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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 16 Nov 45

Division of Origin Medical Division

Subject: Visit to Japanese Drug Stores

Personnel interrogated and background of each: Mr YONEZO, Choto, drug store proprietor, Osaka; another drug store proprietor, name unknown, Dr KIMATSU, Ishiro, Head of Pharmaceutical Affairs Section, Osaka Fu.

Where interviewed Their stores, in Osaka

Interrogator Harold B Hilton

Interpreter Mr Matsuno

Allied Officers Present None

Summary: Two drug stores were visited in an attempt to determine the items of medical supplies now available to the Japanese to the Japanese population in the various retail outlets. At the Dojima Drug Company, of which Mr Choto Yonezo is proprietor, an appraisal of the stock disclosed that comparatively large quantities of vitamin preparations and sex hormones of various types dominated the drug supply. This was an average-sized drug store, and according to Dr Kimatsu, was typical of the better drug stores in Japan. There seemed to be a very small stock of the commoner prescription drugs such as aspirin, quinine, cascara sagrada, etc, on hand. It appeared that the people of Japan placed their faith in the patent medicines rather than the prescriptions of the attending physicians.

Another drug store directly across the street appeared to be a duplicate of the first, so far as types of stock were concerned. It carried large stocks of patent medicines, as against the standard prescription counter types of drugs. As ~~an example~~ an example of the type of patent medicine sold, a reproduction of the label appearing in English on one side of a Japanese preparation is given.

Dr Kimatsu was asked why the Pure Food and Drug Laws of his country permitted the sale of such an apparent fraud, and he replied that the laws were difficult to enforce, particularly during the war years.