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Brother Aloysius Soden, S.M., Dies of Cancer

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News from

**THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT**

**JOE McLAUGHLIN
DIRECTOR, GENERAL PUBLICITY**

DAYTON, OHIO 45409 AREA CODE 513 461-5500 EXT. 500

DAYTON, Ohio, December 29, 1966 --- Bro. Aloysius Soden, S.M., who spent 27 years of his religious life with the Society of Mary in Japan, died here last night in St. Elizabeth Hospital of cancer. Devoted to the Japanese, Bro. Soden, who served as an interpreter for the Americans at the surrender on the U.S.S. Missouri and in the Japanese mandated islands of the South and Central Pacific in World War II, had only returned to Japan last January after two years at the University of Dayton.

Born in Philadelphia, July 6, 1907, Bro. Soden attended Our Lady of Sorrows Grade School and West Catholic High School. He entered the Society of Mary at Beacon, New York, in July, 1922. He took his final vows as a Brother of Mary, August 12, 1929, at the University of Dayton from where he graduated in 1928. He was assigned immediately to Yokahoma, Japan.

He spent four years at St. Joseph's College in Yokahoma and then was transferred to Kaisel High School, Nagasaki. He also taught at the Nagasaki College of Commerce.

When World War II erupted he was interned at Yokahoma and repatriated in June, 1942, with former American Ambassador Joseph Grew. The group went to Portuguese East Africa where they were exchanged with Japanese civilian internees.

He joined the United States Navy as a Japanese language officer and saw duty in the Pacific throughout the war. He served as interpreter during several of the island surrender ceremonies, including Truk, and then was with the U.S. Occupation Forces in Meiji Building, Tokyo, from November, 1945, to March, 1946.

Upon his discharge from the service he became director of St. Joseph College in Yokahoma and served there until 1953. He spent a year at the Meisei High School and American Culture Center in Osaka. He returned to St. Joseph College in 1954 and remained until his assignment to the University in 1964.

During his two years at UD, he longed for a return to Japan. He often told friends he wanted to return and look to the intellectual and spiritual welfare of the Japanese college student. Some of his former students are educational leaders in Japan and one, Bro. Jorge da Silva is Principal of Junipero Serra High School, Gardena, California. Another, Bro. Robert Maruyama, is an instructor in mathematics at the same school.

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BRO. ALOYSIUS SODEN, S.M. continued - 2

His survivors include a brother, Rev. Martin Soden, Chaplain, Holy Family Hospital, Spokane, Washington; and four sisters, Miss Columba Soden, LaCara Court, Wycombe Avenue, Lansdowne, Pa.; Mrs. P.M. Barnard, 108 Charles Drive, Bryn Mawr, Pa.; Sister Rita Martin, S.S.J., St. Ann's Convent, Wildwood, New Jersey, and Sister Mary Matilda, Queen of Peace Convent, North Arlington, New Jersey. Sister Rita teaches at Wildwood Catholic High School and Sister Mary at Queen of Peace High School.

Friends may call from 4 to 9 P.M. Friday at the University's Immaculate Conception Chapel. Solemn requiem mass will be celebrated by Rev. Norbert Burns, S.M., Director of the Religious Community at UD. Another requiem mass will be celebrated Monday at 11 A.M. in Beacon, New York, by Very Rev. John Dickson, S.M., Provincial of the New York Province of the Society of Mary. Burial will be in Beacon.