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\$500,000 from Andreas Foundation linked to unaudited account

By Stephen P. Angelides
Orthodox News

November 17, 1999 (ON) -- The Andreas Foundation gave \$500,000 to the "Russian Orthodox Church of North America" in Syosset, NY between December 1, 1997 and November 30, 1998, according to the return it filed with the Internal Revenue Service for that period.

Knowledgeable sources within the Orthodox Church of America (OCA) have linked the \$500,000 to the Metropolitan's Discretionary Account. This revelation follows disclosure by the OCA's outside auditor that a \$250,000 contribution during that same period from the Archer Daniels Midland Foundation was apparently deposited into that account.

The 1998 audit of the OCA is incomplete, pending examination of that account. Efforts to audit that account have stalled. The OCA Central Church Administration so far has not responded to auditors' requests for information about that account.

The Andreas Foundation is a private foundation controlled by members of the Andreas family. It was incorporated in Iowa in 1945. Michael D. Andreas is its President and Treasurer, according to the most recent annual report it filed with the Iowa Secretary of State on March 12, 1999.

Last month, Michael Andreas began serving a two-year sentence in an Illinois federal prison following his August, 1998 conviction on federal price-fixing charges. The conviction stemmed from his activities while he was executive vice president of Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM), a multi-national agribusiness concern.

Michael's father, Dwayne O. Andreas, age 81, was Chairman of the Board of ADM at the time. He was not personally implicated in the price-fixing scheme.



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