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PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION  
PRISON BRANCH

17 July 1950

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Kobe Main Prison  
CODE NUMBER OF INSTITUTION: 123  
LOCATION: 120 Okubo-machi, Morita, Akashi-gun, Hyogo Prefecture  
DATE OF INSPECTION: 12 June 1950  
DATE OF REPORT: 27 June 1950  
NAME OF WARDEN: K. Taheshi  
NAME OF JAPANESE INSPECTOR: S. Suyama and H. Kishino  
PRISON BRANCH PSD REPRESENTATIVE: E. L. Maxwell

I A 1 a (1)

I

ADMINISTRATION

A	Personnel	
1	Authorized T/O	257
2	Number of personnel employed	249
3	Number of personnel on duty status	247
a	Ill	2
b	Leave	1
c	IDY	10 (to Holdnide)
d	Dist Training School	7
e	Central Tng School	0
f	Other	0
4	Number of personnel taking on the job training	0

2	Number of personnel employed	249			
3	Number of personnel on duty status	247			
a	Ill	2			
b	Leave	1			
c	TDY	10 (to Hokkaido)			
d	Dist Training School	7			
e	Central Ing School	0			
f	Other	0			
4	Number of personnel taking on the job training	0			
5	Number of personnel taking institutional refresher courses	15			
6	No hired last 12 months	105			
7	No dismissed or returned last 12 months	98			
B	Budget				
1	Allotted Funds	Alot	Expd	Add Comm	Balance
a	Industry	12,140,000	¥8,510,141	¥12,774	5,617,085
b	Construction New	0	0	0	0
c	Maintenance	180,000	750	0	179,250
d	Operations	23,474,531	14,760,516	656,374	8,057,641
e	Total	35,794,531	21,271,407	669,148	14,523,124

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Required Funds

a	Industry	34,695,000
b	Construction New	26,192,000
c	Maintenance	300,000
d	Operations	96,126,492
e	Total	157,313,492

C

Accounts

1	Amt of Petty Cash on Hand	92,053
a	Security of cash on hand	Steel safe
b	Method of Paying Invoices	Check
c	Method of paying inmates	Cash

D

Supplies

1	Food (Sources)	
a	Staples	Under ration, Food Distribution Agency
b	Meat and Fish	Open market
c	Vegetables	60% produced on prison farms 40% open market
2	Clothing and bedding	Inadequate clothing and bedding That which is on hand is in poor condition
3	Medical supplies	Adequate

D	Supplies	
1	Food (Sources)	
a	Staples	Under ration, Food Distribution Agency
b	Meat and Fish	Open market
c	Vegetables	60% produced on prison farm 40% open market
2	Clothing and bedding	Inadequate clothing and bedding That which is on hand is in poor condition
3	Medical supplies	Adequate
4	Storage	Good
a	Structure, type & number	2 stucco type single story buildings
5	Inventory control system	Yes
a	Method of accounting for expendables	Stock control system
(1)	Frequency of inventory	Twice each month
b	Method of accounting for non-expendables	Stock control
(1)	Frequency of inventory	Once each month

II

CLASSIFICATION

A	Psychologist	No. (Medical Doctor acting in this capacity.
1	Number of assistants	None
2	Full or part time	Full time (Medical Doctor)

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B	Items covered in Social History	All items are properly covered
C	Is initial Classification performed upon arrival	Yes
1	Within what length of time	Within 30 days
2	Used for cell assignments	Yes
3	Used for work assignments	Yes
D	Is reclassification performed	Yes
1	How often	Every six months for those whose sentence is 8 months or longer, every two months for those less than 8 months.
E	Is pre-parole class performed	Yes
1	Is is used for parole recommendations	Yes
2	Is pre-parole report submitted 60 days before eligibility date	Yes
3	Are recommendations forwarded on eligibility date	Yes
4	Are proper channels followed	Yes
5	Is parole being considered as per par (1) of parole procedure regulations	Yes
III	EDUCATION	
A	Academic	Yes (illiterates only)

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B	Items covered in Social History	All items are properly covered
C	Is initial Classification performed upon arrival	Yes
1	Within what length of time	Within 30 days
2	Used for cell assignments	Yes
3	Used for work assignments	Yes
D	Is reclassification performed	Yes
1	How often	Every six months for those whose sentence is 8 months or longer, every two months for those less than 8 months.
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5	Is parole being considered as per par (1) of parole procedure regulations	Yes
III	EDUCATION	
A	Academic	Yes (illiterates only)

	Is pre-parole class performed	Yes
1	Is is used for parole recommendations	Yes
2	Is pre-parole report submitted 60 days before eligibility date	Yes
3	Are recommendations forwarded on eligibility date	Yes
4	Are proper channels followed	Yes
5	Is parole being considered as per par (1) of parole procedure regulations	Yes
III	EDUCATION	
A	Academic	Yes (illiterates only)
1	Director	No. Chief of Education, Secretary is acting in this capacity at present, due to the fact that he is unable to secure a certified director.
a	Number of assistants	Two
b	Full or part time	Full time
2	Educational breakdown of inmates	
a	Illiterates	69
b	Literates	2245
3	Elective Course	None
4	Required Courses	Language, Sociology, Composition, and Arithmetic
5	School hours	2 hours per day - 5 days per week

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6	Teaching Staff	Yes
a	Number	Three
b	Part or full time	Full
7	Number of guest speakers last 12 months	42
a	Number of lectures given last 12 months	52
b	Subjects discussed	Religion, Current Events, Civics and History
c	Visual aids and Tng films	Visual aids only
B	Vocational	Yes
1	Director	No, at present two technicians are acting in this capacity.
a	Number of assistants	Two (inmate's assistants)
b	Full or part time	Full time
2	Subjects taught	Woodwork only
3	Facilities	Adequate
4	Training hours	3 hours per day, over a two months' period.
5	Instructors (technicians)	Two
a	Inmates	Two
6	No inmates participating	30

		acting in this capacity.	
	a	Number of assistants	Two (inmate's assistants)
	b	Full or part time	Full time
	2	Subjects taught	Woodwork only
	3	Facilities	Adequate
	4	Training hours	3 hours per day, over a two months' period.
	5	Instructors (technicians)	Two
	a	Inmates	Two
	6	No inmates participating	30
IV		MEDICAL AND SANITATION	
A		Medical Staff	
	1	Doctor	Yes - two
	a	Number of assistants	Two
	b	Full or part time	Full
	2	Dentist	No, a dentist comes twice each week from National Hospital at Okubo
	a	Number of Assistants	None
	b	Full or part time	Part time
B		Hospital	
	1	Type of buildings	Wood and concrete
	2	Condition of building	Good
	3	Sanitation	Good
	4	Capacity	193
	5	Population	101

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a	Breakdown by type of illness	T.B. 30; V.D. 15; Leper, 1; Other, 55
6	Sick call	Yes, daily.
7	Equipment	
a	Surgical instruments	Insufficient
b	X-ray	Adequate with the exception of lead shielding to protect operator.
c	Operating Room	Insufficient
d	Isolation ward	Yes
(1)	Are contagious diseases isolated	Yes
e	Mental Ward	None
f	Windows and doors screened	Yes
C	Procedure	
1	Are new arrivals given examination	Yes
a	Physical (by whom)	By Doctor
b	Mental (by whom)	" "
2	Are periodical physical & mental check given	Yes
a	How often	Every three months
3	Method of obtaining medical attention	By taking advantage of daily sick call and through administrative channels in case of emergency.

C

Procedure

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | Are new arrivals given examination                 | Yes  |
| a | Physical (by whom)                                 | By Doctor  |
| b | Mental (by whom)                                   | " "  |
| 2 | Are periodical physical & mental check given       | Yes  |
| a | How often  | Every three months   |
| 3 | Method of obtaining medical attention              | By taking advantage of daily sick call and through administrative channels in case of emergency.   |
| 4 | No deaths last 12 months                           | 15   |
| a | Causes of deaths                                   | All natural  |
| 5 | No released for medical reasons last 12 months     | 38   |
| 6 | No deaths following medical release last 12 months | 16   |
| 7 | Methods of handling psychiatric cases              | Originally examined by Prison Doctor who in turn obtains the services of a psychiatrist from the Akaski Mental Hospital; if patient is declared insane, he is then released from institution and committed to mental hospital. |
| 8 | Are food handlers given periodical physical exams  | Yes  |
| a | How often  | Once each month  |

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9	Daily food allowances	Staples	Calories	Veg.	Calories
2		2694	"	497	"
3		2349	"	"	Calories
4		2005	"	"	"
5		1545	"	"	"

Hospital patients receive an additional calory ration of 199.

V	Inmates	
A	Total population	2547
1	Sentenced	2547
2	Not sentenced	None
3	Nationality	
a	Japanese	2265
b	Korean	277
c	Chinese	5
d	Other	
4	Communist	10
5	Average age bracket	28 years
6	Grading of inmates	1-2-3-4
7	Segregation by type	Yes
8	Total number of inmates working	1871
9	Total number of inmates idle	676
a	Reason for idleness	101 sick; 3 disciplinary action;

	c	Chinese	5
	d	Other	
	4	Communist	10
	5	Average age bracket	28 years
	6	Grading of inmates	1-2-3-4
	7	Segregation by type	Yes
	8	Total number of inmates working	1871
	9	Total number of inmates idle	676
	a	Reason for idleness	101 sick; 3 disciplinary action; 289 under classification; 303 idle due to inadequate shop facilities and shortage of material.
	B	Mail, visitors & inmate morale	
	1	Is mail censored	Yes
	a	Loss of mail privileges	No
	2	Visitors Are visits supervised	Yes
	3	Morale of inmates	Good
	a	Channel for inmates complaints	Adm. channels and direct contact with warden.
	C	Custody and discipline	
	1	Guard-prisoner ratio	1 to 11

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2	Types of disciplinary action	As specified in Article 60 of Prison Law
a	Number cases last 12 months	805
b	Who holds Disciplinary Court	Warden and staff
3	Number escapes last 12 months	1 escape from outside work project
a	Circumstances of escapes	Walk away from construction project
b	Recoveries	None
4	Written riot & escape plan	Yes
a	Coordinated with local police	Yes
5	Emergency disaster plan	Yes
6	Type of alarm system	Siren, telephone, and bell
D	Recreation	
1	Athletic facilities and Equip	Insufficient
2	Organized athletics	Yes
3	Entertainment	
a	Movies How often	No
B		
b	Inmate stage show group	Yes
	(1) How often shown	4 times each year
	(2) Other than main institution	No
c	Civilian stage shows	Yes

D	Recreation	
1	Athletic facilities and Equip	Insufficient
2	Organized athletics	Yes
3	Entertainment	
a	Movies How often	No
B		
b	Inmate stage show group	Yes
(1)	How often shown	4 times each year
(2)	Other than main institution	No
c	Civilian stage shows	Yes
(1)	How often	Two during last FY
(2)	Sponsored by whom	Local Civic Groups
(3)	Censored before showing	Yes
4	Library	Yes
a	Type of books	History, Religion, Fiction and Reference
b	Number of books	2154
c	Method of issue	Index Card System/cell and shop
5	Band or orchestra	Band (10 piece)
E	Religion	
1	No of chaplains that visit per month	4
2	Frequency of services	Once each week

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VI	INDUSTRY	
A	Within institution	
1	Contracts	
a	Government	
(1)	Number of contracts	8
(2)	Written or oral	Written and oral
(3)	Type of industry	Woodwork, metal work, printing, tile making, and leather work
(4)	Length of contracts	3 months
(5)	Amount of contracts	¥2,307,924
(6)	Number of inmates employed	454
(7)	Number of technicians employed	8
(8)	Equipment	100% Gov owned
b	Private Contracts	
(1)	Number of contracts	11
(2)	Written or oral	Written and oral
(3)	Type of Industry	Metal, leather, printing, wood work, tile making, weaving, and brush manufacturing
(4)	Length of contracts	3 months
(5)	Amount of contracts	¥4,587,450
(6)	Number of inmates employed	910

- |   |                                    |  |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
|   | (7) Number of technicians employed | 8  |
|   | (8) Equipment                      | 100% Gov owned   |
| b | Private Contracts                  |  |
|   | (1) Number of contracts            | 11   |
|   | (2) Written or oral                | Written and oral   |
|   | (3) Type of Industry               | Metal, leather, printing, wood work, tile making, weaving, and brush manufacturing |
|   | (4) Length of contracts            | 3 months   |
|   | (5) Amount of contracts            | ¥4,587,450   |
|   | (6) Number of inmates employed     | 910  |
|   | (7) Number of technicians employed | 8  |
|   | (8) Working schedule               | 8 hours per day  |
|   | (9) Equipment                      | Gov owned 70% Privately owned 30%  |
| B | Outside Projects (less farm)       |  |
| 1 | Contracts                          |  |
| a | Government (direct)                |  |
|   | (1) Number                         | One  |
|   | (2) Written or oral                | Written contract   |
|   | (3) Type of project                | Building breakwater at Kebe harbor   |
|   | (4) Length of contract             | 3 months   |
|   | (5) Amount of contract             | ¥677,580   |
|   | (6) Number of inmates employed     | 61   |
|   | (7) Number of technicians employed | 0  |

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(8)	Working schedule	8 hour day - 6 day week
(9)	Equipment	100% Gov owned
b	Private	None
(1)	Number	---
c	Gov projects under private contract	None
C	Prison Farms	
1	Size of tract	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ chobu (approx. 10 acres)
a	Gov owned or leased	Gov owned
2	Equipment	Adequate
a	Gov owned or leased	Gov owned
3	No of inmates employed	54
4	No of guards employed	7
5	Production income	¥1,001,443
a	Grain	¥60,000
b	Vegetables	¥641,443
c	Livestock	¥300,000
d	Other	0
6	Utilization of produce	All produce consumed at institution
7	Living conditions	Live at institution
8	Type and amount of fertilizer used	Commercial, compost, and night soil

	Gov owned or leased	Gov owned
3	No of inmates employed	54
4	No of guards employed	7
5	Production income	¥1,001,443
a	Grain	¥60,000
b	Vegetables	¥641,443
c	Livestock	¥300,000
d	Other	0
6	Utilization of produce	All produce consumed at institution
7	Living conditions	Live at institution
8	Type and amount of fertilizer used	Commercial, compost, and night soil
D	Industry (general)	
1	Shop facilities and condition of equip	Are inadequate
2	Industrial safeguards	Adequate
3	Market for mfg goods	The demand for manufactured goods is gradually falling off.
4	Competition with private industry	Increasing, especially in printing
5	Raw material	
a	Procurement	Open market and from ration boards
b	Warehousing (stockpile)	Steel - 2 weeks Lumber - 3 months Paper - 3 months Leather - 2 months Scrap iron - 4 months
6	Inmates monthly average wage	¥43.26

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7	Industrial quota	¥58,000,000
8	Total income from all industries	As of 1 May, ¥1,370,000
9	List shortages of machines equip and raw materials	Needs 12 milling machines " 10 metal lathes 1 42" band saw 1 18" plainer
10	Are all contracts subject to approval by NHQ	No, approved at Dist. Hq.
VII PHYSICAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
A	Rated capacity	1305
B	Type of construction	Wood, stucco, and concrete
1	Condition	Good, except for single type cell block
2	Ventilation	Good
3	Lighting	Good
4	Heating	None
5	Sanitation	Fair
a	Sewage disposal	Poor (open drainage ditches)
6	Bathing facilities	Good
a	Frequency of baths	Once each week
C	Security features	
1	Fence or wall, materials	Concrete

2	Ventilation	Good
3	Lighting	Good
4	Heating	None
5	Sanitation	Fair
a	Sewage disposal	Poor (open drainage ditches)
6	Bathing facilities	Good
a	Frequency of baths	Once each week
C	Security features	
1	Fence or wall, materials	Concrete
a	Height and condition	5 meters and in good condition
2	Locking system	Standard
3	Type and size of cells	Ranging from single cell of 2.48 tsube to dormitory type cell of 6.02 tsube
4	Armory	
a	Location	Custody office which is inside the main wall
b	Adequate security	No, at present weapons and ammunition are stored in a wooden cabinet that could easily be broken into.
c	Type and number of weapons	11 pistols 8 rifles
	(1) Condition	All serviceable
d	Ammunition, type and amount	5131 rounds - pistols 271 " - rifles
D	Kitchen	

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1	Facilities and equipment	Adequate
2	Sanitation	Good
3	Doors and windows screened	Yes
4	Food storage	Good
E	Fire equipment	
1	Type	1 gasoline pump, two manually operated pumps and 16 chemical fire extinguishers
2	Condition	Good
3	Number of static pools and/or hydrants	4 pools; 4 hydrants
4	Periodical inspections	Once per month
5	Written fire plan	Yes
a	Coordinated with local FD	Yes
6	Frequency of fire drills	Once each month
7	Fire marshal graduate of central fire school, Tokyo	Yes
VIII	WARDEN'S COMMENTS AND REMARKS	(1) Approximately 1/5 of those inmates who are actually eligible for parole are turned down due to the fact they have no place to go. (2) Need new single type cell block and <del>an</del> auditorium. (3) An increase of 50 guard personnel, so that outside contracts can be accepted. (4) Relocate prison armory. (5) Needs sewer tile for sewage disposal system. (6) <del>Need</del> <del>to</del> <del>provide</del> <del>housing</del>

	5	Written fire plan	Yes
	a	Coordinated with local PD	Yes
	6	Frequency of fire drills	Once each month
	7	Fire marshal graduate of central fire school, Tokyo	Yes
VIII		WARDEN'S COMMENTS AND REMARKS	(1) Approximately 1/5 of those inmates who are actually eligible for parole are turned down due to the fact they have no place to go. (2) Need new single type cell block and <del>one</del> auditorium. (3) An increase of 50 guard personnel, so that outside contracts can be accepted. (4) Relocate prison armory. (5) Needs sewer tile for sewage disposal system. (6) A dormitory to provide housing for bachelor guards. (7) Needs one more gasoline operated fire fighting unit.
IX		CONCLUSIONS	Administratively this institution is being well operated. Industrial program is functioning as well as can be expected with what facilities are available. The farm site is well managed. Rating, satisfactory.
X		RECOMMENDATIONS	(1) That National Headquarters release construction budget as soon as possible. (2) New cloth for clothing and bedding should be allocated in early summer in order to permit sufficient time to complete tailoring before cold weather. (3) Obtain a director for academic and vocational training to absorb idle population. (4) Allocate funds to construct adequate shop facilities and equipment in order to provide employment for idle inmates. (5) Form work crews

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RECOMMENDATIONS

out of the present idle and clean up the yard and factories. (6) Construct an auditorium. (7) Relocate armory by transferring from present site in Custody Office to second floor of new administration building. (8) Construct a dormitory for guard personnel. (9) Provide institution with additional firefighting equipment. (10) A sewage disposal system should be installed as soon as possible. (11) Watch towers should be constructed at the corners of the perimeter wall. (12) Remove pig sty from inside prison to the adjacent farm tract. (13) Obtain training films through District Headquarters. (14) Provide adequate operating room equipment. (15) Provide additional athletic equipment. (16) All contracts whether Government or private, should be in writing. (17) Provide additional books for library.