

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center
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Guide prepared by: Sara Piasecki, Photo Archivist

TITLE: Magadan Photographer Collection

COLLECTION NUMBER: B1995.020

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: circa 1980-1989

Extent: 2 boxes; 2.8 linear feet

Language and Scripts: The collection is in Russian.

Name of creator(s): Vasilii Shumkov, Andrei Baskakov, Valerii Ostrikov, Nikolai Tkachev, Sergei Burasovskii

Administrative/Biographical History:

The photographs were exhibited at an All-Russia Photo Festival organized to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Magadan, Russia, in 1989. Additionally, the prints might have been exhibited at Cyrano's Bookstore in Anchorage after 1990. Included in the collection are images for a poster or other advertisement for "Foto V'istavka Vasiliia Shumkova," with no indication of location or date. Some prints carry stamps from international photography shows, indicating that the prints were submitted to or traveled with other exhibitions. Most of the prints bear the stamp or signature of Vasilii Shumkov. Nothing else was known about this photographer at the time of processing. Other photographers identified by name on some of the prints include Andrei Baskakov, Valerii Ostrikov, Nikolai Vasil'evich Tkachev; and Sergei Nikolaevich Burasovski. Further research might uncover the names of additional photographers.

Scope and Content Description:

The collection consists of 212 mostly large-format black-and-white photographic prints of people, places, and scenes in the Russian Far East and Northern Alaska, including Barrow. There is also a poster from the Magadan exhibition. Notable subjects include the Soviet-era gulag known as the Butugichag Corrective Labor Camp, and the 1988 attempted rescue of

stranded whales off the coast of Barrow, Alaska, (sometimes called “Operation Breakthrough” and depicted in the 2012 motion picture *Big Miracle*). There is one portrait of George Ahmaogak (.116) of Barrow, and one group photograph including him. The Search and Rescue category includes two photographs of American rescuers, including Randy Crosby of the North Slope Borough Search and Rescue team. Many of the prints bear Russian captions or stamps on the versos.

Arrangement: Photographs were arranged into several subject categories after receipt. These are: Magadan/Towns (.1-.11); Memorials (.12-.15); Labor Camp (.16-.41; see also .145); Russian Coast Guard (.42-.59); Search & Rescue (.60-.65); Sports (.66-.72); Hunting/Fishing (.73-.92); Native Arts/Events (.93-.100); Portraits (.101-.120); Group Shots (.121-.125); Children (.126-.143); Photographers (.144-.151); Animals (.152-.162); Scenery (.163-.172); Miscellaneous (.173-.175); 2013 Addendum (contains portraits and animals, .176-.184).

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Original items in fair condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

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Preferred Citation:

Magadan Photographer Collection, Anchorage Museum, B1995.020

RELATED MATERIALS

Vasilii Shumkov Collection, B2013.039

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Purchased by Brian Donaldson, M.D., in Magadan in 1990, and subsequently donated to the Museum. Accessioned in 1995. Donors formerly presumed to be V. Shumkov and Y. Sal'nikov of Magadan Photo Studio. The collection was processed in 2013, when an additional unsorted envelope of photos from the collection was located in the backlog.

Processing Note

Many of the prints have tape or glue residue on the versos. Poster removed to oversize.

SUBJECTS

Shumkov, Vasilii

Ahmaogak, George N.--Photographs

Crosby, Randy—Photographs

Concentration camps—Soviet Union

Drifting ice stations—Arctic regions

Prisons—Soviet Unions

Whaling—Arctic regions

Whales—Arctic regions

Icebreakers (Ships)—Arctic regions

Ice breaking operations—Arctic regions

Indigenous peoples--Arctic regions

Magadan (Russia)

Barrow (Alaska)

Guide written: April 3, 2013