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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A-BOMB SURVIVORS TO VISIT DC TO COMMEMORATE BOMBINGS

Two Hibakusha (Atomic Bomb Survivors), Mr. Toshiyuki Mimaki from Hiroshima and Ms. Fumie Kakita, second-generation Hibakusha from Nagasaki, will visit the National Capital area from August 4 - 10. They will call on the nations of the world to abolish nuclear weapons so that the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is never repeated. The Hibakusha's greatest fear is that when they are gone, the memory of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will disappear and nuclear weapons will be used again, this time threatening life itself. Their prophetic voices remind us of the need to speak out against oppression and injustice, and to work for nuclear disarmament. Joining our special guests is Mr. Dennis Nelson, a Downwinder from St. George, Utah, who was exposed to fallout from atmospheric nuclear testing. Peace messages from the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to the events will be read.

Mr. Toshiyuki Mimaki, Hiroshima Hibakusha, is Vice President of Hiroshima Prefectural Hidankyo and a former Executive Board member of Nihon Hidankyo (The Japan Confederation of A & H Bomb Sufferers Organizations).

Ms. Fumie Kakita, Nagasaki second-generation Hibakusha, is Assistant Secretary General of Nagasaki Council of A-bomb Sufferers. She previously visited Washington DC and New Jersey in 2002.

Mr. Dennis Nelson, Director of Support and Education for Radiation Victims (SERV) U.S.A., is a Downwinder from St. George, Utah. He & his wife Denise Nelson provide information regarding radiation exposures to victims worldwide.

(Experienced English-speaking interpreters will be available at all activities to facilitate press interviews.)

2014 Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Schedule

Tuesday, August 5, 6:45 pm

Hiroshima Peace Commemoration

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, National Mall

Moment's silence at 7:15 pm, Hibakusha testimony, Fukushima update, Candlelight vigil

Wednesday, August 6, 6:30 pm

Baltimore Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration with Hibakusha/Downwinder Testimonies

Bufano Sculpture Garden on Johns Hopkins Homewood campus

The program will be preceded by a 5:30pm vigil at 33rd & North Charles St.

Sponsored by Baltimore Hiroshima-Nagasaki Commemoration Committee

Thursday August 7, 4:00 pm

American University Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration with Hibakusha/Downwinder Testimonies

Founder's Room, School of International Service, American Univ., Across from Nebraska Ave.

Parking Lot

Sponsored by Peace of East Asia in Creative Engagement (P.E.A.C.E)

Friday, August 8, 9:45 pm

Nagasaki Candlelight Vigil

White House (Lafayette Park)

Moment's Silence and sharing of thoughts for peace at 10:02

Saturday, August 9, 4:00 pm

Frederick Maryland Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration with Hibakusha/Downwinder Testimonies

Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ, 15 West Church Street Frederick, MD 21701

Sponsored by Frederick Women in Black

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Note: For the past 33 years, the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital Area, with the support of the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo), has been organizing for the abolition of nuclear weapons and nuclear power, and in support of nuclear victims.