

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

PLACE: Nagasaki, Japan

DATE: 8 November, 1945.

INTERROGATION NO. 323

Division of Origin: Medical Division

Subject: Evacuation and Disposal of the Dead

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

Mr. IMAIZUMI, Kinichi, Chief Hygiene Dept. Nagasaki Shi.

Where interviewed: Military Govt. Office of Public Health.

Allied Officers Present: Capt Jefferson, Lt Berberich,  
San Dir P.H.Sect.

Summary:

There was no planned evacuation. People left the city, under their own power for neighboring towns (principally Isahaya and Shimabara) and rural areas. They are now beginning to return. Officials of Nagasaki Ken have applied to the Mil. Govt. for permission to erect temporary barracks.

Dead bodies were cremated on piles of wood salvaged from destroyed buildings. This was done under supervision of the municipality by relatives of the dead. An estimated 5000 unclaimed bodies were also cremated by the municipality. Total elapsed time was about 20 days for the immediate dead and an additional 30 days for those that died later from injuries. Estimated a total of 50,000 dead.

NOTE: Mil. Govt. officials stated that the city had not been cleaned up when troops arrived. Food in warehouses was exposed and rotting, many dead bodies were unburied and the stench was terrible.

DISTRIBUTION: All Divisions.

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