



Pekka Kallioniemi @P_Kallioniemi

Jul 24 · 22 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1683403139527892992](#)

In today's #vatniksoup I'll introduce a Bosnian social media personality and nurse, @200_zoka aka Lazo Z. He's best-known for his conspiratorial analysis on the war in Syria, and for his pro-Russian takes on the Russo-Ukrainian War.

This soup was a NAFO collaboration.


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.@200_zoka belongs to the "big three" of pro-Russian Twitter analysts/political commentators, the other two being a German tanker bridge attendant @trollstoy88 aka Richard Z, and Austrian IT support guy, @GeromanAT.

The former was introduced here:

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Pekka Kallioniemi 
@P_Kallioniemi · [Follow](#)







In today's #vatniksoup, I'll introduce a social media personality and LARPer, @trollstoy88 AKA Richard Z. He's best-known for acting to be Russian, and for his pro-Russian tweets on the Russo-Ukrainian War.

Most of the research presented here was done by the NAFO Team.

1/22



2:52 PM · Jul 16, 2023 

 8.1K  Reply  Copy link

[Read 490 replies](#)

But this "zuppa del giorno" is just as much about Lazo's catfishing personality as it is about him. For a long time, Lazo used pictures of an young and attractive Russian girl as his profile picture and in his tweets. This strategy of using attractive yet fake images to...

3/20



...attract online audiences is called catfishing, and it's been used online since the birth of the Internet. Recent developments in filters and deep fakes has made it easier for people to catfish for donations and attention online.

4/20



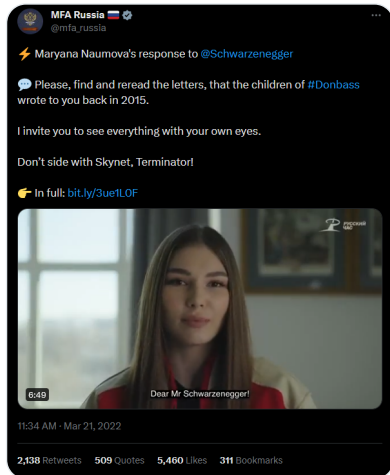
One better-known example if this kind of activity was the 50-year-old Japanese biker dude, who used these filters to make him appear as a young, attractive girl.

5/20



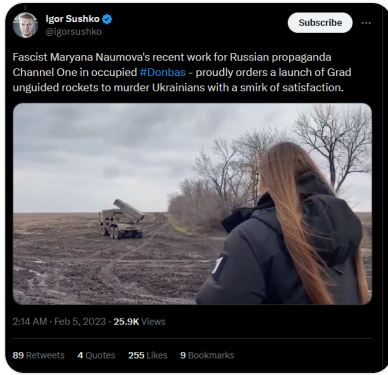
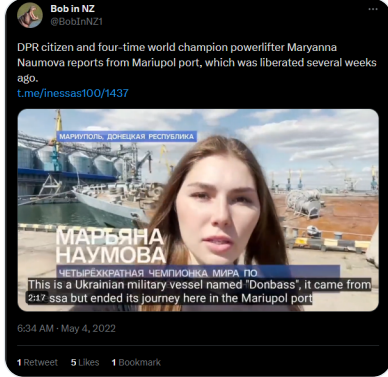
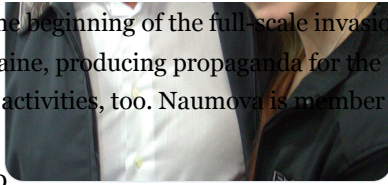
Lazo's fake persona was a Russian powerlifter and propaganda figure called Maryana Naumova. She's been Russia's propaganda sweetheart since 2015, and you might remember her from sending a video greeting to @Schwarzenegger after he appealed Russia to stop their illegal war.

6/20



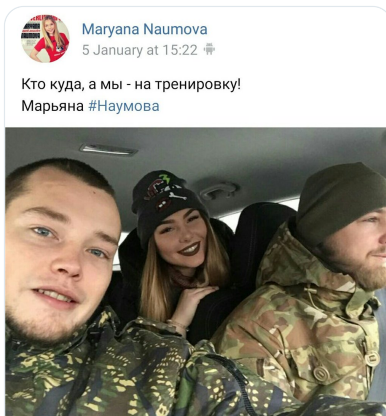
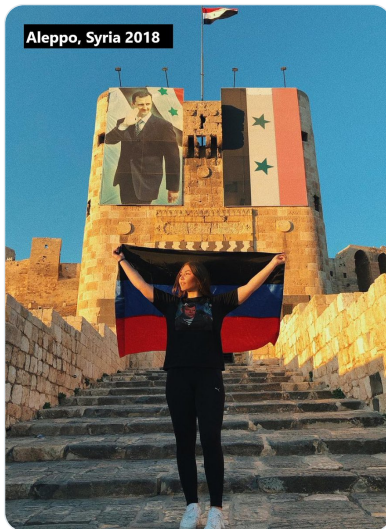
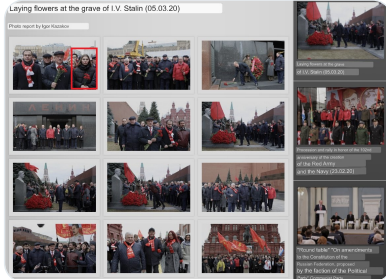
At the beginning of the full-scale invasion, Naumova was traveling around invaded areas in Ukraine, producing propaganda for the Russian masses. She's since participated in actual war activities, too. Naumova is member of Russia's communist party and a Stalin fan girl.

7/20

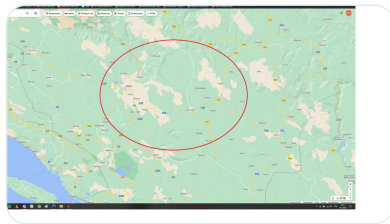


In addition to idolizing Stalin, Maryana has shown her support for war criminals like Slobodan Milosevich, Bashar al-Assad, and Kim Jong Un. As a cherry on top, she's appeared on various occasions together with Russian neo-Nazi and Rusich leader, Aleksei Milchakov.

8/20



It is not known if Ms. Naumova was aware of this questionable honor. Anyway, let's go back to Lazo: his expertise on war comes from his relatively long career in working as a nurse near the Bosnian town of Mostar (even though his Twitter profile says he's in Baranda, Serbia).
9/20



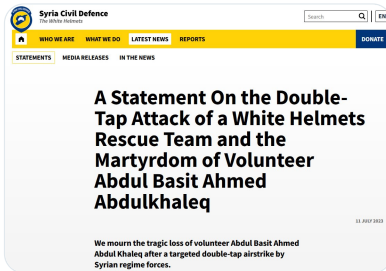
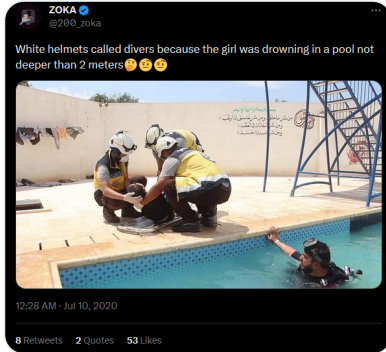
Soon after reaching the ripe age of 18, he started simping online for Syria's al-Assad and Putin, and their war effort in Syria. He painted the NGO group White Helmets, who were responsible in aiding civilians in war zones, as terrorists and paid actors.

10/20



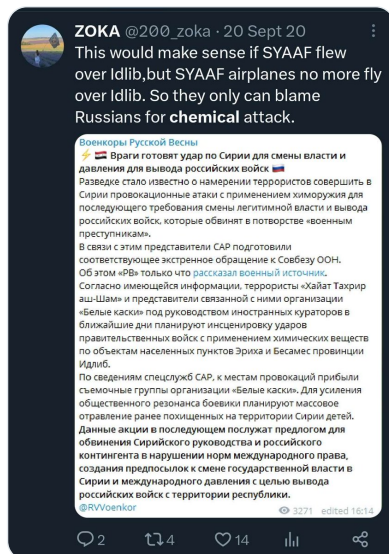
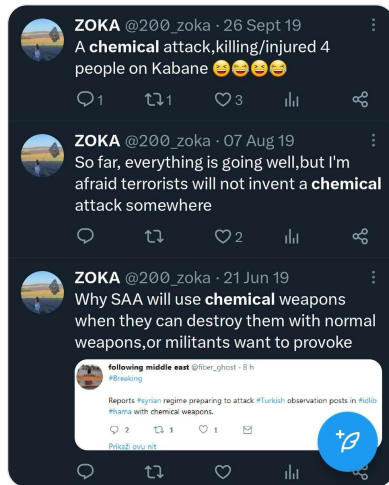
The White Helmets were deliberately targeted by the Russian and al-Assad's troops in so-called "double tap" attacks, and they've been targeted aggressively by pro-Russian and pro-Assad propagandists like @VanessaBeeley.

11/20



Zoka's also denied the use of chemical weapons against civilians by the al-Assad regime - a fact that has been confirmed by several reports by the OPCW.

12/20



His account started growing quickly after Russia launched their full-scale invasion Ukraine in Feb 2022. Most of his posts are videos from the front lines, usually coming from a Russian perspective.

13/20

ZOKA @200_zoka · 44m
What airdefense doing?

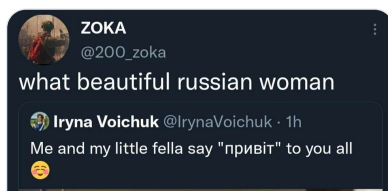
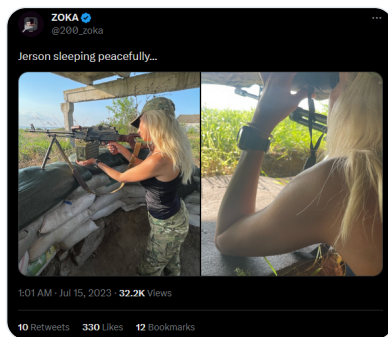
Status-6 @Archer83A... · 47m
#BREAKING: There are reports that Russia's Saki Air Base in Novofedorivka, Crimea, has been hit by the Armed Forces of Ukraine. ...
[Show this thread](#)

46 21 91

Like @trollstoy88, Lazo posts a lot of photos of (and probably dreams about) Russian women visiting or working in the front lines.

In one particularly disgusting incident, he posted a photo of a Ukrainian girl, stating that she's "Russian".

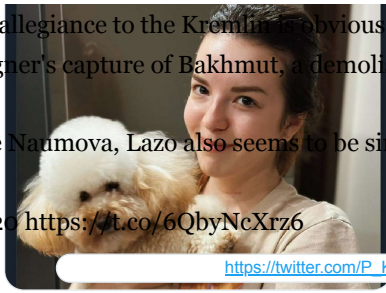
14/20



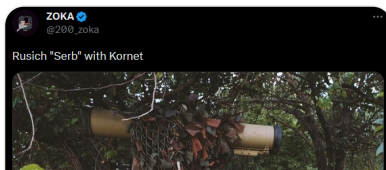
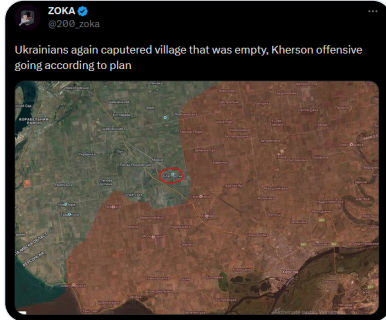
His allegiance to the Kremlin is obvious from his posts, and he for example celebrated Wagner's capture of Bakhmut, a demolished city with only symbolic value.

Like Naumova, Lazo also seems to be simping the Russian neo-Nazi Milchakov:

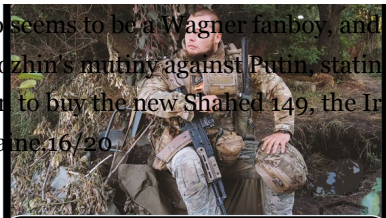
15/20 <https://t.co/6QbyNcXrz6>



https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1589145838869434370



Lazo seems to be a Wagner fanboy, and he was part of the group that was skeptical about Prigozhin's ranting against Putin, stating that he'd "never threatened Putin". He's also urged Putin to buy the new Shahed 149, the Iranian drone used to attack civilian targets in Ukraine. 16/20



ZOKA @200_zoka · Jun 24
Prigo leave Rostov

146 269 2,008 278.9K

ZOKA @200_zoka

During entire time, no one from army fired shot at Wagner, people gave food and other things to Wagner.
During withdrawal people greet Prigozin and Wagner.
Prigozine never threatened Putin.
We should not jump to conclusions.

11:47 PM · Jun 24, 2023 · 64.2K Views

47 Retweets 10 Quotes 555 Likes 6 Bookmarks

ZOKA @200_zoka

Soldiers of Wagner raised flag of Donetsk People's Republic in Bahmut

8:53 PM · May 24, 2023 · 56.9K Views

132 Retweets 4 Quotes 1,063 Likes 12 Bookmarks

ZOKA @200_zoka

Shahed 149, oh Putin buy it

MESHKAT @projectmeshkat · Jul 22

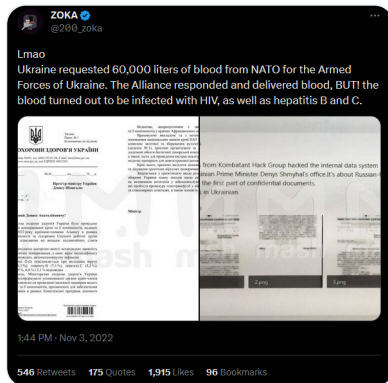
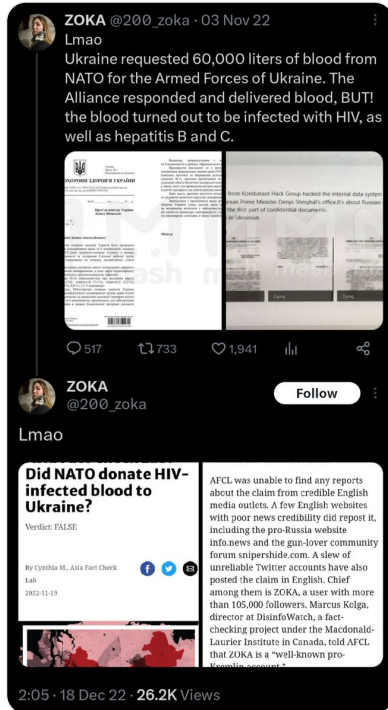
تصاویری جدید از پهباد شاهد ۱۴۹ (نوعی که شاهد اضافه شدن برخی سنسور ها دوربین جنگلنگر و باتون حمل سلاح در زیر بال و تقویت آرایه فرود پهباد هستیم.

Last edited 6:44 PM · Jul 22, 2023 · 34.1K Views

21 Retweets 1 Quote 220 Likes 2 Bookmarks

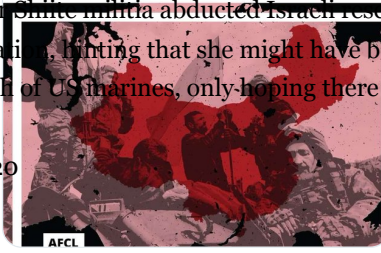
He's also spread a lie about Ukraine requesting blood from NATO, claiming that the blood (that was never requested) was infected with HIV and hepatitis B & C. His claims were later fact-checked, which made Lazo a happy man - he even asked for more articles that mention him.

17/20



After Shiite militia abducted Israeli researcher Elizabeth Tsurkov, Zoka made fun of her situation, hinting that she might have been raped by her captors. He's also celebrated the death of US marines, only hoping there would've been more casualties.

18/20




The New York Times

Israeli Woman Held for Months in Iraq by Shiite Militia Linked to Iran

Elizabeth Tsurkov, an Israeli researcher, was seized in late March by an Iraqi Shiite group shortly after leaving a Baghdad cafe. The office of the Israeli prime minister confirmed she was being held.

Give this article



Elizabeth Tsurkov was abducted in March in Baghdad and has been held for months, the Israeli government said. Elizabeth Tsurkov's family

By Ronen Bergman, Patrick Kingsley, Alissa J. Rubin and Adam Goldman
Reporting from Tel Aviv
July 5, 2023

An Israeli researcher missing for months in Iraq is being held by a Shiite militia, according to a statement from the office of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Elizabeth Tsurkov, 36, a doctoral student at Princeton University, was kidnapped and held by the group Kataib Hezbollah, an Iraqi militia linked to Iran, after leaving a cafe in Baghdad, the Iraqi capital, in late March, according to her family and people with knowledge of her case.

ZOKA @200_zoka

Sad stroy



18:32 · 05 Jul 23 · 4.220 Views

6 Retweets 1 Quote 47 Likes

ZOKA @200_zoka · 3h

Faytuks News @Faytuks · 3h

Israeli-Russian citizen Elizabeth Tsurkov is being held hostage in Iraq by the Shi'ite militia group Kataib Hezbollah, Israel's PM Netanyahu says



Elizabeth Tsurkov @Elizrael

Passionate about human rights. Fellow @NewlinesNet focusing on the Levant. @PUPolitics PhD candidate. Admin @WomenKnowMENA

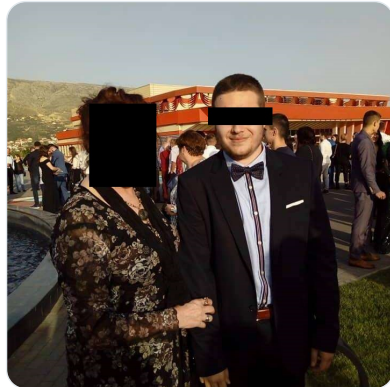
Fieldwork elizabeth-tsurkov.net

Joined December 2008

1505 Following 78,3K Followers

Lazo is a controversial figure - he spreads disinformation benefiting Russia' genocidal war, but at the same time his a thirsty young man and momma's boy who spends a lot of time with his parents. But this doesn't make his message any less damaging, as with...

19/2



... over 175 000 followers he has a huge reach on Twitter. I actually have a hunch that these rather radical ideas and support of totalitarian regimes might come from his father, who celebrated al-Assad's birthday together with Lazo.

20/20



Past soups:

Support my work: <https://t.co/QgUl6jpNNe>



Vatnik Soup

#vatniksoup is a Twitter thread series (and a hashtag!) where I'll introduce pro-Russian actors and propagandists from around the world, be they so-called "independent journalists", politicians, mili...

<https://vatniksoup.com>



Pekka Kallioniemi

Support me in creating daily vatnik soups! All donations will be spent on research and production of vatnik soup or in the creation of web portal (vatniksoup.com)...

<https://buymeacoffee.com/PKallioniemi>

APPENDIX:

Apparently he is a Bosnian Serb:

Uvik_Kontra_ @Ana_33311 · Follow

Replying to @P_Kallioniemi and @200_zoka

He is a Bosnian Serb who lives in Mostar

Ben Persia @B_Persia021 · 27 ožu
Odgovor za korisnike/ce @200_zoka i @PelmeniPusha
You're not fasting?! I thought you're Sl Serbian 😊

ZOKA @200_zoka · 27 ožu
Odgovor za korisnike/ce @B_Persia021 i @PelmeniPusha
I fast some days, not all.

ZOKA @200_zoka
Odgovor korisniku/ci @whitekangaroo_
Dobro si mislio, ali zivim u Mostaru

11:52 AM · Jul 24, 2023

56 Likes · Reply · Copy link

Read 2 replies

...