

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

INTERROGATION NO. 151

PLACE: TOKYO  
DATE: 24 OCTOBER 1945  
TIME: 0930  
CONT'D: 0930, 25 OCT. 1945

Division of Origin: Basic Materials.  
Subject: Army Sub-allocations of steel.  
Personnel Interrogated:

SATO, H.	Colonel, Section 3 of Military Affairs Section, War Minister.
IKAWA, T.	Colonel, Bureau of Ordnance, War Minister
TOMITSUKA	Lt. Colonel, Section 3 of Military Affairs Section, War Minister.
KATO, H.	Tech. Major, Bureau of Ordnance
SUYEMASA, T.	Tech. Captain, Interpreter.

Where Interviewed: U. S. S. B. S.  
Interrogator: Lt.(jg) R. I. GALLAND, USNR, USSBS  
Interpreter: 1st Lt. B. A. MANNING, AUS, USSBS  
Mr. R. ALEXANDER, USSBS  
Allied Officers Present: 1st Lt. A. W. FREEDMAN, USSBS

SUMMARY

"C" category of national allocation system broken down with specific reference to Army's relations with industries in C2 and C5.

Distribution:  
All Divisions

NATIONAL ALLOCATION CATEGORIES.

Steel, pursuant to the Material Mobilization Plan was allocated to the following categories: "A" The Army, "B" The Navy, "C" the civilian economy, and "D" (from '44 on) the Air Arm. "C" was divided into several categories of which the largest was "C2" (KEN SETSU SHIZAI): the construction of large scale enterprises (DOKEN) and industrial machinery, the maintenance and repair of such facilities, and the operation thereof. The following industries received their allocations as "C2": (1) Iron and steel, (2) Coal mining, (3) Non-ferrous metals, (4) Light metal, (5) Liquid fuels including drilling, refining and synthesizing petroleum, (6) Industrial salt, (7) Soda, (8) Ammonium sulphate, (9) Railroads (until 1944), (10) Trucks, (11) Machine tools, (12) Civilian shipbuilding (until it became Bx). "C3" was government use; "C4", exports and "C5" general civilization requirements. In "C5" were included the fibre industries, the chemical industries other than those included under "C2", all peaceful industries such as civilian automobiles (until their manufacture was forbidden in 1943) and all direct civilian demands.

The products of the industries in C2 were also allocated according to the national materials mobilization plan. Thus to learn what part of total national steel product was allocated to Army uses it would be necessary to learn what portion of the products of C2 industry was taken by the Army. The army is preparing tables to show its consumption of trucks, machine tools and rolled steel. Colonel SATO estimated that of total national steel product, the Army consumed, in the form of rolled steel, finished steel and manufactures made of steel, about 25% from 1940 to 1943 and between 28% and 30% from 1943 on. He explained this increase in proportion was due to the decreasing national steel production.

ESTIMATES OF ARMY'S NEEDS AND ARMY'S SUBALLOCATION

The allocation of steel to the Army was on the bases of its estimated needs in view of planned operations. These estimates were presented in the Total Mobilization Bureau prior to the fiscal year. Within the Army the estimates are prepared as indicated by the following example concerning military vehicles. The Bureau of ordnance was told how many military cars would be needed. The two arsenals which had charge of inspecting military cars during their manufacture; Sagami Arsenal inspecting Nissan and Nagoya Arsenal inspecting Toyoda, estimated the steel necessary to produce that quantity of military cars.

Upon these estimates and others, the Army made up its total final estimates. Upon the final estimates the Army received its total allocation, of which a certain sub-allocation was assigned to the Ordnance Bureau. The Ordnance Bureau then issued tickets against its allotment to the makers. The tickets were presented to the Iron and Steel Sales Control Company which made deliveries. Finished military cars were accepted by the Tokyo and Nagoya Army Depots after inspection of the finished vehicles.

Colonel SATO is preparing tables showing the sub-allocations made to the various Bureaus of the Army and the products into which such sub-allocations were converted.

SPECIAL STEEL

Special steel, a particularly critical material, was allocated to arsenals and the arsenals in turn made delivery to the makers of the military cars, etc.

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PURCHASE OF FINISHED MANUFACTURES.

The Bureau of Ordnance also had charge of the purchase of trucks. As the allocation of steel to C2 declined in 1944 it became necessary for the Bureau of Ordnance to allot steel from its allotment to truck manufacturers to ensure the manufacture of the Army's requirements.