

SVENSKA BUDOFÖRBUNDET

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International Kendo Federation

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Your Ref.

1 February 1978

To: Organizations Affiliated with IKF

Our Ref.

WARNINGS REGARDING MAINTENANCE OF SHINAI

On 20 December 1977, a Japanese instructor who was teaching kendo in Dusseldorf, West Germany became a victim of an unforeseen accident and passed away two days later. The unfortunate accident occurred during a kakari-geiko when the shinai of the opponent upon hitting the Men split lengthwise and the sharply pointed piece of bamboo pierced through his eye and into his brain.

The victim, Dr. K. Goto, had been stationed in Dusseldorf for the past three years as a staff member of the Showa Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. During his stay, he taught kendo selflessly and with enthusiasm and was respected by many German kendoists. We express our deepest regret and condolences on the death of this great person.

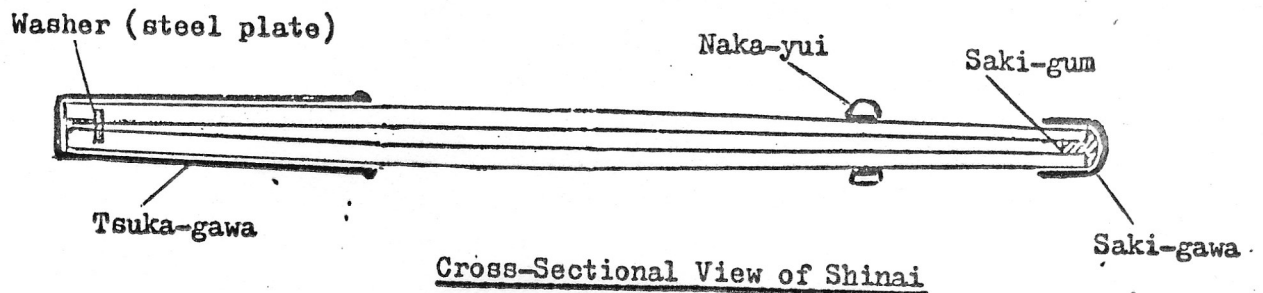
As you are already aware, kendo is a strenuous combative sport, but serious injuries are usually nil aside from cutting of the Achilles' tendon which does occur once in a while. Such an accident as described above has happened only twice in the past in Japan and this is the first case of its kind reported abroad.

The ZNKR houses a committee on bogu and shinai (Chairman: Takizawa) which is currently conducting studies to change the material of the shinai from bamboo to plastic or metal, but this study has not yet reached the stage of practical application.

Therefore, at this point, we ask you to see to it that the following precautions are systematically observed at each dojo. We hope that care will be taken by everyone concerned in order to prevent unfortunate accidents by all means.

- (1) Apply vegetable oil to the bamboo to prevent drying and to maintain elasticity of the bamboo. Or, wrap crushed walnuts in a cloth and polish the bamboo with the walnut oil.
- (2) When you detect a crack in the bamboo, replace with a new one.

- (3) A torn saki-gawa must immediately be replaced with a new one.
- (4) Always use a saki-gum and washer on the shinai.



- (5) Fix the naka-yui at the proper position (approx. 25 cm from the tip).
- (6) Before starting the keiko, everyone together should check his own shinai and refrain from using any imperfect ones.

Hoping that these points will be observed strictly, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Toshiaki Kasahara
Secretary General of IKF



Staatsanwaltschaft Düsseldorf

Geschäfts-Nr.: 5 UJs 2936/77
Bitte bei allen Schreiben angeben!

4 Düsseldorf 1, den 03.02.78
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Fernschreiber: 8587583

Herrn
Dr. Paul-Otto Forstreuter
Pfalzburger Str. 52

1000 Berlin 31

Betr.: Todesfall
K. Goto.

Bezug: Ihr Schreiben vom 27.01.1978.

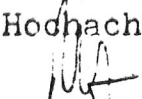
*In diesem Zusammenhang
zur Veröffentlichung
bestimmter
Bestimmungen*

Sehr geehrter Herr Dr. Forstreuter!

Auf Ihre Anfrage teile ich Ihnen mit, daß nach dem Ergebnis der Ermittlungen und Angaben des operierenden Arztes nur soviel gesagt werden kann, daß offensichtlich ein Holzsplitter des Bambusstockes unterhalb des linken Auges durch den Knochen bis in das Gehirn gedrungen ist und die große Hirnschlagader getroffen hat. Es haben sich im Gehirn noch kleine Bambusholzsplitter gefunden.

Eine Obduktion wurde nicht durchgeführt. Von einer Weiterleitung Ihres Schreibens an das Gerichtsmed. Institut habe ich daher abgesehen. Akten oder Aktenteile können leider nicht übersandt werden. Es befindet sich im übrigen lediglich ein Foto von der Ausrüstung eines Kendokämpfers bei den Akten, was Ihnen sicher nichts Neues sagt.

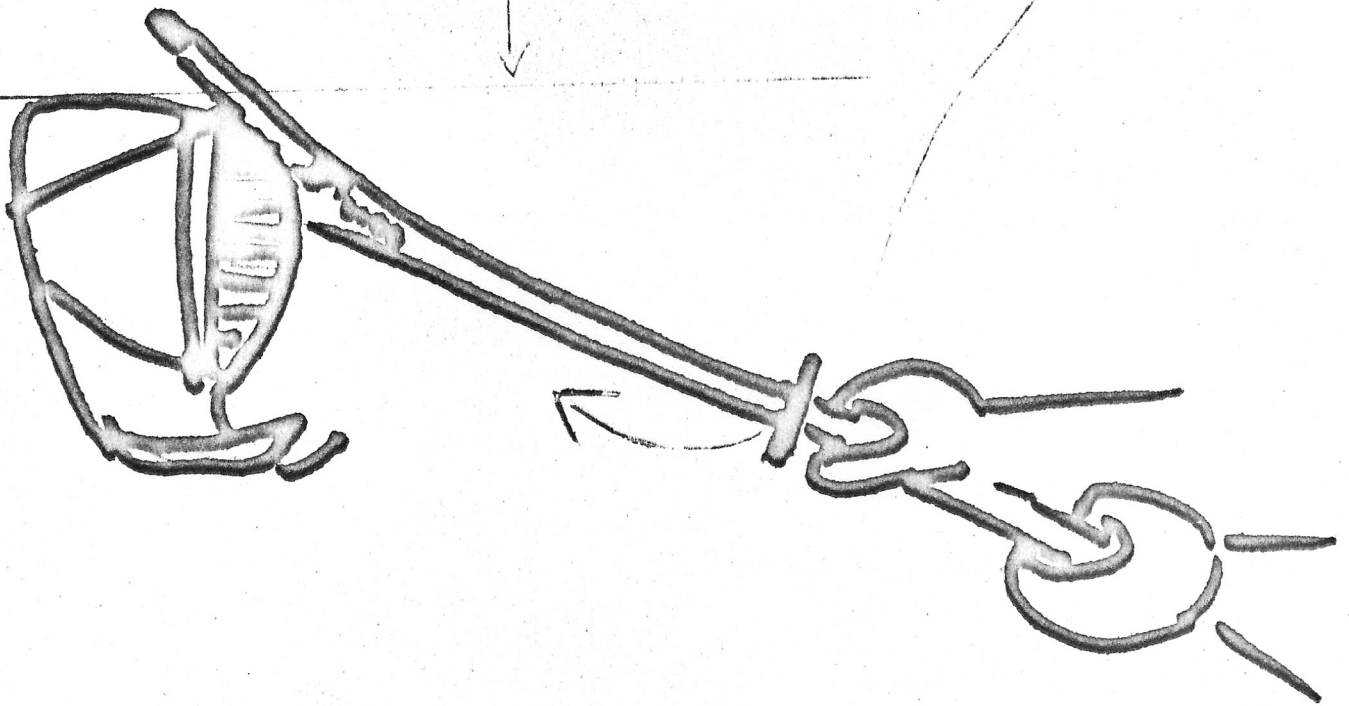
Hochachtungsvoll


(Pott)

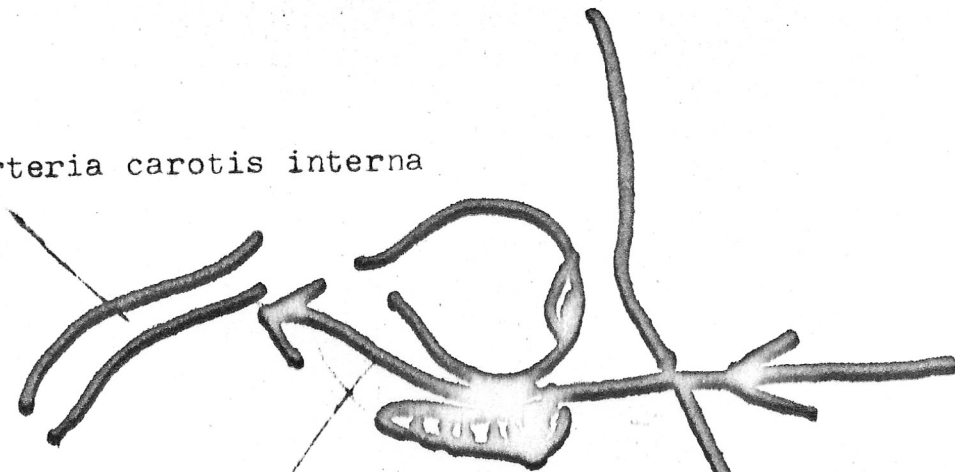
Staatsanwalt

Reconstruction of the accident of Dr. Goto on 20 Dec. 1978

nearly 25-30 cm



Arteria carotis interna



Peace of the shinai, going below the left eye through the bone in the brain and hurting the arteria carotis interna.

22.2.78

Paul Otto Forstreuter

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