

涙^{なみだ}で曇^{くも}ったファインダー

写真部記者兼^{けん}中国軍管区司令部報道班員^{ぐんかんくしれいぶほうどうはんいん}

松重美人^{まつしげ よしと} 32歳^{さい}



Viewfinder blurred with tears
Yoshito Matsushige, 32, staff photographer at the Chugoku Shimbun and member of the Imperial Japanese Army's Chugoku District Military Headquarters news team
Manga created by Naoko Kubo, Yuki Kigi, Kayo Sakai



Morning of August 6, 1945
 A member of the news team in the Imperial Japanese Army's Chugoku District Military Headquarters. After an air raid warning sounded the previous night, he rushed to the headquarters, located on the grounds of Hiroshima Castle, and thereafter remained on standby.

(Hiroshima Castle)
 "Phew, I can finally go home..."
 I'll go home and have some breakfast...
 "The sky is so blue, it's hard to believe we're at war."
 (Mr. Matsushige's combined home and barbershop, in the area of Midori-machi (now Nishimidori-machi, in Minami Ward) in Hiroshima City, 2.8 kilometers from hypocenter)
 "I'm home. Could I get some breakfast."
 "That tasted good."
 "You don't have time to relax, do you?"
 "I've got to get back to work."
 "Have to hurry up..."

(Chugoku District Military Headquarters were established on the grounds of Hiroshima Castle in June 1945, with the aim of strengthening the defense system on Japan's mainland. The military administrative agency had taken over authority from the Hiroshima Divisional District Headquarters and was responsible for issuing air-raid warnings for numerous areas in Japan's Chugoku region.)

午前8時15分



8:15 a.m.

Flash

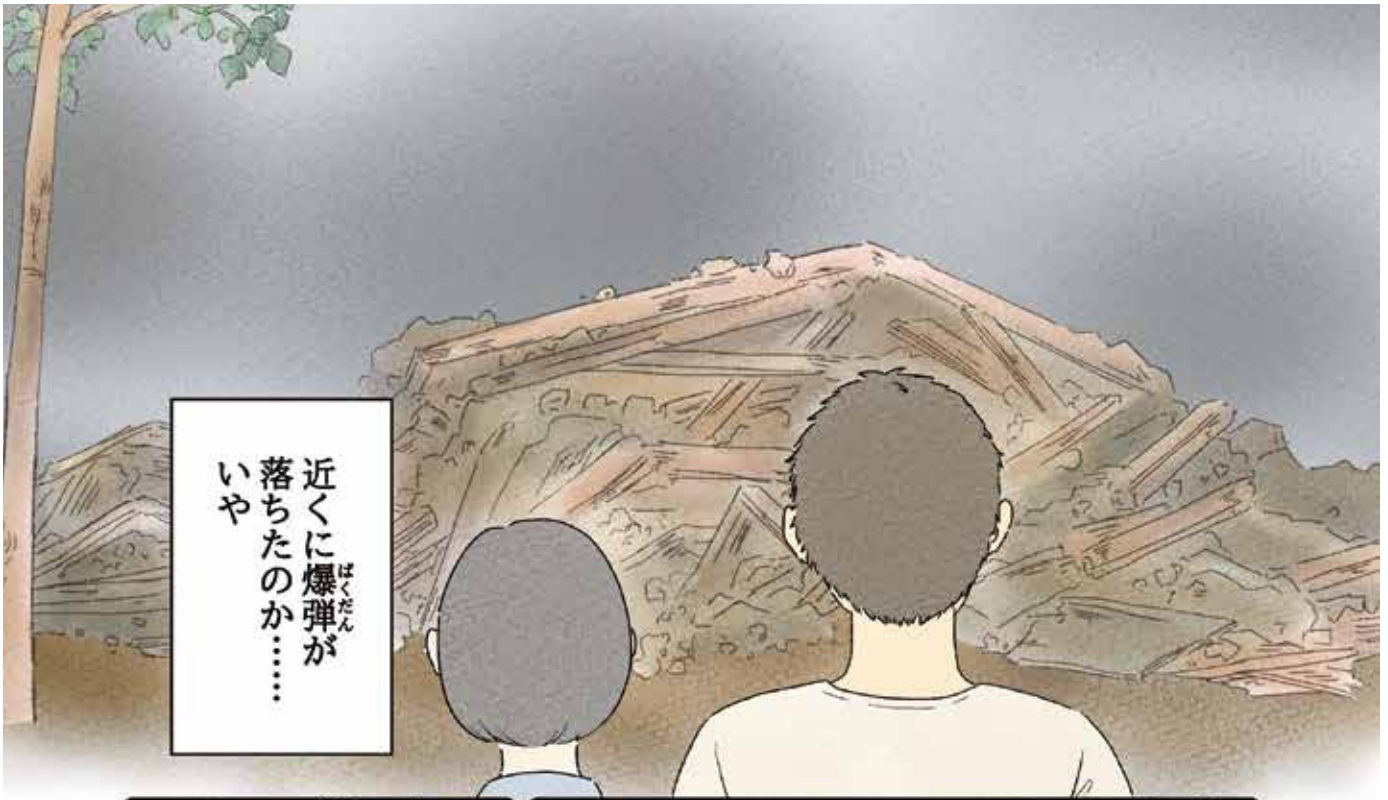
"We've been bombed..."

Boooooom!

"Sumie, are you there?"

"Hurry, let's get out of here!"

"Oh my!"



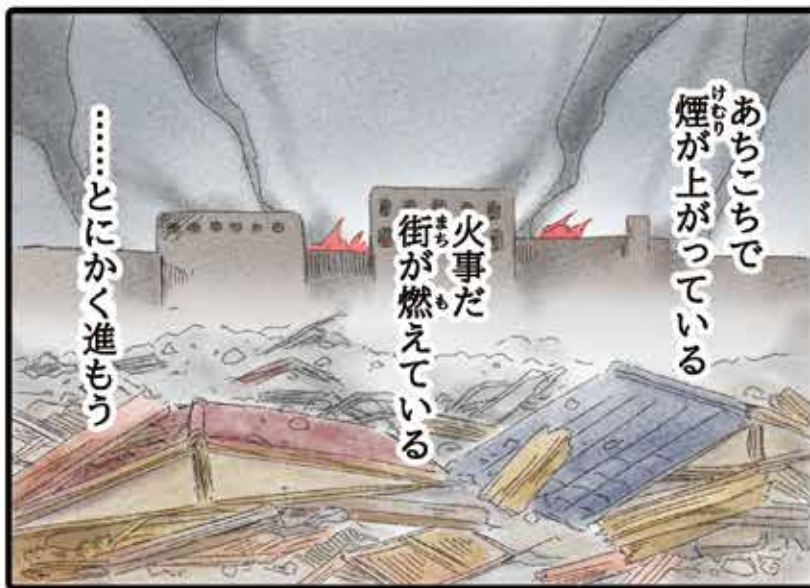
"I guess a bomb dropped nearby... wow!"
"What happened?" "I don't know..." "But, seems like it was something terrible."
"Where's my camera?"
"I'm going to go to the headquarters or the newspaper..."
"I'm sure I'll at least learn what happened."



御幸橋 長さ162メートル、幅22メートル。原爆の直後、多数の市民がこの橋を渡って逃げました。路面電車が通る橋は1990年に全面架け替え工事が完了します



I crossed Miyuki Bridge in my neighborhood and headed to the center of the city.
 "It's surprising such a stout stone railing was knocked over."
 "Where on earth was the bomb dropped?"
 The damage to buildings gets worse as I go along!
 (Miyuki Bridge: Miyuki Bridge measures 162 meters in length by 22 meters in width.
 In the aftermath of the atomic bombing, many citizens fled by crossing over this
 bridge. The bridge, over which streetcars run, was fully replaced in 1990.)



“Give me water, please.” “I’m in pain.” “Help me.” “I’m hot.”

This is terrible...

Smoke is rising here and there. Everything’s on fire. The city is going up in flames. I’ve got to move on...

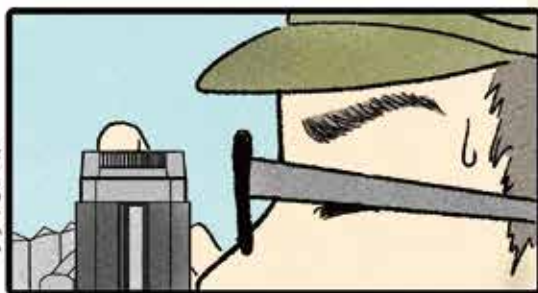
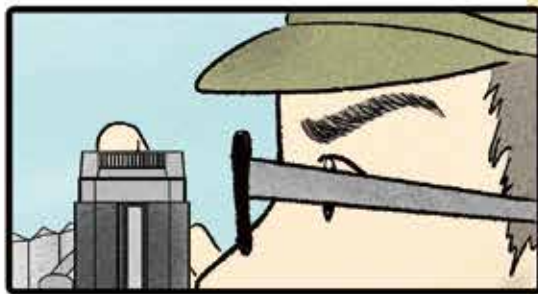


With fires spreading instantly, I made my way by sneaking through gaps between the flames.

"It's so hot..." I can't go on. I'll go that way.

"Wow..."

This way isn't any good, either... A shame, but returning home is my only option... What's going to happen to Hiroshima?



1・2年生を中心に9千人を超す生徒が屋外での作業に動員されます。軍需工場での犠牲者を含め、動員生徒の原爆死没者は約7200人に上りました

生徒動員 広島県内では1944年5月、生徒の軍需工場などへの通年動員が本格化。1945年7月に始まった広島市の第6次建物疎開では、中等学校

I headed back to the west end of Miyuki Bridge.
 "People have fled here. They look to be in such pain."
 "Mobilized students are here, too..."
 That's right...I must take photos...
 (Student mobilization: Starting in May 1944, the mobilization of students throughout the year to munitions factories and other workplaces was implemented on a full scale in Hiroshima Prefecture. In July 1945, Hiroshima City began the sixth of a series of projects involving the outdoor work of demolishing buildings to create fire lanes, mobilizing more than 9,000 students, mainly in their first or second year of junior high school. Including those who died at munitions plants, the number of mobilized students killed in the atomic bombing amounted to about 7,200.)



“What a cruel thing they did.”
I simple can't take photos...
I would feel terrible.
It's impossible.
Nonetheless...



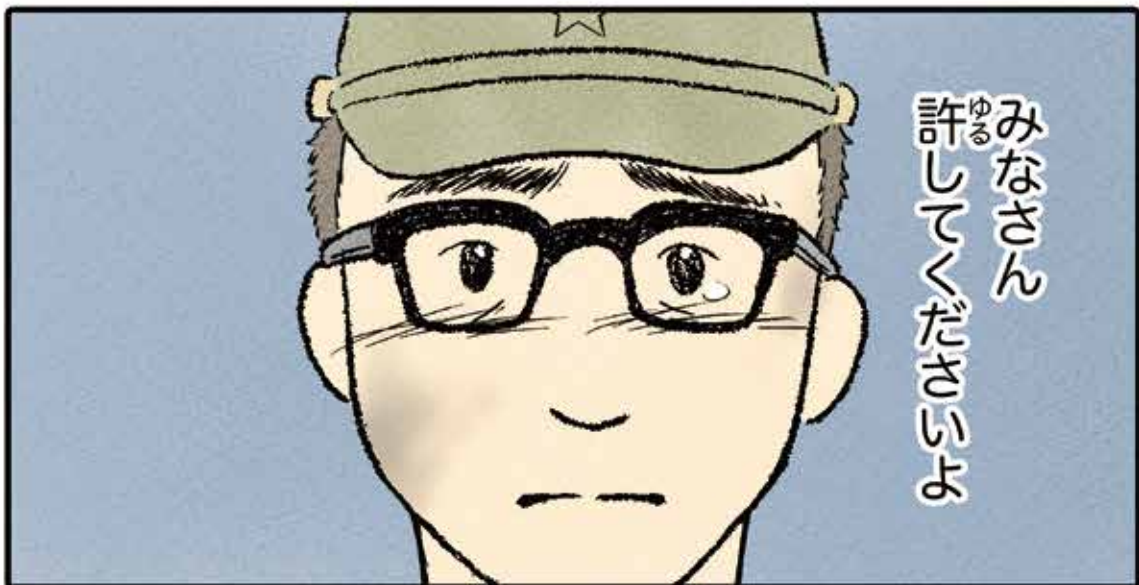
“Only photos can convey this living hell.”

I have to take photos.

“Let your mind go blank and quickly snap the shutter.”

Press...

Click



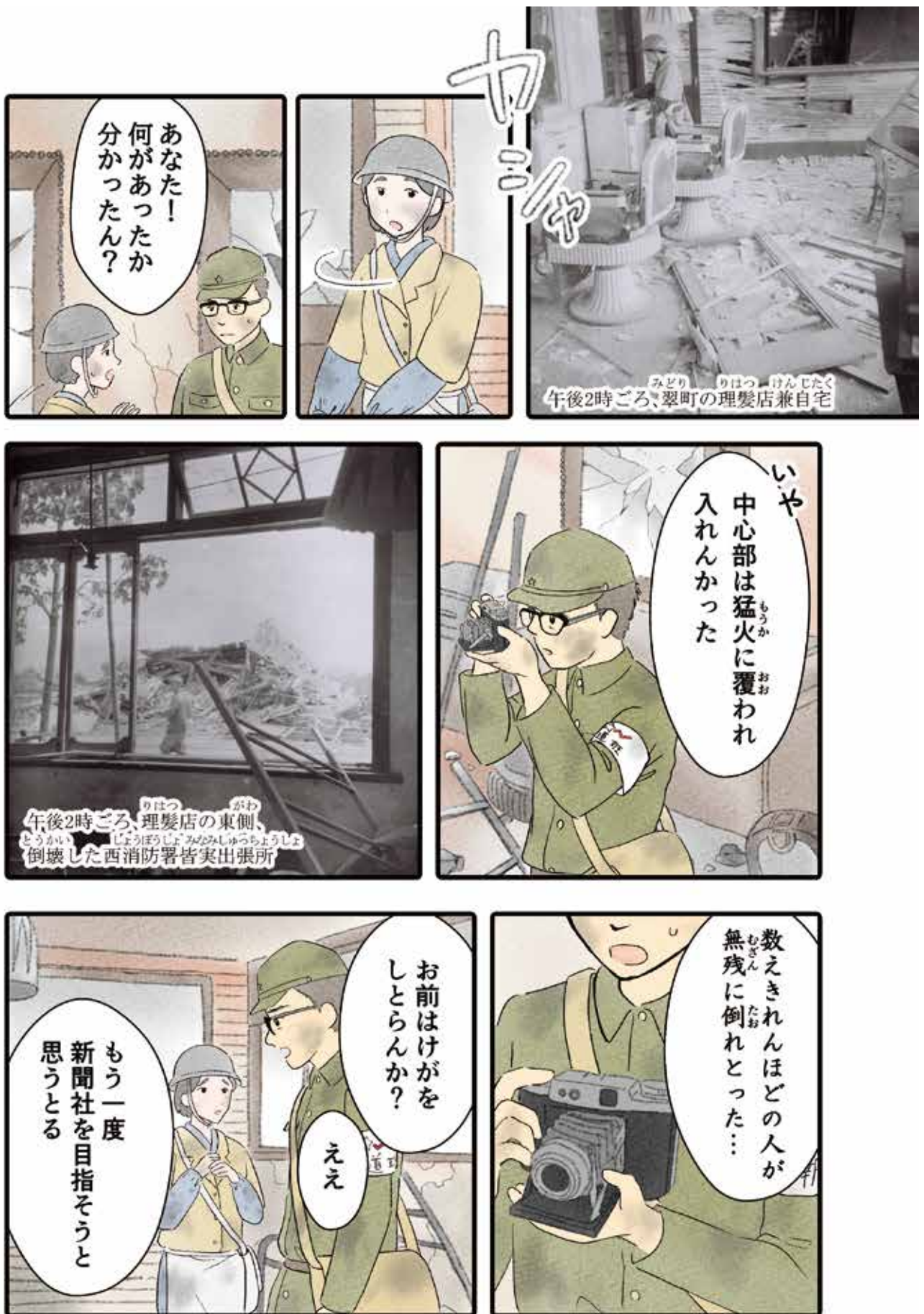
(Shortly after 11:00 a.m., tragic situation at the west end of Miyuki Bridge, located about 2.2 kilometers from the hypocenter)
Everyone, please forgive me.



それ以上
シャッターを
切きれなかつた私は
家に帰かえった



“Damn, the camera’s viewfinder is blurred from my own tears.”
 “I can’t see anything in front of the camera.”
 (Shortly after 11:00 a.m., tragic situation at the west end of Miyuki Bridge, located about 2.2 kilometers from the hypocenter)
 I was unable to take any more photos, so I returned home.



(About 2:00 p.m., at Mr. Matsushige's combined home and barbershop in the area of Midori-machi)

Click

"Did you find out what happened?"

"No, with the raging fires I couldn't get into the city center."

(Around 2:00 p.m., at the destroyed Minami branch office of the West Fire Station, located to the east of Mr. Matsushige's barbershop)

"I saw countless people lying on the ground."

"Are you wounded?"

"No...I want to try again to make it to the newspaper."

広島電鉄 原爆により広島デルタを走る路面電車は、車両123両のうち108両が被災し、多数の乗客にとどまらず社員と乗務員を務めていた広島家政女学校の生徒ら185人が亡くなりました。しかし3日後に己斐―西天満町間で営業運転を再開させました



上流川町(現 中区胡町)
中国新聞社



お母ちゃん
おい

水をくれ

助けをくれ



これは...!



電車も
黒焦げじゃ



ひどいありさまだ

Chugoku Shimbun company headquarters in Kaminagarekawa-cho (present-day Ebisu-cho, in Hiroshima's Naka Ward)

"Help me" "Give me water" "Mom..." "Hey"

"This is horrific."

"Even the streetcars have been incinerated."

"Oh my..."

One hundred eight of the 123 streetcars running through the delta that makes up Hiroshima were damaged in the atomic bombing. Many passengers died on the streetcars, as well as a total of 185 people, including students from Hiroshima Kasei Girls' Schools working as crew members at that time. Nevertheless, three days after the bombing, the streetcars resumed operations between the Koi and former Tenma-cho stops.



むじろ…

みんな
死んだ
どる



目のやり場がない



目のやり場がない



中心部では
1枚も写すことが
できなかつた

苦しい…

シャッターを
とても切る気にはなれず

“Everyone is dead.”
“Cruel…”
“I don’t know where to look.”
I don’t feel at all like snapping the shutter.
“I feel so distressed.” I wasn’t able to take a single photo in the city center.



結局この日に
撮影できたのは
5枚だけだった



けさ家に
戻って
いなければ
私は
助から
なかつたに
違いない



午後4時すぎ、爆心地から約2.4*、広島地方専売局前の
電停「皆実町三丁目」(現在の駅名は「皆実町六丁目」)南側



原爆投下前に輸転機1台を疎開させていた温品村の牧場で、新聞の自力発行再開の準備を進めていました



防空壕が
現像室だった



8月下旬
広島市郊外
温品村(現 東区温品)
新聞社疎開工場



やっと現像できた



If I hadn't returned home this morning, I wouldn't have survived.
Ultimately, I was only able to take five photos that day.
(After 4:00 p.m., to the south of the "Minami-machi 3-chome" streetcar stop in front of the Hiroshima District Monopoly Bureau (the stop is now called "Minami-machi 6-chome")
In late August, at the newspaper's temporary factory in the village of Nukushina (present-day Nukushina, Higashi Ward), on the outskirts of Hiroshima City
An air-raid shelter was used as a dark room for developing film.
I'm finally done developing the photos.
(At a farm in the village of Nukushina, where a rotary press had been taken before the atomic bombing, employees worked to resume the Chugoku Shimbun's independent publication of the paper.)



「夕刊ひろしま」で同時に掲載されたきのこ雲の写真は、中国新聞社企画局で働いていた山田精三さん(当時17歳、戦後運動部記者)が爆心地から約6キロの水分峠(府中町)から撮影。原爆のさく裂から約2分後とみられています。地上から撮影した広島原爆のきのこ雲の写真で、最も早い記録とされています

1945年9月19日
 連合国軍総司令部(GHQ)は
 「日本出版法」(プレスコード)を発令
 原爆被害を巡る報道を検閲しました

そうした中
 原爆投下で被爆した市民の惨状を
 当日唯一収めた記録写真は
 翌1946年
 中国新聞社が別会社から発行した
 「夕刊ひろしま」7月6日付が
 初めて掲載しました

On September 19, 1945, the General Headquarters (GHQ) of the Allied Forces initiated a press code for Japan, censoring media reports about damage from the atomic bombing.

Amid such a situation, the following year on July 6, 1946, the Yukan Hiroshima, a local evening newspaper issued by the Chugoku Shimbun through the services of another newspaper company, introduced for the first time the only photos documenting the horrific situation suffered by people due to the atomic bombing that day.

(A photograph of the mushroom cloud appearing in the Yukan Hiroshima at the same time was taken by Seiso Yamada (then 17), who worked for the planning division at the Chugoku Shimbun and after the war became a staff writer for the company's sports division. The photo was taken from Mikumari Gorge (in the town of Fuchu-cho), located about six kilometers from the hypocenter. It is estimated to have been taken about two minutes after the A-bomb explosion. The photo is considered to be the earliest of any taken of the mushroom cloud from ground level.)