

**THE DISCOVERER OF LIFE ON MARS
DEFENDS HIS CLAIM OF DISCOVERY**

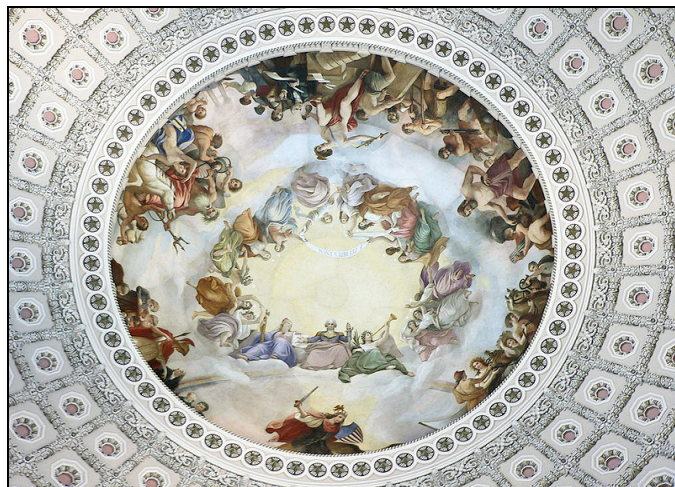
SEATTLE, WA (MARS) May 12, 2009 – After learning that his discovery of life on Mars had been named “the #1 UFO story of 2008,” Washington lawyer Andrew D. Basiago, 47, defended his claim of discovery by stating that his paper **The Discovery of Life on Mars** is the first work to prove that Mars is inhabited.

The discoverer praised NASA and JPL for the astounding technical feat of recovering the remote images from the surface of the Red Planet in which he found the first irrefutable evidence of life on Mars in 2008.

Predicting that the discovery of life on Mars would one day be hailed as one of the major events of the 21st Century, he called the discovery of life on Mars “a great accomplishment of American civilization.”



Andrew D. Basiago



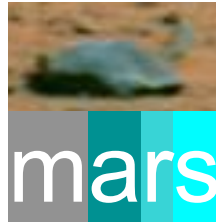
**The discovery of life in the Columbia Basin of Mars is
“a great accomplishment of American civilization...”**

Here is a transcript of Basiago’s remarks provided by the Mars Anomaly Research Society:

*My claim of being the discoverer of life on Mars is based on my discovery of the first dispositive evidence of life on Mars that I found in NASA photograph PIA10214 and then described, explained and evaluated in my paper entitled **The Discovery of Life on Mars**.*

The Discovery of Life on Mars is the first work in natural history to show photographs of life forms, including different human and animal species, on Mars, supported by text containing a substantial analysis of the photographs. In this sense, it is the first work to prove that life exists beyond Earth and that we live in an inhabited Universe.

I regard the recovery of these images by American space scientists and engineers, working creatively and diligently at NASA and JPL, and the discovery in them, by an American lawyer, of the first evidence of life beyond our planet, to be a great accomplishment of American civilization.



Discoverer of Life on Mars Defends Discovery, page 2

No measure of personal attack or factual distortion by anonymous bloggers without the courage to even identify themselves can diminish the persuasive argument that I make in my paper that Mars is an inhabited planet. History will record that my paper is full of evidence establishing that which it asserts.

Basiago: A new world has opened up to us

In support of my claim of original discovery, I do wish to cite several specific elements of the paper, to include the fact that the photographic detail that I use to illustrate the humanoid being in The Rock Enclosure on Tsiolkovski Ridge (right) is the first photograph of a humanoid being situated on another planet in the Cosmos ever to be published on Earth.



I would also like to cite the fact that the plesiosaurs that I discovered in PIA10214 (above right) are the first animal species ever to be identified beyond the confines of the Earth. Quite amazingly, plesiosaurs are an extinct Earth species. This shows that life on Earth and Mars derived from a common source and followed similar developmental pathways, until cosmic forces intervened to divert the biological destiny of each planet. Plesiosaurs did not survive the K-T extinction on Earth, but they roam Mars to this day.

I view my paper as the fulfillment of an arc of discovery that began with Giovanni Schiaparelli's finding of "canali" on Mars, and that we can trace forward, through Percival Lowell and Nikola Tesla, to include the contributions of many contemporary Mars anomalists.

I do not claim to be the first person to have speculated that Mars is an inhabited planet (as Percival Lowell was), or to have identified The Face on Mars at Cydonia as possible evidence that life once existed on Mars (as Richard Hoagland, Mike Bara, and others have), or to have argued that some anomalies on Mars might be ancient life forms, such as fossils of trees (as Thomas Van Flandern did).

Rather, I am claiming discovery of life on Mars on the basis that my paper is the first work in science or literature to demonstrably prove that Mars is inhabited. In other words, I am the individual to have proved the truth of the proposition that life exists on Mars.

I consider the experience that I have had, to be present at the moment of contact, and to behold, with the eyes of an Earthling, for the first time, life beyond our planet, as it exists in its natural state, to be a cosmic privilege, and therefore I will do my utmost to lead the debate about the discovery of life on Mars in positive directions that will promote the well-being of the inhabitants of both Earth and Mars.

In the final analysis, a new world has opened up to us, one in which we must put aside our petty differences and face the fact that the inhabitants of Earth now have, as never before, the opportunity and the responsibility to interact with another inhabited planet.

This is the first major challenge of cosmic citizenship that humanity must face as we begin our exploration of the Universe, and I think it is a challenge that we can and will overcome with integrity, intelligence, and imagination. Onward and upward to the stars!