

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY
(PACIFIC)
APO 234
C/O POSTMASTER, SAN FRANCISCO

INTERROGATION NO: 220

PLACE: Tokyo
DATE : 2 November 45

Division of Origin: M. F. C.

SUBJECT: Construction of Housing Facilities Japan.

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

Mr KITAOKA, Director of the Housing Corporation.

Where interviewed: Room 351, Meiji Building.

Interrogator: Lt Schmidt

Interpreter: None

Allied Officers Present: Capt Hauser, Medical Section, USSBS.

SUMMARY: TOPICAL

1. Functions of the Housing Corporation
2. Evacuation of cities.
3. Water supply.
4. Housing Facilities of Munition Factories.
5. Statistical source - new construction.
6. Types of dwelling units.
7. Overcrowding.
8. Prefectural survey of housing.
9. Tables on construction dwelling facilities furnished
by Housing Corporation.

I N T E R R O G A T I O N

1. The Housing Corporation was formed in 1935, and started work in 1936. Primary objective to supply housing for individuals. Capital of Y 100,000,000 supplied by government. Permitted to borrow to extent of 10 times capital. Houses were sold on installment -- 19 years of monthly payments of Y 20 - 30 (taxes and repairs by purchases). As war progressed, more of houses were sold to munitions factories. Attempts to provide emergency housing facilities for air raid victims not very successful.

2. People evacuated from the cities were housed largely with relatives in the country and smaller towns. About 4 million people were evacuated from Tokyo alone; the well-to-do evacuated in large numbers, but a relatively small proportion of the lower income groups left Tokyo prior to the raids. The poorer people took a good part of their personal belongings, but the well-to-do managed to evacuate only 20 - 30% of their belongings. The goods they couldn't evacuate were stored in warehouses, and were to have been distributed to air raid victims, but most the goods were lost when the warehouses burned.

3. More than 80 percent of the houses constructed depended upon wells for water. Before construction was started the water supply had to have the approval by a sanitary inspector.

4. Munitions factories.

5. Statistical Section, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, can supply figures on new construction by prefectures. Housing Corporation has figures only on its own construction.

6. About 30% of the housing facilities in the major cities were of the single family type; 50% of the multiple-family tenement type.

7. Numerous examples of severe over-crowding in the rural areas - ten or twelve families living in single farm establishments, ten families in a single temple, etc.

8. In 1943, prompted by the Hamburg raid, a prefectural survey of housing facilities was made and reports were submitted to the Home Ministry. No systematic plan of evacuation for mass of people, though the evacuation of children prior to the air raids was planned and executed.

List of Apartment Houses Built by Dojukai Society

The total number of apartments, which the Dojukai Society (the predecessor of present Housing Corporation) built, are 2,220 in 13 places in Tokyo; 272 in 2 places in Yokohama; total number amounting to 2,492 in 15 places.

Their total building area covers 25,333 M2, total floor area 84,000 M2, average area per room 33.6M2.

These figures classified by districts are as follows:

District	Name of Apartment House	No. of Rooms	Bldg Area M2	Floor Area M2	Average Area Per Room
	Aoyama	138	1866	5980	43.7
	Nakanogo	102	1233	3833	38.0
	Yanagisima	193	2140	6347	33.3
	Sibuya	337	4940	12103	36.0
	Kiyosuna	663	5777	19756	29.7
Tokyo	Mita	68	550	1933	29.0
	Minowa	152	313	1340	26.3
	Uguisudani	96	1053	3333	35.0
	Uenosita	76	496	2110	28.8
	Toranomon	64	526	1133	17.7
	Azumatyo	18	237	727	40.3
	Otuka	158	743	3753	24.0
	Edogawa	260	2510	12373	47.7
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Yokohama	Yanasitatyo	158	1777	5500	35.3
	Hiranumatyo	118	1170	3790	32.3
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	Total	8337	25330	84017	33.6

THE CONSTRUCTION PLAN OF 300,000 TEMPORARY HOUSES FOR RAID SUFFERERS

As a part of countermeasure for raid-sufferers to pass this winter, the undertaking of construction of 300,000 temporary houses has been appointed to the Housing Corporation and this is directed to be done before all.

We are now making our utmost effort to accomplish this undertaking and the outputs as of October 10th are as follows:

Prefabricated	821	houses
Erected	314	"
Already dwelt	173	"

TABLE ON THE NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES COMPLETED MONTHLY BY THE HOUSING CORPORATION

The Housing Corporation started in summer 1941, aiming at the construction of 300,000 dwelling houses.

But the difficulties in the war time have always been disturbing us to accomplish this plan. So the total number of houses built up to date is as follows:

Date	No. of Houses	Total	Note		Date	No. of Houses	Total	Note	
			Type	Floor Area M ²				Type	Floor Area M ²
1942					1944				
1	122				1	1796	41103		
2	53	175	A	28.98	2	1822	42925		
3	273	448			3	8020	50945	24	25.52
4	56	504	B	40.16	4	2195	53140		
5	444	948			5	3074	56214	34	29.57
6	420	1368	C	49.69	6	2523	58737		
7	927	2295			7	2957	61694	32	29.16
8	741	3036	D	58.80	8	2411	64105		
9	1113	4149			9	3885	67990	42	39.69
10	1710	5859	E	71.22	10	3960	71950		
11	1090	6949			11	7918	79868		
12	2495	9444			12	582	80450		
1943					1945				
1	0	9444			1	1500	81950		
2	1050	10494			2	870	82826		
3	7116	17610	1	24.30	3	3520	86346	Type	
4	297	17903			4	638	86984	for	20.25
5	926	18829	2	29.16	5	1427	88411	fac-	
6	1531	20360			6	801	89212	tory	
7	1167	21527	3	28.35	7	1139	90351	labor-	
8	2125	23652			8	648	90999	ers	
9	3701	27353	4	38.88	9	792	91791		
10	7715	35068							
11	1037	36105							
12	3202	39307							