



How to proceed to 'the world without nuclear weapons'

A close aide to President Barack Obama speaks

Fumihiko Yoshida (Vice Director, RECNA)

In his early 40s, this genius joined the nuclear policy team at the White House under then-President Barack Obama. A huge baseball fan in his private life, he supports the Yankees because New York is his hometown. When he visited Hiroshima, he visited a baseball stadium to cheer on the Hiroshima Carps. His everyday conversation is interspersed with many jokes even as he tells enthralling behind-the-scenes stories of political administration.

This is Mr. Jon Wolfsthal, former Special Assistant to the President of the United States. On August 24, Nagasaki University was honored with a visit by Mr. Jon Wolfsthal to our Bunkyo Campus, where he spoke at a lecture entitled "How to proceed to 'the world without nuclear weapons'" (hosted by the PCU Nagasaki Council) about the importance of peace and safety that are not dependent on nuclear weapons. Attended by 80 university students and citizens, the lecture included a Q&A session in which hand after hand was eagerly raised to ask a question.

Of the points Mr. Wolfsthal made in his speech, the following left the greatest impression on me. He said that, as President Obama had stated in his "Prague Speech", even if we are able to realize a "world without nuclear weapons", we will not arrive at that point in a short time. Considering the current US government administration and relationship between the United States and Russia, it is also difficult to imagine nuclear disarmament proceeding at a rapid pace. However, there is a need to prepare for the time when people have changed their thinking about nuclear weapons and political leaders with a passion for



Mr. Jon Wolfsthal

(Aug. 24 2018, at Nagasaki University, Photo by PCU-NC)



Mr. Jon Wolfsthal and Students

(Aug. 24 2018, at Nagasaki University, Photo by RECNA)

the abolition of nuclear weapons that reflects the people's thinking have emerged, so that ideas and policies showing "this is how the abolition of nuclear weapons can be achieved" can be put forward.

This may seem to be a somewhat roundabout approach, but I thought it was a very important point. After President Obama left the White House having been unable to fully advance nuclear disarmament, the world was enveloped in a feeling of blankness, as if we had all lost a political leader to act as a driving

force towards achieving the vision of a “world without nuclear weapons.” However, precisely because of that, even if there are currently no political leaders who could immediately take on this role, we need to prepare concrete policies and measures for the abolition of nuclear weapons so that these can be passed onto suitable leaders at any time, while at the same time encouraging and supporting the birth and multiplication of such political leaders. I thought that this was a major pillar for the future goals of the cities that experienced the atomic bombing and the RECNA.

Before the lecture, Mr. Wolfsthal participated in a discussion (without interpreters) with approx. 10 Nagasaki Youth Delegation members and other students. The lively discussion ran well over the scheduled time, only wrapping up five minutes before the lecture began. Although the discussion had to be cut off due to lack of time, it was undoubtedly a precious experience for the young generation to be able to speak directly with one of the world’s preeminent specialists on nuclear issues.

U.S. - North Korea Summit

The Significance of the U.S. - North Korea- Summit and Future Challenges

Tatsujiro Suzuki (Director, RECNA)

President Donald J. Trump of the United States of America and Chairman Kim Jong Un of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea met for a summit meeting on June 12, 2018. Following this historic meeting, RECNA first of all released its “Statement of the U.S.-North Korea Summit and Joint Statement” on June 13. That RECNA statement emphasized the significance of how the two nations, who had been at loggerheads with each other just six months before that, were able to achieve a historic dialogue and initiate steps towards denuclearization through their diplomacy. However at present, the roadmap towards complete denuclearization is not clear and the RECNA statement pointed out that there are still a mountain of issues yet to be resolved. The statement also mentioned that in particular, institutionalized denuclearization and institutionalized peace are crucial.

The professors at RECNA wrote papers in each of their fields of expertise regarding the significance of the 2018 U.S.-North Korea Summit and future challenges and these were compiled into a RECNA Policy Paper, published in July, 2018 (REC-PP-07: <http://naosite.lb.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/dspace/bitstream/10069/38424/1/REC-PP-07.pdf>). In the first chapter, RECNA Director Tatsujiro Suzuki points out that there is no example of legally binding powers over the verification of the process of denucleariza-

tion of a nuclear-armed country, and that in order to verify the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, it would be necessary to create a new system. In the second chapter, RECNA Vice Director Satoshi Hirose makes an analysis and concludes that to terminate the Korean War not only North Korea and the United States, but also South Korea and China also need to be involved, and that a peace treaty would impact on how US forces are stationed in Korea and in Japan too. In the third chapter, RECNA Vice Director Fumihiko Yoshida illustrates that there are four vital points for institutionalizing peace in the region: improving confidence-building; creating a crisis management system; arms control; and economic power. In the final fourth chapter, Visiting Professor and former RECNA director Hiromichi Umabayashi concludes that the concept of a Northeast Asia nuclear-weapon-free-zone would be the desired final scenario of the stabilized region would be fulfilled by Japan participating in a Korean Peninsula nuclear-weapon-free-zone.

Since then, the denuclearization talks between the United States and North Korea do not seem to be progressing smoothly. North Korea announced that it had dismantled a missile launch pad but meanwhile, the United States Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS) reported the existence of a secret uranium enrichment facility in North Korea. This

information and other factors prompted President Trump to cancel Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's scheduled visit to North Korea for talks. However, as of late August, decisions had not been made to cancel negotiations and the third inter-Korean Summit was scheduled to take place in Pyongyang on September 5.

Rather than oscillating between optimism and pessimism over short-term developments, it is more desirable for negotiations to continue patiently so that matters are not allowed to relapse and the above-mentioned issues are resolved.

Nagasaki Youth Delegation

Library Gallery Exhibition

Rena Harada (Nagasaki Youth Delegation 2018)

Nagasaki Youth Delegation conducted an exhibition of photographs in the Nagasaki University Library from July 1-16, 2018 as a post-event activity after the delegation's trip to Switzerland. Nearly 50 photos and the captions show the delegation's activities from the members' appointment, study before departure for Geneva, activities in Geneva, and the debriefing session after the delegation's return to Nagasaki. In addition, two posters showing information about the Peace Caravan were included in the exhibition. The purpose of this exhibition was to introduce the activities of the Sixth Nagasaki Youth Delegation to as many citizens as possible, to raise awareness of the nuclear weapons issue, and to arouse the interest and concern of young people about this issue. The exhibition also served as a venue for PR activities to recruit new members for the Seventh Nagasaki Youth Delegation.

The exhibition was mainly focused on our participation as public observers of the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, held in Geneva from Monday, April 23 to Friday, May 4, 2018. Also included were visits to international institutions and side events, and visiting lectures. We took care in setting up the exhibit such as positioning the photos at about eye level, trimming the photos panels to make them better to look at, and so on. Comments on the questionnaires filled out by visitors to the exhibition included "It was easy to understand the delegation's activities," and "It looked like the members were all having fun," as well as "It would be good if this could be shown at other venues."



Gallery Exhibition

(at Nagasaki University Central Library, Photo by PCU-NC)

Attention seems to be focused somewhat more on conveying the nuclear weapons issue vertically, that is from the hibakusha on to the next generation. However, we feel that it is still not conveyed well enough horizontally, that is from Nagasaki to the rest of Japan and the rest of the world. This exhibition was the first attempt by the Nagasaki Youth Delegation and we hope it will be the first step for conveying the nuclear weapons issue horizontally toward the younger generation, including Nagasaki University students and also residents of Nagasaki.

The Nagasaki Youth Delegation visited schools throughout Japan which requested such a visit, as a part of the delegation's activities after returning from our visit to Geneva. I visited a total of six schools: two within Nagasaki prefecture; and four outside the prefecture. Lectures were tailored to fit each school's request. In carrying out lectures at the six schools, again I was made aware that depending on the area, there is a gap in opportunities to know about the damage from the atomic bombing. Even within Nagasaki prefecture, students at schools close to Nagasaki city have many opportunities in their school education and other occasions to find out about the damage from the atomic bombing and how terrible and frightening the atomic bombing was. On the other hand, at schools further away from Nagasaki City, such as Tsushima Island, the only occasion students have to learn about damage from the atomic bombing is the peace gathering, usually once a year, a part of their school education. Outside the prefecture, the subject is only touched upon briefly during social studies classes. It's no wonder that, depending on the region, there is a difference on matters and material that students learn about, as well as differences in the curriculum for school education.

However, simply because the atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I do not think that the citizens of these places should be the only people who are thinking deeply about the atomic bombings. It is easy to understand my reasoning if we think of the nuclear accident in Fukushima, or areas that suffered major damage from some natural disaster. Those who were directly affected by the nuclear accident in Fukushima should not be the only people who are thinking about it. Similarly, those who are living in areas that have experienced a major earthquake should not be the only people thinking of countermeasures. It is the same with the nuclear weapons issue.



Visiting Lectures
(in Hakodate, Photo by PCU-NC)

People in areas with nuclear power plants need to learn from the accident in Fukushima and need to reconsider once again. There is a lot to be learnt from the recovery process of the regions affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and also municipalities need to be reviewing their hazard maps.

In other words, the important thing is that we should not look upon matters as someone else's problem but instead always think about whether it could really affect us too, and gather information. As I mentioned earlier, there is a gap as to what information can be picked up depending on one's location. It is my hope that Nagasaki Youth Delegation can play a part, however small, in contributing to closing that gap regarding information about the nuclear weapons issue. I shall be happy if more people come to know and think more about the reality of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, about peace, and also the current nuclear weapons issue, through visiting lectures such as those which Nagasaki Youth Delegation conducts.

Dispatches from Nagasaki No.25

Nagasaki Peace Declaration 2018

Satoshi Hirose (Vice Director, RECNA)

Again this year, on August 9 Mayor Tomihisa Taue read out the Nagasaki Peace Declaration.ⁱ⁾ For this first time, the Nagasaki Peace Memorial Ceremony was attended by the incumbent UN Secretary-General, Mr. António Guterres. After first recalling the catastrophes wrought by the atomic bombings, Mayor Taue expressed the United Nations' expectations regarding the abolition of nuclear weapons, emphasizing the significance of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which was adopted by the United Nations last year. He then strongly requested that the Japanese Government support the Treaty, towards which it has maintained an oppositional stance. In addition, welcoming recent developments in the North Korea situation, Mayor Taue expressed expectations for the realization of a Northeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (NEA-NWFZ).

Next, Mayor Taue expressed in the words of Mr. Sumiteru Taniguchi and Dr. Hideo Tsuchiyama—longtime leaders of Nagasaki's anti-nuclear movement who passed away last year—the importance of the young generation who have never experienced war never forgetting the pacifism of the Constitution of Japan, which opposes the tragedy and misery of war. He also emphasized the importance of individual Nagasaki citizens contributing towards peace efforts. Finally, in closing the declaration, Mayor Taue touched on the practical issue of providing relief for those who “experienced atomic bombings” but are unable to receive assistance because they are not recognized as hibakusha—despite their being thought to have been harmed due to the atomic bombings—as well as the people who are still suffering as the result of the nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

With regard to the Treaty, in addition to the Nagasaki Peace Declaration strongly requesting the Japanese

Government to sign and ratify the treaty, UN Secretary-General Guterres also strongly insisted that Japan should completely support the Treaty, expressing his concern about the current stagnation in nuclear disarmament efforts and calling on the nuclear weapons states in particular to promote nuclear disarmament. At the same time, UN Secretary-General Guterres praised the hibakusha, saying, “The survivors of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, the hibakusha, have become leaders for peace,” and presenting a stance of pouring all effort into the abolition of nuclear weapons, declaring, “Let us all commit to making Nagasaki the last place on earth to suffer nuclear devastation.” In response, President Toyokazu Ihara of the Society of Hibakusha Certificate Holders of Nagasaki Prefecture said that the Secretary-General's words had given him “strong expectations,” and President Tamashii Honda of the Nagasaki Surviving Families Association also commenting that he thought the Secretary-General” was a “very progressive thinker,” both welcoming Mr. Guterres's words. (10 August 2018 edition of *The Asahi Shimbun*) Dr. Tatsujiro Suzuki, Director of RECNA also commented that Mr. Guterres's message of ‘making Nagasaki the last place on earth to suffer nuclear devastation’—which clearly steps into the territory of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons—has been spread widely throughout the world. This is extremely meaningful.” (10 August 2018 edition of *The Asahi Shimbun*)

In contrast, however, Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who also attended the ceremony, said not even a word regarding the Treaty during his addressⁱⁱ⁾, and to the representatives of the atomic bombing survivor groups with whom he met, he again displayed a stance of rejecting Japan's participation in the Treaty, stating that the Japanese Government intended to take a different approach towards achieving the abolition of nuclear weapons. (10 August 2018 web edition of

The Nagasaki Shimbun) In response, President Shigemitsu Tanaka of the Nagasaki Atomic-bomb Survivors Council said that, “If Japan does not take the lead in abolishing nuclear weapons, it should not be called the ‘only country to have experienced atomic bombings. The hibakusha are being ignored” (10 August 2018 web edition of *The Nagasaki Shimbun*). Chairman Koichi Kawano of the Liaison Council of Hibakusha, Nagasaki Peace Movement Center, said, “[The Japanese Government’s] statements are inconsistent. They have absolutely no real intention of abolishing nuclear weapons.” (10 August 2018 web edition of *The Nagasaki Shimbun*). Furthermore, President Ihara said, “The government’s approach is

mistaken. As matters currently stand, Japan cannot possibly seize the initiative in the abolition of nuclear weapons.” (10 August 2018 web edition of *The Nagasaki Shimbun*) Strong voices of criticism were raised one after the other, centered on hibakusha. Even Mayor Taue said, “It was disappointing that I could not hear a positive statement” (10 August 2018 web edition of *The Nagasaki Shimbun*). Thus August 9, this year was a day on which the gap between the wishes of Nagasaki—one of the cities that experienced atomic bombings—and the Japanese Government’s security policies was clearly visible.

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- i) <https://nagasakipeace.jp/japanese/peace/appeal/2021.html> (11 languages)
<https://nagasakipeace.jp/content/files/appeal/2018/english.pdf> (English version)
 - ii) http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/97_abe/statement/2016/0809nagasaki.html



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