SEATTLE, WA (MARS) October 2, 2009 – The discoverer of life on Mars marked the 140th anniversary of the birth of Indian non-violent resistance leader Mohandas K. Gandhi by granting his first television interview about his Mars findings to Russian television and assuring his Russian viewers that the human civilization on Mars presents no apparent military or security threat to human civilization on Earth.

In an unprecedented interview with journalist Daria Okuneva of TVC - Moscow, Russia’s fourth largest television broadcast network, Andrew D. Basiago, 48, founder and president of the Mars Anomaly Research Society (MARS), revealed that Mars harbors life and urged that before America and Russia launch a joint mission to Mars, an international treaty must be passed to create a Mars protectorate under the UN to safeguard the ecology and civilization of Mars from visitation, exploration, habitation, and colonization by human beings from Earth.

Daria Okuneva, TVC - Moscow: What have you found in NASA’s photographs from Mars?

Andrew D. Basiago, President, Mars Anomaly Research Society: First, I have found abundant evidence of humanoid beings of two types on Mars, one closely resembling modern human beings on Earth and the other the Grays of the UFO contact literature.

Second, I have found animal species, including animals that presently exist on Earth, that once existed on Earth but are now extinct, and that have never existed on Earth.

Third, I have found many carved statues, especially large heads and faces of humans and animals made from indigenous rocks, which is a distinctively Martian art form, as exemplified by The Face on Mars at Cydonia.

Fourth, I have found built structures, including aqueducts and buildings.

Fifth, I have found dead bodies, including a large mass of dead humanoids littering the arroyo immediately west of the Home Plate Plateau in the Columbia Basin of the Gusev Crater of Mars.

Lastly, and most intriguingly, I have found evidence of both large monuments and small rock carvings establishing the connection between Ancient Egypt and Ancient Mars.

Here is the transcript of the print interview that Basiago gave to TVC (Moscow) prior to appearing on its broadcast. In this interview, he answers questions about his findings of life on Mars derived from photographs of Mars taken by NASA and the ESA, which he is publishing in a celebrated series of Mars research papers at the website www.exopolitics.com and the Facebook group “The Discovery of Life on Mars”:
Okuneva: Does this evidence establish the existence of a previous civilization on Mars?

Basiago: Yes. Mars was inhabited in antiquity and is inhabited today. The civilization on Mars was impacted by the solar system catastrophe of 9,500 BC, in which debris elements from the Vela supernova explosion entered our solar system, devastating Mars and destroying the great maritime civilization on Earth that built the Great Pyramid and the Sphinx.

The evidence on Mars of this ancient civilization consists of very large monuments that can be seen from satellite images and now smaller details photographed by NASA's rovers Spirit and Opportunity, such as the image of an Egyptian pharaoh that MARS has identified on a rock on Mars that was photographed by Spirit, that we are calling "The Rosetta Stone of Mars" (below) because it establishes the connection between Ancient Egypt and Mars.

After this catastrophe, the human beings on Mars took refuge underground, where their post-catastrophe civilization has survived intact, and where, according to a senior CIA officer who contacted me after I published The Discovery of Life on Mars in 2008, one million Martian humanoids of several different types now live.

Okuneva: Is there any evidence of forests and water existing on Mars?

Basiago: In my opinion, yes. Although the ecology of Mars is fragile and even tenuous by earthly standards, there is evidence that both forests and water presently exist on Mars.

Several years ago, the late Dr. Thomas Van Flandern, the former chief astronomer of the US Navy, published photographs showing "possible trees" on Mars. He concluded that they were "ancient forests remains," that is to say, fossils.

He also studied The Face on Mars at Cydonia, and concluded that the probability that it is a built structure is astronomically high - "a thousand billion billion to one."

He determined, however, that such evidence was from a civilization that died out on Mars 3.2 million years ago, when life was beginning on Earth. Dr. Van Flandern concluded that Mars is a dead planet. I disagree.

My analysis of NASA image PIA10214 in 2008 proved that Mars is inhabited today by humanoid beings and by many different animal species.

Mars' biota also includes plant life that we would liken to the algae, lichen, mosses, ferns, and sedges that we find here on Earth.
As for the presence of water on Mars, I would cite the fact that in 2008, at the very time that NASA was announcing its "chilling discovery" of ice on Mars, I published data derived from NASA's own photographs showing evidence of both standing water and flowing water in the West Valley of the Columbia Basin of the Gusev Crater of Mars, which is in the middle latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere of Mars, about where Columbus, Ohio is here on Earth.

In NASA image PIA10214, a lake, azure blue in color, can be seen at the foot of Husband Hill, to the west of the Home Plate Plateau. In NASA image PIA11049, a pipe can be seen, and from it, water can be seen flowing downward into a catch basin, around which, in turn, human beings can be seen standing, to the south of the Home Plate Plateau (right).

Such evidence shows that NASA is attempting to conceal the obvious evidence of life that exists in its own photographs, which is contrary to the mission that the US space agency was given by the US Congress in the NASA Act of 1958, which was to foster "the expansion of human knowledge of... space." It is trying to do so by making periodic announcements of discoveries on Mars of a de minimis nature, most recently, the discovery of methane. Surely, the people of this planet have a right to know that the planet that every two years comes closest to our planet, Mars, is an inhabited planet, and, in this way, to know and understand the true natural history of the solar system that we live in as inhabitants of this planet.

Okuneva: What is the probability that all of these forms of evidence are optical illusions?

Basiago: None. I am a lawyer in Washington State, and I can say with some authority that the evidence that MARS has already published on the Web is sufficient to convince any jury in the United States that Mars is an inhabited planet.
However, we are not at that place in the debate. Where we are at in the debate is whether President Obama will honor his own call for "Change" and change the traditional policy of the US government, established by the CIA's Robertson Panel of 1952-53, which has been to deny the existence of extraterrestrial life.

You may remember that during the presidential campaign in 2008, President Obama was asked about extraterrestrial life and he joked that the critical question was whether or not the ET's were Democrats or Republicans! I met Barack Obama in 1982 when we were college students, and I think that he is smarter than that. I think that he recognizes the great contribution that he could make as president were he to embrace my call to acknowledge that Mars is inhabited, establish a Mars protectorate under the UN, and normalize relations with the human civilization on Mars. Ultimately, I think that he has no other choice, now that the evidence that Mars is inhabited so far surpasses the possibility that it is an optical illusion that it falls somewhere between the "substantial evidence" standard and the "beyond a reasonable doubt" standard. Clearly, there is still some skepticism, but in my view such skepticism results from fear of change rather than the courage to confront the truth.

Okuneva: If the artifacts truly exist, what lessons should be learned by humanity about your discovery of life on Mars?

Basiago: The overarching philosophical lesson to be learned from this new discovery is that we live in an inhabited Universe and that human life as we know it on Earth might be more commonplace in the Cosmos than we once thought. The 21st Century will see something that human civilization on Earth has not seen for 500 years – the discovery of a new world.

Okuneva: Thank you, Andy!

Basiago: It has been my pleasure, Daria!