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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Suspect Arrested in Killing of Journalist

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A businessman was arrested Wednesday on suspicion of ordering the fatal beating of an investigative reporter.

Igor Domnikov, a journalist with opposition newspaper Novaya Gazeta, was repeatedly hit in the head with a hammer outside his apartment building in Moscow in May 2000. He died in a hospital two months later.

A Moscow court ordered Pavel Sopot formally arrested Wednesday on charges of ordering the attack. Sopot, who had already been detained by the police, has rejected the accusations.

Several other men have already been convicted and sentenced in the attack.

Novaya Gazeta said in a statement that it believes that Sopot was an intermediary rather than the mastermind of the attack on Domnikov and urged investigators to continue the probe.

(AP)

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