



WHY IS RETURNING WWII ARTIFACTS SO IMPORTANT?

During WWII approximately 230,000 Japanese soldiers died on the battlefield. In early battles, their bodies were cremated and some of their ashes were sent to their family in Japan. As the war became more intense, however, it was difficult to continue this practice. Some of their belongings were captured as souvenirs.

For example, a common item Japanese soldiers carried was a Japanese flag with signatures and messages from family and loved ones. They kept it close to them at all times.

The Japanese believe that a person's soul stays in his precious belongings. We believe that what the Japanese soldiers left behind should be returned to their families. This reunion would give them and their families peace and comfort.

Let War Memorabilia Come Home



**PROJECT RETURNED MEMORIES
KISEKI**
[501(c)(3) organization]

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**PROJECT
RETURNED
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KISEKI

キセキ遺留品返還プロジェクト[NPO法人]

WHO WE ARE

We are a not-for-profit humanitarian organization. Items left behind by former Japanese soldiers in many battlefields throughout Asia and in the Aleutian Islands were discovered and brought home by U.S. and allied soldiers as souvenirs at the conclusion of WWII in the Pacific.

Since 1971, Yasuhiko Kaji, M.D., a Japanese doctor living in Ohio, USA, has been purchasing Japanese war memorabilia with his own funds and returning them to their original owners.

In order to preserve his legacy, Project Returned Memories Kiseki was formed in 2020.

We will continue to find a final venue for these items, both identified and unidentified. Through this effort we hope to bring closure to all parties involved.



Chizuko Jaggard and Dr. Kaji

OUR HISTORY

1971- Yasuhiko Kaji M.D. repatriated a photo album found in Saipan. Kaji started collecting wartime souvenirs in Ohio.

2004 - Kiyoshi Nishiha, Kaji's high school friend in Japan, created a dedicated website and collaborated in Kaji's effort to repatriate war memorabilia.

2009 - Kaji was featured by Japan's National Broadcasting Co. NHK in its TV program, Closeup *Gendai*.

2010 – Megumi Morioka, Nishiha's daughter took over her father's tasks after his passing, including website administration with assistance from George Smith, a U.S. Airforce veteran.

2018 - Kaji and Chizuko Jaggard received credit for providing resources in NHK's production of "Letters Never Arrived" 『届かなかった手紙』 .

2020 - Project Returned Memories Kiseki was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization.

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU? HOW MIGHT YOU BE ABLE TO HELP US?

If you have Japanese memorabilia from World War II and wish to return it to the original owner or to the owner's family in Japan, please send us photos, descriptions, and if available, history of the item. We will then post the item on our website, and assist you to locate a rightful owner. You are welcome to send us the item as well. We have staff in the U.S. and Japan, and provide search services at no cost to you. All kinds of war memorabilia are accepted; flags, photos, diaries, helmets, etc.

We would appreciate if you could spread the word and join our effort to bring peace and reconciliation in the heart of everybody affected by war, directly and indirectly.



Flag returned to younger brother in Yamaguchi Pref.



Postcard from Saipan returned to brother in Nagasaki Pref.