



Mayors for Peace

Secretariat

C/O Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, 1-5 Nakajima-cho Naka-ku Hiroshima 730-0811 Japan
Phone: +81-82-242-7821 Fax: +81-82-242-7452 E-mail: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

November 4, 2014

His Excellency Mr. Barack Obama
President
The United States of America

Letter of Protest

Your country conducted nuclear tests on the Z-Machine involving plutonium this September and October at a research facility in New Mexico.

Though the tests did not involve nuclear explosions, they indicate that the United States intends to cling to its nuclear stockpile indefinitely, and such actions are completely unacceptable. The continuation of these tests have betrayed the hopes of the survivors of the atomic bombings and the millions of others who seek the elimination of nuclear weapons, and have given other nuclear-armed countries and those seeking nuclear capabilities an excuse to accelerate their nuclear programs. Moreover, they have made the prospects of the realization of a world without nuclear weapons, which you expressed your commitment to in the 2009 Prague speech, further recede. On behalf of the A-bombed city of Hiroshima and over 6,300 Mayors for Peace member cities around the world, I vehemently protest.

You demonstrated your determination to pursue nuclear disarmament again in your speech of June 2013 in Berlin, and thus you are obliged to lead the United States to become a model of nuclear disarmament. Nonetheless, your country continues to conduct nuclear tests and I feel strong indignation. I urge you to stop betraying our hopes. Please contemplate the agonizing experience of the *hibakusha*, understand their sincere wish for peace, and strive for the earliest possible realization of a world free from nuclear weapons.

MATSUI Kazumi
Mayor of Hiroshima
President of Mayors for Peace