

令和2年度

「前橋空襲と広島・長崎原爆パネル展」

特別資料

## この事業について

前橋市では、平成19年から、前橋空襲のあった、8月5日及び終戦記念日の8月15日の終戦記念日に合わせ、前橋空襲と広島・長崎原爆のパネル展を開催しています。

今年度から各パネルに記載のある証言を英語に翻訳しています。日本語を母語としていない方にもなるべく内容を理解していただけたら幸いです。

## 資料の見方

2ページ以降、文章タイトル左横の番号と展示パネル左横の数字が一致します。

日本語の証言の次に英語要約の順になっています。



令和元年度前橋市平和ポスター市長賞作品



平成30年度前橋市平和ポスター市長賞作品

## ①悲惨な戦争を忘れずに

前橋も空襲で多くの犠牲者を出すとともに、市街地が焦土と化すなど壊滅的な打撃を受けました。今では戦争を知らない人も増えています。

この機会に、前橋大空襲の様子や投稿いただいた戦争体験談などを通して、平和の尊さを考えましょう。

In addition to the countless people who fell victim to the air raids, Maebashi suffered devastating damage that scorched the metropolitan area. Even now there is an increasing number of people who know nothing about the war.

Let us take this opportunity to meditate on the importance of peace through looking the state of the Maebashi air raid as well as the testimonials that we received.

## ①前橋大空襲の被害

本市は、太平洋戦争が終わる１０日前の昭和２０（１９４５）年８月５日に、大空襲を受けました。前橋大空襲の翌日に広島、４日後には長崎へ原子爆弾が投下され、多くの犠牲者を出しました。そして、１５日、日本は無条件降伏し終戦を迎えました。

８月５日午後１０時３０分、４か所に投下された照明弾で前橋空襲が始まり、続いて岩神町に焼夷弾が投下され、県立第一工業学校（現在の前橋第三中学校付近）と共愛女学校が炎上しました。こうして、市内中心部に爆撃が開始され、空襲かはそれから１時間１５分にわたり続きました。

本市を爆撃したのは、Ｂ－２９型爆撃機９２機です。その夜、６９１トンの焼夷弾、１７．６トンの破碎爆弾、１５．２トンの一般爆弾が本市に投下されました。

空襲で死者５３５人、負傷者６００人、被災面積は２，６５７平方キロメートル（全市域の２２％、市街地の６０％）でした。被災戸数においては、１１，０００戸（全戸数の５５％、市街地戸数の７５％）を超えるものでした。

この空襲で最も多くの死者を出した所は、広瀬川に架かる比刀根橋<sup>１</sup>わきの防空壕と細々沢十字路（住吉町一丁目）の水路でした。市内で模範とされていた比刀根橋の防空壕周辺は、一面火の海となり、豪内に入った多くの人々が煙と熱気で窒息死しました。また、十字路では、市外へ逃げる途中の人たちが、猛火に巻かれ水路の中で死んだのです。

空襲の被害は、昭和２９年以降に本市に合併した周辺市町村にも及びました。上川淵、下川淵、芳賀、桂萱、東、元総社、南橋、木瀬（永明・城南の一部）の各地域を合計すると、死者４７人、負傷者１１４人、被災戸数５１１戸（８月１４日の空襲分を含む）でした。

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<sup>１</sup> 読み方：ひとねばし

<sup>２</sup> 読み方：こまかざわじゅうじろ

## ①The Damage of the Maebashi Air Raid

10 days before the end of the Pacific War, on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1945, Maebashi suffered an air raid attack. The next day after the Maebashi Air Raid, an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, and four days after that, one was dropped on Nagasaki, which resulted in the deaths of many people. Then, on the 15<sup>th</sup>, Japan surrendered unconditionally and the war ended.

The Maebashi Air Raid began with flares going off in four locations on August 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am. Following the flares, incendiary bombs were dropped and Iwagami-cho, Prefectural Daiichi Technical School (in the vicinity of modern day Maebashi Daisan Junior High School), and Kyoai Girl's School went up in flames. Thus, the bombings began in the city center and the air raid continued for an hour and 15 minutes thereafter.

Maebashi was attacked by a B-29 Superfortress bomber. That night, a 691 ton incendiary bomb, a 17.6 ton daisy cutter bomb, and a 15.2 ton general bomb were dropped on Maebashi. As a result of the bombing, 535 people lost their lives, 600 people were hurt, and 2,657 square kilometers (22% of the whole city area and 60% of the metropolitan area) of the area was affected. More than 11,000 homes (55% of all the homes and 75% of the metropolitan area homes) were affected.

The places that had the most victims during the air raid were the Hitonebashi (a bridge that spans Hirose River) air-raid shelter, and the Komakazawajūjiro (modern day Sumiyoshi-cho 1 chome) canal. The area around the Hitonebashi air-raid shelter became a sea of fire, and the people who took refuge in the shelter died choking on the smoke and hot air. There were also people in Jūjiro who were trying to escape to the outside of the city but, they were enveloped in the raging flames and died in the canal.

The damage of the air raid also reached the surrounding municipalities that Maebashi annexed in 1954. If you combine the various regions of Kamikawafuchi, Shimokawafuchi, Haga, Kaigaya, Azuma, Motosōja, Nankitsu, and Kise (Part of Eimei and Jōnan), there were 47 people who lost their lives, 114 people who were injured, and 511 homes (including the portion damaged by the air raid on August 14<sup>th</sup>) that were affected.

## ②空襲体験から得たもの

下増田町 新井 将男（証言当時66歳）

昭和20年8月5日午後10時30分、前橋はB-29爆撃機92機の来襲を受けた。それは皮肉にも終戦の10日前の出来事であった。私の家は市街地から東の方に離れていたため、直接空襲の怖さは体験しなかったが、照明弾により昼のような明るさの中で焼夷弾が落とされ、火災が起きている様子が手にとるように望見された。

数条の探照灯<sup>3</sup>の光が空をよぎったが、反撃する高射砲や戦闘機の姿はなかった。高い成層圏からの爆撃には手の出しようがなく、彼らのなすがままだったに違いない。眠られぬ夜を過ごした翌日、私は友人と自転車で様子を見に行った。昨夜の空襲での被害は、私が想像していた以上に大きかった。本町通りだっただろうか、倉庫と思われる赤いレンガの壁がところどころ残されていたが、他には何もかも形をとどめない、一面の焼け野原となっていた。道行く人たちの青白い顔色が印象的で忘れることが出来ない。

「これが戦争なんだ」と何度つぶやいたことだろうか。それから、いいようのない悲しさが心の底からこみ上げて来て、長くその場にいられず、あたふたと帰った。

しばらくして、終戦となり、学校に戻った私は、集会の折、学校長から「勝てば官軍負ければ賊軍<sup>4</sup>。今はじっと耐えねばならない」という言葉を聞き、それが妙に心に残った。

当時私は、本当にそうだと思ったが、時がたって冷静に考えられるようになってから、それは、相手を考えない自分本位の考え方であることに気づき、恥ずかしい気持ちになった。

戦争の本当の被害者は弱い人たちである。空襲で家を失い、肉身を亡くし、茫然と焼け跡にたたずむ人の姿を思う時、戦争はしてはいけないと思う。廃墟からの復興という大きな仕事があったにせよ、日本人自身が考える機会を持たねばならなかった。そして、それぞれが不戦の証を具体的に心に持つことが、あいまいさを克服することにもなるのではないだろうか。

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<sup>3</sup> 読み方：たんしょうとう

意味：強い光源と反射鏡によって遠方まで照らし出せるようにした灯。サーチライト

<sup>4</sup> 読み方：かてばかんぐん、まければぞくぐん

意味：戦いに勝った方が正義になり、負けたほうが不義となる。道理はどうあれ、強いものが正義者となること。

## ②What I Gained from My Air-Raid Experience.

Shimomasudamachi Arai Masao (Age 66 at the time of testimony)

On August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1945 at 10:30am, Maebashi suffered an attack by a B-29 Superfortress. As irony would have it, that incident was 10 days before the end of the war. My home was situated west of the metropolitan area, so I didn't experience the terror of the direct air raid, but, in that daytime-like brightness created by the flares, I saw the incendiary bombs drop and the fires begin.

Light from several searchlights traversed the sky, but there were no counterattacking antiaircraft guns nor fighter aircrafts to be found. There was no way we could make a counterattack against the bombings coming from high up in the stratosphere; we were completely at their mercy. The next day after a sleepless night my friend and I went out on our bikes to see the situation. The damage of the previous night's air raid was much greater than I had imagined. Perhaps it was at Honmachi-dori, but there was a red brick wall that seemed to be a warehouse with remains scattered here and there. However, there was only burnt field with nothing else in it. The faces of the people who passed by were pale and left such an impression that I cannot forget.

I must have whispered, "This is war" to myself many times over. After that an indescribable sadness welled from the depths of my heart. Unable to stay in that place for long, I hurriedly made my way back home.

After a while, the war ended and I returned to school. During the assembly, the principal said, "History is written by the victors. For now, we have to stand strong," and for some reason that has stuck with me.

At that time I truly used to believe that to be true, but after time had passed and I was able to think about it more calmly, that it was a self-centered way of thinking, and I was ashamed.

The real victims of war are those who are weak. When I think of the people who have lost their homes, and blood relatives, and stand there stunned at the burned ruins of what once was, I feel that we should not wage war. Despite there having been the arduous task of rebuilding from ruin, the Japanese had to have the opportunity to think for themselves. And so, each of them will solemnly vow to no longer wage war, and perhaps that will overcome the ambiguity that is war.

### ③私の空襲体験

日吉町三丁目 金子 洋三（証言当時64歳）

「こっちだよ、早く早く」

防空壕の中から母が呼んでいます。

その当時、私は家の真北の方角に白い煙を吐きながら、ゆっくりと落ちていく物体を見ていました。落とした飛行機は1機で、おそらく爆弾投下の地点を示す信号だったのでしょう。まもなく、東の方からB-29の編隊が轟々と爆音をひびかせて来たと思うと、すぐに焼夷弾を投下しました。市の中心部から物すごい火の手が上がりました。

父と母は、私に弟を連れて逃げるように言いました。

当時私は中学3年生、弟は小学生で、その時にひどい下痢で歩くのがやっとでした。私は防空頭巾をかぶり、教科書と2号ばかりの米の入ったカバンを背負い、弟を連れて今の盲学校の西の道を南へ歩いて逃げました。道は逃げて行く人でいっぱいです。その人たちは無言で、時々立ち止まっては後ろを振り返り、淡々と燃えさかる火を見ながら心配そうでした。B-29は編隊を組んで市の中心部から次第に周辺へと焼夷弾を投下しています。私がたどりついたところは六供の川原の降り口でした。沢山の人が木陰に腰を下ろし、心配したりまた励まし合ったりしていました。まもなく、B-29は去りました。私は弟をせかせかしながら来た道を引き返しました。家の近くまで来ました。見ると、家は残っています。父母は私たち二人を見て安心したのか、消火する気力もないようです。

やがて夜が明けはじめました。わが家は焼け残ったとはいえ、窓ガラスは全部割れ、柱は焼けて真っ黒です。私が道端に植えておいた高粱は焼けて跡形もなく、屋根にはわせようとした南瓜の棚は焼け落ちて半熟の南瓜が庭に転がっていました。思えばこれらが家への延焼を防いでくれたのかもしれない。

家の近くに爆弾が落ち、近所の男の人が亡くなりました。頭を割られて、それは無残だったそうです。

こんな経験はわれわれだけで沢山です。私たちの子や孫には、こんな悲惨な思いはさせたくありません。

### ③My Air-Raid Experience

Hiyoshi-cho 3 chome Kaneko Yōzō (Age 64 at the time of testimony)

“This way! Hurry!” my mother called from the bomb shelter.

At that time, I saw a falling object emitting white smoke in the due north corner of my house. One plane was knocked out of the sky, and was probably a signal indicating where the bomb was dropped. Soon after, just the formation of a B-29 Superfortress was roaring in from the west, immediately an incendiary bomb was dropped. A frightening flame rose from the center of the city.

My father and mother told me to take my younger brother and run.

At the time I was a third-year in junior high school, and my little brother was in elementary school. As we were leaving, I could barely walk because of the terrible diarrhea I had.

I wore an air-raid hood, and as I carried my textbook and 360ml of rice, I took my little brother and fled south of the east road where currently the school for the blind is. The road was full of fleeing people. Those people were silent, and every now and again they would stop and look back, their faces showing worry as they looked upon the burning fire. The B-29s got in formation and dropped incendiary bombs gradually from the city center to the outskirts. The place I arrived at was the Rokku riverbed. A lot of people sat in the shade of a tree losing their wits or encouraging one another. Not long after, the B-29 left. We went back on the same road I rushed my little brother along. When we made it close by the house, we could see that it was still standing. Maybe it was because my father and mother were relieved to see us, but they didn't have the willpower to put out the fires.

The next day finally came. Although our house survived the fire, all of the windows were broken, and the pillars were burned to a crisp. The sorghum that I was growing on the roadside was burned away. The shelves of the squashes that were trying to grow on the roof were burned down, and there were half-cooked squashes fallen in the garden.

When I think about it this may have been what prevented the fire from spreading to the house.

We should be the only ones to experience this. I don't want our children or our grandchildren to know these tragic feelings as we do.

## ④戦火の中の青春

住吉町一丁目 後藤 敬子（証言当時67歳）

謳歌すべき私の青春は、戦争の真ただ中で、不安と恐怖と忍耐の日々でした。女学校卒業の頃は、国内の医師が軍医として応召されて行き、銃後の守りは女医ではなければと一大決心した私は、医師となるため学校に入りました。

学校の寄宿舍は一部屋10人もの同居で、個人の自由はなく、三度の食事は、芋・南瓜・とうもろこし・すいとんなどの代用食が少量与えられるだけで、食べ盛りの私はいつも空腹を抱えていました。時々母が工面して送ってくれたパンも、途中で抜きとられ、私の口にはほとんど入りませんでした。次第に戦火も激しくなり、昼夜を問わず空襲警報が出され、そのたびに防空壕に避難し、時には近くに落ちた爆弾の火、恐ろしくて父母のもとに帰りたいと何度も思いました。

医師不足のため卒業が短縮され、文字通り「月月火水木金金」の日課が始まり、休み返上、夜は灯火管制の暗い灯の下で勉強し、空襲に備え、もんぺ姿のまま眠りました。おしゃれしたい年ごろなのに、衣類は配給制、燃料もなく、入浴もままならず、たまに銭湯にいけば虱にたかられる始末で、垢に埋もれ、もちろん冷暖房もなく、酷暑にも、厳寒にもじっと耐えてきました。

昭和20年8月5日、前橋の空襲を知りながら、心配をするだけでした。8月15日に重大発表があるとのことで皆集まり、ラジオから流れる玉音に敗戦を知り、友達と肩を寄せ合って思い切り泣きました。

終戦後帰省が許され、うれしくて、徹夜で切符を買い、満員の汽車のデッキにぶらさがり、命がけで前橋に帰りました。わが家は、焼け野原と化し、真夏の太陽の下、焼けトタンで造った小屋に母がいて、喜びのあまりお互いに涙々の連続でした。戦いを生き抜いた母も昨年亡くなり、当時のことを語り合う人もいなくなりました。

## ④Youth amidst War

Sumiyoshi-cho 1 chome Gotō Keiko (Age 67 at the time of testimony)

My youth, which I was supposed to enjoy to the fullest, was instead right in the midst of war, with days were full of uneasiness, fear, and perseverance. When I graduated from a girls' school, doctors in Japan were being called on to serve as military doctors. I decided that women doctors had to protect the home front, so I went to school to become a doctor.

I lived in the school's boarding house where we were ten people to a room. You didn't have any personal freedom, and there were three meals a day that consisted of substitute foods such as potatoes, squash, corn, and soup dumplings. They never gave a significant amount of food, so for someone like me who could eat a lot, I was always hungry. Sometimes even bread that my mother would go through the trouble of sending me would be pilfered on its way to me, so I often never even had a chance to eat it. The war gradually got more intense, and regardless of the time of day the air-raid warning system would go off. At those times we would take refuge in the bomb shelter, and sometimes the fire from the bombs that were dropped nearby would be so terrifying that I wanted to go by to my father and mother countless times.

Due to the lack of doctors, the required amount of years for the program was shortened. We were busy every day of the week, with no breaks, not even the weekends. At night we studied under faint light during blackout hours, and slept in our nurses clothes in preparation for air raids. Despite this being a time when I wanted to be fashionable, all of the clothes were handed out on a ration system. There was no fuel to warm to baths, so taking a bath was rare. Sometimes when we went to bath house we would be swarmed by vermin, so we would dirty all over again. Of course there was no A/C so we had to endure sweltering summers and frigid winters.

On August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1945, all I could worry about was the Maebashi air raid. On August 15<sup>th</sup> we all gather for a very important announcement. We heard the Emperor's voice through the radio announcing our surrender. My friends and I held each other as we cried our eyes out.

After the war we were allowed to return home. I was so happy so I bought a ticket late at night, hung on to the deck of packed train and returned to Maebashi. My home was gone and in its place was a burned field. My mom was there, under the midsummer sun, in a hut made out of burned iron sheets. When we saw each other again we cried tears of happiness. My mother who survived the war passed away last year. With her gone there is no one left to talk about those times with.

This current generation can't imagine what life during war was like. So it is our duty to tell our experiences to our children and grandchildren. I can't help but hope that the peace of today continues forevermore.

## ⑤終戦前後の思い出

小坂子町 鈴木 秀平（証言当時68歳）

終戦の年は、私が初めて学校を終え、社会に出た出発の年でした。満18歳の青春ど真ん中。私が就職したのは、前代田の農事試験場でした。

その前の年に、兄がペリリュー島で壮烈な玉砕を遂げました。時は昭和19年12月31日（公報による）でした。

しかし、実際に兄が戦死したのは、それよりも3か月早い9月24日だったと、奇跡的に助かった戦友からきかされました。

私は、そのころ、学校教練に明け暮れる毎日でした。兄の報復を誓い、教練に励み、戦陣訓や作戦用務令の暗唱に余念がありました。

やがて、終戦の年の春ごろから“本土決戦”が叫ばれ、東京が大空襲にみまわれる日がつづきました。

当時、私の恩師、化学の先生は私たちの前で「日本は負ける」と豪語し、生徒から大きな非難を浴びていましたが、今思うと立派な先生であったと痛感します。

それから間もなく、農事試験場の上空に敵の偵察機が現れ、「前橋よいとこ糸の町、5日の晩には灰の町」と書かれた大量のビラがまかれました。

予告どおり8月5日の日曜日午後10時30分。B-29爆撃機が約60機で猛爆撃。

たちまちにして前橋は、真っ赤に燃え上がり、真昼のような悪夢にさらされ、たった2時間足らずで市街地の約80%は、荒野と化したのです。多くの人たちが犠牲になったことは申すまでもありません。

何と悲惨なことか。

そして、8月15日に終戦。それでも、私たちは、試験場に通いました。職員一同沈痛な思いで研究業務を続けるしかなかった日々が思い出されます。

こんな悲惨な戦争は、子や孫に、いや末代までもさせてはならないと思うこのごろです。

## ⑤Memories of Before and After the War

Kozakashi-machi Suzuki Shūhei (age 68 at the time of testimony)

The year that the war ended was the same year that I finished school for the first time and made my way into society. At the time I was at the ripe age of 18. I was employed at an agricultural experiment station in Maeshirota (the former name of a town).

The year before that, my older brother died a heroic and honorable death on Peleliu Island. The time was December 1944 (according to an official bulletin).

However, I heard from his comrades that my older brother actually fell in battle three months earlier than that on September 24th.

During that time I was spending all my time doing school training. I vowed to get revenge for my brother and devoted myself to my school training, and reciting battle formations and tactical strategies.

Eventually, in the spring time of the year the war ended, there was a decisive battle on the mainland. Tokyo during this time suffered countless days of major air raids.

At the time, my chemistry teacher bombastically said said “Japan will lose.” This incited a lot of criticism from the students but, when I think about it now, I realize that he was an amazing teacher.

Not too long after, an enemy spy plane appeared in skies above the agricultural experiment station and scattered out a large amount of fliers that said “Maebashi’s Ito No Machi (town of thread) will become the town of ash on the night of the 5th.”

Just the fliers said, on August 5th (Sun.) at 10:30pm, roughly 60 B-29 Superfortresses unleashed an intense bombing attack.

Maebashi immediately went up in a red blaze. It was a nightmare that was bright as midday. In a matter of only 2 hours, 80% of the metropolitan area was reduced to a wasteland. It goes without saying but, many people lost their lives.

Tragedy doesn’t even begin to describe it.

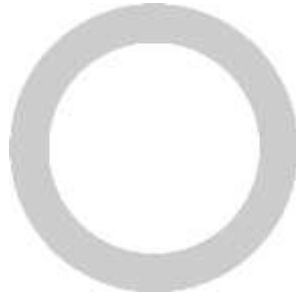
Then, the war ended on August 15th. Despite that, we still went to the agricultural experiment station. I remember those days as a time where all employees worked while they mourned.

I believe that such as tragic war as this should never be allowed to be waged again.



東京 2020 五輪 南スーダン代表選手へのインタビューの様子  
前橋空襲についても説明しました。





## 平 和 都 市 宣 言

私たち前橋市民は、ふるさと前橋を愛し、豊かな水と緑に恵まれた自然を守り、平和なまちづくりをめざしています。

しかし、世界の平和と安全にとって、核兵器の存在は大きな脅威をもたらしています。この核兵器の速やかな廃絶は人類共通の願いです。

私たちは、平和を希求する市民総意のもとに、真の永久平和が実現することを願い、ここに「平和都市」を宣言します。

平成元年3月27日 前橋市議会

We, the citizens of Maebashi, hereby declare our love for our city, our intent to protect our natural blessings and our desire to make Maebashi a city eternal peace.

We feel that it is our duty to fully support the rapid disposal of all atomic weapons for the sake of mankind.

We offer our prayers for eternal peace and declare Maebashi "a City of Peace".

March 27, 1989. Municipal Assembly

編集 市民部生活課

翻訳 文化国際課 ジェイレン国際交流員