

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY
(PACIFIC)

INTERROGATION NO. 76
(Obtain from G-2)

PLACE: Capitol Equip Room 361
DATE 18 Oct. 45 TIME 1400

DIVISION OF ORIGIN -- Capitol Equipment & Construction.

SUBJECT: Army Construction Section - organization, equipment etc.

PERSONNEL INTERROGATED AND BACKGROUND OF EACH:

Major ISHIKAWA - in construction section of Air Force and
later of the Army.

Where interviewed (office)
Capitol Equipment and Construction - room 361.

Interrogator: Lieut. CALL and Captain ROSENBLATT.

Interpreter: Lieut. (jg) HOLMES.

Allied Officers Present: None.

SUMMARY:

Preliminary interview, at which questionnaire
submitted, to be returned later.
1. Function of Army Construction Section.
2. Sources of equipment.
3. Allocation of equipment to general contractors
and Army.
4. Construction of airstrips by Japanese.

Distribution: All Divisions.

CAPITOL EQUIPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION
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1. A chart on the organization of the Army construction section will be prepared by Major ISHIKAWA, showing the flow of authority and the functions performed by each unit involved.

2. Nearly all Army construction in Japan excepting fortifications was handled by this organization. Fortifications were handled by the engineers; overseas construction was done by the Field Armies.

3. Construction equipment was generally borrowed from prefectural and municipal organizations, although the Regional Armies also had some of their own.

4. In 1940, 90% of the construction equipment produced in Japan went to the contractors; but by 1945, only 45% was available to them, the difference being taken by the Army. (No information on the Navy)

5. Major ISHIKAWA submitted a document showing the organization of the Army special construction groups.

6. The methods of construction of airfields were discussed. Major ISHIKAWA said that about 30% of Jap landing strips were unpaved, the ground strengthened with sod.

7. In 1942-43 concrete was the principal material used, but the subsequent shortage caused a switch to asphalt.

8. Concrete was used only for primary building-airstrips, utilities, buildings, headquarters, etc.