

So, in order to investigate further and to grasp the situation more fully, my best friend and colleague in UFO investigation field in Japan, Mr. Shin-ichiro Namiki, who operates the afore-mentioned UFO investigative organization, JSPS, decided to visit the site and just having caught the occasion that the director of Nippon TV was in charge of a UFO program, asked him to accompany them to visit the site for the investigation and reporting, he visited there with them at the end of

November.

(TO BE COMPLETED LATER)

* i.e. "teats".

** i.e. "the veterinarian shook his head".

Congratulations on a fine report in English! How many of us can do as well in Japanese? G.C.

A WEIRD STORY FROM FRANCE (1989)

(Translation from French. G.C)

We translate this extraordinary and interesting story from our famous "opposite number" LUMIERES DANS LAS NUIT (No. 299 Sept./Oct. 1989). For many years past we have made free use of material in LDLN in this fashion, always being meticulously careful to quote in full the source, LUMIERES DANS LAS NUIT, and its number and the full name of the author, and to give the French journal and the author the most complete credit. Long ago we gave *carte blanche* to the Editor of LDLN to do likewise with any of our material that interests him, though, of course, we would wish to be consulted in cases where an author has copyright on an item.

This report comes from Brix, in the French Département of Manche (extreme N.W. corner of France, near the Channel Islands). - EDITOR

A gentleman named Monsieur Bigot was awakened, at 2.00 a.m. on October 26, 1989, by the sound of his dog scratching at the door outside. Opening up to let the animal in, he was astonished to see a powerful bright white light of conical appearance which appeared to be flying over the fields, to the east of his house. This bright light lasted no more than a few seconds and, although surprised, Monsieur Bigot attached no further importance to it, and headed back to bed.

At the same hour, a few kilometres distant from there, at Brix, Monsieur Hervieu, a retired notary public, was also awakened, but in his case it was by a loud noise which reminded him of the sound "of a motor decelerating".

The following day, in his field (beneath where Monsieur Bigot has seen the "light") a third party - a Monsieur Hébert - discovered an enormous mark, described as follows:-

"Over a surface of some 50 square metres or so of the field, the grass has vanished, leaving exposed the surface of the soil to a depth of 10-15 cms. No trace of the missing grass and missing soil is to be found anywhere around. The affected area of soil exposed has a porous and blackish appearance, a bit like cinder slag. And Monsieur Hébert detected a distinct odour of petroleum coming from it. This smell of petrol was still detectable there on November 18 - (23 days later, during the LDLN investigation of the site) if one put a handful of the soil to one's nose.

"The contours of the mark were of a sort of 'potato-like' shape, devoid of any symmetry. (See photograph).*

"The soil seemed definitely burnt, as was indicated by the presence of charred twigs around the edges of it. On the day when the mark was discovered, one could feel little waves of heat from it as one approached it. And two days later the soil there was still hot to a depth of several centimetres.

"Some heifers seem to have spent that night in the field without displaying any signs of having been disturbed.

"No disturbances of electrical apparatus were noted by witnesses."

NOTE BY EDITOR OF FSR

* The photo was supplied to me separately, by another FSR reader in France. - G.C.



“TRACTORS OF THE GODS? WEIRD MARKINGS FOUND IN N.W. AUSTRALIA

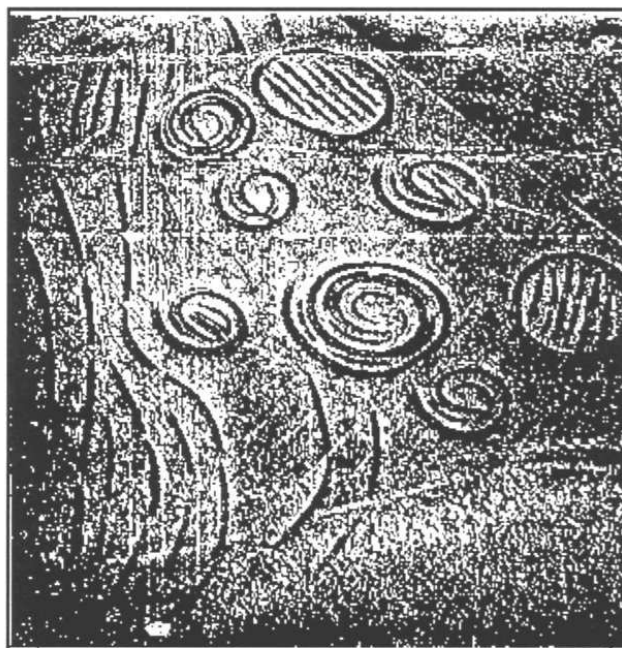
According to a recent item in *The Australian Geographic* (kindly brought to our attention by Mr. Colin Bloy), some strange new patterns have been discovered on parched ground in a remote corner of North-Western Australia. Consisting of a series of huge spirals, circles, and broken wavy lines, and somewhat reminiscent of the famous desert markings on the arid Nazca Plateau in Peru, the new finds lie close to the North-West Coastal Highway, near Roebourne (20°44S, 117°09E) (Australian North-West Territory).

These configurations were first noticed by a Mr. Dick Smith when he was flying over the region in June 1988. He photographed them, and subsequently requested Mr. Chris Hill to try to find out what they were and how they had come about. By virtue of the sheer size of the markings, they can only be appreciated from the air and perceived as what they are.

Chris Hill apparently assumed at first that the answer would be simple and that they would merely turn out to be “something to do with erosion control, or some other form of land management”.

But when he called in at the local offices of the Department of Conservation & Land Management, they said: “*It doesn’t sound like anything we’d do!*”

His next call was on Mr. Graeme Rathbone, Divisional Engineer for the West Australian Main Roads Department. He replied that his people never carry out any sort of earthworks except in connection with road-building. And these newly discovered “earth-designs” lie too far away from the Highway to



be anything of that sort.

Copies of the aerial photographs were next sent to the Roebourne Shire Engineer, Ron Copeland, who too made extensive enquiries, but all to no avail.

So-“extraterrestrial mystery” or, maybe, “something more down-to-earth?” Chris Hill concludes: “If none of our members of the Australian Geographic Society know anything about these mysterious designs, what should I do? Call von Däniken?”

“PARANORMAL IS ALL PETER PAN”

- ADRIAN BERRY, *DAILY TELEGRAPH* SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

By Gordon Creighton

Recent years have seen the appearance of a number of parapsychological reference books with titles such as “*An Encyclopaedia of the Paranormal*”, or “*Compendium of the Unexplained*”, etc., etc. The latest of these that we have seen and perused is Ms Lynn Picknett’s “THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF THE PARANORMAL: THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE UNEXPLAINED” (Macmillan, London, 1990, price £17.99).

Clearly such a book is for certain folk like the proverbial red rag to the proverbial bull. Mr. Adrian Berry, the *Daily Telegraph’s* Science Correspondent, and one of Britain’s top astronomical writers, is obviously one of “such folk”, and he lost no time in wading in with a slashing attack.

In a major, half-page, review on Page 14 of the *Daily Telegraph* for Monday, November 5, 1990, and

under banner headlines, he lashed out: “PARANORMAL IS ALL PETER PAN: ADRIAN BERRY EXAMINES THE PROS AND CONS OF THE SUPERNATURAL AND THE LATEST TOME OF THE UNEXPECTED”.

And then, in the first two paragraphs of his “review”, Mr. Berry fell right in; he made the revelation, the astounding admission, that (so far as I am aware) no scientist before him had ever dared to make!

Here is how he opens (my capitals for emphasis) “FEW SUBJECTS MORE INFURIATE SCIENTISTS, PHYSICAL SCIENTISTS IN PARTICULAR, THAN CLAIMS OF ‘PARANORMAL’ EVENTS SUCH AS SPOON-BENDING, LEVITATION, AND COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEAD. THEY ARE RESENTED BECAUSE, IF CONFIRMED, THE WHOLE FABRIC OF SCIENCE WOULD BE THREATENED.