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by governor.state.ms.us; Wed, 01 Mar 2000 15:39:12 -0600
Received: from [212.77.192.20] (account <dsokolov@id.ru>)
by aha.ru (CommuniGate Pro WebUser 3.2.4)
with HTTP id 20313643; Thu, 02 Mar 2000 00:42:05 +0300
From: "dmitriy sokolov" <dsokolov@id.ru>
Subject: URGENT
X-Mailer: CommuniGate Pro Web Mailer v.3.2.4
Date: Thu, 02 Mar 2000 00:42:05 +0300
Message-ID: <web-20313643@aha.ru>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="KOI8-R"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Dear Madam/Sir:

In 1999, in the Russian City of Kaluga, leaflets with compromising evidence on high-ranking Russian officials appeared. The Russian authorities have wrongly accused, Valentin Mikhaylin, a teenager, in manufacturing and distribution of these brochures, because he had a typewriter.

On 22 October, 1999 Valentin Mikhaylin was arrested. The authorities wanted to hold him for 6 months in an investigation isolator (prison) while they were conducting their investigation, but an honest, decent and considerate judge, Mr. Rakcheev V.G., having studied the facts of the criminal case and not having pressure from the local authorities, have released him for 2 weeks.

It is common knowledge in the city of Kaluga that these leaflets were made by criminals in order to struggle for power in the city. It is our impression that the local authorities are afraid to pursue the real criminals. It is much easier for them to present this incident as a schoolboy's prank.

For this reason the authorities are continuing to pressure the investigators. The investigators of the office of public prosecutors in Kaluga City have found out that these leaflets were made using a computer and a printer. They could not be printed on a typewriter. In spite of the fact that the investigators have no proof that directly links Valentin Mikhaylin in the manufacturing and distribution of these leaflets and that he has an alibi, the criminal case will be directed to a court soon. The authorities will try to force judges of the local court in Kaluga city illegally to place Valentin into prison.

Probably, the court will not be legal. It will be a political court and to obtain the truth in Russia, probably, will be impossible. Therefore we sincerely ask you to help us to find a lawyer for the future appeal to the European Court of Human Rights, if it will be necessary.

You can send letters and telegrams directly to Valentin Mikhaylin's for moral support. Now because of this possible criminal prosecution he is in a very deep depression. His

address is: Valentin Mikhaylin. Ryleeva Street, 6-45.
Kaluga. 248030. Russia.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

A collective group in support of the teenager Valentin
Mikhaylin.

101000. Moscow. Mr. Sergeev A.G. Poste restante.

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