

MEDIA ADVISORY

WorldLink TV

Television Without Borders

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"I strongly urge President Bush to visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki...I beg him to encounter this human legacy and confirm with his own eyes what nuclear weapons hold in store for all of us. The United States has no right to unilaterally determine the fate of the world. On the contrary, we, the people of the world, have the right to demand 'no annihilation without representation.

-- Tadatoshi Akiba, Mayor of Hiroshima

WORLDLINK TV MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF BOMBINGS OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI WITH 'RED ALERT: THE RE-EMERGENCE OF THE NUCLEAR THREAT'

Beginning August 4th, Network Devotes Entire Week to Groundbreaking Documentaries and Investigative Reports on the Changing Nuclear Landscape and What to Do About It

(San Francisco, July 25, 2003) On August 6th and 9th in 1945, the only atomic bombs ever used in warfare were dropped on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, killing an estimated 200,000 by year's end. As the anniversary approaches, the Bush Administration's championing of 'tactical' nuclear weapons as a viable means of warfare and counter-terrorism assaults is troubling for many Americans. Who is the greatest nuclear threat in the world? Is it North Korea, Iran, Pakistan, Israel or perhaps the United States itself?

WorldLink TV, the satellite network dedicated to presenting a multi-faceted global perspective on the news and current event to American audiences, will devote an entire week to helping Americans understand the critical issues of nuclear proliferation and the changing nuclear landscape. Regional conflicts, terrorism and nuclear proliferation have turned the world into an unstable tinderbox that could reach nuclear flashpoint by accident or design. As WorldLink TV President Kim Spencer points out, "We can no longer afford to turn a blind eye to an international threat of such magnitude and potential devastation." His thoughts echo those of the current Mayor of Hiroshima, Tadatoshi Akiba, whose statement, excerpted above, will be broadcast by WorldLink TV on August 6th.

On August 4 the network will launch "**Red Alert: The Re-emergence of the Nuclear Threat,**" a weeklong investigative and documentary exploration of the history of nuclear weapons and the present dangers inherent in today's nuclear environment. Never before has such a comprehensive collection of documentaries and investigative reports on the history and scope of today's nuclear realities been shown on American television. Anchoring the week will be six revealing specials on various aspects of the nuclear situation, culminating in a 90-minute edition of WorldLink's original series, "*The Active Opposition*", a national interview show on critical international issues, hosted by Peter Coyote. **Red Alert** will air every evening at 7:00 p.m. PDT on DIRECTV Channel 375 and DISH Network Channel 9410.

Leading off the week is the BBC classic “The War Game,” the first film to graphically depict the effects of a nuclear attack. Although it won an Oscar, it was banned by the British government and kept off the BBC for 20 years. WorldLink TV is the first national broadcaster in the U.S. to present “The War Game” in its entirety.

The week will culminate on August 8th with “*The Active Opposition’s The Nuclear Lullaby: What We Are Not Being Told*,” which will focus on the new nuclear threat and will feature as guests senior policy makers, scientists and other nuclear experts, including Jonathan Schell, U.S. Representative Lynn Woolsey and Jonathan Granoff. The 90-minute program will present information that the US government has not divulged on nuclear proliferation, the use of depleted uranium, and the storage hazards and disposal of nuclear waste. The program will be available on August 4th via video stream at www.worldlinktv.org. *The Active Opposition* is funded by a grant from the John and Geraldine Cusenza Foundation, cross-linking humanity.

“The nuclear landscape has radically changed since the 1950s,” said Jack Willis, WorldLink Sr. Vice President of Programming. “Up to the end of the Cold War, the governing mechanism was the nuclear stalemate between the U. S. and Russia, which created safety and predictability. World consciousness was so sensitized to the horror of nuclear destruction that any mention of using tactical nuclear weapons was shouted down as unthinkable.”

“Contrast that to today’s picture,” continued Willis “The nuclear club has expanded to include Iran and Israel in the Middle East, mutual enemies like India and Pakistan on the Indian sub-continent, and North Korea, an unpredictable rogue nation. There are unaccounted caches of fissionable uranium in Russia and the Ukraine that are subject to theft for possible use by terrorists in “dirty bombs.” And, in recent months, a Pentagon call for the development of small-scale tactical nuclear weapons caused little outcry. Congress recently passed legislation funding that and other nuclear development without a whimper.”

Kim Spencer noted that educating audiences on the imminent dangers of the new nuclear equation should be the first priority of news media, and that by presenting *Red Alert*, WorldLink TV was making a long-term commitment to that issue.

In addition to the six groundbreaking films, the weeklong special will feature commentary by Mark Hertsgaard, author of *The Eagle’s Shadow* and expert on Middle East affairs and nuclear armaments. *Red Alert* will also include important information and resources on what viewers can do about today’s nuclear threat.

The week-long programming on nuclear issues is funded by a grant from the Ploughshares Fund, a global grantmaker working to build a safer, more peaceful world. Since its creation in 1981, the foundation has invested more than \$20 million in the most effective people and projects seeking to prevent the spread and use of weapons of mass destruction and to reduce conflict around the world.

Please see the attached page for a complete list of the documentaries to be shown, as well as brief descriptions of the programs.

About WorldLink TV:

Founded in 1999, WorldLink TV is the first U.S. network offering a global perspective on news, current events and culture, presenting viewpoints seldom covered in the U.S. media. In fact, 95% of the station's documentaries on global issues have never before been shown in the U.S.

WorldLink is seen nationwide via satellite on DIRECTV Channel 375 and on DISH Network channel 9410 and is accessible to more than 20 million households (one in five) in the U.S. WorldLink's programming, combined with its innovative use of two-way digital link-ups and a participatory web site, deepens audience engagement and encourages active participation. WorldLink TV is a national non-commercial channel funded by viewer contributions and grants from major foundations. For complete program scheduling and Internet streaming, go to <http://www.worldlinktv.org/>.

Red Alert: The Re-Emergence of the Nuclear Threat—Featured Programs**The War Game**

Few films have caused such controversy as Peter Watkins' "The War Game," a drama documentary made for BBC TV in 1965 about a "limited" nuclear attack on Kent, England. Blending fiction and fact to create a moving and startling vision of the personal as well as the public consequences of such an attack, Watkins exposes the inadequacy of the nation's Civil Defense program and questions the philosophy of the nuclear deterrent. This film won an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 1967, but was banned by the BBC for nearly 20 years. WorldLink TV is the first national broadcaster in the U.S. to air "The War Game" in its entirety.

Dark Circle

This recently updated Emmy Award-winning film weaves dramatic personal stories of nuclear victims with previously classified footage of the secret world where nuclear bombs are tested and built. Even with the end of the Cold War, "Dark Circle" is as relevant as ever: nuclear power is re-emerging and the capability to build atomic bombs is spreading to other countries, including rogue states. "Dark Circle" won the Academy Award's Certificate of Special Merit and a National Emmy Award.

Israel's Secret Weapon, TO AIR ON SUNDAY, August 10 at 7 PM, Pacific Time

This 2003 release explores the "nuclear ambiguity" of Israel's nuclear weapons program through the eyes of Mordechai Vanunu, Israel's nuclear whistleblower, who leaked information regarding his country's nuclear program to the British press seventeen years ago, was then kidnapped, brought back to Israel, tried and given life imprisonment.

Hiroshima, Japan

The city of Hiroshima was completely rebuilt after World War Two, but there are many people who still suffer the effects of that first nuclear attack 58 years ago. Most of those victims live reclusively and are rarely seen in public. They just do not fit into the image that modern Japan has created for itself both inside and outside the country.

Nuclear Iceberg

A searing account of the dangers of unguarded uranium and plutonium in the former Soviet Union falling in the hands of terrorists, this recently released film also documents the Clinton and Bush Administrations' unwillingness to safeguard these dangerous stores of nuclear material.

Paul Jacobs and the Nuclear Gang

This film documents the American government's cover-up, until the 90's, of the lethal effects of the Nuclear Bomb Tests of the 1950's on the American public, including citizens in Utah and Arizona, servicemen exposed to nuclear blasts in Nevada and the Pacific. It also documents the effects on the environment and people in surrounding areas of faulty nuclear waste management and human error at America's nuclear facilities at Hanford, WA, and Rocky Flats, CO. This film won an Emmy Award and the George Polk Award for Investigative Journalism.

The Active Opposition: The Nuclear Lullaby - What We Are Not Being Told

Host Peter Coyote and studio guests discuss the nuclear threat in the post-Cold War age. The program explores the legacy of radiation and presents information which the U.S. government has not divulged on nuclear proliferation, the use of depleted uranium, and the storage hazards of nuclear waste. Also discussed are the international facets of the nuclear threat, including nuclear terrorism and proliferation.

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