

THE UNITED STATES  
STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY

**INDEX TO RECORDS  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES STRATEGIC  
BOMBING SURVEY**

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## FOREWORD

The United States Strategic Bombing Survey was established by the Secretary of War on 3 November 1944, pursuant to a directive from the late President Roosevelt. Its mission was to conduct an impartial and expert study of the effects of our aerial attacks on Germany, and later—at the request of President Truman—a similar study of the war against Japan. Results of these studies are to be used in establishing a basis for evaluating the importance and potentialities of air power as an instrument of military strategy for planning the future development of the armed forces and for determining future economic policies with respect to the national defense.

Franklin D'Olier served as chairman during both studies. Some 300 civilians, 350 officers and 500 enlisted men made the Survey's complement. The Navy furnished 40 percent of the military segment during the Japanese phase.

In both Europe and Japan the Survey conducted detailed examinations and inspections of plants, industries, cities and areas; interviewed virtually all surviving political, military, and industrial leaders; and accumulated volumes of statistical and documentary materials. A large part of this material was not used by the Survey in the preparation of formal reports and this, with the reports and supporting data, conceivably could prove valuable to other government departments in future research activities .

To preserve these records, the complete files of the many divisions of the Survey including published reports and background end supporting data for these reports, have been deposited with the National Archives in Washington, D. C.

Over-all responsibility for the proper security of these files has been assumed by the Central Intelligence Agency. Authority to approve requests by official representatives of the State, Army, Navy, and Air Force Departments for access to the files has been delegated by the Central Intelligence Agency to the Intelligence agencies of these departments and requests by such official representatives for permission to examine Survey documents classified Confidential or higher should be directed to the appropriate Intelligence agency. Requests by official representatives of Federal agencies other than the aforestated departments for permission to examine material classified Confidential or higher should be addressed to the Director of Central Intelligence,

Washington, D. C. Requests by official representatives of all Federal agencies for permission to examine unclassified or Restricted USSBS material at National Archives should be directed to the War Records Office, National Archives. Persons or agencies other than those specified above may not have access to classified material; if they desire access to unclassified material in USSBS files, requests for such access should be directed to the War Records Office, National Archives, which will make the material available for examination at National Archives if such action is feasible and in accordance with established policies of the Archivist.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	
List of reports .....	1
Section 1. European documents	
2. Japanese documents .....	9
3. European Intelligence library	
4. European target Intelligence	
5. European survey publications	
6. Japanese Intelligence library .....	353
7. Japanese target Intelligence .....	421
8. Japanese survey publications .....	448

## INTRODUCTION

Sections 1 and 2 (European and Japanese documents) of this index include all published reports of the Survey and background and supporting data for these reports. The materials has been arranged according to the list of reports proceeding section 1 with control numbers corresponding to report numbers.

The remainder of the index does not follow the control-number method because the material contained is general in nature and cannot readily be divided into reference items for the various Survey reports. The system follows a pattern developed during the early stages of the Survey when the operating divisions were using these files for general reference and orientation preparatory to visiting objectives in the field.

Sections 3 and 6 (intelligence libraries) consist of publications and reports used by the Survey for reference.

Sections 4 and 7 (target intelligence) are broken into three main categories: first, information compiled relative to selection of targets to be bombed; second, statistics covering operational and ordnance data for forces in the theater; and, third, target folders, containing photo cover and damage analysis of targets after bombing.

Sections 5 and 8 consist of complete sets of published reports plus copies of interrogations, intelligence memoranda, and questionnaires prepared during the operational phase of the Survey.

Complete microfilm, sound track, and photograph libraries have been turned over to the National Archives with other Survey records, but titles of these have not been included in this index. Accession lists for each of these three categories have been included with the libraries.