AIR WAR, HIROSHIMA-NAGASAKI (AUGUST 6 AND 9) REMEMBRANCE 2012 NEWSLETTER. JULY 1, 2012. PART I. Compiled by Dick Bennett for a Culture of Peace.

Here is the link to all OMNI newsletters: [http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/](http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/) For a knowledge-based peace, justice, and ecology movement and an informed citizenry as the foundation for change.

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REMEMBERING HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

Voltaire wrote: “It is forbidden to kill; therefore all murderers are punished unless they kill in large numbers and to the sound of trumpets.” This profound observation exposes two facts about general publics thrown into wars: They must reject their lifetime abhorrence to murder, and mass murder and propaganda can overcome their revulsion.

On August 8, 1945, a poll found that only 10% of the US population opposed the use of atomic bombs on Japanese cities. Polls later that year confirmed the early revelation of massive public approval of the slaughter of innocents. On revealed that 22.7% would have bombed many more cities before the “Japs” had time to surrender. One lady wished more bombs had been used to blast all the Japanese islands “into oblivion.”

But that was the war doing the feeling. The US-Japanese Pacific War was perhaps the most vicious in history and on both sides. John Dower in War Without Mercy traces the merciless denigrations of the other and the ensuing merciless war.

Many perspectives entangle this subject, and Dower explores them. I want to emphasize one: the causal connection of ignorance with depravity. Very soon after the bombings the Air Force’s Strategic Bombing Survey suggested how close Japan was to surrender at the time of the bombings. The bombs did not defeat Japan. Many of the US public began to recognize the possibly unwarranted haste and immorality of dropping the bombs on civilian cities without warning.

But a more palpable influence, that of actually showing the horrifying physical consequences of the bombings, affected people significantly. The novelist John Hersey’s book Hiroshima, which told the stories of six victims, appeared first in The New Yorker August 31, 1946. The public responded immediately. Some newspapers reprinted the entire 30,000-word account. Many published editorials, columns, letters. It was read over a major radio network, and published as a book. People were shocked, as one person wrote, “I didn’t realize.” Hersey’s close-up narratives of six individual victims brought many people who had before cared nothing for the Japanese people, were able to put themselves in their situation, since it might happen here.

From that time forward, a significant though small minority of the population paid attention to the possibility of global nuclear war and human survival. For many, the Bomb became the only one subject of fundamental importance. Telling the truth--revealing reality, giving circumstantial evidence, not trying to censor by softening the facts--turned off the martial trumpets and turned on many to harmonies of their reviving moral tradition.

I am reminded of a recently published study of the reasons why people quit smoking, the most important of all being photographs of human organs ravaged by tobacco. Hersey showed what the Bomb had done to those at the bomb’s outer injury range.

Today a growing number of people are learning to think of climate change as the main subject of fundamental importance. If truth-telling about the premeditated mass killings at Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the hundreds of millions killed in wars brought and continues to bring some citizens to their senses, perhaps now reality about mass species extinctions will serve to help awaken the public to warming.
Japan's Asahi Shimbun newspaper company has compiled almost 400 first-hand experiences of A-bomb survivors at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Go to the text area on this homepage, skip 'search' and 'main menu'

- Masseges from Hiroshima
  - within 2km
  - outside 2km
  - ‘Chokubaku’
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  - ‘Tainai hibaku’, 'Kenshin', others

- Masseges from Nagasaki
  - within 2km
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  - ‘Tainai hibaku’, 'Kenshin', others

- From Asahi Shimbun
  - Others

- 'For Those Who Pray for Peace'

- List

GLOBAL NETWORK
"Memories of Hiroshima and Nagasaki--Messages from Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors)" is a website that makes available to the public **first-hand accounts written by hibakusha**. By sharing these messages from them, we hope to help propel the **growing global movement toward the abolition of nuclear weapons**. To that end, The Asahi Shimbun, a leading Japanese newspaper, has established this website. We hope people from all over the world will visit the website.  

more »**Information**

- The Second Translators and Hibakusha Social (2/25)
- Links to the Japanese accounts and the English translations (2/17)
- New Messages (2/17)
- New Messages (12/1)
- Translators and Hibakusha Social (11/19)
- New Messages (10/27)
- English website now available (9/21)

more »**From Asahi Shimbun**

- 'What Happened On This Date'
- 'A-bomb 60 and 65 Years Questionnaires'
- 'The letters from the Hibakusha'
- 'The Road to the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons'(PDF)

**Tuesday, August 9, 2011**
New Book 'Atomic Cover-up' Reveals Film Secrets

Just out this month, my 12th book: Atomic Cover-Up: Two U.S. Soldiers, Hiroshima & Nagasaki and The Greatest Movie Never Made (Sinclair Books). This is a haunting account of how the U.S. suppressed the only film footage shot in the atomic cities, by an American military crew, for decades. The shocking cover-up even extended to MGM and Hollywood -- and to President Truman. And there was no WikiLeaks to get the film aired.

America's "nuclear entrapment" continues to this day. Atomic Cover-up takes a wide angle look at the use of the bomb in 1945--and its impact right up to 2011. It might be sub-titled "From Hiroshima to Fukushima."

You can buy the e-book edition for Kindle, all phones, Blackberry, iPad, Macs and PCs (for just $3.99) via Amazon, and you do not need a Kindle. Print edition is available only at this site (for $9.95). Or purchase directly from the author, autographed, contact: epic1934@aol.com.

Watch the controversial two-minute trailer for the book below or at YouTube -- it includes some of the hidden footage shot by the U.S. military crew. (It now has over 80,000 views.) CBS News just picked up my Hiroshima/Fukushima piece here. I was on Democracy Now! on August 9, now you can watch. A lengthy piece summarizes key parts of the book at The Nation, where I am a daily writer. Major piece on Nagasaki, the "forgotten city," getting wide play. See long list of my pieces in past month at Huff Post and The Nation.

And don't miss the wild Hollywood angle -- when the Truman White House censored the first major movie about The Bomb, from MGM, and even got the actor playing Truman fired! Atomic Cover-Up also charts my own visits to Hiroshima and Nagasaki and latest news and views right up to this summer.

Why did the cover-up of the film footage matter? While Americans were denied important truths about The Bomb -- filmed by their own military -- a costly nuclear arms race ensued, nuclear power became entrenched, and millions of Americans were exposed to dangerous levels of radiation in our own country.

I'll be speaking about all this on a panel at the famous International Center for Photography in New York on August 17 at 7 p.m.

Of the new book, Robert Jay Lifton, author of Death in Life (winner of the National Book Award) and numerous other acclaimed books, writes: "Greg Mitchell has been a leading chronicler for many years of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and American behavior toward them. Now he has written the first book devoted to the suppression of historic film footage shot by Japanese and Americans in the atomic cities in 1945 and 1946. This cover-up paved the way for the costly and dangerous nuclear arms race and contributed to the widespread reliance on nuclear power."

Order print edition or e-book editions for most devices. Email me at: epic1934@aol.com.
ICP Adds Photo Book to Key Exhibit on Hiroshima Images
GREG MITCHELL, The International Center for Photography has published, with Steidl, a valuable 248-page book about its current exhibit "Hiroshima Ground Zero 1945."

VIDEO: “Atomic Coverup: The Hidden Story Behind the U.S. Bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki”
Democracy Now! August 9, 2011
Published: Tuesday 9 August 2011 (from Nation of Change)

Video Interview: As radiation readings in Japan reach their highest levels since the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant meltdowns, we look at the beginning of the atomic age. Today is the 66th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of Nagasaki. Three days after the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima. By official Japanese estimates, nearly 300,000 people died from the bombings, including those who lost their lives in the ensuing months and years from related injuries and illnesses.

Amy Goodman, “Japan's Nuclear Legacy,” Nation of Change
August 10, 2011, Op-Ed, NationofChange: "The history of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is itself the history of U.S. military censorship and propaganda. In addition to the suppressed film footage, the military kept the blast zones off-limits to reporters. When Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist George Weller managed to get in to Nagasaki, his story was personally killed by Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Australian journalist Wilfred Burchett managed to sneak in to Hiroshima not long after the blast and reported what he called “a warning to the world,” describing widespread illnesses as an “atomic plague.”

The Crime of Nagasaki
Greg Mitchell, Op-Ed: "Criticism of the attack on Nagasaki has centered on the issue of why
Truman did not step in and stop the second bomb after the success of the first to allow Japan a few more days to contemplate surrender before targeting another city for extinction. In addition, the U.S. knew that its ally, the Soviet Union, would join the war within hours, as previously agreed, and that the entrance of Japan’s most hated enemy, as much as the Hiroshima bomb, would likely speed the surrender (“fini Japs” when the Russians declare war, Truman had predicted in his diary).

resistance today

SENTENCED FOR HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI DAY WITNESS 2011

http://vandenbergwitness.org/2012/03/17/sentenced-for-hiroshimanagasaki-day-witness-2

On Thursday, March 15, 2012, L.A. Catholic Worker David Omondi appeared in Santa Barbara Federal Court to plead guilty to trespass charges from an August 6 action commemorating the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. David received a $100 fine (no jail time). David stated to the court that he will NOT pay the fine. David is the last of the August 6, 2011 arrestees to appear in court.


PEACE STUDIES
The cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are asking colleges and universities around the world to establish and promote Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses designed to analyze and disseminate A-bomb lessons as a common social and intellectual asset for humankind. “No one else should ever suffer what we did” is the fundamental message of the hibakusha (A-bomb victims and survivors). Hiroshima-Nagasaki Courses convey this message to future generations by exploring the facts of the bombings and the experiences of the hibakusha. By approaching the bombings through the arts and humanities, social and physical sciences, and the full spectrum of academic disciplines, students receive accurate information regarding the inhumane power and inherently illegal and immoral nature of nuclear weapons. This learning also facilitates an understanding of the reasons Hiroshima, Nagasaki and their A-bomb survivors have chosen the path of reconciliation. The Nazi holocaust has been studied extensively around the world. As a result, no politician would dare to recommend gas ovens and ethnic cleansing as a solution to any problem. If the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were adequately studied, the same would be true for the “nuclear option.”

Currently, Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses have been established at 58 universities (42 in Japan, 16 overseas).

What's new

Impressions after the Hiroshima Field Trip 2012, International Christian University (ICU) (March 5 to 8, 2012) posted on June 27, 2012

"Hiroshima and Nuclear Issues", "Hiroshima and the World" and "HIROSHIMA and PEACE for Graduate Students" at Hiroshima City University recognized as Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses. (April 2, 2012) posted on June 14, 2012

"Peace Studies" at Hijiyama University recognized as Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course. (March 1, 2012; Syllabus available only in Japanese) posted on June 14, 2012

"Hiroshima and Peace" at Hiroshima University of Economics recognized as Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course. (April 2, 2012) posted on June 11, 2012

"Peace Studies 1" at Keiwa College recognized as Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course. (February 14, 2012; Syllabus available only in Japanese) posted on June 11, 2012

2012 Hiroshima Seminar, International Christian University (ICU) (March 5 to 8, 2012) posted on April 27, 2012

Buddhist Leader Calls for 2015 Nuclear Abolition Summit in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and End to Japan’s Reliance on Nuclear Power

TOKYO, Jan. 26, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- In his 30th annual peace proposal, released on January 26, Daisaku Ikeda, president of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI) Buddhist association, calls for a nuclear abolition summit to be held in 2015 in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to ensure that the growing momentum toward abolition of nuclear weapons becomes irreversible.

Holding this summit on the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings of these cities, and in the year of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference, would bring home to world leaders the terrible destructive capacity of nuclear weapons and help ensure the necessary action toward their abolition, thereby marking the effective end of the nuclear weapons era.

In this year’s proposal, titled "Human Security and Sustainability: Sharing Reverence for the Dignity of Life," Ikeda points to the possibility of a more hopeful phase in the struggle to realize a nuclear-free world, seeing signs of a tipping point where a "cascade" of governments will support adoption of a Nuclear Weapons Convention (NWC) to comprehensively ban nuclear weapons.

Ikeda, who has been engaged in the antinuclear movement since the late 1950s, strongly reaffirms his endorsement of the idea of an NWC, stating that we must take “the determination ... that humanity and nuclear weapons cannot coexist, and give it concrete form as a binding legal agreement expressing the shared conscience of humankind.”

He calls for formation of an action group for an NWC, comprising supportive governments and NGOs, and urges that if arguments from the perspectives of human rights and sustainability are mustered alongside those from international humanitarian law, this will expand the groundswell of grassroots efforts pushing for nuclear weapons abolition.

Reflecting on the Fukushima nuclear disaster in March 2011, Ikeda urges Japan to make a rapid transition to energy policies not reliant on nuclear power generation, and to intensify its involvement in renewable energy technology and research, both domestically and to support efforts in developing countries. He calls for a strengthening of the global role of the IAEA in dealing with the impacts of nuclear power plant accidents and the decommissioning of obsolescent reactors.

Considering the suffering caused by an increasing prevalence of natural disasters around the world, Ikeda calls for responses to be centered on a human rights approach and proposes that UNHCR’s mandate be officially expanded to include provision of relief for people displaced by such disasters. He also stresses the importance of empowering women to play a greater role in disaster prevention, mitigation and recovery efforts.

Toward the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development being held this year in Rio de Janeiro, Ikeda calls for a broader debate on the concept of Sustainable Development Goals to follow the Millennium Development Goals from 2015. He urges a comprehensive approach that will address the full range of sustainability and human security concerns in both developing and developed countries.

Read a synopsis of the proposal at:

Daisaku Ikeda, 84, has issued proposals analyzing the key issues facing humankind on
January 26 every year since 1983, commemorating SGI's founding on that date in 1975. He offers insight from a Buddhist perspective and makes concrete suggestions in a spirit of contribution to the global dialogue centered around the United Nations. Many of his proposals have borne fruit.

Soka Gakkai International is a socially engaged Buddhist association with over 12 million members around the world.

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VIDEOS ABOUT HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

1. ***USA TERRORISM HIROSHIMA, NAGASAKI ... ▶ 9:32
   youtube.com
   Published on May 19, 2012 - 10 min - Uploaded by rahatkhan132
   USA TERRORISM HIROSHIMA, NAGASAKI ATOMIC BOMB ...

2. Hiroshima /Nagasaki aftermath footage 200522-04 ... ▶ 8:08
   youtube.com
   Published on Apr 15, 2012 - 8 min - Uploaded by footagefarm
   Hiroshima / Nagasaki aftermath footage. Various shots ...

3. Christmas in Hiroshima & Nagasaki (CEP - Bari ... ▶ 6:12
   youtube.com
   Loading... Uploaded by Narela2006 on Jan 6, 2012. Christmas celebration inna di ghetto... Location ...

   youtube.com
   Published on May 11, 2012 - 3 min - Uploaded by ShinsedaiFest
   The bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki changed the world ...

5. Hiroshima Nagasaki says FUCK YOU to those ... ▶ 3:12
   youtube.com
   Published on Jun 24, 2012 by hamishpatterson. Hiroshima Nagasaki says FUCK YOU to the malibu city ...
6. World War II - **HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI** BOMB ...
   ![YouTube](youtube.com) Feb 8, 2012 - 1 min - Uploaded by EvilgeniusSAIRAM
   Uploaded by EvilgeniusSAIRAM on Feb 8, 2012. The Official Video of Hiroshima And Nagasaki BOMBING ...

7. Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine » Blog ...
   ![Blog](peacectr.org) Aug 8, 2009 - 3 min
   2012 HOPE Festival | Bill McKibben, keynote speaker | APRIL 21 ... coverage and full program from our ...

8. **HIROSHIMA - NAGASAKI** - YouTube
   ![YouTube](youtube.com) Feb 28, 2012 - 11 min - Uploaded by WEtheREALpeople
   Loading... Published on Feb 28, 2012 by WEtheREALpeople ... "American Hiroshima" - 2007 False Flag ...

9. **Nagasaki!!! Hiroshima!!!** (Austin) - YouTube
   ![YouTube](youtube.com) Mar 11, 2012 - 42 sec - Uploaded by AustinRuff69
   Flag as inappropriate. Loading... Alert icon. Sign in or sign up now! Alert icon. Loading... Published on Mar 11 ...

10. **Hiroshima, 1945 to 2012** - YouTube
    ![YouTube](youtube.com) New 5 days ago - 2 min - Uploaded by economyincrisis
    Published on Jun 25, 2012 by economyincrisis ... Hiroshima & Nagasaki 1945 (Nuclear