

Re: NASA Worldwind, & Large scale features in Africa

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.geo.geology/2005-05/msg00046.html>

- *From:* vincent@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (pete)
 - *Date:* 9 May 2005 11:24:33 GMT
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What, have all the real geo types run off and left this place to the autopost news releases, crossposts, and whackos?

on 7 May 2005 04:19:00 GMT, pete <vincent@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> sez:

- ` Hi folks, 'been a while since I've passed by these parts, much
- ` going on in life to keep me from idle hours at the usenet trough.

- ` I have recently been introduced to NASA WorldWind earth viewer.
- ` I highly, highly recommend it. It does for the world what the
- ` google maps satellite view offers for the US, plus more – you
- ` can drop your viewpoint to ground level and radar topology data
- ` automagically kicks in to show the terrain in relief. For a
- ` large-scale geology fan, this thing is just hours and hours and
- ` hours of fun. Ultimate resolution over the globe except the high
- ` polar regions appears to be in the order of 20 metres.

- ` It is found at a site that runs something like worldwind.nasa.gov,
- ` or something very similar. Warning: it is quite resource intensive.
- ` It runs from a free downloadable viewer, which installs with a
- ` first level data set in 500MB or so. Upon use, it fetches further
- ` data from the net as you zoom, and you are advised to have a couple
- ` of free Gigs for it to fill with cache. The realtime zoom and
- ` drag require a good 3D vidcard, and I imagine spinning round in the
- ` ground view with relief taxes the vidcard even more. The net fetch
- ` puts a fair load on your IP connection, and dialup is not recommended,
- ` so it really wants a high end machine for best results. As mine
- ` is rather that way in most respects these days, I can't say how
- ` the performance degrades with a less powerful machine.

- ` Anyway, spending happy hours drifting about the virtual globe, I have
- ` noticed a distinct feature in western Libya, along the border with
- ` Algeria. It appears to be a pair of concentric arcs, representing say 9
- ` o'clock to noon, which if completed would encircle a region slightly
- ` smaller than Spain. And indeed there seem to be other features which could
- ` be candidates for further outcroppings of a circular structure, around 4
- ` to 6 o'clock. Well, obviously the notion of meteor crater comes to mind,
- ` but I haven't heard of this being proposed for this region, and were it,

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` it would be far and away the largest known. I presume this feature is
` well known, and there is another explanation for it, and I wondered
` if you folks could enlighten me about it. Thanks.

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vincent@triumf[munge].ca Pete Vincent

Disclaimer: all I know I learned from reading Usenet.

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• *Follow-Ups:*

- ◆ ***Re: NASA Worldwind, & Large scale features in Africa***
◇ *From:* Aidan Karley

• *References:*

- ◆ ***NASA Worldwind, & Large scale features in Africa***
◇ *From:* pete

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