

ANCIENT SKIES

"Come Search With Us!"

Official Logbook of the Ancient Astronaut Society

(C) COPYRIGHT 1975 ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 3

JULY-AUGUST, 1975

SOLVING THE NAZCA MYSTERIES

By ROBERT EARLE*

Of all the evidence reviewed by Erich von Däniken in his many books on the subject of ancient astronauts none impressed me more than did the seemingly preposterous claim that the hundreds of miles of "aircraft runway" markings on the Plain of Nazca in Peru were made of steel (now converted to iron oxide). This is the type of evidence, I thought, which would be verifiable. Indeed, it would be nothing less than I would expect to find as the lost vestige of the technology of visitors from outer space. If they could get here in a spacecraft, then we should expect far more than just rock drawings made by Earthmen of visitors they may or may not have seen. Considering the runways though, it's pretty stupid to deny the existence of something that's possible and which cannot be disproved.

I soon discovered that the runways are where the iron-oxide isn't. The iron oxide has, in fact, been moved to either side of the runways to form linear mounds which can be observed to be level, even where they span uneven ground, as they stretch onward for distances of several miles. These linear mounds are precisely parallel, exactly straight, and are 22 feet from peak to peak. I was truly amazed! Figure 1 shows at a glance the picture I carried in my mind's eye for at least a year as I searched for evidence of Ancient Astronauts.

It was less than a week following the reading of Maria Reiche's 1947 doctoral thesis (entitled "Mystery in the Desert") that I found the object of my immediate search. I reasoned that von Daniken's runways of steel would have required some sort of massive steel mill whose remains would be very difficult to simply obliterate even if our "visitors" had laser weapons or atomic bombs. But, a "visitor" would need only a laser device to transform the linear mounds of iron oxide into a linear runway with steel rails. A steel railed runway would be a space engineer's dream for the following reasons:

- (1) A large spacecraft is very difficult to slow-down, land and recover for re-use. This is evidenced by the fact that all the American space flights to date have ended with splashdowns of relatively small space capsules;
- (2) At re-entry speeds a conventional braking system, alone, is useless. Even with 5 and 6-mile long runways, a ship the size of NASA's yet-to-be-completed space shuttle will require

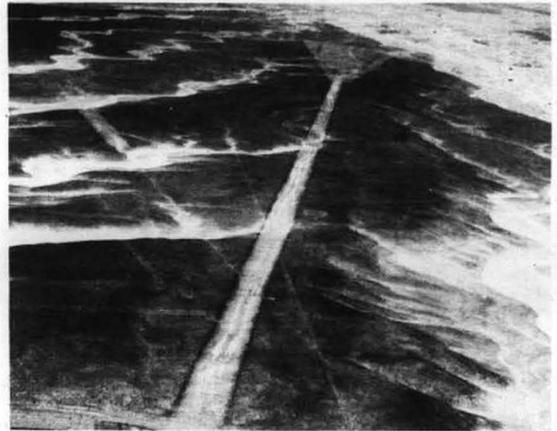


FIGURE 1. (Servico Aerofotografico National, Peru)

parachutes combined with thrust-reversers on its jet engines in order to be able to stop;

- (3) If steel rails help a craft to stop (which they do if the craft has a linear-induction-motor levitation system), then the rails can also help the craft take off again - simply put it in "reverse" and float it backwards to the start of the runway, then apply power to the linear motors and to the propulsion engines. What is to be gained? Well, for one thing, the space shuttle can only take off vertically (like a rocket). And, secondly, mankind has not been able to put a rocket (of any size or kind) into orbit without dropping stages into the ocean (and insofar as space travel goes, without leaving the stages behind). This would be rather inconvenient to an interplanetary or interstellar traveler who wants to continue his voyage;
- (4) Simply stated, a star traveller cannot continue his trip using the concept of refueling-as-he-goes if he has to leave parts of his craft each time he makes a "pit-stop"!

For these reasons I was amazed to find the evidence of the steelrail runway system. To me it explained why the Plain of Nazca was the landing site and, in part, how a star-ship could get here in the first place without breaking our 20th Century laws of engineering. I'll grant my fellow engineers that the extraterrestrials must have had a rather light-weight way of generating a tremendous booster-wallop in their linear-induction-motors. But consider that they could leave most of the mass of their motor (ie., the rails) on the surface of each (Continued on next page.)

*Robert Earle is a metallurgical engineer with NASA in Cleveland, Ohio. This article is based upon his forthcoming book which sets forth his theories to explain the many riddles of the Nazca markings.

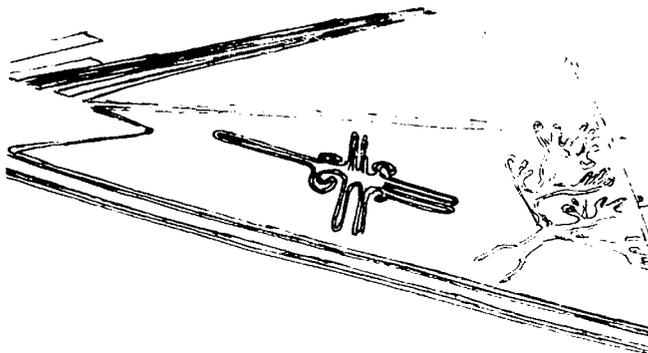


FIGURE 2. Drawn by Robert Earle.

planet where they refuel!

While I could see the logic of the steel runways, I realized that it was only a theory, until I could find some proof. I had a good idea of what I was looking for, but I was astounded to find a full-scale drawing (Figure 2) alongside the type of runway I've described, but without the 60-yard by 600-yard triangular concourse which can be seen in the distance in Figure 1. The drawing is of a spacecraft, 180 feet long in its entirety. It has two 100-foot long "runners" (to land on the steel rails); four lift engines (which also apply side-thrust); and an 80-foot nose, perhaps to provide distance shielding by separating a nuclear power-plant from the crew. Surprising (to me) was the 22-foot distance between the runners! This was fascinating, but I kept the search going for something else - something really tangible as evidence. I found other "logos", but I really wanted drawings. In the course of the year I found what they looked like, who they contacted on Earth, what they found to be of value, where they "visited", and the fact that they probably had a starship in orbit for the continuation of their journey.

For anyone interested in a serious study of the Nazca markings, we have made arrangements with the publishers to make available copies of PERUVIAN GROUND DRAWINGS (PERUANISCHE ERDZEICHEN), a hard-cover book with 146 photos, sketches, and scale drawings, with many pull-out composites which give the viewer a high-altitude perspective of the mysterious markings, with both English and German text.

RADIO SHACK National Headquarters has donated two REALISTIC Citizens Band "Walkie-Talkie" two-way radios to the Ancient Astronaut Society. The units are rated at 5 watt input Power with 23 CB channels, with an effective range of up to 25 miles. Mr. James A. Gupton, Jr., the Society's Southeastern US Regional Director arranged the donation with Mr. Hy Siegel, Radio Shack's Director of Publicity. At the request of the Society, Mr. Siegel shipped the equipment by air to Erich von Däniken in Zurich, Switzerland, for use on his current expedition to the Middle East. The walkie-talkies will remain the property of the Ancient Astronaut Society for use on future expeditions.



ANCIENT SKIES is published bi-monthly by the ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY, 600 Talcott Rd., Park Ridge, Illinois 60068, for distribution to its members, Telephone (312) 696-2016.

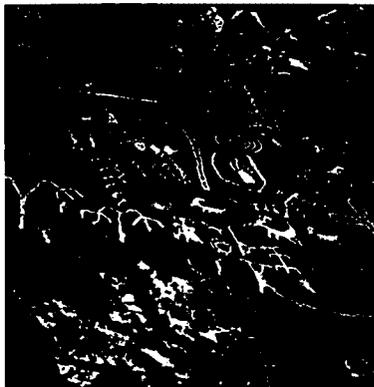
The Ancient Astronaut Society, founded in 1973, is a tax-exempt, not-for-profit corporation organized exclusively for scientific, literary and educational purposes.

NEVADA PETROGLYPH

Charlotte Miller has furnished ANCIENT SKIES with her 1968 photograph of a petroglyph found in the Valley of Fire State Park, near Las Vegas, Nevada. The drawing is located on a stone ridge twenty-five feet above the desert floor. Note particularly the four concentric circles in the petroglyph.

Also, notice the similarity between this petroglyph and the Santa Barbara, California Cave painting, which was featured in ANCIENT SKIES, Volume 1, Number 6.

Ms. Miller is a cardio-biomedical instrumentation technologist of Jackson Heights, New York.



YUGOSLAVIA TO HOST THIRD WORLD CONFERENCE

Yugoslavia has been selected as the site for the Third World Conference on Ancient Astronauts. The Conference will be held at the Hotel Omorika, in Crikvenica, Yugoslavia, a lovely resort area, on the shores of the beautiful Adriatic Sea. The Conference will be held in late May or early June, 1976. The exact date will be announced soon. Scientists from Russia and other Eastern countries will present papers at the Conference, which is being coordinated by Dr. Josip Kotnik.

Groups from six nations, including Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Mexico, and Yugoslavia, had offered to host the Conference.

MID-WINTER MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TORONTO, CANADA

Arrangements have been completed for a meeting of the Ancient Astronaut Society in Toronto, Canada on February 14, 1976, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The one-day meeting will feature four speakers: Josef F. Blumrich (former NASA Space Engineer), Stuart W. Greenwood (doctoral candidate in aerospace propulsion at the University of Maryland), Dr. Luis E. Navia (Doctor of Philosophy at New York Institute of Technology) and Erich von Däniken (author of "Chariots of the Gods?"). An open discussion will follow each lecture.

In addition to the lectures, the film "In Search of Ancient Astronauts" will be shown and a gala banquet is included in the admission fee. After the banquet, Mr. von Däniken will deliver his all new lecture and slide presentation, including a report on his current expedition to India, Iran, Iraq, and Pakistan.

The price for the event is US \$109.00 for one person, single occupancy, which includes two nights (February 13 and 14) at the hotel, admission to all events, and the banquet. For two persons, double occupancy, the package is US \$158.00. Tickets are available only from the Society's Toronto office: Ancient Astronaut Society, Box 2100, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada. No refunds after January 15, 1976.

AUTHORS AND BOOKS

ERICH VON DÄNIKEN ("Chariots of the Gods?") is currently travelling by Land Rover in Bangladesh, India and nearby countries to gather material for a new book. His latest book, **ERSCHEINUNGEN** (called "Apparitions" by the author) will be released in paperback in the United States in February 1976 by Delacorte Press under the title "Miracles of the Gods." His new movie, a sequel to "Chariots of the Gods?", will be released this fall.

JOSEF F. BLUMRICH ("Spaceships of Ezekiel") is completing his manuscript on a new book about the relationship of certain American Indians with extraterrestrials. He is planning an expedition to South America to gather material for a future book.

ANDREW TOMAS ("We Are Not The First") is now living in Paris and working on a new book. His latest "On the Shores of Endless Worlds," is available in hardcover from Putnam's (NY).

W. RAYMOND DRAKE ("Gods and Spacemen - East - West - Past") has a new book entitled "Gods and Spacemen Throughout History" which is being released simultaneously by Neville Spearman (London) and Henry Regnery (Chicago). His book "Gods and Spacemen in Greece and Rome" will be published in paperback by Sphere (London) later this year.

RICHARD E. MOONEY ("Colony - Earth") is working on his third book. His second, "Gods of Air and Darkness," has been published by Souvenir (London) and Stein & Day (NY).

PETER KRASSA's book "Als Die Gelben Götter Kamen," will be published in English ("When the Yellow Gods Came") in paperback by Bantam (NY). The publication date has now been scheduled for April, 1976. His latest book "Gott kam von der Sternen," is published by Hermann Bauer (Freiburg).

PROF. HANS SCHINDLER-BELLAMY, an expert on Tiahuanaco, is now enjoying retirement in Vienna. In the early 40's, he published a work entitled "The Book of Revelation is History," which ably sets forth the thesis that rather than being a prediction of events yet to occur, Revelations really describes events which took place thousands of years ago.

DR. LUIS E. NAVIA's book on the philosophical evaluation of the ancient astronaut theory has been accepted for publication in Germany by ECON (Düsseldorf).

FREDE MELHEDEGAARD has published a pamphlet based upon his Zurich Conference lecture entitled "The Power of the Past." It can be ordered directly from him at Stadil, DK-6980 Tim, DENMARK. The price is US \$1.50.

SIBLEY S. MORRILL ("Ponape") has written a new book entitled "Ambrose Bierce, F.A. Mitchell-Hedges and The Crystal Skull." It is available in paperback from Cadleon Press, San Francisco, CA 94101.

JACQUES BERGIER ("Morning of the Magicians"). Information on his books in French can be obtained from his publisher Albin Michel (Paris).

CAPTAIN BRUCE CATHIE, an airline pilot in Auckland, New Zealand, has published his second book, **HARMONIC 695**, which is a sequel to his earlier **HARMONIC 33**. Both books are available in hardcover only from the publishers, A.H. & A.W. Reed, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND.

NEW PAPERBACKS:

Mystery of Atlantis - Charles Berlitz - Leisure (NY)
The Great Pyramid - Tom Valentine - Pinnacle (NY)

GERMAN/DEUTSCHER:

Pauwels/Bergier: Aufbruch ins dritte Jahrtausend (Scherz)
Pauwels/Bergier: Die Entdeckung des ewigen Menschen (Scherz)
Pauwels/Bergier: Der Planet der unmöglichen Möglichkeiten (Scherz)
Bergier: Vorstoss an die Grenzen des Möglichen (Müller)
Charroux: Verraten Geheimnisse (Herbig)
Charroux: Unbekannte Geschichte... (Herbig)
Charroux: Vergessene Welten (ECON)
Charroux: Die Meister des Welt (ECON)
Charroux: Unbekannt - geheimnisvoll - phantastisch (ECON)
Kolosimo: Viele Dinge zwischen Himmel und Erde (Limes)
Kolosimo: Schatten auf den Sternen (Limes)
Kolosimo: Sie kamen von einem anderen Stern (Limes)
Kolosimo: Woher wir kommen (Limes)
Kolosimo: Kräfte aus dem Jenseits (Limes)
Kiss Maerth: Der Anfang was das Ende (ECON)
Pahl: Sternemenschen sind unter uns (Desch)
Puccetti: Ausserirdische Intelligenz (ECON)
Schirmbeck: Ihe werdet sein wie Götter (Diederichs)
Vandenberg: Der Fluch der Pharaonen (Scherz)
Osten-Sacken: Die neue Kosmologie (ECON)
Kohlenberg: Enträtselte Vorzeit (dms)
Jacobi B.: Als die Götter zahlreich waren (Scheffler)
Allen T.: Wesen die ich niemals sah (Lübbe)
Langelaan G.: Die unheimlichen Wirklichkeiten (Scherz)
Knaut H.: Rückkehr aus der Zukunft (Scherz)
Schneider A.: Besucher aus dem All (Bauer)
Bellamy/v. Vestenbrugg: Eingriffe aus dem Kosmos (Bauer)
Bruckner: Spuren ins All (Volksbuch-Verlag)
Norman: Bibel - Götter - Astronauten (Heyne)
Homet M.: Söhne der Sonne (Limes)
Dopatka U.: Das Spiegelbild der Götter (Hohwacht)
von Däniken: Erscheinungen (ECON)
von Däniken: Meine Welt in Bildern (ECON)
von Däniken: Aussaat und Kosmos (ECON)
von Däniken: Zurück zu den Sternen (ECON)
von Däniken: Erinnerungen an die Zukunft (ECON)
Rocholl/Roggersdorf: Das seltsame Leben der Erich von Däniken (ECON)
Blumrich: Da tat sich der Himmel auf (ECON)
Buttlar: Schneller als das Licht (ECON)
Buttlar: Reisen in die Ewigkeit (ECON)
Andreas/Kilian: Die Phantastische Wissenschaft (ECON)
Bedford/Kensington: Das DELPASSE-Experiment (ECON)
Sanger-Bredt: Ungeloste Ratsel der Schopfung (ECON)
Delacour: Aus dem Jenseits zurück (ECON)
Delacour: Vom ewigen Leben (ECON)

A list of paperback books in English is available upon request. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Society office.