

Inland Sea. Two of the swimmers, Adhiratha Keefe (38) and Sunil Davidson (38), are staff members of UNICEF, while the third, Shraddha Howard (33), is a United Nations Secretariat staff member. The swim was dedicated to the International Year of Peace.

A banner marking the event had 'International Year of Peace' written in both Japanese and English. Before starting the swim the three made an appeal for peace to those assembled on the beach. With a cold wind blowing, the swimmers entered into the 10°C water and, with folded hands, prayed and meditated for international peace. They then swam around the big shrine for about 45 minutes, receiving much applause from those who were there visiting the shrine.

Coming out of the water, Keefe said, "It was very cold, but praying and meditating for world peace gave me strength." He added that the meditation of individual people can help turn the world towards peace.

The Japan Times

'All the News Without Fear or Favor'

ISSN 0289-1956
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Saturday, January 4, 1986

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3 From U.N. Mark Int'l Peace Year With Long Swim

HIROSHIMA (Kyodo) — Three employees of the United Nations marked the inauguration of International Year of Peace in 1986 at this atom-bombed city with a 2-km-long swim in icy waters on New Year's Day.

The three, all from New York, included Adhiratha Keefe, a 38-year-old employee of the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), who hit the headlines last year when he swam across the English Channel to commemorate the U.N.'s 40th founding anniversary.