

Dear Daniel

I was born in Feb 28 1918, and 89years 5 month old now.

We have the name of an era in Japan,

Tokugawa(Edo) 300years (1615-1868)

Meiji 44years(1868-1912)

Taisyō 15years(1912-1926)

Syōwa 63years(1926-1989)

Heisei 19years(1989-now)

When I was born on Taisyō era, Japan was poor country, and hundred thousand of Japanese tried to move to outer country like USA (LA, San Francisco), Brazil, Hawaii... End of Meiji era, Japan had Nichiro-war(Japan-Russian), Nisshin-war(Japan-China) and When Taisyō era, we had Manchurian Incident, Shanghai Incident...we were always besides war.

At that time I didn't think a lot but Japan made the rule of conscription system at the Meiji era. Japan made military service of navy and army in conscription system.

I applied for military service in 1938, Army expire military service for 2 years, Navy for 3 years. Finally I understood the meaning of conscription system after I joined navy. Basically military service of Navy is for 3 years only but if war is started, we don't have expiration until war is over. If we die in the war, family will get only 1 letter about dead report and 1 public newspaper for this announce. At that time, if their family apply for soldier, they were called honorary family and if he dead in the war, family got small insurance. But actually in this WW2, we were lost and no any allowance for dead soldier. Japanese emperor told dead soldier gonna be god and their soul can stay in Yasukuni-shrine forever but I never believe it. Because how many dead soldier we have and we have never known how many soldier dead exactly. Actually in Navy, most of ship is totally destroyed and we only know half of the name of dead one. For example, on my ship IRO, I knew all of 80 engineer was dead but government reported only 39 people were dead. That is the reason why I am still asking government to check how many people was conscripted and make sure correct number, but government never do anything.

Now all of statesman is younger and no one joined war before . Also generation is changing and no nation knows war soon. So I should talk about true story of war for my dead crew of IRO and for dead soldier in WW2. I will lecture until I die for elementary student or young generation and I hope they never forget war.

Daniel, your country USA also had a lot of dead soldier because of WW2.
I'd like to know what your country did for such soldier or family after war.
I wish there were a lot of gentle youth like you all over the world.
War finished more than 60 years ago but I can't forget my task in war forever.
If you have question please ask me anything. Yoko will translate your English to me and
I will answer to you.

Yours,

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ダニエルさん(江)

私は大正7年2月28日生、満89才と5ヶ月に到ります。日本歴史
 徳川幕府300年、明治44年、大正15年、昭和63年、平成9年、
 私大正時代は日本貧乏の国で、^{ロシア、セルビア、} 米、^{フランス、} 英、^{ドイツ、} 日、^{イタリア、} 露、^{中国、} 米、^{ブラジル、}
 ハワイ、などの各国に移住し何拾万と言ふ人達が半世の人達が
 が移民しました。明治時代後半は日本は日露戦争、日清
 戦争、大正時代には、満洲事変、上海事変、と戦争ばかり
 して居りました。其の当時私達は解らなかつたが、日本国民は
 明治時代には徴兵制度を造り、日本国は国民は徴兵制度、
 で陸軍、海軍と兵役を造り、私等は昭和13年の徴
 兵で陸軍は兵役は2年、海軍、兵役は3年、満期
 自分が海軍に行くようになったので始めて徴兵と言ふ意味、
 が解かった。海軍は兵役3年、戦争になれば現役編入され
 満期は無くなり、戦争が終ると帰って来るとはあつた
 ない。戦死すれば公報通知書1枚、戦死した通知1枚、
 を付けてある。当時国民は、戦争が行けば、お国の為と言つて
 部落や言の家の言つても、戦死すれば、国は親を養ふ事は少
 しは保証すると思ふが大東亜戦争では、戦争は無かつた

事となる。日本に戦争で戦死した人は靖国神社に祀りなると
言われるが、私は信用していません。なぜなら、戦死者が

余り多く、海軍では艦ごとく戦死した乗組人員が正確で
無い為、隻数単位しか解らない。特務艦石廊は私が80人
戦死したのに、厚生省は37名名簿に乗っていません。それが故
に、私はもう一度徴兵した各県を調べて正確な数字を出して、

これと比べてみるに、国、厚生省は人の回答はありません。

私は今の政治家は、人も戦争体験者ではありません。国民も戦争
体験者が居なくなつてしまふので、石廊の戦死者の為と大東亜
戦争の戦死者の為にも小学生などに戦争体験など言

りやしても、多くの国民に解って頂くよう長き舌を金つたうしろと
思っています。夕=エ、君の母国アメリカも大東戦争など
多くの戦争で国民が多くの戦死して居られると思ふが、米
国はどうか諸君に言うか知りたく思ひます。

夕=エ君の父若者世界中が一人で多く居たいと思
ひます。60数年前の戦争の事なれども、自分の事を
任務は忘れる事は出来ません。解かる事あれば何時
も陽子さんを通じて御返事下さい。

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