

(By Jukichi Okada, Mayor of Nagasaki City)

(G.S.Kushida-trans.)

1. CHANGES IN THE FIGHTING SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE.

Owing to the strategic advances made by the Japanese Army at the outset of the war, and to the government's continued thought control which had been in effect prior to the war, as well as to the reports and propaganda by radio, newspapers, and magazines, the esprit-de-corps of the people in the initial stage of the war was excellent.

~~Not~~ Even the April, 1942 maiden air raid by the U.S. Air Force failed to dampen the people's will to fight. Subsequently, even at the time of the failure of the Japanese Army in its attack on Wake Island, and the losses of the various Solomon and Bismark islands, they believed in victory and the fighting spirit was quite high. Since the middle of 1944, with the losses of Tarawa and Makin islands, and with the retreat of the Japanese Army on Saipan, after successively repeated island fighting, the U.S. forces finally landed in the Philippines.

Added to this, due to the continuous disadvantageous war situation, the increase in the war dead and wounded, the imminent threat in domestic living conditions, the added extreme scarcity of medicinal and medical supplies, and the intensification of air raids by the Allied force with the accompanying frequency of air raid warnings, the people gradually became restless, and there were some who began to harbor a feeling of uncertainty regarding the future of the war.

Since the occupation of the main island of Okinawa in June of this year, the true strength of the Allied force was felt; at the same time, despite the fact that the government tried to enhance the fighting spirit from the damage wrought daily by air raids, many of the people possessed tragic thoughts of the entire people dying in honor, and it is undeniable that there was a trend toward an ebb in the fighting spirit.

14 f(23) (d)

2. PEOPLE'S WARTIME LIVING CONDITIONS.

Already, for four years previous to the start of this present war, Japan had been in fact engaged in warfare in China, and the attrition of men and materials have not been small. With the conversion of domestic industries into the munition industry, the degree of scarcity in civilian goods had been mounting; with the outbreak of the Greater East Asia war, owing to the need for further mammoth munitions material, the scarcity was further intensified. On the other hand, a tremendous amount of shipping was necessary for the vast theater of war, and since communications with Manchuria, Korea, and the China continent became gradually pinched, even though staple food and condiments had been rationed, supplementary food such as fish, meat, vegetables, and fruits also became scarce from lack of labor and transportation facilities. Clothing and manufactured textile goods, also were placed under the chit system from February, 1943. The points were gradually lessened on these items, resulting in tremendous numbers of people lacking in the requisite food and clothing.

In medical treatment as well, there was a scarcity of doctors due to their answering the call to colors; medicines and drugs and nutritious food were also prone to be scarce; especially, in the upbringing of nursing infants, it became necessary to give the fullest attention.

On the other hand, the hours which the housewives devoted to air defense training and labor operations increased gradually, and the purchasing of food required a longer length of time when compared with pre-war days of unrestricted sales; and in line with the intensity of the Allied air raids, they sought shelter in the air raid shelters irrespective of night or day, so that their living, both spiritually and materially, became extremely cramped.

Regarding the recreation of the masses--in order to plan for the free and easy will of the people, the government did not effect any possible restrictions; however, subsequent to the fall of Saipan this year, when the war situation became unfavorable in the extreme, steps were taken against theaters, and even the radio, newspapers, and magazines became extremely dull and monotonous from the difficulties encountered in obtaining material and by reflecting the fierceness of the war situation, so that just prior to the termination of the war, it must be said that the people just did not have the spare time to indulge in any form of entertainment.

Luxury items such as "sake" and tobacco were placed on the ration list--the former immediately following the start of the war, and the latter since the summer of 1944--extremely dulling the coloring in daily living.(making life drab.)

To make a ~~long~~ long story short, due to the fact that all the various material necessary for civilian life had been channelled into munition use from the very outset of the Greater East Asia war, as time went on, the degree of scarcity was further intensified both in quality and in quantity, so that at the time of the termination of the war, living was forced into the barest and simplest form.

3. CHANGES IN THE WARTIME LABOR AND PRODUCTION CONDITIONS.

The majority of the workable males were called to the colors, and since the number of young, healthy, experienced laborers gradually diminished, labor was supplemented by the young, the transferees from other occupations, and by those who had retired. Furthermore, two years prior to the end of the war, labor was supplemented by students and pupils from various schools, any by women and girls.

4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4

I Although the workers could not raise their efficiency proportionately due to long working hours, inexperience, and from weakening constitution, on the whole, it may be said that comparatively, they did not lose their fighting spirit to the very last, and stuck to their posts.

In the industrial division--even though at the beginning of the war, and after long years of the China Incident, there was a comparative surplus of manpower and a considerable amount of material stock on hand--corresponding with the march of events in the war situation, various bottlenecks in materials and in land and marine transportation --in, needless to say the munitions and the various other industries--became acute. With the advent of this year, factories suffered heavily from air raids, either halting or slashing production, and production plummeted the closer the approach to the end of the war.

4. REACTIONS TO ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

Due to the government's control against written propaganda, it is a fact that there was practically no recognizable reaction to what appeared to be Allied propaganda. Towards the end of the war, in this city, the extent of it was in rumors to the effect that "such and such was dropped by Allied planes" and it appears that the effects thereof were practically unobserved.

5. ENHANCEMENT OF THE ESPRIT-DE-CORPS AND COUNTERMEASURES VS. ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

The enhancement of the fighting spirit was especially effected through reports by newspapers, magazines, radio, plays, and movies, as well as by entertainment facilities. As for bolstering done by the associations within the "cho"(machi) there was a tendency for neighborhood and preservation squads to be merely engaged concomitantly through the enforcement of savings, intensification of production, air defense, and keeping the lips tightly sealed.

5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5

No special worked-out policy may be recognized in lectures, notices, or in functions.

As explained under the aforementioned caption 4 (reactions to Allied propaganda) the government's control against stratagem was enforced, and towards the end of the war, notices were given especially in cases where propaganda leaflets dropped by Allied planes came into one's possession, for the notification thereof.

Juichi Okada
Mayor of Nagasaki.

講演、揭示、行事等ニ於テハ特ニ取立タル
施策ヲ認メラザル如シ

聯合軍ノ宣傳ニ對シテハ第四項記述ノ如ク
政府ノ防略取締ニ依リ行ハレ戦争末期ニ於
テハ特ニ聯合軍飛行機ニ依ル宣傳ビラ
落手ノ際ノ屈出ニ注意アリタリ

四、聯合軍宣傳ニ對スル反響

政府ニ於ケル防牒防略ノ取締ニ依リ聯合軍

ヨリセラレタル宣傳ト見ラルルモノノ反響ハ

殆ド認ムルコトヲ得ザリシガ事實ナルベシ

本市ニ於テ終戰近ク聯合軍飛行機ヨリ

撒布セラレタリト云フ傳單が噂トシテ傳

ハリタル程度ニシテ其ノ效果ハ殆ド察知セ

減少シタル所甚ラス 終戦ニ近ヅクニ從ヒ

急激ナル生産減少ヲ來シタルモノナリ

事變ノ後ト雖人的資材ニ於テ比較的餘裕ヲ
有シ物資原料ニ於テ尚相當ノストックヲ

保有シ居タリシモ戰局ノ進行ニ伴ヒ軍需產

業ハ勿論各般產業ハ各種資材ト陸海

輸送ノ点ニ隘路甚シク加ヘテ工場等ハ本年ニ

入リテ空襲ノ被害多ク生産ノ機能ヲ停止又ハ

レタリ

労働時間ノ延長、不熟練、體質弱化等ニ依
リ就労人員ノ割合ニ能率ヲ騰グルコトヲ得
ザリシモ概シテ最後迄比較的戦意ヲ失フコト
無ク勞務ニ従事シタリト云ヒ得ベシ

生産部門ニ於テハ緒戦當時ハ長年ニ亘ル支那

セラレシ爲時期ヲ經ルニ從ヒ量質共ニ缺乏
ノ度合ヲ深刻ニシ終戰時ニ於テハ極メテ
簡粗ナル生活ヲ餘儀無クセラル、狀態ニアリ
キ

モノト云フベシ

酒、煙草等ノ嗜好品モ前者ハ開戦後間モ
無ク後者ハ昭和十九年下期ヨリ配給制度ト
ナリ生活上ノ潤色モ著シク損ハレタリ

約言スレバ大東亞戰勃発當初ヨリ既ニ民衆
生活ニ必要ナル諸資材ハ總テ軍需用ニ転用

ニ於テ可及的制限ヲ加ヘザリシガ本年サイパン島
失陷後著シク戰局不利トナルニ及ビ劇場等
ノ整理アリ且新聞雜誌ヲゲオ等ニ於テモ
苛烈ナル戰局ノ反映ト資材ノ入手難トニ依リ
甚シク單調乾燥ニ陷リ終戰間際ニ於テハ
民衆モ娛樂等ヲ願ミル餘祐ヲ失ヒツツアリシ

スル時間次第ニ増加シ又食糧購入モ戰前ノ
自由販賣ニ比シ入手迄ニ長時間ヲ要スルコト
アリ聯合軍空襲増加ニ從ヒ晝夜ヲ分カズ
防空壕ニ退避シ生活ハ物心兩面ニ於テ極端
ニ窮屈ヲ生ジタリ

民衆娛樂ニ付テハ民意ノ暢達ヲ計ル爲メ政府

ニ至リ之亦漸次配給点数減少ヲ行ヒ民衆ノ
必需ナル衣食ニ於テ缺乏著シキモノアリタリ
医療ニ於テモ從軍等ニ依ル医師ノ不足ヲ來シ
医薬品炊養食物モ不足勝ニシテ特ニ乳幼児ノ
保育ニ就テハ十分ノ注意ヲ必要トスルニ至レリ
他面家婦等ハ防空訓練勤勞作業ニ從事

戰域ニ對スル多數船舶ヲ必要トシ支那大陸朝鮮
滿洲ニ對スル連絡モ次第ニ自由ヲ失フニ至リタルヲ
以テ主要食糧及調味料ニ於テハ曩ニ制限配給
ヲ行ヒツ、アリシが副食物タル魚類肉類青果
物類モ勞力ト輸送カトニ於テ不足シ纖維製品
衣料亦昭和十七年二月ヨリ切符制度ヲ採用スル

ニ戰爭中ニ於ケル民衆ノ生活狀態

今次戰爭勃發以前 日本ハ既ニ四年有餘前

ヨリ支那ニ於テ事實上戰爭ニ從事シ人的物的

資材ノ消耗甚ラス 國內產業ノ軍需工業轉移

ト共ニ生活必需品缺乏ノ度ヲ加ヘツ、アリシガ

大東亞戰爭生起ト共ニ更ニ莫大ナル軍需資

材必要ノ爲^{ニ層}不足ヲ増加スルニ至リ、他面廣汎ナル

國民擧リテ玉碎ノ悲壯ノ氣分ヲ懷クモノ歟ラス

戰意減退ノ傾キアリシハ~~ハ~~蔽フ可カラズ

戰意ノ衰退ハ諸般ノ銃後生産力ニ及ボシタル影

響亦少シトセズ

品等ノ極端ナル不足ヲ加ヘ聯合軍空襲ノ激増
ト之ニ伴フ空襲警報ノ頻發ニ依リテ民心漸ク
動搖シ戰局ノ將來ニ不安ヲ懷クモノアルニ至リ

本年六月沖繩本島ノ占領以來ハ聯合軍
ノ實カヲ察知スルト共ニ連日ノ空襲被害ニ依リ
テ政府ノ戰意昂揚アリシニ拘ラズ民衆ニハ既ニ

失敗、ソロモン、ビスマルク諸島、失地當時ニ於テモ尚
勝利ヲ信ジ戰意ハ相當旺盛ナリキ

昭和十九年中期ヨリタラワマキンノ失陷サイパン

島

島ノ日本軍後退及屢次ノ島嶼戰ヲ終テ比律賓
ノ米軍上陸ニ至リ打續ク戰局ノ不利ト戰死傷
者ノ増加、國內衣食住狀況ノ逼迫及醫療藥

A Bomb in prison
一、民衆ノ戰意ノ變化

緒戰ニ於ケル日本軍ノ戰略的進出ト戰前ヨリ
引續キ行ハタル政府ノ思想統制及新聞雜誌
ラヂオ等ノ報導宣傳ニ依リ開戰當初民衆ノ
戰意ハ熾ニシテ昭和十七年四月米軍東京上空
襲ニ於テモ民衆ノ抗戰意識ニ殆ト影響ヲ
與フル事無ク其ノ後日本軍ノウェーキ島攻撃ヲ