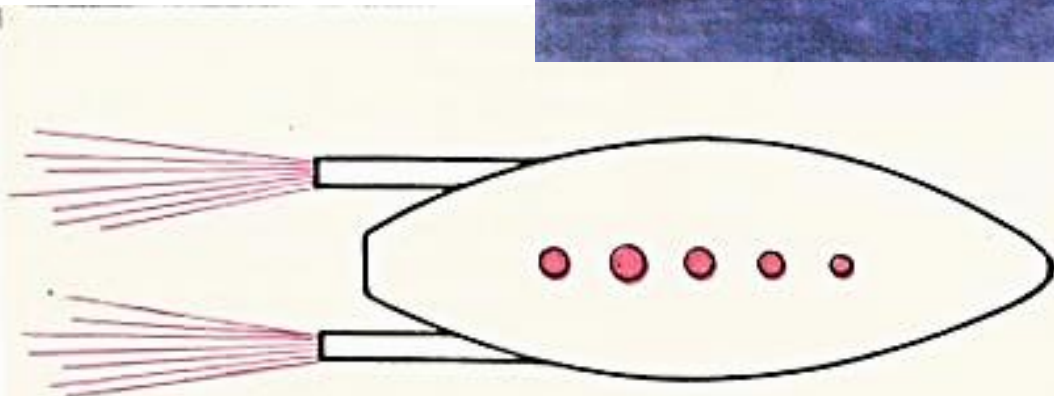
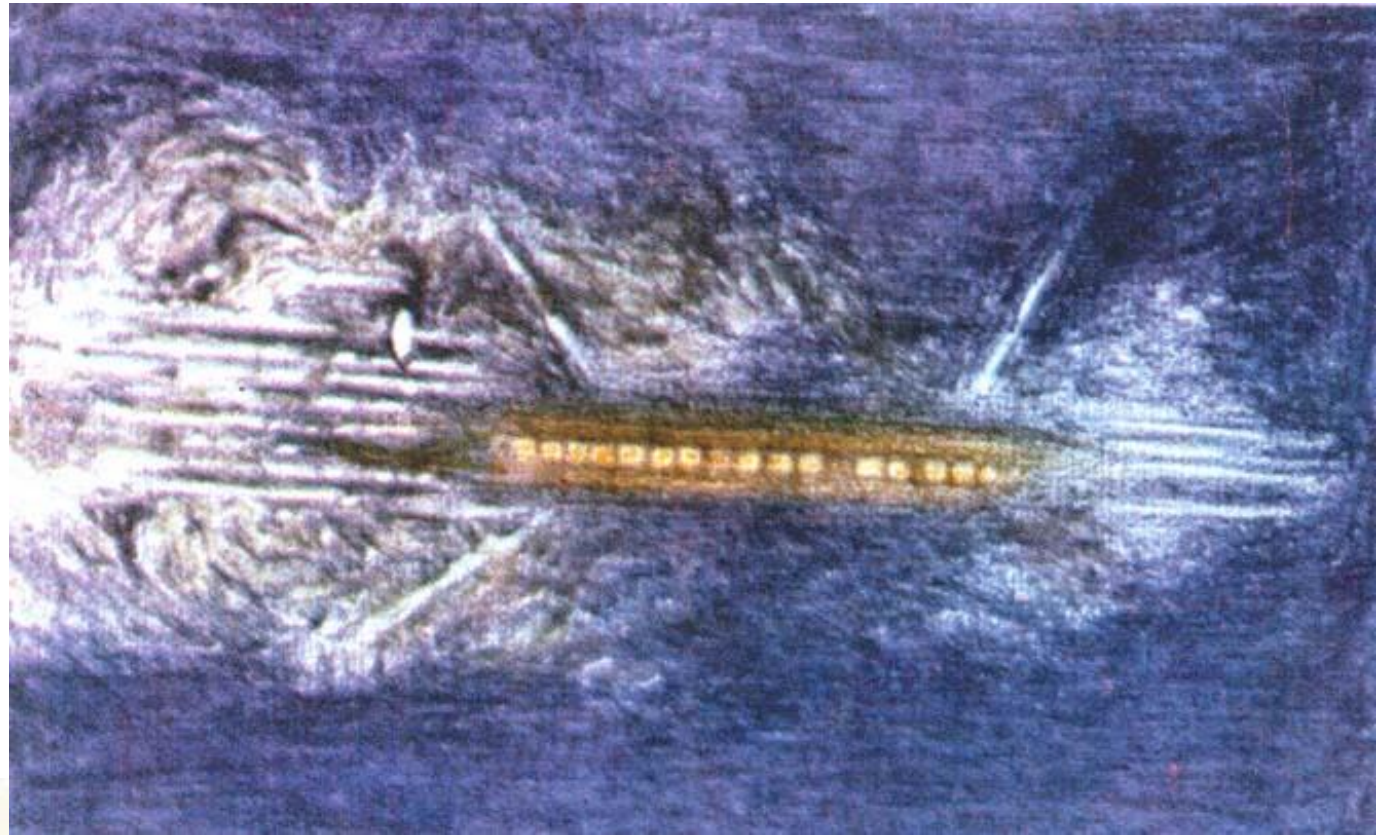


Official records list object as a meteor of unknown type, but some published data show explanation is impossible. Many witnesses reported cigar shape, some saw square windows

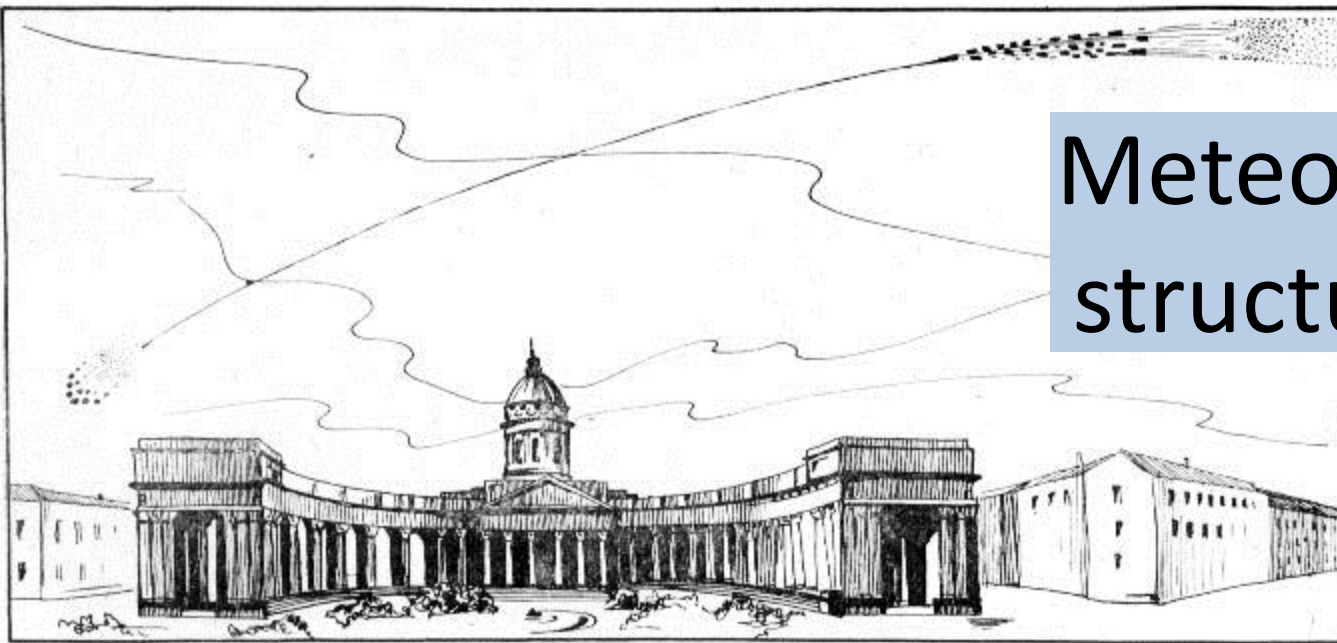


“Baltic Bolide”

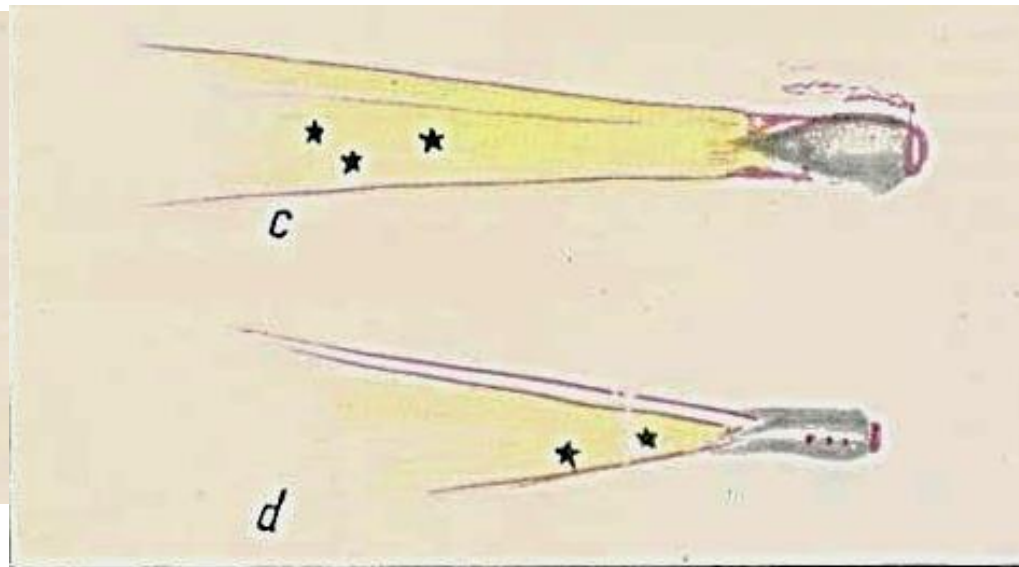
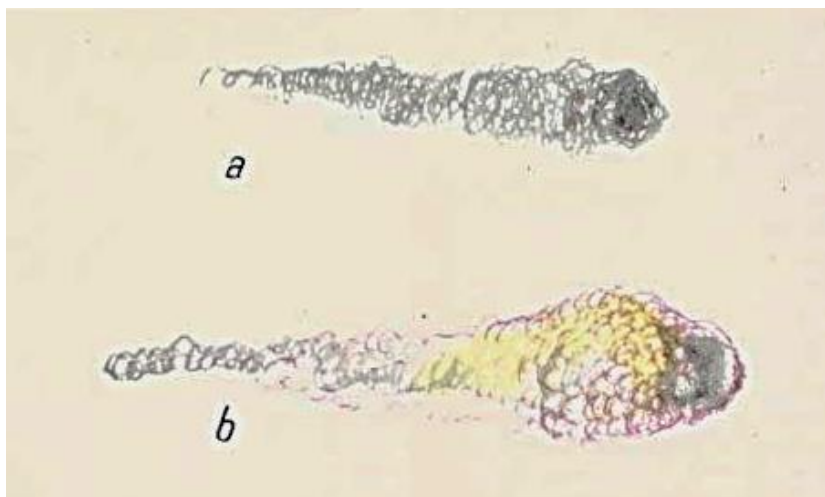
February 11, 1976

From Finland across Leningrad and southeast into Russia

Meteor swarm or structured craft?



*Болид над
Ленинградом
Рисунок астронома
Д. Е. ЩЕГОЛЕВА*



3. joon. Helendava nähtuse arengufaasid nähtuna Elva lähedalt:
a) 1—2 sekundi, b ja c) 3—4 sekundi, d) 10 sekundi pärast.

<http://miger.ru/bbolid2.html>

“Baltic Bolide”, Feb 11, 1976

“Meteor appearance” north & south of track

<http://miger.ru/bbolid2.html>



*Болид над поселком Пролетарий Новгородской области
Рисунок инженера-конструктора Е. А. СКВОРЦОВА*



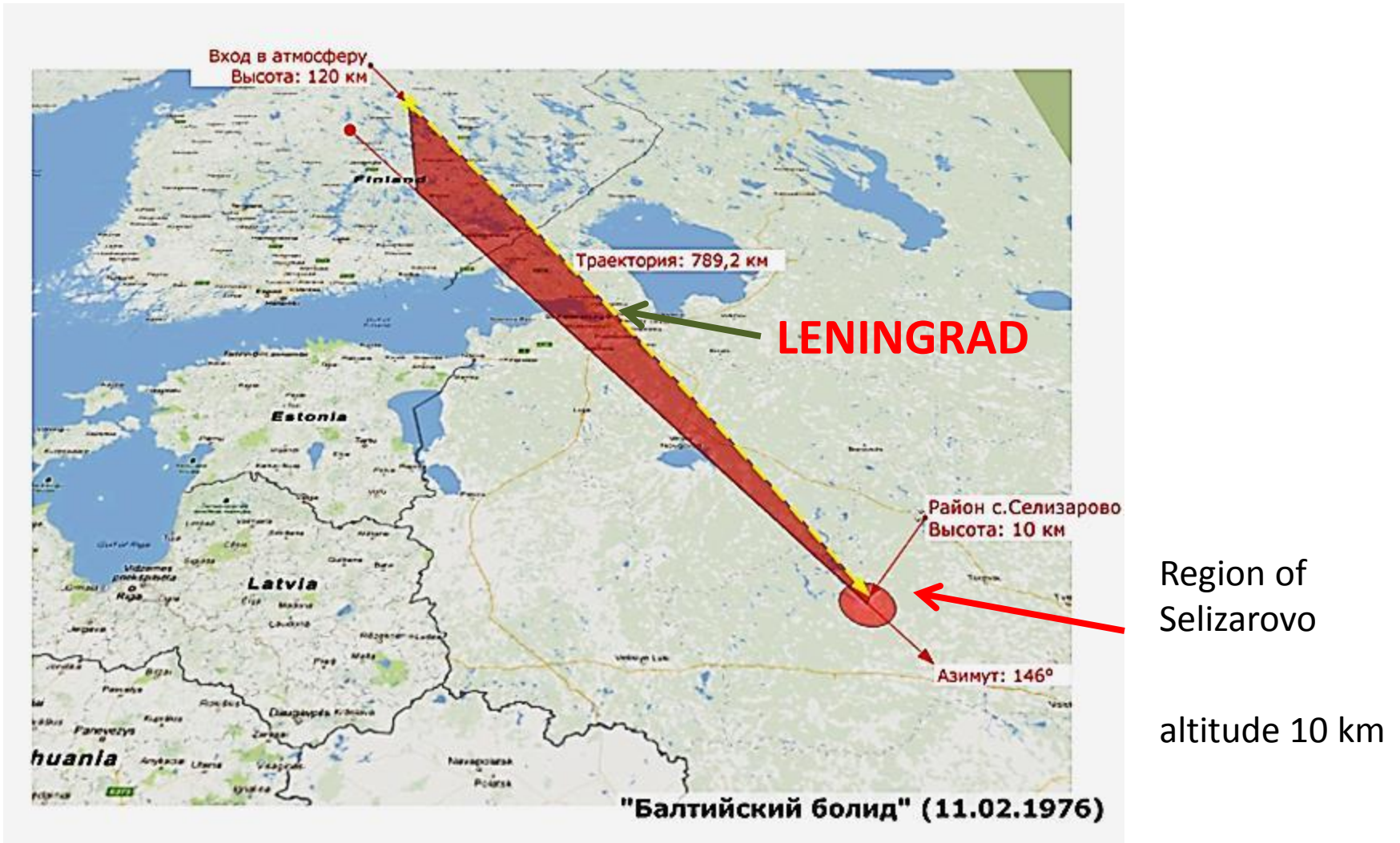
*Болид над Новгородом
Рисунок слесаря И. Т. СУМАНЕЕВА*

Bolide over Novgorod [I. T. Sumaneyeva]

Bolide over village of Proletariya in
Novgorod Region [E. A. Skvortsov]

“Baltic Bolide”, Feb 11, 1976

“Meteor” ground track Finland to southeast



“Baltic Bolide”, Feb 11, 1976

Балтийский болид (11.02.76)

<http://nectonlab.org/index.php/k2-items/katalog-materialov/info/meteoritika/44-baltic-bolide.html>

Дополнительная информация [official data]

- Точка разрушения [point of origin]: 56.891402, 33.410361
- Дата падения [date of fall]: Среда, 11 Февраль 1976
- Время [time]: около [about] 19:00
- Радианта [radiant]: 146°
- Тип [type]: Не известен [not known]
- Угол входа в атмосферу [angle of atmosphere entry]: 5°
- Скорость падения [speed of fall]: 6,5 км/сек [km/sec]

IMPOSSIBLE!!! This is slower than orbital velocity [8 km/sec]

Account from fishermen

Yuriy Viktorovich Bichkov. On fishing trip near Lednevo (district Kobony), on an open shore, together with companions, he watched the meteor for 3 to 5 minutes

The overall impression of all who observed is:

- a) the object was a quite correct form of cigar or dirigible, but without the cab. "Cigar" was aglow, had glowing windows and fiery tail gradually tapering.
- b) it was generally agreed in the main group (10 persons), that it was an artificial construction, which may have landed a "Comrade" from another planet.
- c) The length of the "cigar" was about the length of a train.

SOURCE: <http://miger.ru/bbolid4.html> [JEO translation]

Other witnesses

- *Shavykin Vasily Vasilevich, Sestroretsk [near Finnish border].*
- On February 11, 1976 about 7:00 pm, I watched a luminous body of regular shape, elongated, with a nozzle from which sparks were flying, then separated and were extinguished at a short distance. In appearance it closely resembled a passenger wagon with "play". Visible for one minute. Passed to the South.
- *Bortnikov Mikhail Konstantinovich, 1964, Leningrad, St., Sailor*
- “It was 25-30 times bigger than an aircraft, it covered half the sky. Moved slowly, gently and horizontally. Its sound could be heard. Its train was three times longer than itself and it gleamed from red to orange and covered the sky. The cigar was brilliant, and the tail was dull aluminum. On it I noticed some compartments and square hatches. I felt an unusual infatuation.”

SOURCE: <http://miger.ru/bbolid4.html> [JEO translation]



Fireball re-entry of 1976-009B, NORAD catalog number 8617, upper stage of the launch rocket for “Kosmos 799”.

Map and ground track courtesy of Ted Molczan

Discussion

- Typical rocket body reentry creating both fireball swarm reports AND structured craft
- Some craft reports mentioned row of square windows, searchlights, emotional reaction
- For unknown reason, Soviet government promoted 'meteor' explanation even though it released contradictory data [such as velocity]