

not to be published

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION BRANCH
UNITED STATES STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY

CSH/jrb

20 November 1945

CIVILIAN DEFENSE

Personnel Interviewed:

Mr. Torii	Land Planning Bureau, Construction Section, Home Ministry
Mr. NISHIMURA	" " " Planning Section " "
Mr. ISHII	" " " River Section " "

(All formerly with Air Defense Section)

Interrogator: Captain Rosenblatt

Interpreter: Lt. (jg) Holmes

Submitted statistics on all air raid shelters built by government. Program of building instituted in 1944 under auspices of Air Defense General Headquarters of Home Ministry. In 1944 nearly all shelters planned were completed, but in 1945 only 60 % were actually built.

In general, the actual construction work was done by amateur volunteer associations, such as the KAIBODAN, the TONARI GUMI, students, etc. , regular construction units did almost none. Materials allocated by government. (no cement).

Also submitted: (1) pamphlet instructing private citizens to build own shelters. (2) data on program to fireproof buildings in cities by coating them with concrete facing this program was begun in 1939 as a general fire prevention measure, not as an anti-air raid measure. For general purposes; it was successful, but under fire-bombing it was of little use. In 1945, because of lack of materials and labor, the program was abandoned.

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

INTERROGATION No. _____
(Obtained from G-2)

PLACE Tokyo
DATE 20 Nov 1945 Time 1545

Division of Origin Capital Equip. & Constr. Branch

Subject: Civilian Defense

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

Mr. TORII	Land Planning Bureau, Construction Section, Home Ministry	"	"	"
Mr. NISHIMURA	" " " Planning	"	"	"
Mr. ISHII	" " " River	"	"	"

(all formerly with Air Defense Section)

Where interviewed Meiji Bldg Rm # 361

Interrogator Captain Rosenblatt

Interpreter Lt. (jg) Holmes

Allied Officers Present None

SUMMARY:-

1. Submitted statistics on all air raid shelters built by government.
2. Construction Work was done by amateur volunteer associations, using students as their laborers. Regular construction units did almost nothing.
3. Fireproofing buildings in cities by coating them with concrete facing begun in 1939 and was not successful against fire-bombing.