

iFlash Traffic 01 February 2012

Joint Stock Company Special Information Service (JSC SinS) And the Russian Private Security Industry

Russia's problematic, and frequently corrupt, law enforcement and legal structures created a demand for a private security industry providing services usually delivered by the state. Russian private security companies market these services, including information security services, to both domestic firms and foreign firms establishing a Russian presence. This week, TAIA Global presents background information on the private security industry and specific information on one prominent firm, the Joint Stock Company Special Information Service (JCS SinS), offering a range of services including investigation of information security incidents.

The Russian Private Security Industry

The Russian private security industry's origins lie in President Yeltsin's 1991 breakup of the Committee on State Security (KGB) after the failed 1991 coup attempt. The KGB's First Chief Directorate became Russia's new external intelligence service, the Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR). The communication's security and signal intelligence components largely moved to the Federal Agency for Government Communications and Information (FAPSI) while the Ninth Directorate responsible for leadership security became the Federal Security Organization (FSO). The KGB's internal security functions migrated, after several name changes, to the now dominant Federal Security Service (FSB). The KGB border guards became the Federal Border Service (FBS).¹

The chaotic situation prevailing in early 1990s Russia left the emerging business sector uncertain of where to turn for security services formerly provided by the state. The KGB's breakup also left numerous security personnel unemployed and looking to market their skills. The growing demand for security services and supply of security personnel resulted in the quick passage of Russian Federal Law N 2487-I *On Private Detective and Security Activity in the Russian Federation* in March 1992². The law has been amended numerous times since 1992 and still covers Russia's private security industry.

The law defines the private security industry's permitted activities and services, licensing requirements, and government oversight. Broadly stated, the law permits a range of business security services TAIA Global would describe as "aggressive" due diligence. This includes research on individuals and businesses to assess their solvency. Private

¹ The narrative is abbreviated since there were several minor re-organizations and name changes from late 1991 until the situation stabilized in 1993. For a detailed discussion of this period see Amy Knight's *Spies Without Cloaks: The KGB's Successors* and Yevgenia Albat's *KGB State: Within a State*.

² Закон РФ от 11 марта 1992 г. N 2487-I "О частной детективной и охранной деятельности в Российской Федерации" (с изменениями и дополнениями) in Cyrillic for reader reference.

security firms can also develop information to support a criminal case and assist in collecting debts. Numerous Russian press articles over the years show that debt collection is often done with great vigor.

The law also allows private security firms to provide protection services for individuals and firms. Protection services include designing and running facilities, a service that led firms to quickly expand into the information security market. Individual security services include bodyguard protection and private security personnel are permitted to carry firearms and use force to protect life and property.

Private security firms and individual are licensed by the Russian Interior Ministry (MVD). Individuals must present information showing they have formal education in legal affairs, vocational training as a private detective, or three years experience in state investigative or operational units. As a result, most professional staff are former employees of either Russian security services or military special units. Some Russian businesses include private security subsidiaries providing security for the firm. Private security firms must be founded and run by Russian nationals. Foreign ownership is prohibited.



МВД РОССИИ
ГЛАВНОЕ УПРАВЛЕНИЕ ВНУТРЕННИХ
ДЕЛ ПО ГОРОДУ МОСКВЕ
ЛИЦЕНЗИЯ

№ 4032

от 30 января 2004 г.

на негосударственную (частную) охранную деятельность

Настоящая лицензия предоставлена:

**Общество с ограниченной ответственностью Частное охранное
предприятие "Альфа-Информ"**

(полное наименование юридического лица с указанием организационно-правовой формы)

ООО ЧОП "Альфа-Информ"

(сокращенное наименование юридического лица)

ООО ЧОП "Альфа-Информ"

(фирменное наименование юридического лица)

ОГРН - 1047796024902

ИНН - 7725502762

Место нахождения:

115114, Г. МОСКВА, ДЕРБЕНЕВСКАЯ НАБ., Д. 11

Места осуществления лицензируемого вида деятельности*

Настоящая лицензия предоставлена на срок до 30 января 2008 г.

на основании решения лицензирующего органа от 30 января 2004 г.

№ 4032

Действие настоящей лицензии продлено до 30 января 2014 г.

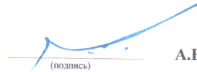
на основании решения лицензирующего органа от 18 декабря 2008 г.

№ 92/3-2275

Заместитель начальника
ГУВД по г. Москве

М.П.




(подпись)

А.В. Мельников

18.12.2008

*Приложение с перечнем адресов мест осуществления лицензируемого вида деятельности является неотъемлемой частью лицензии.

MVD License for ООО Alpha-Inform

The private security industry maintains a non-profit industry organization the Association of International Cooperation Privately Owned Security Enterprises (ANSB) that lobbies for the industry with the Russian government. The ANSB is currently headed by former KGB officer Eugene B Karabanov. The ANSB web site (www.ansb.ru) includes a rudimentary English side describing the ANSB's mission, however, the site primarily targets the Russian market (see appendix A for full membership).



ANSB at 81/55 Bakuninskaya Ulitsa (ул. Бакунинская) in Northeast Moscow

Private security firms tout their links to the Russian security services depicting their firms as trusted insiders with valuable access. Web sites prominently display MVD or FSB certificates of appreciation for projects done by the firm. However, Russian press has published numerous stories detailing questionable and possibly criminal actions by private security companies (see box).

John Helmer and OOO Alpha-Inform

In November 2011, the Moscow Times covered actions taken by OOO Alpha-Inform to harass Australian-American journalist John Helmer in retaliation for critical stories on Oleg Deripaska's RusAl aluminum company that could adversely affect RusAl's pending initial public offering (IPO). According to the Moscow Times, three men with forged FSB documents attempted to enter his office in December 2009. When he refused entry, they waited outside to intercept him when he left. Mr. Helmer called the police who detained the men. Their release was subsequently obtained by lawyers from OOO Alpha-Inform. Mr. Helmer had also experienced visa problems with Russian officials characterizing Mr. Helmer as "writing bad" about Russia. The timing and context of Mr. Helmer's problems are consistent with collusion between the government and OOO Alpha-Inform to deliver Mr. Helmer a message.

Joint Stock Company Special Information Service (JSC SinS)

JSC Sins is one of the first “full service” private security companies. According to the firms published history (www.sis-inform.ru), JSC SinS was founded in 1993 by a consortium of public and private firms including the Moscow Telephone System (MGTS), Icarus-Invest Inc, and the Russian National Economic Security Service LLC. The firm was originally located at a MGTS facility. The ownership changed over the years until consolidating under OAO MGTS, now part of JSC Sistema³, and CJSC Russian National Economic Security Service. CJSC Russian National Economic Security Service is a “business consulting” firm founded by former KGB Director Leonid Shebarshin.⁴ JSC SinS was founded by former KGB officer Sergey Minaev.

JSC SinS is now part of a group of security companies—OOO Special Information Service--headed by Mr. Minaev. The group structure is shown below. The current head of JSC SinS is Vitaly Merlulenko. According to the company web site, the majority of the 1100 staff has experience in either the FSO, the FSB, the MVD, or Armed Forces special units. Several senior company personnel list their expertise in information security. Russian social media postings for junior staff also show information security expertise.

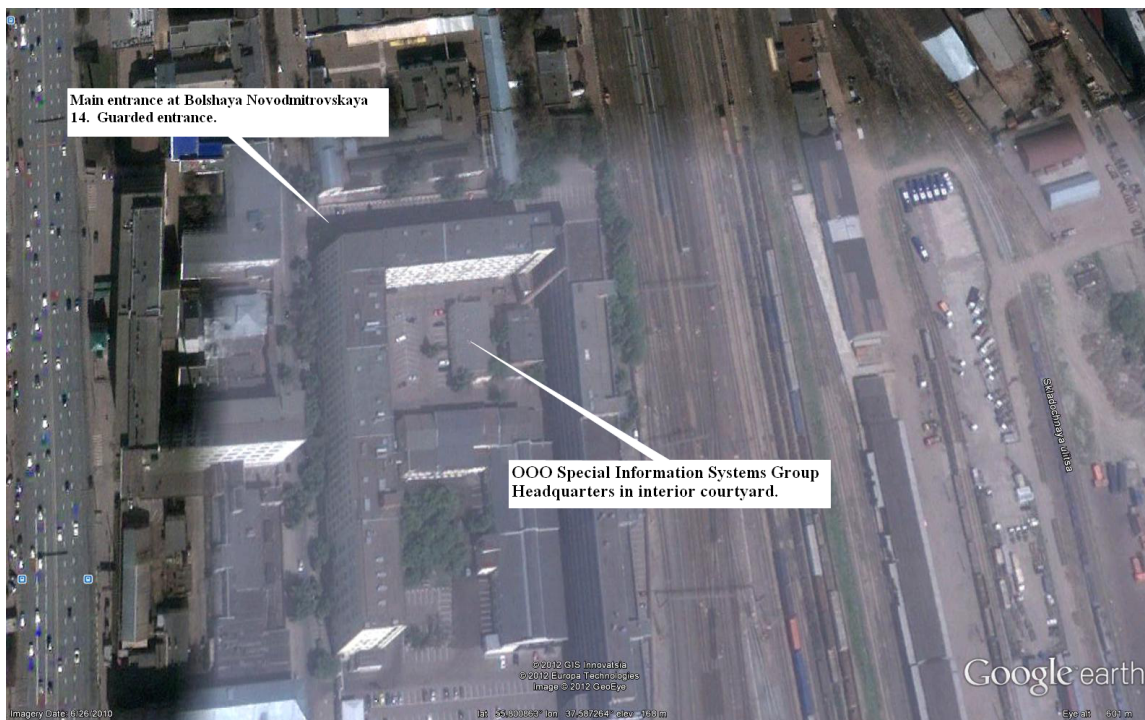
Component	Function
Management Company Ltd Special Information Service	Group Management
JSC Special Information Service	Independent analysis of business risk
LTD protection Control Guard (Sins-Tech)	Design, install, and maintain technical security systems.
Group of Security Companies Sins-Kostroma	Group of companies providing security services in Kostromo city and region.
Ltd. Security Company Sins-Kostroma	
Ltd. Private Security Sins-Kostroma	
Ltd. Security Organization Sins-Kostroma	
OOO Integration of Security Systems (formerly OOO Media Technology)	Installation and maintenance of integrated security systems for facilities working with state secret information (FSB licenses)

³ JSC Sistema is a high-tech conglomerate with holdings including OAO MGTS and critical Russian defense industry components. JSC Sistema started during the 1990s with privatized assets formerly owned by Moscow City government. The current Chairman of the Board Valdimir Evtushenkov went from the position of Mayor Luzhkov’s science advisor to Russian oligarch. Mr. Evtushenkov has always maintained cordial relations with Prime Minister Putin and serves on several boards and committees.

⁴ Leonid Shebarshin headed the KGB First Chief Directorate from 1989 until the August 1991 coup attempt. Shebarshin was appointed KGB Director after Vladimir Kryuchkov’s arrest; however, he was quickly replaced by Vadim Bakatin. CJSC Russian National Security Service is Mr. Shebarshin’s first private sector initiative.

The parent company move into the international market is interesting. According to the company web site (www.cy-sis.com), the company established a managing company for all overseas projects due to business growth in the Middle East and North Africa. Security Integrated Services SIS Ltd provides information research, technical security systems, corporate security, and due diligence. The company lists offices in Moscow at OOO SinS Group Headquarters and Cyprus. Florida State business information shows Mr. Mineav also registered a company International Investigation and Consulting Services in Miami in 2007. The Miami company failed to file the required annual report in 2008 and is now listed as inactive.

TAIA Global found no additional information on OOO SinS international operations beyond that presented on the web site. Given the companies close relationship with the security services, TAIA Global is concerned that OOO SinS is providing cover facilities for the security services.



OOO Special Information Systems Group Headquarters – Google Earth⁵

JSC Sins maintains a web site focused on business and information security (www.fact.ru). The site includes links to information on cyber crime, computer viruses,

⁵ The address and courtyard location are from the contact information on the company web site. TAIA Global confirms contact information by plotting the same address in Yandex Maps and Google Maps using the address in Cyrillic. TAIA Global maintains a database of facilities in Google Earth.

computer scams, and other information security subjects. The site also includes articles written by company information security experts such as Alexander Ignatenko. One article details a JSC SinS investigation into a company IT department after a computer leak of vital company information. Mr. Ignatenko detailed the steps taken to identify the company insider responsible. In sum, JSC SinS, and company partners, will design, install, and run your company's information security structure and then investigate when something goes wrong.



JSC Special Information Service – Google Earth

The company web site provides a generic client list that includes foreign banks and financial companies (below).

CLIENTS

To date, regular customers of the Group of companies "Sins" are:







- Russian state organization;
- Russian and foreign business organizations;
- major enterprises in the oil and gas, metallurgical, machine-building companies of Russia;
- Russian and foreign banks and financial companies;
- offices;
- Russian and foreign legal and law firms;
- the largest Russian and international information and consulting company;
- investment companies;
- insurance companies;
- the food industry;
- many other business organizations.

Appendix A

Association NSB Membership






Company names are provided in listed Cyrillic and Google translation. Cyrillic names are necessary for those wishing to conduct research on individual firms.

Moscow Region		
Logo	Company Name	Contact
	ООО Инженерная защита (Ltd. Engineering Protection)	504-09-38-т/ф
	ООО АСТ ЩИТ 21 апреля 1992г. (AST Ltd SHIELD April 21 1992)	290-62-00 (499) 198-55-25 (499) 198-55-26 ф. 792-97-50
	ООО Ай Ти Безопасность (Ltd. Hai Tu Security)	737-60-37 (499) 154-25-14
	ООО Каргобезопасность (Ltd. Kargobezопасnost)	737-60-37 (499) 154-25-14
	ООО Сервис Плюс (Service Plus LLC)	589-57-43-т. Факса нет 8 (905) 582-18-77 моб. Розанова
	Объединение структур безопасности ОСКОРДЪ (Combining security structures OSKORD)	795-08-52 – деж. 795-08-21 795-08-22 – ф. А.С. 911-10-41 – прям. А.С.

	ООО Гэлери оф Дистенейшнс (Ltd. Geleri office Disteneyshns)	739-54-44-с. 688-82-62-ф.
	ООО ЧОП Агентство безопасности АЛЬФА-95 (PSA Security Agency LLC ALPHA-95)	690-02-93- деж. 690-27-01 – ф.
	ООО ЧОП Стар-Секьюрити (PSE Ltd. Star-Security)	780-58-08, доп.1112 780-58-18-ф. 780-58-08-бух.
	ООО Охранное агентство Торнадо-М (Security Agency Ltd. Tornado-M)	755-26-10 673-55-18 223-40-85-ф.
	ЗАО АНСБ Учредитель (Company founder ANSF)	265-13-90 –приемн. 265-22-44 – т/ф. 265-17-90 –прям.
	ООО Многопрофильный комплекс УНИВЕРСАЛ (Ltd. Multi Complex Universal)	354-12-61 – т/ф
	Коллегия адвокатов Профессионал (The Professional Bar Association)	632-47-49-секр./факс
	ООО ЧОП АЖАН (PGC LLC AZHAN)	780-45-37 780-61-58-ф.

	ООО ЧОП Алиандр НСБ (PGC LLC Aliandr NRC)	234-70-05
	ООО ЧОП Русбизнесбезопасность-3 (PGC LLC-3 Rusbiznesbezopasnost)	633-15-50
	Группа компаний Интегрированная безопасность (Integrated Security Group of Companies)	346-92-45-ф
	ООО Охранно-сыскная фирма МОСКОВСКИЙ АМУЛЕТ (Company Intrusion detective firm MOSCOW AMULET)	228-48-12-т/ф 181-53-48-деж.
	ЗАО ЧОП Кондор – Охрана (Condor Company PSC – Security)	723-21-27 – моб. 453-03-81 – секр. 456-52-44
	ОАО Специализированная информационная компания (СПЕЦИНФОРКОМ) (Of Specialized Information Company (SPETSINFORKOM))	(499) 158-99-03 (499) 158-04-32 (499) 158-98-31 - ф.
	Группа компаний Специальная Информационная Служба – СИНС (Special Group of Companies Information Service – Sins)	400-11-01-приемн. 499-908-50-60 – т. 499-908-83-92 – ф. 499-909-36-59 – Синс-Москва




	<p>Холдинг коммерческой безопасности АЛЬТЕРНАТИВА-М (Holding commercial security ALTERNATIVE-M)</p>	<p>676-93-79</p>
 ИНЮРКОН	<p>Закрытое акционерное общество Транснациональная финансово-промышленная информационная корпорация ИНЮРКОН (Closed Joint Stock Company transnational financial and industrial information corporation INYURKON)</p>	<p>796-44-57</p>
	<p>Индивидуальный предприниматель (ИП) Расходчиков А.И. (An individual entrepreneur (FE) Rashodchikov AI)</p>	<p>265-16-63 265-14-80-ф.</p>
	<p>ЗАО ЧОП Картеc – Охрана Декабрь 1993г. (JSC PSE Kartes – Security December 1993.)</p>	<p>995-64-81 – моб. 453-03-81 – секр. 453-92-65 ф.</p>
	<p>ООО ВПК-Безопасность (MIC-Security Ltd.)</p>	<p>(499) 195-98-44-прямой (499) 158-73-41-приемная</p>
	<p>ООО ЧОП Алиандр Секьюрити (PSA SECURITY LTD Aliandr)</p>	<p>782-88-77 – т/ф 782-88-78 522-99-27-дом.</p>

	ЗАО РОСОМАХА (Company Wolverine)	785-51-21 –т/ф.
	ООО Охранное предприятие ЧОП ВИТЕС-БАК (Security Company Ltd.-CHOP VITES WAC)	617-15-98
	ЗАО ЧОП Прогресс и созидание (Company PSC progress and creativity)	988-48-68-ф. 768-30-91- прямой
	ООО Легион (Ltd. Legion)	589-39-33-ф. 544-45-37-тел.
	Ассоциация содействия детективной и охранной деятельности СВАРОГ (Association for the detective and security activity SVAROG)	698-13-43 – ф. 698-13-41 – т. 698-59-98-ф
	ООО ЧОП РЕДУТЬ (PGC LLC Redoubt)	8(495) 617-67-93
	Компания CompuTel (The company CompuTel)	115114, Москва, Кожевнический пр-д, д.4, стр. 3 Тел. (495) 640-3010, факс (495) 640-30-11 Сайт: www.computel.ru E-mail: info@computel.ru

Russian Regional Members			
Logo	Region	Company Name	Contact

	Архангельск	ООО ЧОП Крепость (PGC LLC Fortress)	(8182) 44-65-56
	Астрахань	ООО ЧОО Астраханское казачество (Ltd. Astrakhan Cossacks ORR)	тф (8512) 22-94-384
	Владивосток	ООО ОА Предприятие Комплексной Безопасности СКАТ (OA Enterprise Ltd Integrated Security SCAT)	(4232) 73-64-42, 52-11-57, 52-11-59, 21-95-59
	Владикавказ	Автономная некоммерческая организация Партнерство НСБ (Autonomous non-profit organization Partnership for NRC)	(8672) 53-61-90-ф. 54-83-65
	Казань	ООО ЧОП Защита и надежность (PGC LLC Protection and Reliability)	(843) 561-25-08, 561-40-10.
	Калуга	ООО ЧОП Ягуар (PSE Ltd. Jaguar)	(4842) 57-06-28 8-910-918-70-81 моб. Факса нет - по почте
	Краснодар	ООО ЧОП ВАРЯГ (PGC LLC VARYAG)	(861) 211-50-19

	Обнинск, Калужская область.	ООО Охранное предприятие БАСТИОН (Security Company Ltd Bastion)	8-903-811-43-56-м. 8-48439-416-38- секр. 8-48439-416-38-ф.
	Орел	ООО Монолит (Monolith LLC)	(4862)63-05-82, (4862)63-05-61
	Оренбург	Ассоциация Безопасности Цезарь (Security Association of Caesar)	(3532) 37-33-32- тел. 37-33-25-ф
	Петрозаводск	ООО ЧОП Охрана + (CHOP + Security Ltd)	(8142) 76-56-12 – т/ ф 8-921-726-08-87 8-921-228-03-10
	Ростов-на-Дону	ООО Охранное объединение Группа компаний ГРАНТ (Guard Association Ltd Group of Companies GRANT)	(863) 291-80-70 (71, 72)
	Санкт- Петербург	Региональное некоммерческое партнерство Международное сотрудничество НСБ, (Партнерство НСБ) (Regional Non-Profit Partnership International Cooperation NRC (NRC Partnership))	8-812-373-60-50 8-812-371-90-50
	Ульяновск	ООО Специализированное Бюро охраны ЩИТ (Ltd. Specialist Bureau of SHIELD)	(842-2) 30-03-92 30-03-97 30-04-67-ф.

	Уфа	ООО ЧОП Контур безопасности – 1 (Contour Safety Private Security Company – 1)	(347)237-06-48 237-06-48 зам. 256-44-05 255-96-25-ф.
	Хабаровск	ООО ЧОП Ирбис (PSE Irbis Ltd.)	(4212) 78-98-49 - тел./факс.
	Ярославль	Ассоциация Гвардия-Профи (Guard Association of Pro-)	(4852) 93-99-51-т. 73-75-35-ф.

Association Russian Federation Partners		
City	Company Name	Company Name
Barnaul	Холдинг Ирокез	Iroquois Holding
Vladivostok	Региональная общественная организация телохранителей НАСТ-Приморье хранное агенство Дельта-ДВ	Regional public organization of bodyguards NAST-store Primorye Agency Delta LW
Yekaterinburg	Ассоциация НСБ Уральская Защита	Association NRC Ural Protection
Ivanovo	Охранно-детективное объединение Скип	Intrusion Detective Skip association
Izhevsk	ЗАО ОСП-Сервис	ICAP-Service Company
Irkutsk	Областная общественная организация воинов-интернационалистов и участников боевых действий	Regional public organization of soldiers-internationalists and combatants
Kazan	ООО ЧОП Оскордь-Булгар	PGC LLC-Bulgar Oskord
Kemerovo	ЧОП СКЛОН	PSA SLOPE
Komsomolsk-on-Amur	Группа компаний безопасности Секьюрити-Сервис	Security Group of Companies Sekyuriti Service

Kostroma	ООО Охранная фирма Беркут	Company security company Berkut
Krasnoyarsk	Охранно-сыскное объединение Сибирская защита	Intrusion detective association Siberian protection
Lipetsk	ЗАО ЧОП Щит-Л	ZAO CHOP-R Shield
Magadan	ООО ОА Рейнджер	Ltd. OA Ranger
Novosibirsk	ДА Империял-Новосибирск	YES Imperial Novosibirsk
Omsk	ООО Центр-Розыск	Tracing Center, LLC
Perm	ООО ЧОП Пермская служба безопасности	PGC LLC Perm security service
Saratov	Ассоциация экономической безопасности	The Association of Economic Security
Stavropol	Охранное агентство Грант-Ставрополь	Security agency grant-Stavropol
Tver	Ассоциация охранных предприятий Единство	Association of Security Companies Unity
Togliatti	ООО ЧОП Кокс	PGC LLC Cox
Tyumen	Союз офицеров запаса органов государственной безопасности Чекист	Union of Reserve Officers of the State Security Chekist
Khabarovsk	ЧОА СКАТ	Choa SCAT
Chelyabinsk	Агентство экономической безопасности и управления рисками, ООО ЧОП Максимум-плюс	Agency of Economic Security and Risk Management, LLC Maximum-CHOP plus
Chita	Региональная Ассоциация частных и детективных предприятий Спрут	Regional Association of Private Detective and businesses Octopus

Управление ФСБ России по г.Москве и Московской области (кабинетному лицензирующему органу)	
ЛИЦЕНЗИЯ	
ГТ № 0049100	
Регистрационный номер 20088	от 30 - сентября 20 11 г.
На осуществление работ, связанных с использованием сведений, составляющих государственную тайну	
Степень секретности разрешенных к использованию сведений	секретно
Виды работ (мероприятий, услуг)	см. на обороте
Лицензия предоставлена Обществу с ограниченной ответственностью «Интеграция систем безопасности» (ООО «ИСБ»), ИНН 7715823943	
Место нахождения 127576, г.Москва, ул.Илимская, д.3Г	
Место осуществления лицензируемого вида деятельности 125130, г.Москва, ул.Клары Цеткин, д.33, корп.41	
Условия осуществления данного вида деятельности соблюдение требований законодательных и иных нормативных актов Российской Федерации по обеспечению защиты сведений, составляющих государственную тайну	
Срок действия лицензии до 05 - марта 20 16 г.	Подпись А.И.Бережной
Лицензия продлена до 20 г.	Подпись
Сведения о регистрации лицензии на территории субъектов Российской Федерации	
Подпись	Подпись

Appendix C
**FSB Certificate of Appreciation for Security Assistance for the 2001 International
Olympic Committee Meeting in Moscow**

