

Conde White

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

INTERROGATION NO: 148

PLACE: Moriguchi, Osaka
DATE: 24 Oct 45

Division of Origin: Capital Equipment and Construction.

SUBJECT: Interview with Matsushita Electric Industries
Co. Ltd.

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

- 1. Mr MATSUSHITA, K - President
- 2. Mr SCRIBA, K. - Secretary to President
(graduate of USC class '32)
- 3. Mr TAKAHASHI, A. - Junior Managing Director
- 4. Mr HIGASHI, G. - Advisor to the President

Where Interviewed: Head Office at MORIGUCHI, OSAKA.

Interrogator: Maj G.J. Hales, Lt C.B. Love, Sgt G.L.
Balash

Interpreter: Lt C. B. Love, USNR.

Allied Officers Present: None

SUMMARY: The MATSUSHITA Organization was incorporated in 1937; there were five companies producing electrical equipment with varying members of factories under each of them.

DISTRIBUTION: All Divisions.

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

In the Matsushita Organization (Incorporated in 1935) there were five companies producing electrical equipment with varying members of factories under each of them: They are listed below:

1. KADOME WIRELESS CO. - OSAKA

No. of other plants - 14
No. of employees - 4,000 (approx)
Air Raid Damage - None
Main Products - Radio receiving sets
- Radio sending sets

Percentage of total
products to Army and Navy - 1943 - 30%
1944 - 60%
1945 - 80% (60% Navy-
20% Army)

2. KADOMA ELECTRIC CO - OSAKA

No. of other plants - 3
No. of employees - 1,200 (approx)
Air Raid Damage - None
Main Products - Motors, Electric
resister furnaces (50
to 200 Kilo) Large
Switchboards conver-
ters etc.

3. VACUUM TUBE CO. - EBISU BASHI, OSAKA

No. of other plants - 8 (All Small)
No. of employees - 800
Air Raid Damage - 30% completely destroyed
Main Products - Electric bulbs, vacuum
tubes fuses, small
lamps etc.

4. DRY BATTERY COMPANY - TSURUNU BASHI, OSAKA

No. of other plants - 8
No. of employees - 1500
Air Raid Damage - 20% completely destroyed
Main Products - Dry batteries, storage
batteries, flashlight
cases.

5. CARBON CO. - OSAKA

No. of other plants	-	2 (small)
No. of employees	-	200
Air Raid Damage	-	20% completely destroyed
Main Products	-	Carbon rods, graphite rods, grounding poles, etc.

In addition to the above five plants, Matsushita had an Electric Refining Company at SUZOKI, SHIKOKU which manufactured electrolytic manganese. Conduit tubes were also made by Matsushita manufactured at a plant in Kadoma (Osaka area)

Prior to the war Matsushita manufactured ordinary electrical appliances such as flat irons, radios, lamps, etc. They did not become engaged in war work until the end of 1942 and then only to a small degree. Their first large scale conversion to Wartime manufacture took place in 1943. Matsushita was also engaged in the manufacture of wooden ships, bombs etc.

This company also has another division devoted to the manufacture of machine tools, lathes, grinders, drill presses and the like. A machine tool questionnaire will be submitted to this office 5 November 1945.

They will prepare statistics and answers to the Electrical questionnaire for each of their five electrical equipment plants and will forward same to reach this office 5 November 1945.

These people state they are seeking permission to resume business. If we can help them on this matter, it would be greatly appreciated.