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- IRRIGATION FARMING
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### PLANNING THE INVASION AND OCCUPATION OF JAPAN

Japan started the Pacific war in 1941 with an attack on Pearl Harbor. The United States won the war fifty years ago when two Atomic bombs were dropped. General MacArthur directed a successful occupation of Japan and Japan made a spectacular recovery. These are historical facts.

In this short presentation on plans for the invasion and occupation of Japan, I will try to give a brief summary of what happened, how it happened and why it happened.

In the "30s, the Japanese military dominated the Japanese government. The entire population of Japan was mobilized to achieve the needs of the people by conquest. Americans cooperated by supplying not only the scrap iron, but private capital needed for the rapid development of their war industries.

When the United States indicated disapproval of their plans to govern the entire Pacific area, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. Our rapid mobilization and the superhuman efforts made by the American people to win the war in Europe and the Pacific at the same time are well known. War time production was enhanced by the hatred of Japan generated by the attack on Pearl Harbor and the Bataan March.

In 1942, President Roosevelt and his top military and civilian advisors decided that a vindictive, emotional response was not the way to write the peace with Japan. What was needed was a logical, level headed, assessment of the Pacific War: how and when we could win the war, and what we were going to do with Japan when the war was won.

What followed was the most carefully planned military campaign in history, and the mobilization of the talent needed to plan well in advance the occupation programs promulgated by General MacArthur.

I refer to the unconditional surrender of Japan, the successful occupation of Japan and the rapid post-war economic revival of Japan as the "Triumph of Secrecy".

President Roosevelt had a group of highly qualified Japanese experts. He made "top secret" decisions without letting them, or anyone else know that he had accepted any of their recommendations. Roosevelt's decisions remained "secret" because no one knew whose recommendations he was accepting or when he made a decision. Roosevelt used "oral briefing".

During the first week of February 1945, we were told that "unconditional surrender" was demanded to achieve a basic United States objective, the complete demilitarization of Japan including the Army, the Navy, the Airforce and all war industries.

The primary objective of the occupation was to leave a friend not an enemy in the Pacific. The Japanese power structure all the way from the village chief to the Emperor would be divested of all military influence and retained to police Japan and provide the basis for a strong democratic, non-communist government in Japan. The peaceful occupation of Japan could be accomplished by forming an alliance between the power structure of the Japanese Government and the occupying forces



with the Commander of the occupying forces in charge.

At the start of the occupation of Japan, we could expect to find 50% of the able bodied people in Japan out of work and hungry. The problem would be law and order. The Japanese government would provide the police protection for their people and also the occupying forces. The United States would use food rather than troops to keep the Peace. The plan worked, secrecy triumphed.

The second part of my presentation will be a brief account of my selection and work as Chief of Agriculture on the Joint Army-Navy Chief of Staff Group planning the Invasion and Occupation of Japan.

1. Pre-war Government employment in Utah.
2. War-time civilian employment by WRH in charge of crops at Topaz.
3. Accepted Navy Officer Commission for a "special assignment".
4. Navy indoctrination at Tucson, Arizona and military government training at Princeton, University, 1944.
5. Assignment-Presidio of Monterey. Develop a training program for the 72 Agricultural Officers designated for occupation duty in Japan and also to serve as a member of a small group of JCS staff officers working at CASA.
6. "Special Assignment" was explained to me. The Army did not want to invade Japan with crops in the field. An AG man was being asked to help select the date and the location of the invasion. In February, 1945, a complete crop growing season map of Japan was prepared (now in the National Archives), also the bearing power of coastal soils was studied. Recommendations were made in regard to date and location of initial invasion (October 30 on Kyushu).
7. In April, I was assigned to occupations planning for agriculture. I was asked to prepare a land reform Proclamation and the text of an acceptable land reform law that might put an end to the long standing rural unrest in Japan and increase agricultural productivity. This assignment was completed in May 1945.
8. In conclusion, I will describe the "rocky road" land reform traveled from CASA, to approval by President Truman, to General MacArthur's Proclamation, to US and Japanese Gov't negotiations, to final enactment by the Japanese Diet in October, 1946.
9. The local committee system we proposed was successful. Every Japanese farmer became a "Capitalist" with a sound operating unit to farm and the incentive to increase production.

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