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Geochemical analysis of tektites from Belize and Northwestern Canada

N. Gantert, W.H. Schwarz, V. Assis Fernandes, M. Trieloff, University of Heidelberg - Institute of Earth Sciences 69120 Heidelberg, Germany, niklas.gantert@gmx.de.

In 2010, the geologist, J. H. Cornec announced the existence of a Central American strewn field in Western Belize [1].

One specimen from Belize was geochemically characterized to compare it with tektites from the known classical strewn fields. The analytical results display a separate new tektite group which is particularly characterized by a low SiO_2 and high Na_2O and CaO content. A possible source crater is situated in the Pantasma region in Nicaragua [2].

Furthermore a tektite from Northwestern Canada was geochemically characterized and the analytical results display main oxide contents which are within range of Australasian tektites. If isotopic dating confirms an age indistinguishable from Australasian tektites, this would be the first finding of an Australasian tektite on the North American continent.

[1] Cornec, J. and Cornec L. 2010 Western Belize Tektites – The Sequel

[2] Povenmire H., Harris R.S., Cornec J.H. 2011. The new Central American tektitestrewn field (Abstract). 42nd Lunar and Planetary Science Conference, 1224.

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