

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

PLACE TOKYO
DATE 28 Nov. 1945.

INTERROGATION NO. 470

Division of Origin: Manpower, Food & Civilian Supplies

Subject: MISO, SHOYU, VEGETABLES and FRUITS.

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

Mr. MORITA - Food Control Bureau
Mr. IWANAGA - Food Control Bureau.

Where interviewed: Their Offices, Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry.

Interrogater: Lt. W. L. Edwards.

Interpreter: Mr. Iwamoto

Allied Officers Present:

Summary:

Production and Consumption of Miso.

Production and Consumption of Shoyu.

Rationing of Miso and Shoyu.

Constituents of Miso and Shoyu

Rationing of Vegetables

Rationing of Fruits

Use of Potatoes for Alcohol Production

INTERROGATION

Interview with Mr. H. MORITA and Mr. K. IWANAGA of the Food Control Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry by Lt. Edwards at their offices. Mr. IWAMOTO acted as interpreter.

Mr. MORITA's work is concerned with Miso and Shoyu and the following information was obtained:

Production and Consumption of Miso:

| <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Production</u> | <u>Domestic Consumption</u> | <u>Exports</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1942 | 479,625 | 464,064 | 7,524 |
| 1943 | 525,192 | 484,681 | 7,524 |
| 1944 | 485,691 | 546,490 | 5,992 |

Production and Consumption of Shoyu:

| <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Production</u> | <u>Domestic Consumption</u> | <u>Exports</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1939 | 1,075,562 | 1,035,373 | 34,838 |
| 1940 | 1,104,782 | 1,066,204 | 33,082 |
| 1941 | 1,099,928 | 1,062,835 | 31,571 |
| 1942 | 873,223 | 857,759 | 14,070 |
| 1943 | 822,327 | 826,839 | 9,988 |
| 1944 | 758,488 | 754,700 | 5,739 |
| 1945 | 592,913 | 590,304 | 2,609 |

Rationing of Miso and Shoyu:

The rationing of miso and shoyu was carried out on a prefectural basis, i.e., according to the normal consumption pattern various areas. The warmer areas normally consumed less miso and more shoyu, therefore rationing was carried out on this general scheme. Rationing started in February 1942, and the quantity remained the same until July 1945 when the quantity of both commodities was reduced. Detailed data by prefectures and periods were obtained. Farmers who grew soybeans and other crops from which to produce homemade miso and shoyu received no ration of these products; farmers who did not, received the ration.

Constituents of Miso and Shoyu

Either rice or barley was normally used with soybeans in producing miso, however, beginning in 1944 sweet potatoes were used also in manufacturing miso. Shoyu is made from soybeans, wheat and salt the average pre-war consumption of soybeans for this purpose was 150,000 tons. During the war about 120,000 tons were so utilized.

The following information regarding fruits and vegetables was obtained from Mr. IWANAGA,

Rationing of Vegetables

Rationing under central Government authority for vegetables and fruits was carried out only in the 6 large cities (Tokyo, Kyoto, Kobe, Nagoya, Yokohama, and Osaka) rationing for other areas was controlled by prefectural and local governments, based on local supplies.

The quantities of vegetables (sweet potatoes and white potatoes excluded) distributed by the central government were (1942-1945):

| | |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 1942 | 419,100,000 kan |
| 1943 | 438,000,000 kan |
| 1944 | 272,000,000 kan |
| 1945 | 200,000,000 kan (estimated) |

The quantity of vegetables distributed in Tokyo per capita per day was:

| | |
|------|----------------------|
| 1942 | 60 momme |
| 1943 | 58 momme |
| 1944 | 30 momme |
| 1945 | 20 momme (estimated) |

No differential was made between ration classes except extra allotments to heavy laborers at their factories. These allotments amounted to approximately 50% of the normal ration.

Reasons for the falling off of the quantity of vegetables distributed were given as:

1. Reduction in acreage
2. Fertilizer shortage
3. Black market sales by producers

Mr. IWANAGA made the point that transportation difficulties were not a factor in lower supplies because the production of vegetables decreased simultaneously with deterioration of the transportation facilities.

Rationing of Fruits:

Rationing of fruits was carried on the same as for vegetables, the quantity distributed by the central Government was as follows:

| | |
|------|----------------------------|
| 1942 | 86,500,000 kan |
| 1943 | 72,000,000 kan |
| 1944 | 44,840,000 kan |
| 1945 | 25,000,000 kan (estimated) |

The per capita annual distribution in Tokyo was:

| | |
|------|------------|
| 1942 | 3,650 kan |
| 1943 | 2,920 kan |
| 1944 | 11,420 kan |
| 1945 | 700 kan |

Reasons for the decrease in the quantity of fruit distributed officially were:

1. Shortage of insecticides
2. Shortage of fertilizer
3. Acreage reduction (land utilization shifts and labor shortage).
4. Black market operations.

Use of Potatoes for Alcohol Production:

Potatoes, beginning with 1942, were considered as a staple food and were distributed in progressively growing amounts in the staple grain ration. The production, quantity the government distributed as food, and the quantity used for alcohol were as follows:

SWEET POTATOES

| Year | (1000 kan) Production | (1000 kan) Distributed in Staple Ration | (1000 kan) Used for Alcohol Production |
|------|--------------------------|---|--|
| 1943 | 1,072,000 | 318,000 | 75,000 |
| 1944 | 1,003,000 | 377,000 | 89,000 |
| 1945 | 1,200,000 | 400,000 | 100,000 (plan) |

WHITE POTATOES

| Year | (1000 kan) Production | (1000 kan) Distributed in Staple Ration | (1000 kan) Used for Al- cohol production |
|------|--------------------------|---|--|
| 1943 | 551,000 | 243,000 | 13,000 |
| 1944 | 671,000 | 223,000 | 11,000 |
| 1945 | 650,000 | 115,000* | 28,000 (plan) |

* as of 27 November 1945