

1987-98 G.A. Sec 7a Infolifon

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY  
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DE PSYCHOTHERAPIE DE GROUPE  
INTERNATIONALE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR GRUPPENPSYCHOTHERAPIE  
ASOCIACION INTERNACIONAL DE PSICOTERAPIA DE GRUPO



XI INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS  
MONTREAL QUEBEC CANADA  
AUGUST 22 - 28, 1992

Barcelona, 20th February, 1991

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Dear friend and colleague in Group Analysis,

That is to introduce you to *Lifwynn Correspondence*. In its first issue, enclosed here, you will find what the purpose of this new periodical publication in Group Analysis is.

My own correspondence with the Lifwynn Foundation started only very recently at the beginning of 1988. It was thanks to a controversy on a review of the 1984 book "Trigant Burrow: Toward Social Sanity and Human Survival" within the pages of *GROUP ANALYSIS* (the actual Journal of Groupanalytic Psychotherapy, founded in 1967 by S. H. Foulkes in 1967 as International Panel and *Correspondence*) where I came to learn of the existence of the Foundation and what prompted me to write the author, Alfreda S. Galt, who happened to be the Secretary and chairwoman of its Editorial Committee. By then I had finally made myself with a copy of "Science & Man's Behaviour", the 1953 William Galt's edition of "a correspondence with scientists" prompted by Trigant Burrow's himself in 1948 when the publication of his thirty years of group research "Neurosis of Man" had to be delayed because of the postwar scarcity of paper.

After more than thirty years in the field, I came to the conclusion that in Group Analysis correspondence among colleagues is scarce, people who read others are rare, those who read rarely write back or write about what they think or are doing without such hope of getting any feedback. So to avoid the risk of becoming an illiterate community of solitary learners on the "group thing", initiatives such as the ones in the early thirties started with the "Rund Briefe" of the pupils of psychoanalysts at the "Kinder Seminars", or Foulkes' GAIPAC in the sixties, or now at these nighties by Lifwynn Correspondence, are welcome and should be encouraged and supported. The things I do more wholeheartedly. So please subscribe to Correspondence and send your help to the Foundation for its ongoing research. Regards the experimental research initiated with the meeting on Addiction at Bailey Farm early last Fall, a true "revival" of the spirit of "self-inquiry" introduced by Trigant Burrow into psychoanalysis from the first World War onwards, into which I was fortunate enough to participate, I just want to tell you, are for me one of the most exciting, promising and hopeful experiences for the future of human kind I have heard of since we -humans- started the Third One!

I may anticipate that in the case that we make Montreal, God helping and of course neither Ala or Jehovah interfering, we will hold a meeting on the topic "From the orientation of Trigant Burrow, M.D., an ongoing social self inquiry. (A group report on ambivalence and the authority function in groups)" where the Secretary and the Research Director of the Foundation, Alfreda Galt and John Wikse and other consultants of its Board of Directors as Prof. Philip Woolcott, Jr of Chicago and Max Rosenbaum and myself will report on the last three years of experimental research. The meeting will go preceded by an encounter of researchers/research material on the Lifwynn Camp Addirondaack Mountains close to Montreal, the very same place where Burrow's research was started.

This letter and the L.C. issue, please feel free to circulate it among friends- it is addressed to all organizational members of our association and, to those individual members that because they identify themselves in the 1986-1989 Directory with Group Analysis of allied denominations I may assume they are likely to be interested upon the original work of Trigant Burrow. Also, soon through the Forum of the Association you will hear from me as Chairman of the Network of Study Groups in Group Analysis on the actual situation of this project.

In case you do have any inquiries or needed further clarifications do not doubt to write or Fax so to the below address. With my best wishes for the work ahead and looking forward to see you in Montreal. Yours sincerely,

*Juan Campos Avillar*  
Juan Campos Avillar

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*a folder for members  
to all members of the Board  
of IAGP*

Barcelona, August 2nd, 1991

Dear Otto Kemberg,

It is likely that a few of you have received a complementary copy of the maiden issue of "Lifwynn Correspondence", with a cover letter introducing and announcing the participation of the Lifwynn Foundation in the Montreal Congress. That is to be the first time that this organization - mother organization of groupanalysis and precursor of most group psychotherapies, family and community therapies - is to present in a World Congress of our kind the "laboratory research in analytical and social psychiatry" initiated by Trigant Burrow and Clarence Shields as early as 1917 - that is three-quarters of a century ago. They first tried to present their work in a congress of psychoanalysts - Bed Høeburg, 1927 - but nobody there was ready to listen: five years later Trigant Burrow was ignominiously sacked from the APA, and consequently from the IPA and, mind, he had been "charter member" of both. In 1927 they had to found their own "learning environment" - the Foundation. Curiously enough it was in Montreal, on occasion of the Silver anniversary of the Foundation that in 1949, as former President of APA, he was granted the Abraham A. Brill Memorial Medal, a much delayed and useless honour but no true act of reparation: his work went equally ignored.

A year from now, when we meet in Montreal we will be celebrating there another Silver Anniversary, that of "Group Analysis International Panel and Correspondence" launched by S.H. Foulkes in 1967, known amongst friends as GAIPAC. This Correspondence little by little became more formal, lost his original logo and, to my understanding, could not resist the change of format that took place since its Volume XV/2 of August 1982. Soon before, in Copenhagen, prompted by me, a first step back to the origins - a sort of "Operation Phoenix GAIPAC" - was given in a joint meeting with another of Foulkes' organizations, the Group Analytic Society (London), a big boost for the European Group Analytic movement and the platform from where sprung the work that at an international level we are trying to nurture with the activation of a "network of study groups in group analysis" being sponsored by this Committee.

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I am sending you in advance the accompanying summary report just in case you feel like joining us at Lisbon working towards activating this Study Group for Group Analysis. In principle, we have in mind two lines of action: to start anew a correspondence - this time multilingual - and to convene a meeting - a thinking party - of delegates of group analytic study groups attending the Congress. Any feedback before that date is welcome. You will be duly informed on the results.

Hoping to see you soon in Lisbon, I wish you a nice Summer,

Juan Campos Avillar

Copy of this letter and enclosures is sent to the President and Officers of the IAGP, members of the Board of Directors, former Presidents, IAGP's Executive Councillors and people signing the original SAGA/GAAS application.