

2 Russians in Hacker Ring Jailed in U.S.

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Two Russian students from an international group of hackers suspected of stealing at least \$70 million from bank accounts worldwide have been sentenced to short prison terms and fines after they pleaded guilty to money laundering in the United States, RIA-Novosti reported Friday.

The suspects had faced up to 20 years in prison and a fine of up to \$500,000 on a variety of charges, including money laundering, bank fraud and identity theft.

A total of 22 Russians are suspected of belonging to the criminal group.

A Manhattan court sentenced Alexander Sorokin, 23, to six months in prison and a \$100 fine on Tuesday, said Alexander Otchaynov, the Russian deputy consul in New York, [RIA-Novosti reported](#).

But Sorokin, who had been released on bail, did not show up for the hearing and may face a more severe punishment if he has no reasonable excuse for his absence or has gone into hiding, Otchaynov said.

The other student, Anton Yuferitsyn, 26, was handed a 10-month prison term and a fine of \$38,413 on June 25.

The court will deliver a verdict for the only other student who has pleaded guilty, Alexander Fyodorov, 24, on Jan. 5.

On Oct. 14, the court will open preliminary hearings into a fourth suspect, Kristina Svehinskaya.

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