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American Author Awarded Grand Prize for Editorial Excellence in Rossiyskaya Gazeta International Contest

*“One American’s View of Everyday Russian Life” based on observations during this
development of the critically-acclaimed book, Call Sign, White Lily*

(MOSCOW November). It’s a new world. An award-winning American author, with absolutely no Russian ancestry, wins an international prize for editorial excellence in the English speaking version of a Russian newspaper supplement that reaches more than 8 million people in 17 countries.

The editorial entitled *One American’s View of Russia* was selected by the editorial board of *Russia Beyond the Headlines*, a publication of the Rossiyskaya Gazeta, that is distributed in the United States in the Washington Post and New York Times. According to the author, the editorial was an extension of what he saw and felt during the three years he worked with a Russian museum curator and a Ukrainian English teacher to create the critically-acclaimed book called, *Call Sign, White Lily*; the story of the virtually unknown Russian teenager who became the world’s first fighter pilot during the Great Patriotic War. “Lilia Litvyak’s 268 missions and 15 solo German kills were even more amazing given they were accomplished in a decidedly man’s world,” according to the author.

According to Artem Zagorodnov, worldwide editor of *Russia behind the Headlines*, “the passion in M.G.’s book translated into his editorial. It won versus all other submissions because of its balanced insights and stylistic excellence. Reading the feature feels like M.G. is sitting next to you talking. My colleagues at the office enjoyed meeting him, and particularly liked his self-effacing sense of humor.”

According to Zagorodnov, the contest idea came to him after realizing how little Americans really knew about day-to-day Russia behind the jaded headlines of the America media. “Some of my colleagues here in Moscow thought the contest was a giant public relations ploy, which it wasn’t. Of course,” paused Zagorodnov, “M.G.’s book did give him a *slight* advantage in real-time insights. I can just imagine him trying to convince two Russians to work collaboratively with no agenda other than mutual good will.”

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 bestselling author of seven books ranging from historical fiction to novels and non-fiction. His new book 7 Days in Russia—The Adventures of One American in Today’s Federation will be released later this year. 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 for more information on Call Sign, White Lily or M.G. Crisci.