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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WAR DIVISION  
ECONOMIC WARFARE SECTION

K. K. HOKUSHIN DENKI SEISAKUSHO  
(HOKUSHIN ELECTRIC FACTORY)

February 2, 1944.

Submitted by:  
Sam Fishback  
Foreign Economic Administration  
New York, New York

Economic Warfare Section  
War Division  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Confidential Report  
February 2, 1944 (Report #281)  
Re: K.K. Hokushin Denki Seisakusho  
(Hokushin Electric Factory)  
Submitted by: Sam Fishback  
Foreign Economic Administration  
New York, New York

K.K. HOKUSHIN DENKI SEISAKUSHO

I. INTRODUCTION

K.K. Hokushin Denki is a Japanese electrical equipment and machine tool manufacturing enterprise comprising at least two factories: the address of one is given in 1940 as No. 312 Shimomaruko, Kamata, Tokyo. Another address discovered for Hokushin is Kyo-boshi-ku, Tokyo. (Okura, Tokyo letter of Feb. 12, 1940, Okura file 20008).

K.K. Hokushin Denki, the files indicate, also manufactured nautical instruments for the Imperial Japanese Navy. An Okura letter from Tokyo to London dated July 22, 1937 reads:

"Hokushin Denki is the maker who is copying secretly the Langevin Echo Sounder for the Japanese Navy and have been trying to copy Henry Hughes MS system ever since we began to sell them in Japan. Thus Messrs. Henry Hughes (Henry Hughes & Son, Ltd., England) should be careful not to give them any detailed drawings, etc., if they do not want them to copy their type."

Another instance which may possibly point to the close working relationship of Hokushin Denki with the Imperial Japanese Navy is the fact that a Hokushin Inquiry for Norma Hoffman Ball Bearings "to be used in the manufacture of a nautical instrument" placed in October, 1939, was revised in February, 1940 so that the customer for these bearings became the Yokosuka Kosho (Yokosuka Naval Yard).

The dual nature of the Hokushin Electric Factory alluded to in the first paragraph is evinced by the following letter from Yamatake & Co., Tokyo to the Imperial Export Co., New York (Letter No. 702, June 28, 1939) reads:

"The Hokushin Electric Co. originally started as Meter manufacturers (similar to Brown) and still have a modern plant handling this end of the business. The Machine Tooling plant where turret lathes etc. are made is in a different State and may be capitalized as a separate Company."

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A total of \$31,290.29 worth of machinery is recorded in this report as having been shipped to Japan for K.K. Hokushin Denki Seisakusho, since 1937. This report was made from an examination of the seized Japanese files kept in an Alien Property Custodian warehouse at 27 Cliff Street, New York City. The companies whose files (dating from January 1, 1937) were searched are Okura and Co., Ltd., Ataka and Co., Ltd., Mitsui & Co., Ltd.. There is also material taken from the files of the Imperial Export Company (agents of Yamatake and Co.), the files of which are at 44 Whitehall Street, New York City.

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II. ORDERS PLACED

1. Ataka Orders

Order No.	Date	Manufacturer	No	Product	Price (\$)
5785	10/7/38	Brown & Sharpe	1	#2G automatic screw machine	3,750.89
5786	10/7/38	Brown & Sharpe	1	#0G automatic screw machine	5,096.66

2. Mitsui Orders

Order No.	Date	Manufacturer	No.	Product	Price
TO 3232 EO 3545	9/7/38	American Tool Works	2	18" swing x 6" high duty engine lathes	5,028.50
TO 3232 A EO 3545 A	9/16/38	E. Horton	2	14" 4-jaw steel chucks	141.99
TO 3232-A-2 EO 3545-A-2	10/3/38	American Tool Works	2	Revising units	158.00
TO 3355 EO 3707	10/27/38	Ex-Cell-O	1	#44 standard carbide tool grinder	719.44
TO 3355 A EO 3707 A	10/27/38	Norton	2	Diamond wheels, one each for roughing and finishing.	134.70
TO 3631 EO 1132	2/14/39	Warner & Swasey	2	#5 turret lathes	9,436.30
TO 3631 A EO 1132 A	2/15/39	Int. G. E.	2	Motors	142.58

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Order No.	Date	Manufacturer	No.	Product	Price (\$)
TO 3632 EO 1131	2/15/39	Madison Kipp	1	Die casting machine (1 set castor #A- 215-GF, Gas fired furnace, gooseneck located at side of machine, metal forced by air driven plunger, ram operated by air, with 105 metal pot capacity in zinc) Air pressure applied to the above machine at clients factory - 100 lbs.	1,537.50
TO 3355 A-2 EO 3707A-2	4/26/40	Norton	1	Diamond wheel	67.35

3. Okura Orders

Order No.	Date	Manufacturer	No.	Product	Price
11925	5/23/39	Cincinnati Grinders	1	#2 centerless grinder	5,570.00
11925A	6/13/39	Cincinnati Grinders	1 1	Grinding wheel Regulating wheel	106.38
20008	10/1/40	Crucible Steel	517 517 kgs	High carbon chromium die steel bars Paragon oil harden- ing steel bars, annealed, round, random length.	1,011.71

Note: Export license  
rejected.

"These materials will be used  
in the manufacture of dies  
and tools" (Okura, Tokyo  
letter of 12/12/40)

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Mitsui Inquiries

III. Inquiries Placed

<u>Inquiry No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Product</u>
MF 3219	6/30/39	Gear Grinding Machine	1	GG-24 24" gear grinding machine
			1	GG-23 16" gear grinding machine
MF 6678	10/2/39	Norma Hoffman	22,893	Ball bearings
TE 8076	10/20/39	Norma Hoffman	21,800 300,000	Ball bearings 1/8" diameter steel balls
TE 3535	11/26/40	Kearney & Trecker	1	8" swing dividing head for #2H plain milling machine.