

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

INTERROGATION NO. 158
(Obtain from G-2)

PLACE: Tokyo

DATE: 25 Oct. 1945.

Division of Origin: Morale

Subject: Factors causing decline in Japanese Morale

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

KOIZUMI, S. Director of Bureau of Police, Home Affairs.

Where interviewed: Koizumi's office.

Interrogator: A.H. Leighton, Lt Cdr., MC, USNR.

Interpreter: Lt. McCoy

Allied Officers Present: None.

Summary:

Lack of fertilizer and disorganization produce by bombing seriously interfered with program of Ministry of Agriculture.

Fishing operations were hampered by lack of fuel and lack of manpower. Other factors were lack of rope and the presence of mines.

The fire-fighting organizations in the large cities were at first very efficient, but their morale declined in time as numbers of their personnel were killed, fire-fighting equipment was destroyed, and as the men became more and more concerned with the salvation of their personal possessions.

Splits within Japan during the war. In General very little. Toward the end of the war, the people began to blame the military for conditions. Friction between urban and rural people was less during the war as compared to the period before and since. There was some definite difficulty between evacuees from cities and the residents of the areas into which they were evacuated. There was trouble between conscripted laborers and the regular laborers because the latter got more money than the former through some illegal devices. The Korean and Chinese laborers who were imported during the war gave quite a bit of concern to the government, especially in the last months of the war due to their demands for food and their tendency to stage demonstrations and commit criminal offenses. The Koreans were much worse than the Chinese. 30,000 Chinese and 250,000 Koreans were imported.