witness such an awe inspiring change, but also for reasons related to their own spiritual evolution. Earth from Rahma's view is being transformed into a kind of spiritual dynamo. She will supply the necessary power not only for Earth's next great spiritual evolutionary leap forward, but will also enable advanced extraterrestrial civilizations in the galaxy to climb to the next wrung on their evolutionary ladders.

Thus our planet has become the center of attention of the entire Milky Way. If such enlightened self-interest from a host of ET civilizations were truly operational in the contact drama, then it might explain why UFO experiencers have described what appear to be so many different racial types of ET beings that they report meeting during their close encounters.

A XENDRA MATERIALIZES IN SHASTA.

United 747 pilot Joe Vallejo told me that the event occurred at night. The contact site used by Rahma is located near a stream than runs through rolling hills that are several hundred feet high. After a light meal of fruit some forty plus Hispanic contact activists started chanting. "Ohm." Suddenly a faint violet colored light appeared in the field just twenty yards away from where the group was standing in a circle some forty feet across.

The hovering light was about 7 feet above the field. It quickly enlarged extending to the left and right forming a doorway like structure made of violet light. Dr Limaco explained that the group had just opened a dimensional portal and that in order to keep it materialized the entire assembly needed to keep chanting. The senior Rahma people then moved through the crowd instructing

them to form seven groups of seven individuals. They were informed that they would have an opportunity to briefly enter the Xendra to allow them to experience what it was like to stand in the teleportation device. Assurances were given that they would not leave the contact site.

Over the next hour seven groups of seven people each were then instructed to go into the portal made of light and stand briefly in the Xendra. Those in the Xendra as well the crowd outside continued to chant "OOHHHMMM" throughout the entire procedure. Captain Vallejo's group was the last to enter. At that point people had been standing and chanting for several hours and were beginning to get fatigued.

Captain Vallejo described the dimensional portal as being a tight space similar to an elevator. People had to crowd together to fit

in. In the darkness the walls were indistinct; the only illumination being provided was from the faint purple light that formed the doorway. As soon as they entered the Xendra the Rahma activists noticed that there was a change in sound of their chanting. Joe said it was muffled as if they were speaking underwater. He also found that there was a change in the way in which they moved while huddled together. Everything seemed to be slowed down.

After a minute or two he and the others inside the portal noticed that the chanting from the crowd outside had become less vigorous. As the sound of their voices decreased, to the dismay of those inside the Xendra, the violet light coming from the doorway started to fade. In addition the walls of the elevator like structure in which they were standing became more indistinct.

Joe told me that he didn't know what would happen to them if the portal collapsed while they were still inside. He did not know and he was sure that he didn't want to find out. Without exchanging a word, Captain Joe and his six companions chanted louder. To their relief the violet light from the doorway became brighter and the walls of the claustrophobic space in which they stood became more solid. They emerged from the Xendra with no ill effects. Joe told me that the entire group was enchanted by the experience.

For the next year the word Xendra could be heard throughout the Rahma network. I was busy with my own organizing efforts with the CE-5 Initiative and was only able to attend one Rahma outing near Pasadena. It was with a local Southern California group that was very different from Dr Limaco's team. Although a few anomalous nocturnal

lights were seen, nothing as dramatic as the opening of a dimensional portal occurred.

For over twenty years I have been aware of this amazing event of the contact network now called Rahma. In 2014 I was given permission by Dr Limaco to openly share this information. Soon I hope to report on his 1990 journey through the forests of Eastern Peru to an alleged ET base in the foothills of the Andes. That place is called Paititi.

About the author: Dr Burkes volunteered as a Working Group Coordinator for the CE-5 Initiative from 1992 till 1998. He continued to study the flying saucer phenomenon working with MUFON and the Peruvian contact network now called Rahma. He is co-author of the book "Paths to Contact" edited by Jeff Becker. Dr Burkes retired from the Southern California Pemanente Group after thirty years service in 2008. He is a board certified internal medicine physician and is licensed to practice in California.

CONTACT NETWORK HISTORY PROJECT

Mission Rama: The most important contactee network of the 20th Century

Joseph Burkes MD 2009, revised 2014

In 1993 the American Public Health Association (APHA) held its annual meeting in San Francisco. I was particularly eager to go to the Bay Area because I had learned that a network of contactees known as Mission Rama had an active working group there. Rama is an international organization of contact workers that was established in Lima, Peru in 1974. Rama's initial activities involved the ET contacts of a young man by the name of Sixto Paz Wells.

When I first spoke to Rama activists in 1993 I was told that their group had facilitated over 25,000 individual human encounters with non-human intelligence of a presumed extraterrestrial nature, the type of experience that Dr. Greer decades later designated as "CE-5s," Close Encounter of the Fifth Kind.

SIXTO PAZ WELLS WAS ONE OF MANY PROMINENT CONTACT ACTIVISTS

Prior to traveling to the APHA meeting in San Francisco, I had read several magazine articles outlining the exploits of Rama. Although the stories focused on Sixto Paz Wells' leadership role, I was soon to learn that Rama's continuing success relied on the efforts of scores of talented Latin American contactees from many countries. Most of them were recruited into the Rama contact network as young people in their 20s and early 30s. Rama leaders were not only well versed in advanced meditation techniques, but also possessed impressive psychic abilities.

THOUSANDS OF HUMAN INITIATED CONTACT EXPERIENCES

During the mid 1970s many published accounts in the Spanish language media served to promote Mission Rama's campaign across Latin America. Through emigration of Rama activists to Europe and North America, their project spread around the world. Given this international dimension to their work going on for many decades, I strongly suspect that the 1993 figure of 25,000 encounters would now be a gross underestimate of their track record. A more

accurate current figure would be in the hundreds of thousands of individual human encounters with extraterrestrial intelligence.

BACKGROUND IN SOLIDARITY WORK IN LATIN AMERICA

Throughout my youth I had an interest in Latin American affairs. I grew up in a Puerto Rican neighborhood in Manhattan and learned Spanish in high school. Later in no small part due to the influence of my leftist mother, I did international solidarity work with the peace and social justice movements during the 1960s and 1970s.

When I was 19 years old I spent 2 months in Mexico and Guatemala. During that year the Mexican student movement was on the defensive and was still reeling from the massacre in Mexico City that occurred during the 1968 Olympics. In one bloody encounter, hundreds of anti-government demonstrators were gunned down by the Mexican military at Tlalteloco, in the Plaza of the Three Cultures. Given my participation in the civil rights and anti-Vietnam War student movements back at home, I was very sympathetic to the leftwing causes of Latin American

youth who I believed were also struggling for social justice.

My background in Latin American activism and the UFO phenomenon made me eager to meet a Peruvian leader of Rama while visiting in San Francisco. For 20 years I called him Dr. Ricardo, a pseudonym. In 2014 he gave me permission to use his true name, Dr Fernando Limaco.

He is a retired dental surgeon and back in 1993 he agreed to stop by the CSETI booth that I had rented at the American Public Health Association's annual meeting. Given the audacity of setting up a UFO table at a large health professional meeting, I anticipated that he might decline the offer. I was pleasantly surprised when Dr Limaco agreed to join me.

MY COLLEAGUE'S STRIKING PHYSICAL APPEARANCE.

I shall never forget meeting him for the first time. Short, robust, with copper colored skin, he was the very image of the indigenous people of the Andes. His dark eyes were set deep into his face. When he

spoke his eyes shinned with a passionate intensity. I had no doubt that the individual standing before me possessed enormous physical strength and personal determination.

We spent the afternoon at the booth chatting in Spanish and English. My new friend witnessed me "working the crowd," drawing health professionals over to see UFO videos and passing out CSETI literature. I also met with several other members of RAMA that impressed me with their idealism and dedication to the cause of peaceful contacts with non-human intelligence of a presumed ET nature.

UFO LIBRARY MAGAZINE ARTICLE CHRONICLED RAMA'S BEGINNING

I gave Fernando and his friends a photocopy of an article about Mission Rama that was published in a past issue of the "UFO Library Magazine." The journal ceased publishing in the early 1990s. I did not have the original magazine in which it had been appeared. The account that follows is based on that article. It displayed no author or publication date on title page. My new Rama friends told me after reading the article that the author was Yolanda

Marcino, who at that was the United States Rama President. In addition they affirmed that the narrative accurately corresponded to other written accounts about Sixto Paz Wells and correctly reflected the early history of his organization. Dr Limaco was with Sixto Paz Wells practically from the beginning and had accompanied him on an arduous journey deep into the Andes jungle in 1990 to meet with the ETs in a remote district called Paititi.

The following account is based on that UFO Library article. My aim is to inform readers about a little known but important piece of contact movement history. Few articles and even fewer books have been published in English describing the important activities of Mission Rama. In my opinion their decades of contact work has had a significant impact on Latin American awareness of what a growing number of people believe is an extraterrestrial presence on Earth.

LIMA PERU JANUARY 1974

In 1974 Sixto Paz Wells was a first year university student in Lima. His father Carlos Paz Garcia had a long-standing interest in the paranormal and metaphysics and was a participant at meetings where

the possibility of telepathic communication with extraterrestrials was discussed. Sixto was an avid practitioner of Yoga.

He attended a conference with his father where telepathic exercises designed to contact ETs were described. After the meeting Sixto meditated, attempting to serve as a kind of human "antenna." He hoped to receive a telepathic message from extraterrestrials.

FIRST COMMUNICATIONS VIA AUTOMATIC WRITING

His efforts were soon rewarded. Using the technique of automatic writing, on January 22, 1974 with his mother and sister in attendance, he started to move his hand across the paper. At first it was just scribbling, but finally contact was made. The message identified its source as coming from an extraterrestrial that called himself "Oxalc." This being claimed to be residing in an ET base on "Morlen", a moon of Jupiter known to us as Ganymeade. While carrying out his automatic writing, Sixto described seeing in his mind's eye a

middle-aged man who was sitting at a white desk and was holding his hands on his temples.

Sixto could hardly believe what had transpired. Had he really made contact by just asking for it? However he was full of doubts. Without telling Sixto, his mother and sister called some friends and set up a meeting at their home for the following night. Confused and dubious about his capacity to establish contact, Sixto again carried out his relaxation exercises and opened himself up for any possible communication with extraterrestrials.

THE CHANNELED ENTITY PUT TO THE TEST

The night of the meeting before an audience of mostly young people, Sixto's automatic writing soon spelled out another message from Oxalc. The alleged ET now proposed a test to prove that the automatic writing was more than just a product of Sixto's imagination. Oxalc suggested that he be posed a series of questions from the audience. At first Sixto's friends asked them verbally, with Sixto giving the answers via automatic writing. Latter the questions were posed to Oxalc via telepathy. To everyone's amazement each question was answered correctly!

One skeptic mentally asked Oxalc via Sixto to name the author and title of the book that she was reading. In addition she requested that Oxalt reveal the page she was currently on. The alleged extraterrestrial, communicating through Sixto, not only replied correctly, but also accurately explained to the assembled group what was her opinion concerning the merits of the book.

In order to prove that the source of communication was indeed extraterrestrial, it was suggested that Oxalc should give them a time and place where a physical encounter could take place. The immediate reply set the time as 9PM February 7, 1974. The location would be out in the desert some 60 km south of Lima. It was a place known as Chilca. On the appointed night, while waiting in the cool quiet darkness, Sixto and his friends were treated to an encounter that frightened them. A silvery light appeared over a nearby hill that at first was thought to be the moon. By 9PM it became apparent that this was a disc shaped UFO. The object flew towards them and then a shaft of light shot out from the craft illuminating the ground where the witnesses stood.

FLYING SAUCER OVERHEAD

The UFO appeared to be shaped like a hamburger with a metallic skin. It silently hovered 80 feet overhead. On the upper section of the craft the young people could see six windows. Sixto's friends were hardly prepared for this momentous occasion. In fact they completely panicked. Sixto, communicating by automatic writing, was told that they would have to learn to control their emotions before further contact could be achieved. The UFO hovered over them for 15 minutes and then started to spin. It suddenly flew away to the west towards the Pacific Ocean and was gone.

Thus began the initial encounters of what would soon become an international network of contactees. Although the initial interactions took place in Peru, the movement spread throughout Latin America, and via emigration of Rama activists, to far flung corners of the world.

INTERNATIONAL CONTACT NETWORK

Learning of these details I was immediately struck by the many similarities between CSETI and Rama. They both took an overwhelming positive view of

human-ET interactions. It was and still is their collective hope that peaceful contact will issue forth a new era of enlightened human development. For both groups the principal mode of communication between humans and the alleged ETs is consciousness or mind. Both groups use meditation or relaxation techniques to enhance the consciousness link during attempts at making contact. And most importantly the networks were primarily founded on the contact experiences of one young contactee. For Rama it was Sixto Paz Wells, for CSETI Dr. Steven Greer. There were many philosophical, cultural and organizational differences between the two groups, but their shared features in my opinion reveal the handiwork of an advanced non-human intelligence that is determined to interact with humanity.

INTENSE MENTAL PREPARATION FOR CONTACT

Following that poorly prepared first encounter in the Peruvian desert, Sixto and his supporters intensively practiced meditation in order to overcome their fears. They approached the contact work in a serious, almost reverent style. The next psychographic (automatic writing) communication contained an important warning.

Sixto was told that he should not try to convince others outside of his small team, of the reality of their experience. This prohibition was applied especially to family members. Apparently Sixto chose to ignore the warning and insisted that his father Paz Garcia should be allowed to participate in the upcoming planned encounter. In consultation with the alleged ETs, it was agreed that only Sixto's father, along with the original group would be permitted to have contact during the next outing.

PARTY TURNS TO PANIC IN CHLCA

On February 14, 1974 at 6:45 PM, Sixto and his young supporters eagerly awaited contact on a mountaintop in the Chilca region near Lima. His father had told them that he would meet up with the group later. Soon a large 150-meter craft approached in the sky, but instead of just their father being present, several vehicles appeared moving down a mountain road near their site.

Sixto and his brother rushed to investigate. To their dismay and in violation of the agreed plan, Sixto and Carlos discovered that their father had invited some

of his friends to join them in the desert. These individuals were now actively conducting their own contact efforts in a party like atmosphere. Some individuals were clearly intoxicated having brought with them several cases of beer. Others were attempting to make contact by holding hands and using a trance medium approach.

Soon two small UFOs descended upon the group of partiers. Once again panic ensued. This time the terrified merrymakers knocked over tables and chairs while charging into their tents and cars to hide. For Sixto it was a humiliating disaster. The huge craft that they had first sighted in the distance slowly flew over the group at a height of less than 50 meters. After this incident, Paz Garcia's friends were described as being in a state of shock.

IMPOSING HUMAN PRIORITIES NOT A SUCCESSFUL STRATEGY

The fiasco however was highly instructive for these young Peruvian contact workers. Instead of blaming Sixto's father, they looked into themselves. Sixto's group attempted to understand how perhaps their own faults had contributed to the chaos at Chilca. They

had attempted to impose on the ETs their human priorities, their need to convince others, despite being cautioned against such a course by their extraterrestrial contact. Sixto's team continued their spiritual work and chose to consider the ETs as friends and called them "elder brothers" or "guides."

In preparation for more contact, Sixto's team was instructed to modify their diet with an emphasis on fruits and vegetables, eliminating all meat. The contact team was to be limited to no more than seven individuals, the original group. On a cloudless night during the first week of July 1974 they went out into the Chilca desert. Their destination was a place called La Mina, (the mine) some twenty minutes walking distance from their jumping off point.

While slowly trudging along in deep windswept sand, Sixto in the darkness somehow became separated from his companions. After walking for what seemed like only a few minutes, he suddenly found himself at La Mina without knowing how he could have arrived so quickly.

Sixto saw a strange luminescence in the distance. Thinking that it might be his friends' lantern, he

walked towards it. As he approached the eerie light he noted that it was on the ground and took the form of a half moon. As he closed in, suddenly the figure of a man with his arm raised came out of the light. Frightened and confused Sixto tried to run, but a strange paralysis overtook him.

INTER-DIMENSIONAL PORTAL AWAITED SIXTO

Telepathically he received the simple command, "Come!" Managing to control his fear, he stepped into the light. Sixto immediately experienced vertigo and nausea. His forehead and neck were gripped with a strong pressure and heat flowed through his entire body that suddenly felt much lighter. Engulfed in brilliant light he was still able to see before him the very extraterrestrial that he had envisioned the previous January.

Oxalc was tall, about 6 feet 2 inches in height, with oriental features. He had whitish-blond thin hair, which flowed down to his broad shoulders. The ET explained to him that they had entered an inter-dimensional portal where their atomic structure was

converted to light energy and thereby could be transported rapidly over enormous distances.

ET BASE ON A MOON OF JUPITER

Sixto emerged from the portal and found that he was no longer in the Peruvian desert. Instead he could see mountains in the distance that cradled a city composed of transparent domes and igloo like structures. They were on Morlen, the ET name for Ganymede, a moon of Jupiter.

Oxalc oriented his visitor to the situation. Sixto was told that this base had been established as a mining colony thousands of years ago. Their civilization hailed from the star systems known to us as Betelgeuse and Rigel of the constellation Orion. The atmosphere had been modified to allow them to move around without space suits. A type of solar energy was supplied as well to allow trees and vegetables to grow in the many valleys that were colonized.

A council of respected elders working for "The Great Confederation of Stars" ruled Morlen. Their goal was to give generous assistance to all worlds in evolution. In this idyllic setting Sixto was told that individual

colonists could experience personal growth without prejudice or vice. This ET civilization was not only technologically advanced, but according to Oxalc had achieved an advanced state of spiritual development.

UTOPIA ON GANYMEADE

Sixto was given a description of life on Morlen. The colonists all worked about 4 hours per day. Supply houses took the place of stores. People simply took what they wanted. There was no mention of money. Sixto was told that their food was composed of plant extracts that had little taste but met all bodily needs. Reportedly there were close to a million people living there dispersed into a few cities.

At the end of his tour Sixto was taken to a place where he was able to view images from his past drawn from his own memory. He witnessed a very special event that occurred in 1966. While walking to school he saw a circular shadow on the ground, presumably made by an ET craft. A wave of heat and a strange sound had frightened him; instead of fleeing he had suddenly become paralyzed.

SIXTO WAS SHOWN IMAGES FROM HIS PAST

Sixto also recalled being shown images that were supposed to reflect his future in which he played a leadership role in a worldwide contact movement. He saw himself appearing on television, giving newspaper interviews and experiencing the emotional turmoil that comes from being a leader. In that future he would face heavy responsibilities, and experience great fellowship as well as betrayal.

In parting Oxalc reassured Sixto that he would only retain those memories that would support him in his future mission. With tears in his eyes Sixto envisioned a bright and positive future for humanity. Feeling exhausted and peaceful at the same time, Sixto reentered the inter-dimensional portal and found himself back in the Peruvian desert at La Mina. He reported to his companions not knowing how long he had been on Morlen, and it seemed much longer than the fifteen minutes that had elapsed on Earth.

VEGETARIANISM AND MENTAL EXERCISES PREPARED THEM FOR MORE CONTACT

His friends questioned him about the strange light that they had seen; they wanted to know where he had been. Sixto told them that they too would have a similar experience in 2 weeks and that they must

prepare themselves by meditating, eating a vegetarian diet and by doing certain prescribed "concentration" exercises.

Two weeks later Sixto and his team returned to the designated contact site at La Mina. A banana shaped UFO was seen and seven youths entered the inter-dimensional portal. They felt a kind of weightlessness and found themselves in an enormous auditorium. They were led to believe that this was the meeting place of an interstellar council known as "the Twenty four Elders." The ceiling was a colossal cupola covered with symbols that included the Star of David and an image of a trident. On both sides of the hall were ideograms that appeared similar to Chinese writing. Seated in the council chairs were an assortment of beings, many of who appeared to be non-human.

The Elders stood one by one and communicated to Sixto's group telepathically on philosophical themes, including the ETs' concept of God; what death is; and their unfolding plan to create a "new humanity" on Earth. Sixto and his followers were instructed to carry out a mission under the title of "Rama", meaning Sun on Earth. They were to be teachers, who if sufficiently dedicated, would help prepare

humanity for a dramatic spiritual transformation. The ongoing communication with the extraterrestrials was to continue as it had started via automatic writing. With this description the UFO Library Magazine's article ended.

The initial Peruvian group expanded its numbers in order to meet the enormous challenge of the mission. Latin American and European press coverage served to attract new activists who created an international network of contactees. During the initial years Sixto Paz Wells was the most prominent participant. As the years passed, Rama was rife with internal battles, but despite these challenges the contact work has continued.

SIXTO PAZ WELLS' ROLE DIMINISHED

New Age media coverage continued to focus on Sixto. However according Rama activists who quietly were organizing at the grassroots level, his importance diminished. For a number of years he apparently ceased being a "good antennae" in terms of receiving accurate messages. Other leaders, who operated outside of the media glare, continued to attract ET craft to the joy and wonderment of new

followers. As a North American representative of what I like to call "the contact movement", I have been privileged to do fieldwork with Rama. I have kept them informed of the important work of our North American contact networks.

About the author: Dr Burkes volunteered as a Working Group Coordinator for the CE-5 Initiative from 1992 till 1998 when he left CSETI. He has continued to study the flying saucer phenomenon working with MUFON and the Peruvian contact network now called Rahma. Dr Burkes retired from the Southern California Pemanente Group after thirty years service in 2008. He is a board certified internal medicine physician and is licensed to practice in California.

COMMENTS FROM THE FREE FB PAGE

HICE, Human Initiated Contact Experience, is a more appropriate term, IMO. Sixto Paz and the movement that he started, Grupo Rahma, has conducted hundreds of thousands of contact ceremonies even before a well known person who "appropriated" the ceremony, applied the marketing term CE5, "borrowed" the Grupo

Rahma protocals and then "reinvented them" as his own CE5 initiatives. This is the power of Marketing-- lets not "beat around the bush" and "call a spade a spade". The term is HICE: Human Initiated Contact Experience, and the credit for the protocals should go to Mr. Sixto Paz and the subsequent individuals from Grupo Rahma who are conducting and participating in these workshops all over the world: Sixto Paz, Ricardo Gonzalez, Luis Fernando Mostajo, Rosa Luz Sandoval, react-text: 98 Giorgio Piacenza /react-text , and many others. It was from these individuals and others that the CE5 movement, using appropriate "proprietary" marketing, was launched upon.

Unlike · 5 · 3 hrs

react-text: 68 Remove /react-text
react-text: 74 Marcela Velasco /react-text
react-text: 76 /react-text Mr.Burkes knows personally someone from mision Rahma who is almost unknown in the workshopp world but he has shared his experiences and teachings to other people, it really doesnt matter where and how protocols are used or who had them first, the important thing is to have the message out

and do it from the heart. Mision Rahma is about that, ET contact with the heart not the ego.

Thank you for your comments Marcela Velasco. In a certain sense on one level as you state it doesn't "matter where and how protocols are used or who had them first, the important thing is to have the message out and do it from the heart."

On the other hand I agree with Rey because there is a tendency within the UFO subculture that takes the form of a cottage industry in which prominent activists like the CSETI Director repeatedly have asserted in the past that their approach is unprecedented and unique while failing to take note of similar type of programs that have preceded their past and current efforts. Such a discussion is fraught with danger because it incites the most ardent partisan passions of contact activists promoting one particular "leader's" importance say over another. As I have repeatedly reminded my critiques within the contact community, "There is no copyright on consciousness."

This discussion raises some important questions the answers to which I have pondered for nearly

a quarter of a century. Why was Rahma able to accomplish so much so quickly in the first two decades of their mission? After all their activists have memories of going into dimensional portals called Xendras not just alone but in groups and on at least one occasion allegedly being transported to a moon of Jupiter called in Spanish Ganymeade. Many of their activists both prominent and others that have been instructed to as we say in English, " to fly under the radar, recall having face to face encounters with living ETs. These accomplishments in my opinion are of historic value and I believe the contact network would do well to discuss why Rahma went so far so fast.

I suggest that the answer might have something to do with the strong spiritual base of both Catholics in Latin American and indigenous peoples' spirituality that are combined.

From the practical point of view the fact that they conduct their operations mostly in Spanish and keep to themselves are protective from the so called "control groups" that are trying to keep a lid on the situation. I have written a number of position papers on this topic that I will try to repost soon.

CONTACT NETWORK HISTORY PROJECT.
The North American and South American Contact Groups Meet.
Joseph Burkes MD 2015

How Captain Vallejo and Dr Burkes Made Contact with Mission Rama

In the spring of 1993 Captain Joe Vallejo and I attended a three-day in-depth CSETI training held at Robson's Mining World. It was a rough and ready desert resort outside of Phoenix. He was working as a jet pilot for United Airlines and eventually achieved the highly desired status of a "line 747 Captain.

GIORGIO PIACENZA'S IMPORTANT ROLE

At the contact training event Joe met Giorgio Piacenza a Peruvian member of Rama. Giorgio told Joe about the work that Rama was doing in California under the leadership of Dr. Fernando Limaco who is a retired dental surgeon living in the Bay Area. In 1990 Dr Limaco was part of the Rama team that trekked deep into the Peruvian jungle to have a rendezvous with extraterrestrials. This historic encounter took place on the eastern foothills of the Andes Mountains in a remote area known as Paititi. There Sixto Paz Wells and his companions were

allegedly taken onboard an ET craft as part of a cooperative venture with what they describe as "spiritually advanced extraterrestrials.'

In the fall of 1993 Captain Vallejo started attending Rama activities in the Bay Area. He told me that as a United Captain it was easy for him to catch shuttle flights from Burbank Airport near where he lived, up to San Francisco.

AT THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING

Encountering Dr. Limaco for the first time is something I suspect that few can easily forget. I recall meeting him in 1993 at the Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco. Short, robust, with copper colored skin, he was the very image of the indigenous people of the Andes. His dark eyes were set deep into his face. When he spoke his eyes shinned with a passionate intensity. I had no doubt that the individual standing before me possessed enormous physical strength and personal determination. I had rented a booth for CSETI at the American Public Health Association's annual meeting. It was a big affair with over ten thousand health professionals and representatives of the pharmaceutical and medical supply companies. I set

up a modest booth next to hundreds of others that advertized various health programs and medical products.

It was a rather audacious thing to for me to do. There I was a practicing ER doctor and I was openly advocating the program of the Center for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence headed by a contactee. Dr Steven Greer at the time was also an ER physician.

To my surprise when Dr Limaco showed up at the Convention center he volunteered to help me staff the booth. He looked on as I "worked" the crowd by inviting fellow healthcare professionals to see UFO videos and join our radical campaign of conducting fieldwork in remote locations in an attempt to interact with UFO intelligence. To my surprise many shared stories about their UFO sightings and over forty signed up for our mailing list.

MY PAST MEDICAL ACTIVISM

Having worked as a physician activist in International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War made it easier for me to mix politics with medicine. Admittedly the UFO issue did not carry the same prestige as the doctor's peace movement that was

awarded the Nobel Prize in 1985. Nevertheless I put aside any reservations I might have about being identified with such a fringe topic and I openly promoted Dr. Greer's cause in that highly public venue.

Dr Limaco and I spent several hours chatting in Spanish and English at the table. I was impressed by his intense devotion to Rama's mission of building fraternal relations with what he described as the "extraterrestrials." As I learned more about Rama's contact techniques and goals, I couldn't help seeing many similarities to Dr. Greer's CSETI Close Encounters of the Fifth Kind Initiative.

CAPTAIN JOE VALLEJO MEETS THE RAMA LEADER

Some fifteen years after joining Rama, Joe had no trouble recalling how he had met Dr. Limaco at the San Francisco International Airport. On the phone Joe had described his appearance to Fernando so that he could easily recognize the captain at the United Terminal. He was wearing his blue uniform and A United flight bag. Dr Limaco drove up in an old sedan and took Joe home to meet the family.

INTENSE PREPARATIONS FOR CONTACT WORK

Captain Joe started attending Rama meetings on a regular basis by flying to San Francisco. However soon he expressed some reservations about the way they prepared for fieldwork. Once a month Fernando invited contact workers into his home to practice the mental exercises that were designed to facilitate contact. According to Captain Vallejo meetings sometimes lasted all day on both Saturday and Sunday and involved chanting, group meditation, prayer and the consumption of only vegetarian food.

Joe also learned that the more experienced Rama people ate strictly fruit for three days prior to doing fieldwork, and some only consumed water while in the field. Later he acknowledged that these practices of fasting and prolonged meditation were well-established techniques to open "spiritual centers" in the body. However in 1993 after working with CSETI for over a year, where such rigor was not routine, Joe said that he found the Rama approach a bit extreme. As I recall he even ventured to use the "C" word, indicating that he thought Rama's methods were a bit "cult like."

My view of Rama's preparation for contact was different from his. I knew that many of the Latin American contactees were not as wealthy as their North American counterparts. In my contact team based in LA for example we had no less than 3 physicians who worked at Kaiser, two PhD psychologists and a Harvard graduate who did quite well as a screen writer/producer in Hollywood. Captain Joe as a line officer for United was very well paid as well.

SECURITY CONCERNS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED

In contrast Dr Limaco's team I imagined was mostly composed of immigrants, some newly arrived. Even those that were professionals in their nations of origin could be severely challenged by a new language and culture. Some probably didn't have papers to work in the US. I later learned from Dr Limaco that he had assisted a Rama activist who was having problems with the INS, Immigration and Naturalization Service. He drove all he way to he Salinas Valley to help his comrade to avoid deportation.

During my years of student anti-war activism in the 1960s I had been involved with security issues. This was because we were challenged by the presence of

FBI informants, agent provocateurs and LAPD spies that penetrated our meetings. Some even covertly played minor roles in our leadership. This was in contrast to the fierce repression of dissidents in the former USSR and current day Cuba. Those regimes usually imprisoned dissidents. Worse in my opinion was the behavior of Latin America military dictatorships supported by the US. In those countries death squads regularly killed students, trade union activists and other "subversives."

I suggested to my friend Joe that the Rama team might have security as well as spiritual needs for such a strict preparation for contact work. I didn't understand enough about Rama to know if this was truly a legitimate issue, but I knew that within the ranks of Rama people were undocumented workers, or political refuges who might be very vulnerable to infiltrators that could easily call their names into the "Migra" (Latino name for the INS) as a way of disrupting Rama.

POLITICAL VERSUS A SPIRITUAL APPROACH

As a leftwing student visiting Latin America in the 1960s I had witnessed government violence against movements for social change in both Mexico and Guatemala. I speculated that with Rama's established

tradition of what appeared to be high-level contacts with extraterrestrials, their teams might become targets of the so-called "control groups," thought to be clandestine intelligence contractors that were eager to keep a lid on the UFO situation and keep tabs on contactee groups.

You see in 1993 I was quite a novice when it came to spiritual matters. I conceptualized my organizing mostly within a political paradigm and I constantly relied on the council of people like Captain Joe Vallejo and a man I call "Mark" who was the screenwriter. They assisted me to develop my leadership practices in a spiritually enlightened matter. I felt more comfortable working in a political activist's mode in which security issues and defense against infiltration were operational.

I suggested to Joe that Rama's approach might be more sophisticated than first met the eye. I knew that Doctor Fernando and his assistants were highly intuitive and could pick up subtle hints about what kind of people were in their group. I told Joe that their days of meditating together and eating vegetarian food might be a kind of "poor man's" security clearance.

Joe knew from his youthful days of political activism that intelligence agencies could spend thousands of dollars investigating to see if a potential agent was legitimate. We agreed Rama wouldn't go that formal route. I asked him to imagine what the consciousness would be of an agent that was assigned the task of infiltrating Rama. He probably would be a big time meat eater that possibly liked booze and cigarettes. I could even see him take a liking to some of the younger women in Rama.

A POOR MAN'S "SECURITY SYSTEM"

Now place that individual in a crowded room with spiritually enlightened contact workers who are meditating, praying and eating just vegetables for two days. The stress of such a culture clash would be very hard to hide. I envisioned such an agent running screaming from Fernando's house after just a few hours of such spiritual "torture."

After I finished my theorizing, Joe gave me a big smile, " I see what you're driving at," he told me. "A poor man's security check. It might be something like that." We both laughed.

A CAUSE FAR GREATER THAN EARTHLY CONCERNS

It was a poignant moment however. Captain Vallejo's and my political backgrounds were from opposite sides of the spectrum. I was a former left-wing student political activist; he was the other side as a Cuban exile. Yet there we were together in a cause that transcended petty distinctions of terrestrial politics, Left versus the Right. We were united in something potentially far grander than the clumsy political battles of our youth. We firmly believed we were reaching out to people from the stars and in the process we had become good friends too.

About the author: Dr Burkes volunteered as a Working Group Coordinator for the CE-5 Initiative from 1992 till 1998. He has continued to study the flying saucer phenomenon working with MUFON and the Peruvian contact network now called Rahma. He is co-author of the anthology "Paths to Contact" edited by Jeff Becker. Dr. Burkes retired from the Southern California Pemanente Group after thirty years service in 2008. He is a board certified internal medicine physician and is licensed to practice in California.

Comments: