

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

INTERROGATION NO. 321
(~~Obtain from G-2~~)

PLACE Tokyo, Japan
DATE 11 Nov 45

Division of Origin Medical Division

Subject: Sewage System of Tokyo City

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

Mr. Kubo, Head of Sewage Dept, Tokyo City

Where interviewed Sewage Dept, Tokyo City (on 1 Nov 45)

Interrogator Capt Paul J Houser, SnC

Interpreter Lt Potter, USNR

Allied Officers Present None

Summary: Mr Kubo displayed a map showing the sewer system of Tokyo Shi. The city is divided into three districts as follows:

1. Shibaura, with one pump station, electric power
2. Nukawashima, with 5 pump stations, electric power
3. Sunamachi, with 4 pump stations, electric power.

Total length of sewer system, collectors and laterals is 1200 miles. Laterals are 23 to 80 cm in diameter, laid at average depth of 1.2 meters, sometimes reaching a depth of 3 meters. Sewers are V.C. pipe (some precast concrete) laid in center of street.

There were approximately 40 breaks in the lateral collecting sewers and one break in a horseshoe section, main collector. The latter damage was a hole about 2 meters in diameter and 2 meters deep, resulting from the raid of 28 Jan 45.

Pestilence: all drains

There was no damage to the disposal plants. The pump stations were undamaged by hits or fire, but were shut down for a period of 2 or 3 days because of power failure.

Three of these stations are equipped with standby gasoline engines. Sewage from the others overflowed through automatic overflow lines into the drainage canals. Houses do not have basements, hence any blockage of the sewers would not cause sewage to back up into the houses.

Approximately 30% of the homes discharge sewage into the collection and disposal system. The remaining 70% discharge it into cesspools from which the sewage is collected periodically by contractors employing Korean labor, and sold to farmers as fertilizer. These cesspools are usually V.C. tubs 45 to 60 cm in diameter and 50 to 80 cm deep.

Canals receive only storm water from street drainage, although there may be some sewage discharged from residences and other buildings located adjacent thereto.

Kubo promised to prepare a detailed description of the sewage system including the disposal plants and a detailed account of the damages incurred as a result of air raids, to be delivered in two weeks.