DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 115013

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Description of contents

(1) Box no. 3049

(2) Folder title/number: (6)
612: Soil Erosion

(3) Date: June 1949 - July 1949

(4) Subject:

Classification	Type of record
9450, 9612	e

(5) Item description and comment:

Shikoku

(6) Reproduction: (Yes) No

(7) Film no. Sheet no.

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DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 175013

HEADQUARTERS
KAGAWA CIVIL AFFAIRS TEAM
APO 1050
Takamatsu, Shikoku

20 July 1949

SUBJECT: Study on Soil Erosion

TO: Commanding Officer
Shikoku Civil Affairs Region
APO 1050

1. In compliance with letter, Hq I Corps dated 23 June 1949, subject: "Study on Soil Erosion ", and 1st Ind. Hq. Shikoku Military Government Region, dated 27 June 1949, the following information is herewith submitted.

2. Figures submitted by the Prefectural Agricultural Section show the area of agricultural land eroded, silted or otherwise taken out of prodution by floods to be as follows:

Unit: Tan	1946	1947	1948
Agricultural land eroded	71	697	68
Agricultural land silted	0	0	0
Agricultural land taken out of production by floods	58	108	68
Agricultural land taken out of production by sinking of ground	38	200	267
TOTAL	167	1,005	403

3. The Prefectural Agricultural Office estimates the following crop loss due to these causes:

	Rice (unit: koku)			Wheat and Barley(unit:kbku)		
	'46	'47	'48	'46	'47	'48
Flood	3,327	439.8	1,359.6	1,765	138.3	1,121.4
Sinking of the ground	0	661.2	656.4	0	72.7	263.6
Drought	0	49,106	34,091	0	0	87,570
TOTAL	3,327	50,207	36,107	1,765	211	88,955

ECONOMIC SECTION
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Ltr, Kagawa CA Tm, subj, Study of Soil Erosion, dtd 20 July 1949

	Sweet Potatoes (unit:kan)			White Potatoes (unit:kan)		
	'46	'47	'48	'46	'47	'48
Flood	0	28,980	0	3,965	0	438
Sinking of the ground	0	19,320	0	0	0	0
Drought	0	1,590,000	279,570	0	0	80,787
TOTAL	0	1,638,300	279,570	3,965	0	81,225

4. There are 1,610 cho of eroded mountain-side, 1,110 cho of which is attributed to the denuding of forests. This represents 2% of the total forest area in the prefecture. Floods are not a great problem in Kagawa, as the total yearly rainfall is less than 1 meter and there are no large rivers. Irrigation of agricultural land depends chiefly upon 20,000 artificial ponds or reservoirs. Therefore the greatest loss of arable land in this prefecture is caused not by flood and erosion, but by the sinking of the ground since the Nankai earthquake in December 1946. The eastern and western seacoasts are sinking, with a loss of 20 cho in 1947. However, the sinking seems to have been retarded as only 2.9 cho were inundated during 1948.

5. The primary cause of the soil erosion and flooding has been the denuding of forests and the ineffectiveness of the reforestation program. Prefectural Forestry Section statistics, dated 1 April 1949, show that 4,039 cho require reforestation, out of 94,238 cho of total forest area. The Forestry Section planned to reforest 1,575 cho in 1949, but the prefectural budget allows for the reforestation of only 955 cho. 800 cho have already been denuded this year to provide lumber and firewood, bringing the increase in forest area to only 195 cho for 1949.

A second factor contributing to soil erosion is excess land reclamation. 2,110 cho of forests were purchased during the past two and one half years to be reclaimed as farmland, and it is the opinion of the Prefectural Forestry Section that 411 cho (20%) of the purchased land is unsuitable for reclamation.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

CHARLES T DeLONGUEIL
2nd Lt FA
Adjutant

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 175013

BASIC: Ltr,Kagawa Civil Affairs Team, APO 1050, dtd 20 July 1949, subj: "Study on Soil Erosion."

AG 403 - A 1st Ind CAL/HLC/st

HEADQUARTERS, SHIKOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION, APO 1050 23 July 1949

TO: Commanding General
I Corps
APO 301
ATTN: Civil Affairs Section

H L C

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 175013

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EHIME CIVIL AFFAIRS TEAM
APO 1050, U. S. ARMY

SGL/RBK/ms

19 July 1949

SUBJECT: Special Report on Soil Erosion
THRU : REGION.
TO: Commanding General, I Corps
APO 301, U. S. Army
(ATTN: Civil Affairs Section)

1. The following report is submitted in compliance with Letter, Headquarters I Corps, dated 23 June 1949, subject: "Study on Soil Erosion".

2. a. Area of agricultural land taken out of production by floods is as follow:

	Lowland	Upland	Total
1946	1,002 tan	188 tan	1,190 tan
1947	1,039 "	436 "	1,475 "
1948	3,504 "	3,086 "	6,590 "
Total:	5,545 tan	3,710 tan	9,255 tan

b. Loss of staple-food due to flood and/or drought:

(1) Flood:

	Rice	Sweet Potato	Wheat, Barley, White Potato
1946	2,286 koku	65,000 kan	None
1947	2,308 "	111,000 "	"
1948	7,717 "	1,185,000 "	"
Total:	12,311 koku	1,361,000 kan	

(2) Drought:

	Rice	Wheat	Barley	W. Potato	S. Potato
1946	None	None	None	None	None
1947	29,352 koku	130 koku	1,300 koku	"	419,800 kan
1948	11,412 "	900 "	9,000 "	"	248,800 "

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c. The denuding of forests caused loss of agricultural area by erosion as indicated below:

1946	-	2,271 tan
1947	-	1,879 "
1948	-	8,299 "

d. The only other factor which contributes to land erosion that has not been brought out is the lack of dams, both as to number and size.

FOR THE COMMANDING:

REGINALD B. KEATING
Major, Infantry
Adjutant

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 175015

HEADQUARTERS
KOCHI CIVIL AFFAIRS TEAM
APO 1050

18 July 1949

SUBJECT: Study on Soil Erosion

THROUGH: Commanding Officer
Shikoku Civil Affairs Region
APO 1050

TO: Commanding General
Headquarters, I Corps
APO 301
ATTENTION: Civil Affairs Section

1. In compliance with Basic Ltr Hq I Corps, APO 301 (Kyoto, Honshu), dtd 23 June 1949, Subj: "Study on Soil Erosion", this report is hereby submitted.

2. The area of agricultural land eroded, silted, or otherwise taken out of production by floods.

a. Year	No production	80% production
1946	361 cho	84 cho
1947	122.3 cho	157.7 cho
1948	453.8 cho	741.1 cho

b. The above are estimates and have since been put back into production.

3. The estimated loss as a result of flood and/or draught, in koku of the following staple foods:

a. Year	Rice	Sweet potato	Wheat	White Potato	Barley
1946	65,347	34,239	0	0	0
1947	27,806	1,600	0	0	0
1948	37,348	7,173	0	0	0

b. Disasters occurred after the season for wheat, barley and white potato therefore there was no loss.

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4. To what extent did denuding of forests affect soil erosion?

a. The forest areas of Kochi Prefecture are on very sharp slopes. The clear cutting practices and removal of all cut materials and sometimes burning off of same, leaves no soil binding qualities. There is nothing to hold the deposits left on the ground and the soil does not have as much absorbent qualities, therefore heavy instant rains rush down the slopes washing away these deposits and soil, causing erosion, flooding and silting. Cutting of forest over the past few years has been greater than the reforestation causing excessive soil erosion.

5. Other factors which have contributed to soil erosion or flooding.

a. Earthquakes which have cracked the ground in many places.

b. Much of the strata in this Prefecture is parallel to the direction of water flow.

O. A. AXELSON
Lt. Col., FA
Commanding

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 175015

BASIC: Ltr, Kochi Civil Affairs Team, APO 1050, dtd 18 July 1949, subj: "Study on Soil Erosion."

AG 403 - [illegible]A 1st Ind CAL/HLC/st

HEADQUARTERS, SHIKOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION, APO 1050 23 July 1949

TO: Commanding General
I Corps
APO 301
ATTENTION: Civil Affairs Section

H L C

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 175015

HEADQUARTERS I CORPS
APO 301 (Kyoto, Honshu)

CET/bmo

23 Jun 1949

AG 403 - BA

SUBJECT: Study on Soil Erosion

TO : CO, Kinki Mil Govt Region, APO 25
CO, Tokai-Hokuriku Mil Govt Region, APO 710
CO, Kyushu Mil Govt Region, APO 24-5
CO, Chugoku Mil Govt Region, APO 248
CO, Shikoku Mil Govt Region, APO 1050

1. This headquarters is making a study on the effect of floods, soil erosion, and droughts on crops as may be attributed to the denuding of upland forests in the I Corps Z/R. It is desired that each team submit data for the years 46, 47, and 48 in the following items:

a. The area of agricultural land eroded, silted, or otherwise taken out of production by floods.

b. The estimated loss as a result of flood and/or drought, in the number of koku of the following staple foods: rice, wheat, white and sweet potatoes and barley.

c. To what extent did the denuding of forests affect soil erosion?

d. Any other factors which have contributed to soil erosion or flooding.

2. It is desired that this information be forwarded to this headquarters to arrive not later than 25 July.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL COULTER:

A. SEIPEL
Lt Col, AGD
Asst Adj General

ECONOMIC SECTION
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DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 175015

BASIC: Ltr Hqs I Corps APO 301 (Kyoto, Honshu), dtd 23 Jun 49, subj: Study on Soil Erosion

AG 403 - BA 1st Ind CAL/HLC/st

HEADQUARTERS, SHIKOKU MILITARY GOVERNMENT REGION, APO 1050 27 June 49

TO: Commanding Officer, Ehime Mil Govt Team, APO 1050
Commanding Officer, Kochi Mil Govt Team, APO 1050
Commanding Officer, Kagawa Mil Govt Team, APO 1050
Commanding Officer, Tokushima Mil Govt Team, APO 1050

It is desired by this headquarters that the information requested by basic letter, be compiled and forwarded so as to reach this headquarters no later than the 20th of July 49.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL PIGG:

/s/ Henry L. Chisolm
/t/ HENRY L. CHISOLM
WOJG USA
Adjutant

AG 403 - BA 2nd Ind

HEADQUARTERS, TOKUSHIMA CIVIL AFFAIRS TEAM, APO 1050 20 July 1949

TO: Commanding Officer, Shikoku Civil Affairs Region, APO 1050

1. In compliance with basic communication the following information is submitted herewith.

a. Land taken out of production by floods.

Year	Area Flooded
1946	7,732 cho
1947	1,972 cho
1948	3,981 cho

b. Estimated loss of crops in the number of koku due to floods and/or drought.

Year	Rice	Wheat & Barley	Potatoes & Sweet Potatoes
1946	10,535	12,845	65,250
1947	13,130	2,145	unknown
1948	10,690	0	unknown

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BASIC: Ltr Hqs I Corps APO 301 (Kyoto, Honshu), dtd 23 Jun 49, subj: Study on Soil Erosion

c. Extent of soil erosion due to the denuding of forests.

Year	Amt. of Erosion
1946	205 cho 7 tan
1947	184 cho 4 tan
1948	396 cho 3 tan

d. Other factors contributing to soil erosion or flooding:

The earthquake of December 1946 caused a considerable amount of land to sink below sea level. As a result high tides and storms now flood this land with salt water.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

CHARLES L. CECIL
Major, Infantry
Adjutant

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 115015

BASIC: Ltr, Hq I Corps, APO 301 (Kyoto, Honshu), dtd 23 Jun 1949, subj: "Study on Soil Erosion."

AG 403 - ~~B~~A 3rd Ind CAL/HLC/st

HEADQUARTERS, SHIKOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION, APO 1050 23 July 1949

TO: Commanding General
I Corps
APO 301
ATTN: Civil Affairs Section

H L C

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 115015

HEADQUARTERS I CORPS
APO 301 (Kyoto, Honshu)

CET/bmo

25 Jun 249
JUN 23 1949

AG 403 - EA

JUN 24 1949

SUBJECT: Study on Soil Erosion

TO : CO, Kinki Mil Govt Region, APO 25
CO, Tokai-Hokuriku Mil Govt Region, APO 710
CO, Kyushu Mil Govt Region, APO 24-5
CO, Chugoku Mil Govt Region, APO 248
CO, Shikoku Mil Govt Region, APO 1050

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c. To what extent did the denuding of forests affect soil erosion?

d. Any other factors which have contributed to soil erosion or flooding.

2. It is desired that this information be forwarded to this headquarters to arrive not later than 25 July.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL COULTER:

A. SEIPEL
Lt Col, AGD
Asst Adj General

ECONOMIC SECTION
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DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. 175015

Add'l File

BASIC: Ltr Hqs I Corps APO 301 (Kyoto, Honshu), dtd 23 Jun 49, subj: Study on Soil Erosion

CAL/HLC/st

AG 403 - ~~A~~ A. 1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS, SHIKOKU MILITARY GOVERNMENT REGION, APO 1050 27 June 49

TO: Commanding Officer, Ehime Mil Govt Team, APO 1050
Commanding Officer, Kochi Mil Govt Team, APO 1050
Commanding Officer, Kagawa Mil Govt Team, APO 1050
Commanding Officer, Tokushima Mil Govt Team, APO 1050

It is desired by this headquarters that the information requested by basic letter, be compiled and forwarded so as to reach this headquarters no later than the 20th of July 49.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL PIGG:

HENRY L CHISOLM
WOJG USA
Adjutant