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## UFO fever sweeps entire Soviet city

**VORONEZH, Soviet Union:** An entire city in Central Russia is spell-bound by reports of giant aliens in a downtown visit. They came from outer space, three-eyed monsters landing from a shining ball-like craft — that's what everyone says.

Feverish excitement about UFOs (unidentified flying objects) is sweeping Voronezh, an industrial city of 900,000 people, about 500km south-east of the Soviet capital.

Soviet scientists agree that Something Strange did happen in a local park on the night of September 27.

But after a week of sensational stories of alien landings and a creature with a magic pistol, that seemed to be about the only thing they could say for sure.

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The site draws awed crowds, including many who seem to know someone who saw trigger-happy aliens come to earth and fire at a local teenager.

The mysterious visitors could have chosen a more scenic location for an extraterrestrial display.

The spot where bug-eyed creatures are reported to have stepped out of a glowing ball is the kind of blighted urban patch common to most cities around the world.

Children who claim to have seen the landing were due to appear yesterday before a local commission responsible for investigating abnormal

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**On the buses, in the streets, in taxi queues, residents talk constantly**

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**of three-metre-high creatures landing in a luminous sphere.**

**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.**

**"I am a sceptic," said engineer Yuri Belyanov outside the plot of wasteland where the children said they saw the ball disgorge the pistol-packing, three-eyed monster.**

**"But I don't believe that so many people can be wrong. One of the scientists investigating the incident said he was convinced the children had witnessed some unusual phenomenon and should be believed.**

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