

DR. STEVEN GREER <small>WWW.DRSTEVENGREER.COM</small>	ARV Testimony (Account of Event in Indonesia)	
	Date:	October, 2009
	Author:	Micheal Herrera
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ARV Testimony from October 2009 Michael Herrera

September 30th on the western coast of Indonesia, a 7.6 magnitude earthquake caused a lot of devastation to the Western Area of Sumatra. Padang City was the AO we were heading into to help for humanitarian assistance.

Us as US Marines who were apart of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit which was attached to the 7th Naval Fleet, do security and Maritime operations out in Southeast Asia, this time it happened to be for Humanitarian Response. Apart of the 7th Fleet was a ship I was aboard which was the USS Denver. (LPD-9)

As a Marine with 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, Echo Co. 2nd Platoon, we were an Infantry Company that was SOC with partaking directly in Amphibious Assaults. The LPD ship was Designated to hold a section of AAVP-7A1 in the well deck. We also had CH-53s as well as some Ch-46 Helos on our Flight Deck.

On September 30th we were routed to break apart from the 7th Fleet dealing with Humanitarian operations in the Philippines which was hit by a typhoon. When we reached to the Western part of Indonesia which was around October 8th, we dropped anchor and had a briefing in the Ward Room on the ship. The briefing was talking about the local populations as well as Former President Obamas family members being in the area.

A Seal Platoon was present on ship to engage with that operation, we were responsible for providing security for supply drops to the locals which included Sheltering items, clean water and food. We were also briefed that local insurgents in the area were trying to take over parts of the city and engage with firefights with police. We were instructed to be armed with standard issue m16A4s along with 6 full magazines.

We boarded on a CH-53 and proceeded to head to land, we arrived at a small runway close to the city that had a blue control tower that was caved in from the earthquake. We touched down briefly on the runway and then we proceeded to head to the far northern part of the city.

When then landed with only 6 of us total, we pushed to an area that had a sloping ridge about 300 meters out from the LZ. It was filled with thick vegetation and tall trees. When we approached the ridge and positioned about 30 meters between each marine with established fields of view and fire if needed. We thought it was strange to the fact of not receiving any comms,

When I had looked down the slope on the north side, I could see something moving and rotating, at the same time it was changing colors between a very light matte grey to a very dark matte black. It stood out against the terrain and of the setting of the environment, eventually we all saw it.

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Normally we would call something like this in, since we didn't have comms we were not able to. At that point we decided to investigate it. We were walking down the sloop and I had an old Panasonic camera with video that I took of this as we were heading down, as I was walking down, we were in a tactical column and once we got within 50 meters of the object, I put my camera in my dump pouch i had, we were spotted by a group of military guys who were wearing black cammies, black IOTVs, equipped with M4s with Acogs and Peq 16s for IR. One guy had a radio but no earpiece. they also had either H&K pistols or Sigs in a drop holster.

They contacted us by pointing their weapons which we could audibly hear the weapon safety lever flipping off safe. Only 2 of the "soldiers" were speaking to us. They asked us who we were, what we were doing, said we weren't supposed to be here, and they could kill us. They took our Military CAD card or ID, they photographed them with a phone possibly and then tried to scan them with something that looked like our BATS system which does Biometric logging.

As this is going on I saw 4 up armored F350 trucks that were painted matte black, had 2 large weapon cases in the truck bed and had a separate trailer that hauled a smaller metal box like a shipping container, it had a cylinder on the front of it.

They were driving onto a platform that was under the object and 4 guys would hop out of the truck and began unloading the contents and driving off and disappearing.

The "soldiers" proceeded to take and clear our weapons and dump our magazines on the ground and search us. We were still watching this all go down. We looked at each other, 3 of the soldiers had facial hair, spoke in plain English and had American dialects which makes me believe these guys were definitely American.

The craft was rotating in a clockwise motion while changing colors, it had a audible hum to it like a sound of a transformer or similar to a guitar amp. It was an octagonal shape with a pyramid at the top of it that was black and had "scales" that were on the outside of the craft that covered the whole craft. It had seams and sharp edges which I suspect it to definitely be manmade. Nothing on it was smooth. It had some panels on the vertical edges that were like Vanta black.

When the last 2 trucks finished unloading and drove off, the lower part of the platform rose off the ground to about 10 feet and the craft lowered to meet it and it came together into one piece like the lower platform was the bottom of the craft.

It rose off the ground and a little past the trees while on the corners of the craft, it had lights that were changing between blue, red, yellow and green. It got past the trees and then shot off to our left towards the ocean at around what I estimate 3000 to 4000 miles per hour. From a dead stop, it didn't make any sound like a sonic boom, it didn't disturb the trees like rotor wash would, there were coconut trees that even the coconuts weren't even blown off.

As the craft left, I didn't see any other vehicles or soldiers like the 8 that contacted us. They were saying how easy it was for us to be lost in the jungle or even easy to be thrown out of a helicopter. They told us to face the slope we came from and proceeded to load our magazines in our pouches and made our M16s condition 4.

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They then slung the weapon on our backs but looping the sling over our heads the were rubbing it hard on our necks while trying to sling the weapon which cut my skin. They still kept telling us how they could kill us and calling us names and asking each other if they should waste us. Once we got over the hill they told us to get the fuck away from here and don't look back, we then ran on foot back the path we took from the LZ and a gunnery Sergeant was there and asked us why we were back so early, we got chewed out for it. He also asked why we were all condition 4.

We waited for the bird to come back and to load up back to the ship, we then turned our weapons in and stored our gear in our birthing area. We proceeded to go back onto the flight deck and was debriefed by a rear admiral. Never seen him before and it was just odd why he would be there.

Fast forward to a few days and we docked in Subic Bay for liberty for a few days, we enjoyed ourselves, did was marines do best besides warfare and drank. We had to be back to the ship around 2100, I got to my rack and my camera was on it, but the sim card and battery were removed, and it was in my locker which was secured.

The other marines with me had all their phones missing as well. Shortly after we got back to Camp Hansen Okinawa. The A-duty got a call from our CP and he instructed us i had to report there. I ran over and was told to go into an office, which then an Air Force Lt. Col walked in, and I gave the appropriate greeting, he then told me to keep my mouth shut and slid a paper to me which was an NDA.

Thinking that the event would never surface, here it was in my face, only thing I recall was it saying TSSCI on it, also talked about location which was Padang. I was freaked out and skimmed through it and signed it, the Lt. Col then told me I never saw anything and I'm not to say a word about it and no one in my chain of command is to know no matter the rank. I left back to my barracks and haven't spoke about it for almost 14 years.

