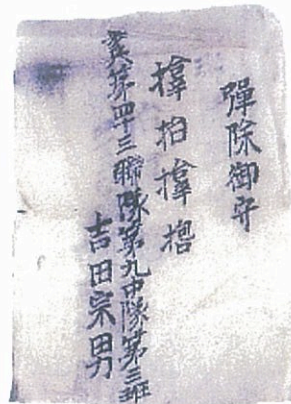




Various *ofuda* from the *seminbari* of Mr. Muneo Yoshida. Nearly all of the charms are of paper, but some hold clay, beans, pieces of cloth, and small wooden plaques folded between their paper layers. *Ofuda* A through K are translated below:



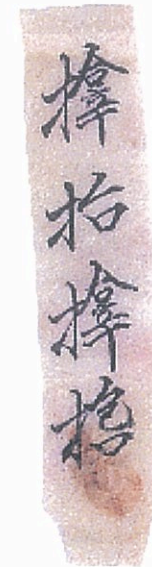
*Ofuda* A is made from *washi* paper and says "Festival wishing soldier's continued good luck in battle." It says further "Hachiman Shrine (amulet)...for safety and protection." Hachiman was one of the God's of War.



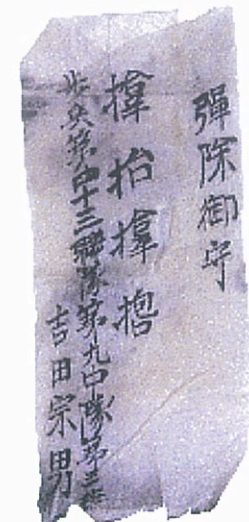
*Ofuda* B is made from cloth and says "Protection against bullets." There are non-standard characters that follow. These appear to say *Shin-tai shin-ho*, but are pronounced "Samuhara." This represents a Shinto mantra or incantation to ward away evil. Finally "Infantry, 43rd Regiment, 9th Company, 3rd Squad," and the soldier's name "Yoshida Muneo." The 43rd Infantry Regiment was initially part of the Shanghai Expeditionary Army that was led by General Yoshinori Shirakawa. As part of the 11th Division it took part in the Battle of Shanghai in 1932.



*Ofuda* C is made from *washi* paper. The characters read "Festival wishing soldier's continued good luck in battle." It also says "Hachiman Shrine (amulet) for safety and protection."



*Ofuda* D is a thin amulet made from *washi* paper. It has the non-standard characters for "Samuhara" written upon it.



*Ofuda* E says "Protection against bullets." There are also characters for "Samuhara," as well as "Infantry, 43 Regiment, 9th Company, 3rd Squad" and the soldier's name "Yoshida Muneo."