

Part 2

A-bomb led me as an independent technician

(7)

My article in American magazine "The Lumberman"

An interesting thing happened when I was searching magazines and books in the American Cultural Center, the library I mentioned earlier. One of the magazines I took in my hands was "The Lumberman", which drove me to write something for the magazine. As far as the technique of saw filing business is concerned, Japan was far behind America. With the help of the oxyacetylene welding technique that I imported from America, I tried something that is quite new even to the American saw filers. That was to weld two narrowed (long used) band saws lengthwise into one full wide band saw. It was quite a money-saving productive work on the hands of the saw filer. I made a good success in the project to my surprise.

The success story of welding two narrowed band saws into one brand new full width one was, indeed, an astonishing accomplishment to be proud of. Never again with nobody, was my belief.

I wrote an article with a picture of my working on it, and sent it to the magazine company. Believe it or not, they took it up for their publication. The editor-in-chief, by the name of Mr. Crosby I still remember vividly, wrote me with a check of ten dollars, saying, "We are ready to spare two pages every month to you. So, please keep writing whatever you want..." In those days, one dollar was 360 yen, not a small amount of money. I was so glad. I remember when I wrote the article, I asked Hiroshima University professor to check my English article, but he declined to do it because the article is too technical for him to understand.

What was most interesting thing about this publication in the American magazine was that a professor of Hokkaidou University, Kitazawa was the name, came to Hiroshima to see me. He was a subscriber of the magazine. It was so exciting that my article went over the Ocean, published in an American magazine, and then come back to Japan in the hands of Japanese scholar and then made him visit me in Hiroshima.

What I did to the lumber industry in those days were so great contribution that I and the people concerned were expecting to be awarded by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. However, things happen before the chance comes to me to finish my career in this field, which I will write later.

Dating ahead in 1992, however, I was awarded by the Ministry of Transportation for what I have done in the

Trucking industry thereafter, which would be a good series of the story of my second life stage.