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For More Information Contact:

Raphael Sperry, ADPSR

(415) 546-0450

president@adpsr.org

Architects Oppose Bomb Test

Proposed nuclear cloud would threaten Native Americans and a peaceful solution to relations with Iran

May 4, 2006– Twenty years ago, in direct opposition to nuclear proliferation, concerned design professionals founded ADPSR: Architects / Designers / Planners for Social Responsibility. Today, we again find ourselves faced with the prospects of nuclear proliferation and nuclear war, not least because of the aggressive and provocative actions of our own government. ADPSR has also not forgotten the environmental damage done to our own people and lands by years of nuclear testing and nuclear weapons development. For these reasons, ADPSR supports the demands of the Winnemucca Indian Colony in Nevada to stop the proposed bomb test called "Divine Strake." This test will create a two mile high mushroom cloud of radioactive soil, further poisoning a people still affected by nuclear testing over the past 40 years. In light of President Bush's repeated threats against Iran and his obvious disregard for international laws prohibiting war and aggression, demonstrating yet another new generation of "bunker buster" bombs raises grave concerns. ADPSR demands peace and justice for Native Americans and Iranians, specifically:

1. We endorse the demands of the Winnemucca people, part of the Western Shoshone Nation, to cancel the June 2 test of a 700-ton bomb called "Divine Strake."
2. We demand reparations for American Indians historically affected by nuclear testing by the US government.
3. We demand an immediate and permanent cessation of research and development of nuclear weapons by the United States government, in compliance with the terms and spirit of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.
4. We demand an end to US wars of aggression against nations and peoples of the Middle East in general,

5. We demand a de-escalation of threats of an unprovoked attack on Iran with invasion, air strikes, nuclear weaponry, or covert sabotage of their civil institutions and functions.

ADPSR represents over 400 American architects, designers, and planners. Many of us carry professional licenses that commit us to uphold the health, safety, and welfare of the public in our professional endeavors. ADPSR's historic commitment to nuclear disarmament, international peace, environmental protection, and social justice mirrors this commitment at the scale of our country as a whole. We are compelled to speak out against the proposed bomb test that poses so grave a threat to public health, safety, and well-being, and we encourage other professionals to do the same.

For more information see www.adpsr.org, or contact Raphael Sperry, ADPSR President, at (415) 546-0450 or president@adpsr.org. For details on the proposed bomb test, see <http://www.commondreams.org/headlines06/0411-07.htm>