Press Advisory 4 April 2005

Hiroshima Delegates to Meet with Santa Fe City Officials Proposed City Nuclear Disarmament Resolution Focus of Hopes

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Press Conference Friday, April 8, 2:00 pm, outside Santa Fe City Hall

SANTA FE – Santa Fe city councilors and Mayor Delgado (invited) will attend a press conference with delegates from the Hiroshima World Peace Mission on Friday, April 8 at 2:00 pm outside City Hall at the statue of St. Francis, the City's patron saint. The Mission will present the City of Santa Fe with a bouquet of sunflowers, the international symbol for nuclear disarmament, in hopes the City will endorse its pending nuclear disarmament resolution. Local business leaders will be invited; some 117 have signed a similar call for nuclear disarmament.

The resolution gained five votes in committee on Tuesday, March 29. There are eight councilors in all. Mayor Delgado joined the anti-nuclear-weapons organization Mayors for Peace in January of this year. More than 700 mayors worldwide have joined, including at least 60 in the United States.

Opposition to nuclear weapons remains very high in the United States. In a recent AP/Ipsos poll released on March 30, 2005, 66% of Americans polled agreed that no country should be allowed to possess nuclear weapons, more than four times as many as agreed with any other policy option. (See: http://www.ap-ipsosresults.com/.)

Mayor Akiba of Hiroshima, leader of Mayors for Peace and an active advocate for the pending resolution, has requested that Mayor Delgado meet with the Hiroshima Mission during their visit to northern New Mexico.

The Hiroshima World Peace Mission is a special project of the Hiroshima International Cultural Foundation and the Chugoku Shimbun Newspaper. The project is sending teams of *hibakusha* (A-bomb survivors), reporters, students and activists to countries possessing nuclear weapons to urge the world's citizens to reject the immoral and illegal industry of nuclear weapons and to promote nuclear disarmament and lasting peace throughout the world. Since March 2004, the Mission has sent Hiroshima citizens to South Africa, Iran, China, Korea, UK, France, Spain, Russia, Ukraine, Bosnia Herzegovina, India and Pakistan.

This, the final Mission, will arrive in Santa Fe on April 7. The Mission will be given a tour of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) by the Study Group and meet with LANL representatives that morning.

The Study Group will host a public talk by *hibakusha* Mr. Keijiro Matsushima and colleagues at the Cloud Cliff Bakery Café, 1802 2nd St., at 7 pm that same evening, April 8.

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