



## ***PRESS RELEASE***

### **CONTACT:**

**Carah Ong**  
**Communications Director**  
**Cell: (805) 896-1909**  
**Fax: (805) 568-0466**  
**Email: [cong@napf.org](mailto:cong@napf.org)**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Peace Foundation President Returns from Carter Consultation**

**Santa Barbara, CA (February 8, 2004)** – The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is pleased to announce that Foundation President David Krieger has just returned from a trip to Atlanta, Georgia for the “Atlanta Consultation II: On the Future of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.” The Atlanta Consultation took place from January 26-28, 2005 and was hosted by former US President Jimmy Carter and The Carter Center. The meeting was sponsored by the Middle Powers Initiative, a coalition of eight international civil society organizations including the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation.

The purpose of the Atlanta Consultation was to bring together diplomats and representatives of non-governmental organizations to discuss the future of the non-proliferation regime and prepare recommendations for the upcoming Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) that will take place from May 2-27, 2005 at the United Nations in New York. Among the participants at the Atlanta Consultation were Marian Hobbs, New Zealand’s Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control; Senator Douglas Roche of Canada, chair of the Middle Powers Initiative; Nobuyasu Abe, United Nations Under-Secretary General for Disarmament Affairs; Ambassador Sérgio de Queiroz Duarte, Brazilian Ambassador and President-Designate of the 2005 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference; former US Ambassador Robert Grey Jr.; and Ambassador Rajab M. Sukayri of the Jordanian Foreign Ministry.

Ambassador Duarte, who will preside over the 2005 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference, said at the Atlanta Consultation, “What we have to contend with at the 2005

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Review Conference is a persistent and serious situation of erosion of confidence in the mechanisms of the NPT and on the ability of the instrument to survive the tests it has been put through.”

Former President Jimmy Carter pointed to the contradictions in US nuclear policy. “The United States claims to be upholding Article VI,” he said, referring to the disarmament provision of the Treaty, “but yet asserts a security strategy of testing and developing new weapons [such as] Star Wars and the earth penetrating ‘bunker buster,’ and has threatened first use, even against non-nuclear states, in case of ‘surprising military developments’ and ‘unexpected contingencies.’”

Foundation President David Krieger stated, “The US position is throwing the prospects for the 2005 Review Conference into disarray. Unless the nuclear weapons states, including the United States, stand by their previous commitments and begin taking steps toward nuclear disarmament, the prospects for assuring future efforts to prevent nuclear weapons proliferation are dim.”

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan international organization with consultative status to the United Nations. For more than 20 years, the Foundation has been committed to advancing initiatives to eliminate the nuclear weapons threat to all life, to fostering the global rule of law, and to building an enduring legacy of peace through education and advocacy.

For more information on the Atlanta Consultation or to arrange an interview with David Krieger, please call Communications Director Carah Ong at the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation at (805) 965-3443 or email [cong@napf.org](mailto:cong@napf.org).

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