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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: Takeda Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd

Personnel interrogated and background of each: Mr TAKEDA, Chobei, President of Takeda Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd. Also present at the interview were: Jiro TAKEDA, vice president, Takeda Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd; Yoshizo TAKEDA, Directing Manager; K MIKI, Director & Head of Osaka Factory; J NAKANO, Director & Mgr of Secretary Dept; S KUROKAWA, submanager, Liaison Dept; where interviewed Osaka factory, Takeda Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd. K ISHIKAWA, submanager, Mfg Dept.

Interrogator Harold B. Hilton, Lt Col, MAC

Interpreter Mr Matsuno

Allied Officers Present Photographer

Summary: This pharmaceutical house has been in existence for 160 years. It is now capitalized at approximately ¥18,000,000. At present, it has branches in Nippon, Borneo, Celebes, China, French Indo-China, Jawa, Hongkong, Malai, Minor Sunda Islands, Philippine Islands, Sumatra, and Thailand. This firm is said to be the largest pharmaceutical house in Japan.

Mr Takeda stated that his firm is now in 30% production, but that bombing as such had very little effect on productivity and manufacturing of drugs. Lack of raw materials was the trouble. He said he hoped that the supreme commander would see fit to allow him to "once more manufacture the drugs which my country so badly needs."

The interrogator was conducted on a tour of certain sections of the Takeda Plant--mainly the Vitamin B₁ ampule filling section, in which hundreds of girls were employed in the manufacture of 2-milogram units of intra-muscular thiamine chloride. It was interesting to note that much of the work that in America would be done by machine was being performed by hand.

Mr Takeda proudly explained that each woman employee of his was feed at least one meal a day at the plant, this meal costing the company 80 sen and the girl paying only 6 sen. Mr Takeda also said that throughout the war, woman employees in all his manufacturing plants had been given a hormone preparation at the time of menstruation to cut down loss of hours from work on the part of employees of this sex. It has been successful in cutting down such time losses.

He also stated that Vitamin B₁ had been prepared for and distributed to male employees of all industrial plants in Japan.

One picture was taken of the interior of the section of the Ampule-filling plant and one of the mess line of the girls. Mr Takeda furnished a catalog of the preparations of his company, and has agreed to mail statistics on the production of his plants for the war years to the interrogator in Tokyo.