

Hagi - 12-22-45

Special Report on Morale,  
English Version.

# The Answer for the United States Strategic Bombing Survey.

## 1. Change of civilian-will (<sup>Belief</sup> ~~Belief~~ <sup>Belief</sup> against the victory) in the war-time.

A. Up to this time, Hagi city is the great mother land ~~product~~ of many soldiers. Among them, <sup>the late</sup> Marshall Arimoto Yamagata, General Jichi Tanaka are the most famous.

at the beginning of war, there had been many innumerable applications toward military service, and so most young men of this city have burnt their belief against the victory.

B. But in the midst of the war, especially from 1944, they gradually began to feel uneasy about their belief, and almost discouraged their belief. That reasons are as follow.

1. The war situation turned disadvantage for Japan in succession.
2. Decreasing<sup>of</sup> the ~~to~~ supply of foods.
3. Offering their labour service to the constructions of military equipment (that is, for instance, ammunition Depot, Provision Depot, Okuni Corps, and Akatsuki troops, etc.)
4. Most men and young people had taken into military service, mobilization, and Student's Mobilizational Association.

5. Death in battle increased continuously.

6. Increasing of men and women searching their shelter from place where military installations were damaged by aircraft.

7. Pressing upon the offering of food, pine-oil, metals by government.

8. Government compelled them to save money.

C. At this time, Japanese government had intended to compose the national People's Defense Party (Kokumin-guntai) as a recovery stratagem, and tried to stimulate their fighting ~~spirits~~ <sup>spirits</sup>.

By that order from government, Hagi city composed the National People's Defense Party ~~on~~ <sup>in</sup> July, 1945.

In consequence of composing the party, fighting spirits of Hagi Citizens seemed to be vigorous.

but, air-raids by Americans became ~~so~~ violent after the defeats of Okinawa battles, and consequently the feeling of uneasiness raised.

Moreover, the engineering works of military defense had been progressing at Hagi area, some of citizens began to escape and conceal themselves at last they became numerous, in particular, they took away and hide their daily necessities and goods from the coming disturbance.

at last, they presented confusion and ~~disagement~~ and the morale was lost in August ~~1944~~ 1945.

D. And at the promulgation of closing war with defeat, consequently, they stood <sup>so</sup> aghast that they did not know whether they stood on their feet.

## 2. Condition of civilian life changed during the war time.

A. Japanese government controlled the civilian enterprises, and so compelled them ~~to~~ to change or ~~their occupation and to compelled them~~ to give up their occupation, civilian life had been

more or less transformed to a certain extent. Before the war, for instance, there ~~was~~ <sup>were</sup> 2,700 merchants, <sup>but they</sup> decreased to 650 merchants in numbers in ~~from~~ the period during the war and the post-war period.

B. ~~At a~~ general speaking, Hagi city abounded in materials. But it diminished little by little from the end of 1940, and in 1945 ~~is~~ immensely diminished, ~~that~~ <sup>thus</sup> the civilian life conditions had been deteriorating.

The fact of the low tone of civilian life is understood by the list of infectious disease increased which shows as follow,

(year)	(number of patient)
1941.....	111
1942.....	71
1943.....	137
1944.....	142
1945.....	337

C. The supply of vegetables, fishes to Hagi civilian homes had been gratified them, even though it was very little quantity.

But afterward it diminished and quite few in market, then people's complaints were often heard. The supply of principal food, rice, decreased year after year, for instance, 3.3 "go" rice in 1940, 2.7 "go" rice in 1942, 2.1 "go" rice in 1945 (one "go" equal to 0.19 litre) and they hardly maintained their lives by taking, sweet potatoes, potatoes, ~~vegetables~~ <sup>wheat</sup> and other grains

Moreover, the decreasing of other daily goods so threaten the civilian life, that black market dealers became powerful and rampant all around the city.

In this manner, the deterioration of civilian life directly influenced upon the civilian health.

Draw an instance in primary scholar. within five years, from 1940 to 1945, the school-boys lost ~~an~~ average  $\times 0.65$  kilo grams, and school-girls average  $\times 0.42$  kilo grams of body weight.

D. Others, difficult problem is in looking for residence house (house to let) due to increasing of ~~area~~ population by those whose return from principal cities to shelter from air raids. The abeyance of supply of clothes, beddings also made civilian life indigent remarkably.

### 3. Influences in civilian mind against the propaganda of Allied Forces.

A. Generally speaking, Hagi citizens are obedient. Therefore, they were engrossed in war unconsciously, by the propaganda by Japanese government. But they were ~~too~~ tired out, at last they began to harbour antipathy against Japanese Army, because of pressing labour and service works.

B. When they saw the period of war, however, felt confident that they had joined war worthlessly, as <sup>soon as</sup> government's real power and true circumstances of their leaders become <sup>clear</sup> distinctly.

C. Since receiving of the occupation troops, they found occupation troops exceedingly trustworthy, as they saw the gentleness, kindness, and culture of troops so many times.

D. They ~~signified~~ <sup>signified</sup> their intention of cooperation <sup>to</sup> peaceful new Japan establishment, and very approved of democracy.

and they; then, are making progress day by day, as keeping a motto "We found good example in America". through the all of their life.

#### 4. Change of labour conditions and produce of manufacturing situation in war time.

A. The workers had been decreased year after year. That reasons <sup>is</sup> are consisted in mobilization, that is 2.650 military services and 855 industrial personal services, it also included all students from primary scholars to middle school students.

Although, many leaders of the government tried to encourage the industries, it was in vain because of shortage of labour. The increasing of general industries should have <sup>reached</sup> arrived its meridian, ~~owing to promoting by all means~~ <sup>through every encouragement by government</sup> but the fact is, on the contrary, industries had decreased year after years. One of which the reasons why Japan had defeated is due to the shortage of labour.

a table of showing decreasing industries

Year		1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	
Agricultural Product	Number of farmer	6592	6156	6471	6279	—	
	rice	area	6188tan	6138tan	6088tan	5730tan	5650tan
		Quantity	8504koku	10139	12467	9762	8000
	wheat	area	3124tan	3328	3400	3291	2920
		Quantity	5223koku	4604	4873	4938	3900
	sweet Potatoes	Area	148tan	189	206	256	720
		Quantity	35496koku	83336	45044	59320	130000
	Potatoes	Area	118tan	103	173	359	330
Quantity		33435koku	35164	48828	72721	56000	
Marine Product	Number of fisherman	4734	4455	3690	3906	4059	
	Number of boat	693	693	760	753	505	
	amount of cost	¥5798675	4269991	4617071	3769173	—	
Industry Product	number of worker	3402	5797	6286	6142	5926	
	amount of cost	6517000	6035000	7356000	7652000	—	

5. Stimulating the fighting spirits and the processes taken against dem<sup>n</sup>stration by Allied Forces during war times.

A. Stimulating the fighting spirits

1. Japanese government tried to stimulate the civilian fighting spirits through the students' associations and neighbourhood associations, but ceased all the means of stimulating since Aug. 15th, 1945.

Then, government guided the civilian mind to the following descriptions:

- a. to protection of the bereaved families,
- b. to promote the public health,
- c. to increase the foods.

2. Dispersion of associations and meetings which concerned to the stimulating of the fighting spirits.

- a. Demobilization of association of reservists. Hagi branch. Sept. 9th.
- b. Demobilization of National People's Defense Party. Sept. 20th.
- c. Dispersion of Hagi Officers' association. Oct. 21st.
- d. Demobilization of air-defense standing guard corps. Sept. 20th.
- e. Ceasing the air-defense Engineering Works. Aug. 21st.
- f. Demobilization of Army stationed in Hagi ~~was~~ finished by the end of Sept., and the offices connected <sup>with</sup> them are the same.

3. Then, Hagi city offered a sacred prayer and report of closing war affair before the sanctuary of Kasuga Shrine on Oct. 17th, ~~which~~ <sup>and</sup> took the first step to establish the new and peaceful City of Hagi.

occupation

concerning ~~about~~ the propaganda of the Allied Forces

B. Concerned ~~to~~ about Allied Forces.

1. We held the city-meeting and gave civilian the instructions how to reform and re-construct the new Japan, and tried to gratify the civilian mind, on the 17th, August.
2. Hagi City had composed the Hagi City Council against post-war problems and ~~studied~~ <sup>investigated</sup> post-war problems, in consequence, we had divided the matters into eleven elements in order to settle the problems. Among many problems the council decided to give an utmost impulse to education, which the elements of education ~~is~~ <sup>are</sup> to teach the public how to reconstruct and reform our country, and to show ~~them~~ <sup>how</sup> to follow after allied armies directions tamely.
3. The city authorities put most their force to teach the public how to get and follow the spirits of Democracy. We must have regard to public opinion not to enforce them in every affairs, (such as enforced money saving, assignment labours) but ~~do things~~ <sup>to settle all affairs</sup> upon consultation of public opinion.  
In general, all municipal affairs should be put upon the basis of civilian's happiness and <sup>the promotion of their</sup> to promote their welfare.
4. Emphasize the citizen<sup>s</sup> as to catch the Allied Armies directives through radio and news papers as possible.
5. upon occupation of Allied Armies to Hagi city Oct. 27th, we esteem their directives <sup>are leading</sup> thankfully and lead the citizens ~~occupation~~ accordingly.

Traffic manners, cleanliness, brightness, efficiency, good arrangement and speedy, the hour to be punctual, are good examples of which we should learn from U.S. armies. We should respect U.S. armies and officers and men.

We may establish the perfect concert with them and should deal every affairs only under the best mutual understandings.

over.



December 23, 1945  
Special Report from the Hagi Police Department  
By the Chief of Police of the city of Hagi

I. Summarized review of the trend in morale since the launching of the air attacks.

Even with the outbreak of the GEA War, public sentiment in the Hagi area maintained a comparative calm. The only changes to be noted were the departures of persons conscripted for labor in food production activities and work in munition plants in other areas and the mobilization of students.

However, with the growing frequency of bombings by B-29s since May this year (1945) on such cities as the capital, Nagoya, and Osaka, the local populace began to feel apprehensive lest this area be bombed. About the first part of June, enemy reconnaissance planes began to appear over the city, and it was taken that an attack on the city would be certain. The city immediately took steps to strengthen the civilian air defenses. (Fire fighting facilities, shelter facilities, etc.)

On June 27, enemy planes sowed mines in the Hagi harbor while on July 1, Shimonoseki was subjected to an air raid of major proportions. Subsequently, Shimonoseki was again attacked on July 1 and the city of Ube was a target for an incendiary raid. On the heels of these, mines were dropped again in the Hagi harbor. With these successive enemy activities, the people grew extremely tense and fearful which was intensified by the influx of evacuees from the Shimonoseki, Ube, and the Tokuyama areas who were loud in proclaiming that there were no measures that could be taken against air raids, that everything would be razed by fire, and that no matter what means were employed they would be of no avail.

Overnight the moving of household effects took on a flurry of

activity causing all transportation facilities such as automobiles, horse-drawn carriages, etc. to be drawn into the high paying business of hauling household goods. As this was proving a great hindrance in the work of transporting important food stuffs and military supplies, strict measures were introduced to put a stop to this moving activity. Despite this, however, the people in order to circumvent such measures began to move their goods by the dark of the night, and in extreme cases, competed with each other to the transporting of even mats and building materials to the villages further inland. In times of night air raid warnings, there were some who went as far as to load their household belongings on their back and take their families to some place in the hills which they considered safe.

As a result the shortage of manpower in civilian air defense was intensified; and just while the Hagi police and defense authorities were making every effort to put a stop to such defections in order to keep the city's air defenses in good order, the city of Hiroshima was subjected to the atom bomb attack on August 6. This bombing immediately set off a round of wild terrifying rumors to the effect that since Hagi was surrounded on three sides by high mountains, it would, geographically speaking, be an ideal target for the new bomb heightening the people's fear to the extreme. Telling the people that the atom bomb was of little effect except in the complete absence of wind and that Hagi was safe because of the strong westerly winds which blew over the city, the authorities made every effort to allay the fear which terrorized the people. Just at this time, the war came to an end.

At the outset of the GEA War, the people were loud in proclaiming that all matters relating to the war should be entrusted entirely to the military. Later it became apparent that the military leaders seeing that

the war situation was becoming unfavorable to them, were attempting to shift the blame onto the people. Furthermore, in the face of the fact that they did not offer the least resistance against the enemy planes which were literally flying in the very face of their own people, they <sup>kept</sup> ~~insist~~ on insisting that victory was an absolute certainty in the coming decisive battle on the mainland. Such a state of affairs aroused grave doubts in the mind of the populace, and with the passing of time, the people began to lose confidence in the military leaders and with this loss of trust, their fighting spirit ebbed.

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Special Report from Higashi Police Dept.

報告書

萩警察署長

一、空爆開始後ニ於ケル人心ノ動向概要

大東亞戦争開始ニ到ルモ當萩地方民心ハ比較的冷静ニシテ只戦勝ノ為メノ食糧増産及他地方軍需工場ハ徵用エトシテ武學徒動員トシテ出勤スル程度ナリシモ本年五月頃ヨリ帝都ヲ初メ名古屋、大阪方面Bニ到リニ依ル爆撃頻々トシテ敢行サルルニ到リ漸ク當地方空襲ノ危険ヲ感ズルニ到リ六月初旬頃ヨリ萩市上空偵察飛行ヲ見ルニ及ビ空襲必至ノ情勢具體化シ急速ニ民防空態勢強化(防火施設、待避施設等)ヲ真剣ニ行フニ到ル

六月二十七日 萩港ニ對スル機雷投下

山口縣警察署用

二十九日 下關市、大空襲ヨリ七月一日又下關市、宇部市ノ焼走弾投下七月六日萩港ニ對スル再度ノ機雷投下ヲ見ルニ及ビ人心極度ニ緊張スルト共ニ畏怖シ居レルニ加ヘ下關、宇部、徳山地方空襲罹災者ノ當地方疎開者相出キ等疎開者ハ空襲ハ所禦シ得ルモノニ非ズ丸焼トナルニ危険ハ如何ナル方法ヲ構スルモ無益ナリトスル言動益ニ行ハル家財ノ疎用ハ急激ニ増加シ為ニ運輸機関開クル自働車馬車ハ高賃ナル疎開荷物運搬ニ流シ主要食糧ノ輸送軍需物資ノ輸送上大ナル支障ヲ痛感スルニ到リタレバ極力之ガ防止ニ努メタルモ

彼等ハ夜陰ヲ利用シ家財道具ヲ隠メ  
甚ガシキハ疊建具類迄山間村落方面  
ニ競ツテ疎用シ夜間空襲警報發令  
時ニ於テハ家財ヲ背ニ負ヒテ一家安全  
地帯ト認メラル山中へ逃避シ家ヲ空  
クル者迄續出スル情況トナル、斯クテハ  
民防空上ノ欠陥ハ益々増大スルヲ以テ  
警察警察防圍、市當局ハ萩市防空、  
完璧ノ必要上之ガ防止ニ努力中八月  
六日廣島市原子爆彈攻撃ヲ受テ  
萩市ハ其ノ地勢三面高山アル關係上  
原子爆彈攻撃ニハ最近適ナルトノ流説  
益ニ行ハレ人心ノ恐怖ハ非常ナル  
モノニナリタルヲ以テ原子爆彈ハ無風

山口縣警察署用

ノ時ニ非ザレバ効果少キ故當市ノ如キ  
西風恒ニ強キ地ニ於テハ恐ルニ足ラズト  
民バ、安定ニ努力メツ、アルトキ終戦ニ到  
ル此ノ間民バ、軍ニ對スル信頼感ハ  
大東亞戦争當初ニ於テハ戰爭ノ事ハ  
軍ヲ絶対信頼スベシト家語シタルニ拘ワ  
ラズ戰勢我ニ利アラザルニ於テハ其ノ責  
ハ國民ニ分担セシムルノ態度ニ變リ敵  
機頭上ヲ我物類ニ奪ビ去フ時ニ於テ  
砲一ツ撃ダズ其レデ居テ皇土ヲ戰ハ  
絶對ニ勝算アリトスルモ軍ノ戰意及  
動向ニ非常ナル疑問ニ持テテ人心漸  
次卑ク信頼セザルニ至ルト夫ニ戰意低  
調ヲナスニ到レリ。

K. Takeshita

Hagi  
December 23, 1945

PRECAUTIONS IN REGARD TO SPEECH AT GATHERINGS ON THE SUBJECT OF  
THE TERMINATION OF THE SAIPAN CAMPAIGN

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I. Impress upon the minds of the people that the war situation has reached a critical stage and that the nation is now at the crossroads which will determine the rise or fall of the Empire. Simultaneously, the people must be aroused to a pitch of burning hatred of the arrogant enemy and their morale must be stirred up to new heights. The fact that the people must indeed, now fight to the last with the determination that the 100,000,000 will die to defend and guard the Empire, must be strongly emphasized.

II. The people must be impressed with the fact that the war situation has reached a serious stage and that the mainland is about to become a theater of war, and that no matter what may arise, they must maintain a cool and collected spirit, overcome all difficulties, and stand in the defense of their respective posts-if need be with their lives. Their determination to forge ahead toward the final victory must be heightened and strengthened.

III. The people must be persuaded of the fact that victory or defeat depends on the strength or weakness of their will to continue and it must be held out to them that they should hold fast to the firm conviction in the final victory and not be influenced by any of the intervening developments.

IV. Emphasize the fact that without victory, East Asia will again become the victim of the aggression and plundering of America and Britain, and that the liberation of Greater East Asia and the (purposes of ?) the GEA War can ~~only~~ be brought to fruition only through the victory of our nation.

V. In speaking of any matter connected with Saipan, in referring to the losses suffered there or the war developments in that area, keep within the

scope of the information released by the Imperial Headquarters. Be especially careful not to stimulate any excitement.

(2). Although ~~there~~<sup>there</sup> is no objection to speaking about the men and youth on the island (almost all who are able to fight) and about their part in the fighting in cooperation with our armed troops, in relating of the women, restrict the subject to their efforts to help and cooperate with the Imperial forces on the home front. Avoid giving the impression that the women have taken a direct part in actual combat.

(3) There is no objection to repeating the stories of the civilians on Saipan who, in honor as Japanese, fought to the last and became martyrs, in praising their military service, or in according them honor, however, care must be taken not to convey the impression that all have died in battle, or that ~~they~~<sup>they</sup> have met with honorable defeat.

Do not give voice to any expression whatsoever which may convey the idea that some on the island may have fallen into enemy hands.

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Translation of clipping.

Imperial Headquarters Announcement.

July 18, 1944

1. During the early morning hours of July 7, our forces on Saipan, marshalling their entire might, launched their final attack against the enemy inflicting heavy ~~losses on~~<sup>losses on</sup> of his forces. A part of the enemy units were driven into an area near Mt. Tapotchau (beyond which is the "Valley of Hell" or Jigoku-no-tani -trans.). This gallant and powerful attack cost the enemy a heavy toll. It is to be believed that by July 16, our forces had met their end gallantly on the field of battle.

The commander of the army units on Saipan was Lt. Gen. Yoshitsugu

Saite while Lt. Gen. Takehisa Tsujimura commanded the naval units there. The Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the area, Vice Admiral Chuichi Nagumo also met death on the island.

2. <sup>on Saipan</sup>Appearances indicate that our compatriots/or all who could fight cooperated with our armed forces throughout the island campaign and that the majority of them have shared the fate of our armed fighting men.