



Mr. Barack Obama, President of the United States of America
Mr. John V. Roos, Ambassador of the United States of America to Japan

25th March 2013

Statement of Protest against the “Z Machine” Nuclear Test by the United States of America

It has recently been reported that the United States of America (henceforth “the USA”) has been repeatedly carrying out a new type of nuclear tests using the powerful X-ray generator “Z Machine” since 2010.

These tests consist of causing a state similar to nuclear explosion without using testing sites or explosives, and observing plutonium reaction. The USA takes the opinion that this type of test is different from other nuclear tests such as underground experiments, as it does not reach criticality or huge explosions. However, even if they do not fall under the regulations of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, the tests are clearly aimed for nuclear weapon development, and are an action that leads to the repetition of the stupidity which massacred hundreds of thousands of harmless citizens by the atomic bombings and spread serious health damages by depleted uranium ammunitions. In addition, nuclear development pollutes the environment and harms all living creatures from the first stage of mining radioactive materials to the final stage of waste disposal.

As an NGO which works in a country which has suffered atomic bombings, and also as an NGO based on Christianity which values “life” more than anything, the YWCA of Japan strongly protests against these nuclear tests.

We request from our hearts that the USA will adhere to its “commitment to seek the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons” as “the only nuclear power to have used a nuclear weapon”, as stated by President Obama in his speech in Prague.

Sincerely yours,

俣野尚子

Naoko Matano
President
YWCA of Japan

Mikako Nishihara

Mikako Nishihara
General Secretary
YWCA of Japan