



## Mayors for Peace

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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

September 19, 2012

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

### Letter of Protest

Your country has announced that a new type of nuclear test was conducted sometime between April and June of this year at a research facility in New Mexico.

Though the test did not involve a nuclear explosion, a series of such experiments, one in November two years ago, one each in March, September and November of last year and yet another one this time, can be understood as evidence that the U.S. intends to cling to its nuclear stockpile. Coupled with the fact that you revealed the testing only several months after the fact, in the same fashion as the subcritical nuclear tests you conducted in December 2010 and in February 2011, the test has aroused suspicion regarding your intentions. It has betrayed the hopes of the *hibakusha* and the millions of others who seek a nuclear-weapon-free world. Such actions are completely unacceptable, and on behalf of the 5,400 cities in 154 countries and regions that are members of Mayors for Peace, I vehemently protest.

We have been sending similar protest letters to your country for each nuclear test, and yet, we find that another test has been conducted. This fact disappoints us greatly because it means that our wish for peace has not reached you. We urge you to stop betraying our expectations. Please contemplate the agonizing experience of the survivors who witnessed the bombing, 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