

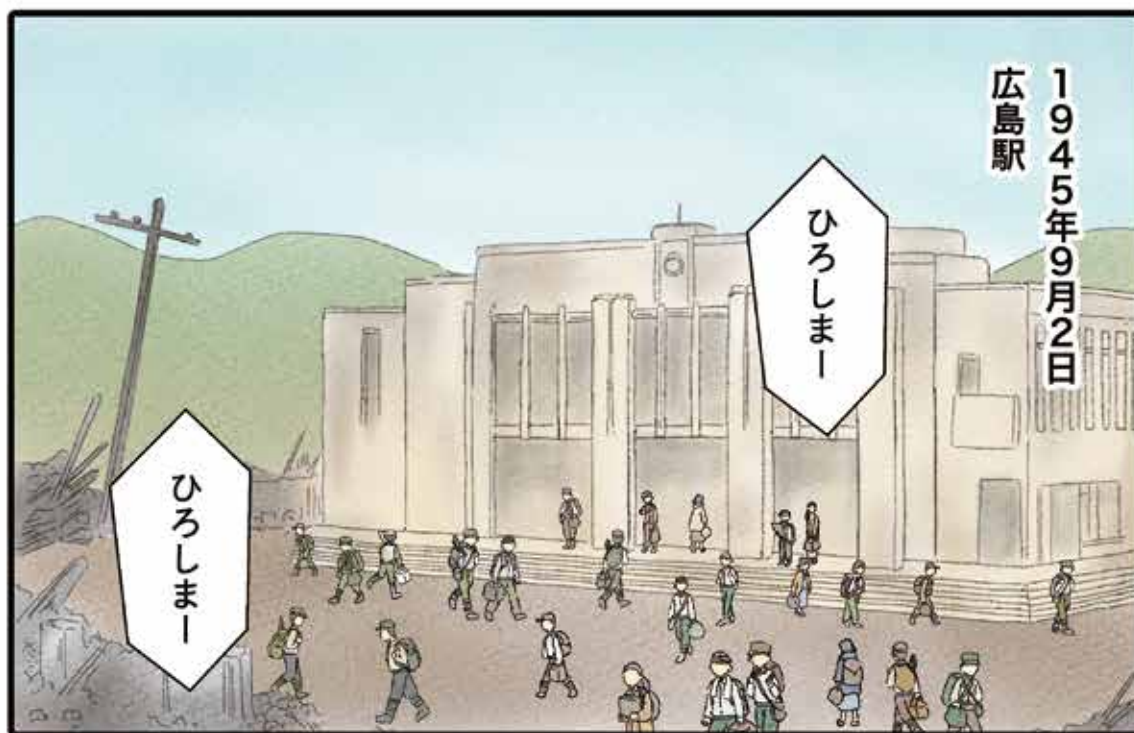
# 廃虚からの 自力発行

総務局長

山本 朗

26 歳





Hiroshima Station, September 2, 1945

Hiroshima...

Hiroshima...

"A young man returned to Hiroshima with his wife and child, after being demobilized from a naval base in Chiba Prefecture.

Akira Yamamoto (second son of Chugoku Shimbun President Jitsuiichi Yamamoto)

"Please wait here a while. I'm going to see how they're doing at the newspaper headquarters."





主筆 紙面編集の最高責任者。村上哲夫が務め、山本朗とは東京帝国大（現東京大）の先輩、後輩の関係でした



上流川町（現 中区胡町）  
中国新聞社



"The newspaper building seems so close."

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

"Mr. Yamamoto!"

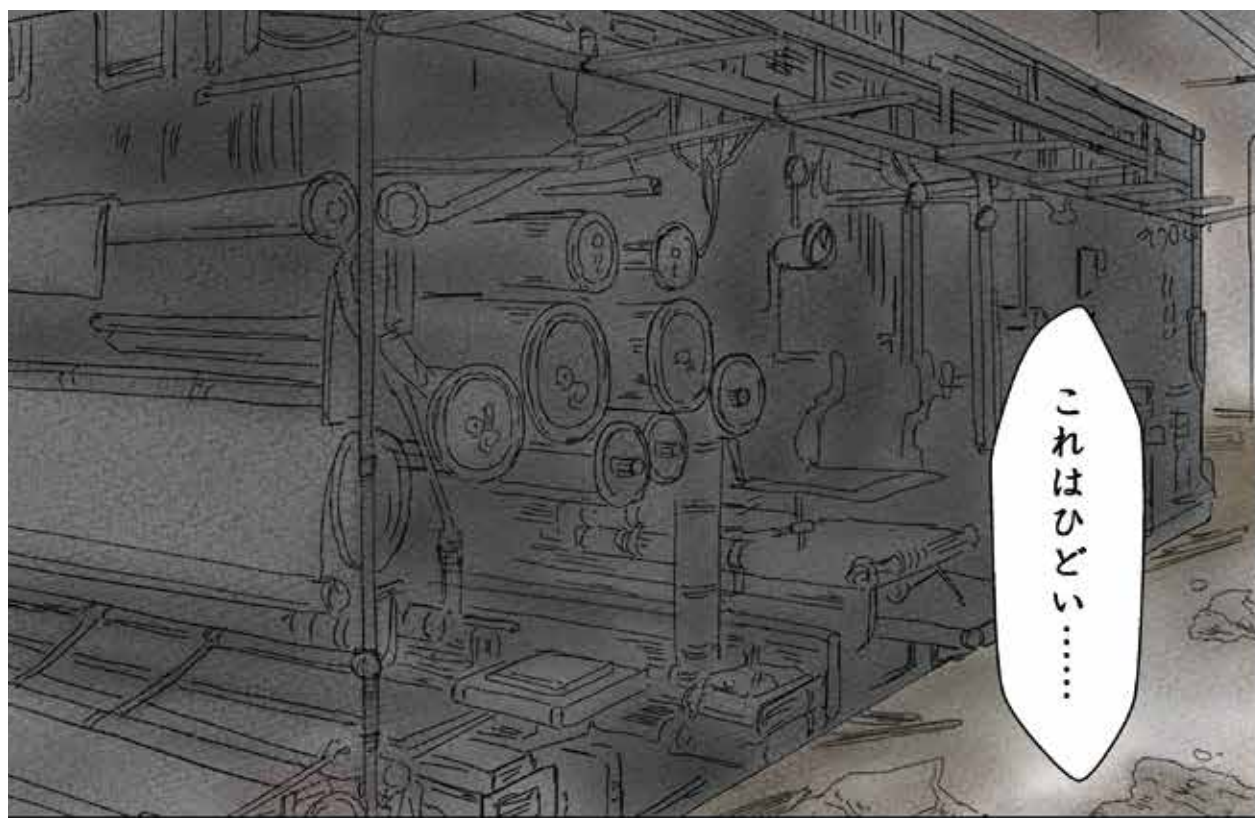
"Mr. Murakami (chief editor)!"

(Chief editor—The person with ultimate responsibility for editing the newspaper. Serving in that position, Tetsuo Murakami was ahead of Mr. Yamamoto in school when they studied together at Tokyo Imperial University (present-day University of Tokyo))





“I’ve returned.”  
 “I’m glad to see you’re doing well.”  
 “I take it you’ve all had a hard time since the atomic bombing.”  
 “How is the building inside?”  
 “Well, it’s horrible...”  
 (Sinking deeply)  
 “It’s hard to walk with all the ashes.”  
 “Watch your step.”  
 “It’s totally incinerated...”



“This is terrible…”

"It'll be hard to publish the newspaper at headquarters anytime soon."

"We had managed to disassemble another printing presses ourselves, and on August 2 took it away to the village of Nukushina by horse carriage."

"Recently, we've been staying in Nukushina village, trying to get the machines running."

"We'd taken paper and ink there, but that was extremely trying work.)





We made a request of Chugoku Haiden (present-day Chugoku Electric Power Company), and a high-voltage electrical line was finally connected here.

(MOO)

Kawate farm, in the village of Nukushina (present day Nukushina, in Higashi Ward), located in Hiroshima's suburbs

Employees who survived the atomic bombing put together and repaired the printing press while living in tents.

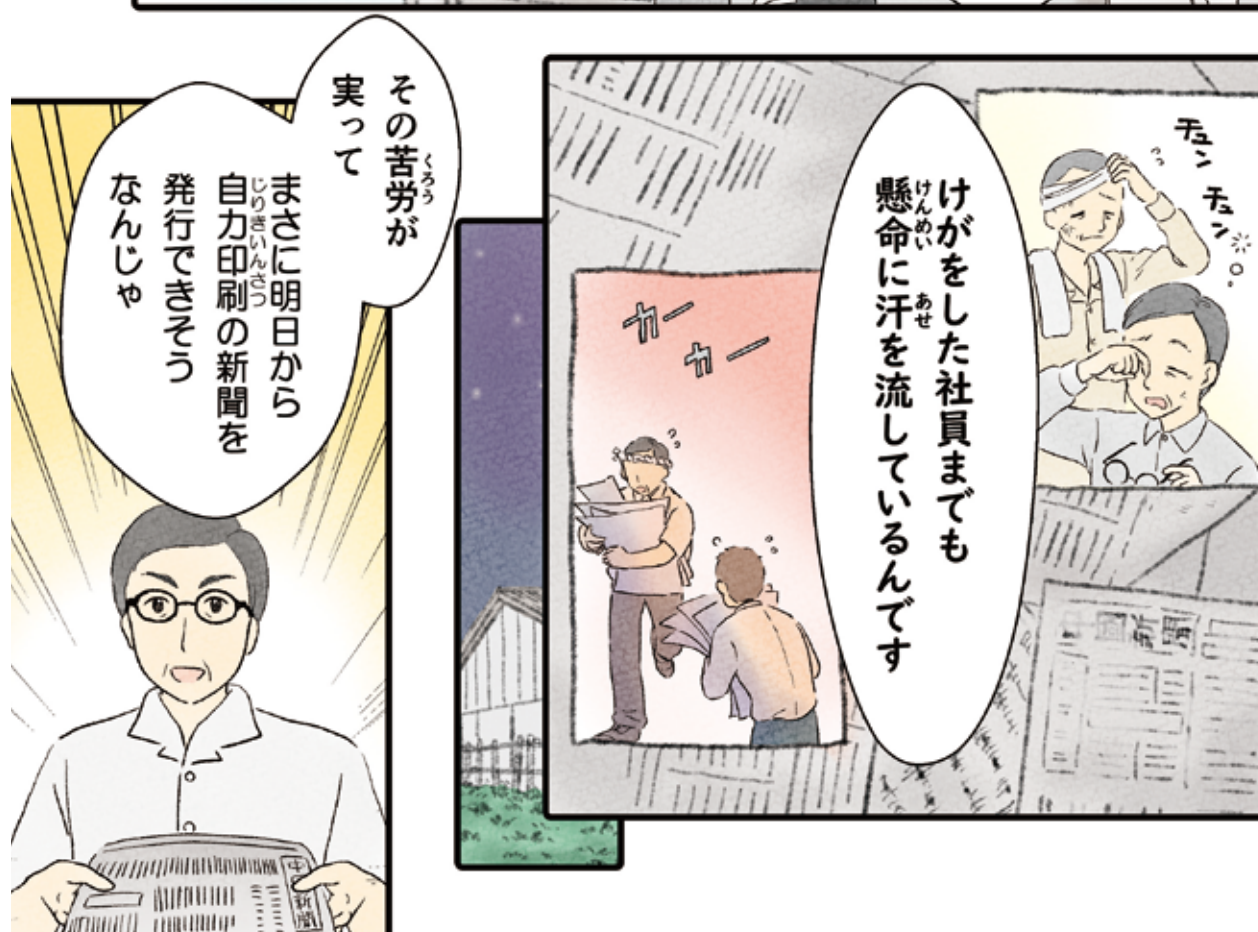
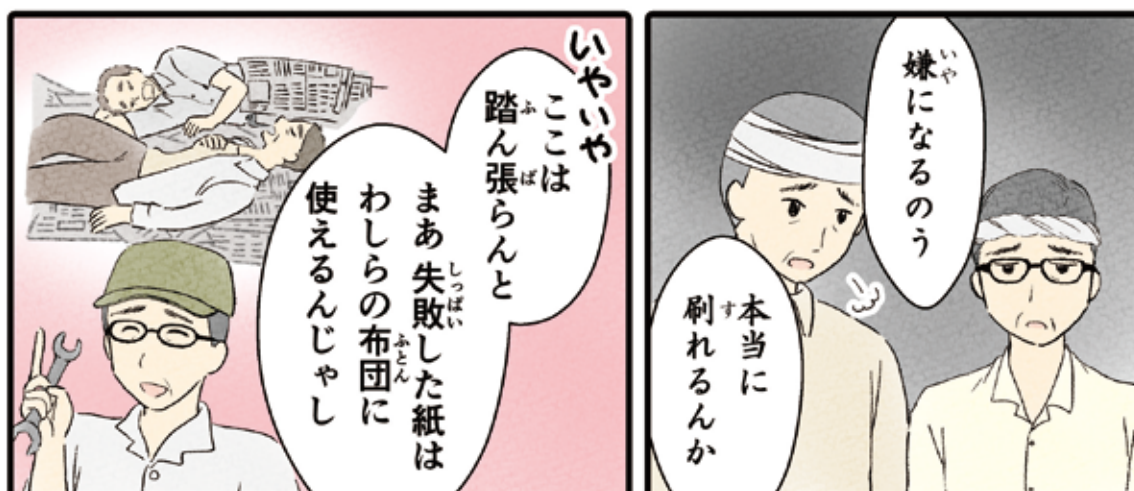
"It's difficult."

(Twisting tightly)

We tried but the machine didn't run the way we expected...

GONG...CLASH...

"Oh, no! It stopped again."



"I'm fed up with this."

"Will we actually be able to print the paper?"

"We have to get it done. Well, at least the failed printing paper can be used for bedding."

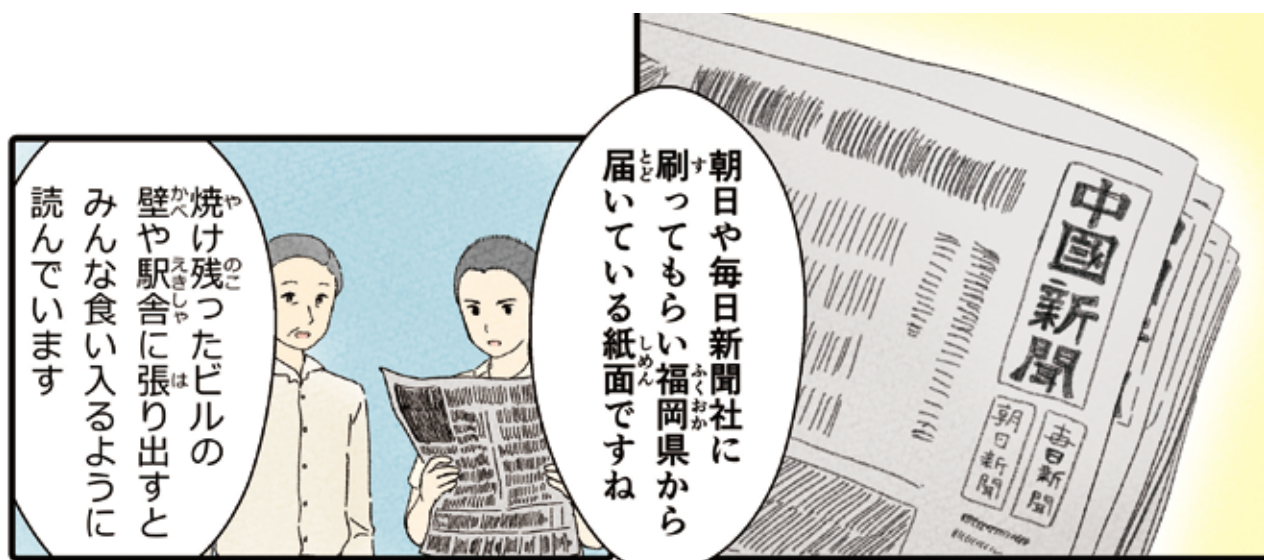
"Let's work hard in memory of our colleagues who died in the A-bombing."

"Readers are probably waiting for the newspaper."

"Even injured employees worked up a sweat."

"Their hard work paid off. It seems as if tomorrow we will be able to put out the newspaper ourselves."





中国新聞社の総務・業務部門や編集の一部は8月25日、  
県庁や裁判所などが既に移っていた府中町の東洋工業  
(現 マツダ)に入りました



"This is a newspaper printed for us by the Asahi Shimbun and Mainichi Shimbun, and delivered from Fukuoka Prefecture."

"When posted on buildings that survived the fires and the train station, the paper is read voraciously by everyone."

(On August 25, the Chugoku Shimbun's general affairs and administrative departments as well as part of the editing department moved into Toyo Kogyo (present-day Mazda Motor), in Fuchu-cho, the area to which the prefectural government and courthouse had already been relocated.)

"In the aftermath of the atomic bombing, our staff writers went around the city and verbally communicated information about relief operations."

"They did such a good job."

"My parents are waiting for me, so I'll pay a visit to the lodging where they've been evacuated."

"We'll arrange a truck for you."





President Yamamoto's evacuation lodging, in Fuchu-cho

"I've returned to Hiroshima after being demobilized."

"Devastated by the loss of my big brother..."

"It's great you made it back home."

Including Toru Yamamoto, the oldest son of President Yamamoto who previously served as chief of the editorial department and was drafted into the military, the Chugoku Shimbun lost many of its employees in the atomic bombing.

Some employees lost parents or children or were bedridden from exposure to radiation.

Holding up against such sorrow, the company put everything it had into resuming publication of the paper under its own power.





That year on September 3, the Chugoku Shimbun was finally able to publish the newspaper written and printed by employees who had experienced the atomic bombing.

The paper communicated the voices of people from the A-bombed city of Hiroshima. It contained articles about the atomic bombing, as well as a classified ads section carrying notices concerning joint memorial services held by local groups and associations as well as the reopening of schools.





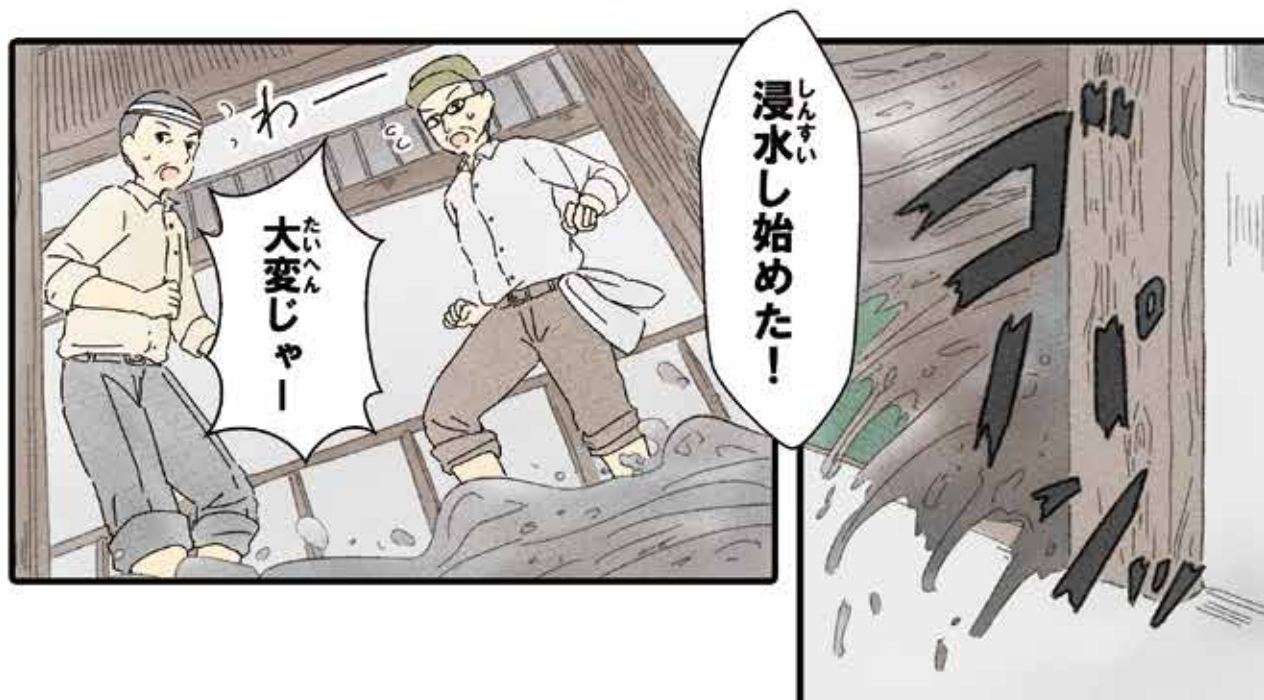
Employees were reenergized after struggling to restart publication of the paper on their own.

“We’re going to publish a newspaper for a well-informed nation and a rebuilt Hiroshima.”

“Yeah, the Chugoku Shimbun will also be reborn.”

The Chugoku Shimbun aimed to rebuild by recruiting new employees and hiring family members of deceased employees, in addition to retaining employees that had survived the A-bombing.





"It sure has rained a lot recently."  
 "The rain today is especially heavy."  
 (Pouring rain)  
 (Rushing water)  
 (Gushing)  
 It's flooding!  
 We're in trouble now!





9月17日に  
広島県を襲った  
枕崎台風  
沿岸部では  
土石流も起こり  
県内の  
死者・行方不明者は  
計2012人を  
数えました



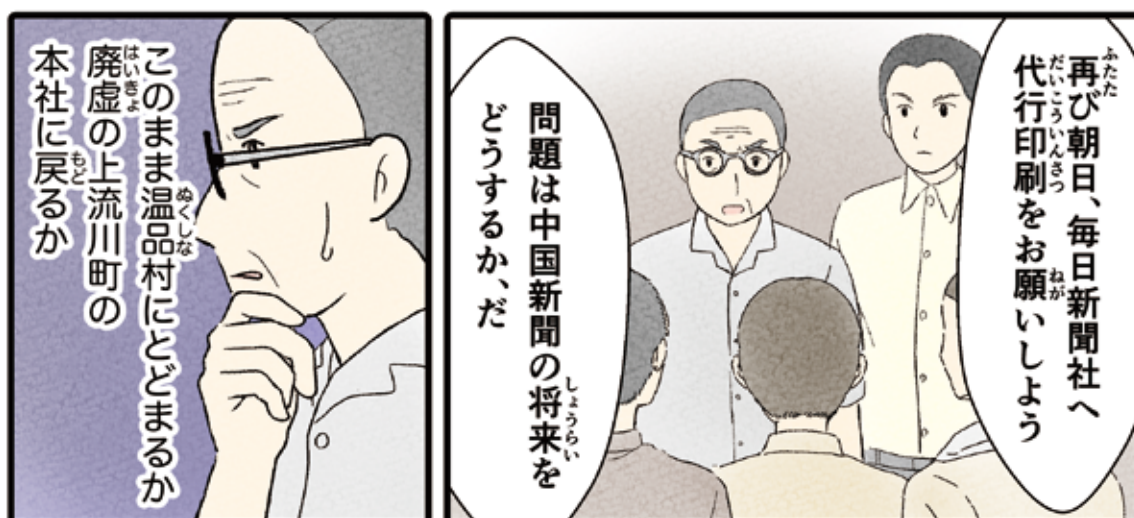
"It's a real mess inside the factory..."

On September 17, the Makurazaki Typhoon struck Hiroshima Prefecture. In coastal areas, earth and rock slides also occurred, with a total of 2,012 people in the prefecture killed or missing from the typhoon.

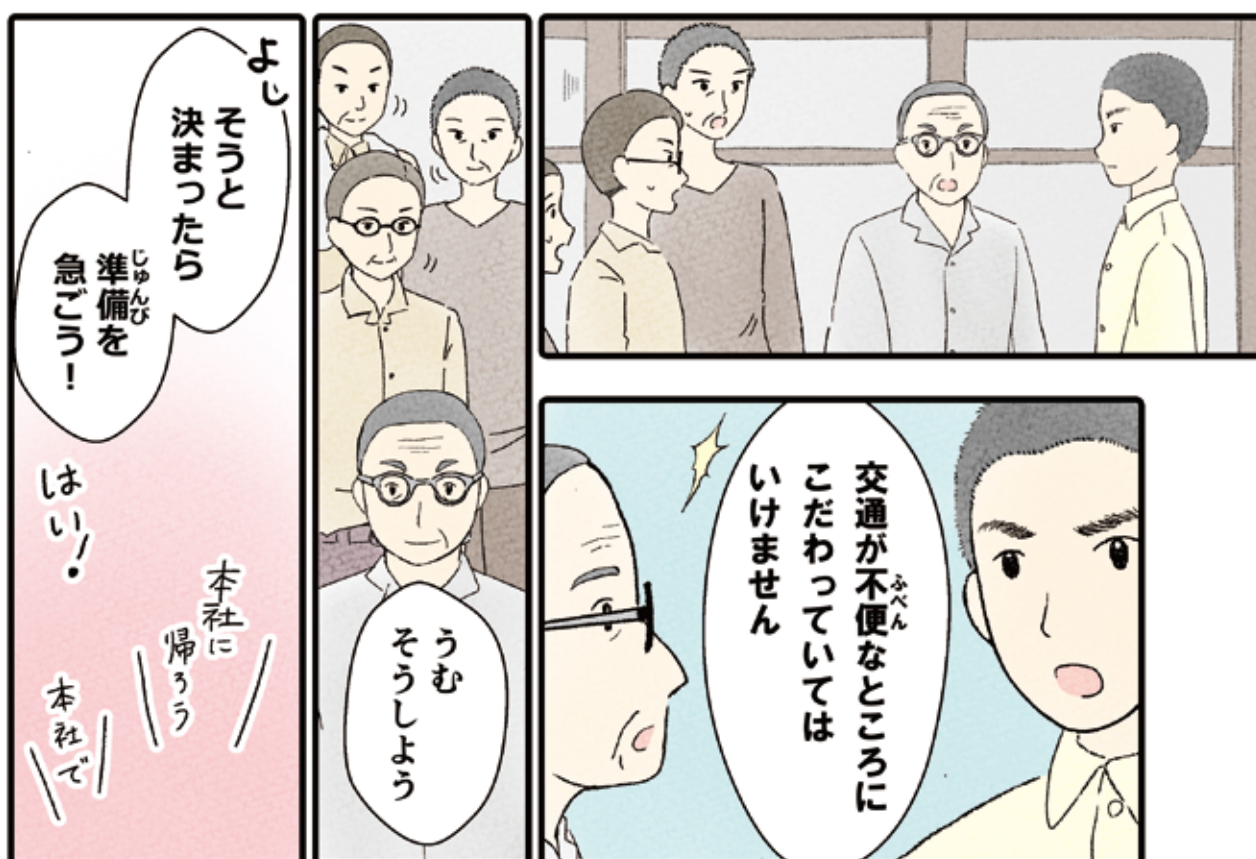
"Just when we thought we could finally restart printing."

"This might be the end of things for the newspaper."

"Why are these difficulties arising one after the other?"



本社に  
戻りましょう



“Let’s ask the Asahi Shimbun and Mainichi Shimbun to print the newspaper once more for us.”

“The issue is how we envision the future of the Chugoku Shimbun.”

Should we stay in the village of Nukushina, or return to the ruined headquarters in Kaminagarekawa-cho?

“Let’s go back to the headquarters.”

“We shouldn’t stay in a place with no access to good transportation.”

“Yes, let’s go back.”

“Okay, now that it’s decided, let’s hurry and prepare our return.”

“All right!”

Let’s return to the headquarters.

To the headquarters…





分解・組み立ては東洋工業(現マツダ)に、運搬は専門業者が行いました



(At first, they spent six days cleaning up the offices. On September 30, the day prior to their return, a memorial service was held on the third floor of the headquarters for employees killed in the atomic bombing.)

"The ashes are gone, so it feels clean now."

"We still can't relax, though."

"The hard work remains of transporting the printing press back here."

"Don't worry about transporting the printing press."

After this time, we have outsourced the work involving the printing press, from dismantling and delivery to reassembly.

Employees at Toyo Kogyo (present-day Mazda Motor) were given the job of disassembling and reassembling the printer, and specialists handled its transport.





At headquarters...

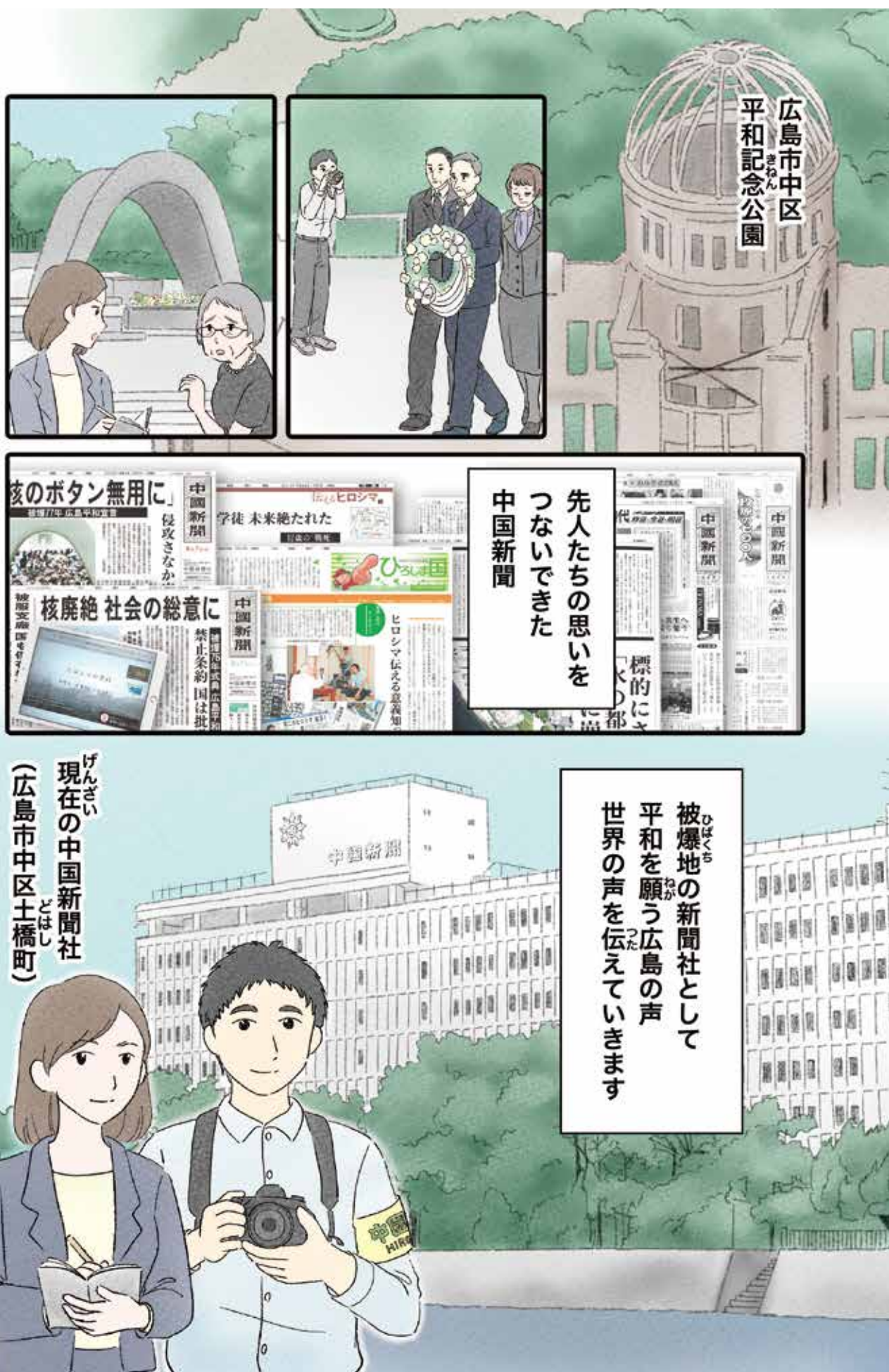
On the night of November 4, about a month after they had returned to the headquarters...

"Printing is finished!"

"Wow, it's done."

Newspapers published on November 5 and 6





Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, in the city's Naka Ward  
 Chugoku Shimbun continues to communicate the ideas of those who went before us.  
 As the A-bombed city newspaper, we are committed to conveying the voices of  
 people in Hiroshima and throughout the world who hope for peace.  
 The Chugoku Shimbun headquarters today (located in Dohashi-cho, Naka Ward,  
 Hiroshima)