



**DEANNE MERCIER WRITES LETTER TO RICHARD C. HOAGLAND  
ASKING HIM TO APOLOGIZE TO ANDY FOR REMARK ON COAST**

*On a May 26, 2010 broadcast of radio's Coast-to-Coast AM that also featured astronaut Edwin A. Aldrin, Richard C. Hoagland made false and defamatory statements about Andrew D. Basiago, the discoverer of life on Mars and the founder and president of the Mars Anomaly Research Society (MARS). Hoagland called Andy "a nut" being "paid by the (US) intelligence agencies to spread disinformation far and wide." Andy thinks that Hoagland made this false remark because Andy revealed on Jeremiah Duncan's Project Information Generation radio show on May 20, 2010 that he will be calling on Aldrin to review his Mars findings and then "affirm or deny the existence of life on Mars." After Hoagland made this statement, Andy's in-box was flooded with hundreds of supportive e-mails from fans and colleagues. One individual, singer-songwriter Deanne Mercier, even wrote to Hoagland, urging him to apologize to Andy. In her eloquent and heart-felt e-mail to Richard C. Hoagland, later posted on Facebook (below), Mercier asks Hoagland to retract his statement about Andy, acknowledge that the Prime Directive requires that human beings on Earth not look to Mars as a world to conquer, and make common cause with Andy.*



**Deanne Mercier** May 30, 2010 at 11:00am

Dear Mr. Hoagland,

Thank you for taking the time to read my humble note. I have admired you for so many years that it would be impossible to count them. I cheer for you whenever I hear your tireless efforts to assist the human community in moving forward. I make a special effort to listen to your radio appearances. You are, in fact, one of my heroes. I admire you and wish you well always.

I am writing to you today, however, with a heavy heart. I heard your interview on Coast-to-Coast AM a couple of nights ago. Of course, I was hanging on your every word. And still do. I believe in you. I always will. You are one of our interplanetary pathfinders. But I was so sad to hear you say the things that You said about another one of our champions, Andrew D. Basiago.

Andy is an honorable man who has conducted faithfully and well his truth campaign to bring to light his experiences in Project Pegasus as a young boy and his findings that show that Mars is inhabited. He is a brilliant individual – a genius, I would say – and honest as the day is long. So it would be impossible for him to be a "nut" or government operative, as you stated on Coast.

I know that you, too, are a brilliant person. In fact, you are so brilliant that I apologize for my simple and incomprehensibly child-like awareness of "The Big Picture." I, like so many, am learning and yearning to become aware. It is my hope that the entire human race will, over time, develop into the kind of just and truth-seeking world portrayed by Mr. Roddenberry on *Star Trek*.



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Mr. Hoagland, I am of Native American ancestry. I am keenly aware of what happens when well-meaning individuals, innocent initially, march bravely forward into a "New Frontier." I am deeply, immensely, spiritually, in fact, troubled by the intention of being the first to plant the American flag on a neighboring planet. I ponder about the dimensions of such intent.

I remember how *Star Trek* celebrated the proposition that all humanity could be united, as one, to do the right thing. In this case, that involves the understanding that all of the celestial neighbors of this beautiful planet are "Sovereign." Whether or not it harbors life as we know it, Mars is completely independent of us and is not merely a pawn in the game of the human condition.

I admire Andy for emphasizing this perspective. Over and over again in his public statements about Mars, he has observed that we have not yet considered the "implications and complications" of the fact that "Mars belongs to the Martians." Andy has called for "a UN treaty protecting the ecology and civilization of Mars from visitation, exploration, habitation, and colonization by human beings from Earth."

As a Native American, this message of cosmic citizenship resonates with me at a deep level. I plead with you to reconsider your approach to "The Prime Directive." We are all human beings in the Cosmos. We are, indeed all basically good. All paths that lead to this beautiful dream are necessary and, by their nature required. I beg you to embrace the multitudes. And, I know you have dedicated yourself to a lifetime of service to the human race. Of this, I am certain.

Mr. Hoagland, please go back on Coast-to-Coast AM as soon as possible to apologize to Andy and retract your statements condemning him, a person who is trying with every fiber of his being to make sense of a very complicated cosmic puzzle. What purpose does it serve to turn on Andy in this way, at a time when he is emerging as one of the visionary leaders of the 21st century? You are such a fine person in your own right that apologizing to Andy should set an example of moral leadership and help us end the petty politics that prevent us from pursuing our cosmic destiny. Many individuals, inspired by your example, are trying to aid in the pursuit of our remarkable future, not the least of them Andy. We need you so badly in this tapestry, to be the leader and the great man that we believe in. Please say something to end what divides. We need you...

Please accept this humble effort to try to mend a situation before it escalates to the point where it cannot be salvaged, in which case we would all lose, and I would see the shattering of a dream I have had most of my life – the dream of "The Prime Directive." We need to be unified in this cause. All of humanity is looking to Richard C. Hoagland and Andrew D. Basiago to show us the way to our interplanetary future. All voices are needed to sing this beautiful song.

In the final analysis, your position that there was once life on Mars millions of years ago and Andy's position that there is life on Mars today require the same response from us, namely, that we treat Mars with the same love and respect that we would wish our planet to be treated. Before we can do that, we will also have to treat each other and our own planet with love and respect.

With all the love and respect this simple person can possibly express.

Yours Truly,

Deanne Mercier