



## THE RUSSIAN CULTURAL CENTRE IN THE USA

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30 July 2014

To Qualified Movie Investors, Worldwide Creative Community

The primary mission of the Russian Cultural Centre in Washington D.C. is to increase mutual respect and understanding between our two nations by supporting a broad variety of cross-cultural events and initiatives.

As I have come to know him, M.G. Crisci is passionate American writer with absolutely no Russian ancestry. Yet, he has written, in collaboration with two equally passionate Russian women, an engaging coming-of-age story about Moscow born teenager Lilia Litvyak, who became the world's first and, to this day, most successful female fighter pilot.

The book's title, *Call Sign, White Lily*, was her combat sign. Although Lilia's life was short—she died 17 days before her 22nd birthday—it was eventful. She completed 268 missions, shot down 15 Messerschmitts and almost singlehandedly embarrassed the elite Luftwaffe. The book does much more than merely focus on her combat success; it also sheds light on her humanitarian interests, her friends, and her deep love for her commanding officer, the handsome Alexi Solomatin.

Unfortunately, history has not treated Lilia kindly. Her plane and its remains were not recovered for 37 years. In fact, it was not until 1990 President Mikhail Gorbachev finally named Lilia a Hero of the Soviet Union, at the time our country's highest military honor at time. This passage of time combined with the many societal changes within the new Russian Federation, has left current generations with only fragments about this great warrior, this great woman.

Importantly, the book's context very accurately and sensitively pays tribute to the extraordinary determination of our proud people who lost 40 million citizens in what we call the Great Patriotic War...another fact that seems to have been lost in history for most of the world's population.

The Federation is committed to this project. To date we have undertaken a series of initiatives to obtain media exposure and broad scale distribution. It is our opinion, as well as the opinion of many readers, that the book would make a potentially epic movie— with the proper producers, directors, cast and crew—that touches the hearts and minds of people around the world.

To that end, we would like to inform you that The Federation is prepared to provide all the technical support and political access required to complete such a grand undertaking. Additionally, the Federation will make available cultural resources and access to historical archives and restored prototypes to enhance the film's authenticity.

Should you be interested in discussing the project further, Mr. Crisci and his business manager, Jim Martin, would be happy to arrange a remote video conference or meeting at a mutually convenient time at the Cultural Centre here in Washington.

Thank you for your time.

Yury A. Zaytsev  
The Representative of the Rossotrudnichestvo in the U.S.