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Tass accused of fabricating Soviet alien sighting report

By Our Foreign Staff

Glasgow has surely come of age — Tass was accused yesterday of making up quotes by a scientist to substantiate his far-fetched story on Monday of an alien invasion.

Mr Genrikh Silasov, head of the Voronezh Geophysical Laboratory, denied saying the aliens left behind two pieces of rock not found on earth.

"The rock they described as extraterrestrial is in fact a piece of iron ore which could easily have originated on earth," Mr Silasov told the Associated Press.

He agreed there was something resembling a "landing site" in Voronezh but said the symmetrical depressions also could be from the back of an

underground pipe or cable or an underground reservoir.

On Monday Tass said that scientist had confirmed that an alien spacecraft carrying giant people with tiny heads had knocked down its Voronezh. As many as three aliens left the spacecraft, described as a large shining ball or disc, for a walk in the park.

But Mr Silasov said: "Don't believe all you hear from Tass. We never gave them part of what they published."

However, the newspaper *Sovetskoye Kozhine* yesterday published a sensational follow-up to the Tass report, suggesting that one of the aliens pointed a large pistol at a 16-year-old boy, who

immediately vanished, only to reappear later.

It quoted witnesses, including three children, as saying the creature was "about three metres high, had three eyes, and was wearing a silver-riding suit and brown-colored boots, as well as some sort of disc on its chest".

With a robot in tow, the alien then took a short walk round the park.

● BELGRADE — Tass, the Yugoslav news agency, treated the Tass report with disbelief.

"In view of a mass invasion, it is very strange that there has been no reaction, or at least a statement, from the Soviet Defence Ministry," the news agency said.