Letter to Freelancers

Dear Freelance Copyediting Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in freelance assignments for our publishing house. Attached is our copyediting test. This test provides ample opportunity to demonstrate your skills; of particular importance are neatness, consistency, and the ability to spell and write correct English. You may eliminate or rephrase awkward or grammatically incorrect material, but please do not retype any part of it.

The copyediting test is a Microsoft Word document. You may take the test either by marking hard copy using copyediting marks with a colored pencil or pen (please do not use a pen with black ink) or by using Word's Review tools: Track Changes and Comment.

Like many other book publishers, our publishing house follows *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th edition, in regard to the use of editing marks as well as matters of capitalization, punctuation, hyphenation, and style. It is best to be familiar with the manual before starting the tests.

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Best regards,

Bruce D. Boss,
Assistant Freelance Services Coordinator

EDITING TEST FOR PUBLISHING HOUSE

Name: Tisha Savannah

SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The disagreement between China and the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (also known as "Soviet Union," or "USSR"), which was made public in the early 1960s, has been given various names: polycentrism, Communist orthodoxy vs. Communist revisionism, the "new Cold War," Mr. Mao vs. Mr. Khrushchev, and so on.[1*] Regardless of its title, for citizens of the West the Sino-Soviet clash has been mainly characterized by the element of surprise and by a smug feeling of satisfaction. To that mythical being, "the average man," the clash came as a totally unexpected development in world affairs. Conditioned by the bi-polar nature of the Cold War after 1945, the average man viewed the communist world as a solid monolithic block. This view has suddenly been shattered, and because of the resulting surprise and shock, many people even today have been unable to adjust their thinking to the realities of Sino-Soviet relations. Consequently, they tend to regard the dispute as a minor family squabble at best, and at worst as a diabolic communist plot to lull the West into a false sense of security and confidence. For students of Soviet and Chinese affairs the dispute also came as a surprise. For them, the element of surprise was not that disagreements existed between the Russians and Chinese, but that these disagreements had been allowed to develop so rapidly and so bitterly. In other words, the real surprise lies in the timing of the conflict and the ugly vehemence with which the dispute was publicly aired by both sides. Even in the late fifties, few experts would have predicted that the economically backward Chinese, beset by internal problems and dependent on the aid and goodwill of the USSR, would, in the 1960s, break with their Russian comrades and challenge Moscow for the leadership of the World Communist Movement. The prediction which could have been made was that, due to the historic relationship between them, a Chinese-Soviet dispute would develop in time. It is the purpose of this chapter to indicate some of the

*NYTimes Sunday Magazine. November 1963.

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reasons why this prediction could be made. This will be done by examining the present Sino-Soviet dispute from the historical perspective of relations between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of China at various periods in their existences. Emphasis will be placed primarily on the political-and-power relations of the two communist parties prior to 1956.

At first glance, the logical starting point for a history of Sino-Soviet relations is the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. However, immediate doubts begin to creep in as to whether or not 1719 is really a suitable date from which to develop a clear perspective of the dispute. Finding the true beginning of any historical event is an agonizing problem which different people will solve in different ways. The People's Republic of China and the USSR have many serious differences transcending their own existence as governments and even preceding the existence of Communism as an economic and political philosophy.

By stretching the historian's preprogative, the claim could be made that Sino-Soviet troubles first originated in 1237 and 1240 when the Mongol Armies of Batu Khan first overran the lands of Kievan Russian and subjugated the Russian people to two hundred years of barbaric overlordship. For Russia, these were the "Dark Ages," characterized by stagnation and backwardness, while the rest of Europe was progressing from the Middle Ages to the reawakening of the Renaissance. Being ruled for two centuries by Asian hordes had left a deep subconscious scar on the Russian mind—a scar which has done nothing to increase trust or friendship for the peoples of the Far East. It has even been said that the Soviet Union's firm control of its satellite nation in Outer Mongolia was Russia's final revenge against Genghis Khan's Empire as well as an insurance policy that a Tartar yoke will never again burden the back of Russia.

More within the range of plausibility, one could say that Sino-Soviet problems really began in 1689 when Russia under Peter the Great signed their first agreement with the Chinese Empire. This Treaty of Nerchinsk was a diplomatic victory for China, in that it officially limited Russian Imperial expansion in the areas of the Amur Valley and the Maritime Provinces of Siberia, where the interests of the two states has already collided. As early as 1689, understanding between the Russians and

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Chinese was difficult. Neither of the delegations at Nerchinsk could speak or read the other's language. This first treaty between China and a European nation was consequently negotiated and interpreted by the famous Jesuit priest, Peirre Fauchet, stationed at the court of the K'ang-hsi Emperor in Peking, and the language of the treaty was Latin.[2]

By the nineteenth century, Russia's position vis-à-vis China had undergone a fundamental change. Past relations had been between a relatively weak Russia and a strong China. But Russia had become a powerful Eurasian Empire facing a backward China; China torn by internal problems, foreign exploitation, and a crumbling prestige. The Ch'ing or Manchu Dynasty was gradually losing its "Mandate of Heaven" to rule. The policies adopted by the Russian government towards this weakened China had in turn left a scar on the Chinese mind. The fact that China became a communist nation in 1946 did not mean that the Chinese had automatically forgotten how Imperial Russia joined the western powers to exploit the sagging fortunes of the Manchu Government. Russia always made certain that it got a juicy slice of the Chinese mele being carved by the imperialist states.

In 1860, the climax of the Opium Wars was reached when British and French forces occupied Peiping, burned the magnificent Summer Palace, and forced the Imperial Court to flee to Jehol. Russia's shrewd Far Eastern Diplomat, Nicholas Ignat'ev, stepped in to propose the "good offices" of Russia to mediate the differences among China and the European powers. The Peking Convention resulted in China's second round of major concessions to the West.[3] Ignat'ev's role as the "honest broker" did a great deal for Britain and France, but the Chinese could see little benefit.[4] Then, "for services rendered" the Russian Government presented China with its bill—a Russian Treaty of Peking, by the terms of which China had to give Russia the trans- Ussuri maritime lands and

[2] Russko-Kitaiskio otnosheniia, 1689-1916, ofitsial'nie dokumenti, Moskow, 1958, p.9-11.
[3] Callis, Helmut G., 1959. *China, Confucian and Communist*. New York: Henry Holt & Co., Inc.
[4] Tse-Tung, Mao. 1964. "On the Tactics of Fighting Japanese Imperialism," *Selected Works, Vol. 1*. 152. New York.

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acknowledge Russia's possession of the Amur Valley. The Treaty of Nerchinsk having been in force for nearly 170 years, was finally negated. Russia's position in eastern Siberia was secure and the nation's pride in its accomplishment can be judged by the name given to their great port city founded near the Manchurian-Korean border—Vladivostok, "power in the East."

In order to "suppress local revolts and pacify the region," the Ili Valley, deep in the heart of Chinese Turkestan, was occupied by Russian forces in 1878. The Russians reluctantly agreed to withdraw from the region in 1881, but only after the Chinese Government had refused to accept this new loss of territory, threatened war, and agreed to pay Russia a million rubles for the privilege of regaining control of its own land. In spite of the indemnity payment, this was one of the rare occasions in the nineteenth century when China stood up to a European power and refused to concede to its demands.

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