
In Yalta, the last person accused of embezzlement of almost 212 million rubles detained after hiding from investigation for over 10 years

Due to location of a former first deputy head of Radio-Electronic Means Electromagnetic Compatibility Analysis Centre of the Federal State Unitary Enterprise Voentelcom (hereinafter referred to as "Voentelcom"), reserve colonel Sergey Luchaninov, accused of committing an offence under Part 4 of Article 159 of the Criminal Code of Russia (swindling committed by an organized group on an especially large scale) the Main Military Investigations Directorate of the Investigative Committee of Russia resumed preliminary investigation of this probe.

It was established that in 2005-2007 reserve colonels Dmitry Funtov, former Voentelcom head, his first deputy Sergey Luchaninov and his deputy Valery Smolnikov, as well as the chairman of Autonomous Non-Commercial Organization Bureau Centre for Applied Engineering Problems of the Russian Academy of Engineering (hereinafter referred to as "CPIP RIA") Zigmund Fedukovich and economist of the indicated organization Yury Velichko developed and implemented a crime scheme under which Voentelcom transferred to an account of CPIP RIA registered in Voronezh over 211.8 million rubles. According to documents the indicated funds were allegedly paid for research and technical survey of compatibility of military and civil radio-electronic means. In that, as established by military investigators, neither CPIP RIA, nor its contractors didn't have specialists capable to conduct the indicated surveys and access to required secret information. The money transferred for fictitiously performed works was cashed out and swindled by the members of the criminal community.

In October 2011 the Moscow Garrison Military Court found Smolnikov, Fedukovich and Velichko guilty of committing of offence under Part 4 of Article 159 of the Criminal Code of Russia, while Fedukovich and Velichko were also found guilty of committing an offence under Paragraphs A, B of Part 2 of Article 174.1 of the Criminal Code of Russia (legalization of funds acquired by a person in an illegal way committed by a group of persons under preliminary conspiracy through their official position).

The court sentenced Fedukovich and Smolnikov to 6 and 3 years of imprisonment respectively. Taking into account Velichko's health conditions the court sentenced him to 5 years of suspended imprisonment with a probation period of 3 years. Apart from that the court subject the convicts to fines of 700 000 rubles from Fedukovich and 500 000 rubles from Smolnikov and Velichko each and fully satisfied Voentelcom JSC (Voentelcom successor) claim to collect the inflicted damage

from the convicts.

Due to the fact that Luchaninov and Funtov fled from preliminary investigative bodies, each of them was put on the federal and afterwards on the international wanted list.

In 2018 Interpol notified Russia about Funtov's detention in Croatia. He was traveling across this country with a Romanian passport with a false last name. While the matter of his extradition to the Russian Federation was being decided upon, the accused committed a suicide. On this basis criminal proceedings against him were suspended under criminal procedural law.

On January 16, 2020 investigative bodies located Luchaninov. At the moment of detention the man wasn't carrying any documents. He was identified by fingerprinting. According to preliminary information the accused lived under a false name for a long time which made it possible for him to hide from law enforcement bodies. Upon decision of Yalta City Court of Crimea Republic Luchaninov was arrested and placed into custody. The court ruled to transfer him to Moscow.

Preliminary investigation of the probe continues.

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