

Undated - in loose folder labeled "World Trade Center
Doc 64-1197" PA 66

Statement by Minoru Yamasaki of Minoru Yamasaki and Associates

This great project, to be built in lower Manhattan, for the purpose of bringing together the presently scattered elements of world trade in the most important port in the world, has architectural possibilities which have rarely existed in a project in our times.

Paramount in importance is the relation of world trade to world peace, since the communication and understanding between nations implicit in trade is basic to peace. Man today identifies himself with and is as dedicated to world peace as he has been to the great causes of the past. Thus, the architectural opportunity exists in this project to make this complex of buildings a living symbol of man's dedication to world peace.

Beyond the compelling need to make this a monument to world peace, the World Trade Center should, because of its importance, become a living representation of man's belief in humanity, his need for individual dignity, his beliefs in the cooperation of men, and through this cooperation his ability to find greatness.

It should reflect the qualities of life which he so passionately seeks of truth and serenity, of hope and joy for all men, qualities integral to the kind of democracy for which he aspires. The World Trade Center should be imbued with the feeling of man's belief in both his greatness and his humanity.

Though the need to satisfy these spiritual and emotional requirements is pre-eminent, the scope of the World Trade Center demands a positive response to an increasingly important and practical challenge for architecture, that of advancing the art of building.

The great technological progress that has been made by society in so many fields is only beginning to develop in the realm of construction. It is necessary to develop the advanced technological processes which must result in significant economics and higher quality in buildings. With such progress in the techniques of buildings, mankind can alleviate the tremendous demand on human and material resources necessary for the gigantic task of rebuilding and expanding our environment. Further, buildings built through advanced technological processes will truly be the product of our time, truly representative of our technological and industrial society.

#