

"Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than we know about peace, more about killing than we know about living."

—General Omar Bradley

August 6, 1945, 8:15 a.m. a nuclear bomb was dropped by the U.S. government on Hiroshima, Japan in an attempt to end the war with Japan. Three days later Nagasaki, Japan was attacked with a second nuclear bomb. The death toll for both blasts was well over 230,000; injured or maimed, countless. Nuclear war potential, tragically, became a reality.

In the 1950s American school children were taught to "duck and cover" under their school desk immediately in the event of a nuclear bomb flash. Citizens across America dug up front or back lawns to build underground, concrete-reinforced bomb shelters for refuge during a foreign nuclear attack. The Cold War swept across America and the horror of an all-out nuclear war seemed imminent. Russia was sending nuclear missiles to Cuba; America built nuclear missile silos in the Dakotas and Wyoming with Russia as the target.

Now, in the last 60 years, little has happened to deter the nuclear threat though treaties have been written, signed, or suggested. Where are we today? Is the nuclear threat of the 21st century the "stuff" of thrilling movies or is it the political saber-rattling of world dictators seeking more recognized power? Should proliferation of nuclear armaments be a serious concern for our political and military leaders—much more than health care or the economy? What response should each of us have for the nuclear warfare menace of our day, in our nation, and through our future actions.

Monday, February 1, 2010

- 6 p.m. **Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum Photos/Posters**
Refreshments, Reflection, Fellowship
Book Signings:
Diana Roose, *Teach Us to Live: Stories from Hiroshima and Nagasaki*
Daniel Bell, *Just War as Christian Discipleship*
Fine Arts Center Lobby
- 7 p.m. **Teach Us to Live: Stories from Hiroshima and Nagasaki**
Diana Roose, Secretary of the College (ret.) Oberlin College, author
Special Invited Guests: Hideko Tamura Snider, Hiroshima Survivor
Fine Arts Center Main Theatre

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

- 9:30 a.m. **Just War as Christian Discipleship**
Daniel Bell, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Theological Ethics, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, South Carolina
Fine Arts Center Main Theatre

- 10:30 a.m. **Hiroshima: History and Myth: The Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb**
Michael Smuksta, Ph.D., Associate Professor, History, Viterbo University
Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
- 11:30 a.m. **The Politics of Nuclear War**
Keith Knutson, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Political Science/History, Viterbo University
Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
- 12:30 p.m. **Free Soup Luncheon with discussion of morning speakers**
Reinhart Center Board Room
- 1:15 p.m. **Panel Discussion – Eyewitnesses to the Cuban Missile Crisis 1962**
Facilitator: Jesús Jambriña, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, World Languages, Viterbo University
Fine Arts Center Lobby
- 2:30 p.m. **Film Discussions: Black Rain and Dr. Strangelove**
Discussion Leaders: Viterbo Honors Students
Reinhart Center 127

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

- 9 a.m. **Fear and Coercion: The Personal and Geopolitical Psychology of the Nuclear Threat**
David Bauer, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Psychology, Viterbo University
Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
- 10 a.m. **A World Free of Nuclear Weapons?**
Rick Wayman, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, Washington, D.C.
Fine Arts Center Main Theatre
- 11 a.m. **Some Final Thoughts on Hope, Courage, Grace, and Peace in a Nuclear Age**
Thomas Thibodeau, Distinguished Professor, Servant Leadership, Viterbo University
Fine Arts Center Main Theatre



THE NUCLEAR THREAT:

Understanding the History and Future Consequences of Nuclear Weaponry

PRESENTED BY THE VITERBO UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LETTERS AND SCIENCES

All events are free and open to the public. Registration is not required.

If you have questions, contact William Reese at 608-796-3708, wjreese@viterbo.edu.