



AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

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CIFS 2001 18 May 2001

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Mayor, Krasnoyarsk
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Dear Mayor Pimashkov:

I write to you as Chair of the Committee on the International Freedom of Scientists (CIFS) of the American Physical Society (APS). CIFS monitors the rights of scientists worldwide and advocates on behalf of those requiring assistance. The Committee often makes inquiries to establish facts when concerns are brought to our attention.

Through press reports and news from colleagues, we have become aware of the arrest of a respected colleague, Dr. Valentin Danilov, who heads the Thermo-Physics Centre at Krasnoyarsk State Technical University. Allegedly, Dr. Danilov was arrested in February and charged in April for selling state secrets to an unnamed Chinese company. In an attempt to verify these charges and to receive the most up-to-date information surrounding Dr. Danilov's arrest, this Committee wrote to President Putin (see enclosed letter). Additionally, I wish to ask if your offices could verify whether the information CIFS has received is accurate (again, see enclosed) and to inform us of the status of the charges against Dr. Danilov.

The last reliable report we received was that Dr. Danilov had been formally charged with high treason and fraud. We also understand that Dr. Danilov suffers from hypertension and that his health is currently suffering.

On behalf of the Committee and the APS, I thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Daniel C. Mattis
Chair

Enclosure