

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

Interrogation No. 262
(Obtain from G-2)

Place: Tokyo
Date: 30 October 45.

Division of Origin: M.F. & C.

Subject: Japanese Food Procurement and other factors
pertaining to the Military Food Program.

Personnel Interrogated and background of each:

Colonel SHIMOHAWA - Head of Food and Clothing Board.
Major KOUDA - Assistant on Foods.

Where interviewed: Peers School, Tokyo, Japan.

Interrogator: Ray HASHITANI

Interpreter: Dr. NELSON.

Allied Officers Present: Lt. Schimidt, Lt. Forrest.

SUMMARY

Inclosed in interview are charts showing procurement
consumption imports and exports of food pertaining to Military.

Distribution: All Divisions.

Interview with Col. SHIMOHAWA, Head of Food and Clothing Board and Major KOUDA, Assistant on Foods. This is the third of a series of interviews held with the above people for the purpose of securing information on Japanese military food procurement, shipments, consumption, and other foactors pertaining to the Military Food Program. The following items were discussed:

TABLE I

Volume of certain foods received by the Army from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

YEAR**	COMMODITY			
	RICE (KILOTONS)	BARLEY (KILOTONS)	MISO (KILOTONS)	SHOYU (KILOTONS)
1942	151,000	64,500	15,347	12,544
1943	207,000	87,662	17,150	13,235
1944	250,000	148,487	33,466	28,732
1945	360,000	Not Harvested	32,651	8,310

* These figures were given to the Food and Clothing Board by the Department of Agriculature and Forestry.

** Months covered in a year for:
Rice - November 1 thru October 31.
Barley - July 1 thru June 30.
Miso and Shoyu - fiscal year, April thru March.

1945 figures include data only thru August.

TABLE II

Supplies consumed by the Army Units in Japan Proper*

Commodity Units	YEAR **			
	1942	1943	1944	1945***
Rice* Kilotons	81,600	104,500	197,100	302,940
Barley* Kilotons	23,360	29,200	58,400	- - - -
Miso* Kilotons	10,347	11,150	25,216	28,652
Shoyu* Kilotons	7,544	7,235	19,859	4,810

* All figures furnished in this table are estimates made by the Japanese Military Food and Clothing Board.

** Months covered in a year for:
Rice - November thru October.
Barley - July thru June.
Miso and Shoyu fiscal year, April thru March.

*** 1945 figures include data thru August.

TABLE III

Total volume of all shipments of food related items to forward areas from Japan in Kilotons by years. (Items included in these shipments are shown in Table III-A)

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
MANCHURIA (Shipments)	6000	18000	20000	20000	20000	1000
(Arrivals)	5000	16000	14000	13000	14000	700
CHINA (Shipments)	20000	15000	10000	5000		
(Arrivals)	18500	13000	8000	4000		
S.W. PACIFIC (Shipments)			20000	140000		
(Arrivals)			14000	80000		
CEN PACIFIC (Shipments)					12000	
(Arrivals)					6500	
ALEUTIANS (Shipments)			1000	10000		
(Arrivals)			900	8500		
PHILIPPINES (Shipments)			10000	10000	3000	
(Arrivals)			7000	6000	600	

* All figures contained in this table are estimates made by men in the Japanese Food and Clothing Board. Records containing specific figures have been lost or destroyed.

Figures in parenthesis are actual arrival figures.

It is interesting to note in the above table, the shipments are always greater than the actual arrivals or unloads in the forward areas. These losses are attributed primarily to spoilage from sea water or decay, breakage and from sinking of cargo ships.

TABLE III-A

Volume of commodities as percent of total shipments to Manchuria.

YEAR	Dried & Frozen Fish	Sea-Weed & Onions	Tea	Pickled Plums	Yeast, Condiments, etc.	Hard Tack Shoyu, Miso Canned Meat	Packing Materials etc.	T
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1942	40	30	2.5	5	5	10	7.5	100
1943	40	25	2.5	5	10	12	5.5	100
1944	30	25	2.5	5	20	15	2.5	100
1945	0	0	0	0	60	0	4.0	100

TO CHINA

YEAR	Dried & Frozen Fish	Canned Meat	Sea-weed	Pickled Plums	Yeast Condi-ments, etc.	Packing Mater-ials	T
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1942	60	2	5	10	18	5	100
1943	40	0	0	10	46	4	100
1944	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TO SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

YEAR	Rice & Barley	Hard Tack	Meats	Condi-ments	Vege-tables	Pickles (Tsukemono)	Yeast etc.	T
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1942	60	5	9	5	4	2	15	100
1943	65	5	8	5	3	2	12	100

TO CENTRAL PACIFIC

YEAR	Rice & Barley	Hard Tack	Meats	Condi* ments	Vege-tables	Pickles (Tsukemono)	Yeast, etc.	T
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1944	60	5	10	5	5	2	13	100

* All these figures are estimates made by men in the Japanese Food and Clothing Board.

TO ALUETIANS

YEAR	Rice & Barley	Hard Tack	Meats	Condi* ments	Vege-tables(Tsukemono)	Pickles	Yeast etc.	T
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1942	62	3	6	5	6	2	16	100
1943	62	3	6	5	6	2	16	100

TO PHILIPPINES

YEAR	Rice & Barley	Hard Tack	Meats	Condi* ments	Vege- tables	Pickles (Tsukemono)	Yeast etc.	T
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1942		45	20	15			20	100
1943		50	20	20			10	100
1944	83	83		10			7	100

Actual figures on shipments of rice to occupied territories were available so they have been included in this report as follows:

TABLE IV:

Metric tons of rice shipped to Japanese occupied territories from Japan Proper, 1940-45*

Source: Military Food and Clothing Board (Japanese)**

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
North China	7,000	-	-	-	-	-
S.W. PACIFIC	-	-	7,000	50,000	-	-
Central Pacific	-	-	-	-	5,000	-
Aleutians	-	-	300	3,500	-	-
Total	7,000	-	7,300	53,500	5,000	-

** Given to USSBS by Col. SHIMOKAWA, Head of the Board, October 22, 1945.

* Rice years - November - October.

Number of men garrisoned in Japan during the war:

We were told that as the war progressed, more and more men were brought in from forward areas as captured holdings were lost, but they have no specific figures. According to Major KONDA and Col. SHIMOKAWA, however, the imperial General Staff has more specific information with respect to the above.

NUTRITIONAL DISEASES IN THE ARMY

Disease caused by malnutrition was one of the principal problems of the Japanese troops. Accordingly, quite an extensive study has been made on this subject by the Japanese. This study was submitted to G.H.Q. about 1½ months ago by Lt. Colonel HIRAGA of the Imperial General Headquarters and mimeographed copies have been made. Copies of this report were received from the Chief Surgeon's Office in the Dai Ichi Building, but has not been incorporated in this report inasmuch as it is quite lengthy.

VITAMINS

There was a big demand for vitamins from all the Army forces, but due to the limited supply, troops received only a small amount. The reason for the shortage, we were told, was due to a shortage of raw materials (chemicals) and a shortage of coal for the factories.

PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN FOODS TO ARMY UNITS

Last week our section received charts illustrating the procurement and distribution of certain foods for Army units. Inasmuch as these charts were in Japanese and difficult to translate into English we discussed them further to lighten us on a few points. From this discussion we have constructed the following charts (attached).

FOOD STOCKPILES LEFT AT THE TERMINATION OF THE WAR

In the earlier stages of the war food supplies were kept in a relatively few number of depots. As our planes began bombing the mainland, however, food reserves were scattered in to smaller storage houses in order to make it less vulnerable to attack. When these stock piles were scattered into smaller storage the army lost control so that they feel it almost impossible to make a reasonable estimate of stocks on hand now inasmuch as a substantial amount has been destroyed by bombing, burning etc. Although it was felt that an estimate of food stockpile could not be made, we were given the following map showing the location and relative importance of army supply depots!

LOCATION AND RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF ARMY FOOD AND SUPPLY DEPOTS

Map was turned over to the Manpower, Food and Civilian Supplies Section.

METRIC TONS OF RICE SHIPPED TO JAPANESE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES FROM JAPAN PROPER, 1940-1945

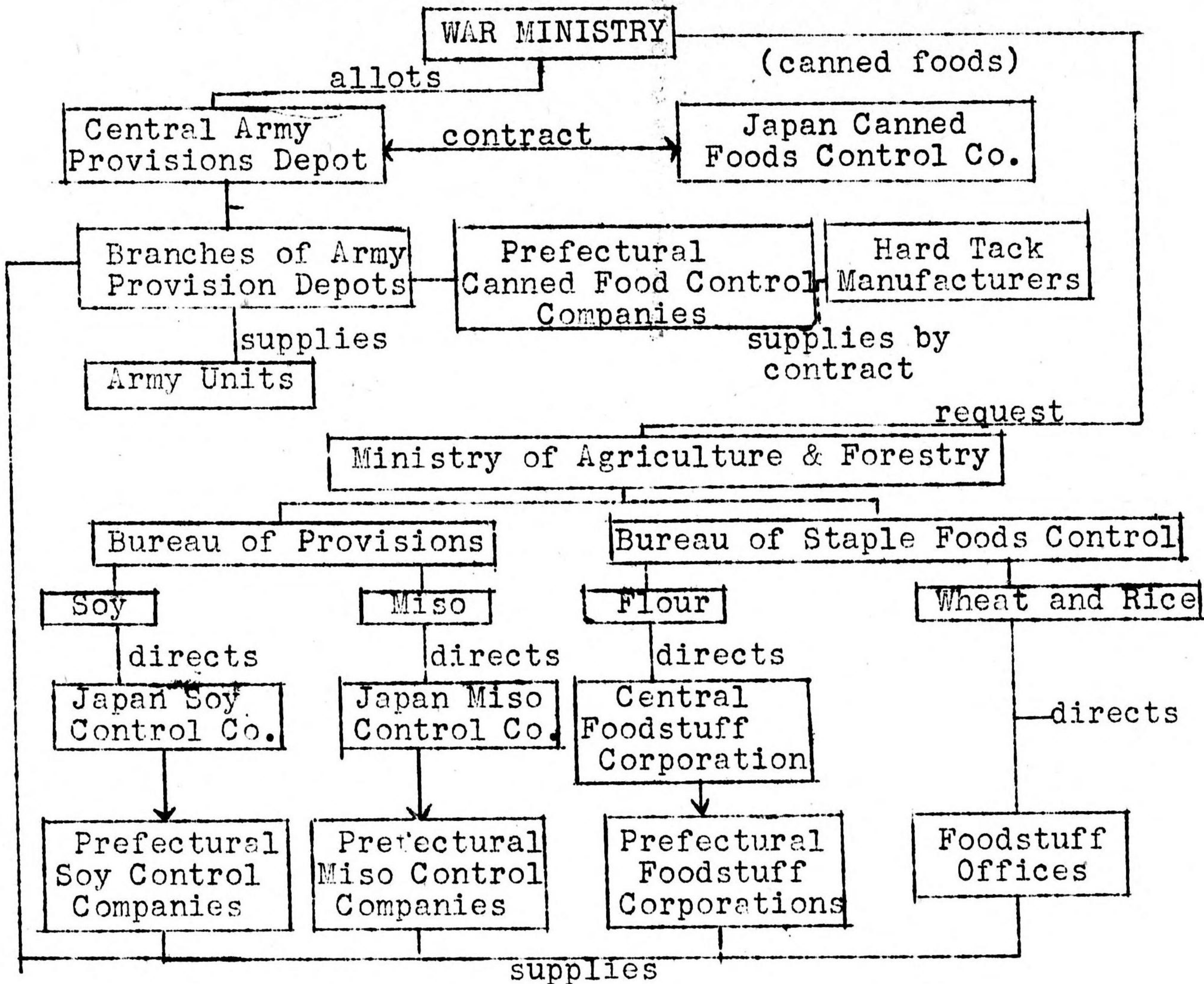
Source: Military Food and Clothing Board. (Japanese)

	: 1940:	1941	: 1942 :	1943	: 1944 :	1945	:
North China	:7,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
S.W. PACIFIC	-	-	7,000	50,000	-	-	-
Central Pacific:	-	-	-	-	5,000	-	-
Aleutians	-	-	300	3,500	-	-	-
Total	:7,000	-	7,300	53,500	5,000	-	-

1. Rice years - November - October.
2. Given to USSBS by Col. SHIMAKAWA, head of the board, October 22, 1945.

PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF SOY, MISO, FLOUR, WHEAT AND ROCE FOR THE WAR MINISTRY

Source: Japanese Military Food and Clothing Board.



Note: The storage function was performed primarily at the prefectural levels by the various commodity companies and corporations and by the branches of Army Provision Departments. These Army Depots were scattered so widely and split up in to such tiny units in the latter stages of the war that the food board felt it impossible to make any reliable estimates as to stocks held in their depots.

PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF FISH, EGGS, MEAT, SAKE, TOBACCO AND SALT FOR ARMY UNITS

Source: Japanese Military Food and Clothing Board.

