

# 3-eyed alien, robot zapped boy, claims Soviet UFO report

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — A three-eyed alien and a robot landed in the Russian city of Voronezh, zapped a boy with a tube and made him disappear, a Soviet daily reported today, quoting supposed witnesses.

The newspaper, following up on an earlier report by the Soviet news agency Tass, assured skeptics that "something did in fact happen."

The purported landing of a UFO in Voronezh is the latest bizarre tale to appear in the state-run Soviet media under the policy of "glasnost," or openness. The media recently have told of other sightings of unidentified flying objects and space invaders.

TASS, NOT known for its sense of humor, informed the world Monday that scientists had confirmed that an alien spaceship carrying giant people with tiny heads had touched down in Voronezh, a city of more than 800,000 people about 300 miles southeast of Moscow.

As many as three aliens left the spacecraft, described as a large shining ball or disc, and went for a stroll in the park, Tass reported. A Tass duty officer later contacted by telephone stood by the story.

"It is not April Fools' today," he said.

Sovietskaya Kultura was the only major national daily to print anything today about the supposed UFO, indicating that more prestigious papers such as Pravda may have wanted nothing to do with such a topic.

SOVIETSKAYA KULTURA said its coverage was motivated by "the golden rule of journalism: the reader must know everything."

The daily, published by the Communist Party's policy-making Central Committee, quoted witnesses

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as saying the aliens landed on a warm evening on Sept. 27.

At 6:30 p.m., it said, boys playing soccer saw a pink glow in the sky, then spotted a deep red ball about 10 yards in diameter. The ball circled the park, disappeared, then reappeared a few minutes later to hover over the park, it said.

The paper said a crowd rushed to the site, and people clearly saw a hatch open in the lower part of the sphere. Through the opening, it said, people could see a three-eyed alien about 10 feet high, clad in silvery overalls and bronze-colored boots and wearing a disc on his chest.

Sovietskaya Kultura, quoting witnesses, then gave this sequence of events:

**THE UFO LANDED.** Two creatures, one apparently a robot, exited the hatch. A boy started screaming with fear, but when the alien looked at him, with eyes shining, the boy fell silent, unable to move. The onlookers screamed, and the UFO and the creatures disappeared.

About five minutes later, they reappeared. The alien had what appeared to be a gun — a tube about 20 inches long. It pointed the tube at the 16-year-old boy, and the boy disappeared.

The alien went inside the ball, which immediately took off. At the same time, the boy reappeared. He was not identified.

"Of course, it's hard to believe in what happened in the town," Sovietskaya Kultura said in its report from Voronezh. "It's even more difficult to explain."

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THE GATE