

~~SECRET~~

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

PLACE: Moriguchi

DATE: 24 Oct. 1945.

INTERROGATION NO. 216
(Obtain from G-2)

Division of Origin: Capital Equipment & Construction.

Subject: Matsushita Electric Industries Co., Ltd.,
at Moriguchi.

Personnel interrogated and background of each.

MATSUSHITA, Konosuke --- President.
SCRIBA, Karl ----- Secretary to the President.
(Father was German, mother
Japanese, Graduate of U.S.C.
Class of '32)
TAKAHASHI, A. ----- Junior managing director.
HIGASHI, G. ----- Adviser to the President.
NARAO, T. ----- Managing Director of Radio.

Where interviewed: Moriguchi.

Interrogator: Maj. G.J. Hales.

Interpreter: Lient. C.B. Love.

Allied Officers Present: Sgt. G.L. Balash.

Summary:

In the Matsushita organization (incorporated in 1935) there were five companies producing electrical equipment with varying members of factories under each of them. They are listed below:

(1) Kadoma Wireless Co. - OSAKA.

No. of other plants - 14
No. of employees - 4,000 (approx)
Air raid damage - None
Main Products - Radio receiving sets
" sending sets

Percentage of total
prod. to Army & Navy- 1943 - 30%
1944 - 60%
1945 - 80% (60% Navy 20%
Army)

(2) Kadoma Electric Co. - OSAKA.

No. of other plants - 3
No. of employers - 1200
Air raid damage - None
Main Products - Motors, electric resister
furnaces (50 to 200 Kile)
Large switchboards,
converters.

DISTRIBUTION: All Divisions

(3) Vacuum Tube Co. Ebisu Bashi, Osaka

No. of other plants - 8 (all small)
No. of employees - 800
Air raid damage - 30% completely destroyed.
Main products - Electric bulbs, vacuum tubes, fuses, small lamps.

(4) Dry Battery Company, Tsurunu Bashi - Osaka

No. of other plants - 8
No. of employees - 1500
Air raid damage - 20% completely destroyed
Main Products - Dry batteries, storage batteries, flashlight cages.

(5) Carbon Co. - Osaka

No. of other plants - 2 (small)
No. of employees - 200
Air raid damage - 20% completely damaged
Main products - Carbon rods, graphite rods, grounding poles for batteries.

In addition to the above five plants Matsushita had an Electric Refining Company at Suzoki, Shikoku, which manufactured electrolytic manganese. Conduit tubes were also made by Matsushita at a plant in Kadoma (Osaka area).

Prior to the war Matsushita manufactured ordinary electrical appliances such as flat irons, radio, lamps, etc. They did not become engaged in war work until the end of 42, and then only to a small degree. Their first large scale conversion to wartime manufacture took place in 1943. Matsushita was also engaged in the manufacture of wooden ships, bombs, etc.

This Company also has another division devoted to the manufacture of machine tools, lathes, grinders, drill presses and the like.

They will prepare statistics and answers to the Electrical questionnaire for each of their five electrical equipment products, and will prepare the machine tool questionnaire for the other plant. These questionnaires will be completed and brought to our office on 5th Nov. 1945.