



SECRETS & SPIES RESEARCH PROJECT

GOOD SAMARITAN SISTERS IN NAGASAKI

MUSEUM
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL
MARITIME MUSEUM

Blog by St Scholastica's College, NSW, Australia



Us, as St Scholastica's College have a collective aim of Pax, the Latin word for peace. We are a part of a tight-knit network of ten Good Samaritan school worldwide, including Japan and Australia. We promote the active engagement in daily life of reflecting the humanity in the Good Samaritan Parable. Being founded in 1878, our school has housed and taught tens of thousands of women, who has produced many influential and successful careers.

Nagasaki

The US bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was in the final stages of conflict between the US and Japan in WW2. On the 26th of July 1945, US president Truman issued the Potsdam Declaration. It consisted of warnings of "prompt and utter destruction" and demanded the surrender of the Japanese armed forces. Three days later the Japanese government rejected the proposal. A bomb was detonated in Hiroshima on the 6th of August, 1945. On the 9th, a second nuclear bomb was detonated, this time over Nagasaki. The two bombings killed 129,000–226,000 people, most of whom were civilians, and remain the only use of nuclear weapons in the history of armed conflict.

Nuns in Nagasaki

After the devastating tragedy, Paul Yamaguchi, bishop of Nagasaki, invited the Sisters of the Good Samaritan to help rebuild his diocese. In 1948, six sisters left Sydney aboard the SS Change. One of the sisters was 29-year-old Sister Mary Constable, who later recalled thinking she would never see Australia or her family again. Nevertheless, the Sisters' vow to embody the

compassion of the Good Samaritan compelled them to help. They opened a dispensary, and tended the mental and physical wounds of the community of Nagasaki for 5 years. They went on to establish community services in Sasebo and Nara.

How Are We Choosing to Present?

As a group we opted to present our research and analysis in the form of a website. This utility allows us to divide the project easily and provides audiences with a dynamic and interesting read. Our project involves developing interviews, reports and images in order to fully immerse ourselves into the life of the Sisters in Nagasaki. We aim to present our thorough research and sources in a more modern format to allow it to be educational along with being entertaining.

