



DISABLED PEOPLES' INTERNATIONAL

國際殘缺人士

ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE PERSONNES HANDICAPÉES

МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ ОБЩЕСТВО НЕПОЛНОЦЕННЫХ

ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL DE PERSONAS IMPEDIDAS

PEACE STATEMENT *

Disabled People all over the world know, from their deepest personal experience, the capacity of war to cast its mantle of death and destruction over life and limb. The ability of modern weapons of war to devastate a people, to sear human memory with the permanent scars of personal tragedy, to shatter the dreams and hopes of children, to maim and injure, is nowhere more eloquently proclaimed than here, the Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima.

Everyday the absolute sanctity of human life is asserted by the aspirations of this planet's 500 million Disabled People. The creation of disability and the ending of life by the waging of war is an abomination. Yet the accumulation of the engines of war gains pace.

The talents of human kind are turned from the satisfaction of people's needs to the invention of more and more horrific devices of destruction.

The products of human labours, wrested from the earth with all the ingenuity of generations of men and women, are dissipated in gigantic stockpiles of armaments which are of benefit to no one.

The power of co-operation amongst individuals and the organizing capability of the human race is squandered in the creation of gigantic war complexes whose sole intent is the destruction of people.

HOW LONG CAN THIS OBSCENITY CONTINUE?

We, the representatives of all the world's Disabled People, have come to Hiroshima to make known our resolute condemnation of the arms race.

We affirm, in the strongest terms, our determination to join with others and take our rightful place in the forefront of the worldwide movement for disarmament.

The Disabled Peoples' International says:

LET ALL OF US JOIN TOGETHER IN A WORLDWIDE MOVEMENT FOR PEACE

LET US CALL FOR ALL THE NATIONS' ECONOMIES TO BE TRANSFORMED FROM WAR ECONOMIES TO PEACE ECONOMIES

LET US INSIST THAT THE \$600 BILLION NOW SPENT A YEAR ON ARMAMENTS IS DIVERTED TO SOCIALLY USEFUL PROJECTS

LET US DEMAND THAT THE WORLD LEADERS NOW, IN THIS MOST MOMENTOUS EPOCH, WHERE WE HAVE THE POWER TO DESTROY AND CRIPPLE, BEGIN THE ENORMOUS TASK OF REDIRECTING OUR RESOURCES, OUR PRODUCTIONS, OUR TALENTS AND OUR ABILITIES FROM THE CREATION OF THE WEAPONS OF THE WAR TO THE CREATION OF THE INSTRUMENTS OF LIFE

Originally adopted by the Disabled Peoples' International World Council at its meeting in Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima, Japan on June 24, 1982

* Prepared for the DPI World Council by Vic Finkelstein, June 1982