

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

INTERROGATION NO. 157
(Obtain from G-2)

PLACE: Bureau of Police
Home Office

DATE: 22 Oct. 1945.

Division of Origin: Morale Division.

Subject: Morale of Civilians during war time and measures
of Government control of morale

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

Mr. KOIZUMI, Chief of the Police Bureau, Home
Ministry a long term official of the
Home Ministry, several times Governor of various
prefectures. Mr. KOIZUMI has held present post
only since Oct. 11.

Where interviewed: His office

Interrogator: Lt. Cmdr. Leighton and
Major Arensberg

Interpreter: Lt. McCoy

Allied Officers Present: See Interrogators.

Summary:

Mr. Koizumi went over a report he had had written
on morale changes, control measures, American pamphlets, and
the effect of bombing on war working conditions and absenteeism.

Morale change was chiefly due to a loss of certainty of
victory, which grew through successive defeats into a loss of
faith in government news, then in government measures of safe-
guarding civilians, finally into a loss of faith in the military.
Control measures within the purview of the police were largely
measures dealing with rumors, fine and imprisonment in a few cases,
police visits, lecturing, and "converting" persons to whom rumors
were traceable in the majority of cases.

US leaflets grew in influence until they were widely
believed in June and July of 45 and, coupled with bombing, were
very effective, particularly those announcing forthcoming
specific bombings, and those giving truth in the news and pic-
tures of PW's and others in former Jap territory or detailing
US methods of occupation. Police reported a steady drop in
percentages of leaflets turned in, proof of their growing
effectiveness.

Police surveys of absenteeism show it to be related
directly to the bombings and to increase from one period of survey
to another after each of the raids until in March approximately
25% of males in factories in the Tokyo area, for one example,
were absentee.