American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society

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May 19, 2016

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As former POWs of Japan, the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society, we urge you to focus your remarks at the upcoming historic visit to Hiroshima on the events leading to the decision to use the bomb and recognize the effects it has had on the people of both countries.

As survivors of Imperial Japan's horrendous treatment and disregard for human decency, we want you to acknowledge who was responsible for starting World War II in the Pacific and why it was fought.

The Pacific War must not be remembered simply as the legacy of one new weapon, for it is not the weapons of war, but rather the causes, conduct, and lessons of that war that matter most.

Sincerely yours,

HAROLD A. BERGBOWER
Peoria, Arizona

DANIEL W. CROWLEY
Simsbury, Connecticut

RALPH E. GRIFFITH
Hannibal, Missouri

SCOTT M. DOWNING, JR
Amarillo, Texas

LELAND CHANDLER
Galesburg, Illinois

CARL DYER
Oglesby, Illinois

OSCAR L. LEONARD
Paradise, California

WILLIAM "BILL" OVERMIER
Albuquerque, New Mexico

MARVIN A. ROSLANSKY
Mesa, Arizona

JACK DOYLE WARNER
Elk City, Oklahoma

Full biographies of these men can be found here: eleven former POWs of Japan