

"M6 IN THE ADACHI CATALOG"

M6 was, as the Adachi Catalog notes, owned and used by Nishioka Brewery Co...but the perforated letters read "Ku-Yo-U" which means "nine stars." The name of the brewery, "Nishioka," does not have such a meaning. How, then, did the Ku-Yo-U come to be?

The brewery was located in Kumamoto prefecture and Kumamoto had been owned by the Hosokawa clan in the feudal era before Meiji Restoration in 1877. The coat of arms of the Hosokawa clan consisted of a circle of eight small dots surrounding a larger one which denotes "eight stars around the sun," and it was called Ku-Yo-U.

Nishioka Brewery Co. seems to have taken it for the label of their products: SAKE. Today, both the sake and the brewery do not exist. Probably, they seem to have disappeared during WWII.

The above information is from the Japan Study Group Bulletin and is extracted from a contributed article by S. Sako, who is a member of the group. It was submitted to the Perfins Bulletin by H. Maeda.