

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

INTERROGATION NO. 122
(Obtain from G-2)

PLACE: Tokyo
DATE: 23 Oct. 1945.
TIME: 1400

Division of Origin: Capital Equipment & Construction.

Subject: Miscellaneous Information on Construction Materials,
General Labor Situation, etc.

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

Mr. HAYASHI -- Civil Engineer with HAZAMA-GUMI CO.
Mr. HIGASHI -- Civil Engineer, formerly with Home
Ministry.

Where interviewed: CMC Office.

Interrogator: Capt. Rosenblatt & Lt. Call

Interpreter: Lt. Holmes

Allied Officers Present: None.

Summary:

1. General Information on Labor and shifts.
2. Cement shortage.
3. Residential construction.
4. Construction Machinery.

DISTRIBUTION: All Divisions.

INTERROGATION

1. The construction industry seldom worked more than one 10-hour shift per day, but the aircraft industry worked two or three shifts. Mr. MATSUHARA said that his daughter worked at the UCHIDA Aircraft Plant, under the Student Mobilization Act. There were 400 hands at the plant, including students. 100 were skilled factory workers. There were three shifts worked until April 1945, when the number was reduced to two. The 2-shift hours were from 0730 to 1830 and 1900 to 0730. The 3-shift hours were from 0730 to 1500, from 1500 to 2100, and from 2100 to 0730.

2. Cement was available only for Army & Navy work in 1944 and 1945. There was almost no building of private homes or any sort of civilian work during the war.

3. Large firms which specialized in residential construction before the war were SHIMIZU-GUMI (Mr. TAKAHARA, Pres.), HOBAYASHI-GUMI, and KASHIMA-GUMI. The construction of private homes was under the KOBEISHO (Dept. of Welfare) and the KINSHIKU GAKKAI (Architects Association).

4. Construction machinery was controlled during the war by the Machinery Dept. of the Commerce & Industry Ministry. The DOKU KISITSU KENKYUJO (Construction Engineers Research Foundation) was supposed to advise the Department, but had no influence. As of November 1, this group will function as a part of the new Trade Association and attempt to reallocate the machinery now held by the Army, Navy, and certain large contractors who worked for the Army and Navy.