



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

December 7, 2012

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

Letter of Protest

Your country has announced that a subcritical nuclear test was conducted at the Nevada test site on December 5, 2012.

This test followed the previous subcritical test in February of last year and five subsequent tests on the Z-Machine. This series of experiments, though not involving nuclear explosions, compel us to believe that the U.S. intends to cling to its nuclear stockpile indefinitely. The action of your country ignores the wish of the *hibakusha* and millions of others who seek the abolition of nuclear weapons and is utterly unacceptable. On behalf of the 5,490 cities in 155 countries and regions that are members of Mayors for Peace, I vehemently protest.

I just visited the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo on November 14 to make an official request that you visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki to witness the actual damage wrought by the atomic bombings, contemplate the agonizing experience of the *hibakusha* who personally suffered from those bombings, and fully understand their sincere wish for peace. I urge you not to betray our expectations. Please move your country forward in good faith and in a steady manner toward the “world without nuclear weapons” that you have advocated.

MATSUI Kazumi
Mayor of Hiroshima
President of Mayors for Peace