

# Archives for Peace, Afterwards

—the notes with new additional as of November 2024—

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**Abstract** This paper shows the citizens' activities who desire to "no more war, no more nukes" world and peace. We often meet difficulties and ask the archivists to resolve them.

**Breaking news, Hidankyo receives the Nobel Peace Prize<sup>1</sup>**

**Introduction** (long story)

This presentation shows afterwards of my 2021 poster titled Archives for Peace: Collaboration of Two Institutions in US and Japan.<sup>2</sup> This story goes back to 2017. My poster<sup>3</sup> for SAA Research Forum at Portland mentioned about Captured Air Technical Documents in Microfilm format in National Air and Space Museum.<sup>4</sup> To research the place where the documents microfilmed, I asked Dr. Hidenori Watanave<sup>5</sup> how to reach National Museum of the United States Air Force<sup>6</sup> located Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. He introduced me to Dr. Tanya Maus, the Director of Peace Resource Center at Wilmington College (hereafter PRC).<sup>7</sup> She took me the museum Nagasaki Atomic Bomber B-29 "Bockscar" displayed.<sup>8</sup> She also guided me to PRC. It is the former college president house. Barbara Reynolds donated her Hiroshima Nagasaki collection and catalogued and established Peace Resource Center just after she joined the Peace Symposium in 1970 along with the travel exhibit of Maruki's Hiroshima Panels.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Nobel Prize, The Nobel Peace Prize 2024, <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/>

<sup>2</sup> SAA Research Forum 2021 Poster, [https://files.archivists.org/researchforum/2021/Posters/Tsutsui\\_p.pdf](https://files.archivists.org/researchforum/2021/Posters/Tsutsui_p.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> SAA Research Forum 2017 Poster <https://www2.archivists.org/am2017/research-forum-2017/agenda#posters>

<sup>4</sup> Captured German and Japanese Aviation Technical Documents, <https://sova.si.edu/record/nasm.xxxx.0431>

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Hidenori Watanave, Professor of University of Tokyo. His laboratory, <https://labo.wtnv.jp/distance.media/article/20241107000347/> (in Japanese)

<sup>6</sup> National Museum of the United States Air Force <https://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/>

<sup>7</sup> Peace Resource Center Mission & Vision <https://www.wilmington.edu/prc/mission> Presentation by Dr. Maus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajN0OKmDW1A>

<sup>8</sup> Boeing B-29 Superfortress, <https://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/Visit/Museum-Exhibits/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/196252/boeing-b-29-superfortress/>

<sup>9</sup> Maruki Gallery, Hiroshima Panels, <https://marukigallery.jp/en/hiroshimapanels/>

World Friendship Center<sup>10</sup> (hereafter WFC) in Hiroshima was established by Barbara Reynolds in 1965 in Hiroshima, just after the Peace Study Mission.

In early spring of 2020, Dr. Maus sent me e-mail about the Morishita papers. Mr. Morishita is the former chair of WFC and holds a huge number of important documents about Peace Study Mission and Peace Movement including correspondence with Barbara and his global friends. Dr. Maus asked me to assess and consult to index and preserve his materials, because she felt it was in danger. The summer of 2020 under COVID-19 situation, I visited his house with Ms Hattori, who is now the vice chair of WFC. The scene was broadcasted on Aug. 6<sup>11</sup>. I asked him not to throw them away. At first, we would make the catalog and share the information with several related institutions such as Hiroshima Prefectural Archives, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Hiroshima University, and so on. At the same time, we started the oral history project using those materials. WFC members volunteered to work on this project.

The editor of *Archival Outlook* noticed my 2021 poster and was interested in Barbara Reynolds, who was an ordinary homemaker with three children and became an anti-nuclear activist. Therefore, it became the article titled “I, too, am a hibakusha’: Archival Collaboration between Japan and the US on Anti-Nuclear War Activist Barbara Reynolds’s Legacy” on *Archival Outlook* November and December 2021 Issue<sup>12</sup>.

PRC continues to process and digitize the materials as well as to hold exhibitions. PRC welcomes scholars and researchers from all over the world. Both PRC and WFC found necessity to change the information about their holdings. Their holdings have deeply connected to each other. Mr. Morishita’s materials convey more information. Therefore, WFC sent Ms Hattori to visit PRC for research and digitization specific materials. She worked so hard for three weeks. She also gave some lectures to the Wilmington students.

### **Problem Statement**

1. The collaboration of two institutions sheds light on the importance of the Peace Study Mission organized by Barbara Reynolds in 1964.
2. It is important to pass on the facts on nuclear weapons and their radiation effects. How can we make the people aware of the importance of these materials? How can we keep these materials preserved and utilized?
3. Survivors are getting old. It is getting difficult to speak loudly or write. The death of survivors sometimes become the loss of materials.

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<sup>10</sup> World Friendship Center, <https://www.wfchiroshima.org/english/> Hiroshima for Global Peace, Barbara Reynolds and World Friendship Center, <https://hiroshimaforpeace.com/en/world-friendship-center/> Now WFC directors are two young men. <https://www.wfchiroshima.org/english/about-wfc/directors-and-staff/>

<sup>11</sup> NHK, “Mustering his remaining power” as 89-year old survivor confronts A bomb materials, [https://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/special/senseki/article\\_90.html](https://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/special/senseki/article_90.html)

<sup>12</sup> *Archival Outlook*, <https://www2.archivists.org/news/2021/new-novemberdecember-2How-021-issue-of-archival-outlook>

4. Though some people have kept silent because of discrimination, they start to talk. How can we record?
5. Processing archival materials leads the discovery of historical facts.

### **Methodology or Method**

#### **1. The panel exhibit**

WFC efforts to dig the internal assets and research with other institutions lead WFC to hold the exhibit. 2024 is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Peace Study Mission which Barbara Reynolds organized. (The mission was consisted of 40 people including 9 translator students from International Christian University, which is my alumni.) Just after this mission WFC was established to serve as a place where people from around the world could build a bridge of friendship and foster peace. The exhibit focused on the Peace Study Mission was held in April 7-14 of 2024 accompanied talk shows by two atomic-bomb survivors who joined Peace study mission in 1964. One is Mrs. Shizuko Abe<sup>13</sup> who is now 97 years old, and the other is Mr. Hiromu Morishita, 93 years old, who visited Oslo, Norway to join the peace symposium the next week of his talk. The new chair of WFC, Mr. Tachibana lead the archiving project and organized the exhibit. The members shown in *Archival Outlook* also worked so hard. For example, Dr. Maus and Mr. Inoue sent the messages and others prepared the display panels and so on. As the local TV and newspaper media covered the event, a lot of people were attracted. It was successful.

#### **2. Collaboration with other institutions and facts check**

Mr. Tachibana work with other organizations to utilize the bombed buildings designated national important cultural property. We hope one of the buildings serves as the repository for peace resources such as whole of Morishita archival collection which WFC members completed the cataloging with data of nearly ten thousand.

WFC members are non-archivists. At first, they learned about the concept of archives. I joined monthly meetings and answer their questions. Description of formats is sometimes difficult. Mr. Tachibana kept the same word for the same containers using photos. We also compared the result of scanning and photographing with digital cameras or iPhones. We use iPhones for simple digitization.

We have a lot of assistance with our colleagues on description, preservation, and legal issues. For example, Ms Taniai. the director of Osaka Labor Archive offered the spread sheets for Access to Memory and information about oral history work and legal issues. Mr. Kato of Habitation Research Studio provided archival binders to keep important documents. All the works are labor of love.

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<sup>13</sup> Hiroshima Speak out, Shiko Abe, Peace Pilgrimage and Barbara Reynold, [https://h-s-o.jp/abe/post\\_en/08/](https://h-s-o.jp/abe/post_en/08/) NHK World, A-bomb survivor: US hurt me, but also helped me heal, <https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/backstories/3453/>

Some NPO works to document the materials left behind by survivors.<sup>14</sup>

### 3. Time-race

Mr. Morishita cannot wait for the former Army Clothing Depot's renovation. He would like to keep his materials at his alma mater, Hiroshima University Archives, though it looks difficult to receive all his collection. Even such a case, Cataloging is useful to transfer them.

### 4. Provide the place and chance

WFC provides the chance to speak as the lecture series. The establishment of WFC aimed at the place interaction both survivors and non-survivors, based on friendship.

### 5. Oppenheimer episode and Collection management system

WFC found out the testimony of the translator student which tells that Oppenheimer apologized in 1964.<sup>15</sup>

We are still working on data cleaning.

Referring to collection management systems, We consider several open source systems as the slide 3 shows. You might have a question why I do not list ArchivesSpace, ARCHON delivered by Illinois Champagne was good to use in Japanese. I have not examined ArchivesSpace function from this point of view. I found Omeka-net.<sup>16</sup> It looks simple to test without a server. I would like to ask our colleagues of SAA what the best practice for the small nonprofit institution is.

## Results

The mass media focused on the activities of Mr. Morishita and WFC. We hope it is not temporal attention. Offering the information and networking should be continuous. Activities of archiving helps to realize their hope and ideal.

## Findings

- Non-archivists can make effective lists for the archival materials with archivists' assistance.
- People have to find the point to collaborate and network with other institutions, due to severe lack of money and space.

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<sup>14</sup> For example, an NPO in Tokyo works to preserve the Hidankyo related materials.  
<https://www.nomore-hibakusha.org/> <https://www.tokyo-np.co.jp/article/360100> the news article by The Tokyo Shimbun (only in Japanese)

<sup>15</sup> Kyodo news, <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2024/06/2563b2987ccf-oppenheimer-reportedly-apologized-in-1964-meeting-with-a-bomb-victim.html> Many media reported this news.

<sup>16</sup> Omeka-net, <https://www.omeka.net/>

## **Conclusion**

We will continue our activities.

Through this work, I could meet one of the student translators. She is not the A-bomb survivor, however her travel in the mission is very important for her. She entrusted me with her important scrapbooks which shows 20-year-old student experience. As an archivist, I would like to utilize them fairly for her and world peace.

## **Resources**

- Hiroshima Peace Media Center by the Chugoku Shimbun,  
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?lang=en>