
A mother passed away, still holding the baby in her arms

6th August, Hiroshima, A soldier, 25 years old

At a quarter past eight in the morning of 6th August, just after the air warning had been cancelled, a single B-29 bomber flew in. Suddenly there was an enormous flash and half of the city became a sea of fire.

The buildings of my military unit, where I was stationed, fell down as if toy blocks have been crushed.

All the way from the Minami-machi units through Senda-machi, Funairi, Tokaichi-Cho to the Yokogawa Bridge, men in the residual heat of the smoking debris who had weak breathing were crawling towards fire cisterns in search of water.

A young mother was lying dead in a fire cistern she had entered with the baby in her arms.

A carriage horse has fallen down and gasped for breath.

It was indeed like hell.

幼児を抱き息絶えた母親 8月6日 広島 25歳 軍人

8月6日午前8時15分、警戒警報解除の直後、B29が飛来、一大閃光と共に全市の大半は火の海と化した。私の所属していた部隊庁舎が、目の前で積み木の玩具を押し潰すように倒れた。皆実町の部隊から、千田町、舟入、十日市町を経由して横川橋に至る道すがら、むせ返る余熱の燻る瓦礫の中で、息絶えだえに水を求めて水栓に這い寄る男たち。幼児を抱いたまま防火用水に入って息絶えた若い母親。馬車馬も横倒しになって、口をパクパクさせて喘いでいた。まさに地獄の様相であった。

