

Ten-foot-tall aliens invade Russia — official

By Mary Dejevsky

As if his terrestrial difficulties were not enough, President Gorbachov must contend also with the attentions of aliens from outer space. According to Tass, scientists have established beyond reasonable doubt that a Soviet city was briefly visited by a spaceship crewed by three 10 ft humanoids and a robot.

Tass said scientists had identified the landing site in the city of Voronezh, in the Soviet heartland, and found traces of the aliens, said to resemble large humans with tiny heads. Their craft was described as a shining ball or disc.

Dr Genrikh Silanov, head of the Voronezh Geophysical Laboratory, was quoted by Tass as saying that the scientists had found two pieces of unidentified rock and a depression 20

yards across, with four deeper dents, in a Voronezh park. "At first glance, (the rocks) looked like deep-red sandstone," he said. "However, mineralogical analysis has shown that the substance cannot be found on Earth." He conceded, however, that additional tests were needed.

Voronezh, now an unprepossessing city of a million people, was the last great Second World War front before Stalingrad and was largely destroyed. A centre of the "black-earth" agricultural region and site of an early Soviet nuclear power station, the city is regarded as a barometer of mid-Russian opinion. Contrary to some reports, it produces no greater quantity of vodka than other Soviet cities.

Dr Silanov said the landing site and

path used by the aliens had been verified using the "biolocation" method. For those who sought clarification, Tass described this with as much conviction as it could muster as employing extra-sensory perception.

Although it gave no date for the landing, the Soviet news agency said that accounts by witnesses agreed with the scientific findings. "The route along which the aliens walked as described by the onlookers and the one established scientifically coincided," it said. It reported onlookers as having been "overwhelmed with a fear that lasted for several days".

Contacted in Moscow, a genial Tass editor said that he was happy to stand by the story. "So far as we are concerned this is no joke," he said.



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