

# THEY'RE HEERE!

By JANE FURSE

## Soviets report several sightings of UFOs

**Beam me up, Boris!**  
The Soviet news agency Tass yesterday reported a close encounter of the communist kind — a UFO sighting about 300 miles southeast of Moscow.

"Scientists have confirmed that an unidentified flying object recently landed in a park in the Russian city of Voronezh," the report said.

The official Soviet news service even announced that the scientists "also identified the landing site and found traces of aliens who made a short promenade about the park."

Witnesses described the space creatures as being between nine and 12 feet tall and resembling humans, "but with very small heads."

No indication on whether the space things were capitalists or communists.

The fact that the official Soviet news agency — which has been encouraged recently to become more adventurous — reported a UFO sighting seemed as remarkable as the pin-headed extra-terrestrials themselves.

"It's a definite change," said Michael Luckman, director of the New York Center for UFO Research.

"Ten years ago they used to say UFOs were a capitalist trick or device," he said.

But in a telephone interview yesterday with American reporters, a Tass duty officer stood by the story.

"It is not April Fool's today," he said.

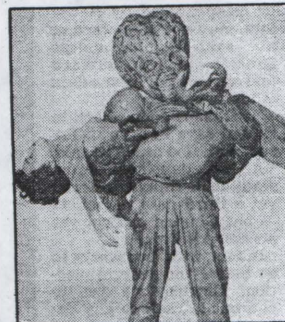
Other examples of glasnostmania abound in other official publications, including sightings of other UFOs, abominable snowman-type creatures, and a tale about a young mystic who goes into a trance and flies about the cosmos.

A rash of mystics and ESP-artists also have invaded Soviet state television.

Even the Soviet military has gotten in on the act.

A major story, published recently in the magazine *Soviet Military Review*, discusses at length the concern over a UFO inadvertently starting a nuclear war between the United States and Soviet Union.

Yesterday's Tass report — believed to be the first published by the news service — resembled a story last summer in the daily newspaper *Socialist Industry*, which reported an encounter by a milkmaid and an alien in Central Russia's Perm region.



**ALIEN NATION:** Can the Soviet Union expect to see an onslaught of alien abductions of young Russian lassies — or an onslaught of campy science-fiction flicks? Stay tuned, comrade — if you dare!



The report in *Socialist Industry* quoted a UFO specialist as saying a 26-foot-wide patch of burned ground near southern Moscow was probably caused by the landing of a UFO.

But in July, Tass disputed the report, saying firefighters believe a haystack simply caught fire and scorched the ground.

were among about 1,000 people arrested in Dresden during demonstrations last week and over the

network, quoting high church sources, said talks about

## Sovi-E.T. story is beginning to crack

### Scientist claims he was misquoted

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — A three-eyed alien with a robot sidekick landed by UFO and made a boy vanish by zapping him with a pistol, a Soviet newspaper reported Tuesday, in a second day of strange tales in the state-run media.

But as the bizarre saga of the space invasion of the city of Voronezh unfolded for a second day, a scientist whose words were used to buttress the first published report voiced doubts and said he was in part misquoted.

"Don't believe all you hear from Tass," Genrikh Silanov, head of the Voronezh Geophysical Laboratory, cautioned in a telephone interview with The Associated Press from Voronezh. "We never gave them part of what they published."

On Monday, the official Soviet news agency told the world 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 13-foot-tall aliens left the spacecraft, described as a large, shining ball, and walked in the park with a small robot, Tass reported. A Tass duty officer stood by the story. "It is not April Fool's today," he said.

The purported close encounter in Voronezh was only the latest weird tale to appear in the Soviet media, which under the policy of "glasnost" or openness have recently told of other sightings of UFOs and the Yeti, or abominable snowman.

Monday's report spawned rumors in Moscow, including one that the aliens told Voronezh residents that the Earth would be destroyed by the year 2000 if people don't stop polluting it.

Nonetheless, a Communist Party paper whose avowed mission is to write about culture was the only major national daily to print anything on Tuesday about the UFO, indicating that more authoritative newspapers such as *Pravda* thought the topic too hot to handle.

Sovietskaya Kultura said its coverage was motivated by "the

golden rule of journalism: The reader must know everything."

"Of course, it's hard to believe in what happened in the town," the newspaper reported from Voronezh.

The daily quoted witnesses as saying the UFO flew into Voronezh on Sept. 27. At 6:30 p.m., it said, boys playing soccer saw a pink glow in the sky, then saw a deep red ball about 10 yards in diameter. The ball circled, vanished, then reappeared minutes later and hovered, it said.

A crowd rushed to the site, *Sovietskaya Kultura* said, and through an open hatch saw a "three-eyed alien" about 10 feet tall, clad in silvery overalls and bronze-colored boots, and wearing a disk on its chest.

The newspaper, quoting witnesses, gave this account:

The UFO landed. Two creatures, one apparently a robot, exited. A boy screaming with fear, but when the alien gazed at him, with eyes shining, he fell silent, unable to move. Onlookers screamed, and the UFO and the creatures disappeared.

About five minutes later, they reappeared. The alien had a "pistol" — a tube about 20 inches long, which it pointed at an unidentified 16-year-old boy, making him disappear. The alien went inside the sphere, which took off. At the same time, the boy reappeared.

Scientists from a nationwide group that investigates "abnormal phenomena" were looking into the landing, the newspaper said.

Silanov, who said he belongs to the group, cast doubt on the Tass report that quoted him as saying the aliens left behind two rocks resembling sandstone of a deep red color that cannot be found anywhere.

"The rock they described as extraterrestrial is in fact a piece of iron oxide which could easily have originated on Earth," Silanov said.

Silanov, 50, also said the testimony of children between the ages of 11 and 14 who claimed they witnessed the landing did not always correspond on how the aliens looked, and that they "certainly didn't mention the tremendous height" cited by Tass.

of the  
the  
nai-  
a  
up-  
ing  
ne-

-KS  
Arab  
ers of  
Tues-  
ned at  
-year-  
erence  
an in

of the  
medi-  
ng the

id you  
ntry's  
if left  
forces  
have  
without

IA  
LED  
Panama  
bel De-  
id at his  
he was  
he coup  
Antonio  
lid not  
ored.  
rid until  
truth is  
Lorenzo  
stand-  
described  
as "a  
d to his  
not go-

CORD'S  
RVICES

THE RECORD (NJ)  
OCT 11 1989 Jim Riecken

Compiled by Steve Ryan **POST PAST**

**30 TODAY:** Paris — Premier Daladier replied to peace overtures today with a declaration that Britain "will continue to fight to obtain a definite security" for the "lasting peace of Europe." The declaration made in a nationwide broadcast, appeared in the *New York Post*, Oct. 10, 1939.  
**186 YEARS AGO TODAY:** A number of stores upon the wharves have, within the last 20 nights, been broken into again, some of them more than once, by a gang of villains and rifled of a variety of articles. Among others, Mr. Hayward's, was broken into last night for the second time and robbed of coffee and other articles. By the leakage of the cocks of coffee, the daring culprit was this morning discovered. *New York Post*, Oct. 10, 1853.