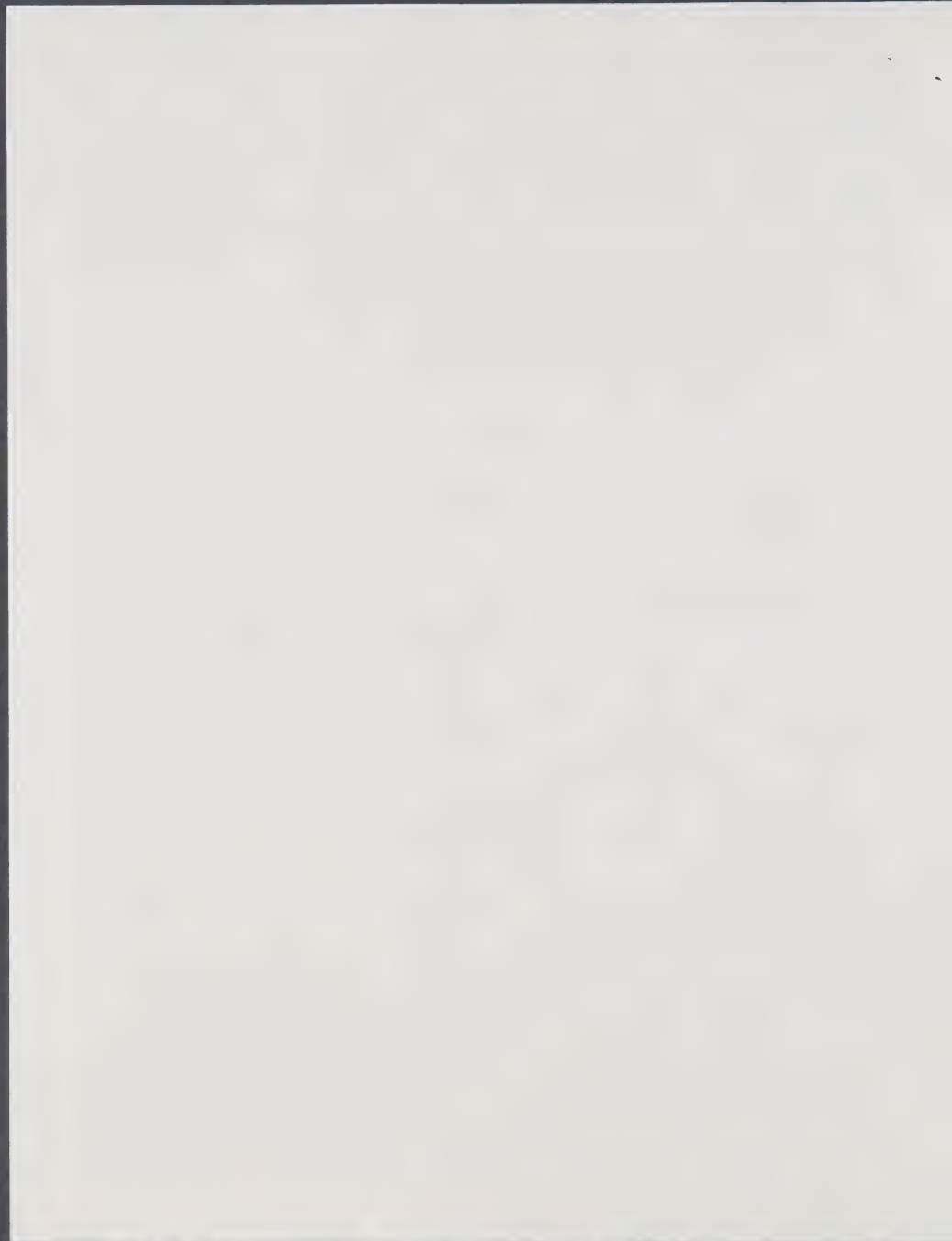
You should have received by now a letter from my Consul General Dianne Andruch regarding the tragic case of your stolen paintings.

I am sorry that there is nothing the Embassy can do for you at this moment. I hope very much that your very able lawyer, Mr. W.O. Russell, will be able to settle the matter to your satisfaction.

With sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia P. Schneider".

Cynthia P. Schneider





cc: Dr. W. Russell

Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau, Suite 622
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
Phone: 414/277-0730
Fax: 414/277-0709

A Chemist Helping Chemists

April 30, 1999

Ambassador Cynthia P. Schneider
American Embassy The Hague
PSC 71 Box 001
APO AE 09715
THE NETHERLANDS

Dear Dr. Schneider,

Allow me to write to you today about two matters.

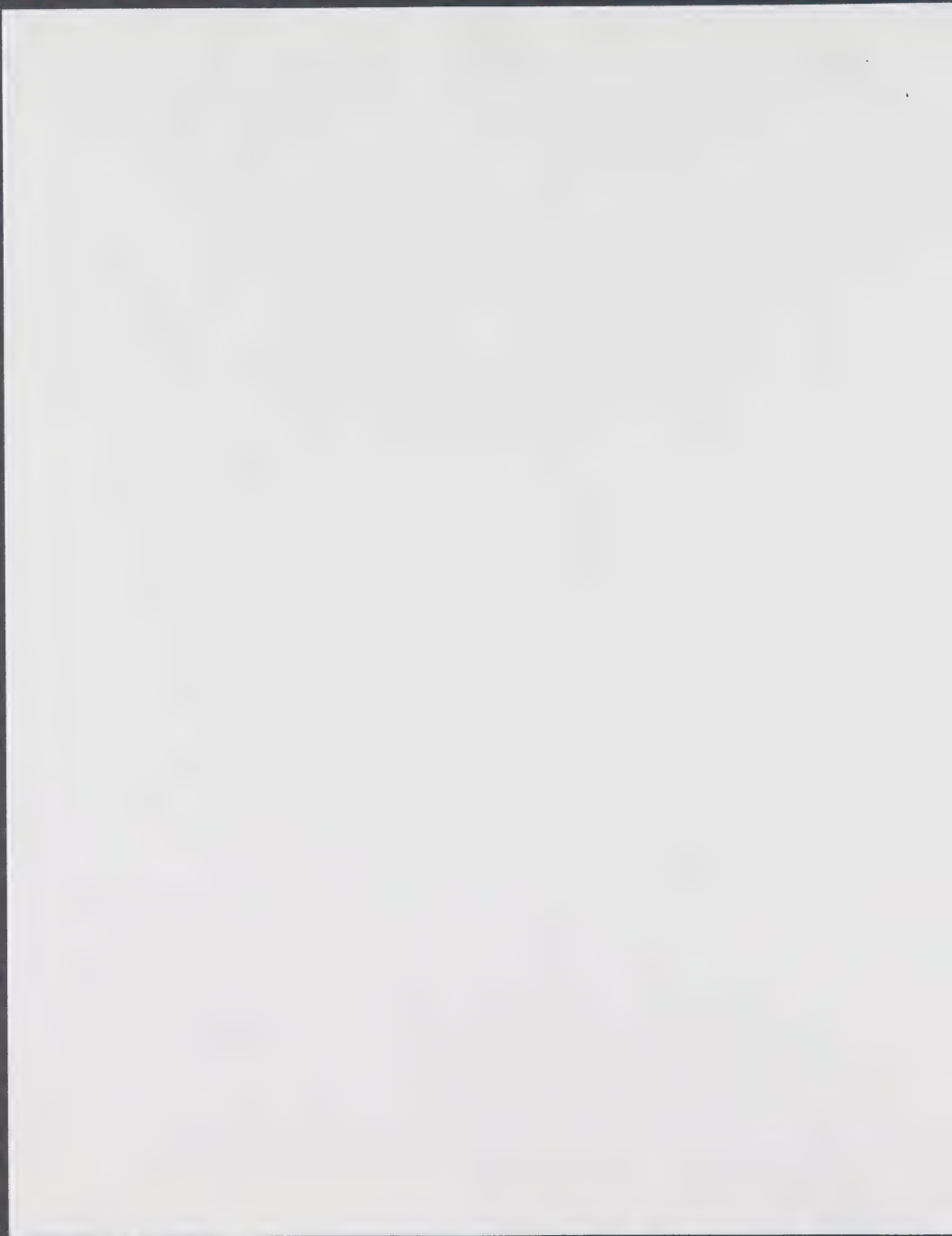
As you will be able to imagine I am offered several "Rembrandts" a month but most of these are not by Rembrandt, of course, and when they are, they are usually tremendously expensive.

But, as you know better than anyone else in the world, Rembrandt landscapes are very rare.

Yesterday I was offered one, color photograph enclosed, for "only" \$7 million. Looking at this I am quite convinced that it is not by Rembrandt and I am sending it to you only for your amusement.

I have only seen the photograph and the expertises enclosed and I would like to add that I have seen scores of expertises by Professor Vogelsang, but not a single one yet which was correct.

Certainly the painter, perhaps a Rembrandt student of the period, is likely to have looked at the Mill in Washington and at Rembrandt's drawing, but of course that doesn't justify a price of \$7 million, or even 1/10th of that.



Ambassador Cynthia P. Schneider
Page Two
April 30, 1999

On the second matter, last Saturday an Amsterdam paper, De Volkskrant, published a story about the theft, actually with a photograph which Professor Sumowski had sent to me. Clearly the pressure of the publicity changed Dr. Schilder's mind. As you will see from the enclosed e-mail and fax messages, he lowered his asking price from Hfl 35,000 to 10,000, pretty close to the price which I paid Clovis Whitfield in London in 1994. I have accepted and am now only awaiting Dr. Ekkart's agreement.

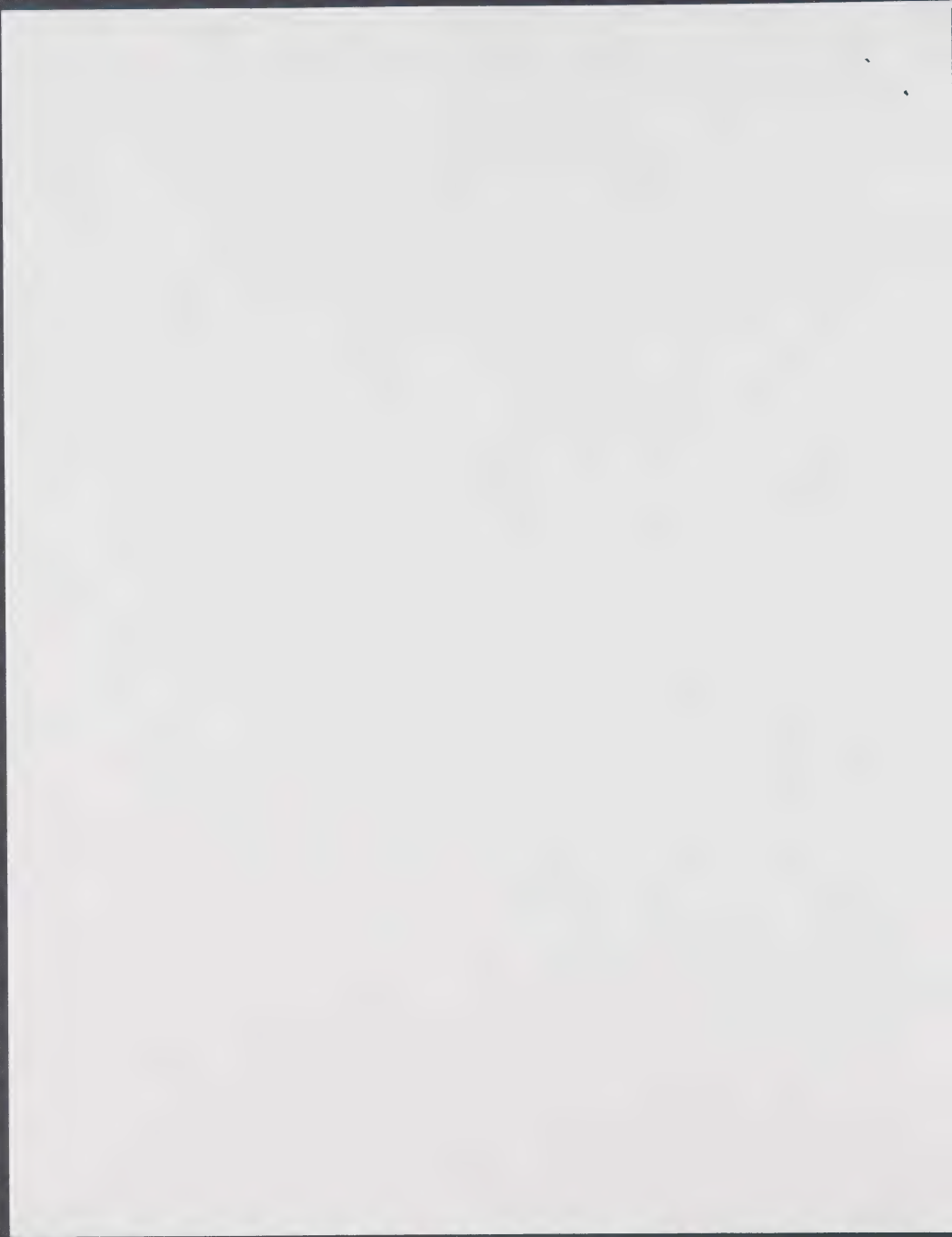
As you perhaps know from my book, I am a rather stubborn man, and still would like to go after the Amsterdam police, both to recover the Hfl 10,000 and the little portrait by Gonzales Coques. You will note from Dr. Schilder's last e-mail that he saw that painting right next to *Rembrandt's Mother*, both having been sent there by the police.

Of course I very much hope that you will succeed in persuading the police to reimburse me for my loss and to give me the name of the buyer of the second painting.

With many thanks and all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB/az
Att.





Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau, Suite 622
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
Phone: 414/277-0730
Fax: 414/277-0709

A Chemist Helping Chemists

April 14, 1999

Ambassador Cynthia P. Schneider
American Embassy The Hague
PSC 71 Box 001
APO AE 09715
THE NETHERLANDS

ALSO BY FAX TO: 011-31-70-361-4688 5 pages

Dear Dr. Schneider,

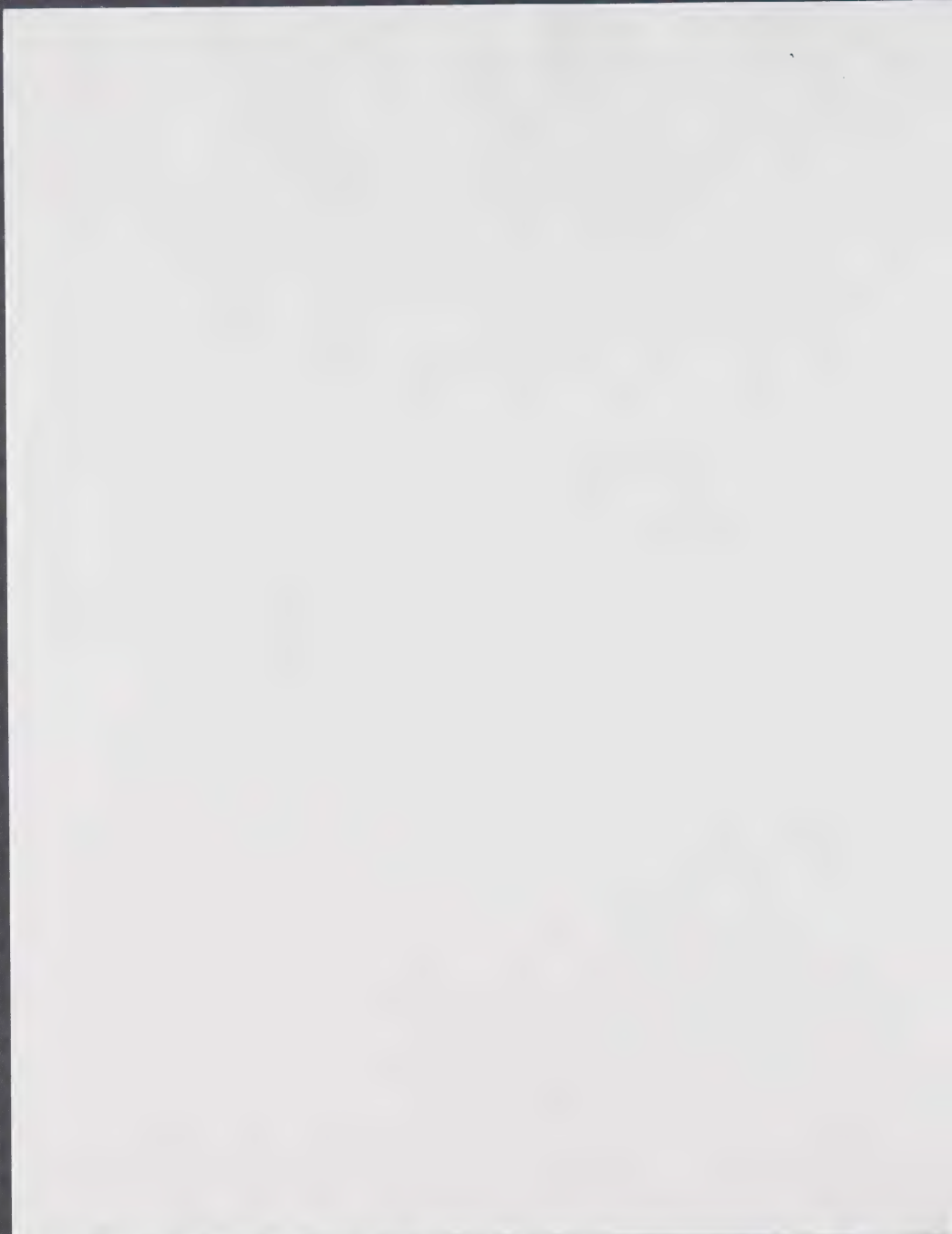
Thank you so much for your kind letter of April 1st, received today.

I suspect that the few Americans who think about our Ambassadors abroad, think of them as distant and aloof people, too busy to concern themselves about unimportant matters, and delegating almost all of their work. That thinking would certainly be mistaken about you.

Unfortunately I am way behind in my reading, and only the day after Dr. Willem Russell in Amsterdam told me about your becoming our Ambassador, did I see that delightful picture of you in the HNA Newsletter, copy enclosed.

Since my last letter to you, an article about the theft appeared in an Amsterdam newspaper, *Het Parool*, and I enclose a copy. It is too bad that this does not include photographs of the two paintings, but perhaps some other Dutch papers will include these.

Dr. M.B.H. Schilder in Utrecht complained to the journalist that I am trying to "chanteren" his "moreel", but his long letter to me speaks for itself.



Dr. Cynthia Schneider

- 2 -

April 14, 1999

However, the basic fault lies with the Amsterdam police which had the two paintings for years, never checked their own report of the theft, or with IFAR where the paintings were illustrated. Even now they haven't had the courtesy of replying to my letter of February 22nd which I know was received on February 26th.

My good friend, Dr. Otto Naumann, introduced me to Dr. Willem Russell, a very able lawyer specializing in art law in Amsterdam. You probably know of the great collection of Dutch paintings that was owned by his late father. Dr. Russell tried very hard to convince the Amsterdam police to reacquire the paintings for me, but in vain. If you would like to talk to him about this, his telephone number is 20 301 5555.

Luckily, we are not dealing with major Dutch paintings and yet the action of the police seems so unfair. Perhaps a letter from you will change their mind.

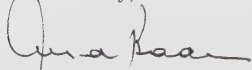
May I point out to you that your letter of April 1st was postmarked April 7th and not received in Milwaukee until the 14th. Even Canadian mails are faster than that! Hence, I am sending this by fax and by mail.

To turn to a quite different and happier matter, I enclose a copy of an article that just appeared in the newspaper of my undergraduate alma mater, Queen's University. You probably know Axel Ruger who is now in Holland. He will become curator of the National Gallery in London - a great honor for Queen's!

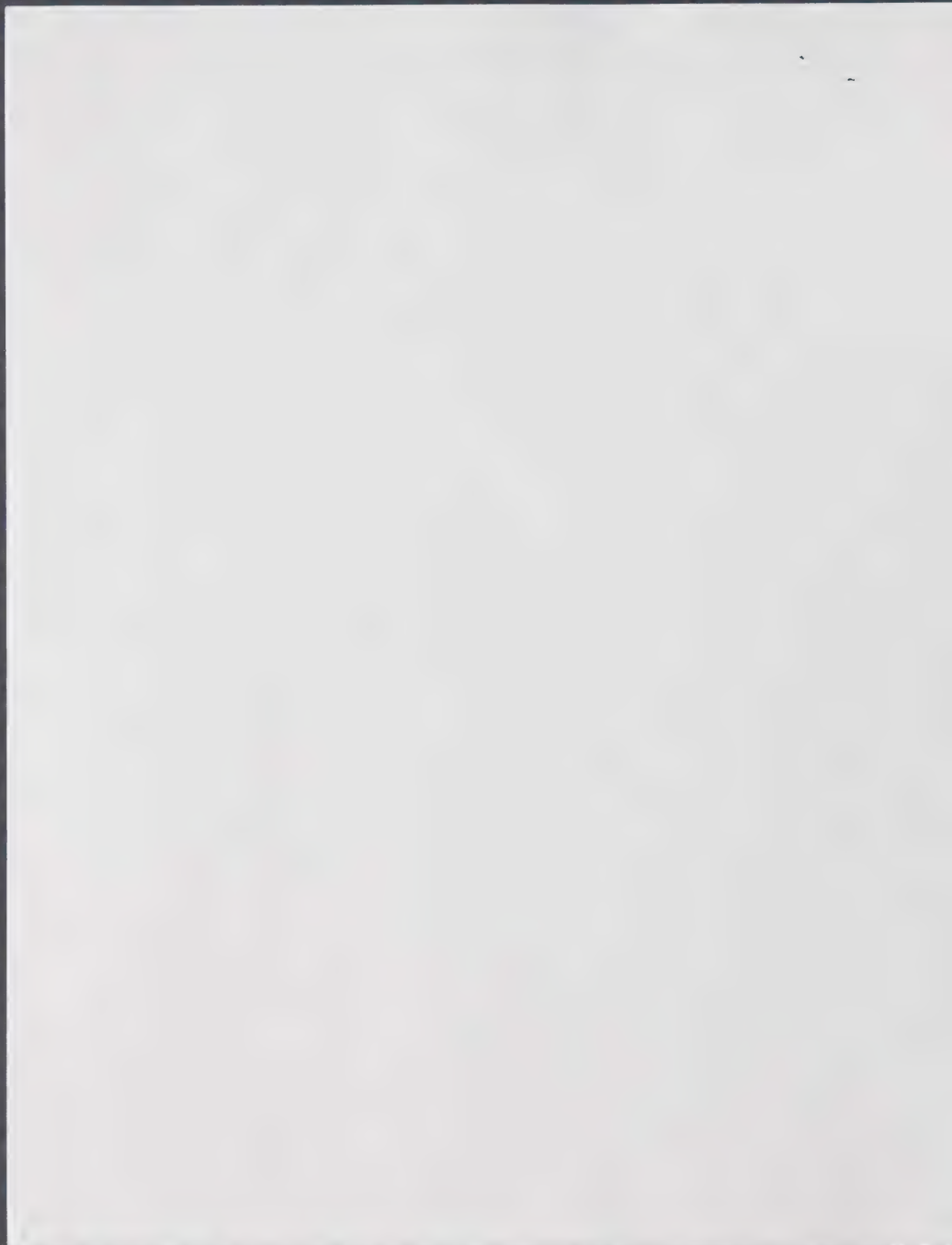
Isabel and I hope to be in Holland for a week in November and it would give us very great pleasure if we could meet you personally and thank you for all your help.

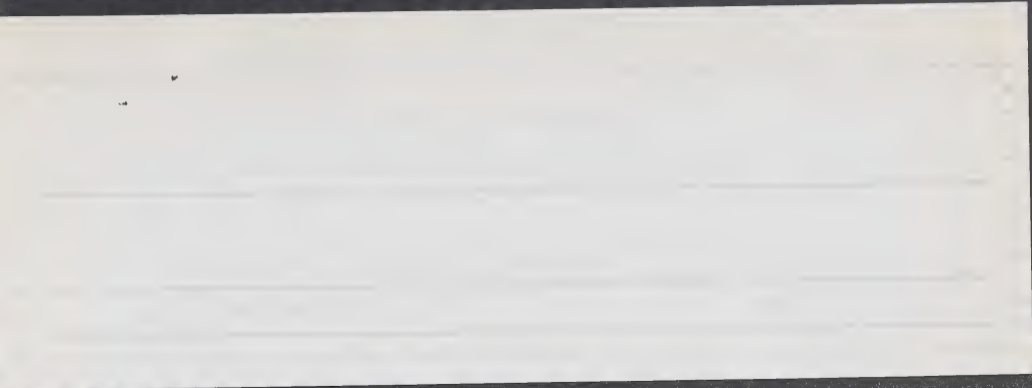
With best regards I remain

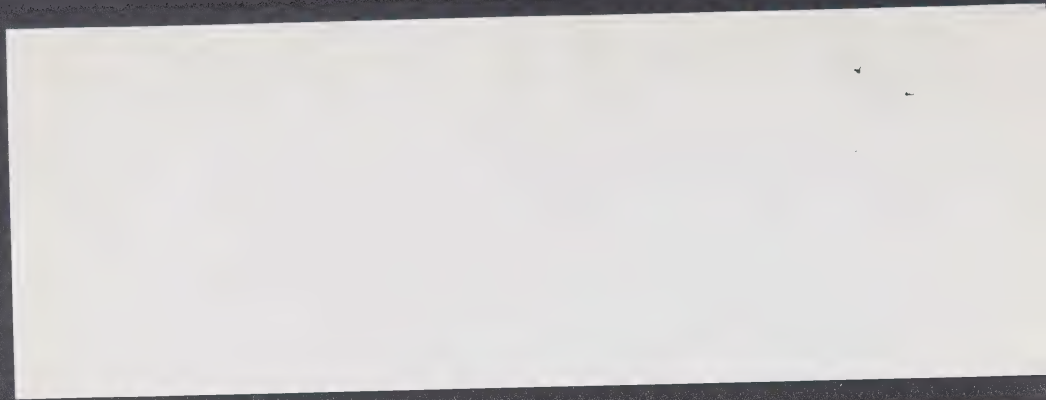
Yours sincerely,



Alfred Bader
AB/az
Enc.









Embassy of the United States of America
The Hague, the Netherlands

April 1, 1999

Cynthia P. Schneider
Ambassador

Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue, Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Dr. Bader:

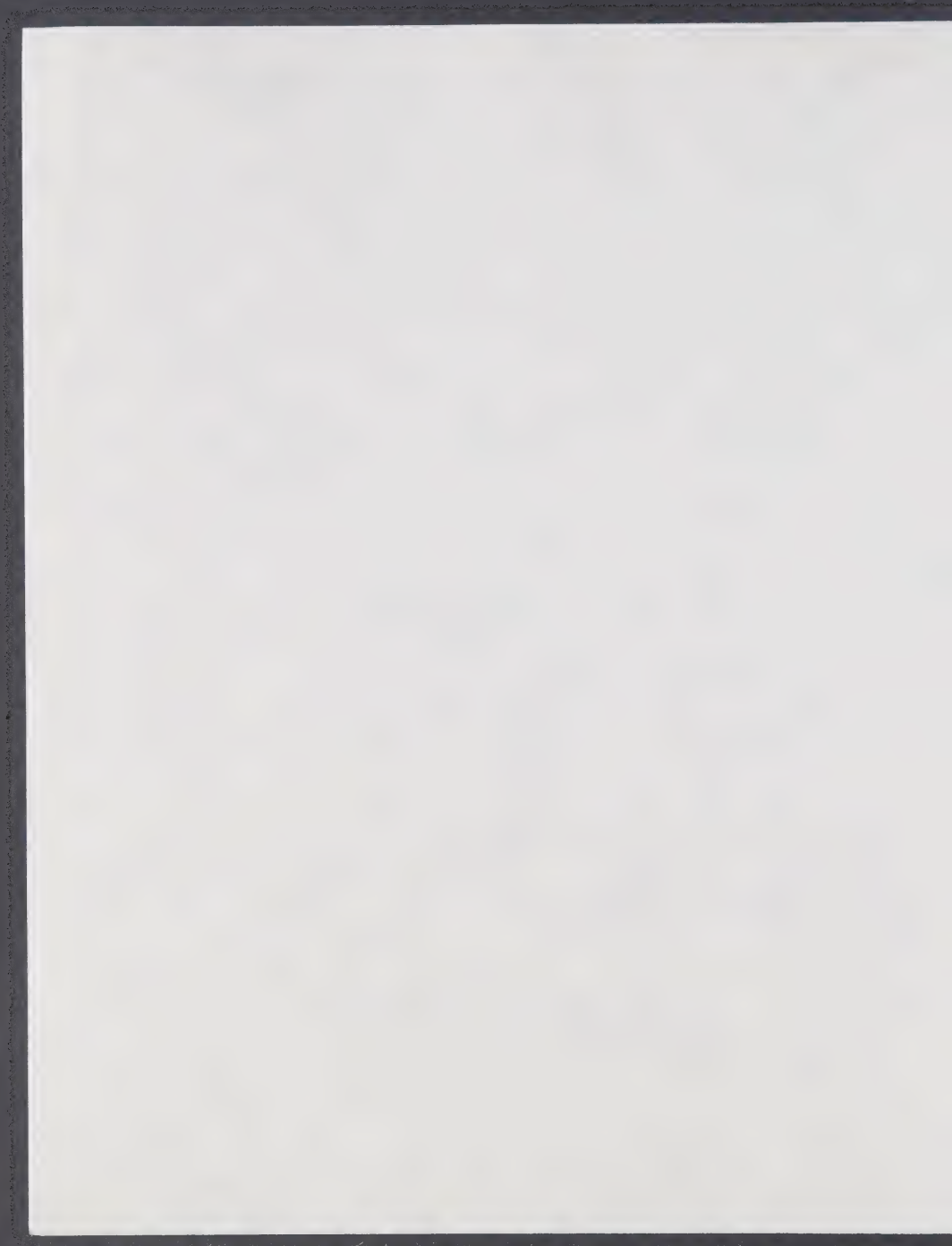
Your letter of March 24th regarding the theft of several of your paintings in Amsterdam distressed me more than you might have imagined. As a scholar of Dutch art, recently named American Ambassador to the Netherlands, your name is extremely well known to me. Before assuming my post I was an Associate Professor of Art History at Georgetown University; I received my doctorate at Harvard under Seymour Slive. We have many friends in common, from Bill Robinson to Walter Liedtke to Seymour himself.

In any case your story is indeed a distressing one. I will do everything I can to investigate the situation, and I will get back to you with information as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Cynthia P. Schneider

*P.S. I just received your
second letter today plus your
autobiography. Thank you
very much. I will see what
we can do concerning your
paintings*



Dr. Alfred Bader
924 E. Juneau Avenue, Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Ph: 414 / 277-0730
Fax: 414 / 277-0709
E-Mail: baderfa@execpc.com

March 26, 1999

Ambassador Dr. Cynthia Schneider
U.S. Embassy, The Hague
Lange Voorhout 102
2514 EJ
Den Hague
PSC71, Box 1000
APO AE 09715
THE NETHERLANDS

Dear Dr. Schneider,

What a bit of luck!

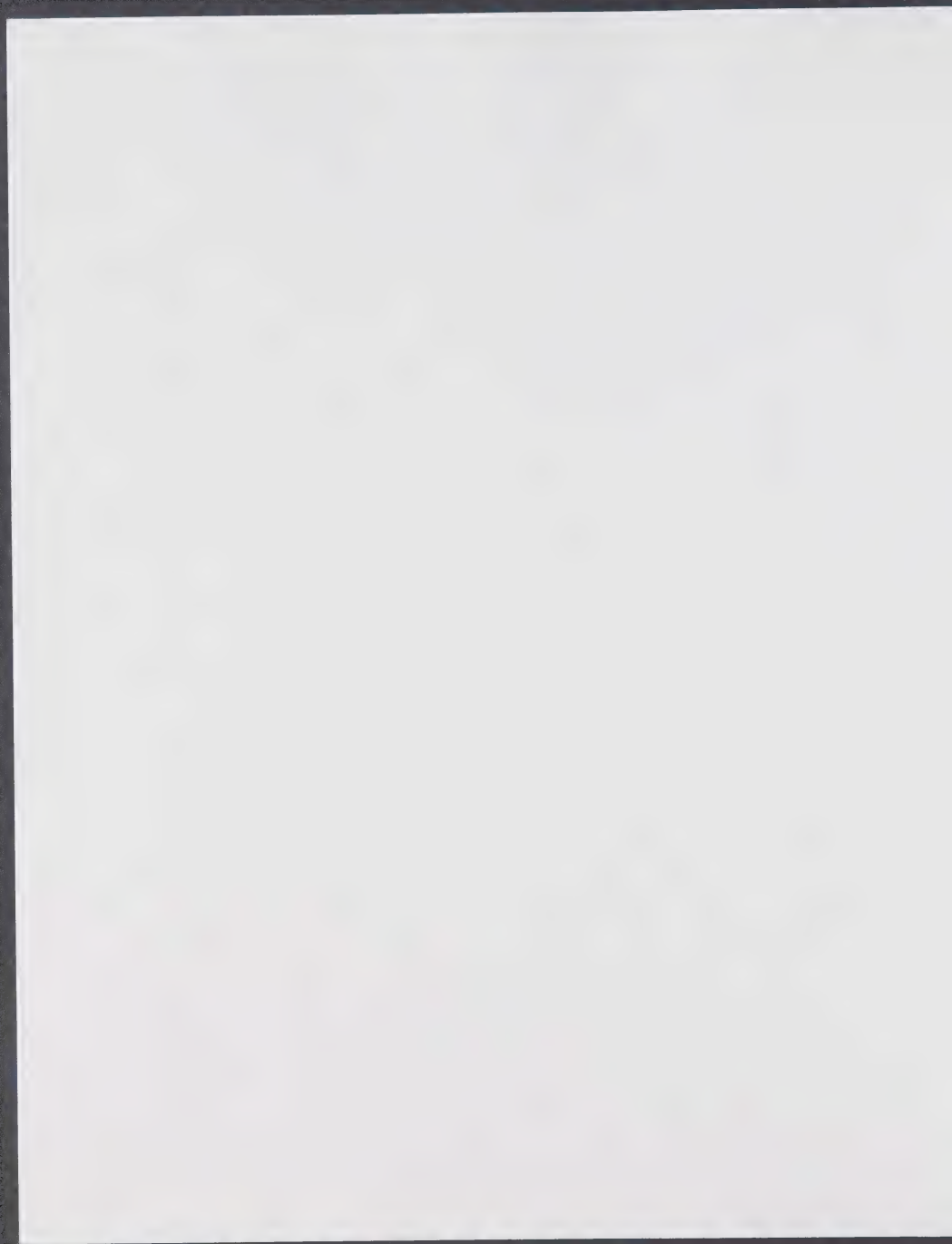
I just learned from our mutual friend, Dr. Otto Naumann, that you have become the United States Ambassador to Holland.

The problem described on the enclosed doesn't involve a Rembrandt landscape, but it is about the theft of quite a nice Leiden school painting of *Rembrandt's Mother*.

Just recently Dr. Christiaan Vogelaar at the museum in Leiden asked me to loan my painting of *Rembrandt's Mother* by Jan Lievens and, as you will see from the enclosed, I suggested that the stolen painting also be included in the exhibition.

The key responsibility lies, I believe, with the police in Amsterdam. They had my two paintings for some three years and have not even had the courtesy to reply to my letter of February 22nd.

I very much hope that you can help to persuade the Amsterdam police to re-acquire my two paintings and turn them over to me.



Ambassador Dr. Cynthia Schneider
March 26, 1999
Page Two

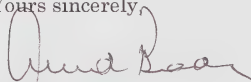
I enclose my autobiography, *Adventures of A Chemist Collector*. On the two pages following p. 224 you will see photographs of several good mutual friends. The story of this theft should be in the next volume!

I also enclose the material which I sent to Ambassador Dornbush and also copies of my correspondence with Dr. Vogelaar and Dr. M.B.H. Schilder, a zoologist at Utrecht University.

Dr. Rudi Ekkart is very familiar with all this and will, I am sure, be happy to fill you in.

With all good wishes, I remain

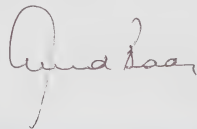
Yours sincerely,



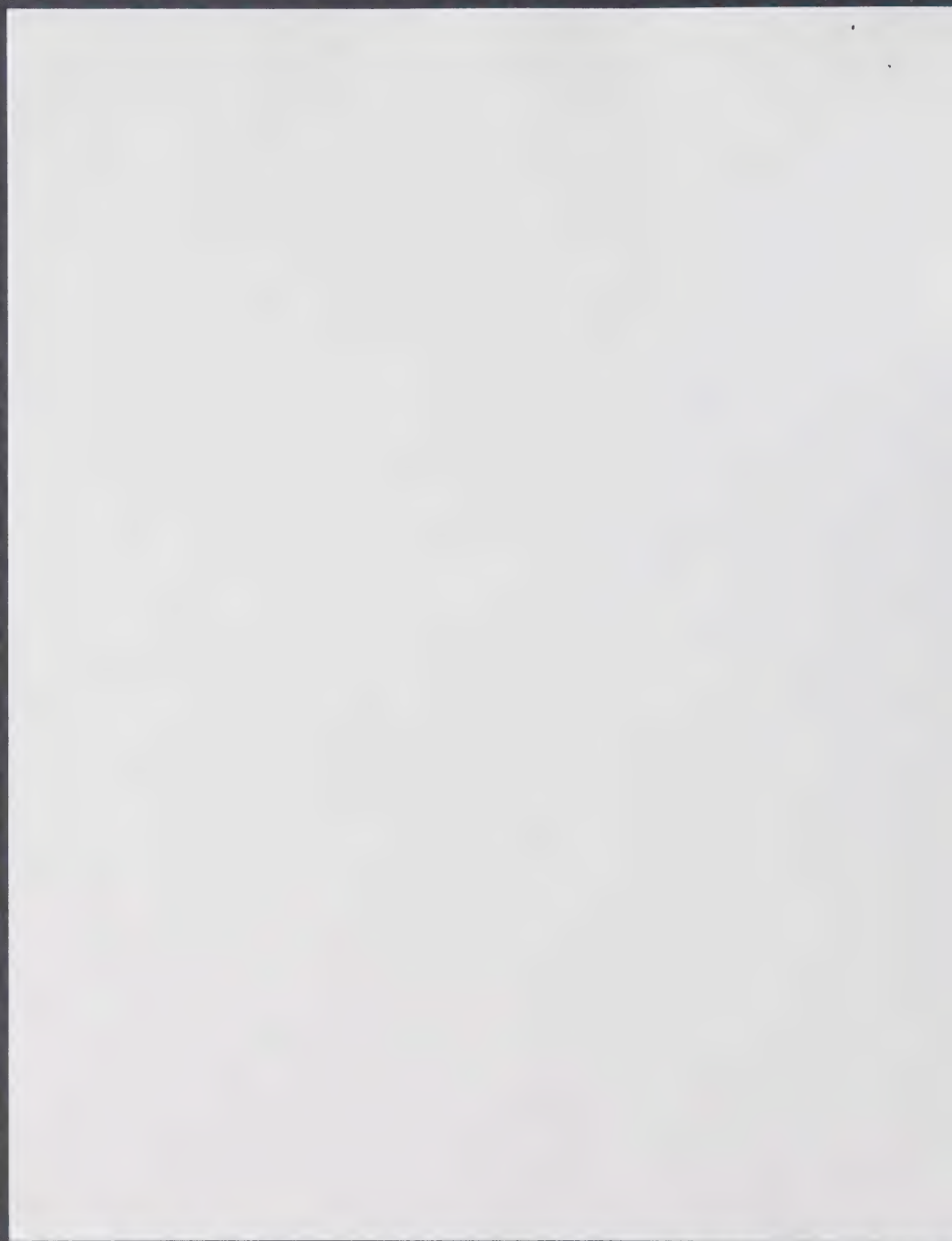
Alfred Bader
AB/lz
Enc.
GLOBAL PRIORITY MAIL

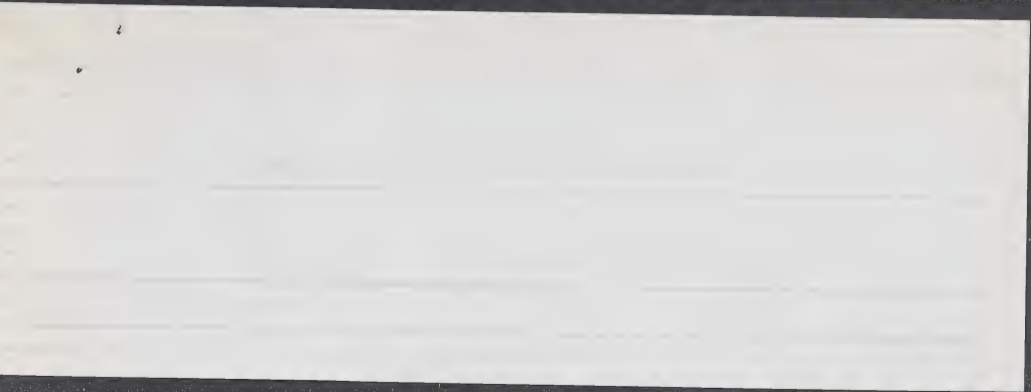
To Mr. David J. Aray
for your info.
I'll call you to-morrow am.

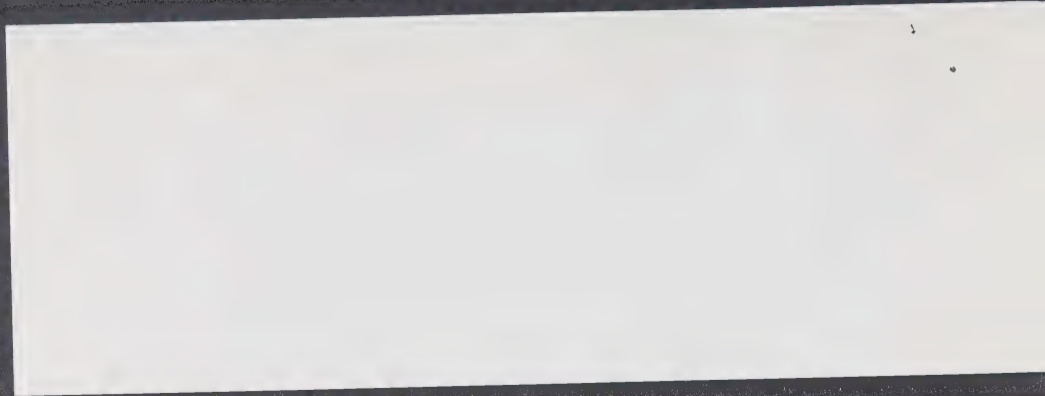
Best wishes



5 IV 99







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LMRUBY@aol.com

Schmitt, Antje

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101635.1361@compuserve.com

Schneider, Cynthia

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PSC 71 Box 1000
APO EA 09715
Embassy street address:
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NL-2514 EJ The Hague
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Embassy tel: 31 (0)70-310 93 18
Embassy fax: 31 (0)70-310 93 22
Personal tel at residence: 31 (0)70-362 16 07
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Swan, Claudia

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Van Hassel, Jan

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The Netherlands
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Fax: 31 (0)30-231 87 97
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Vervoort, Patricia

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Fax: 401-245 9953
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2 Dudley Street
Providence RI 02905
Tel: 401-457 1522
Fax: 401-831 5874

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White, Christopher

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England
Tel: 44 (0)171-485 9148

Woollett, Anne

New address:
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Pacific Palisades CA 90272
Tel: 310-230 3115
Professional affiliation:
The J. Paul Getty Museum
Paintings Department
1200 Getty Center Drive
Suite 1000
Los Angeles CA 90049-1687
Tel: 310-440 7172
Fax: 310-440 7752

Institutions, Businesses*New member*

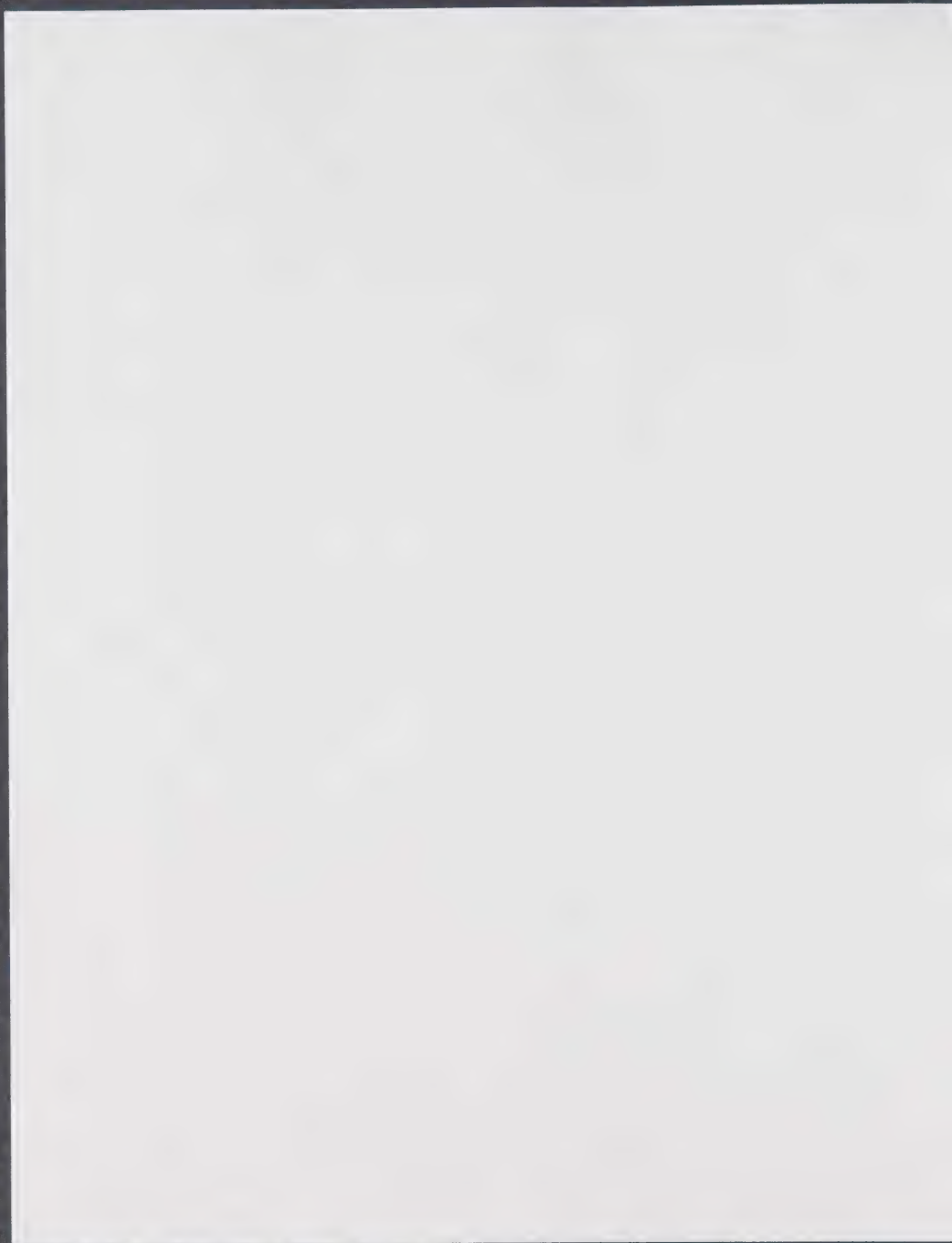
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D-69047 Heidelberg
Germany

New member

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Library
New York University
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New York NY 10021-0102

New member

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Oud-Parochiehuis
Grote Markt 46
B-9100 Sint-Niklaas
Belgium



RUSSELL ADVOCATEN

Amsterdam Den Haag

Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue
Astor Hotel - Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202

USA

WO/ep

Amsterdam, May 17, 1999

Re: Bader/Police

A D I N F O R M A N D U M

=====

-Copy of an article from the
Financiële Dagblad,
dated May 15, 1999.

with kind regards

Willem Russell

Willem O. Russell

Encl.

Postbus 87400 • 1080 JK Amsterdam • Email: lawfirm@russell-lawyers.com
Reimersbeek 2 • 1082 AG Amsterdam • Telefoon +31 20 301 55 55 • Telefax +31 20 301 56 78

Alle diensten en/of (andere) werkzaamheden worden verricht uit hoofde van een overeenkomst van opdracht, die met terzijdestelling van de artikelen 7:404 en 7:407 lid 2 BW, uitsluitend wordt aanvaard en uitgevoerd door de Maatschap Russell Advocaten. Russell Advocaten is een maatschap die (mede) beroepsvennootschappen omvat. Iedere aansprakelijkheid is beperkt tot het bedrag dat in het desbetreffende geval onder onze beroepsaansprakelijkheidsverzekering wordt uitbetaald. All services and/or (other) activities are rendered pursuant to a commission contract, putting aside articles 7:404 and 7:407 paragraph 2 (Netherlands) Civil Code, and are accepted and will be executed solely by the partnership Russell Advocaten as such. Russell Advocaten is a partnership which includes professional corporations. Any liability shall be limited to the amount which is paid out under the firm's professional liability policy in the matter concerned.

1. Introduction

The first part of the document

describes the background

of the project.

The second part of the document

describes the methodology

used in the study.

The third part of the document

describes the results

of the study.

The fourth part of the document

describes the conclusions

of the study.

The fifth part of the document

describes the references

used in the study.

RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD
WISCONSIN

718 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-5323
(202) 224-1280 (TDD)

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4904

Dear Dr. Bader:

Here is some information, I hope you will find helpful:

US Embassy, The Hague
Lange Voorhout 102
2514 EJ
Den Hague
PSC 71, Box 1000
APO AE 09715
Netherlands.

* Tel: 011-31-70-310-9209
Fax: 011-31-70-361-4688

Ambassador: K. Terry Dornbush
Customs Officer: Michael Lappe

State Dept./Netherlands Desk: (202) 647-6664.

I would suggest contacting the State Dept. first and ask for suggestions on how to proceed.

Any further questions, please give me a call.

Peter

(414) 276-7282 —

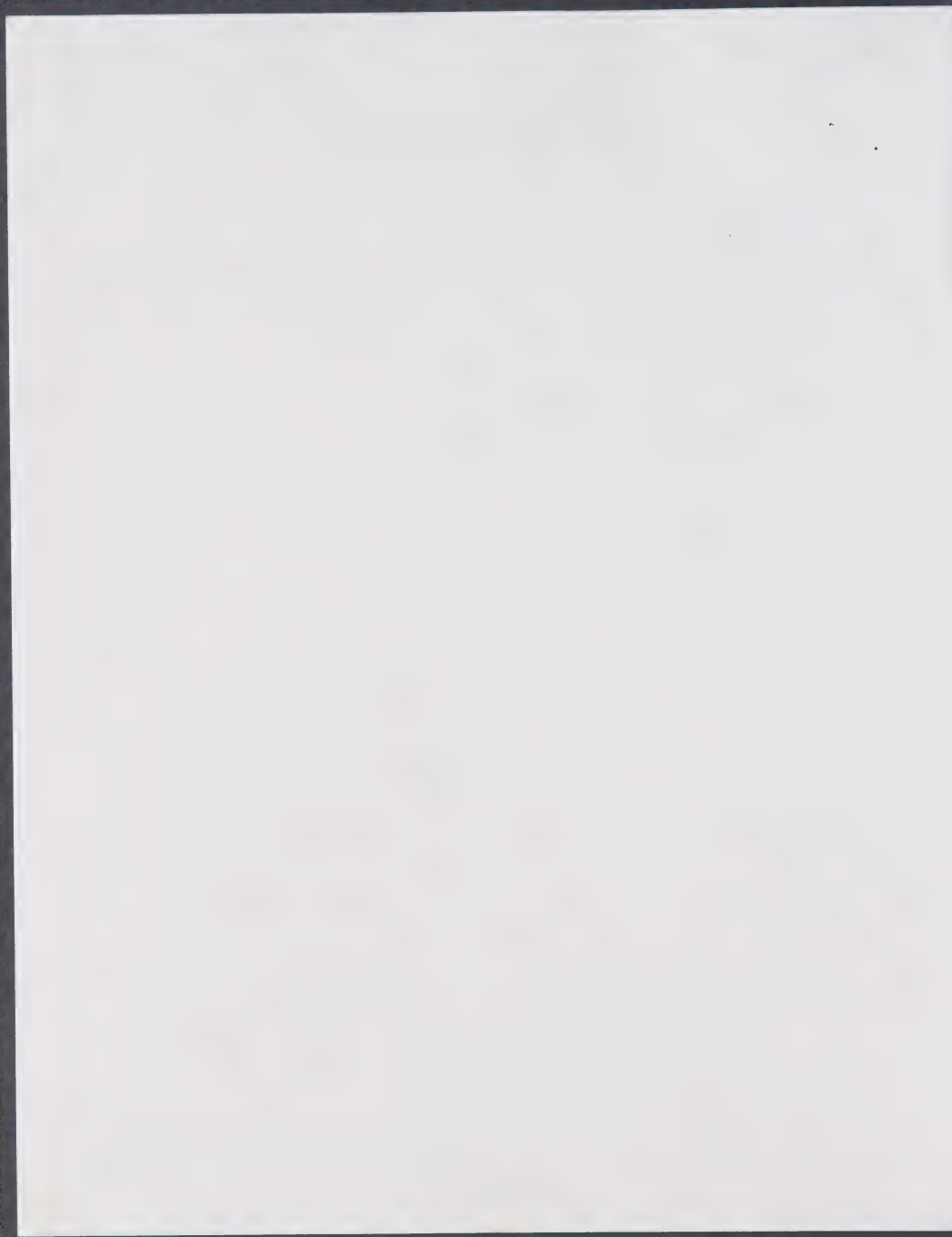
8383 GREENWAY BOULEVARD
MIDDLETON, WI 53562
(608) 828-1200
(608) 828-1215 (TDD)

517 E. WISCONSIN AVENUE
ROOM 408
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202
(414) 276-7282

317 FIRST STREET
ROOM 107
WAUSAU, WI 54403
(715) 848-5660

425 STATE STREET
ROOM 225
LA CROSSE, WI 54601
(608) 782-5685

1640 MAIN STREET
GREEN BAY, WI 54302
(920) 455-7508



Dr. Alfred Bader
924 E. Juneau Avenue, Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Ph: 414 / 277-0730
Fax: 414 / 277-0709
E-Mail: baderfa@execpc.com

March 26, 1999

Ambassador Dr. Cynthia Schneider
U.S. Embassy, The Hague
Lange Voorhout 102
2514 EJ
Den Hague
PSC71, Box 1000
APO AE 09715
THE NETHERLANDS

Dear Dr. Schneider,

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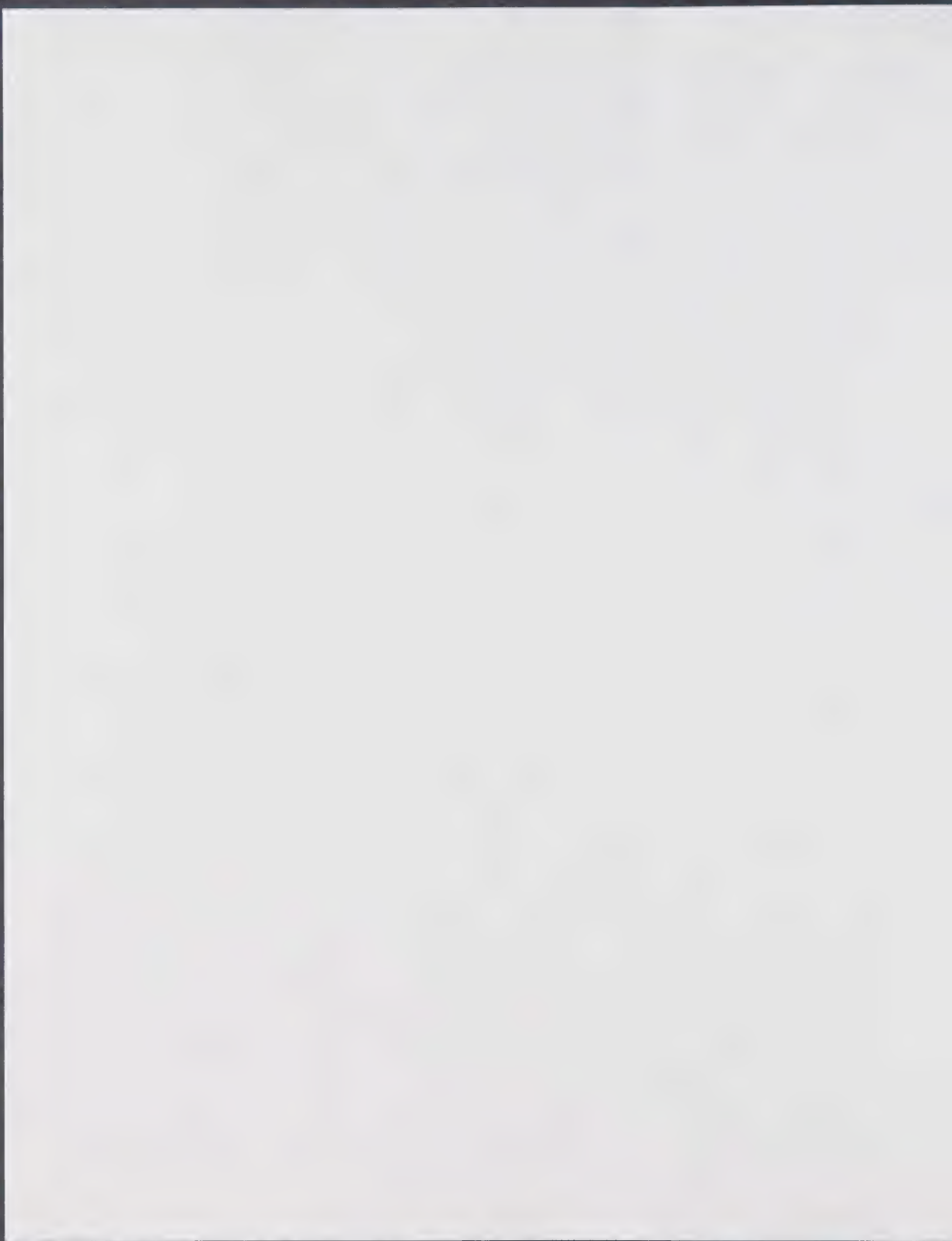
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Ambassador Dr. Cynthia Schneider
March 26, 1999
Page Two

I enclose my autobiography, *Adventures of A Chemist Collector*. On the two pages following p. 224 you will see photographs of several good mutual friends. The story of this theft should be in the next volume!

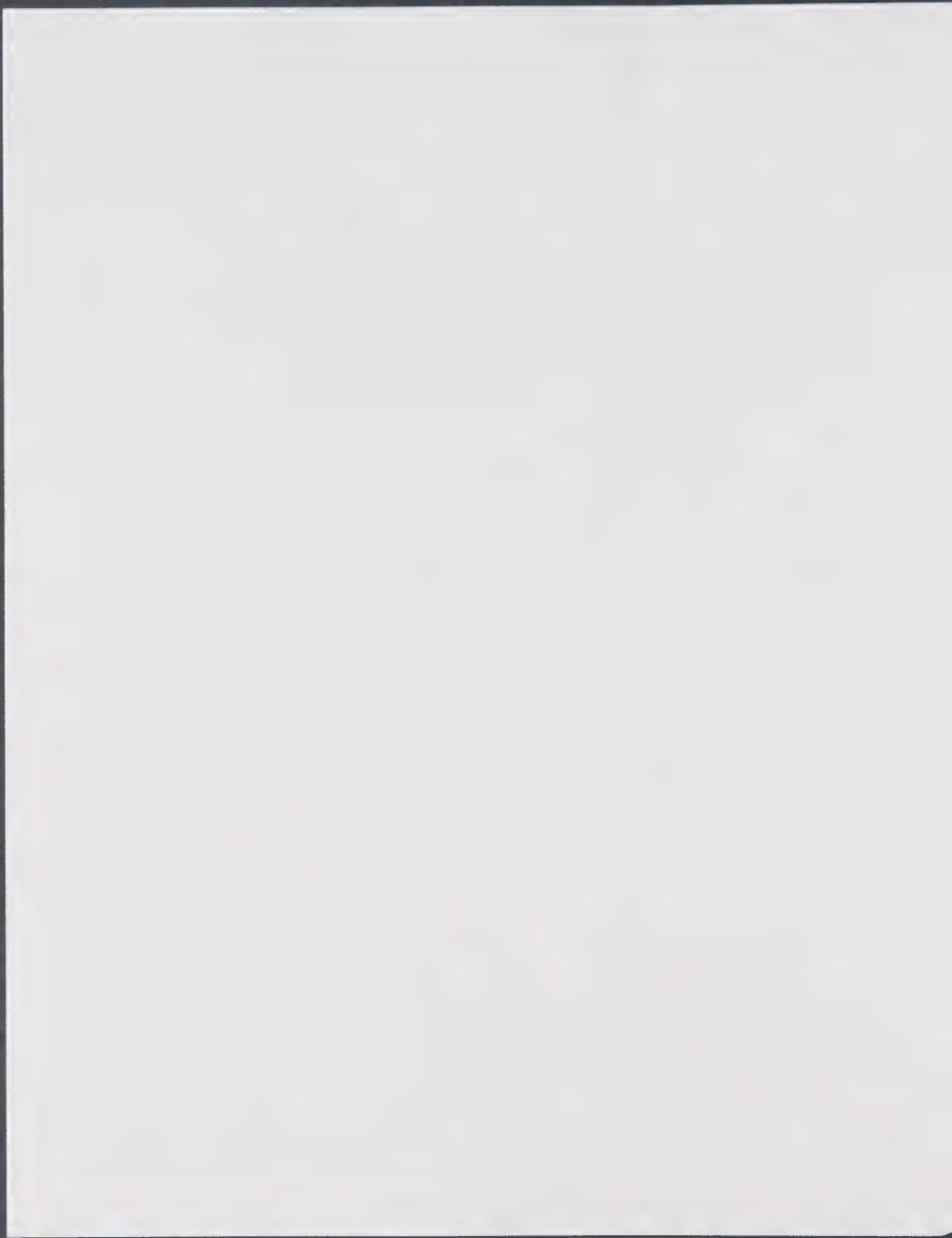
I also enclose the material which I sent to Ambassador Dornbush and also copies of my correspondence with Dr. Vogelaar and Dr. M.B.H. Schilder, a zoologist at Utrecht University.

Dr. Rudi Ekkart is very familiar with all this and will, I am sure, be happy to fill you in.

With all good wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB/az
Enc.
GLOBAL PRIORITY MAIL



The Netherlands

Art for the Market. Inertion and Innovation in Painting of the 16th and 17th Centuries in the Low Countries.

Zeeuwse Bibliotheek, Middelburg, December 10-12, 1998.

Speakers include: Larry Silver (University of Pennsylvania), Arnout Balis (Nationaal Centrum voor de Plastische Kunsten, Antwerp), John Michael Montias (Yale University), Reindert Falkenburg (RKD), Mark Meadow (University of California - Santa Barbara), Marten Jan Bok (Utrecht), Mariët Westermann (Rutgers University), Eric Jan Sluijter (Groningen).

Past Conferences

Early Netherlandish Painting at the Crossroads: Methodologies and Approaches

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, November 7, 1998.

Filip Vermeylen (Rubenianum, Antwerp), The Commercialization of Art: Painting and Sculpture in Fifteenth- and Sixteenth-Century Antwerp.

Reindert Falkenburg (RKD, The Hague), Conformity in Netherlandish Art and Art History: 1500, 2000.

Molly Faries (Indiana University and Rijksuniversiteit Groningen), Reshaping the Field: The Contribution of Technical Studies.

Maximiliaan P. J. Martens (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen), Approaches to the Interpretation of Netherlandish Art.

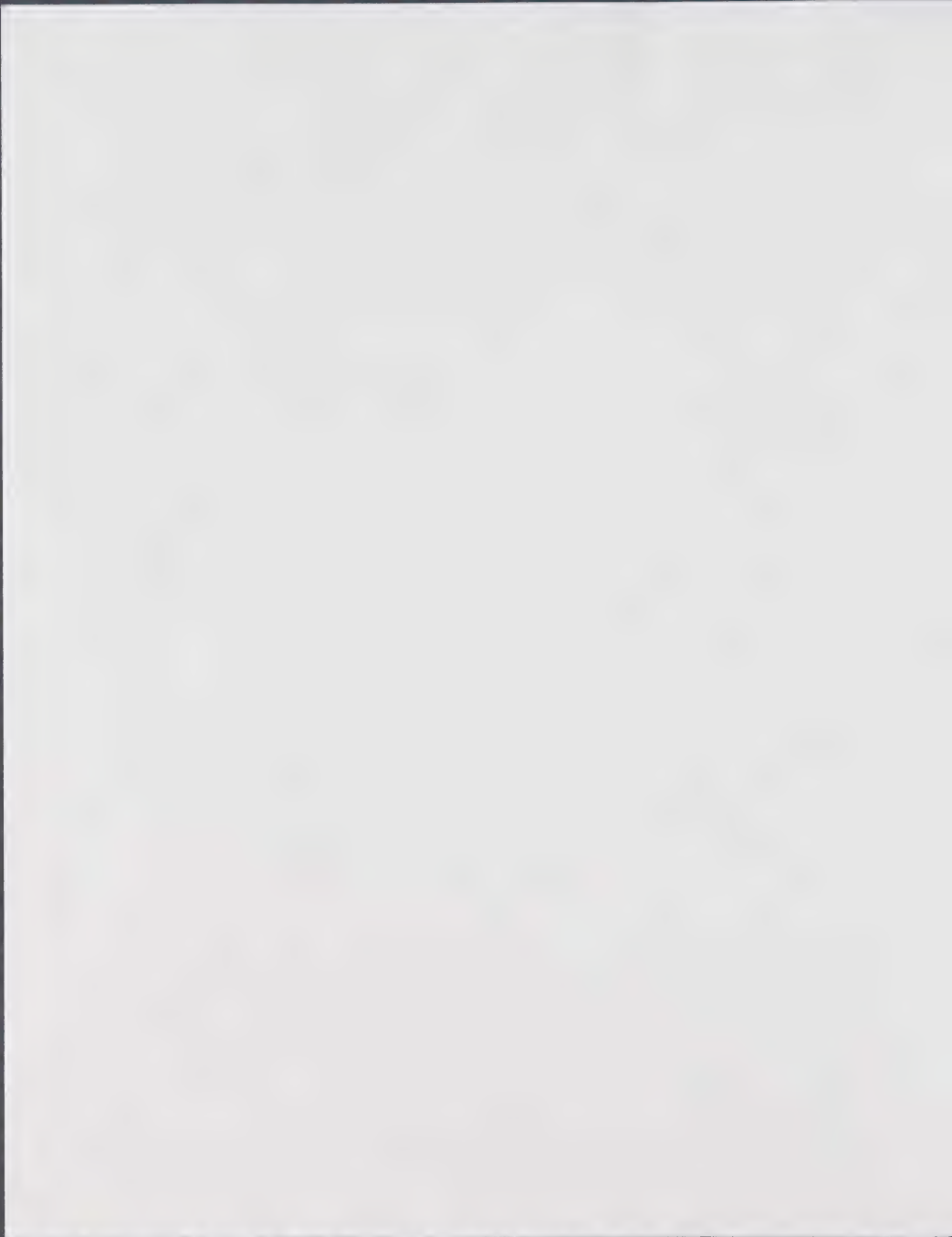
Personalia



Cynthia P. Schneider: US Ambassador to The Netherlands

Well-known for her work on Rembrandt, Cynthia Schneider became the most recent US ambassador to the Netherlands. Before taking on her duties at The Hague, Cynthia was associate professor of art history at Georgetown University. In addition to her academic career, she was named Vice-Chair of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities by President Clinton. In that capacity, she has served on the Steering Committee for Creative America and on the Millenium planning group, and she has chaired the Federal Design subcommittee. During the 1992 Clinton/Gore campaign, Cynthia served as Arts Policy Coordinator. She also was a member of the Board of Directors of the National Museum of Women in the Arts and of the Australian-American Leadership Dialogue, a bi-partisan group of government and business leaders, journalists and academics, which focuses on the challenge of the Pacific region and around the globe.

Cynthia Schneider's thorough knowledge of Dutch art and language and her experiences in the politics of culture, on the national and global level, would seem to provide excellent qualifications for an ambassadorial appointment. Unusual as these qualifications may be in today's political world, they follow a tradition dating back at least to the seventeenth century when Peter Paul Rubens – learned, multilingual, but always a passionate painter – fulfilled the role of diplomat with not inconsiderable success. — *KLB*



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March 24, 1999

Ambassador K. Terry Dornbush
U.S. Embassy, The Hague
Lange Voorhout 102
2514 EJ
Den Hague
PSC71, Box 1000
APO AE 09715
THE NETHERLANDS

Dear Ambassador Dornbush,

Senator Russell Feingold's office has suggested that I contact you in the hope that you can help us.

My wife and I were robbed on November 12, 1994 and three Old Master paintings were taken from us. We reported the theft immediately to the local police station which gave us a confirming two page report. One painting was recovered and we then had the loss of the other two paintings published, with illustrations, by IFAR.

Subsequently the Amsterdam police recovered the other two paintings but never informed us nor did they check with their own reports. After keeping these two paintings for three years the police sent the paintings for sale at a small auction.

Now the Amsterdam police has been stonewalling us and has not replied to my letter of February 22, received by the police on February 26. I enclose copies of all the material I sent to the police; these will give you the background.

Surely the fair solution is for the Amsterdam police to reacquire my paintings and return them to me.

With many thanks for your help, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB/az
Enc.





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A Chemist Helping Chemists

February 17, 1999

Senator Russell Feingold
517 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Dear Senator Feingold,

May I ask you for your help in the following matter:

In November of 1994 my wife and I were robbed in Amsterdam and immediately reported the theft to the local police.

To remind myself I wrote a story about this theft (enclosed).

We have now learned that shortly after the theft the Amsterdam police department recovered the two paintings. However, they never checked their own police report, nor with IFAR, the art loss register where both paintings were recorded and illustrated in 1995.

Now we have learned that the police kept our paintings for three years and then sent them to auction, without informing us. They deny all responsibility.

Could you please give me the name of the person in the American Embassy in the Hague to whom I could send all the details of this amazing story, of course in the hope that our Embassy can persuade the Amsterdam police department to act sensibly.

A self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.

With many thanks for your help and with all good wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB/az
Enc.

