

LONDON TIMES
18 November 1974

Parapsychology in Russia

From Dr John Beloff and others

Sir, We are gravely disquieted by the treatment apparently meted out to Mr Eduard K. Naumov, formerly of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Medical Technology, who was sentenced to two years' hard labour on March 26, 1974, and to his former collaborators some of whom are reported to have lost their posts and to have been subjected to various forms of harassment.

Naumov's name is well known in the West as one who has worked tirelessly for East-West collaboration in the field of parapsychology. We do not wish to imply either a belief in any particular parapsychological phenomena, or to endorse any opinion on this controversial subject that Mr Naumov or his colleagues may have expressed.

However, we are concerned at reports that he may have been persecuted because of his cordial and numerous contacts with Western scientists, and because of the fact that he has publicly encouraged research into parapsychological phenomena at a time when, for political reasons, the Soviet authorities have decided to concentrate research and publication in the hands of officially sanctioned and compliant protagonists. Recent events and pronouncements suggest that such a study will only be tolerated under psychiatric and psychological auspices, and that an end will be put to the activities of any Russian amateur venturing into "paranormal" territory without official sanction.

Reports have reached us suggesting that, while Naumov has been sentenced for illegally taking fees for lecturing at a Moscow club, this money was in fact collected by the club's director and his assistant; that these two gentlemen have been certified as schizophrenic and subjected to involuntary treatment at the Serbsky Institute for Forensic Psychological Expertise under the Directorship of Academician Snezhnevsky.

Thus, the only witnesses who could have cleared Naumov of the charge of illegally taking lecture fees have been hospitalized; the expert witness at Naumov's trial was none other than Dr Snezhnevsky who reiterated his well-known conviction that parapsychology is a pseudo-science based on idealism and mysticism; and it would appear that the numerous witnesses who testified to the fact that they had bought the tickets for Naumov's lectures from the club's director or his assistant were ignored.

All these circumstances suggest that there may have been a miscarriage of justice. It is also reported that Naumov, who is no longer young, and is in poor health, has been subjected to very harsh treatment, that he has been beaten, and that he was interrogated while suffering from pneumonia and a temperature of 40°C. We very much hope that there will be an official investigation into the circumstances under which Mr Naumov was accused and sentenced, and that any harassment of his former collaborators will cease.

- Yours faithfully,
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As from Society for Psychical Research,
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November 5.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, London
15 November 1974

SOLZENITSYN DEBATES RUSSIA WITHOUT MARX

By Our Communist Affairs
Correspondent

The publication of a collection of essays on the future of Russia compiled jointly by the exiled author Alexander Solzhenitsyn and a Moscow University professor was announced at a Press conference in Moscow yesterday.

The professor, the mathematician Igo Shafarevich, said the main purpose of the book was to start a debate on the future development of Soviet society independently of the official ideology of Marxism.

"In Russia today Marxism is in no condition to move anybody or anything," he said. "But Marxism's ideological monopoly prevents the majority of people from thinking about fundamental questions."

Sunday, Nov. 24, 1974 THE WASHINGTON POST

The Soviets at Kama River: Big Complex, Big Problems

By Peter Osnos

Osnos is The Washington Post's Moscow correspondent.

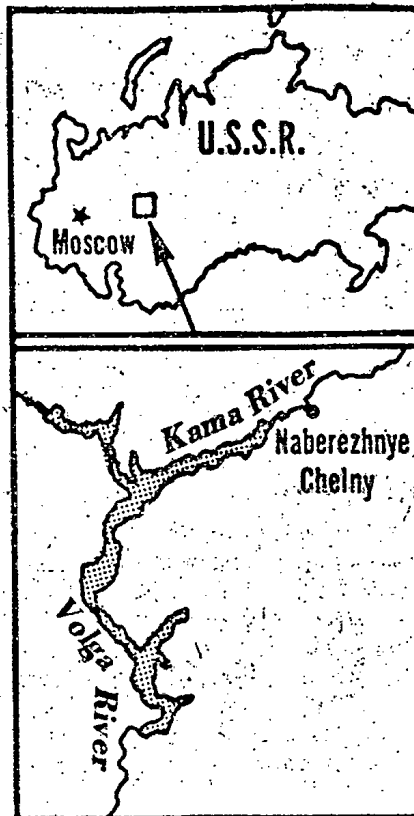
NABEREZHNYE CHELNY, U.S.S.R.—Using more than \$1 billion worth of Western technology and equipment, the Soviet Union is building the world's largest heavy-duty automotive works on the snow-covered Russian steppes.

By any measure, the project is immense. About 130,000 people are here working on 150 buildings spread across a site that is 40 miles square. A completely new city has been erected, and its population grows by thousands every month.

Some time in 1976, it is hoped, the first truck will come off the assembly line. At full capacity the plant will turn out 150,000 trucks and 250,000 diesel engines a year. In other words, in this single project the Soviet Union will add about 25 per cent to its current annual production of heavy transport—a major boost to the economy.

The Soviets call the project KamAZ, after the Russian words for Kama River Automotive Factory, and the name has become synonymous here with grand—some would say grandiose—planning in the modern age. Perhaps more important, KamAZ is the most elaborate example to date of post-Cold War cooperation between the Kremlin and Western industry.

"KamAZ—The Billion Dollar Beginning," is how the Chase Manhattan Bank titled a thick book it prepared this year for prospective Western contractors. The bank is financing \$86.4 million of the plant, a substantial investment in the prospects for expanded trade with the Soviets.



By Joseph Mastrangelo—The Washington Post.

many foreign interests have made KamAZ even more of a challenge to the Soviets than they apparently realized when work began nearly five years ago. At the start, the vision was simple and appealing: a joining of Soviet needs and manpower with foreign skills. But trouble soon came. The Soviets and their Western clients disagreed about design,

tems are not in place by the end of the month.

The delays may prove costly to the Soviets, and they have already been embarrassing.

Western visitors to KamAZ, mostly government officials and politicians like Sen. Walter Mondale (D-Minn), who was recently here, get a tightly controlled tour and a cautiously upbeat appraisal of the situation from Lev Borisovich Vasilyev, deputy minister of the automobile industry, who is KamAZ's director.

Representatives of the contracting firms complain that they cannot get access to the site for the detailed inspections they need to make for installation of machinery. Even the U.S. embassy was twice refused permission to send diplomats to KamAZ in the first four months of this year. Since then two short and largely ceremonial visits have been allowed.

Plans call for as many as 1,000 Western engineers and specialists to live at KamAZ for months at a time. Few, if any, have arrived.

"Tolerance on Both Sides"

WHILE KEEPING outsiders at a distance, the Soviets make no secret of their own concern over the problems. Long articles in the industrial press cite specific shortcomings in construction and productivity. One recent article told of an incident in which equipment operators were idle for 24 shifts in a row because no one had given them orders.