

**For Immediate Release**  
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**Best-selling American author and cultural activist M.G. Crisci, calls non-political understanding critical ingredient in mutual trust during talks at the American Center for Democracy and the U.S. Embassy in Moscow**

(MOSCOW, October) The message to a packed presentation at the American Center was simple. Ordinary citizens from very different cultures can accomplish extraordinary things. It requires but one thing: mutual trust. And, mutual trust begins when one party reaches out to take the first step, and asks for nothing in return.

<p>Join us for a unique, thought-provoking luncheon at the Embassy with award-winning author M. G. Crisci</p> <p><b>Learn why and how an American, with no Russian Ancestry, wrote the best-selling book about a Moscow teenager, Lilia Litvyak (1921-1943), who became the world's first female fighter pilot, and Hitler's worst nightmare.</b></p> <p><b>The Mystery</b> Learn why it took 48 years to find her plane, validate her remains, and to finally receive Russia's highest military award, Hero of the Soviet Union, from President Mikhail Gorbachev.</p> <p><b>Story Behind the Story</b> Learn how the author, who does not speak Russian, persuaded a passionate Russian Museum curator and a skeptical Ukrainian English teacher, to agree to a historic 6,000 mile collaboration.</p> <p><b>The Book</b> Learn about the creation of <i>Call Sign, White Lily</i>, and hear unfiltered cultural insights and view never before-seen pictures, posters and videos collected along the way.</p> <p><b>Wednesday, October 23rd at 12 Noon</b></p>  <p><b>US Embassy, Moscow</b> Complimentary Lunch and Program Room Location: To Be Determined</p>  <p>About M. Crisci M.G. Crisci is critically-acclaimed author of eight books, an award-winning journalist, and internationally-recognized expert on consumer motivation and behavior, has been elected to <i>Who's Who in America</i> and the <i>World 20 Times</i>. He has spoken at venues around the world, including the United Nations and Embassies in Washington. Learn more at <a href="http://www.mgcrisci.com">www.mgcrisci.com</a></p>	<p>One evening only for friends of the American Center. A thought-provoking conversation with award-winning author M. G. Crisci.</p> <p><b>Learn why and how an American, with no Russian Ancestry, wrote the best-selling book about a Moscow teenager, Lilia Litvyak (1921-1943), who became the world's first female fighter pilot, and Hitler's worst nightmare.</b></p> <p><b>The Mystery</b> Learn why it took 48 years to find her plane, validate her remains, and to finally receive Russia's highest military award, Hero of the Soviet Union, from President Mikhail Gorbachev.</p> <p><b>Story Behind the Story</b> Learn how the author, who does not speak Russian, persuaded a passionate Russian Museum curator and a skeptical Ukrainian English teacher, to agree to a historic 6,000 mile collaboration.</p> <p><b>The Book</b> Learn about the creation of <i>Call Sign, White Lily</i>, and hear unfiltered cultural insights and view never before-seen pictures, posters and videos collected along the way.</p> <p><b>Thursday, October 24th at 6 PM</b></p>  <p><b>American Center in Moscow</b> Library for Foreign Literature Nikoloyamskaya St.1 Moscow, 109189</p>  <p>About M. Crisci M.G. Crisci is critically-acclaimed author of eight books, an award-winning journalist, and internationally-recognized expert on consumer motivation and behavior, has been elected to <i>Who's Who in America</i> and the <i>World 20 Times</i>. He has spoken at venues around the world, including the United Nations and Embassies in Washington. Learn more at <a href="http://www.mgcrisci.com">www.mgcrisci.com</a></p> <p><b>Wine and Cheese Reception Following Presentation.</b> Reservations: Call Kore Gleason at 485.926.4554 or respond online to <a href="mailto:director@amcru">director@amcru</a></p>
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*Invitations provided to guests of both organizations*

“When I first began to write the book *Call Sign, White Lily*, I quickly realized to capture Lilia Litvyak’s amazing transformation from a little girl born in Moscow to the youngest and most successful female flying ace in the history of the world, I needed the help of people I did not know in a far off land with a culture that was very different than my own,” said the author.

Three years and two trips later, the author, and his collaborators, a Russian Museum Curator, Valentina Vaschenko, and a Ukrainian English teacher Yelena Sivolap, could be proud of the book’s publication.

With the release came unexpected awards, critical acclaim, three updated editions, and for a brief time, an electronic edition that became number one in the Amazon Kindle store. There was even the support of the Russian Cultural Centre in the United States and Moscow.

“While the project was difficult to execute for many reasons, when we were done, the three of us realized that by unconditionally trusting each other, we had done something nobody dreamed possible. That’s why I’m hoping to build the kind of sales success to donate profits to the tiny Lilia Litvyak museum, behind a little school in her name in far off Krasny Luch.

“Interestingly, despite the support received elsewhere, the subsequent editorial and blogs, there was little interest at the government level in America. We actually, were about to give up, when we received invites to speak at the US Embassy and the American Center. The reception at both venues has exceeded our expectations. So all is well on both sides of the Atlantic now.

“The fact that we met with government officials from the United States, Russia and Great Britain on this trip, made us feel like we have accomplished something special. Everyone seemed fascinated with my two big dreams: a mainstream movie cooperatively produced by the American and Russian creative communities, and a multi-media exhibition based on Lilia’s short but eventful life. I think both products would be wonderful vehicles for the world to better understand the Russian culture and soul, as observed by a non-Russian,” said the author.

### ***About M.G. Crisci***

Self-described as a New York City “*Street Kid*,” Crisci was an award-winning journalist before becoming an accomplished business executive with Fortune 500 companies. He is an internationally recognized expert and lecturer on consumer motivation and behavior. He is also the Amazon.com best-selling author of seven books ranging from historical fiction to novels and non-fiction. His latest book, *7 Days in Russia—The Adventures of One American in Today’s Federation*, has been hailed “a must read” by the *San Francisco Book Review* and the Radio Free Europe Foundation. Crisci is dedicated to developing greater understanding between Russians and Americans. He speaks worldwide on East-West relations and also serves on several cross-cultural groups. Please visit [mgcrisci.com](http://mgcrisci.com) for more information on *Call Sign*, *White Lily*, *Seven Days*, or M.G. Crisci.