

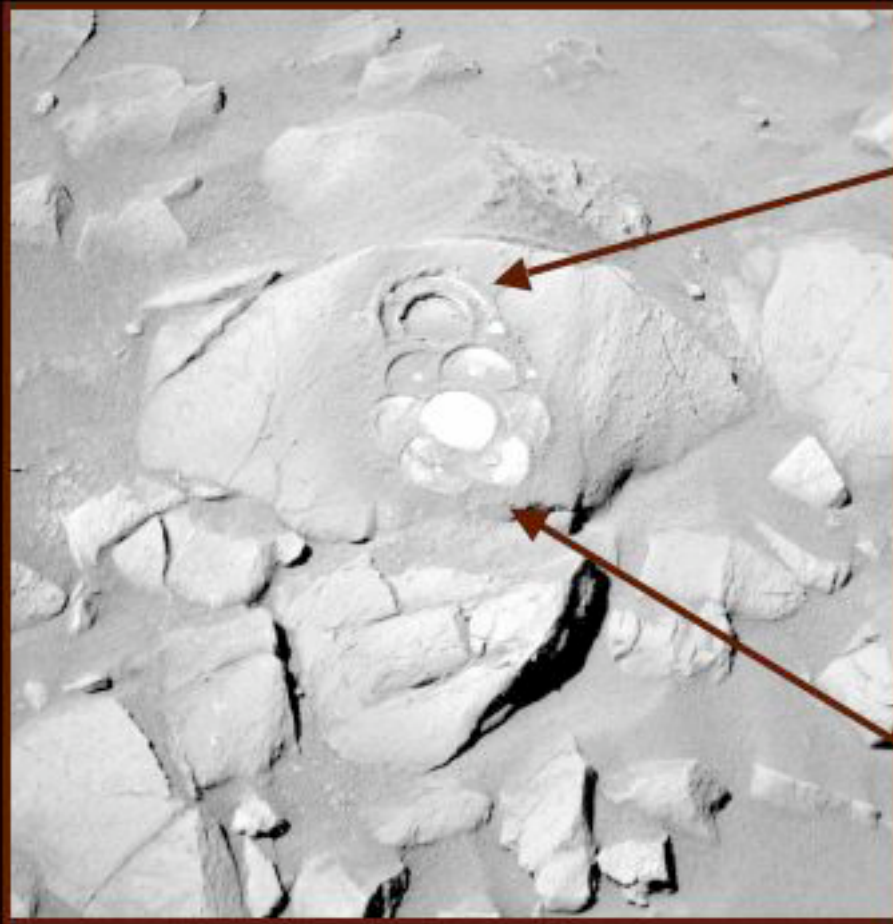
Mars Exploration Rover Mission

**Spirit
and
Opportunity**



**Week in Review
August 28 - September 3**

Spirit spent the week studying Ebenezer, brushing the rock eight times before analyzing the rock's chemistry.



*Panoramic camera image,
September 3, 2004.*

**One dusted spot was for the microscopic imager.
Another seven spots provided a large enough target
for the miniature thermal emission spectrometer.**

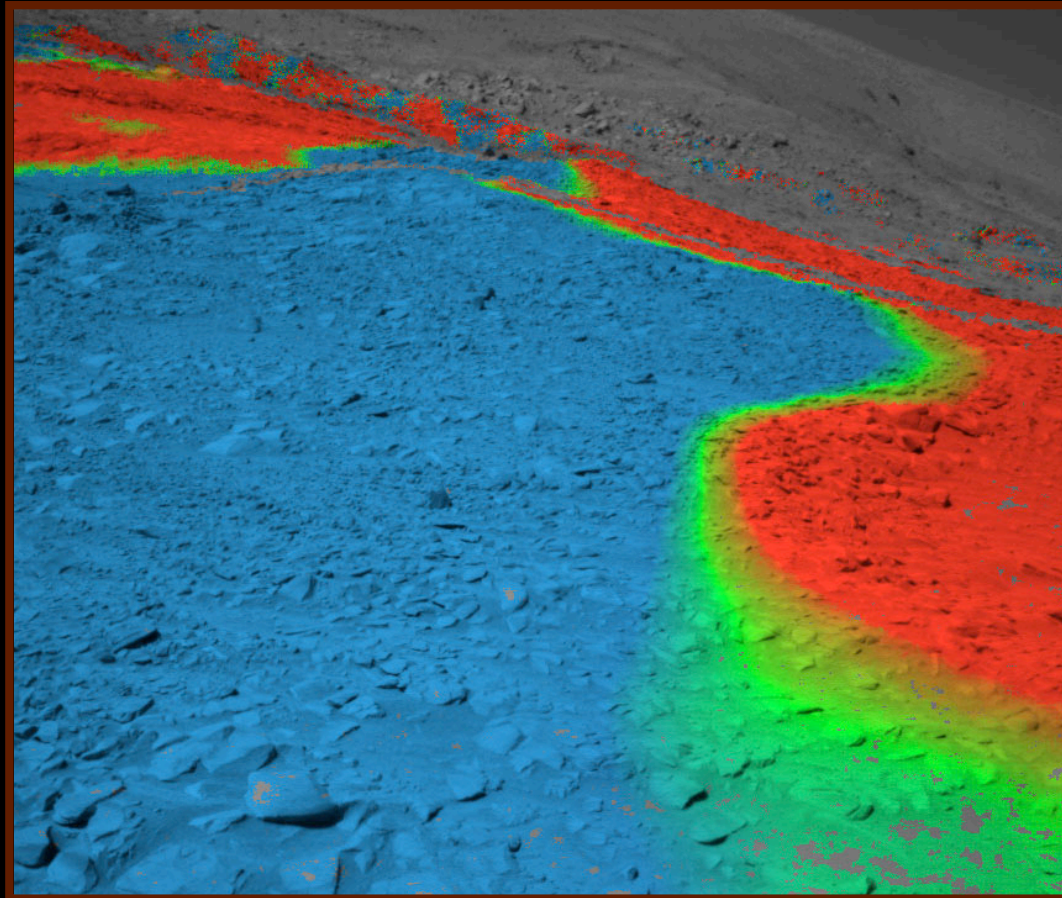
**Before leaving Ebenezer, Spirit took pictures
in the expected drive direction, toward Tikal.**



**On Earth, Tikal is
the largest Mayan
city discovered in
Guatemala.**

Navigation camera image, September 2, 2004.

Rover drivers planned Spirit's traverse to Tikal using this "solar insolation" map.



Panoramic camera image, September 2, 2004, with solar insolation graphics overlain.

Blue areas show where Spirit had access to good sunlight, and thus energy, along its path.

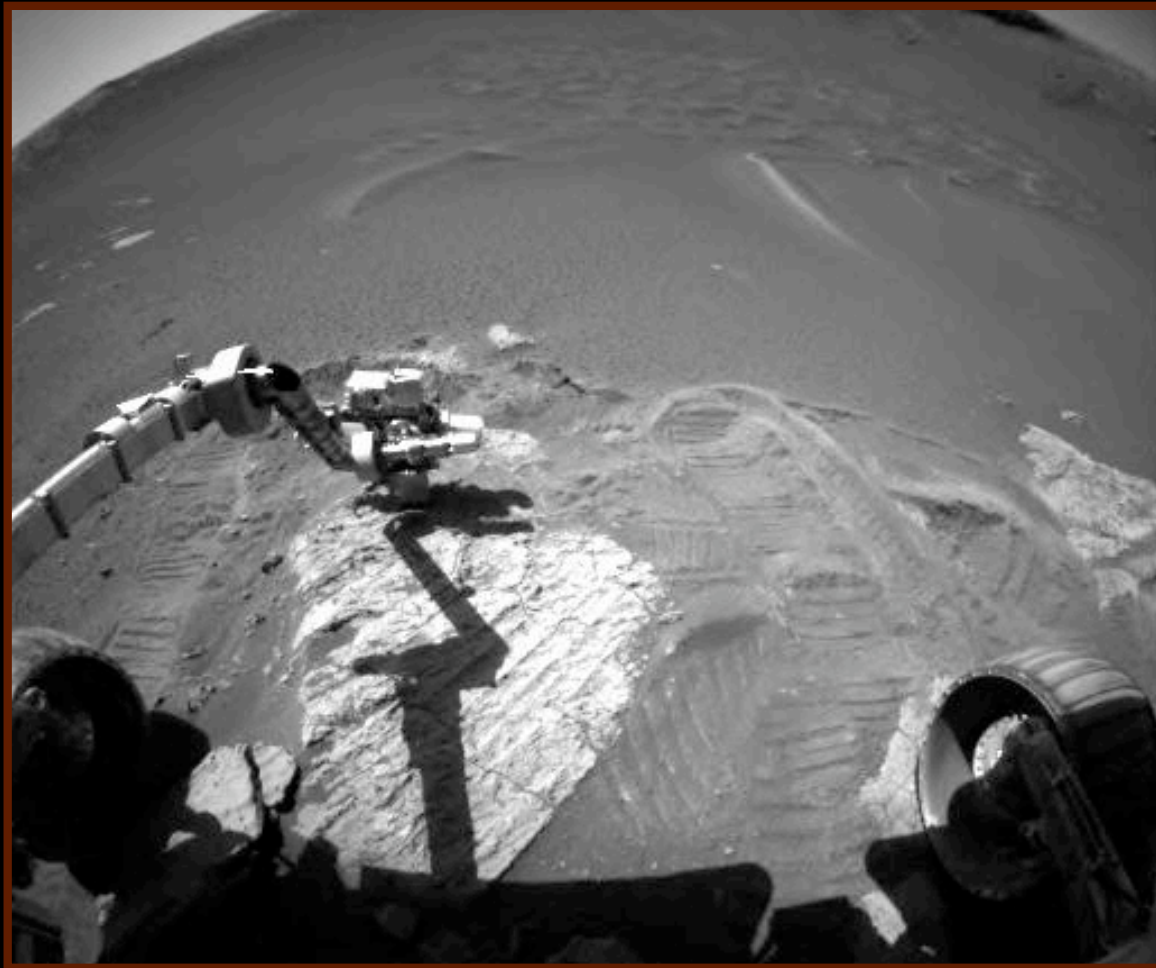
On Friday, September 3, Spirit successfully drove 9 meters (30 feet) to Tikal.



Front hazard-avoidance camera, looking backwards, Spirit sol 238.

Spirit is still driving backwards to preserve one of its aging front wheels.

Meanwhile, Opportunity continued its analysis of the patterned rock Escher, named after the Dutch graphic artist known for repeating geometric patterns.



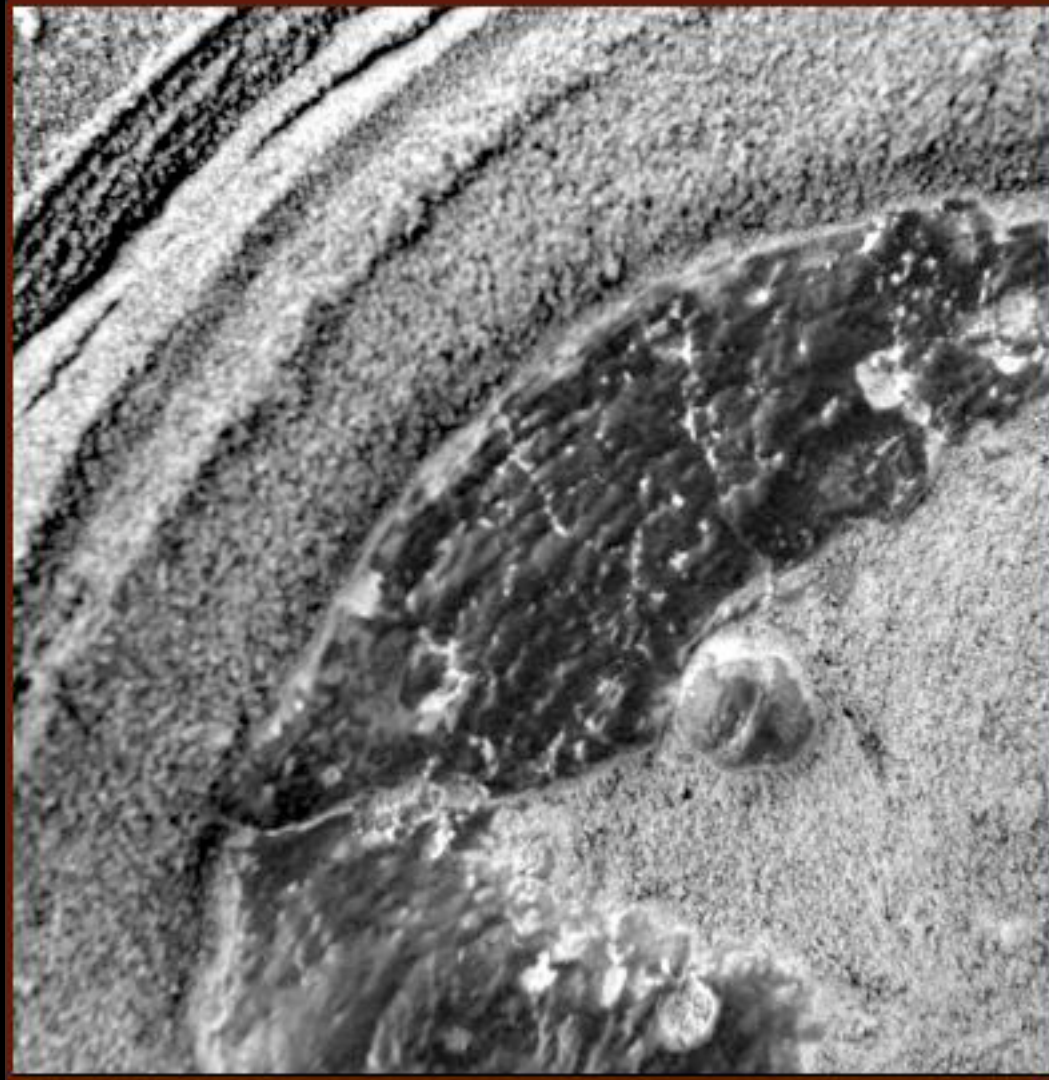
Front hazard-avoidance camera, September 1, 2004, inside Endurance Crater.

Scientists are studying two targets on Escher that were brushed by the rock abrasion tool after a pebble dropped out of the instrument last week.



Panoramic camera image taken August 30, 2004.

The microscopic imager captured ever more interesting patterns inside Escher.



Microscopic imager, August 30, 2004.

While the spectrometers were studying the chemical makeup of Escher, Opportunity's navigation camera took peeks around the rest of the area inside Endurance crater.



Navigation camera, August 28, 2004.

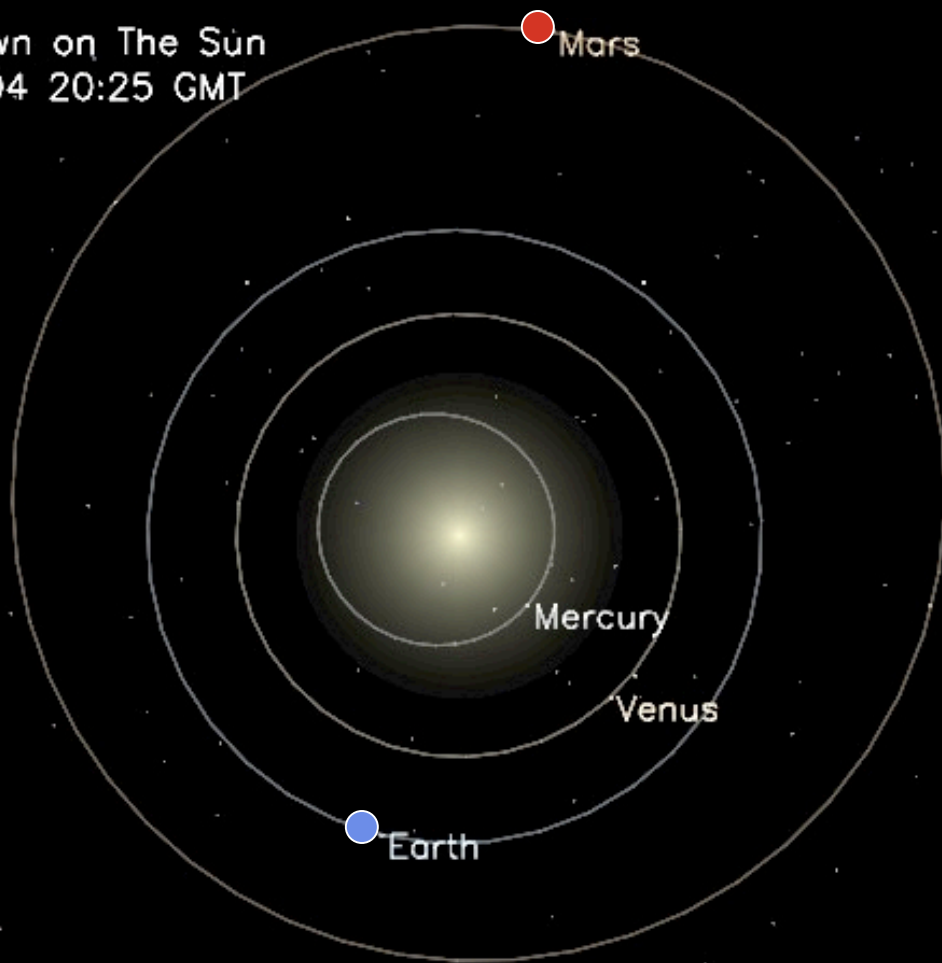


Navigation camera, September 2, 2004



Communication with the rovers will be hard over the next two weeks, when Mars is on the opposite side of the Sun from Earth, a time called "solar conjunction."

Looking down on The Sun
07 Sep 2004 20:25 GMT



Both rovers have been prepared with long-term, energy-safe plans for their miniature vacations from talking with Earth during solar conjunction.