



Inter-city Solidarity *Newsletter*

World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity

10 October, 1994 No.3

Letter Condemns Nuclear Weapons Use

The cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have submitted letters seeking law and justice to the International Court of Justice.

The International Court of Justice must listen earnestly to the voices of hibakusha.

At the 46th World Health Assembly (WHA) held in May 1993, a resolution was adopted regarding the effects of nuclear weapons on health and the environment. The resolution was proposed by the Nobel-Peace-Prize-recipient International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) and two other group and contains a request from the WHA for an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) regarding the question of whether the use of nuclear weapons violates international law.

As a result, deliberations on the legality of the use of nuclear weapons by nations involved in military conflict are about to be carried out at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) based on a resolution which was determined at the 46th World Health Organization (WHO) Assembly held in May 1993, seeking an advisory opinion from the ICJ concerning the effects of nuclear weapons on health and the environment.

The ICJ requested that by June 10 governments of member countries submit statements concerning their opinions on whether or not the use of nuclear weapons violated international law. (Because few countries actually sent in letters by the deadline, it has now been extended to September 20.)

The cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have repeatedly requested the government of Japan to submit letters to the ICJ explaining the illegality of the use of nuclear weapons as an obligation of Japan, a country that has experienced an atomic bombing. Although it is the responsibility of the Japanese government to promote the abolition of nuclear weapons, it has yet to submit a statement firmly enunciating that the use of nuclear weapons violates international law.

Unfortunately, an NGO investigation brought to light that among the statements submitted from the governments of other countries, some were of the opinion that the use of nuclear weapons is legal.

The cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki can not help but be angered at the attitude of the Japanese government — a government that apparently does not understand its own mission or the fact that some countries mistakenly believe that the use of nuclear weapons does not violate international law.

Nuclear weapons are extremely inhumane devices, possessing the capacity for mass murder. And from the experiences of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we feel that they are clearly in violation of international law, as international law is grounded in the ideal of humanism. Moreover, the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki believe that developing and possessing nuclear weapons is a crime against humanity. It is our hope to state our ideas openly at the ICJ deliberations.

For this reason, the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have decided to request of the ICJ the opportunity for the mayors of those two cities and several victims of the A-bombing to speak when the ICJ deliberates on this issue.

On September 6, 1994, the delegation of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, representing atomic-bombing victims, the citizens of both cities and the people of the world seeking the abolition of nuclear weapons and the realization of lasting world peace, submitted letters requesting the opportunity



This conference's Director General Mr. Wakisaka handing a letter for President Bedjaoui to ICJ Register, Valencia-Ospina.

to make statements to open the way for law and justice to Mohammed Bedjaoui, president of the ICJ in the Hague, the Netherlands.

Creating a society of peace where everyone is free from fear and poverty is the common hope of all the world's people. Toward realizing this desire, the abolition of nuclear weapons is indispensable, and with that in mind, the results of the ICJ deliberations become exceedingly significant.

It is our hope that all the member cities of the World

Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity request that the ICJ produce an advisory opinion stating that the use of nuclear weapons is in violation of international law, either by requesting their own national governments to submit statements to the effect that the use of nuclear weapons violates international law, or submitting letters directly to the ICJ expressing that same sentiment.

The following is the letter to the ICJ in its entirety.

Letter addressed to the International Court of Justice in its entirety

Mr. Mohammed Bedjaoui
President
International Court of Justice

Dear Mr. Bedjaoui:

I hope this letter finds you well. I believe statements that the International Court of Justice has requested many countries' governments to submit concerning whether the use of nuclear weapons is illegal or not are about to be submitted to you. I have heard that some of those statements determine the use of nuclear weapons to be legal according to international law.

As mayors of the A-bombed cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we think it extremely sad that we must send you a letter about the plain truth that the use of nuclear weapons violates international law.

The cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were each destroyed by a single atomic weapon in August 1945. By the end of the same year, over 200,000 citizens had died as a direct result. The destructive power of atomic weapons is obvious, and furthermore, cruel to the extent that the long-term radiation effects on survivors who manage to escape such an attack are incomparable to other weapons. Nuclear weapons are evil and threaten the very existence of humanity. They cannot coexist with human beings.

In 1963, the Tokyo District court handed down a decision in which it judged that the use of atomic weapons violates international law. International laws already in existence, such as the Hague Convention, all maintain humanism as a principle, and nuclear weapons truly violate that principle. As you know, in 1961 the U.N. General Assembly adopted a resolution prohibiting the use of nuclear weapons and since that time has expressed the idea that the use of nuclear weapons is a crime against humanity and

against civilization.

The words carved on the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims "Let All The Souls Here Rest in Peace; For We Shall Not Repeat The Evil." represent a pledge for all the people of the world to never repeat the mistake of war. The words express hope for the coexistence and prosperity of all the people on Earth and those who are yet to be born.

In order to realize the abolition of nuclear weapons and lasting peace, the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki preside over an organization called the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity, which calls for the solidarity of the world's cities. The organization's members now number 394 cities from 92 countries, and the will toward a peace that transcends national borders is becoming a huge wave.

When you examine whether the use of nuclear weapons is legal, we would like you to definitely understand the experiences of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. For that purpose, we strongly request that you give us, the *hibakusha* and mayors from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the opportunity to explain our experiences to the International Court of Justice when you examine this issue.

I would like to express my respect to you for your efforts in protecting the dignity and justice of people and for your cooperation in striving so that we can all live in peace. I also want to express my hopes for the first certain step toward the abolition of nuclear weapons in order to create an even better society in the future.

Awaiting your positive reply.

Sincerely,

Takashi Hiraoka
Mayor, Hiroshima City

Hitoshi Motoshima
Mayor, Nagasaki City

50th A-bomb Anniversary Projects for Hiroshima and Nagasaki (excerpt)

The year 1995 is the 50th since the dropping of the A-bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In commemoration, both cities will carry out a variety of peace-related projects. The following are examples of those projects.

Hiroshima City

Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity

We will invite 32 cities from 25 countries and regions in the Asia-Pacific region to discuss various problems related to peace in the region and provide a forum for specific resolutions to each problem. The conference will strengthen solidarity among cities in the Asia-Pacific region and deepen mutual understanding.

Hiroshima Global Citizens Forum

The forum will look back over the trends of the last half-century and re-evaluate Hiroshima's significance in the modern age while aiming toward building a new peace.

- The forum will be composed of distinguished guests from overseas who will give keynote speeches and three or four specialists in ethics from Japan who will serve as panelists.

50th Anniversary of the A-bombing Peace Memorial Ceremony

Together with consoling the souls of the A-bomb victims, the ceremony will appeal to the world for the realization of lasting world peace. Representatives of the youth who will carry the next generation will be invited along with many other participants to create the most fulfilling ceremony ever.

- Invitations will be made to A-bomb survivors living abroad as well as representatives from prefectures throughout Japan.

- Youth representatives will give messages and ring a bell of peace.

Children's Peace Gathering

Children from sister and friendship cities will be invited to Hiroshima and peace seminars, cultural exchanges and children's peace conferences held to pass on understanding of the A-bombing to future generations and promote solidarity and interaction based on an awareness of the preciousness of peace.

Hiroshima Peace and Art Festival

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the A-bombing, a variety of art events in a range of fields such as painting, sculpture and music will be held. The general aim will be to create a Hiroshima where people can increase

awareness of the joy of living in peaceful times.

- (1) Peace World in Hiroshima '95
- (2) Peace Symphony Concert
- (3) Universiad '95 Hiroshima
- (4) Contemporary Art Exhibition
- (5) Hiroshima International Amateur Film Festival
- (6) Hiroshima Peace Art Exhibition

Listing of A-bomb Dome as a World Heritage

Requests will be made to the Japanese government to urgently promote the listing of the A-bomb Dome as a world heritage in the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

Nagasaki City

UN Conference on Disarmament Issues

A United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues will be held in Nagasaki.

International Culture Hall Renovation Project and International Culture Hall Memorial A-bomb Photographic Exhibition

A photographic exhibition will be held as an opening event commemorating the renovation of the old building, which was used for over forty years, and a new and improved exhibition which has been installed in conjunction with the completion of the new museum.

Youth Peace Quest Program

Youths from seven countries in the Asia-Pacific region will be invited and a peace conference held.

A-bomb Memorial Documentary

A documentary will be produced using film seized by the US army directly after the A-bombing.

Hibakusha Health Care Symposium

A symposium will be held to discuss the current health conditions of hibakusha (A-bomb survivors) and related medical treatment.

Speech Contest for Non-Japanese

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the A-bombing of Nagasaki, a Japanese speech contest for non-Japanese residing in the prefecture and an exchange meeting will be held.

Peace Memorial Museum East Building Opened

Reconstruction of the old Peace Memorial Hall building in the Peace Park has been completed. On June 1, combined with the Peace Memorial Museum, the facility reopened as the East Building of the Peace Memorial Museum.

The reconstructed building has three stories, the same as the original building, but one basement floor has been added. The floor space of the new building is approximately 10,000 square meters, twice the space of the old Peace Memorial Building.

Exhibitions based on historical facts about Hiroshima before and after the A-bombing are located on the first floor through the third floor. In addition, an exhibition showing Hiroshima's path, from the viewpoint of Hiroshima's relationship to war, is introduced in five special sections: (1)

Hiroshima before the A-bombing; (2) The Destruction of Hiroshima; (3) War, the A-bomb and the People of Hiroshima; (4) The Nuclear Age; and (5) The Path to Peace. The exhibit is meant to convey the importance of realizing Hiroshima's hope for the total abolition of nuclear weapons and lasting world peace. In addition, in the atrium of the exhibition area there is a likeness of the upper part of the A-bomb Dome, a structure that conveys the tragedy of the dropping of the atomic bomb and has come to symbolize peace. On the supporting walls plastic sheets are attached on which are printed telegrams of protest that Hiroshima sends each time nuclear weapons tests are carried out.

In the basement is a building that can be used for lectures and testimonies of A-bomb survivors to the many students who come to Hiroshima on school trips. Also, a peace library equipped with a materials room and a permanent exhibition room are located here. On the first floor there is a film viewing room where regular showings of A-bomb documentaries takes place. The third floor is equipped with a video corner where one can watch videos with such themes as the A-bombing and peace.

Visitors enter at the renovated entrance of the East Building, move through the entrance building past the ticket sales area, through the exhibition room on the first floor and the exhibition rooms on the second and third floors, then through the passageway between the two buildings, ending up in the West Building of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum.



Children studying about peace in the East Building of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum

The reconstruction takes advantage of the recent completion of the International Conference Center, Hiroshima and is based on a plan devised in 1985 to unify the three facilities in Peace Memorial Park—the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Hall, the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and the International Conference Center, Hiroshima—and to give each of these respective facilities a special function: to teach peace, convey the A-bomb experience, and carry out international exchange.

We hope many people will take this opportunity to use the new Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, an appropriate symbol of Hiroshima, the starting point of world peace.

NPT Extension Deadline Controversy

Hiroshima Hosts the 2nd U.N. Conference on Disarmament Issues

The 2nd U.N. Conference on Disarmament Issues was held in Hiroshima at the International Conference Center, Hiroshima, from Monday, May 24 to Friday, May 27 under the theme “Arms Transparency in Armaments — Regional Dialogue and Disarmament.” It was the sixth such conference held in Japan. The conference sponsors were the United Nations Centre for Disarmament Affairs, and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific. Cooperation was received from Hiroshima Prefecture, Hiroshima City and the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation with Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs acting as the supporting organization. Participating in the conference were 29 people from 18 countries abroad and 33 people from Japan, a total of 62 participants from 19 countries. The participants were specialists in the field of disarmament, including government officials, scholars, and NGO (non-governmental organization) representatives. Over the course of four days, the conference participants engaged in active debate. After the conclusion of the conference, on May 27 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., a public symposium, sponsored by Hiroshima Prefecture, Hiroshima City and the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, was held with about 750 people in attendance.

Neither appeals nor resolutions are carried out at U.N. disarmament conferences, where disarmament experts, including government officials, debate the issue of disarmament. Their role in achieving the promotion of disarmament and peace, however, is significant.

For this 2nd U.N. Conference on Disarmament Issues, participants arrived in Hiroshima on Monday, May 23. The next day, May 24, they visited the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and came into contact with the facts of the atomic bombing at the Peace Memorial Museum. Following that experience, the group visited the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims, where they offered wreaths of flowers.

The opening ceremony got under way at 10:30 that morning. First, Mr. Marrack Goulding, the Under-Secretary-General for the United Nations Department of Political Affairs, greeted the conference by commenting, “It is my hope that this conference clarifies the various choices directly facing the Asia Pacific region.” Next, Yoneo Hirata, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, gave greetings on behalf of the Japanese government, stating, “The Non-nuclear Proliferation Treaty (NPT) should be extended indefinitely,” thereby enunciating the Japanese position.

Then, Yuzan Fujita, the governor of Hiroshima Prefecture, and Takashi Hiraoka, the mayor of Hiroshima City, gave their welcome addresses. Mayor Hiraoka requested that the United Nations hold a 4th U.N. Special Session on Disarmament in 1995. In addition, he called on leaders of each country to visit Hiroshima.

The five plenary sessions and working groups of this conference were divided into two themes: “Nuclear Disarmament — Efforts and Problems,” and “Initiatives for Regional Dialogue.”

At the plenary session, Yohei Kono, member of the House of Representatives of the National Diet of Japan, pointed out that “even after the Start II Treaty is implemented, 500,000 nuclear weapons of the kind dropped on Hiroshima will still remain,” and toward the abolition of nuclear weapons, he called for a conference of nuclear powers to be held in Hiroshima. Hiroshima Mayor Takashi Hiraoka expressed his intent to accept this proposal to hold a foreign ministers’ dialogue with the six countries of the U.S., Russia, China, South Korea, North Korea and Japan. He also expressed Hiroshima’s desire to invite United Nations disarmament organizations. The mayor indicated his opposition to the indefinite extension of the NPT treaty, emphasizing that in revising the treaty, the signing of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and provisions that disavow the use of nuclear weapons are indispensable.

In Plenary V, on the last day of the conference, Prvoslav Davinic, Director of the United Nations Centre for Disarmament Affairs, made a closing statement that included five elements: (1) The CTBT Treaty must be carried out; (2) Materials used in nuclear weapons must be eliminated; (3) Nuclear weapons must be abolished; (4) His personal support



Opening ceremony of the 2nd United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues

of the indefinite and unconditional extension of the NPT Treaty; (5) Transparency for creating a mood of confidence-building must be established.

After the conclusion of the conference, the participants viewed an A-bomb documentary film and listened to the testimonies of Ms. Akiko Takakura, one of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation's eyewitnesses to the A-bombing, and Akihiro Takahashi, director of the foundation's program division. The conference participants were apparently moved by the eyewitness testimonies regarding the tragedy of August

6, 1945, and by their appeals for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Later, a symposium titled the United Nations and Disarmament Symposium was held under the theme "Nuclear Disarmament and Security Talks Today." During the symposium, citizens who attended expressed their frank opinions on various matters.

The participants determined anew to strive for peace and departed Hiroshima on May 28.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki A-bomb Poster Exhibitions

Siddharthanagar (Nepal)

As the birthplace of Buddha, concern for world peace remains high throughout the city as residents devote themselves to eschewing the call for no more atomic bombings.

In connection with this cause, the Siddharthanagar Municipality opened an exhibition of peace-related posters on the November 4, 1993. Visitors to the poster exhibition numbered in the thousands, and the event left a lasting impression on all.



Peace Poster Exhibition
Siddharthanagar
Nepal

Bandarawela (Sri Lanka)

A one-week A-bomb poster exhibition was held January 20 of this year in the Bandarawela Urban Council library auditorium. The exhibition, depicting the disastrous aftermath of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki atomic bombings, was created with the purpose of enhancing public awareness and opinion of the facts surrounding that period in history. Along with the exhibition, a lecture appealing to the importance of the abolition of nuclear weapons and peace was delivered.

Open to the general public, a total of nearly 8,000 citizens including school children visited the exhibition during the week.

Before the opening of the exhibition, a peace procession including the Bandarawela police force marched to the library to liven up the occasion



Peace
Procession
Bandarawela
Srilanka

New York State Cornell University (USA)

The Cornell University Japan-US Association (JUSA), composed of Japanese students and students with an interest in Japan, sponsored a poster exhibition commemorating the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in conjunction with a two-day Hiroshima-Nagasaki Memorial gathering on April 6 and 7 this year.

With the cooperation of the Peace Studies and Asian Studies Faculties, a variety of presentations was created to enlighten and inform Americans on a more personal level regarding the essential facts concerning the atomic bombings.

Dr. Hans Albrecht Bethe, director of the Manhattan Project and the 1967 Nobel Peace prize winner in physics, presented a lecture along with university professors and various other speakers. Video presentations were also included, with public participation at nearly 2,000 for the first day.

Despite a heavy snowfall on the second day, nearly a thousand people attended the poster exhibition starting at 10:00 am and lasting until 4:00 pm. For many of the guests, viewing the atomic bomb-related materials seemed to be a new experience and a time for reflection. In the future, the society hopes to continue its public awareness campaigns and will surely meet with continued success.



Hiroshima-Nagasaki Memorial
New York State Cornell University
U S A

Member City Introduction

BRIGHTON (UNITED KINGDOM)

Mayor : David Lepper

Date of Membership : July 15, 1989

First Peace Messenger

Brighton is one of the original United Nations Peace Messenger Cities. It is also a nuclear-free zone. Its representatives have played a major role in the international peace movement by attending Peace Messenger Assemblies held in cities throughout the world. The city now serves as a Peace Messenger Association Executive.

U.N. Hiroshima Peace Garden

As the largest most popular seaside resort in southern England, Brighton is also known as a city of peace. Peace is the theme in many of Brighton's parks. Along the main route in Brighton, a United Nations International Peace Garden is the center of our acclaimed Garden of Greetings. Last year Geneva provided the floral design while Yokohama, Japan gave their design the previous year and New Haven, Connecticut in the U.S.A. gave theirs the year before. This year, the new peace garden was designed by the city of Hiroshima, having a "paper crane" as its motif, and is being enjoyed by Brighton's citizens.



UN. Hiroshima Peace Garden in Brighton, United Kingdom

Ring of Friendship enlarged by actual efforts

Much of the success of their peace activities is due to a number of local peace organizations where small bands of activists work all year arranging peace and human rights meetings, and marches and demonstrations. The small groups run a retail Peace Shop in Brighton and they run a peace bus to transport people to different venues.

Besides holding various international conferences to date, the city has also held the "Hiroshima -Nagasaki Peace Poster Exhibition." During the last few years, Brighton has worked to develop a closer relationship with Peace Cities. Delegates from Brighton have visited the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Tbilisi, Volgograd, Tashkent and Kiev, with the aim of forging practical links. To do

this, the city has seen a successful appeal for medical aid sent to the city of Volgograd. It was followed by Russians visiting Brighton for language courses and has now developed into education and commercial links with school and business exchanges.

Toward the future, besides building facilities and expanding the functions of the existing facilities, Brighton aims at the realization of world peace and the strengthening of solidarity among cities by encouraging schools to twin with cities in various parts of the world; Forming links between hospitals and universities to facilitate training and exchanges; Using the media to promote local aid campaigns for food and medical equipment; Demonstrating to support world peace and human rights campaigns; Creating poster exhibitions; Forming trade organizations to promote business links; Sharing skills and expertise.

Hiroshima City, Nagasaki City Peace Declarations

The peace declarations read by the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the Peace Memorial Ceremony on August 6, 1994 and at the Nagasaki Peace Ceremony on August 9, 1994 are presented here in their entirety.

HIROSHIMA PEACE DECLARATION

The sun was dazzling bright that summer morning when a single atomic bomb instantly destroyed this town of Hiroshima and took its deadly toll. And it pains me to be unable to stand before this monument to those dead and to report to them that we finally have a world free of nuclear weapons.

It is now nearly half a century since that fateful day, and the present is a time of major transition, for the world at large and also for Japan, as we move from an era of conflict to an era of concert. Yet the world still bristles with nuclear weapons. Hiroshima, along with Nagasaki, appeals to the leaders of all nuclear-armed countries to promptly announce the elimination of their nuclear weapons. The world's leaders must understand that the development and possession of nuclear weapons is a crime against humanity. Thus we hope to have the Atomic Bomb Dome registered as part of the world's cultural heritage so that it can stand as a warning to all humankind.

Nuclear weapons—weapons of wide-spread and indiscriminate destruction and releasing massive doses of deadly radiation—are patently illegal under international law. This is something that *the hibakusha* know from personal experience. While the International Court of Justice is moving to review the legality of the use of nuclear weapons, we fervently hope the world will see the reality of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and will fully recognize the inhumanity of nuclear weapons.

As I stated at the Second United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues in Hiroshima, we are opposed to the indefinite extension of a Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty that makes no clear provisions for the elimination of nuclear weapons and perpetuates the uneasy relationship between the nuclear-weapon states and the non-nuclear-weapon states. The Japanese Government should take specific steps to demonstrate its opposition to nuclear weapons in global forums, including seeking to extend the three non-nuclear principles (of non-possession, non-manufacture, and non introduction) to the international community and promoting the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in Northeast Asia, so as to fulfil the responsibilities incumbent upon it as a country that has suffered atomic bombing.

Noting how Hiroshima has overcome the tragedy of atomic bombing and is able to play host to the 12th Asian Games this October, one of the countries planning to take part in the

Games characterized Hiroshima as a symbol of mankind's hopes for peace. These words give us new pride and confidence—although we must obviously never forget Japan's war against and colonial domination of the other nations of Asia.

Accidents at nuclear power plants, radioactive waste disposal, and the like pollute the entire world irrespective of political borders. It is thus all the more important that we have international transparency regarding the management of radioactive materials, particularly plutonium, and that nuclear power technology be subject to the controlling principles of democracy, independence, and transparency.

Having lived nearly 50 years with their affliction, *the hibakusha* are most anxious to have Japan enact *the hibakusha* Relief Law for a better future. Now is the time for Japan to initiate far-reaching relief policies based upon the spirit of national indemnification for *all hibakusha*, regardless of who they are or where they live.

History is the tale of humankind's struggle to create a society in which people do not quake before the terror of war, do not suffer from poverty and malnutrition, and are not exposed to discrimination and prejudice. It is imperative that we continue to speak to young people everywhere of the horrors of war and Hiroshima's atomic bombing and hence of our dreams for the future.

At this ceremony commemorating the 49th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, I would thus like both to pay my sincere respects to the spirits of the dead here and to declare anew my determination to focus the energies of the people of Hiroshima for the building of a world of peace.

Takashi Hiraoka, Mayor of Hiroshima



49th Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony

NAGASAKI PEACE DECLARATION

People of Japan and people of the world, please listen to the message of Nagasaki. That day, an atomic bomb exploded over this Urakami district, mercilessly demolishing the reinforced concrete buildings of Shiroyama and Yamazato Primary Schools located directly below. Of 152 teachers, mobilized students and other people at Shiroyama Primary School, 133 were killed. At Yamazato Primary school, 28 of 32 teachers died. Among the combined total of 3,100 pupils at the two schools, more than 2,700 perished in their homes. The small number of children who gathered at the school to resume their studies three months later, although fortunate to have survived, began a new life of face in the face of atomic bomb disease.

Today is the sorrowful anniversary of the atomic bombing. We have gathered today at the hypocenter to convey the cries of the victims and the great aspiration for peace.

1. Let us remember the war and the atomic bombings and convey our knowledge with voices raised high

The Japanese people must reflect upon Japan's history of aggression and assault in Asia and, on the beside of this rigorous reflection, consider measures for compensation. Without this reflection, Japan cannot expect to gain the trust of the international community.

Almost half a century has elapsed since the end of World War II, and the experiences of the war and the atomic bomb are threatening to fade from memory. It is imperative that we inform younger generations about the misery of war, the horror of the atomic bomb and the vital importance of peace.

I ask young people to study the process of Japan's involvement in the World War II, to look carefully at current world affairs, and to think about what you can do for world peace. I ask you to help the underprivileged children of the world and to work bravely for people suffering from starvation and poverty.

2. The conclusion of a treaty to ban nuclear weapons is Nagasaki's foremost wish

The United States and Russia agreed last year to a massive reduction in strategic nuclear weapons. However, the agreement still allows the existence of between 3,000 and 3,500 weapons in each country after reductions up to the year 2003, which is more than enough to annihilate the human race. Despite the resumption of negotiations for a comprehensive test ban treaty this January, meanwhile, the threat of nuclear weapons continues as shown by the nuclear test conducted by the People's Republic of China and the suspicions raised about the development of nuclear weapons in Asia and the Middle

East.

As this situation continues, a conference for the review of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) will be held next April. This treaty is established on the basis of the theory of nuclear deterrence, that is, the belief that nuclear war can be averted by preventing the emergence of new nuclear states while allowing the present nuclear states to continue possessing these weapons. We are opposed to the unconditional and indefinite extension of the NPT without any expression of commitment to the abolition of nuclear weapons by the nuclear states. We demand that the nuclear states lose no time in abandoning the theory of nuclear deterrence, signing a comprehensive test ban treaty and then striving to conclude a "treaty to ban nuclear weapons" that will ensure the complete abolition of nuclear weapons.

3. Let us state clearly that the use of nuclear weapons is a breach of international law

The people of Nagasaki and Hiroshima were the first on Earth to experience nuclear destruction. We know that nuclear weapons are an absolute evil, a force capable of annihilating the human race. It goes without saying that the use of these inhuman weapons of indiscriminate and mass slaughter is a breach of international law. The Japanese government should stand on this viewpoint of its citizens and clearly declare that nuclear weapons are a breach of international law.

Japan's accumulation of large amounts of plutonium has invited suspicions that it is planning to develop nuclear weapons. We have called repeatedly for the enactment of the three-fold non-nuclear principle as law. The Japanese government must immediately enact the principle as law and thereby prove that it has no intention to possess nuclear weapons. At the same time, it must lead the world in condemning nuclear weapons as an absolute evil.

4. A law must be enacted immediately for the relief of the atomic bomb survivors and similar relief should be extended to foreign survivors

Although passed twice in the House of Councilors and supported by about 70% of regional assemblies around Japan, the atomic bomb survivors' relief law has still not been enacted. The atomic bomb survivors received no relief during the ten-year period after the end of World War II when they needed treatment and assistance most.

And now each time the enactment of the law is delayed, a large number of survivors pass away with their hopes unfulfilled. They can wait no longer. I ask the Japanese government to enact the atomic bomb survivors' relief law before the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the

atomic bombing next year--in keeping with the spirit of national compensation and as evidence of its determination to prevent any other country from using nuclear weapons and its resolve never to wage another war.

Similar relief should be extended to the people from Korea, China and other countries who were brought to Japan by force and who returned home after being exposed to the atomic bombings in Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

5. What must we do for world peace?

Look at the world today and you will see the numerous problems demanding solutions, such as the regional conflicts arising from ethnic and religious confrontations, the destruction of the global environment, and the starvation and refugees associated therewith.

To address these problems, the Japanese government must reassess its official development aid and contribute actively to the improvement of living standards in the developing countries. In our daily lives, we must conserve the environment and raise awareness concerning the human rights and needs of impoverished people around the world, and we must extend a helping hand. The citizen of Nagasaki, who have personally experienced the horror of the war, strongly declare on the basis of the concept of peace embraced in the Japanese constitution that the use of military force to solve conflicts is a grave mistake.

6. Nagasaki looks with determination to the coming 50th anniversary of the atomic bombings

The citizens of Nagasaki must strive together to convey Nagasaki's aspiration for peace to the world as the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombings approaches.

Nagasaki City will strive with Nagasaki Prefecture to host

the United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues and thus take an important stride toward the realization of its most earnest wish: the abolition of nuclear weapons. Nagasaki will also be the site of the Asia-Pacific Young People's Peace Conference, which will deepen solidarity and exchange among young people in the region.

We hope that the United Nations, which celebrates the 50th anniversary of its foundation next year, will continue to transcend the small circle of leading countries and play a prominent role in the establishment of true world peace and regional stability. Nagasaki will support the mission of the United Nations through its involvement in activities such as the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity.

On this the 49th anniversary of the Nagasaki atomic bombing, I offer prayers for the repose of the souls of the atomic bomb victims and for the good health of the survivors and bereaved families, and I declare the determination of the citizens of Nagasaki to join hands and strive for the abolition of nuclear weapons and for the realization of world peace.

Hitoshi Motoshima, Mayor of Nagasaki



49th Nagasaki Peace Ceremony

DISARMAMENT LEADER PASSES AWAY IN HIROSHIMA

On June 15, 1994, Takeshi Araki, former Mayor of Hiroshima and passionate activist for nuclear disarmament, died of pneumonia at the age of 78.

Araki served as mayor of Hiroshima for four terms from 1975 to 1991. During his 16 years in office, he focused his efforts on promoting peace by increasing awareness of the danger of nuclear weapons and building solidarity and understanding among people.

He hosted numerous peace-related conferences in Hiroshima and also traveled overseas to spread awareness of the reality of the devastation wreaked upon Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, visiting the United Nations Headquarters a

total of five times and making appeals to the UN Secretary General, representatives of the world's nations and other related officials.

He was an ardent supporter of understanding and solidarity on a grassroots level as an alternative to the theory of nuclear deterrence. In addition to promoting international exchange through sister-city programs and sports events, Araki, together with Nagasaki Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima, formed the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity with the aim of transcending national borders to work side-by-side on resolving obstacles to lasting world peace.

The Mayors Conference met for the first time in August 1985 with a membership of 100 cities from 68 countries. As of August 31, 1994, the membership included 394 cities from 92 countries, all of which support the organization's core precept, the "Program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities Toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" which was proposed by then-Mayor Araki and Mayor Motoshima at the Second UN Special Session on Disarmament in 1982.

Thanks to a process begun in 1980 when then-Mayor Araki established a preparatory committee to invite the event to the city, Hiroshima will host the 12th Asian Games in October of this year. The Asian Games are equivalent to the Olympics of Asia and will be attended by 43 countries and regions and approximately 7,000 athletes and officials. It will be the first time the Games are held in a city that is not a nation's capital and will present an unprecedented opportunity to spread Hiroshima's message of peace.

Takeshi Araki was born in Hiroshima on March 4, 1916. After graduating from the law school of the Imperial University of Tokyo, he was working at a shipyard in

Hiroshima when the atomic bomb was dropped.

He entered public office for the first time as a city councilor in April 1947, becoming a member of the Hiroshima Prefectural Assembly four years later and eventually mayor of Hiroshima in February 1975.

As a survivor of the A-bomb himself, he was a strong voice in the national government on behalf of all the survivors and worked hard to promote the development of comprehensive facilities and systems for their health care and welfare needs.

His contributions to the people of Hiroshima and to the progress of realizing peace throughout the world will not soon be forgotten.



At the 2nd U.N. Special Session on Disarmament (June 24, 1982), the late mayor of Hiroshima Takeshi Araki declares the Program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities Toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons

In response to the news of former mayor Takeshi Araki's passing, many letters of condolence were received from those related to the United Nations and member cities of the Mayors Conference. Below are some of the letters of condolence for the late mayor. May he rest in peace.

D A Cambell
Lord Mayor of Wollongong, Australia

Mr. Araki will be remembered for his promotion of the solidarity of cities in the abolition of nuclear weapons over many years.

Yuri Chehov
Mayor of Volgograd, Russia

The People of Volgograd esteem Mayor Araki's contribution to worldwide peace, especially in his role as founder and first president of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity.

John Mulenga Chilambwe
Mayor of Lusaka, Zambia

The late Takeshi Araki was instrumental in the promotion of solidarity of cities towards the total abolition of Nuclear weapons. Death has then robbed us a great man and an inspirator towards peace in the world.

Eberhard Dieppen
Governing Mayor of Berlin, Germany

Mr. Takeshi Araki's work for the development of the afflicted Hiroshima merits the greatest appreciation, as does his contribution towards international cooperation at the local government level.

Frank F. Fasi,
Mayor of City and County of Honolulu, U.S.A.

During his terms as Mayor of Hiroshima, his efforts on behalf of world peace in particular gained him renown and respect throughout the world.

Léo Figueres
Mayor of Malakoff, France
Catherine Margale
Deputy Mayor of Malakoff, France

The memory of Mr. Araki is inscribed in our local history on the day of April 23, 1990, when we made him an honorable citizen of our city.

H.E. Boutros Boutros-Ghali
The Secretary General, United Nations

Mr. Araki's remarkable contributions toward fostering international solidarity and toward forging an international consensus on disarmament have left a permanent, positive mark on the international community.

Armand Levante
Mayor of Como, Italy

The loss of this great statesman will not only be Hiroshima's, but will be felt keenly by the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity as well.

Vernon C. Nichols
President of NGO Committee on Disarmament, INC.
U.S.A.

One of the most substantial of these is the leadership which he provided as president of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity. His example of effective service will continue to shine brightly before us all.

Philip W. Owen
Mayor of Vancouver, Canada

Mr. Araki will long be remembered for his contribution to international peace and the aspiration for the total abolition of nuclear weapons.

Herbert Schmalstieg
Lord Mayor of Hannover, Germany

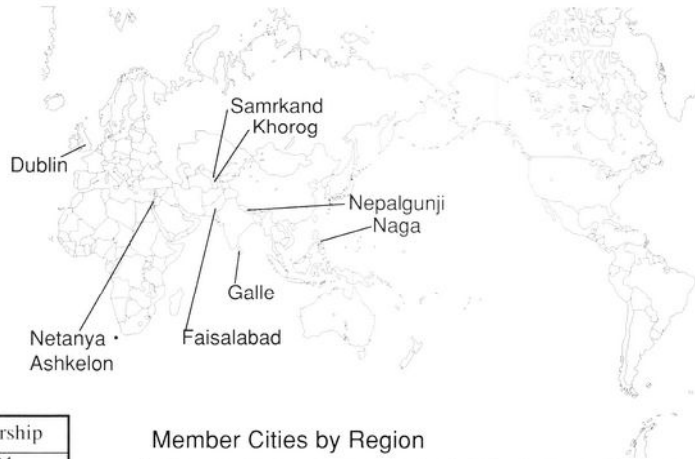
The City of Hannover will not cease to make the copy of Hiroshima's peace bell, which is put up in our peace memorial, the ruins of the Aegidien-church, resound, from now on also commemorating Takeshi Araki and his work for peace.

Eugen Schmid
Lord Mayor of Tübingen, Germany

The members of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity have always sincerely respected Mr. Takeshi Araki for his declaration of the Program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities Toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons for world peace and all the world's people.

New Member Cities of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity

From February 1994 to the end of August, 1994, cities supporting the "Program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities Toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" and those that had become members of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity are as follows.



New Member Cities

Country Name	City Name	Membership
Ireland	Dublin	2.08.94
Israel	Netanya	3.08.94
Pakistan	Faisalabad	3.15.94
Philippines	Naga	3.25.94
Nepal	Nepalgunji	4.05.94
Israel	Ashkelon	5.16.94
Sri Lanka	Galle	5.16.94
Uzbekistan	Samrkand	7.25.94
Tadzhikistan	Khorog	8.16.94

Member Cities by Region

Region	Number of Member Countries	Number of Member Cities
Asia	25	85
Oceania	6	26
Africa	19	22
Europe	27	198
North America	9	55
South America	6	8
Total	92	394

From the Secretariat

Next year, in 1995, at the juncture in history when the 50th anniversary of three important events — the end of World War II, the foundation of the United Nations and the dropping of A-bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki — all take place, we hope for an increase in interest toward peace and disarmament.

We want to learn how our readers felt about the third edition of the newsletter, which covered Hiroshima's and Nagasaki's forceful appeals for the recognition that nuclear weapons violate international law, and the special edition on the 50th anniversary A-bombing activities by both cities.

We would also be very thankful if you would send to our organization's secretariat your opinions regarding the

campaign to recognize the illegality of nuclear weapons and proposals for activities commemorating the 50th anniversary of the A-bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In addition, please send us the activities your city may be planning for the 50th anniversary and the conditions surrounding the holding of the Hiroshima Nagasaki A-bomb Poster Exhibition. We hope to continue to improve this newsletter through your participation, so please send in your letters.

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