Nobel Sonoluminescence

Kirk T. McDonald
Joseph Henry Laboratories, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544
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In an interesting article on sonoluminscence (Popular Science, Dec. 1998), it is stated that this phenomenon was discovered in 1933, but it had been the unrecognized secret behind a major success of Dynamit Nobel, A.G. for a half century before. Namely, sonoluminescence is what makes nitroglycerine explode! See the high-speed photographs in *Detonics of High Explosives* by C.H. Johansson and P.A. Persson (Academic Press, London, 1970), in which a pressure wave is formed in nitroglycerine by dropping it, or by a blasting cap, after which cavitation bubbles form, which implode when the reflected pressure wave hits them, and emit a flash of light = sonoluminescence. Only then does the explosion occur, triggered by the amazing concentration of energy associated with sonoluminescence. Hence, one could say that ALL Nobel prizes are due to sonoluminescence.