VIRA CRUZADA
(PORTUGAL)

Vira Cruzada (Veera Crua-ah-da) is a Portuguese dance from Santa Marta de Portuzelo, Viana do Castello. This lively dance for two couples was presented at the 1963 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp by Madelynne Greene. She learned it in Portugal in 1962 from the Grupo Folklorico de Santa Marta de Portuzelo by arrangement with Dr. Sousa-Gomez, Director and Founder of the group.

MUSIC:
Records: "Vai-te Embora Antonio" Radertz EPR 601 preferred.
"Vai-te Embora Antonio" Rapsodia EPF 5,042.
Express 227

FORMATION:
Two cpls in set, M back to music, W diag opp ptr, facing music.

STEPS AND STYLING:
Step-close step (one per meas), waltz* (two per meas), step-hop*,
Waltz is a fast, accented running waltz. Fingers may be snapped at random.

*M* Described in Volumes of Folk Dances from Near and Far, published by Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., 1095 Market Street, San Francisco 3, California.

MUSIC 6/8

PATTERN

Measures

I. INTRODUCTION (Orchestral)

Step described for M, W does opp. Both arms at sides.

ct 6

With wt on R, pivot to L to face L in the line.

A 1

Moving to L in the line, step L (cts 1, 2). Close R to L (ct 3). Step L (ct 4). Pivot on L to R to face R in the line (cts 5, 6).

2

Repeat action of meas 1, but start R and move to R. Pivot on R to face L in the line (cts 5, 6).

3-6

Repeat action of meas 1-2 twice (moving to L, R, L, R).

7

Repeat action of meas 1.

8 (9/8)

W: Repeat action of meas 2, moving to L and starting L. Hold cts 7, 8, 9.
Stamp L, R, R, R (cts 5, 6, 7). Hold ct 8. Step lightly on L (ct 9) in preparation for Fig II.

II. VIRA - (Turning) - (Vocal solo)

The two cpls dance single file in CCW circle formation, L shoulders twd ctr.

B 9-16

W: Moving in LOD in circle, dance 16 accented running waltz steps (2 to each meas). Start turning R on R, taking 2 waltz steps to complete one CW turn. Continue turning, and move twice around CCW circle, to end in original place. Hold arms high and curved, hands higher than head level. On each accented waltz step on R, swoop L arm back, down and fwd and high again in circular motion. R arm follows same movement when waltz starts on L; heavier accent is on R ft and L arm.

Movement is similar to bwd stroke in swimming.

M: During meas 9, M move fwd in LOD in circle dancing two big accepted step-hops. Step R (cts 1, 2). Hop R, lifting L knee high (ct 3). Step L (cts 4, 5). Hop L, lifting R knee high (ct 6). Beginning meas 10, M continue in circle, dancing waltz steps with turns as described for W, meas 9-16 (Fig II).

During action of this Fig, dancers lean twd ctr of circle and look over L shoulder twd ptr on first waltz of each meas (on R).
III. INTO CENTER AND OUT (Vocal Chorus)

During this Fig cpls alternate going into and away from ctr of circle; one cpl moves in while other moves out. Hold arms high and curved.

Cpl #1

A 1  Facing ptr and moving twd ctr, dance one running waltz step beginning R (cts 1, 2, 3). Spring onto both ft, bending knees slightly (cts 4, 5). Hop on R and make half turn L to face away from ctr (ct 6).

2 Moving away from ctr and beginning L, dance one running waltz step to original place (cts 1, 2, 3). Spring onto both ft (cts 4, 5). Hop on L and make half turn R to face ctr and ptr (ct 6).

3-4 Both cpls repeat action of meas 1-2, (Fig III).

Cpl #2

Moving away from ctr, dance one running waltz step beginning L (cts 1, 2, 3). Spring onto both ft (cts 4, 5). Hop on L and make half turn R to face ctr and ptr (ct 6).

IV. CHANGE PLACES AND BACK

Cpl #1

5 Moving twd ctr, dance two running waltz steps to change places with ptr. Begin R, pass L shoulders at ctr, and finish half turn to own R (CW) to face ctr, L arm swoops as in Fig II.

6 Dancing in place and continuing to face ctr, dance two waltz steps, describing a small box ("Box Waltz"). Begin fwd on R, then bwd on L.

7 Repeat action of meas 5, (Fig IV) to return to place.

8 (9/8) Repeat action of meas 6, (Fig IV) to return to place.

Both cpls: W: Hold cts 7, 8, 9.

M: Stamp lightly on R (ct 7). Hold (ct 8). Stamp lightly on L (ct9) in preparation for repeat of Fig II.

Repeat Fig II, III, IV four more times. Fig I is done only at beginning of dance.

NOTE: If any dancer wishes to drop out, it is permissible and proper to do so. Some other dancer will perhaps step into his or her place, but if not, the remaining people continue the dance alone.