RM

Bruno Mancusi
Rue d'Yverdon 23
CH-1530 Payerne

RTR0268 3 OLF 503
* BC-SOVIET-UFO
* :BC-SOVIET-UFO
* THE STRANGE ENCOUNTER WITH A UFO - DID IT HAPPEN OR NOT?
* By David-Blunggren
* MOSCOW, Oct 13, Reuter - Something strange happened in the
* park on the night of September 27 in the provincial town of
* Voronezh, Soviet scientists agreed on Friday.
* But after a week of sensational stories of alien landings in
* a shining ball and a three-eyed monster with a magic pistol,
* that seemed to be about the only thing they could say for sure.
* ""A wave of rumours and fantasies has swept through Voronezh
* over the last few days'', the local correspondent of Pravda
* Valery Stepnov reported as a week of near-panic drew to a close.
* ""People are afraid, but the local authorities seem to have
* done nothing to calm these fears,'' he said.
* Children who claim to have seen the landing were due to
* appear on Saturday before a local commission responsible for
* investigating abnormal phenomena.
* Stepnov declared: ""Clear and well-argued answers are
* required immediately. Otherwise, rumours of alien landings could
* suddenly spread all over the globe.''
* Soviet newspapers and the official news agency Tass have
* printed lurid accounts of three-metre-high (10-foot) creatures
* with three eyes landing their luminous sphere in a Voronezh
* park.
* According to the reports, one of the aliens, silver-suited
* and accompanied by a robot, strolled through the park before
* firing an unusually large gun at a 16-year-old boy, who
* temporarily vanished. He reappeared when the spacecraft left.
* Other ""humanoids'' were reported from other country spots.
* A reporter told the newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda he
* chatted with a group of glowing aliens in the Ural Mountains
* town of Perm and was told they came from the planet Red Star.
* Such stories are no new phenomenon in this traditionally
* superstitious country. Recently a faith healer who treats
* various ailments on television has attracted tens of millions of
* viewers.
* Pravda noted that air traffic monitors in the area of
* Voronezh recorded nothing unusual at the time the landing was
* supposed to have occurred.
* But one of the scientists investigating the incident told
* Reuters he was convinced the children had witnessed some unusual
* phenomenon and should be believed.
* ""We measured the landing site and recorded unbelievably high
* levels of magnetism. It's obvious something did happen,'' said
* Genrikh Silanov, head of the Voronezh Geophysical Laboratory.
* Another member of the team said measurements at the site
* showed that a weight of 11 tonnes would have been needed to
* cause the imprints which, according to witnesses, were left by
* the mystery craft's landing gear.
* Pravda, which earlier in the week reported the landing
* almost as a matter of fact, on Friday regretted that there were
* no photographs of the encounter between aliens and teenagers.
* And Stepnov acknowledged that the reports came from children
* and teenagers of ""an age when the imagination can make fires out
* of small sparks.''
* He now asked: ""The question is -- were there any sparks?''
* REUTER DML JC PDM
* 131439 GMT Oct 89
*