

SECTION III (b) - (Contd)

CANTON AREA.

Sheet 20.

KWIZ 74/36.

COMMODITY SUPPLY & PRICES.

Gold:

Previously selling at MY7600 had risen to MY8500 on 17th September, and again to MY12,000 on 20th September. The latest quotation is MY15,000 per tael.

Rice:

It is rumoured that the Japanese purchased several thousand bags, thus causing the present price of CRB\$10 per tael. Lower grade rice is sold at CRB\$10 for 2.2/5 taels.

Other Commodities:

Potatoes - CRB\$17-18 per c. tty.
Peanut Oil - CRB\$480 " "
Firewood - CRB\$1,800 " picul.

(20 Sep 44 - Graded C3 - Source: Optrex (BAAG)).

KWIZ 74/37.

LOCAL CONDITIONS.

The prices of commodities are rising, but the authorities remain silent on the present state of affairs. Life for the citizen is becoming harder. Cases of robbery are reported to be on the increase.

From 18th September, the Gendarmes, Peace Preservation Police and Special Service Corps conducted searches several times a day along the road, also in public recreation places and tea-houses. On 23rd September, the authorities issued a notification banning hoarding and profiteering, but prices failed to drop.

(20 Sep 44 - Graded C3 - Source: Optrex (BAAG)).

KWIZ 74/38.

CANTON ARMY COMMISSARIAT.

Daily supplies such as food, clothing, etc. for the Japanese Army in SOUTH CHINA apart from a small portion from FORMOSA and NORTH CHINA, are mostly manufactured and prepared in CANTON. This is what they call "To maintain a war by war". The necessary raw materials are collected and acquired locally, and in the neighbouring areas.

The CANTON COMMISSARIAT is located at TUNG KAU CHEUNG (東教場) the Eastern Parade Ground (286471). The Japs have erected factories with galvanized iron, and used the originally existing buildings as godowns. The entire compound occupies approximately 145,000 square metres of which one-fifth is covered with buildings.

The establishment is under the control of NAMI (波) 8600 Butai, who are under the supervision of the South China Expeditionary Force Command.

The products are not only for supplying NAMI (波) Butais, but also all other units in CANTON and other parts of South China.

The C.O. is Lt.Col. ARAI SADAICHI (荒木貞一).