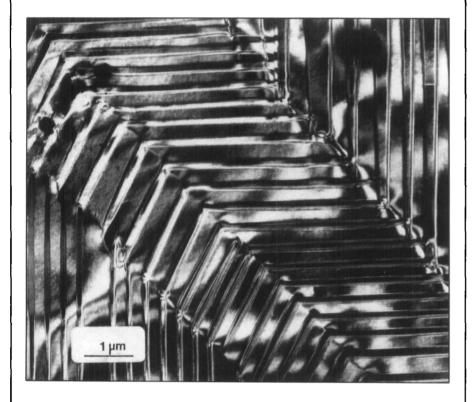
Figures appearing in the EDITOR'S CHOICE are those arising from materials research which strike the editor's fancy as being aesthetically appealing and eye-catching. No further criteria are applied and none should be assumed. When taken out of context, such figures often evoke images beyond and unrelated to the original meaning. Submissions of candidate figures are welcome and should include a complete source citation, a photocopy of the report in which it appears (or will appear), and a reproduction-quality original drawing or photograph of the figure in question.



This repetitive pattern with a metallic luster could be seen as merely a bent piece of corrugated sheet metal. A more imaginative reaction might be a staircase and railing decor to be found only in the most posh hotel lobby (rarely inhabited by technical conference attendees). In fact we have in this issue's EDITOR'S CHOICE a transmission electron micrograph of heavily twinned uranium silicide (U₃Si). The mechanical twins are generated by the stress attendant to a martensitic transformation on cooling from the high-temperature ordered tetragonal crystal structure to an orthorhombic structure stable at low temperature. This work was done in conjunction with a study at the Argonne National Laboratory (to be published) on radiation effects in intermetallic compounds which may serve as reactor fuel-element materials. The investigators, R.C. Birtcher, C.W. Allen, L.E. Rehn and G.L. Hofman, have suggested, and EDITOR'S CHOICE heartily agrees with, the automotive interpretation of this figure as reminiscent of the grill of a Buick.

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