

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

INTERROGATION NO.: 176

PLACE: TOKYO  
DATE: 27 Oct 45

Division of Origin: Morale.

Subject: Japanese Civilian Morale.

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

NAMBARA, Shigeru - Dean of the Faculty of Law,  
Tokyo Imperial University.

Where interviewed: Tokyo Imperial University.

Interrogator: Dr Frederick S. Hulse.

Interpreter: Lt BOYD, USNR

Summary:

Dean NAMBARA was asked to provide the names of Japanese academic personnel competent to judge the state of civilian morale during the war. He promised to do so, and has already sent us a list including names, and in some cases addresses, of individuals at four different cities.

He was also questioned with regard to his own judgement of morale in Japan during the war. He answered that people knew nothing during the war, but were kept under tight control so that they could do nothing even though frightened. They were relieved at the end of the war, but would have had to fight on if the Emperor had so ordered. Educated people knew from the beginning that the war was unjust, and tried to stop it. He himself had discussed this with the Navy after the invasion of Okinawa, and the Navy agreed, but it took 3 months of manoeuvring to bring about the surrender. U. S. propaganda he considered to be good, but more of it should have come earlier. During the war there was complete unity among all classes; all did their duty. But during the last few months discouragement caused absenteeism and lack of diligence. Now he hopes for academic freedom and education for individual aims as the source of reformation in Japan. He believes that people are thinking politically, despite the intensity of personal problems.

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