

JPG/sp

Chronological file

JOINT INTELLIGENCE CENTER
PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS
Commandant, Navy 128
c/o Fleet Post Office

Targets
Cobey
Paul
A-1580
I-XXIBC
I-INTER II
I-INT. SEC
I-Geog Sec
OS

19 June 1945 Serial TAS 181600.

From: Officer-in-Charge.
To: Officer-in-Charge, AIC

Attention: Target Analysis Section.

Subject: *file* → Daily Report of Target Information from POW Interrogation.

Reference: (a) Sortie 3PR5M192-2412, dated 6 May 1945.

Enclosure: (A) Overlay of section of reference (a).

1. The following information has been obtained from two POWs who had been employed at KYUSHU HIROKI KK (KYUSHU Airplane Co., Ltd.) (target 662) for a period of five years in the first case and six months in the second. The first POW left in April 1944 and the second in June 1944.

2. POW ISHITSU Megumu stated that the original name of this company was the WATANABE TEKKOSEHO (WATANABE Iron Works), with two branches: the HEIKIKU (Ordnance Division) and the KOKUKIKU (Aircraft Division). In July 1943 the name was changed to the WATANABE KOKUKI SEISAKUSHO KK (WATANABE Aircraft Mfg. Co., Ltd.), and again in October 1943 to the present name. The following month the Ordnance Division was set up as an independent company and called the KYUSHU HEIKI KK (KYUSHU Ordnance Co., Ltd.).

3. Buralumin and aluminum were procured from the SUMITOMO Company in OSAKA and the JAPAN Aluminum Company in either OSAKA or KOBE. Engines were obtained from MITSUBISHI. There were about 12 sub-contractors working for the company among which POW recalled: FUKUOKA SEIKOSHO (FUKUOKA Steel Foundry) in HIR-MACHI and NATAKASU-MACHI, and the MATSUMURE TEKKOSEHO (MATSUMURE Iron Foundry) in HIR-MACHI.

4. POW knew that the WATANABE Iron Works had a branch factory at IZAZUE, NAKA-MACHI, CHIKUSHI-GUN, but said that it had been converted into an employees' dormitory. It was located about 2 km. from the plant in a NW direction. He had never heard of a branch in CHUO-MACHI, FUKUOKA-SHI, nor of one in KOGA-MACHI, KASUYA-GUN.

5. POW stated that this company had many thousands of employees on a seven day schedule from 0730 to 1630 and over one-third of them worked overtime. The plant specialized in producing trainers.

6. POW YOSHII Mineo called this factory the ZASSHONOKUMA Plant of KYUSHU Airplane Co., Ltd. This company produced three planes: the "K-11", "E-13", and "Q-1". The K-11 was a monoplane trainer and monthly production was 40-50 planes. The E-13, probably JAKE, was a monoplane, twin float, single engine observation plane, for which POW could give no production figures. The Q-1, probably LORNA, was a new plane that was just getting into production. It was a twin engine, all

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 metal, monowing, slow-speed, anti-submarine patrol bomber equipped to carry depth-charges. (This is possibly the "SHIRAGIKU" model).

K-11

33-130
 7. This company has a new branch factory at KASHI-MACHI, KAZUYA-GUN, FUKUOKA-KEN specializing in the construction of this Q-1 plane; this factory is presumably in full operation at the present time.

8. The following legend is to be used with enclosure (A); the identifications, unless followed by the number (2), are by one POW only. The occasional dotted lines are assigned the same number as the solid line areas enclosing them, and indicate a difference of opinion as to the area covered.

- 1 Administration building(2)
- 2 Workers' barracks (2)
- 3 Wing assembly plant
- 4 Wing parts storage
- 5 Wing assembly plant
- 6 Wing parts manufacturing plant
- 7 Storage for finished products of #15
- 8 Wing parts manufacturing plant
- 9 Wing & body assembly plant
- 10 One POW said it was quarters for foremen and factory guards; the other, that it was the disbursing office
- 11 Landing gear manufacture & assembly plant
- 12 One POW said it was an engine installation and final test plant; the other, that it was the final assembly plant for the "K-11" plane
- 13 Body assembly plant
- 14 Body parts manufacturing plant
- 15 Foundry & stamping plant
- 16 Possible storage building
- 17 Gasoline tank manufacturing plant
- 18 Pontoon manufacturing plant
- 19 One POW said it was a pontoon assembly plant; the other, that it was the experimental laboratory (dotted area)
- 20 Wing parts (woodworking and carpentry shops)
- 21 One POW said it was the paint shops and welding shops; the other, that it was where he worked and was the assembly plant (dotted area) for the "Q-1" plane
- 22 Final plane assembly plant
- 23 Repair and replacement shops for mail orders
- 24 Office handling sub-contracts
- 25 One POW said it was the material distribution & collection area from sub-contractors; the other, that it was the assembly plant for the "E-13" seaplane
- 26 Offices handling sub-contracts
- 27 One POW said it was the lumber storage area; the other, that it was a two-story building - woodworking shop on the 1st deck, and blueprint shop on the 2nd.

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- 28 One POW said it was the experimental laboratory; the other, that it was the plating or gilding shop (MEKKIRA)
- 29 Personnel office (timekeeping, accounting, etc.)
- 30 Power sub-station
- 31 KYUSHU HEIKI KK (KYUSHU Ordnance Co., Ltd.) (2) One POW said it was making torpedo tubes while he was there
- 32 One POW said it was the location of an ordnance factory, name unknown; the other, that he knew there was a branch factory of the KOKURA KOSHU (KOKURA Arsenal) in the vicinity of the KYUSHU Airplane Co., Ltd., but that he didn't realize it was as close as it appeared to be on the photograph.
- 33 MIYATA GIYAMU SHOKAI (MIYATA G.A.M. Co., or G.I.M.) Used to make bicycle coaster brakes; now making plane floats.
- 34 NIPPON JIDOSHA KK (JAPAN Automobile Co., Ltd.) A major repair plant with minor assembly facilities.
- 35 Workers' barracks
- 36 MASUGARAEU Recreation Field & Amusement Park
- 37 Factory Guard HQ
- 38 Offices

M. LEGENDRE
By direction

CC:
Joint Target Group (2)

ENCLOSURE (A)

SORTIE 3PR-5M 192-2:12

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FROM POW SOURCES

