東大過去問 1971年 第4問B

次の文の下線をほどこした部分を日本語に訳せ。

To have felt and seen more than other people in some particular region of life: does that give us any sort of guarantee that the judgements which a man passes are likely to be true? Not in the least. Suppose a man has seen and experienced some particular corner of, say, the Battle of the Somme and can give you a thrilling and terrific account of it, that is no particular reason for expecting that his views about the war as a whole will be true. (1) It is on the whole likely that he will see things in a wrong proportion. The point in his favour is only that he does really know something, and, whatever his general views are, he can help you to know something. I will confess my own private belief, which I do not wish anyone to share, that of all the books and all the famous sayings that have come as a revelation to human beings, not one is strictly true or has any chance of being true. (2) Nor, if you press me, do I really think it is their business to be strictly true. They are not meant to be statements of fact. They are cries of distress, calls of encouragement, signals flashing in the darkness.

(注) the Battle of the Somme: 第一次世界大戦中の有名な激戦