

Instituto Socioambiental

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FIFTH CONTACT

Party Meets Legendary Brazil Tribe

BRASILIA (AP)—An expedition led by Italian expert Claudio Vilas Boas met peacefully with 150 members of the legendary giant Kreen-Akarore Indians, the Federal Indian Agency announced Saturday.

The meeting lasted more than 12 hours. The presence of women and children of the tribe indicated some confidence by the Indians in members of the agency's "pacification" expedition.

Vilas Boas attempted to determine the language of the Indians during his session with them but was unable to do so, the agency reported.

It was the fifth contact with the Kreen-Akarores. Initial contact with the

tribe was made earlier this month in the Mato Grosso jungle of eastern Brazil.

In three of the previous encounters, the Indians immediately fled at the approach of whites. However, in the fourth contact, two Kreen-Akarores standing alone but surrounded by scores of hidden warriors tested the expedition's intentions.

Since the two solitary warriors were not immediately set upon and killed by the expedition, the tribe apparently felt it safe to meet openly with the Vilas Boas group.

The Kreen-Akarores attending the meeting were tall, supporting their reputation as giants. Some of the men ranged in size from 6 feet to 6 feet, 6 inches.

With the success of the first pacification session, the expedition expects to start the long process of introducing them to outside culture.