

Recollections and Memoirs

Dedicated to the souls of the Nagasaki Medical College atomic bombing victims

追憶

Translated by Michiko Yokoyama

Edited by

Executive Committee for the 80th Anniversary of the Atomic Bomb Reconstruction

“Recollections and Memoirs” - English edition of “Tuioku”

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Translation note

1. For names with unclear pronunciation, the most commonly used pronunciations are applied.
2. Foreign names are translated using translation software.
3. If any corrections are needed for place names, name readings, etc., we will correct them.

Preface

On the Publication of the English Translation of “Recollections and Memoirs”

On August 9, 2025, Nagasaki marked the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombing. For Nagasaki University School of Medicine, it was a solemn day. We extended our deepest condolences to the 898 students and faculty members of Nagasaki Medical College who were affected. Our alma mater has a proud history dating back to the founding of Western medical education in 1857. On the day of the bombing, it faced imminent closure. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of its alumni and other supporters, the school achieved a remarkable recovery and continues to thrive today. Marking this milestone year, Nagasaki University has designated it as a year of “Inheritance and Action” toward realizing a peaceful world. We established the “Nagasaki University School of Medicine Atomic Bomb Recovery 80th Anniversary Commemorative Project Executive Committee” and planned several commemorative events. These projects are being carried out by Nagasaki University under the direction of the President. The School of Medicine’s four main initiatives are: a commemorative lecture; an exhibition of disaster photographs and atomic bomb materials; the English translation of the 10th anniversary commemorative publication of the former Nagasaki Medical College, “Recollections and Memoirs”; and a project to preserve Nagasaki University's historical atomic bomb materials for the future.

“Recollections and Memoirs” was published in October 1955 by Nagasaki University School of Medicine, on the 10th anniversary of the atomic bombing. It was created under the initiative of then-President Kohei Koyano. This publication is the former Nagasaki Medical College's atomic bomb memorial and bears the inscription: “Dedicated to the Spirits of the Nagasaki Medical College Atomic Bomb Victims.”

The materials were collected from various departments, students, nurses, and others, and compiled under the leadership of Professor Shiro Osajima of the Second Internal Medicine Department. Although it was once out of print, it was republished as a commemorative project of the alumni association for the 30th anniversary of the atomic bombing. By translating and publishing this commemorative book into English, we hope to provide an opportunity for people around the world to understand the actual circumstances of the damage caused by nuclear weapons and to reconsider their inhumanity, especially in today's tense international situation. It is our sincere hope that the English version of “Recollections and Memoirs” will be shared with many people worldwide, as Nagasaki Medical University's “memories of the atomic bombing” serves as a catalyst for action toward the ideal of nuclear abolition.

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