

# People Acting for Peace

## INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS TO CONTROL AND ELIMINATE NUCLEAR WEAPONS

**Voices of protest were raised** as soon as the United States revealed its atomic program and dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. Internationally known scientists like Albert Einstein and Linus Pauling—who quickly understood the awesome power that had been unleashed—led efforts to help make governments and the public aware of the fearful danger. Many individuals and organizations continue to work tirelessly for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

The Berlin Wall separated East and West Berlin for more than 28 years. It was destroyed in 1989.



*"We appeal as human beings to human beings: Remember your humanity and forget the rest. If you can do so, the way lies open to a new Paradise; if you cannot, there lies before you the risk of universal death."*

—Russell-Einstein Manifesto



Dr. Linus Pauling at a US Senate hearing displays petitions calling for a nuclear test ban from scientists in 50 nations, 1960.

### 1955

The Russell-Einstein Manifesto, signed by Bertrand Russell, Albert Einstein, Max Born, Joseph Rotblat, Linus Pauling and six other eminent scientists, warns of the dangers posed by nuclear weapons and calls on world leaders to find peaceful solutions to international tensions.

### 1958

American chemist and peace activist Linus Pauling presents the United Nations with a petition signed by 9,235 scientists, including 37 Nobel laureates, urging an international agreement to stop testing nuclear weapons.

### 1979

Dr. Helen Caldicott organizes a symposium of experts on the subject of "The Medical Consequences of Nuclear War," addressing large audiences in major cities across the United States.

### 1981

Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp is established to protest a nuclear weapon being sited at RAF Greenham Common in Berkshire, England. The camp remains in place until 2000. Peace camps outside military installations continue worldwide.

### 1985

The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, which advocates abolition of all nuclear weapons.

### 1995

On the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombing, Hiroshima and Nagasaki issue an appeal for the total ban and elimination of nuclear weapons. More than 62 million Japanese eventually sign the appeal.

### 2005

The International Atomic Energy Agency and its head, Mohamed ElBaradei, win the Nobel Peace Prize.

### 2006

Representatives at the seventh World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates in Rome, Italy, issue a strong statement on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

### 2007

Sixty years after the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists'* Doomsday Clock first appears on the cover of the magazine, it is once again moved forward. It now stands at five minutes to midnight.