

HEADQUARTERS  
U.S. STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY  
(PACIFIC)  
APO #234  
c/o Postmaster, San Francisco

INTERROGATION NO. 88  
(Obtain from G-2)

PLACE Tokyo  
DATE 17 Oct. 45 TIME 1430

DIVISION OF ORIGIN: Capitol Equipment and Construction.

SUBJECT: Production of Machinery.

Personnel Interrogated and background of each:

Viscount Masatoshi OKOCHI - who was the president of the Production Machinery Control Association from 1943 thru 1944, and also a Director of the Riken Research Institute.

Where interviewed (Office): CEC Office.

Interrogator: Captain H.P. BALIYET.

Interpreter: Lieut. (jg) LAFFIN

Allied officers present: None.

SUMMARY:

The Association under Mr. OKOCHI represent 30% of all Machinery Production and keeps records of 70% of the Production of all types of machines under its direction and control.

The greatest problems of which the machine producing industry encountered were the shortages of raw materials and skilled labor.

## PRODUCTION OF MACHINERY

The Production Machinery Control Association represents 30% of the total production of what the Japanese mean by the all inclusive work "Machinery". The association actually has records for between 70% and 100% of the production of the groupings of machines which fall under its jurisdiction. The rest was controlled by the military. The Army and Navy had a combined control association called HEI KI KOGYO under General HARUTSUGU KAN.

The Air Force is under a separate organization called KOKUKOGYO KAI - under General SABURO ENDO.

Shortages during the war fall under two major categories:

### (1) Material Shortages

Practically all materials grew steadily more difficult to obtain. Special tool steel was the greatest shortage. There was an insufficient supply of Industrial coal and coke after 1940. By 1942 the shipping blockade had pretty effectively strangled material supply.

### (2) Skilled Labor Shortages

Only about 10% of labor was skilled. Skilled labor first became short in 1937 but the real pinch began in 1941. Both Government and Industry started a labor training program. In 1942 the Army and Navy put out an order that skilled labor should be left on the job.

Production was mainly for the Army and Navy. Raw materials either came out of pre-rationing stocks or the Army and Navy director through the TOSEIKAI.

The production of special purpose machinery for making Nitric Acid and other products, and also of rolling mill equipment was emphasized.

Mr. OKOCHI furnished the following information concerning the plants of the Riken Industries.

#### RIKEN PLANTS AT MIAUCHI

Made machine tools, and lathes and tool grinders before the war. and during war made Torpedo Parts.

#### OJIYA - NO MIAUCHI

Made only machine tools, small lathes during the war. Began machine tools in 1944.

#### MAEBASHI - RIKEN 6,7, or 10 factories 1943.

Piston rings for tanks and cars, anti-aircraft guns. Grinders and milling machines. Forging shop makes parts of shells.

#### KASHIWASAKI - Began Machine Tools in 1940.

Piston rings for planes, machine tools (bores, lathes) (stopped in 1941) Machine gun parts instead.