

Alfred Bader Fonds

Chemistry and Art  
More Adventures of a Chemist Collector

Theft - Police  
Reports

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
LOCATOR	5095.5
BOX	16
FILE	2 (b5b)



Dr. Alfred Bader  
924 East Juneau, Suite 622  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202  
Phone: 414/277-0730  
Fax: 414/277-0709  
E-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

*A Chemist Helping Chemists*

July 30, 2001

Mr. A. A. Smit  
Commissioner of the Amsterdam Police  
Lijnbaansgracht 219  
Leiding District 3  
1017PH, AMSTERDAM  
THE NETHERLANDS

Dear Mr. Smit,

A trip to Europe has delayed my thanking you for your letter of May 24, 2001, copy of which I enclose for easy reference.

What is most important in your letter is your statement "your version of what happened with your paintings is the correct one".

That being so, why does the Amsterdam Police not reimburse me for the two paintings it recovered and sold through auction?

I know that under Dutch law the buyers at auction three years after the theft are the lawful owners. That is why I negotiated with the buyer of one (*Rembrandt's Mother*), Dr. M.B.H. Schilder, and paid him Hfl 10,000, to repurchase that painting. We arrived at that sum because I had paid just that amount to a London dealer for the purchase of the painting a few days before its theft.

I would like to negotiate similarly with the buyer of the Gonzalez Coques. That painting had cost me only £1529.13 at Sotheby's in London.



Mr. A. A. Smit  
July 30, 2001  
Page Two

De Eland's suggestion that I advertise is, of course, sensible. I have done so in *Historians of Netherlandish Art*, a magazine read by many collectors, and I enclose a copy of the ad.

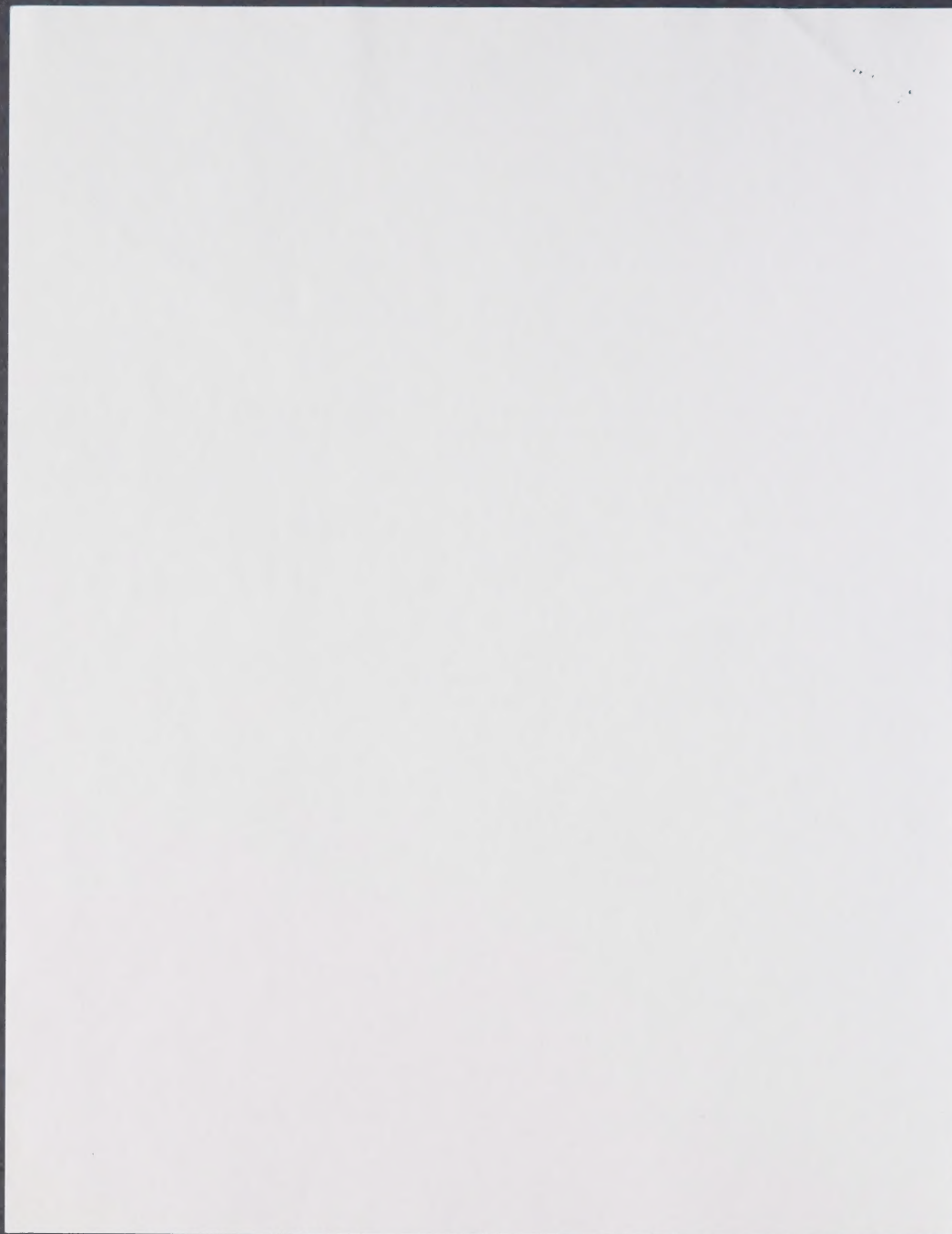
There is nothing further you can do except to reimburse me for the two paintings which you should have returned to me, but instead sold.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Alfred Bader  
AB/az  
Enc. - 2  
C: Ambassador Dr. Cynthia P. Schneider







Postbus 2287  
1000 CG Amsterdam  
Telefoon 020-559 91 11  
Fax algemeen 020-559 44 66

- Amsterdam-Amstelland
- District 3

Bezoekadres  
Lijnbaansgracht 219  
1017PH, Amsterdam  
Korpsonderdeel  
Behandeld door  
Leiding district 3  
Doorkiesnummer  
Commissioner of Police A.A. Smit  
020-5592303  
Fax onderdeel  
020-5593311  
Ons kenmerk  
Uw kenmerk  
Datum  
24 mei 2001  
Onderwerp  
Lost paintings  
Bijlagen

- Dr. Alfred Bader  
924 East Juneau, suite 622  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

> Dear Sir,

- Thanks to your Ambassador Cynthia P. Schneider, recently received your letter dated February 22, 1999. Although late, I'll try to answer the questions you asked. But let me start by saying that your version of what happened with your paintings is the correct one.

In order to answer your questions I made investigations about the auction of the Gonzales Coques painting. As you know it was sold at "de Eland" on June 25, 1998, lot # 1421. The buyer is anonymous. "De Eland" sells to the highest bidder. Directly after the auction the new owner pays the price. Because the bidding is done by anonymous biddingtickets, it is impossible to find out *who* is the purchaser. This practise is common use at Dutch auctions. It is also the reason why "de Eland" couldn't tell you about the new owner.

Although the new owner is unknown, people at "de Eland" told me that they think the painting was bought by a private buyer; there was only one item bought by the one who used the biddingticket. They also suggested that a advert in a local newspaper or one of de Dutch art magazines could be of some help by chasing the new owner. In their experience this medium has often been successful by finding out about owners of certain work of art.



I regret that the Amsterdam police did not advise you when the two paintings were recovered. At this moment I can't see what I can do more to recover the last painting since the purchaser has all the legal rights to call himself the owner of the painting.

Sincerely yours,

A. A. Smit

Commissioner of the Amsterdam Police









DR. ALFRED BADER CBE  
2A Holmesdale Road  
Bexhill-on-Sea  
East Sussex TN39 3QE  
England  
Phone/Fax: 01424-222223

*A Chemist Helping Chemists*

Roofdongout Christie Miller  
Politie Amsterdam  
Nieuwe Vorburgwal 104-108  
1012 SW Amsterdam

November 25 99

Dear Ms Miller:

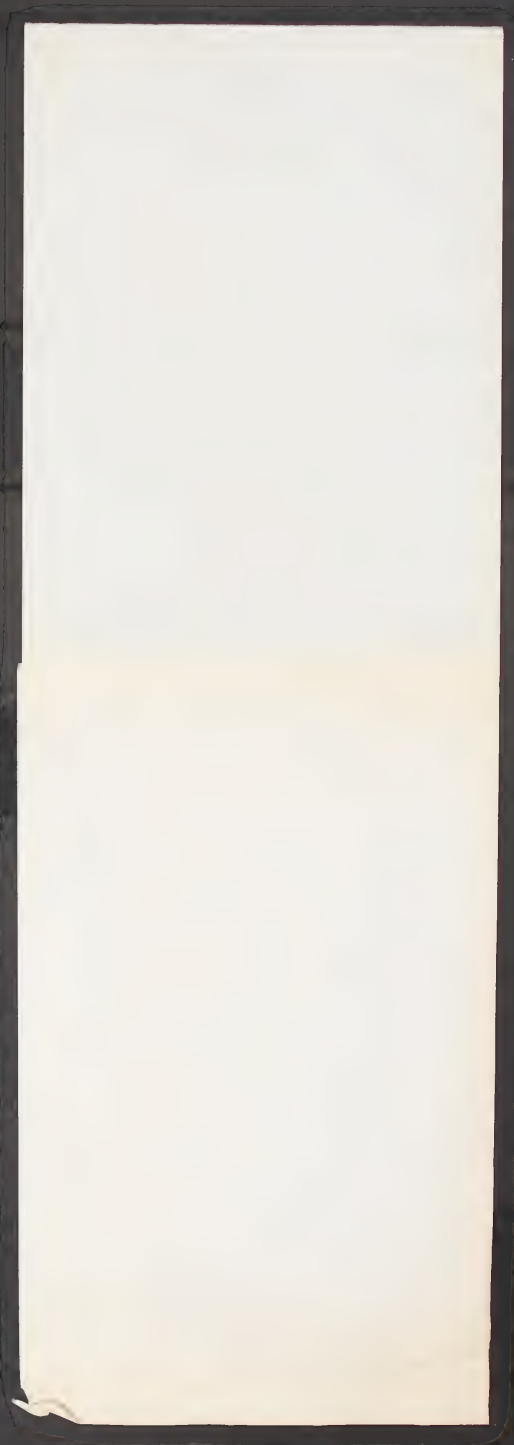
My wife, Isabel and I were happy to be able to talk to you on Tuesday morning, November 9, and just pass to miss Mr. Martin Te Pas who had treated us so kindly after the theft of our paintings on November 17 1994.

As you know, the Amsterdam police recovered the two paintings, kept them in lock up for 3 years and then sent them to the auction house De Bland last summer. Under Dutch laws, both paintings belong to the buyers, and we were able to purchase one (Rembrandt's work) from the Utrecht zoologist who had bought it. But for reasons I cannot understand, the police has instructed the auction house not to give us the name and address of the buyer of the second painting. All I would like to do is to write to the buyer and offer to purchase the painting.

I would be very grateful if you could explain this to your administration in the hope of helping us eventually to repurchase that painting.

Thanks, and best regards  
Dr Alfred Bader





1877-1878

201  
1877-1878





FAX FROM:

*Dr. Alfred Bader*  
924 East Juneau Avenue  
Astor Hotel -Suite 622  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
Ph: 277-0730  
Fax: 277-0709  
e-mail: [baderfa@execpc.com](mailto:baderfa@execpc.com)

*A Chemist Helping Chemists*  
January 5, 1999

TO: Mr. A. Ducroix  
Interpol - Holland

Page 1 of 9

FAX #: 011 31 79 345 9202

Dear Mr. Ducroix,

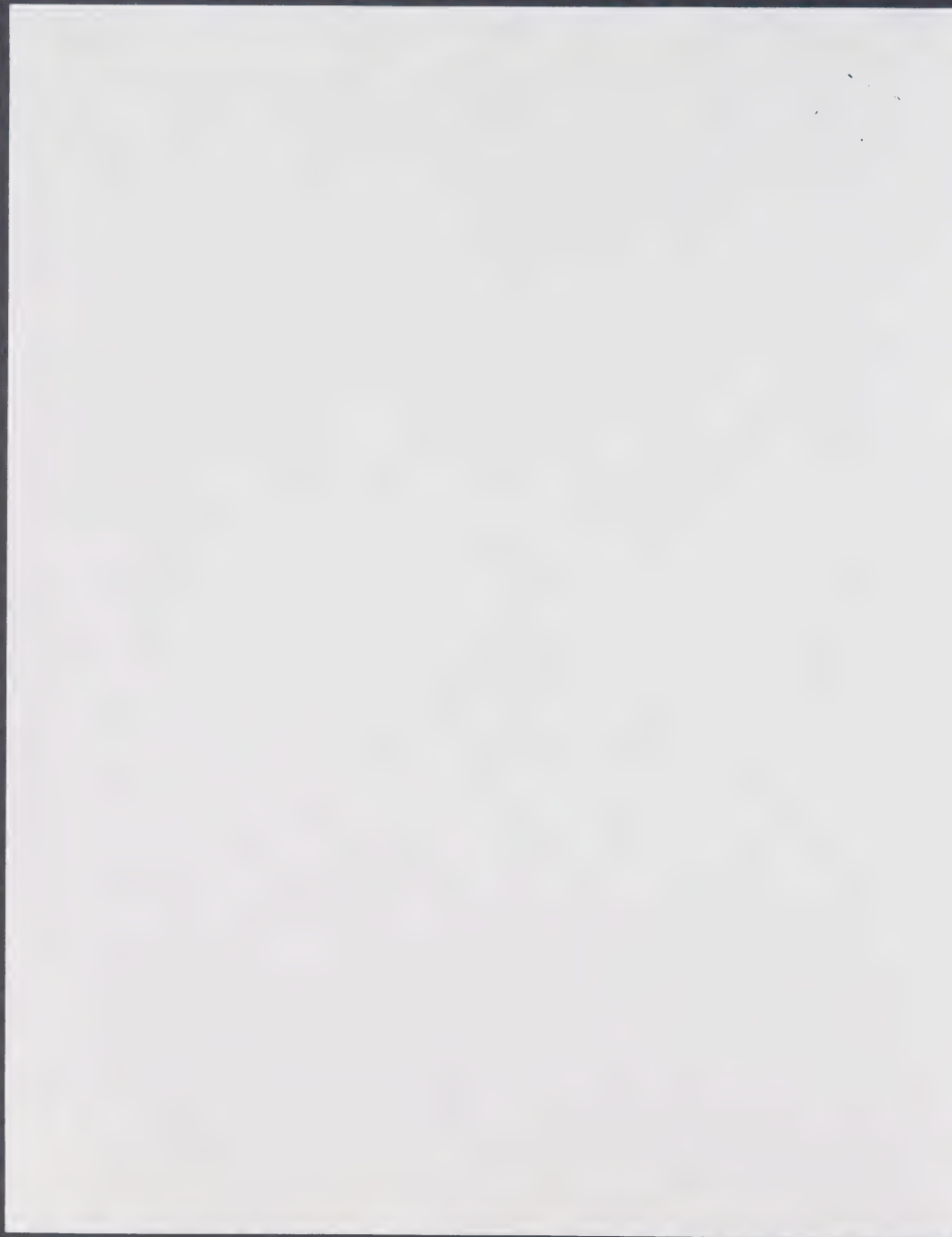
On November 12, 1994, three paintings were stolen from me at the Central Station in Amsterdam. We immediately reported the theft at the nearest police station and I enclose a copy of the police report.

Of the three paintings, one was found on the street and I enclose a newspaper article regarding this wonderful story.

The second, a study of *Rembrandt's Mother*, was sold last summer at a small auction house in Amsterdam called De Eland, Lot #1420, and an academic at Utrecht University purchased this for a total of HFL 762.

I did everything possible to report the theft and photographs of the two stolen paintings were published in the IFAR Report, enclosed.

The as yet missing painting is a small portrait by Gonzalez Coques. Perhaps whoever took *Rembrandt's Mother* to the auction house, De Eland, also has or at least knows where the third painting is and, of course, I am wondering whether you might be able to help.

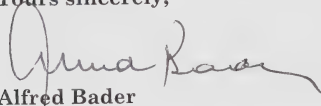


The academic at Utrecht University who bought *Rembrandt's Mother* would like to have HFL30,000 to turn the stolen painting over to me, claiming that Dutch law gives auction buyers possession if the painting was stolen more than three years before the auction. This strikes me as a very strange law.

In any case, please accept my sincere thanks for any help you can give me.

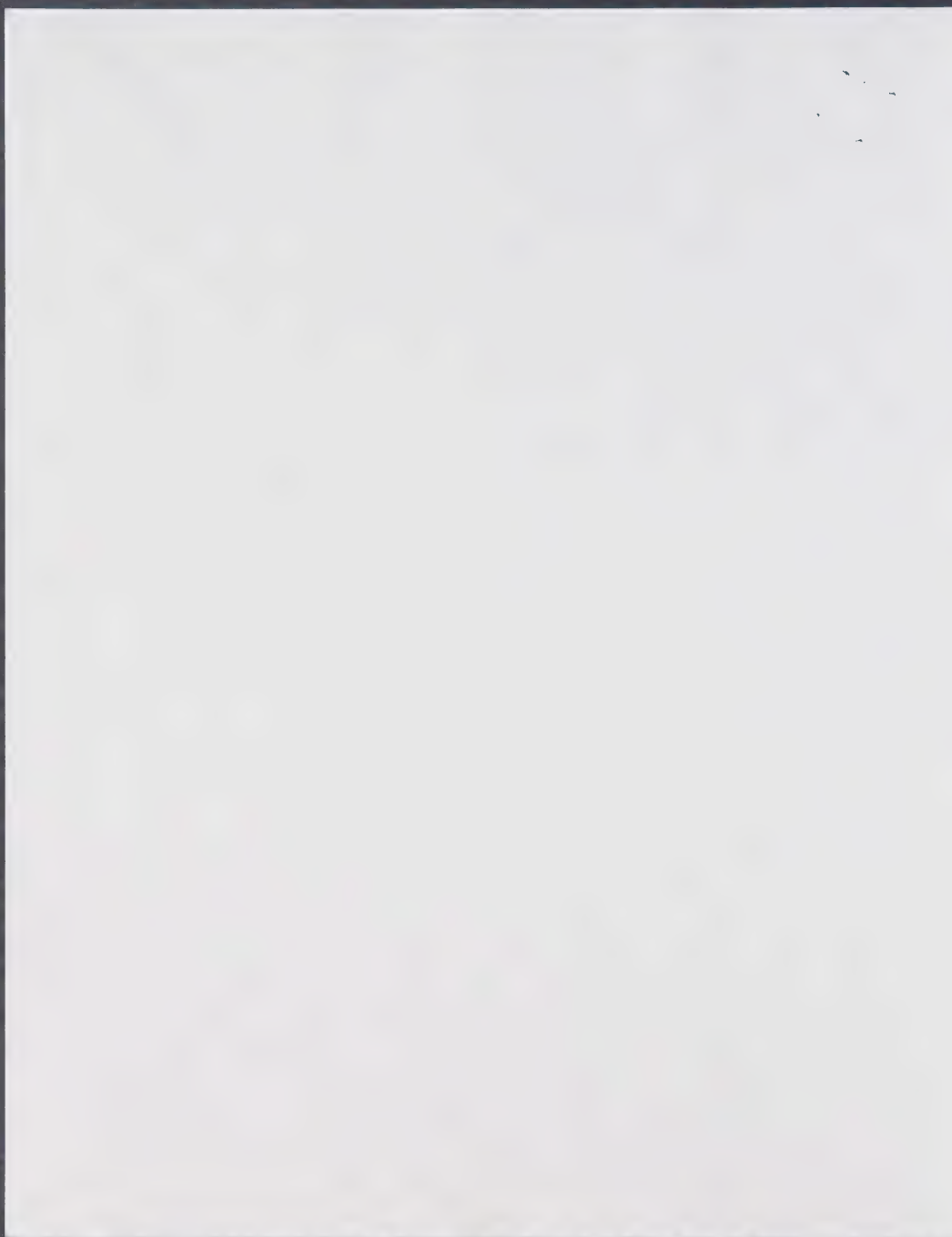
With best personal regards, I remain

Yours sincerely,



Alfred Bader

AB/az  
enc.







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

February 18, 1999  
*A Chemist Helping Chemists*

Mrs. Charlotte Van Rappard  
Inspectie Cultuurbezit  
Prinsessegracht 31  
2514 AP Den Haag  
THE NETHERLANDS

Dear Mrs. Van Rappard,

I very much hope that you have recovered from your influenza by the time these lines reach you.

Enclosed please find my response to Dr. M.B.H. Schilder, who bought one of the two stolen paintings.

The truly guilty party in this matter is the Amsterdam police. Is there anything that you can do to talk sense into them?

My best art historian and art dealer friend is Dr. Otto Naumann, a distinguished Old Master dealer in New York City. One of his good friends is a lawyer in Amsterdam, specializing in Art Law, Dr. Willem Russell.

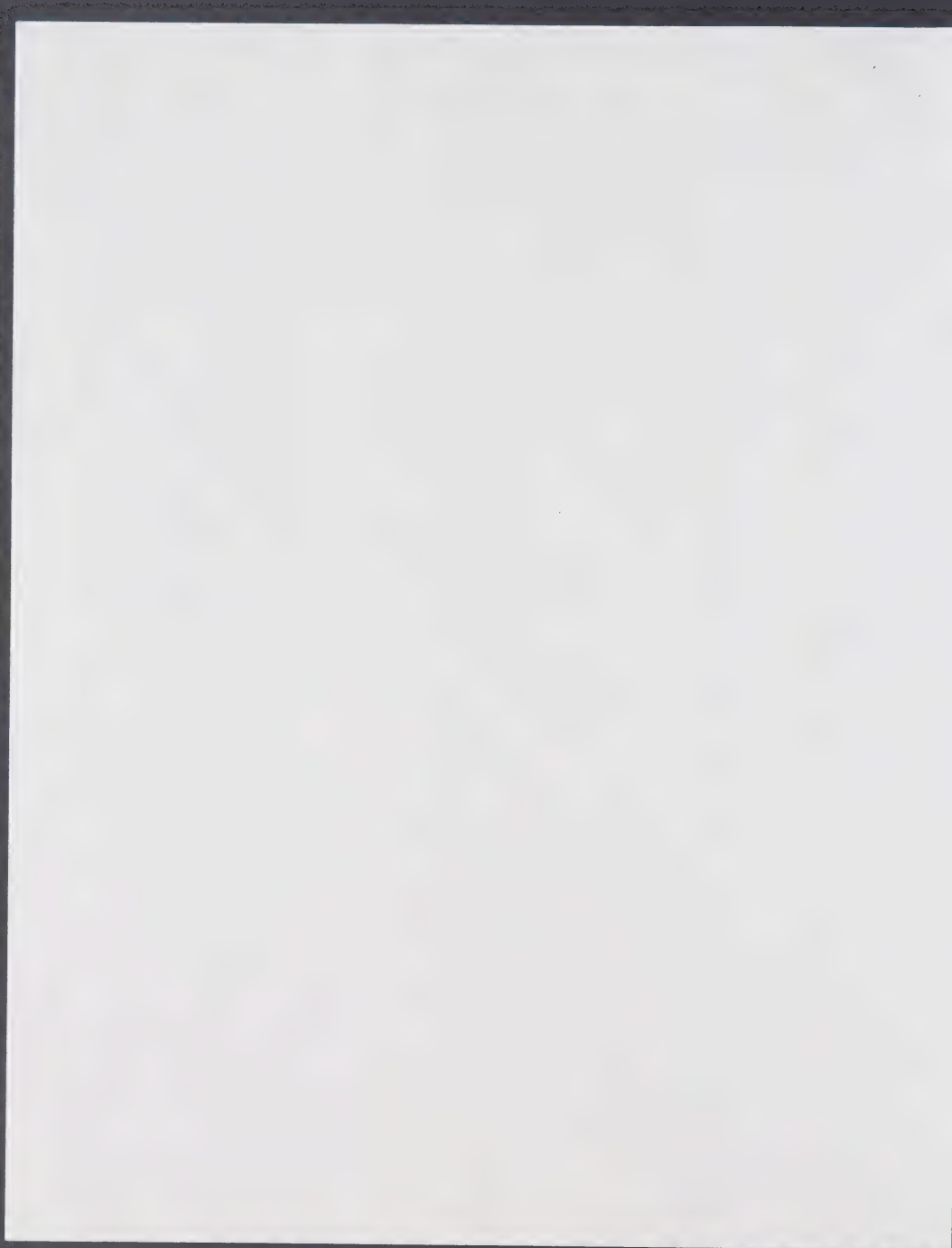
Dr. Russell tried very much to help and advise me but then had to point out that a lawsuit against the Amsterdam police is bound to be very costly and I think surely not worth it.

I may not have sent you the first story I wrote about the theft, in 1994, and so I now enclose a copy. What an enormous difference between Bert Vos on the one hand and Dr. Schilder and the Amsterdam police on the other.

With all good wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader  
AB/az  
Enc. - 2



MINISTERIE VAN ONDERWIJS, CULTUUR EN WETENSCHAPPEN  
Inspectie Cultuurbezit

Prinsessegracht 31  
2514 AP Den Haag

tel. 070-3028120  
fax 070-3651914  
e-mail insp@cultinsp.minocw.nl

FAXBERICHT

Datum 5 januari 1999

To: Mr. Beder

faxnummer: 00 1 414 2770709

CHARLOTTE  
From: Mrs. van rappard

doorkiesnummer: 070-3028120

Pages: 1

Dear Mr. Beder,

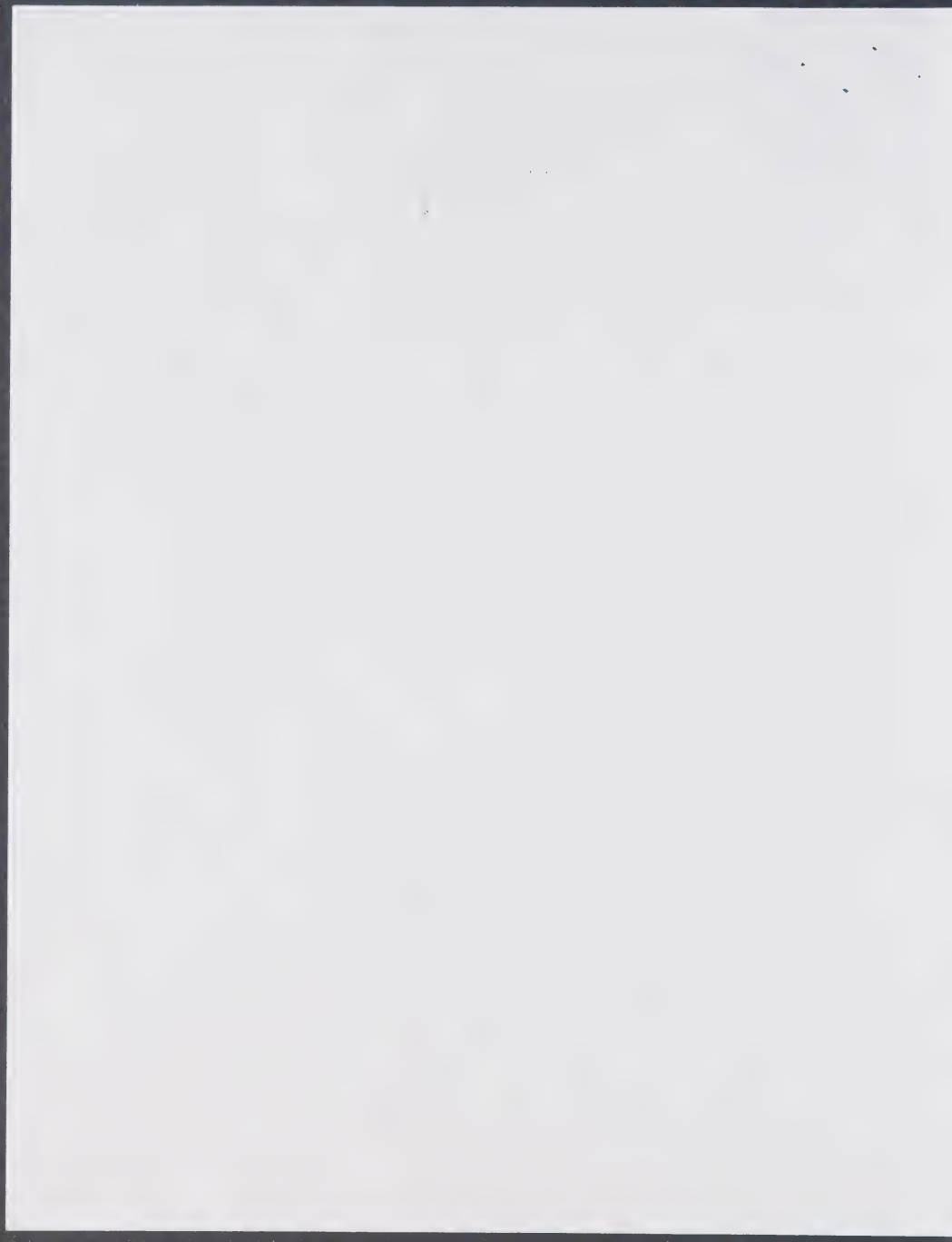
I have made some enquiries regarding the painting of the Rembrandt school which was stolen from you. The statute of limitations for this kind of theft in Holland is three years. There seems to be special provisions regarding sales at auctions, so it seems advisable to engage the services of a dutch lawyer who is well versed in these matters.

We would suggest Mr. R.W. Polak from the firm De Brauw, Blackstone, Westbroek /Advocaten & Notarissen (address: Burgerweeshuispad 301, 1076 HR Amsterdam) who is a specialist in art & law. If there is anything else we could do for you, please let us know.

Buyer paid Hfe 600  
+ 162  

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762 -





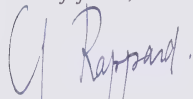
Alfred Bader Fine Arts  
Dr. A. Bader  
924 East Juneau, Suite 622  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202  
USA

Uw brief van	Ons kenmerk	Contactpersoon	's-Gravenhage
	99-236		9 maart 1999
Onderwerp		Doorkiesnummer	Bijlage(n)

Dear Mister Bader,

This is just to let you know that I have been in contact with the Amsterdam police. The sergeant concerned is at the moment away for further schooling, but I will try to make an appointment with him as soon as he comes back to talk things over.

Sincery yours,



Ch. E. van Rappard-Boon  
Hoofd Inspectie Cultuurbezit

*This very helpful lady knows  
much about the left.*



# POLITIE

EXEMPLAAR VOOR DE AANGEVER Blad 1  
: Amsterdam-Amstelland  
: AANGIFTE TEGEN (EEN) (ON)BEKENDE DADER(S)

REGIOPOLITIE AMSTERDAM AMSTELLAND  
Bureau Nieuwezijs Voorburgwal  
1012 SH AMSTERDAM  
M. TE PAS 11934  
DISTRICT 2 WILKTEAM NIEUWEZIJS VOORBURGVAL  
PVB-nummer : 1252-0006650/94

Incident/Voorval : TASSENOLERIJ  
Feit/Delict : DIEFSTAL  
Artikel(en) : 310 SR.

Ik stamnummer 11934 : MARTIN  
TE PAS  
HOOPDAGENT VAN POLITIE  
werkzaam bij de Regiopolitie Amsterdam, verklaar het volgende:

Op ZATERDAG 12 NOVEMBER 1994 te 17:03 uur, verscheen voor mij:  
AANGEVER

Naam : BADER  
Voornamen : ALFRED ROBERT  
Geboren op : 28 APRIL 1924 te: ~~CHENEE~~ VIENNA A  
Geboorteland : ~~VERENIGDE STATEN VAN AMERIKA~~ AUSTRALIA Geslacht : MAN  
Nationaliteit : AMERIKAANSE  
Woon- of verblijfplaats  
EAST JUNEAU AVENUE 924  
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN  
VERENIGDE STATEN VAN AMERIKA  
die aangifte deed en verklaarde:

Incident/Voorval : TASSENOLERIJ  
Feit/Delict : DIEFSTAL  
Artikel(en) : 310 SR.

Dag/Datum/Tijd : ZATERDAG 12 NOVEMBER 1994 16:45 uur  
Lokatie : STATIONSPLEIN  
AMSTERDAM  
NEDERLAND  
Nadere aanduiding : VOOR HET VVV KANTOOR/HALTE TRAM 25  
Object/pandfunctie : OVERIGE

GOEDEREN BEHOUREND BIJ AANGEVER A.R. BADER  
ONTVREEMD  
Omschrijving : MENS/PORTRRET SCHILDERIJ Aantal : 1  
Merk : -- Type : REMBRANDTS MOEDER  
Waardebedrag : -- Schadebedrag : 3200. POND  
*(over)*  
*DE ELAND*  
*1998*







AMSTERDAM

Amsterdam, 18 April 1944  
No. 14 44  
1000 CG Amsterdam

Amsterdam, 18 April 1944

Amsterdam, 18 April 1944

*Amsterdam*

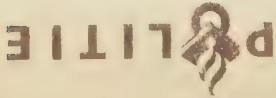
Amsterdam, 18 April 1944

Amsterdam, 18 April 1944

1000 CG Amsterdam

Amsterdam-Amstelland

Postbus 2287  
1000 CG Amsterdam



MINISTERIE VAN ONDERWIJS, CULTUUR EN WETENSCHAPPEN  
Inspectie Cultuurbezit

Prinsessegracht 31  
2514 AP Den Haag

tel. 070-3028120  
— fax 070-3651914  
e-mail insp@cultinsp.minocw.nl

FAXBERICHT

Datum 5 januari 1999

To: Mr. Beder

faxnummer: 00 1 414 2770709

*CHARLOTTE*  
From: Mrs. van rappard

doorkiesnummer: 070-3028120

Pages: 1

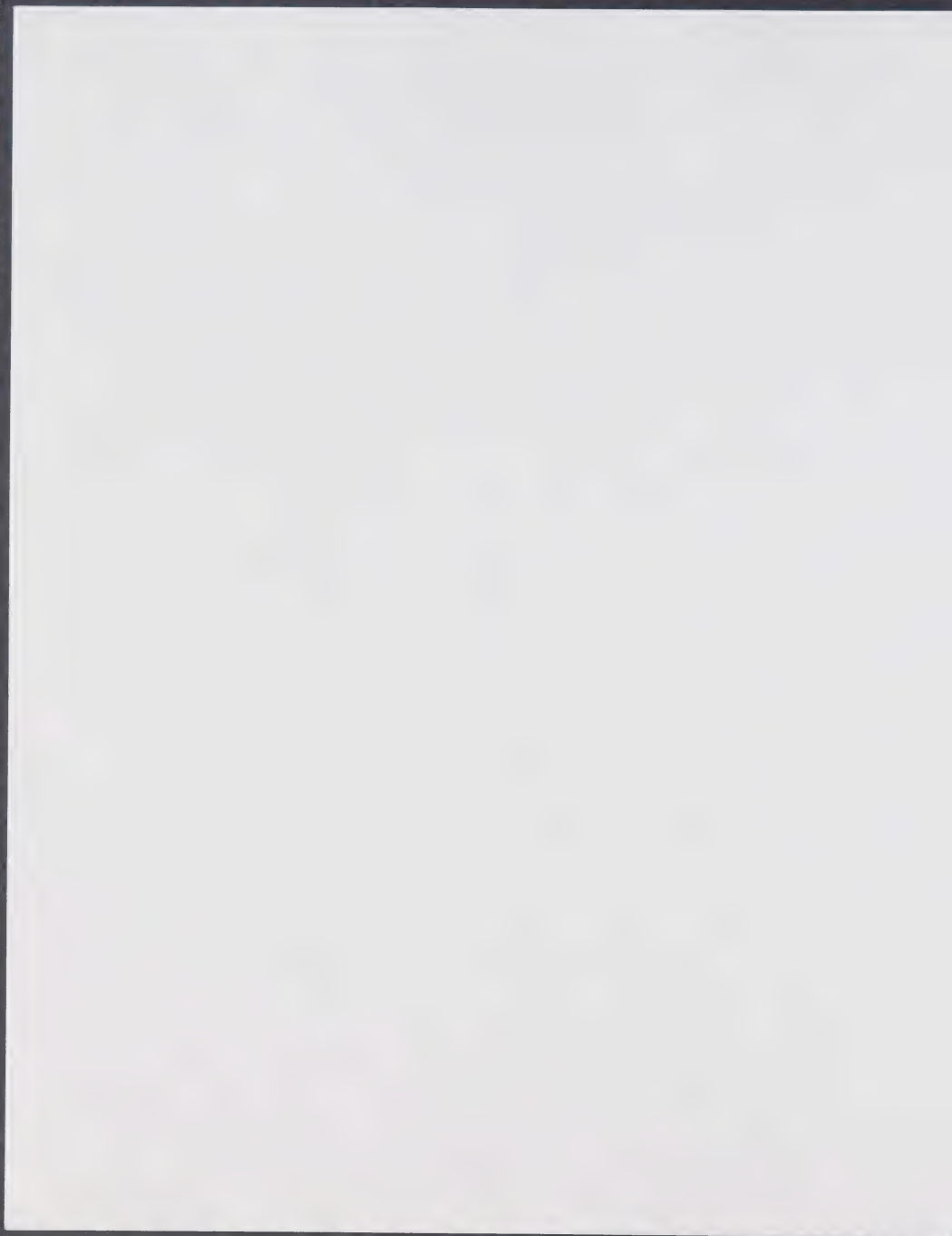
Dear Mr. Beder,

I have made some enquiries regarding the painting of the Rembrandt school which was stolen from you. The statue of limitations for this kind of theft in Holland is three years. There seems to be special provisions regarding sales at auctions, so it seems advisable to engage the services of a dutch lawyer who is well versed in these matters.

We would suggest Mr. R. W. Polak from the firm De Brauw, Blackstone, Westbroek /Advocaten & Notarissen (adress: Burgerweeshuispad 301, 1076 HR Amsterdam) who is a specialist in art & law. If there is anything else we could do for you, please let us know.

Buyer paid    Hfe    600  
+                    162  
—————  
762 -

*Also higher  
recommended  
De Wv. Ruzee*



Rembrandt's Mother

**Subject: Rembrandt's Mother**

**Date:** Mon, 22 Feb 1999 16:16:25 -0600


**From:** Alfred Bader <baderfa@execpc.com>

**Organization:** Alfred Bader Fine Arts

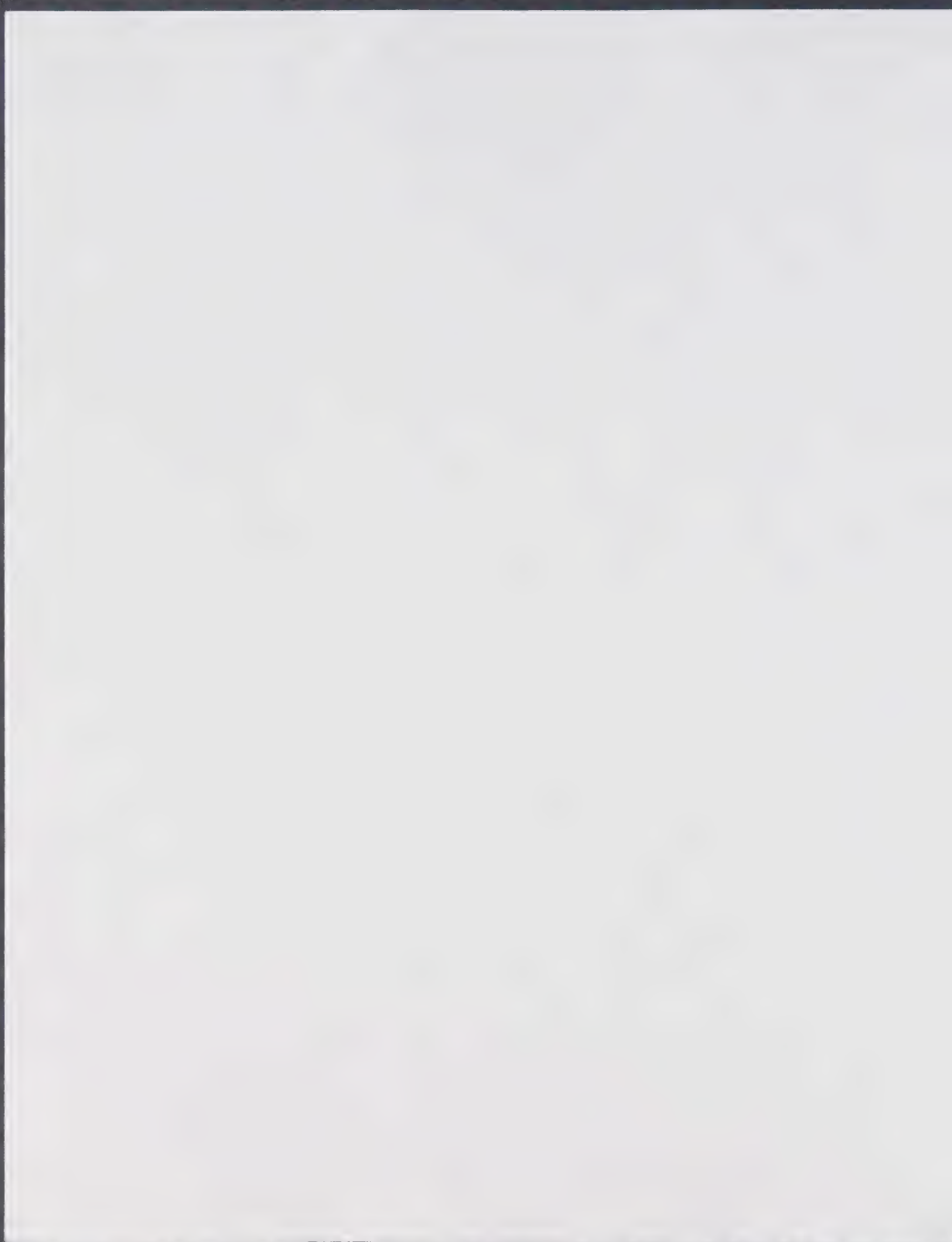
**To:** croix002@wxs.nl

Please see attached

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 <a href="#">POLICE February 22.doc</a>	<b>Name:</b> POLICE February 22.doc <b>Type:</b> Winword File (application/msword) <b>Encoding:</b> base64
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ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

February 17, 1999

ESTABLISHED 1961

Dr. Jan Piet Filedt Kok  
Director of Collections  
RIJKSMUSEUM  
Postbus 74888  
1070 DN Amsterdam  
THE NETHERLANDS

Dear Dr. Filedt Kok,

Thank you for thoughtful note of February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Actually, the situation is much worse than I thought at first. I do think that Dr. Schilder is likely to have bought my painting in good faith, at a hammer price of Hfl 600. My first thought was that the auction house was at fault, but this is not the case.

The Amsterdam police department recovered both stolen paintings shortly after the theft, but didn't correlate these two paintings with the police report or with IFAR where both paintings were illustrated. The police department kept the paintings in their lost and found for three years and then turned them over to the auction house. Now they disclaim all responsibility.

I have taken counsel with a good friend of Dr. Otto Naumann and a very able attorney specializing in art law, Dr. Willem Russell. He believes that a law suit would be necessary to bring the Amsterdam police department to their senses and that, of course, would be very costly.

Naturally I am just sick about the situation, though happy that the best of the three stolen paintings -- the one you referred to as "the poor man's Rembrandt"-- was recovered by that wonderful man, Bert Vos.

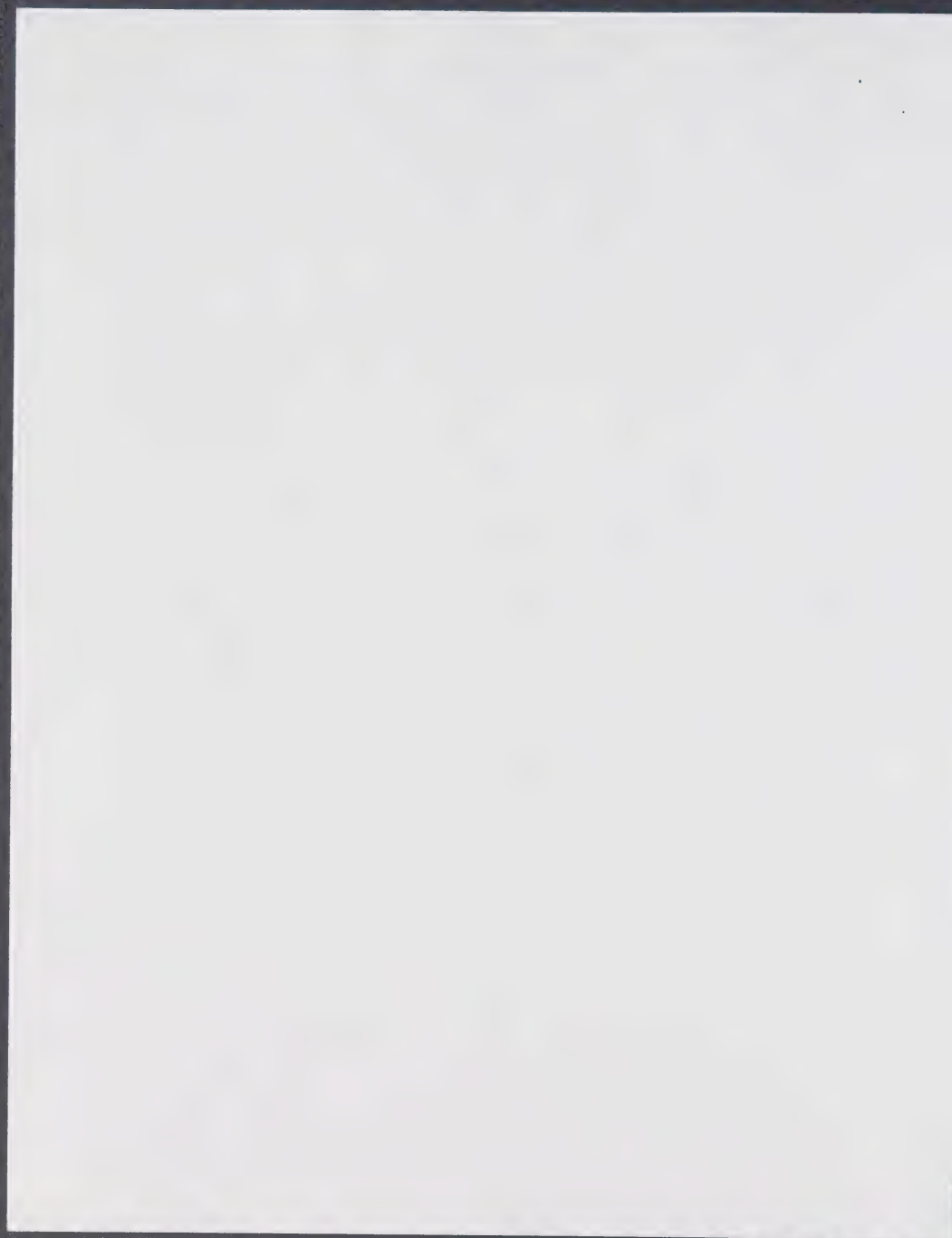
I will, of course, try to have this entire story published widely.

With all good wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader  
AB/az

*By Appointment Only*  
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622  
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE  
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202  
TEL 414 277-0730 FAX 414 277-0709



DIRECTIE

RIJKS MUSEUM  
amsterdam

POSTBUS 74888  
1070 DN AMSTERDAM  
TELEFOON 020 674 70 00  
TELEFAX 020 674 70 01

Dr. Alfred Bader  
2961 North Shepard Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211  
USA

Uw referentie

Uw brief van

January 15, 1999

Onze referentie

DBB 99.234

DATUM

February 3, 1999

Dear Mr. Bader,

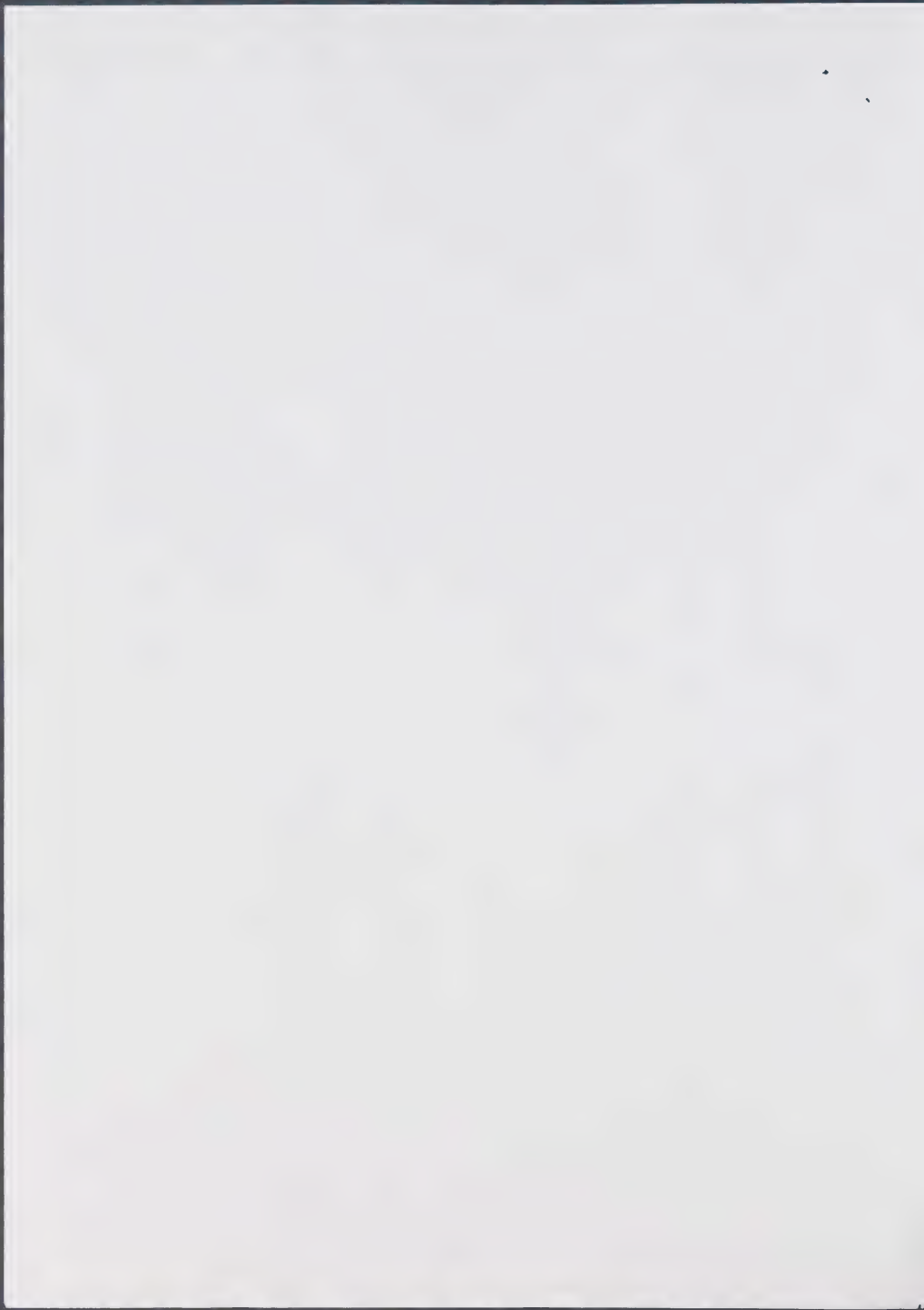
Thanks for your letter of January 15th. I am rather shocked to hear about your experiences with the buyer of your period copy of your Rembrandt. It doesn't sound like a buyer in good faith. Mr. Ekkart could probably suggest you what the legal possibilities are. I understood that you talked to Mrs. van Rappard, who thought you have a good chance to win the case as it comes to court, but that will probably cost you a good lawyer.

Otherwise I hope you and your wife are fine.

Yours sincerely,



Jan Piet Filedt Kok  
Director of Collections







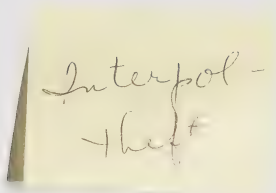
ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

January 6, 1995

Dr. Constance Lowenthal  
Director  
IFAR  
46 East 70th Street  
New York, New York 10021



Dear Dr. Lowenthal:

I would like to report the theft of two small paintings in Amsterdam on November 12, 1994, and I enclose copy of the police report and of a brief story which I have written about this theft. Luckily the best of the three paintings was thrown away by the thieves and recovered, as described. The details of the other two paintings are as follows:

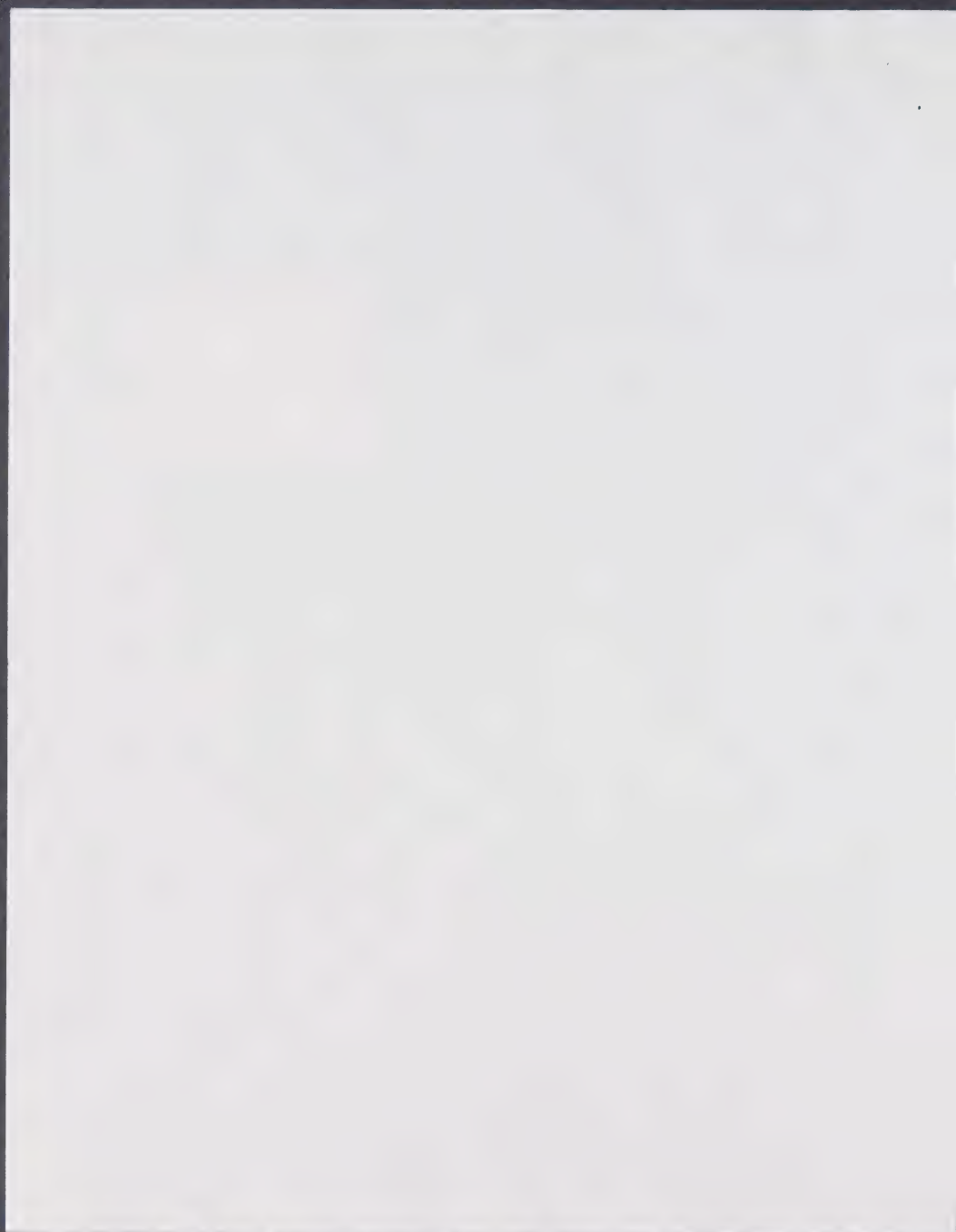
1. Portrait of a Man, photograph exactly the size of the painting, is enclosed. It is oil on panel which was purchased by me as Lot 186 in Sotheby's London sale of July 6, 1994. The total purchase price, including VAT, was £1529.13. The painting is in an elaborate period carved frame and bears on the back a mistaken attribution of the painting to van Dyck. I believe that it is actually by Gonzalez Coques.
2. The second painting, unframed, was purchased just the day before the theft from a London dealer, Clovis Whitfield, and I enclose copy of his invoice. However, Mr. Whitfield had only just received the painting on consignment for sale, had not had it photographed and could only send me a Xerox copy of the actual painting. Of course that Xerox copy gives the exact size, 9-3/8 x 7-1/2 inches. I enclose copy of the Xerox and Mr. Whitfield's description of the two seals on the back of the painting.

Needles to say, I would appreciate whatever help you could give me to recover these paintings.

Sincerely,

Enclosures

*By Appointment Only*  
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622  
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE  
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202  
TEL 414 277-0730 FAX 414 277-0709





ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

January 6, 1995

Mr. Ducroix Timmermans  
Centrale Recherche Informatiedienst CRI  
Bureau Interpol  
Europaweg 45  
Postbus 3016  
2700 KX Zoetermeer  
Belgium

Dear Mr. Timmermans:

You may recall that I faxed you from England on November 23rd about the theft of two small paintings, in Amsterdam, on November 12th. The details of the paintings are as follows:

1. Portrait of a Man, photograph exactly the size of the painting is enclosed. It is oil on panel and was purchased by me as Lot 186 in Sotheby's London sale of July 6, 1994. The total purchase price, including VAT, was £1529.13. The painting is in an elaborate period carved frame and bears on the back a mistaken attribution of the painting to van Dyck. I believe that it is actually by Gonzalez Coques.
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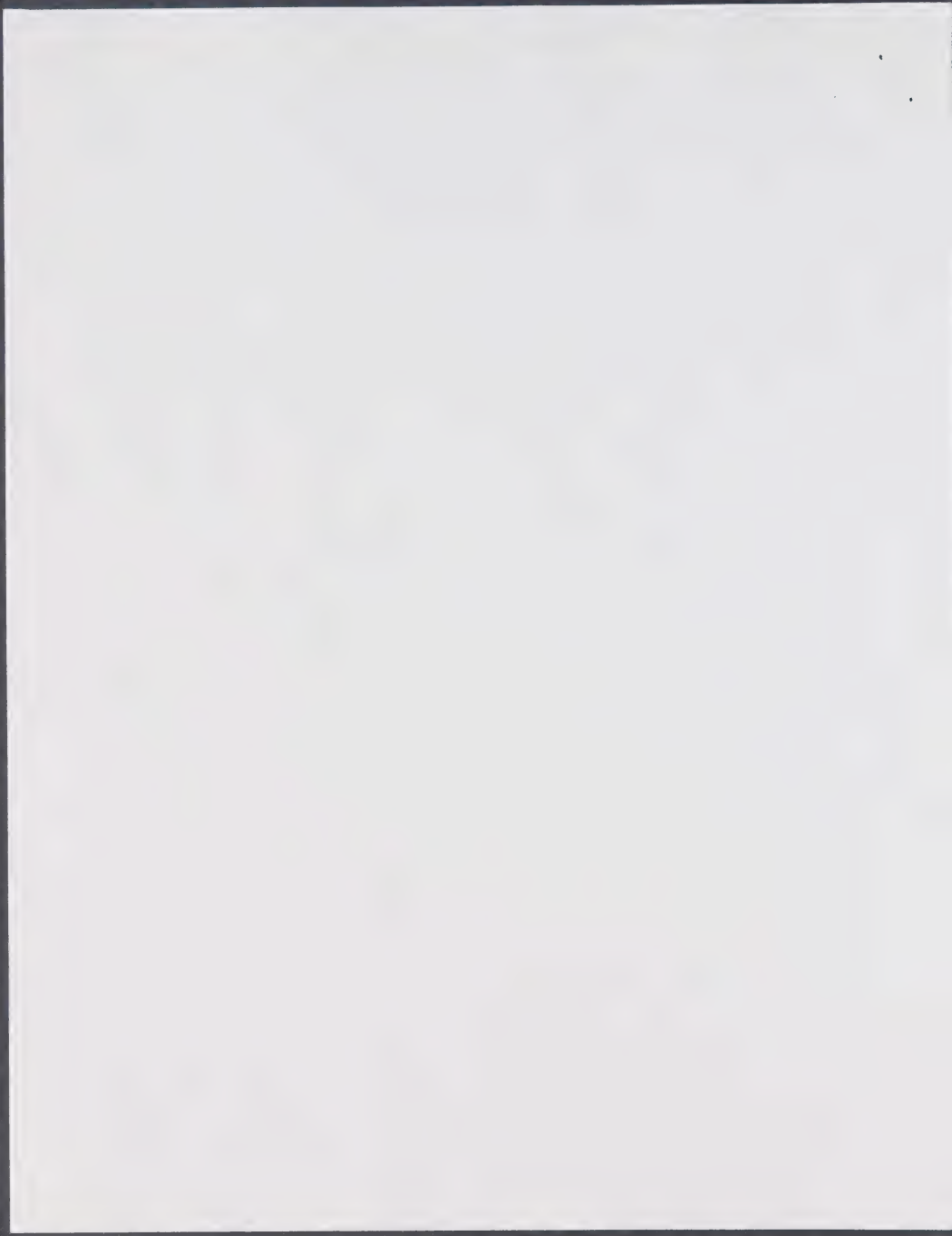
Also enclosed is a brief story which I have written about this incident.

Needless to say, I would appreciate whatever help you could give me to recover these paintings.

Sincerely,

Enclosures

*By Appointment Only*  
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622  
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE  
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202  
TEL 414 277-0730 FAX 414 277-0709





COMO ala nomenclatura internacionalista. 1981  
Bureau Interpol  
Lodovico 41  
Yonhus 1018  
4704-82 Boeternan

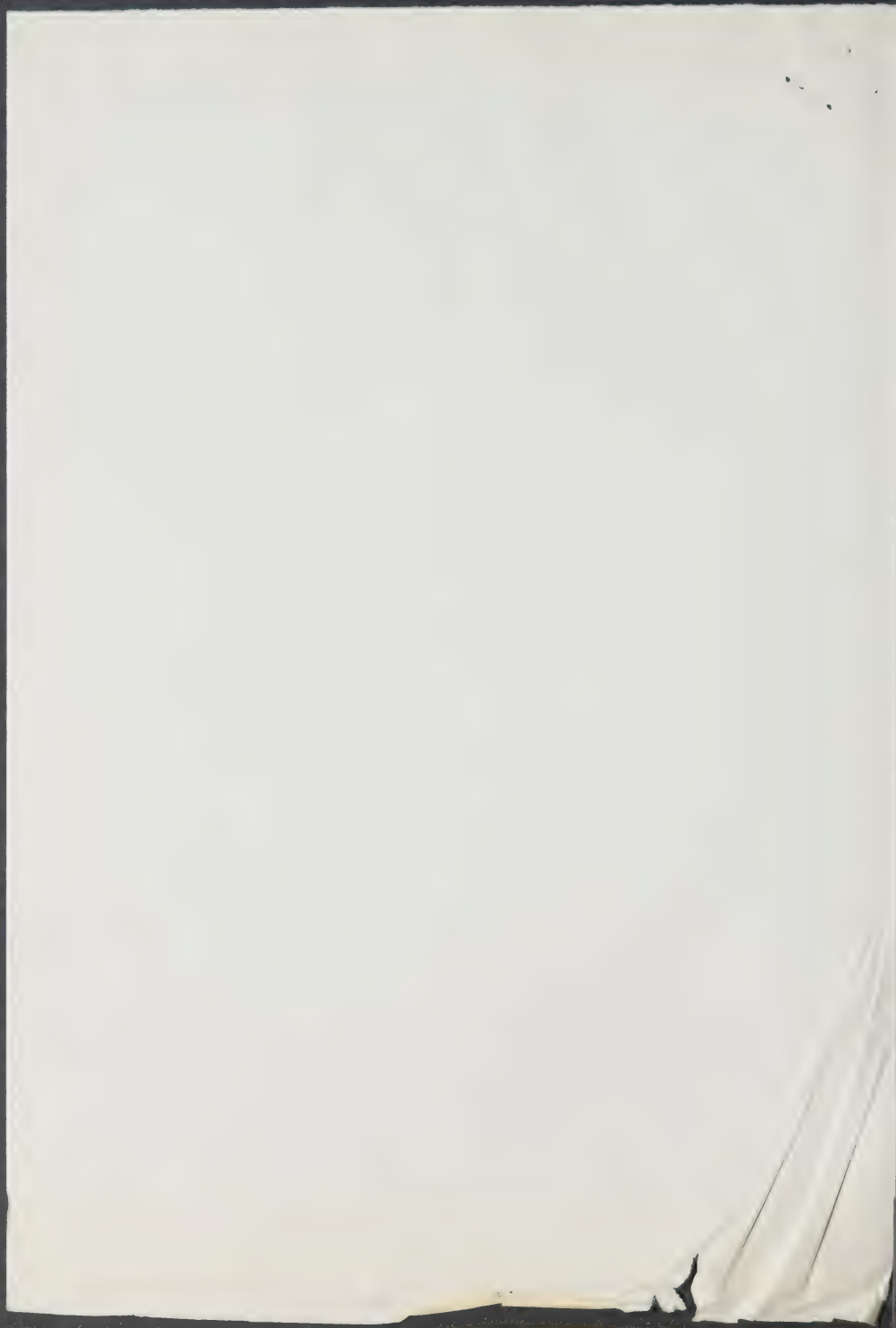
Tel. 079 - 459911 / 459808  
Fax 079 - 459701

*Mr.*  
~~de~~ *Du* ~~er~~ *Tim* ~~er~~ *omas*  
Croix









Isabel and I arrived at Amsterdam Central Station on Saturday afternoon, November 12, and while waiting for the tram to take us to our hotel, I went to the tourist office to pick up a map of the city, leaving Isabel with our luggage, two suitcases and my briefcase. When I returned, minutes later, the briefcase was gone. A swarthy, bearded man had distracted her attention by asking a question about ~~about~~ trams, while a woman grabbed the briefcase.

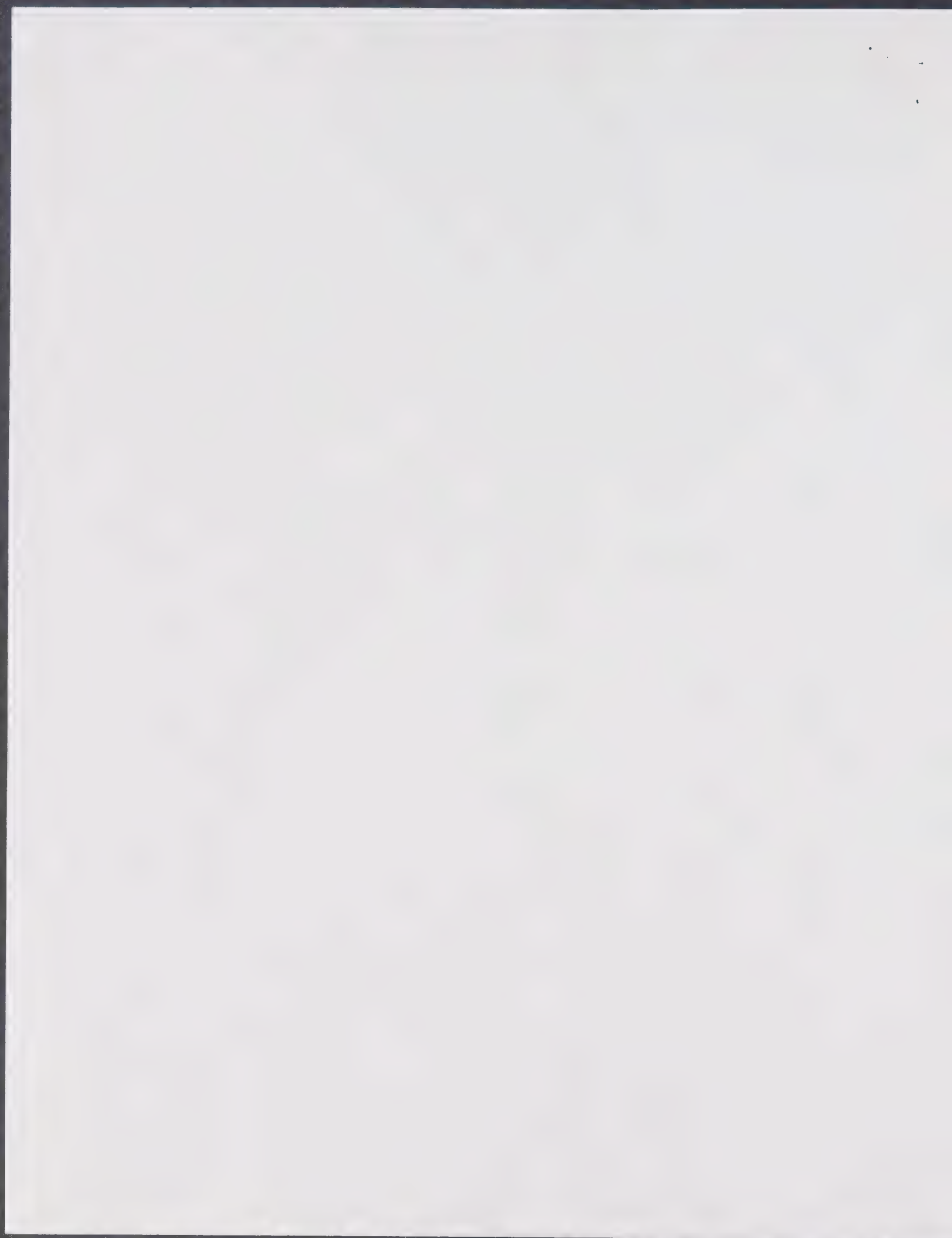
The case contained many photographs and papers, American and English money, travellers checks, checkbooks, two pieces of jewellery and three small paintings which I had planned to discuss with Dutch art historians.

We rushed to the police in the Voorburgwal nearby and M. Te Pas, the very pleasant officer, took the details and told us ~~that~~ the money was certainly lost, but the paintings might be recovered.

From the hotel, we called two old friends, one in London, to ask for help with alerting the London bank, about the blank checks, the other an art dealer in the Hague, to ask for advice about the paintings.

All three paintings were 17th century. I had purchased the smallest at Sotheby's in London the previous July. A sketch of a man, I believe by Gonzalez Coques, the Antwerp portraitist, ca 1635 might seem the most valuable to the thieves, because it was in an elaborate, carved gilt frame, with an 18th century label on the back stating that it was by Anthony Van Dyck. Thieves may not know of the unreliability of 18th century attribut<sup>ions</sup>~~ions~~.

The other two paintings, both on panels, I had purchased from London dealers just the day before. One depicted Rembrandt's mother, in the manner of Dou, and probably by a Rembrandt student of 1630. It was in a padded envelope, unframed. The other, also unframed, was just in a plastic folder, between my papers. The seller



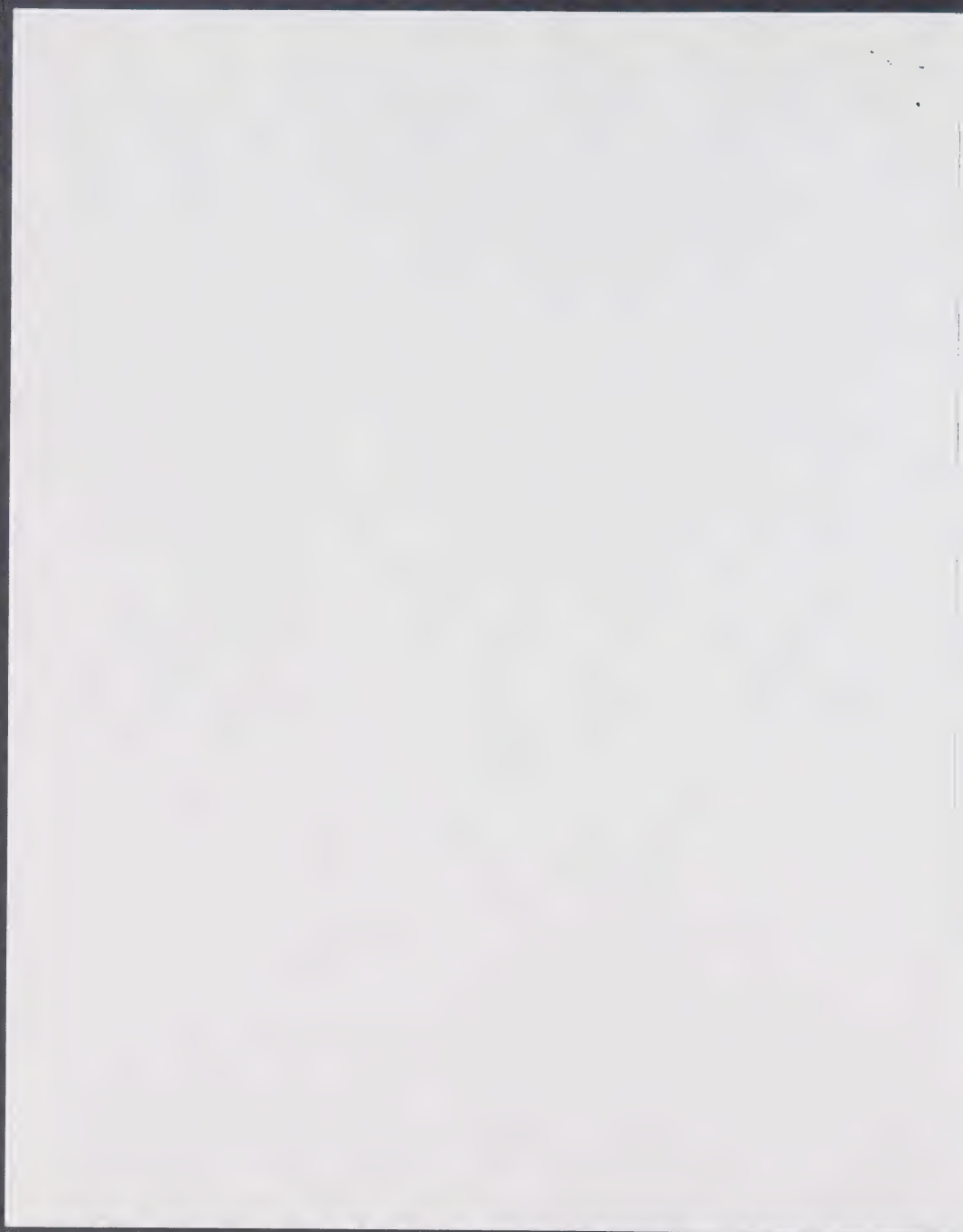
had suggested that this study of a man might be by Willem Drost, a well-known Rembrandt student, an attribution I found difficult to believe. But as it was certainly mid 17th century and of fine quality, I liked it immensely and thought it the best of the three lost paintings.

We were exhausted after our phone calls from the hotel, took sleeping pills and I had nightmares about robberies and paintings. But at least we were physically unharmed and one couldn't but admire the teamwork of the thieves!

Miracles still happen. At 8 o'clock the next morning, our friend in the Hague called us to tell us of a phone call she had received at midnight from a man in Amsterdam who had found many of the photographs and papers and one painting. At first we thought that he might be one of the thieves trying to exchange paintings for more money. That this was ludicrous soon became clear when we met Mr. Bert Vos later that morning. He had been returning to his home along tramline 17, several miles from the station, at 11.15 the night before, when he noticed a pile of papers and photographs lying in the gutter between two dustbins. Closer inspection convinced him that this was not rubbish and so he scooped up the pile and took it to his simple third story apartment, spread out the papers and photographs to dry, read some of the papers and discovered the non-Drost study of the man and my telephone list. He called my son in Milwaukee but heard only his answering machine, he then phoned the police and the Rijksmuseum because he had seen a letter from Dr. Filedt-Kok there, but of course at midnight, he talked only to a guard. Then he noticed one Dutch phone number, that of our friend in the Hague, who knew of our loss and cautioned him not to dry the panel on a radiator.

The miracle is not that we got our papers and the painting back, but that a person would do what Mr. Vos did. Just think of it: A man living by himself, going to the enormous trouble- at midnight- to examine the papers, make those phone calls around the world- and try to dry all that material. And at first he refused compensation. Only

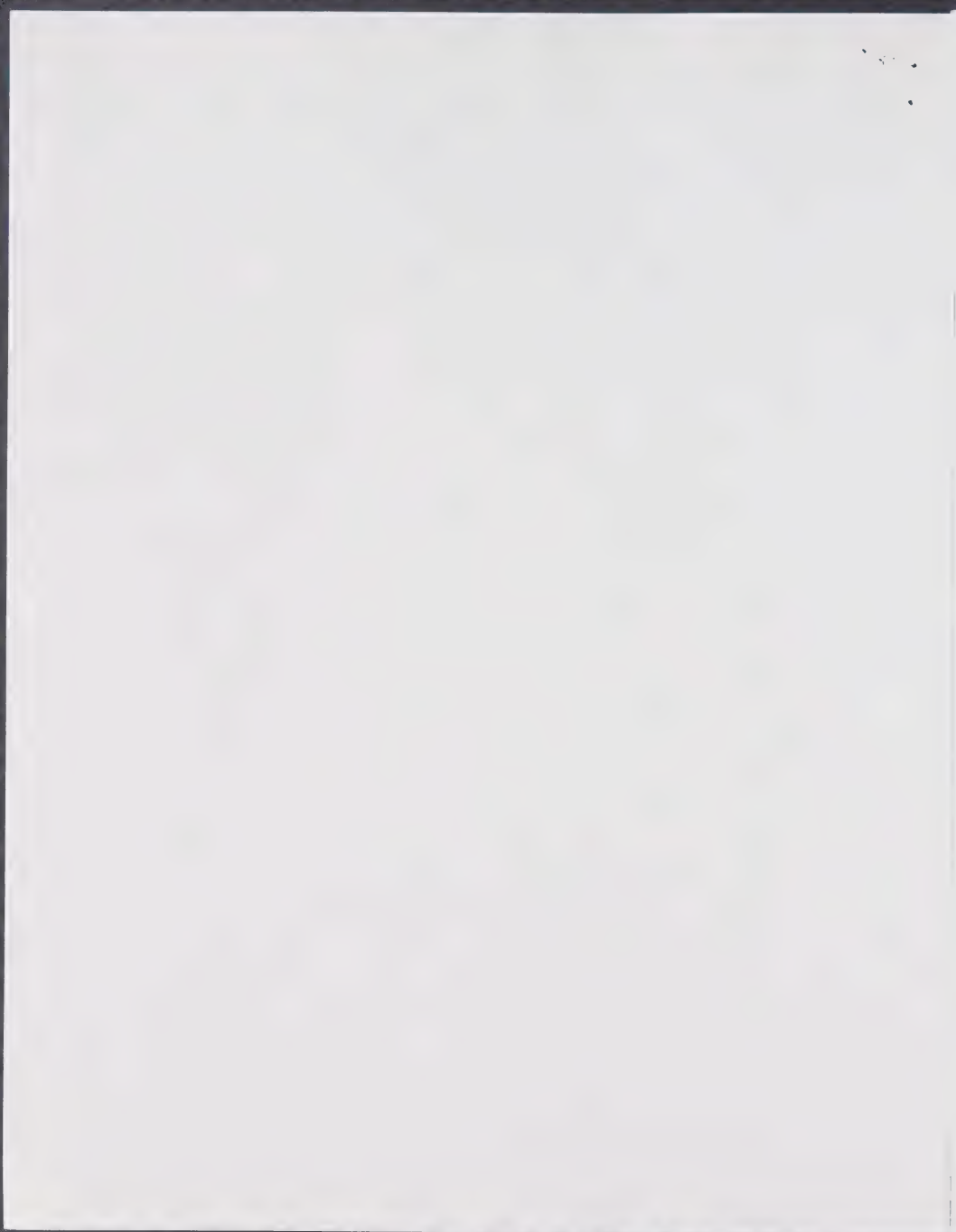




- 3 -

when I insisted did he accept, saying that he would use it for his boy-scout troop. We have invited him to be our guest in Milwaukee and hope he will accept. When I fell asleep the night of our misfortune, I thought that I never wanted to be in Amsterdam again. Now I know that we want to go back, if only to get to know Mr. Vos better.

The thieves had taken the study of Rembrandt's mother out of its envelope which they threw away with all the other papers. But they overlooked the study of a man, and the panel had not suffered. We took it to the Rijkbureau voor Kunsthistorische Dokumentatie in the Hague and discovered that it came from the Hermitage in St. Petersburg and was sold in Berlin in 1935. Abraham Bredius, the greatest Rembrandt expert of his day, had considered it to be a genuine Rembrandt and given it no. 226 in his catalogue of the master's work. When I first saw it in London, I <sup>em</sup>remembered seeing another, certainly inferior version in the Johnson collection in the museum in Philadelphia. Today these sketches are no longer thought to be by Rembrandt, but ours is certainly by one of his ablest students, painted in the early 1640's. When I showed it to Dr. Filedt-Kok, he said "How nice-the poor man's Rembrandt!". And when I showed it to Professor Josua Bruyn, the retired head of the Rembrandt Research Project, he agreed with my dating, but thought we might never be able to ascertain the name of the very able student. Perhaps, but I will try. And in the meantime, I think of it as my Bert Vos panel.



**Subject: Rembrandt's Mother**

**Date:** Tue, 12 Jan 1999 08:50:03 +0100

**From:** Aad du Croix <croix002@wxs.nl>

**Organization:** KLPD/dCRI

**To:** baderfa@execpc.com

INTERPOL

Dear Mr Bader,

With reference to your fax of 5 January instant regarding the sale of the painting Rembrandt's mother, which was stolen from you, we would inform you that the message has been sent on for further dealing by the Amsterdam-Amstelland regional police, district 2, wijkteam Nieuwe Zijdsvoorburchwal, P.O.Box 2287, 1000 CG Amsterdam. Please contact the a/m office for further information and/or correspondence.

We hope that this information is of service to you.  
Best regards,

A.W. du Croix Timmermans.  
Interpol The Hague (Netherlands)

fax 0031 20 301 5678  
3 pages

To Dr. Willem Kuppel :

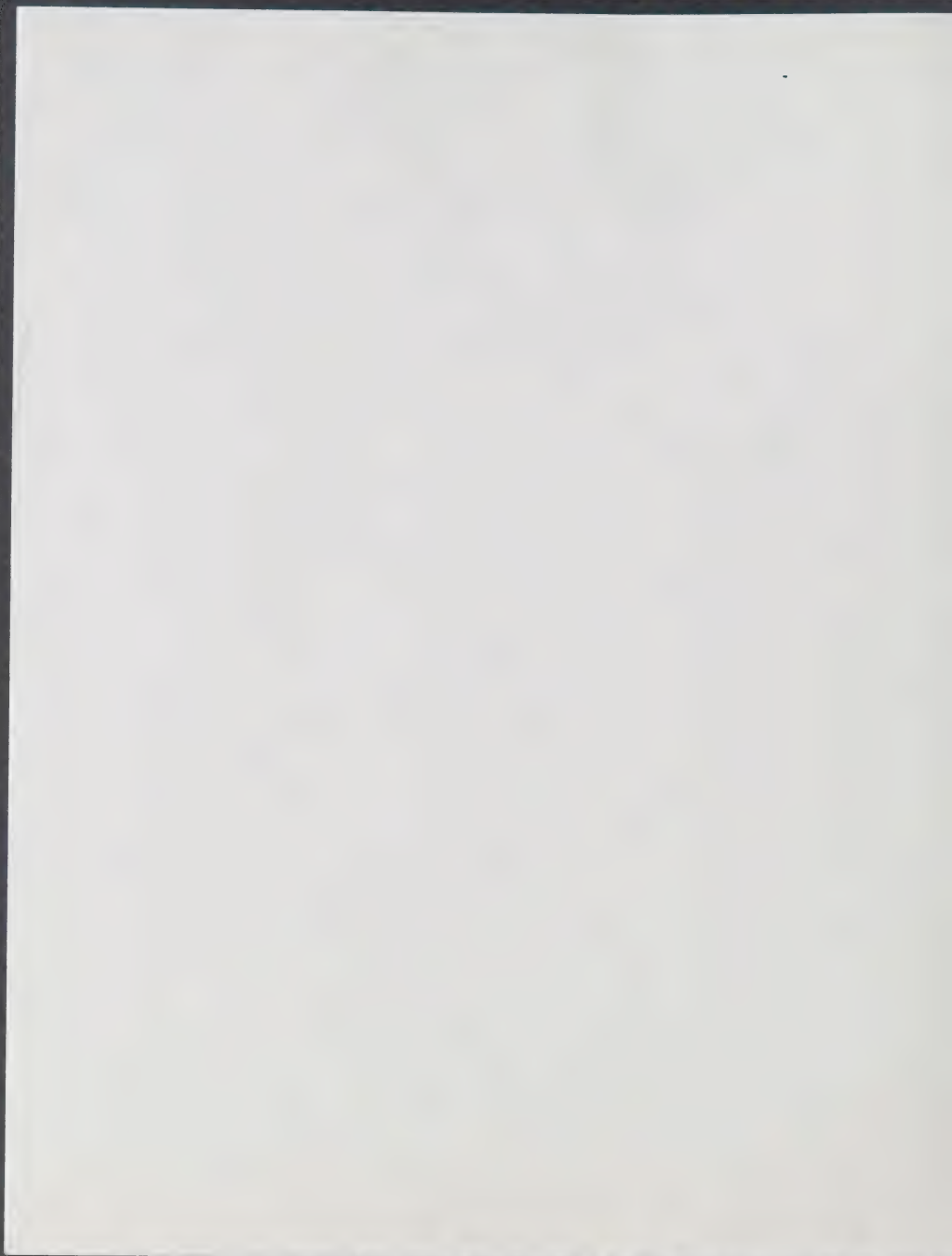
Here is Interpol report. The police station is the same where I filed the Nov. 12 1994. Left report, enclosed.

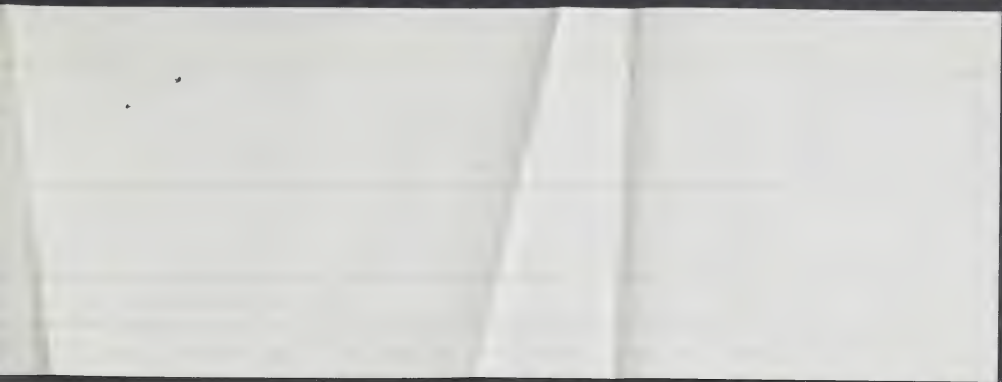
A confirming fax and package will follow to-day.

Thank for all your help

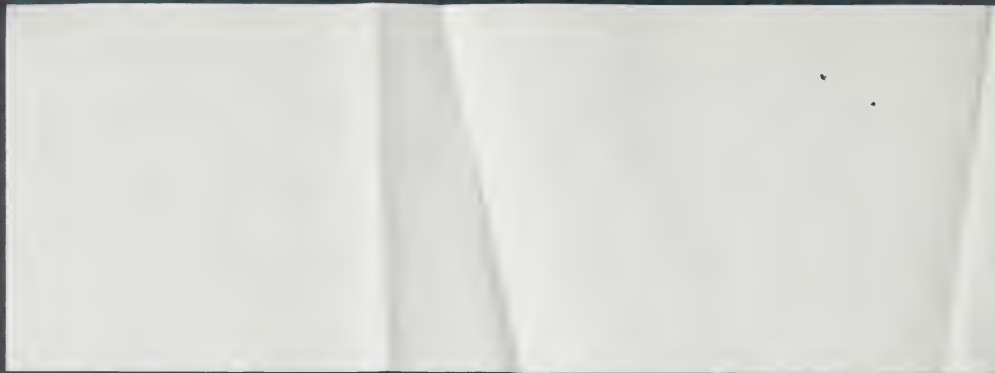
And Bader,

14 199









MINISTERIE VAN ONDERWIJS, CULTUUR EN WETENSCHAPPEN  
Inspectie Cultuurbezit

Prinsessegracht 31  
2514 AP Den Haag

tel. 070-3028120  
fax 070-3651914  
e-mail insp@cultinsp.minocw.nl

FAXBERICHT

Datum 5 januari 1999

To: Mr. Beder

faxnummer: 00 1 414 2770709

From: <sup>CHARLOTTE</sup>  
Mrs. van rappard

doorkiesnummer: 070-3028120

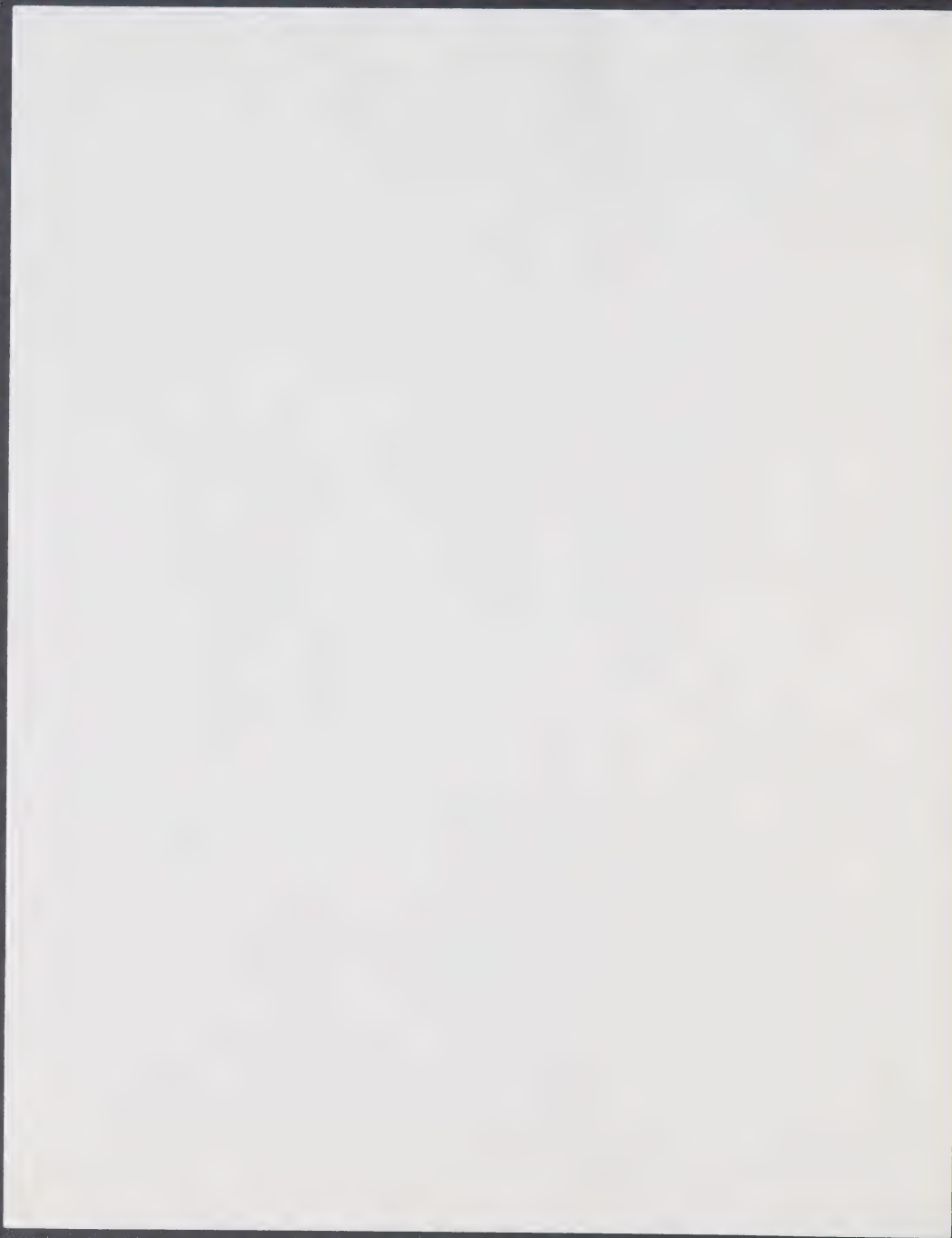
Pages: 1

Dear Mr. Beder,

I have made some enquiries regarding the painting of the Rembrandt school which was stolen from you. The statute of limitations for this kind of theft in Holland is three years. There seems to be special provisions regarding sales at auctions, so it seems advisable to engage the services of a dutch lawyer who is well versed in these matters.

We would suggest Mr. R.W. Polak from the firm De Brauw, Blackstone, Westbroek /Advocaten & Notarissen (adress: Burgerweeshuispad 301, 1076 HR Amsterdam) who is a specialist in art & law. If there is anything else we could do for you, please let us know.

Buyer paid Hfe 600  
+ 162  
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762 -



~~fax 31 19 345 9202~~

A.

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phone

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Mi AAJ

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↑ Chloé Van Rappard<sup>a</sup>

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+ 162

48762





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

*A Chemist Helping Chemists*

February 22, 1999

Regiopolitie Amsterdam Amstelland  
Bureau Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal  
Nieuwez Voorburgw 118  
1012 SH Amsterdam  
HOLLAND

REGISTERED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT

Dear Sir,

On Saturday afternoon, November 12, 1994, my wife and I were robbed at the Central Station in Amsterdam and we immediately reported the theft to your office where we were interviewed in detail by Mr. Martin Te Pas.

Copy of the police report is attached (Exhibit A). Mr. Te Pas told us that the money in the briefcase was certainly lost, but the painting might be recovered and, if so, we would be informed.

The next morning, one of the three paintings was recovered on a street quite a distance from the police station and I enclose (Exhibit B) my Aide Memoire regarding this recovery. We immediately reported this your police station and we were kindly taken by police car to the place where the one painting was recovered. Unfortunately, we could not find either of the other two.

An Amsterdam newspaper reported on the recovery (Exhibit C).

We reported the theft of the two missing paintings to IFAR and the Art Loss Register and IFAR Reports illustrated both paintings, as numbers 234 and 236 in Vol. 16, No. 4 of the April 1995 IFAR Report (Exhibit D).

We also reported the theft to the RKD in The Hague, to Christie's and Sotheby's in Amsterdam, and also to the Rijksmuseum.





February 22, 1999

Several months later you recovered both paintings but did not inform me of their recovery.

Three years later, some time in the first half of last year you turned both paintings over to a small auction house in Amsterdam, De Eland, and the painting of *Rembrandt's Mother* was sold as Lot #1420 for a hammer price of Hfl 600. The buyer of *Rembrandt's Mother* took the painting to the RKD which advised him that the painting was stolen from us.

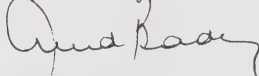
The auction house, De Eland, has refused to let me know who bought the second painting, #236 in the IFAR report, and has referred me to you.

Please answer three questions:

1. What is the name and address of the buyer of IFAR #236?
2. Why did you not advise me that you recovered my two paintings some three years ago?
3. Do you plan to acquire the two paintings from the buyers and return them to me?

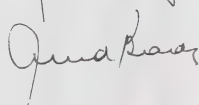
I look forward to hearing from you and remain

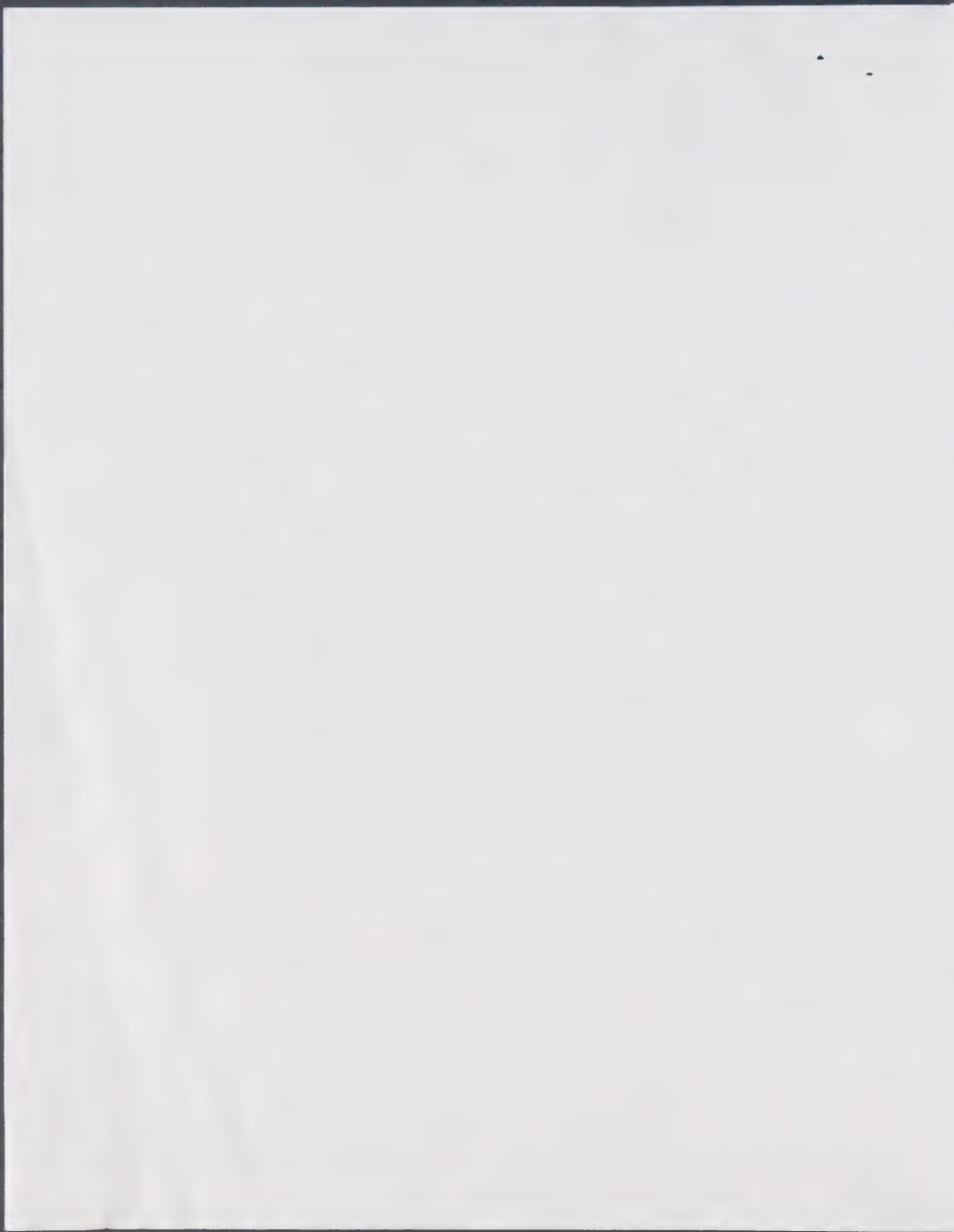
Yours sincerely,



Alfred Bader  
AB/az  
Att.

C: A. W. du Croix Timmermans, Interpol -The Hague  
Mrs. Charlotte Van Rappard, Ministerie Van Onderwijs, Cultuur en  
Wetenschappen, Inspectie Cultuurbezit

Thanks for your help.  






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

*A Chemist Helping Chemists*

February 22, 1999

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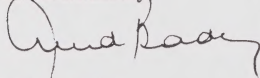
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C: A. W. du Croix Timmermans, Interpol -The Hague  
Mrs. Charlotte Van Rappard, Ministerie Van Onderwijs, Cultuur en  
Wetenschappen, Inspectie Cultuurbezit

Thanks for your help.  
