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LEICESTER MERCURY, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1989

Space aliens have landed on Earth, say Soviets

SCIENTISTS have concluded that giant creatures with tiny heads which emerged from an unidentified flying object and went for a midnight stroll in the Soviet city of Voronezh were aliens, Tass news agency said.

The scientists were called in after frightened residents in the

central Russian city reported that on at least three occasions they had seen a large shining ball hover above a park in the city after dark and then land.

"A hatch opened and one, two or three creatures similar to humans, and a small robot, came out. The aliens were 12 to 13 feet high but had very small heads," Tass quoted witnesses as saying after one such visit.

"They walked near the ball and then disappeared inside. Onlookers were overwhelmed with fear which lasted for several days," it added.

Tass said the landings occurred recently but did not say precisely when. The news agency said scientists had identified the landing site and found traces of aliens "who made a short promenade about the park."

UFOs have a special fascination for Russians and the state press regularly carry reports of unusual sightings.

Authorities set up by a "Commission into Abnormal Phenomena" in February 1984 after a "flying cigar" was seen near Gorky, east of Moscow.

Asked whether the latest report could possibly be a hoax, a Tass spokesman said: "Tass

never jokes. If we start joking we'll stop existing."

Genrikh Silanov, head of the Voronezh Geophysical Laboratory, told Tass that he had identified the landing site "by means of biolocation" and had managed to trace the aliens' footprints.

Soviet reference books describe "biolocation" as an extra-sensory method used to

track objects or people whose trail is invisible to the human eye.

"We found two mysterious pieces of rock which mineral analysis has shown can be found on Earth," said Silanov.

■ Opinion, page 18.