

# UFO in U.S.S.R.? Some in U.S. believe

## *Maybe craft meant to land in N.Y.*

NEW YORK (AP) — That extraterrestrial story from the Soviet Union finally has been cleared up — those 12-foot-tall, tiny-headed guys who landed in the U.S.S.R. were just trying to get back to New York City.

"Anything's possible," said Bill Knell, a New York UFO researcher who firmly believes there was an alien presence in a park in the borough of Queens seven months ago.

Knell's assertions came two days after the Soviet news agency Tass reported the presence of aliens in the town of Voronezh.

Since then, scientists have disparaged the report, attributing it to rising sensationalism in the Soviet press under the greater freedoms afforded by glasnost.

Neither story seemed to impress New Yorkers.

"This is my haunt. I've been coming to this park for years, and there's nothing going on here," said Julie Ford, shaking her head and laughing. "They say that tree there was burned by a UFO — it was broken by kids swinging on the branches."

Sure enough, Knell did offer the damaged willow as evidence that something had beamed down there. But he also offered a mineralogist's report that a burned oval on the ground contained particles of a type of feldspar quartz found on the island of Aruba, not in Queens.

"We find this amazing," said Knell, who was joined by several other believers in UFOs.

According to Knell, five people riding a bus March 9 saw "very bright lights" hovering near a lake in the park.

Based on their accounts and other evidence, Knell said, UFO investigators determined this was a legitimate sighting.

Knell thinks he knows why the people who spotted something in Queens never saw aliens or spoke with them.

"I believe they have their own agenda, and at this time it doesn't include communication."

### *Soviets shown child's sketch of famed aliens*

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet TV viewers got a chance to see the aliens that created a cosmic sensation with their reported landing in the town of Voronezh — but only in a child's scribbled drawing.

The Soviet nightly news program "Vremya" broadcast a report yesterday showing the spot where, according to the official news agency Tass, scientists confirmed an unearthly craft had touched down.

The picture, by a child who claimed to have witnessed the landing, showed a glowing two-legged sphere with a smiling stick figure inside.

Tass made a worldwide splash Monday with its straight-faced report on towering, pin-headed aliens who emerged from a spaceship that landed in a park 300 miles southeast of Moscow.

"Vremya" aired an interview with schoolboy Vasya Surin, a purported witness to the "close encounter." But the report noted that no adult witnesses to the incident could be found, even though a large apartment house overlooked the site.

Knell's not the only American who can relate to the Soviet sighting. Some residents of Mississippi's Delta region say the Soviet description of a UFO is similar to a fast-moving metallic ball they spotted earlier this month.

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