

Bikini Lawsuit

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I am Masayoshi Naito, a vice president of the Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms.

As a lawyer I am representing victims and surviving family members who were affected by the radioactive fallout in the Marshall Seas .The Castle Bravo, a Hydrogen bomb test conducted in 1954 at Bikini Atoll ,is very famous for affecting Japanese fishing boat *Daigo Fukuryu Maru* (“Lucky Dragon No. 5”) by the fallout. All crew members on board suffered from radiation symptoms and consequently one crew member passed away in September 1954. This disaster prompted a large anti-nuclear movement in Japan which led to the foundation of Nihon-Hidankyo (Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations). Hidankyo played a pivotal role in the adoption and entry into force of the TPNW.

What I would like you to know and recognize is that fishing boats affected by the US nuclear tests were not only Lucky Dragon. From March to May 1954 the US conducted series of 6 Hydrogen Bomb tests in the Marshall seas. The number of fishing boats being affected was up to 1000. But they have been ignored and abandoned.

I am going to introduce a video testimony of Setsuko Shimomoto, a daughter of an affected fisherman. The video shows that in addition to those residing in the impacted islands, nuclear tests affected fishermen working near the Marshall Islands. That means use of nuclear weapons bring not only massacre of enemies but also long-lasting suffering and unjust death to innocent people.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TuDoMrYf8s4>