

Hiroshima-Shi (Hiroshima City), Two Stories by Howard Grenzebach

The day was August 6, 1945. At 08:15 Tsutomu Yamaguchi had just concluded business in Hiroshima and was walking to a shipyard and later would return home. He looked up into the sky and saw an airplane flying overhead. It had just dropped something that was apparently light, as a parachute opened to slow it down. Then there was a light, as bright as “the lightning of a huge magnesium flare.” He jumped into a ditch, and though he was injured, he survived an atomic bomb explosion. He was less than 2 miles from ground zero.

Three years and three days later, August 9, 1948, Takeshi Sasaki sent the cover below from the bombed city, Hiroshima to a relative in Honolulu, Hawaii. Sasaki was a common name in Hiroshima, and I could find nothing about Mr. Takeshi using a Google search. John Walter found the information on the cover dates and Mr. R. Sasaki. Rikimatsu Sasaki was born in Japan in 1896 and died in 1986 as an American citizen.



Story two:

After a restless night Tsutomu Yamaguchi found a train still running that would return him to the company that sent him to Hiroshima. He arrived the next morning and was treated at a local hospital, then went to see his family. The following morning, August 9th, he went to work. He was trying to explain the situation in Hiroshima, but his bosses didn't believe him (one bomb couldn't do that). While he was explaining he saw a flash of light outside the window of this place of business in Nagasaki and survived his second atomic explosion.

For more information: <https://www.history.com/news/the-man-who-survived-two-atomic-bombs>

Howard Grenzebach currently serves as a Director of NSSS and collects Worldwide pre-1950, early Grenada, and Swiss standing Helvetia.