

# KABUTOWARI

## Traditional Helmet-Splitting Test

On February 16, 1994 master swordsman Obata Toshishiro Kaiso, founder of SHINKENDO, performed a record setting helmet cutting test using a sword created by Paul Champagne of N.Y that was only lightly polished and without a tsuka (hilt) save for a length of nylon rope tied around the nakago (tang). The helmet was an authentic original of the **Hineno** style, dating back between 1573-1602. Rather than use elaborate preparations like others in the past, Obata Kaiso preferred to simply lay the helmet loosely on a tree stump to better simulate a combative atmosphere. After the test, the katana blade remained **undamaged**.



### Kabutowari Records:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Swordsman</u>	<u>Length of Cut</u>
1994	Obata Toshishiro (Shinkendo)	13cm/ 5-1/8"
1986	Kawabata Terutaka (Kendo/Iaido)	12cm/ 4-7/8"
1886	Sakakibara Kenkichi (Jikishinkage ryu)	10cm/ 4"