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

INTERROGATION NO. _____
(Obtain from G-2)

PLACE Osaka, Japan
DATE 17 Nov 45

Division of Origin Medical Division

Subject: Medical Supplies, Records

Personnel interrogated and background of each: Mr HAYASHI, Kuchi, Chief Pharmacist, Osaka Fu--Prefectural Office.

Where interviewed Prefectural Office, Osaka

Interrogator Harold B Hilton, Lt Col, MAC

Interpreter Mr Matsuno

Allied Officers Present None

Summary: Mr Hayashi stated that vitamins had been scarce since the start of the war, but that the Takeda Plant in Osaka, of which Mr Chobei Takeda is president, had manufactured continuously, though always in insufficient quantities.

Hormone products were widely used in Japan and were used all during the war. Usage was fostered by continual advertisements and propoganda. Penicillin was manufactured and made available by the Imperial University, but never in sufficient quantity. The government, through its newspapers, encouraged the use of herbs in place of the synthetic drugs, but the quantity was not great, although Mr Hayashi stated that 150 to 160 small stores in Osaka had been set up to collect and dispense herbs.

The supply of sulfa drugs on the civilian market was also very short during the war. No glass tubing was available, and all types of laboratory equipment were very scarce.

According to Mr Hayashi, in general, inoculation against typhoid was compulsory, and there was plenty of this vaccine. However, the horses used in the manufacture of diphtheria antitoxin were not available at times during the war, because they would be taken by the armed forces who urgently needed work horses.

Mr Hayashi stated that the records covering public health in Japan during the period of the bombings do not exist--that people had other, more important things to do at such times and didn't worry about records. He stated that as a morale factor in the life of the people, the populace was encouraged not to get sick during this time, as it was impossible to care for them. People of the so-called hypochondriac type had other, more serious things to worry about during the bombings than their minor illnesses.

He believes there was relaxation in the supervision of labelling drugs, and suggested that Dr Ichiro Kimatsu, head of the Pharmaceutical Section, would have tables indicating the extent of bomb damage to the major drug manufacturing concerns in Japan.