

Despite Ugly Scars of Hiroshima

A-Blast Didn't Ravage Their Hopes for Peace



Dedicated to the prevention of nuclear war are the "Hibakusha," survivors of the A-Bomb blast that devastated Hiroshima, Japan, on Aug. 6, 1945. The "Good Will Ambassadors," now on a tour of the world to plead for peace, are shown above at the World Affairs Center today. Left to right, seated, are Mio Reynolds, wife of Ted Reynolds, son of the founder of Hiroshima Institute

of Peace Science; Zenshi Murakami, Tazu Shibama, Kumiko Kosaso, Emily Clifford, an interpreter; and Shigeto Yanagihara; standing: Mr. Kato, an interpreter; Satoru Fujimoto, Mr. Sato, an interpreter; Dr. Yuko Fujimoto, chief of internal medicine, Red Cross A-Bomb Hospital, Hiroshima; and Yukiyo Sato. (Staff photo by Tom Barlet)

By FRANK CUSTER
(Of The Capital Times Staff)

A big angry red circle of scar tissue covers the left cheek of a pretty Japanese girl in her 20s ...

An apparently healthy young man, whose stolid face belies the gnawing fearsome prospect that he may become a victim of leukemia . . .

A slim woman teacher, her arms bearing large scars from glass cuts received when her house collapsed on her

These are a few of the "Hibakusha" of Hiroshima, Japan. These are the survivors of the A-Bomb blast of nearly 20 years ago, who were interviewed today at the World Affairs Center, 613 University Ave.

They are a little more fortunate than those who lost their lives when THE BOMB hit Hiroshima Aug. 6, 1945. They are the fortunate, indeed, who escaped with their lives from the all-powerful blast that killed thousands—men, women, children.

A team of 10 men and women from Hiroshima, they are part of the World Peace Study Mission, now on tour of the United States who arrived in Madison Sunday to bring their plea for world peace to this nation.

These "Good Will Ambassadors" represent one of three teams touring the world, who hope to bring their message to Europe, East Germany, Russia, and Red China. Their objective:

"We want more people to become interested in peace," said Tazu Shibama, who is now teaching typing to 300 young Hiroshima children. "Understanding and

(OVER)

friendship with one another should bring peace. This is a people-to-people plea. Each of us was strongly hurt by the bomb, and we want to tell all the facts so all will understand.

These people are dedicated to guaranteeing that atomic bombs will never again be used anywhere. Their tragic experience is so complete they only hope for the futures of others, not themselves. They would save men everywhere from a fate they suffered.

* * *

"As long as these weapons exist in the world, there is no security for anyone, and no hope for humanity," they claim.

People in Hiroshima, and Nagasaki, Japan, are still dying, still suffering the horrible pains of atomic bomb aftermath.

Dr. Yukio Fujimoto, chief of internal medicine at the Red Cross A-Bomb Hospital, Hiroshima, described the terrors of the atomic bomb of 1945 to members of the Madison Kiwanis Club at the Loraine Hotel today.

His English speaking language ability is limited. But Dr. Fujimoto did not need to speak much, for the slides of the blast victims, whose dead humans burned to nothing or to a crisp; those surviving people, blind, maimed, ravaged by the bomb, told more than the doctor's native tongue or more than can be said in English.

"Nineteen years after the bombing of Hiroshima," the doctor said, "the effect of the atom bomb remains there. The incidence of leukemia as a result is two to three times greater than the national average of Japan."

And he said: "We must not spoil the atmosphere by radiation

with atomic bomb tests."

* * *

The harrowing memory of the bomb still can be recited by members of the "peace ambassadors" who were met at a press conference today. Many were to speak at the high schools here at various meetings during the day, and they will appear tonight at a public meeting in Bethel Lutheran Church.

Here is what a few of the "Hibakusha" had to say. . .

Satoru Fujimoto — chief steward of the labor union in the Irini Beer Co., Hiroshima — suffered burns when the bomb went off. He was on the school grounds watching the B-29 bomber overhead, when it dropped the bomb that caused such devastation.

Through his interpreter, he said that "I have felt no abnormality these last 18 years, but there is the fear that I may become a victim of leukemia. Last May, a friend of mine, who was burned by the bomb, suddenly became ill with leukemia. Before that, there was no suspicion he would become sick. He has less than a year to live."

* * *

In February, a son was born to Satoru. Thus far, no genetic defects have been manifested. When he was burned by the bomb, he ran to a shelter, where he was found by his parents. They cared for his recovery.

Yukiyasu Sato, a reporter from Osaka, was living in Hiroshima in a home a mile and a half from the epicenter of the bomb. He was studying when the bomb struck, and lost his father and brother, traces of whom never were found. His mother is suffering still the

effects of the bomb that smashed her life. She is a patient in a Hiroshima Hospital — living a life of listless existence.

"People of Hiroshima bear no hate. They feel it was because of the war the bomb was dropped," he said. "War should not be repeated. We must work and co-operate, beyond hatred, for peace."

Miss Shibama, then a teacher in a Methodist Church-sponsored school, was home when "it" exploded. Her home, a mile from the blast center collapsed atop her. Her arms and body bear the white tissue scars of myriads of glass cuts. The school was destroyed, with 300 children.

* * *

She fled to the farm home of her parents 20 miles away, receiving water from farmers enroute. Now she has her own typing school and does translation of Japanese and English for importers, exporters and the government.

Shigeto Yanagihara is a dockyard engineer. But his work is devoted to a "moral adoption program" in finding support by Americans and others for children orphaned by the bomb. He has many "parents" in America who provide financial support for the unfortunate children. His wife cares for blind children, seeing that they get to school for an education they might not otherwise receive.

With the visitors is Mio Reynolds, a Japanese girl, the bride of Ted Reynolds, son of Earle L. Reynolds, founder of the Hiroshima Institute of Peace Science. Reynolds is the man who sailed his yacht, Phoenix, in protest through the U. S. Pacific nuclear test zone in 1958.

A silver trailer, carrying an exhibit of pictures of the devastation of human and home in Hiroshima, is here with the visitors.

Atom Bomb Victims Voice One Hope: Peace in World

By ROGER GRIBBLE
(State Journal Staff Writer)

Impassioned pleas for abolishing nuclear weapons and atmospheric testing through love, understanding and friendship among peoples were delivered here Monday by survivors of the atomic bomb attacks on Japan.

Speaking at a public meeting in Bethel Lutheran Church, five members of the Goodwill Ambassadors from Hiroshima and Nagasaki told an audience of about 100 that they have known the misery resulting from the bombings, and for this reason seek to prevent it happening again.

'Blessed Peacemakers'

The speakers' remarks were best summarized by Zenshi Mu-



TAZU SHIBAMA

SATORU FUJIMOTO

Fall to Leukemia

Many others who escaped into the countryside later died of leukemia because they did not receive proper nourishment, she said. "After being saved from diphtheria as a child and from the bomb as an adult I knew I must use my life to save others," she declared.

Shigeto Yanagihara, an engineer, told of how his relatives were "evaporated" in the Hiroshima blast. He told of the horrors which befell victims of the blast which was caused by a bomb called a "firecracker" compared to present weapons.

burned, cut and suffered from radiation even though he was a mile from the center of the Nagasaki blast which killed 74,000, added that, "I am convinced wars bring neither benefits nor solutions." Every person and nation should seek abolishing of atomic weapons and eventual disarmament, he declared.

A victim of the Hiroshima blast, Tazu Shibama, said she knew of the horrors of the bombing. Trapped in her home and cut by at least 50 pieces of glass, she was pulled from the debris and escaped to a farm where her father was staying. "Twenty minutes after the explosion the whole city was on fire," she said.

"Maybe that was a firecracker, but at 2½ miles from the bomb center houses were flattened," he said. He warned that the next war could wipe out an entire civilization.

Dr. Yukio Fujimoto, chief of internal medicine at the Red Cross A-Bomb hospital, said the incidence of leukemia has been heightened among bomb survivors who were subjected to acute radiation injuries.

"We can do little to help these patients in our hospital," he said. "But this teaches us that we must not spoil our atmosphere with radiation."

Chester Graham, director of the World Affairs Center, said he hoped the visit would offer a "new sense of identity with the people of Japan."



325 Lafayette Street, 2nd Floor
New York, N. Y. 10012