Did a Large Object Collide with Mars?

(extracted from "The Cosmic Conspiracy ©1998 and 2002 by Stan Deyo)

In 1997-98, I retrieved all the available image data I could find regarding the Cydonia region and much of the surrounding terrain on Mars from NASA itself.

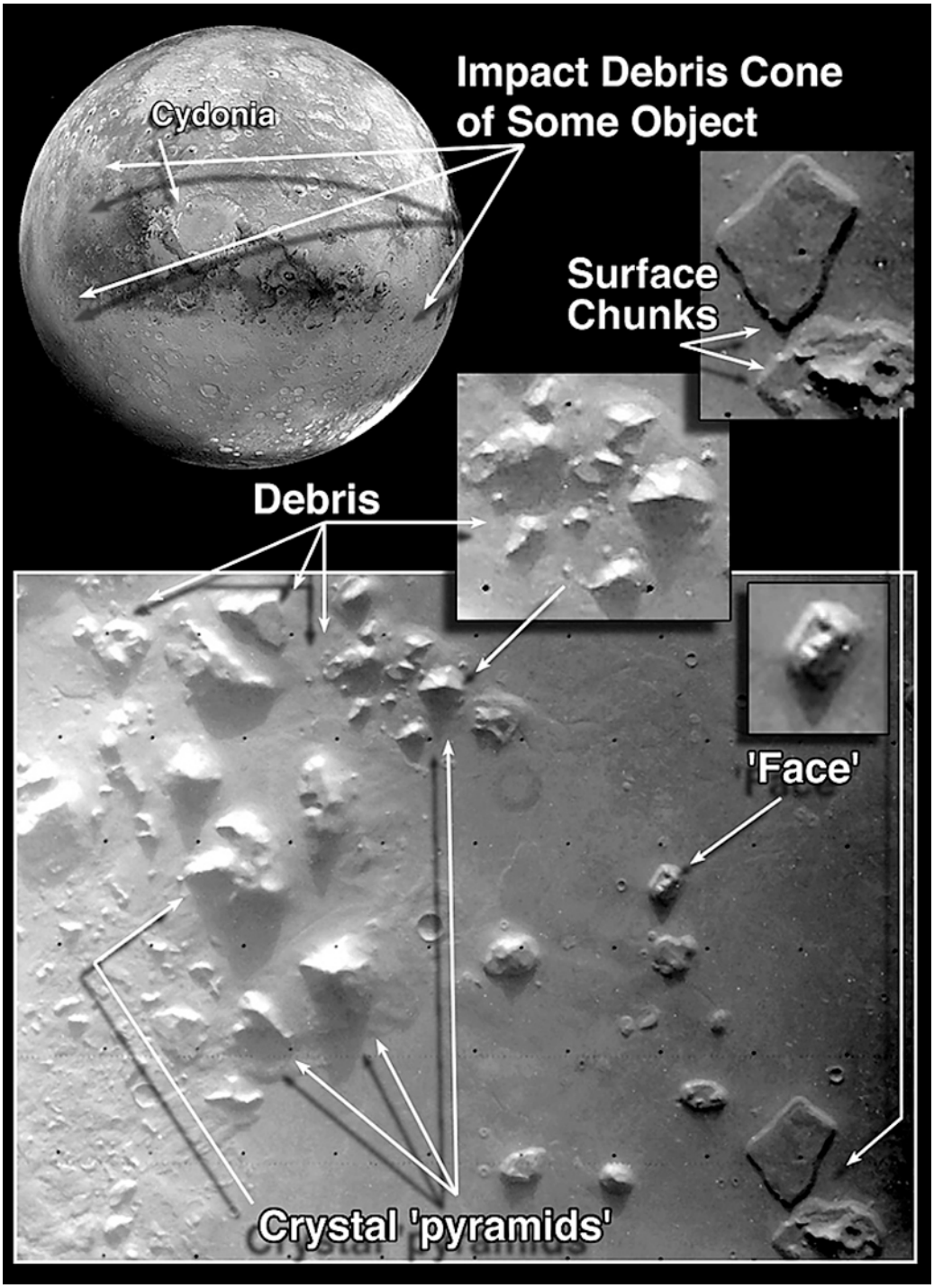


Figure 1

One evening as I was looking at the images, it suddenly hit me. The pyramidal shapes were not unique to the little area of the image which some had called the "city at Cydonia". In fact, for many miles to the right of the "face" and "city" locations there were pyramidal structures as well. More of the so-called pyramids were scattered over a much greater area than the Cydonia region. Furthermore, they were part of a larger, flat plateau that seemed to have broken at its left side and created a mess of debris which contained more of the crystalline (or pyramidal) structures.

Suddenly, I saw a different possibility for the creation of those pyramidal shapes. The flat area could have been the remains of a formerly curved exterior surface of a small moon or planet which had exploded some distance from the Martian surface.

As I analyzed the “impact” area near to Cydonia, I realized that this was not an isolated event on the Martian surface. There were signs of a much greater calamity all over the planet. One could see a large triangular area in black on the Martian surface (**Figure 1**). It gave the distinct impression that a large object hit the surface at a very shallow angle and exploded leaving the fan-shaped deposit along its impact zone.

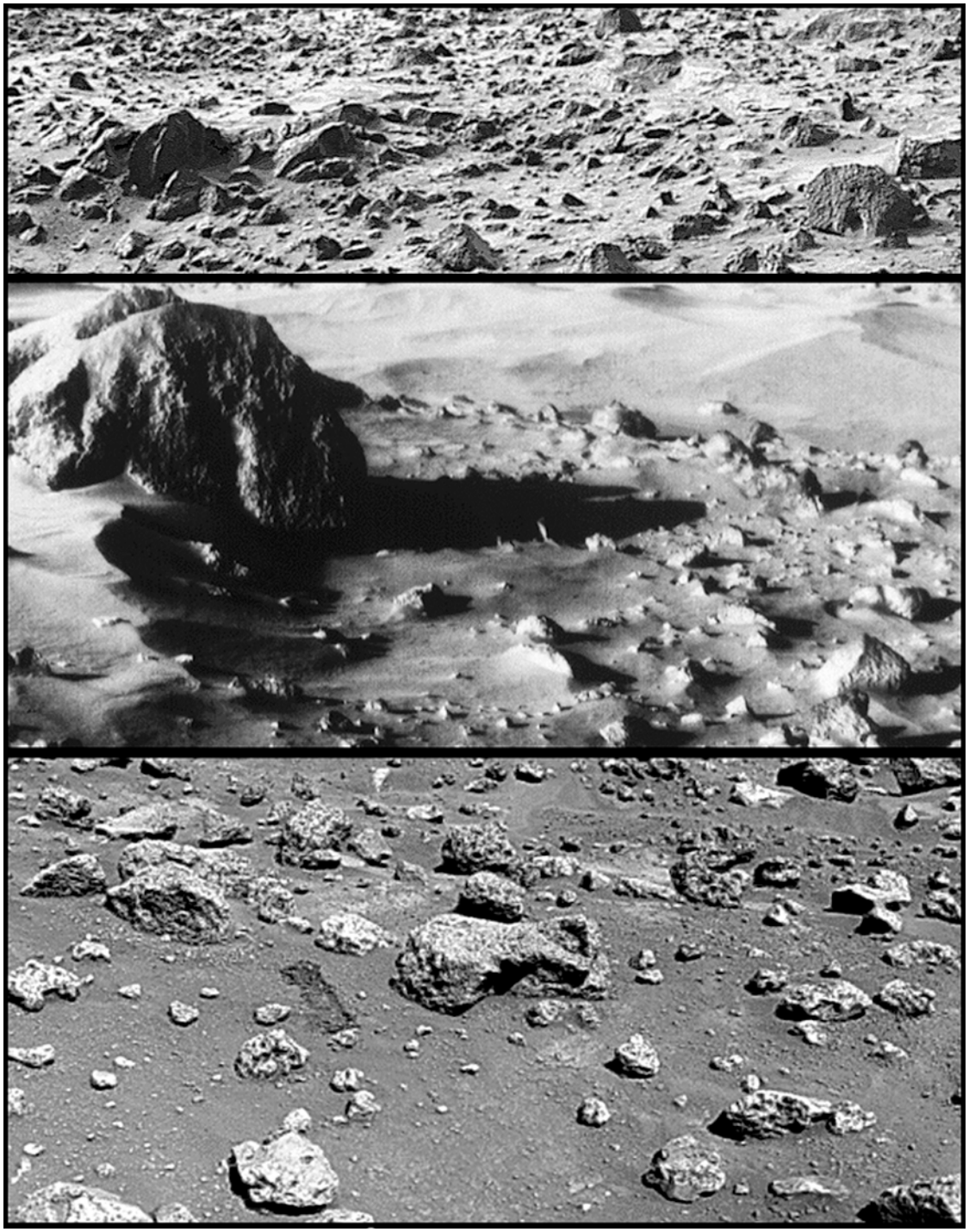


Figure 2

From further study of the entire Martian surface as supplied by the NASA and JPL imagery, I have deduced that a small planet (perhaps one which used to occupy an orbit next to Mars and between Mars and Jupiter) exploded from some (as yet) unexplained series of events on an astronomical scale.

The dust and the fractured igneous rocks from that planet were blown into and outside of its orbit. Thus, leaving the asteroid belt of today and numerous wandering groups of asteroids in the solar system... AND a huge deposit of red dust and sharp-edged igneous rocks **(Figure 2**) all over the planet Mars.

These rocks were and still are sharp-edged. This implied that they were deposited slow enough to allow them to impact without melting their edges on the way through the thin Martian atmosphere. From this and other clues, I deduced the debris must have been traveling fairly slowly in respect to an impact vector to Mars due to the effects of its original orbital elements when it approached Mars.

In effect, the debris from the other planet or moon must have been so massive and spread out like a canopy that it (relatively speaking) slowly descended to the surface. This would have caused a change in the spin rate of Mars. If the debris had come from a planet or moon not connected to mars by orbital components, then the addition of the extra mass would have caused Mars to slow down its spin thus lengthening the Martian "day". If the debris was from a moon already orbiting Mars, then it would have sped up the spin rate like a ballerina's spin when her arms are drawn into her body.

I believe this is why the red dust is non-uniformly deposited across the Martian surface. This may also be why large pieces of that "moon's" out layers impacted upside down on the Martian surface to create those large, raised, flat-topped mesas near Cydonia...

It could explain why these areas exhibit fracturing toward one end more than the other. They would not have hit exactly parallel to the Martian surface; and, thus, would have "snapped" the end arriving last. This would have caused the fracturing and splattering of fragments several miles along its impact trajectory. Later as the red dust landed the fractures would have become less obvious as the dust began to mound around the edges and to fill the gaps.

Furthermore, from the way the left side of the flat area had fragmented on impact, I deduced the pyramidal structures could have been rolled off the flat surface in a random pattern from the forces of the impact.

You see, when a planet or moon is young, it has a molten core spinning vortically at various rates. As the moon or planet grows older and cools, the core starts to change in much the same way as a geode does on Earth when it is flung from a molten eruption and then cools over the next few days or weeks. When one cuts a geode in half, one sees a layer of quartz crystals inside the geode (**Figure 3**).

Sometimes on top of this layer or instead of this layer there are found amethyst and beryl (emerald) crystals. The core is empty as the water of hydration has been incorporated into the organized, cyrstalline layers and has thus taken a lot less space.

On a planetary scale, those crystals would be miles across JUST like the "pyramids" of Mars. One can imagine how a curved chunk of a small moon with its crystallized "pyramids" would have descended to the Martian surface having its fall braked by the curved shape of the chunks old surface. It would have eventually struck the ground and would have whipped the far left end so hard that the crystals would have been ejected from the inside of the surface as it flattened out on impact. They would have tumbled farther along the impact path leaving the "cities" we now observe.

I spent the next few days developing a way to estimate the diameter of such a hypothetical moon or planet if its explosion produced a surface fragment of the dimensions I saw before me in the image. Using trigonometry and making some basic assumptions, the object's diameter appeared to have been from 150 to 225 miles. This would have been a very small moon or planetoid, even.

On another image (**Figure 4**), I found Cydonia on the "western" ejecta (secondary) rim of a huge impact crater named "Cassini"... (When a meteor impacts with so much energy, it makes two "rims" - one close around the meteor impact hole and a second one much farther out as a result of the mass ejected from the initial impact hole in a splash-like rebound.)

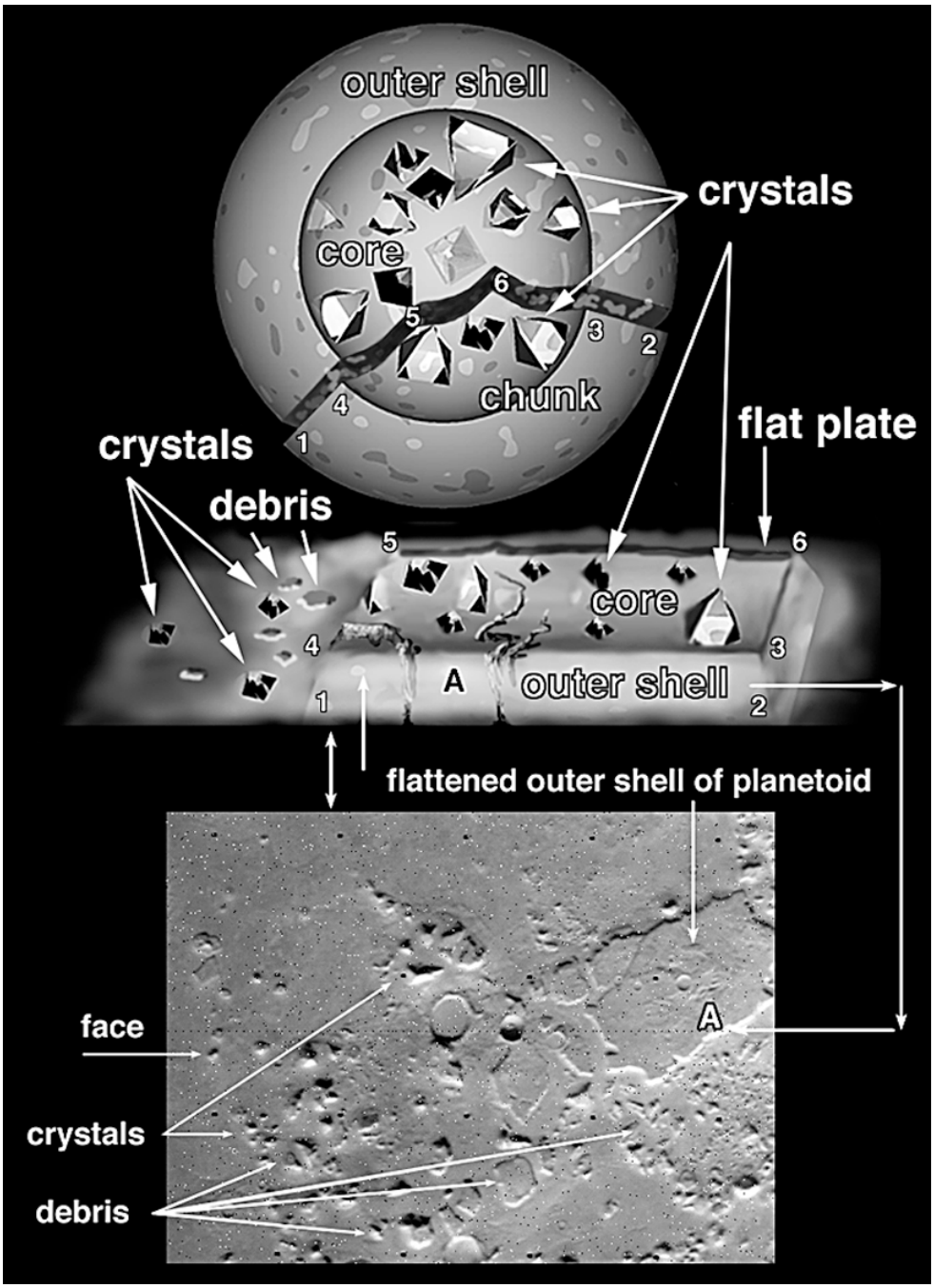


Figure 3

What I saw in the Cassini Crater modified my hypothesis for the origin of the Cydonia area. The primary impact crater at Cassini could have been made by an object roughly 300 miles in diameter. The secondary expulsion of impact debris may have thrown a backwash of pieces from the impact object back over the secondary rim to the west forming Cydonia from a piece of the surface and core of the object. The speed of the ejecta from the expulsion of matter from the primary site would have been much slower than that of the intial object. This would explain the 'graceful' landing of that huge sheet (**Figure 5**) which broke into pieces on its 'west' end only.

Look closely at the images I have included here to illustrate my hypotheses. I could be wrong; but I believe what I have deduced is very close to the way it must have happened. My explanations for what may have happened on Mars to have generated the Cydonia topography is not as exciting as a "Martian race" hypothesis; but I do believe it is closer to the truth than traditional explanations. Neither of my hypotheses supports the notion that a Martian "city" ever existed at Cydonia. The Martian geology around Cassini just cannot be ignored.

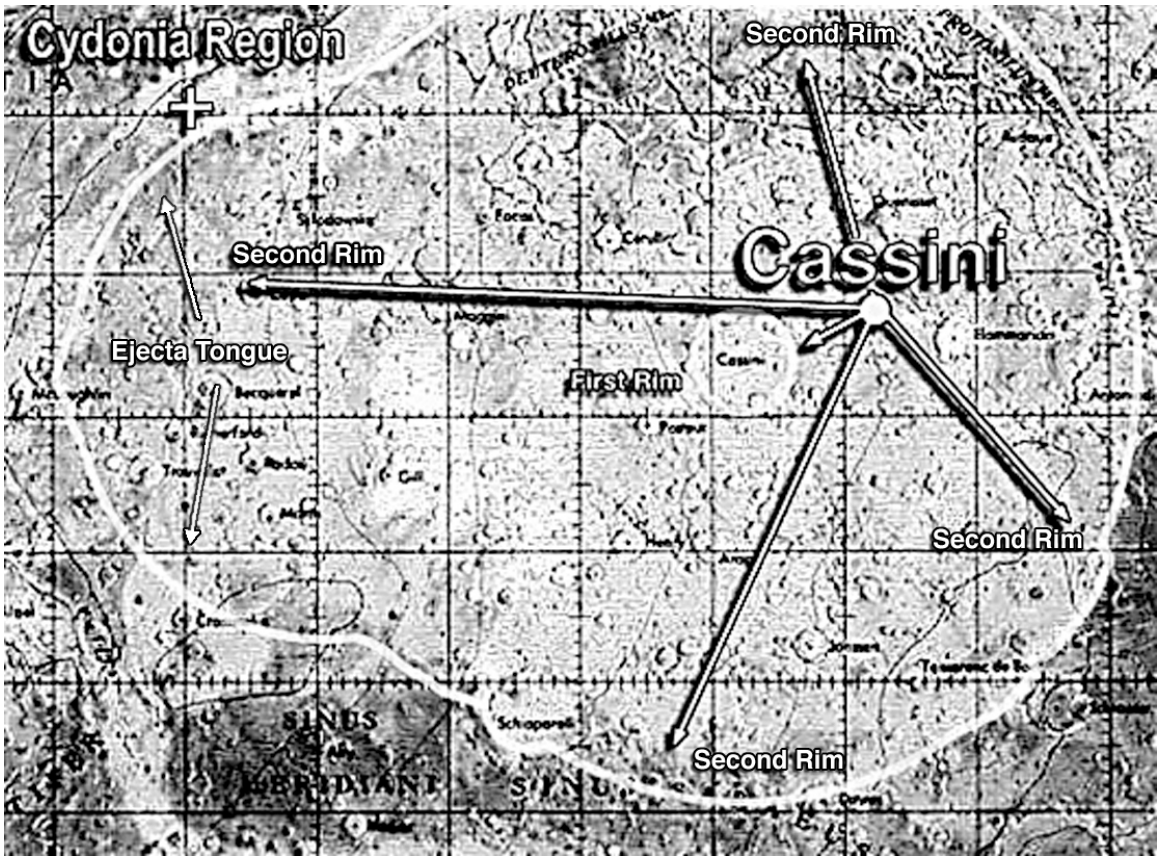
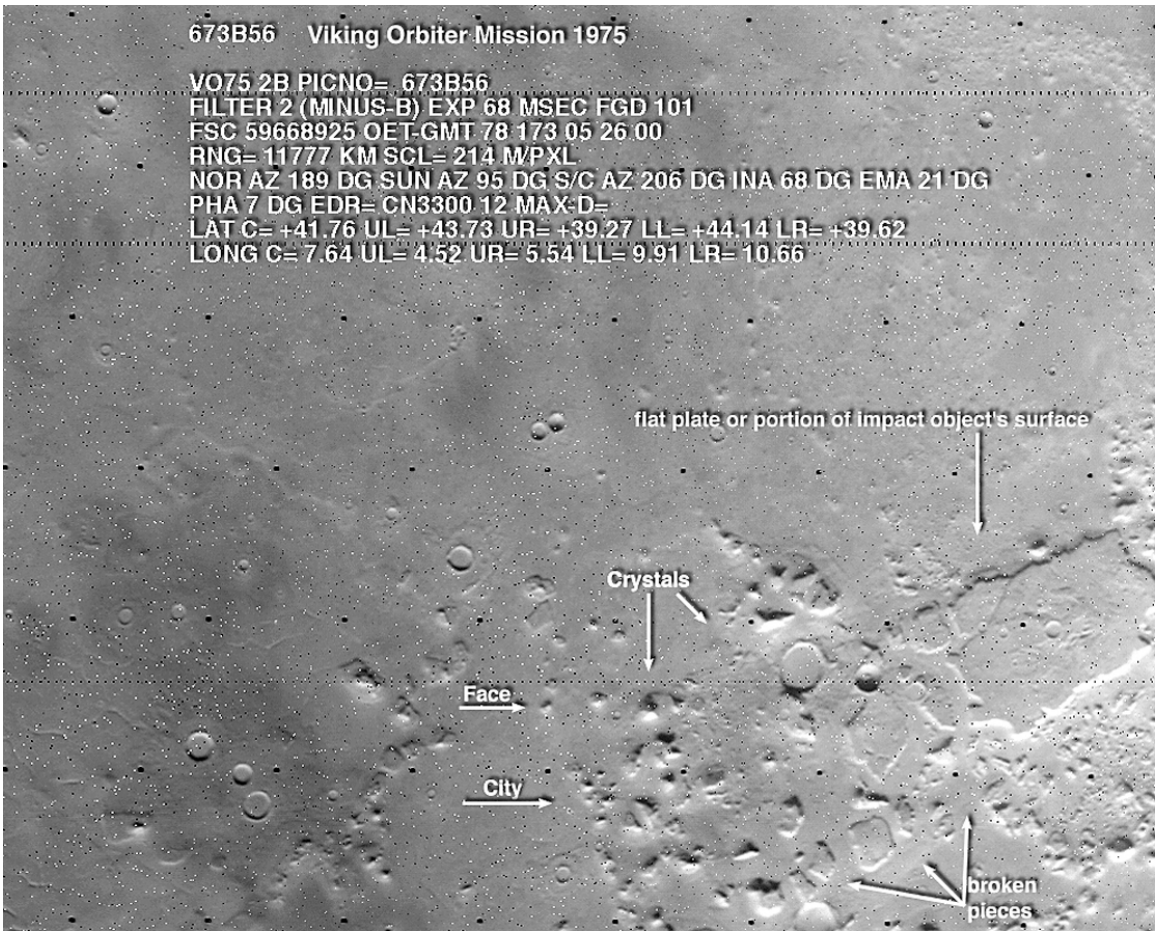


Figure 4



(Figure 5: Mars Viking Orbiter No. 673b56 image