

Hiroshima Day Committee
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Australia

The Mayor of Hiroshima
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Naka-ku, Hiroshima City
Japan 730-8586

c/o peace@city.hiroshima.lg.jp

Dear Mayor of Hiroshima
Dear Kasumi Matsui,

The Hiroshima Day Committee in Sydney has every year since the mid 1960's held a rally, a march and many times a forum, on or about August 6th, with the main theme and slogan: "No More Hiroshimas".

This year we are in Covid-19 lockdown in Sydney and unable to rally, our main enjoyment being watching the Tokyo Olympics on TV.

Nevertheless, we would like to extend to you and the people of Hiroshima, an expression of our horror at the criminal dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and its civilian population. This is an atrocity of which Australian historian, Paul Ham, has written in his book, (*Hiroshima Nagasaki*, Harper Collins 2011), that it did not need to happen to end the war, as it had already been won, in the air, on land and at sea.

As you are not doubt well aware, world-wide, citizens are still paying taxes to bolster the nuclear arms industry (the 9 nuclear states spent \$ 72.6 billion dollars in 2020 of which companies got \$27.7 billion with huge amounts going to lobbyists and think tanks).

We, however, are committed to action and are writing to our Prime Minister, Ministers of Defence, and Shadow ministers, again outlining the necessity and pressing for Australia to sign the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. One of the strengths of the TPNW is that it concentrates on nuclear weapons only, and many countries have signed.

We join with you and with the Japanese people in calling for the banning, manufacture, threat, and of course testing and use of nuclear weapons.

The Nobel Peace Prize winning, International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), was initiated in Australia and similarly expresses its solidarity for peace to you this year 2021, and its assurance of their continuing work to get Australia to sign the TPNW which they instigated.

Yours in Peace and Solidarity,

Radhika Raju
Chair
Hiroshima Day Committee