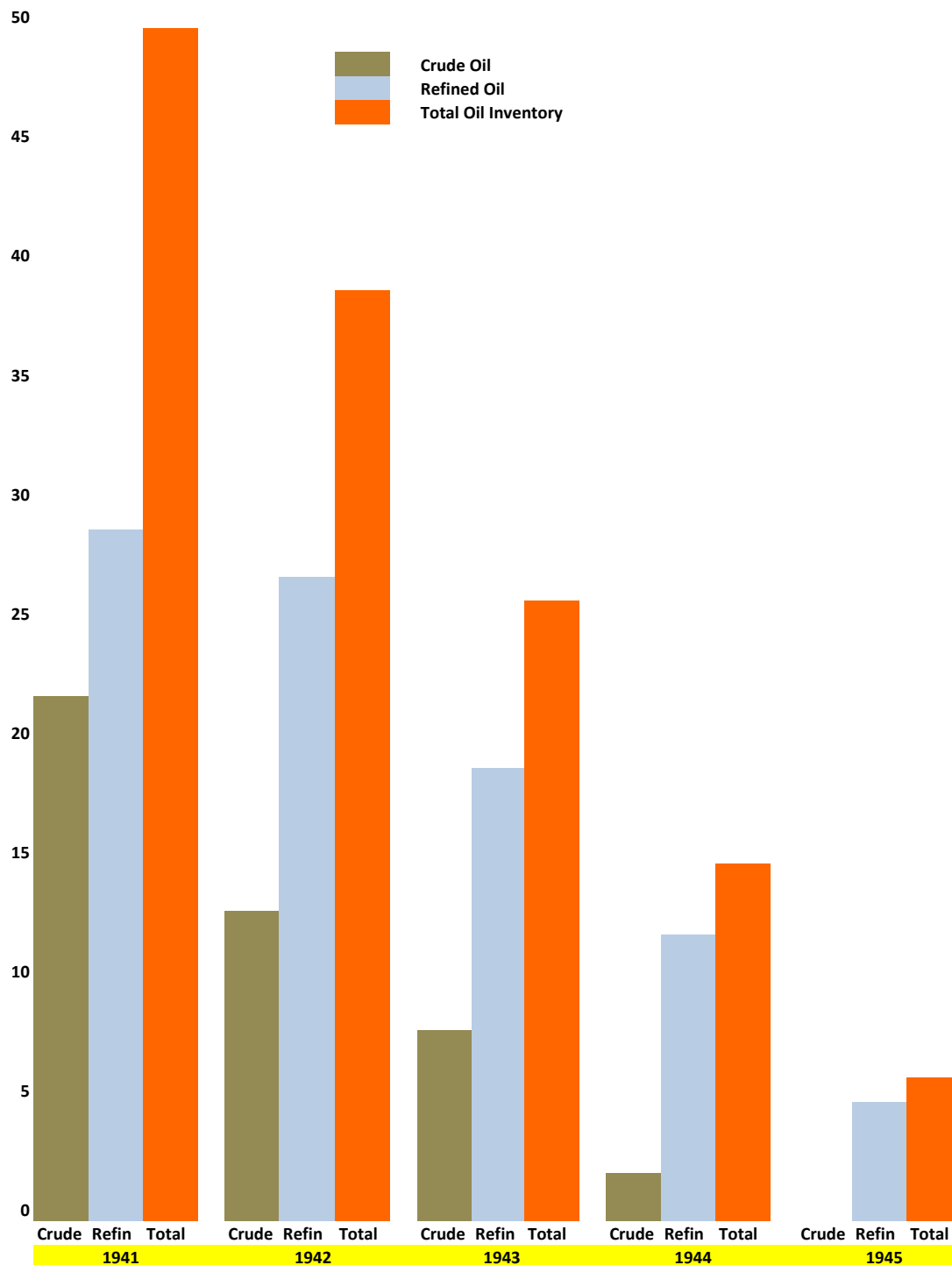


Thousands of  
Barrels

Japanese Oil inventories 1941 - 1945

Chart: N.5



The collapse in inventories took place in spite of the conquest of the Dutch East Indies in 1942 and the appropriation of Asia's main oil producing assets. The fall in inventories thereafter reflects a lack of oil technicians to develop the oil wells of the East Indies and also a lack of oil tanker capacity.

Francis Pike, Hirohito's War, The Pacific War 1941 - 1945 [Bloomsbury 2015]