

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1945

# Tokyo Admits B-29 Damage

Radio Tokyo indicated inadvertently yesterday that our Superfort offensive aimed at the destruction of Japanese war production had attained a considerable measure of success.

In a domestic broadcast, obviously aired to stir hatred against the airmen raiding their principal cities, the Japanese propagandists released figures on "disaster victims" and home destruction from the "beginning of March to the middle of April."

Here are the estimates:

|        | Disaster<br>victims | Home    |
|--------|---------------------|---------|
| Tokyo  | 2,100,000           | 510,000 |
| Osaka  | 510,000             | 130,000 |
| Nagoya | 270,000             | 60,000  |
| Kobe   | 260,000             | 70,000  |
|        | 3,150,000           | 770,000 |

Figures for Yokohama and Kawasaki are now under investigation, the broadcast disclosed.

Radio Tokyo admitted that the entire districts of Asakusa, Fukagawa and Mukojima had been burned out by the fire bomb assaults, while the wards of Shitaya, Honjo, Izumibashi, Kansa and Arakawa had sustained "heavy damage." All districts named are in the industrialized outer perimeter of the capital, where the great aircraft assembly plants are located.

While the Japanese attempted to use the figures to prove the "indiscriminate" bombing of the "sacred" Nipponese home islands, in reality they admitted the effectiveness of our offensive on their war production.

In Japan, the home is an important unit in the industrial setup. Orders for small parts of all kinds are farmed out to families living in the immediate vicinity of assembling plants. Men and women not employed in the large factories are busy at home. The destruction of home and the burning-out of families, therefore, cannot help but have a serious result on output in the sense that it keeps workers from the factories, and disrupts production schedules by cutting the manufacture of small parts.