

No. 1

Translated by
J. Komakayashi
Checked by T. Kawai

Social Status & Domicile: KANAGAWA Pref.

(of Birth Date): 4th - Dec. - 1898.

Name:

~~OHIRA~~ OHIRA HIDEO
Kagawa Mitoyo

1918
9
Mar. 1918

Graduated from the ~~SANTOYO~~ Prefectural Middle

School, ~~KANAGAWA Pref.~~

1918
16
Oct. 1918

Ordered to be a military cadet
~~Commissioned Probationary Officer~~ and assigned attached to the
22nd Infantry Regiment.

War
Ministry

1918
1st Dec. 1918

Entered in the 22nd Infantry Regiment.

Given the rank of a ^(private)
~~Appointed to the 1st class (Infantry Private)~~

22 Infantry
Regiment

1919
May 1919

Promoted to the ^(rank of a superior private, Infantry)
~~Infantry Lance Corporal~~

1919 Jul. 11

Promoted to the ^(rank of a corporal)
~~Infantry Corporal, Infantry~~

1919
1st Sep. 1919

Promoted to the ^(rank of a sergeant)
~~Infantry Sergeant~~

1919
1st Dec. 1919

Admitted to the Military Academy.

1921
27 Jul. 1921

Graduated from the Regular Course of the Military
Academy.

1921
2 Aug. 1921

Return^{ed} to ^{his} ~~the~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~unit~~

Promoted to the ^(rank of a sergeant-major)
~~Infantry Sgt. Maj.~~ and ^{appointed} ~~ordered~~ 22 Inf.
Regiment.
to a ~~Cadet~~ ^{probationary officer}.

1921
20 Sep. 1921

Passed ^{by} ~~in~~ the Officers Selection Council ^{Board in accordance}
with ^(Art. 10 of) the Military Replenishment Ordinance, article 10.

1921 Oct. 26	Appointed to the <u>(Infantry 2nd Lt.)</u>	Cabinet.
16, Oct. 1920 2	Assigned to the 22nd Infantry Regiment.	War Ministry
1921 21 14, Nov. 1920	Conferred ² to the 8 rank senior ^{the senior grade of the 8th Court rank.}	
1924 30, Oct. 1923 30	Appointed to the <u>(Infantry Lieut.)</u>	Cabinet
1924 15, Dec. 1923 15	Raised Conferred to the 7 rank junior grade of the 7th Court rank.	
1925 27, Dec. 1924 2	Relieved of ^{his} principal post, assigned to Instruction Unit, the Army, the Military Infantry School, Teaching Corps	War Ministry
1928 24, Dec. 1928 24	Ordered to admit to the Staff College. ^{enter, the Army General}	War Ministry
1929 16, Jan. 1929 16	Assigned to the 22nd Infantry Regiment.	"
1930 1st, Feb. 1930 1	Raised Conferred to the 7 rank senior ^{senior grade of the 7th Court rank.}	
1930 1st, Aug. 1930	Appointed to the <u>(Infantry Captain)</u>	Cabinet.
1931 6, Nov. 1931 6	Appointed to ^a the Company ^c Commander of the 22nd War Infantry Regiment.	War Ministry

H. H. Tori

- 1932
Dec. 7, 1932 Ordered to serve in the General Staff Office ^{Headquarters,} War Ministry
- 1933
Mar. 18, 1933 Assigned to the 22nd Infantry Regiment. "
- 1933
Dec. 20, 1933 Appointed a member of the General Staff Office ^{Headquarters,} "
- Feb. 7, 1934 Decorated with the Sixth Order of Merit with the Order of the Sacred Treasure.
- Apr. 29, 1934 Decorated with the Fifth Order of Merit with the Order of the Double Rays of the Rising Sun, in recognition of distinguished ^{his} service during the 1931-34 Incident.
- Mar. 1, 1935 ^{Raised to} ~~Conferred~~ the Junior Grade of the 6th Court Rank.
- Mar. 15, 1935 Attached to the General Staff Office ^{Headquarters,} War Ministry
- Jun. 1, 1936 Ordered to stay in China to study military affairs "
- Aug. 1, 1936 Appointed major of Infantry. Cabinet
- Apr. 3, 1937 Appointed ~~the~~ ^a battalion commander of the 27th Infantry Regiment. War Ministry
- Oct. 20, 1937 Appointed a staff-officer of the 2nd Army War Ministry
(Not recorded in the Official Gazette)
- Jul. 15, 1938 Appointed lieutenant-colonel of Infantry. Cabinet
- Sep. 1, 1938 ^{Raised to} ~~Conferred~~ the ^{senior} ~~Junior~~ Grade of the 6th Court Rank.

Jan. 30, 1947 Relieved of ^{his} current post at ^{his} own request. Cabinet

Oct. 13, 1938 Decorated with the 4th Order of ~~the~~ Merit with the Order of the Sacred Treasure.

Nov. 16, 1938 Relieved of ^{his post} ~~the duty~~ as staff-officer of the 2nd War Ministry Army and appointed ^a staff-officer of the 21st Army.

Aug. 25, 1941 Appointed Colonel. Cabinet

Sep. 15, 1941 ^{Raised to} ~~Conferred~~ the Junior grade of the 5th Court Rank. ^{Commissioned a}

Oct. 31, 1941 ~~was regular~~ ^{to} member of the Committee for controlling the papers for news-papers and magazines.

Apr. 22, 1942 ^{Commissioned a} ~~from regular~~ ^{to} member of the Committee for controlling the papers for news-papers and magazines.

Apr. 29, 1940 Decorated with the 4th class Order of the Golden Kite.

Decorated with the 3rd Order of the Merit with the ^{Intermediate} ~~Order of the Middle~~ Cordon of ^{the Order} the Rising Sun, in recognition of ^{his} distinguished service in the China Incident.

Jun. 10, 1945 Appointed major-general. Cabinet

Aug. 1, 1945 ^{Raised to senior} ~~Conferred~~ the Senior Grade of the 5th Court Rank.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF THE RECORD
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OHIRA - Direct

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* DIRECT EXAMINATION OF OHIRA, Hideo
BY MR. COLE

The witness identified and verified Exhibit 3450 as his affidavit.

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* The affidavit stated that from 14 Apr. 1943 to 1 Apr. 1944, the witness was C/S of the Second Imperial Guard Division in Sumatra under the accused MUTO and from then until immediately before the end of the war was a staff officer of the 25th Army. While MUTO was in that position, the Garrison Area under the Guard Division (after 1 June 1943 called the Second Imperial Guard Division) was gradually reduced from the outbreak of war to April 1943. It included the West Coast Province of Sumatra, Rio Province, Tapanori Province, Eastern Coast Province and Acjie Province.

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* From May 1943 it included only the last three provinces and after Jan. 1944 only the last two. The Commander of the Guard Division had nothing to do with military administration in the Garrison Area, but was authorized only to give necessary instructions as to defense and only when the garrison might be attacked. With regard to the treatment of POWs in Sumatra, the witness heard that early in the war, a temporary POW Camp was established by the Division. In the meantime, however, administration of POWs was taken over by personnel dispatched directly by the 25th Army Commander at Singapore. About July 1942, the Camp was built according to an order from Tokyo. MUTO arrived at Medan to take command about 11 May 1942. At that time the administration of the camp was not in the hands of the Commander of the Division. From that time on, the camp was administered as a branch of the * Malay POW Camp at Singapore under Headquarters of the Army of the South. The Division Commander had nothing to do with administration.

33064

With regard to the administration of the civilian internees' camps, the Province Governor and official of the Military Government was in charge of them. The military government was also responsible for the guarding of these internees' camps. However, when a request was made for help owing to a personnel shortage, the Division Commander made it a rule to comply. From 1 April 1944, the 25th Army Headquarters directly administered these internee camps. At the same time the Division was under obligation to assist Headquarters in construction of the camps as to supplies, but the Division had not been responsible at all for administration.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF THE RECORD

13 November 1947

MUTO

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* Originally the Division's principal duties were to guard the Imperial Palace and escort the Emperor, and it was composed of excellent men. Statistics regarding crime indicated that the 25th Army was one whose discipline was the most strict and of all units in the 25th Army, the Division gave the best showing. The witness had no recollection of any complaint brought to him by the military government or from natives regarding misconduct of the Division.

There was no cross-examination of the witness.

33069

* Exhibit 3451, the affidavit of KUMEGAWA, Yoshiharu, stated that on 22 Dec. 1944 he arrived at his post in the Philippines as a staff officer to 14th Area Army Commander YAMASHITA. He was appointed Senior Staff Officer, in charge of the Tactical Affairs Section. * From then until the surrender, he was in the Headquarters of this Army and was nearly all the time in the same place as YAMASHITA and C/S MUTO with whom he was closely connected.

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When the witness arrived at Manila, YAMASHITA's Headquarters was at Fort McKinley. At that time a part of the U.S. Army had already landed at San Jose, about 250 kilometers south of Manila. Lines of operations on Luzon Island were decided and every unit was successively moving to each allotted position. YAMASHITA, in consideration of future operations, moved his Headquarters to equal 30 kilometers northeast of Manila on Dec. 26th. As a result, YAMASHITA and MUTO never stayed in Manila. At that time the Army in Luzon was small, poorly equipped, short of maneuvering power, and lacking in air force. The U.S. Army was absolutely predominant in the air and superior in fighting power and equipment and had great maneuvering power. The U.S. forces could land at any point at their own choice and the Japanese Army Commander was at great pains to infer their landing points.

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In view of the difference in strength and equipment between their army and the enemy, the Commander intended to evade decisive battles on the plains and carry out persistent struggle in the mountains. When the Japanese had been concentrated in the Manila vicinity, if the U.S. Army should have their main force put ashore in the Bay of Lingaen, the Japanese forces would be forced to fight in the plains, for which their equipment was unfit, and put in danger of being destroyed. The Commander's program was that Manila should be abandoned and the main force located in northern Luzon, that the Japanese forces in the vicinity of Manila should occupy the mountainous region on the east of Manila, that only forces necessary to carry and escort war supplies and keep guard would be left in Manila and the city should be evacuated

Nov. 7, 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Sutton; Mr. Lopez; Capt. Robinson
FROM : EDWARD P. MONAGHAN, Chief,
Investigative Division, IPS
SUBJECT : Defense Witness

1. Please find attached hereto list of material available on the following witness and/or witnesses.

DEFENDANT

MUTO

WITNESS

OHIRA, Hideo

LIST OF MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Curriculum Vitae

2. Please acknowledge receipt of this memorandum by initialling and returning attached carbon copy to this office, Room 300.

Incl
(Described above)

EPM
EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

Social Status of Domicile: KAGAWA Pref.

Date of Birth: 4th Dec. 1898

Name: OHIRA Hideo

* * * * *

1918 Mar. 9 Graduated from the Kagawa Prefectural Mitoyo Middle School.

1918 Oct. 16 Ordered to be a military cadet and assigned to the 22nd Infantry Regiment. War Ministry

1918 Dec. 1 Entered the 22nd Infantry Regiment. Given the rank of a 1st class private, Infantry. 22 Infantry Regiment.

1919 May 2 Promoted to the rank of a superior private, Infantry. "

1919 Jul. 1 Promoted to the rank of a corporal, Infantry. "

1919 Sep. 1 Promoted to the rank of a sergeant, Infantry. "

1919 Dec. 1 Admitted to the Military Academy.

1921 Jul. 27 Graduated from the Regular Course of the Military Academy.

1921 Aug. 2 Returned to his unit.

" " Promoted to the rank of a sergeant-major Infantry., and appointed a probationary officer. "

1921 Sep. 20 Passed by the Officers Selection Board in accordance with Art. 10 of the Military Replacement Ordinance.

1921 Oct. 26 Appointed 2nd Lt., Infantry. Cabinet
Assigned to the 22nd Infantry Regiment. War Ministry

1921 Nov. 21 Conferred the senior grade of the 8th Court rank.

1924 Oct. 30 Appointed Lieut., Infantry. Cabinet

1924 Dec. 15 Raised to the junior grade of the 7th Court rank.

1925 Dec. 2 Relieved of his principal post, assigned to Instruction Unit, the Army Infantry School. War Ministry

1928 Dec. 24 Ordered to enter, the Army General Staff College. War Ministry.

1929 Jan. 16	Assigned to the 22nd Infantry Regiment.	War Ministry
1930 Feb. 1	Raised to the senior grade of the 7th Court rank.	"
1930 Aug. 1	Appointed Captain, Infantry.	Cabinet
1931 Nov. 6	Appointed a company commander of the 22nd Infantry Regiment.	War Ministry
1932 Dec. 7	Ordered to serve in the General Staff Headquarters.	War Ministry
1933 Mar. 18	Assigned to the 22nd Infantry Regiment.	"
1933 Dec. 20	Appointed a member of the General Staff Headquarters.	"
1934 Feb. 7	Decorated with the Sixth Order of Merit with the Order of the Sacred Treasure.	
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1935 Mar. 1	Raised to the junior grade of the 6th Court rank.	
1935 Mar. 15	Attached to the General Staff Headquarters.	War Ministry
1936 Jun. 1	Ordered to stay in China to study military affairs.	War Ministry
1936 Aug. 1	Appointed major of Infantry.	Cabinet
1937 Apr. 3	Appointed a battalion commander of the 27th Infantry Regiment.	War Ministry.
1937 Oct. 20	Appointed a staff-officer of the 2nd Army. (Not recorded in the Official Gazette.)	War Ministry
1938 Jul. 15	Appointed lieutenant-colonel of Infantry.	Cabinet
1938 Sep. 1	Raised to the senior grade of the 6th Court rank.	
1938 Oct. 13	Decorated with the 4th Order of Merit with the Order of the Sacred Treasure.	Cabinet
1938 Nov. 16	Relieved of his post as staff-officer of the 2nd Army and appointed a staff-officer of the 21st Army.	War Ministry
1941 Aug. 25	Appointed colonel.	Cabinet

Def. Doc. #2779

Exh. No.

Translated by
Defense Language Branch



INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition

Deponent: OHIRA, Hideo

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached sheet and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country I hereby depose as follows.

1. My name is OHIRA, Hideo. I was formerly a Major-General of the Japanese Army. From 14 April 1943 to 1 April 1944 I was the Chief of Staff of the Second Imperial Guard Division which was stationed in Sumatra, under Lt.-General WUTO, Akira. From then until immediately before the end of the war, I was a staff officer of the 25th. Army.
2. While Lt. General WUTO was in that position, the garrison-area under the Imperial Guard Division (from 1 June 1943 it was called the Second Imperial Guard Division) was gradually reduced as stated below:
 - a. From the outbreak of war to April 1943: Western Coast

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Province of Sumatra, Rio Province, Tapanori Province, Eastern Coast Province and Acjie Province.

b. From may 1943: Tapanori Province, Eastern Coast Province and Acjie Province.

c. From January 1944: Eastern Coast Province and Acjie Province.

3. The Commander of the Imperial Guard Division had nothing to do with the military administration established in the garrison-area. The commander was authorized only to give necessary instructions as to defense, and only when the garrison-area might be attacked by the enemy.

4. With regard to the treatment of prisoners of war in Sumatra, I heard that, in the early stage of the war, the temporary POW camp was established by the Imperial Guard Division which occupied the area. In the meantime, however, administration of the prisoners of war was taken over by the personnel whom the Commander of the 25th. Army at Singapore despatched directly. And about July 1942 the POW camp was built according to an order from Tokyo. Lt. General MUTO arrived at Medan to take command about 11 May 1942. Thus, at that time, the administration of the POW camp was already not in the hands of the commander of the Imperial Guard Division. The POW camp, from that time on, was administered as a branch of the Malay POW camp at Singapore, which was under the General Headquarters of the Japanese Army of the South. The commander of the Second Imperial Guard

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Division had nothing to do with the administration of the POW camp in the garrison-area of the division.

5. With regard to the administration of the civilian internees' camps, the governor of the province, an official of the military government organization, was in charge of them. The military government was also responsible for the guarding of these internees' camps. However, when a request was made for help, owing to the shortage of personnel, the commander of the Second Imperial Guard Division made it a rule to comply. Thereafter, from 1 April 1944, the headquarters of the 25th. Army directly administered these civilian internees' camps. At the same time, the Second Imperial Guard Division had been put under an obligation to assist the headquarters in the construction of the camps, and as to supplies. However, as stated above, the division had not been responsible at all for the administration of these camps.

6. In this last paragraph I would like to make a statement about the military discipline and morale of the soldiers of the Imperial Guard Division. Originally the principal duties of this division were to guard the Imperial Palace and to escort the Emperor. It was composed of excellent young men chosen from all over Japan. The statistics regarding crime in the army at that time indicated that the 25th. Army was the one whose discipline was the most strict and that, of all units, under the 25th. Army, the Second Imperial Guard

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Division gave the best showing. I have no recollection of any complaint brought to me by the Military Government organization or from the native inhabitants regarding any misconduct of members of the Imperial Guard Division.

certified at Tokyo,
or this 20 day of October, 1947

/S/ OHIRA, Hideo (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

at the same place, on this same date.

Witness: /S/ SAEKI, Chiaki (seal)

OATH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

/S/ OHIRA, Hideo. (seal)