

by J. Yamamoto

^{Kenzo}
KENZŌ KITAO

Domicile: SHIGA Prefecture.

Social Status: SAMURAI

Born: Aug. 24, 1889

1908 May 30: Graduated from Army Central

Preparatory School

1908. May 31: Ordered to become^{an} officer candidate

: Assigned to the 38th Infantry Regiment.

1908 Dec. 1: Entered the Military Academy

1910 May 28: Graduated from the Military Academy

and returned to ^{the} original Regiment.

1910 June 1: ^{Appointed} ~~Ordered to be~~ probationary officer

1910 Dec. 26: Appointed ~~2nd~~ ^{2nd} Lt., Infantry
(Cabinet)

- Attached to the 387th Infantry Regiment
- 1911 Mar. 10: Conferred 8th Court Rank, Senior Grade
- 1913 Dec. 9: Appointed ~~2nd~~^{1st} Lt. Infantry (Cabinet)
- 1914 Feb. 10: Conferred 7th Court Rank, Junior Grade
- 1915 Jan. 29: Ordered ^{serve in} ~~Attached~~ to The General Staff
- 1916 May 16: Relieved of the said duties (War Ministry)
- 1915 Nov. 7: Granted ¥200.00
- Bestowed the War Medal of ^{for the war} 1914-1915.
- 1915 Dec. 9: Ordered to enter the Army General Staff College
- 1915 Nov. 10: Granted ^{Coronation} Commemoration Medal of the Grand Ceremony Accession.
- 1919 Mar. 20: Conferred 7th Court Rank, Junior Grade

Appointed

1920 Apr. 9: ~~He~~ Promoted to Captain, Infantry

1920 Apr. 9: Relieved of main duties and appointed
a Company Commander ^{of} the 38th Infantry

Regiment (War Ministry)

ordered to serve with the

1920 Apr. 23: ~~Assigned to~~ Inspectate General

of Military Training (War Ministry)

1920 May 26: Relieved of main ^{duties} ~~part~~ and

Attached to the 38th Infantry Regiment

(War Ministry)

1920 Dec. 1: Relieved of main duties

Appointed a member of Inspectate General

of Military Training (War Ministry)

1920 Dec. 1: Ordered to be ^{acting} temporary staff officer
(War Ministry)

1922 July 15: Relieved of main ~~of~~ duties and
member of Inspe^{to}rate General of Military
Training (War Ministry)

1922 July 26: Awarded the Order of Sacred Treasure,
6th Order of Merit.

1922 Sep. 1: Relieved of service in ^{the} Inspe^{to}rate
General of Military Training
: Ordered to stay in Germany to ^{study military} make military
affairs.
study there (War Ministry)

1924 May 15: Conferred 6th Court Rank, Junior Grade

1925 ~~Apr.~~ Aug. 7: ~~Appointed~~ ^{Promoted to} Major, Infantry (Cabinet)

1925 Oct. 5: Relieved of post as ^{residence} stationed in Germany
and ordered to serve in ^{the} Inspe^{to}rate General
of Military Training (War Ministry)

- 1925 Dec. 2: Relieved of ~~post~~^{service} in ~~the~~^{the} Inspectate General
of Military Training (War Ministry)
- 1925 Dec 2: Appointed ~~a~~ member of ~~the~~^{the} Inspectate General
of Military ~~Training~~ Training (War Ministry)
- 1928 Mar. 24: Appointed Battalion Commander of the
3rd Infantry Regiment (War Ministry)
- 1928 July 30: Awarded the Order of Sacred Treasure,
5th Order of Merit.
- 1929 Aug. 1: Appointed Lt. Colonel, Infantry (Cabinet)
- 1929 Aug. 1: Appointed member of ~~the~~^{the} Inspectate
General of Military Training (War Ministry)
- 1929 July 1: Conferred 6th Court Rank, Junior Grade
- 1930 Aug. 1: ~~Ordered to serve in~~
Attached to Army Ordnance Main Depot

and ~~got~~ (concurrently) appointed member
of Personnel Affairs Bureau of War Ministry. (War Ministry)

1932 Aug. 8: Appointed member of Personnel
Affairs Bureau of War Ministry and
concurrently attached to Army
Ordnance Main Dept. (War Ministry)

1933 Aug. 1: Appointed Colonel, Infantry (Cadet Troops)

1933 Aug. 1: Appointed leader of Cadet Troops
~~at the~~ Military Academy (War Ministry)

1933 Sep. 1: Conferred 5th Court Rank, Junior Grade

1934 Feb. 7: Awarded the Order of Sacred Treasure,
4th Order of Merit

7

1935 Mar. 15 Appointed ~~Regimental~~ Commander
of the 37th Regiment Regiment.

①

Translated by K. Kawai

Checked by N. OTSUKA

1934 Apr. 29 Awarded Middle Order of Rising Sun, 3rd Order
of Merit for services in 1931~34 Incident.

1937 Aug. 2 Promoted Major General (Cabinet)

1937 Sept. 7 Conferred 5th Court Rank Senior Grade.

1938 Mar. 1 Relieved as HUNCHUN Garrison Commander.

Appointed Chief of Staff of KOREAN Army. Not

reported in Official Gazette (War Ministry).

1938 Apr. 8 Appointed member of Central Air Defense

Committee of KOREA (Cabinet).

Korean Government - General

1938 Aug. 27 Appointed member of Investigation Committee

for measures to meet Situation,

of Counter-Plan for Situation of Government

General of KOREA (Cabinet).

1939 Sept. 7 Appointed Commander of Military Police stationed

in China (War Ministry).

(2)

1939 Dec. 2 Promoted ^{to} Lieutenant General (Cabinet)

1939 Nov. 13 Awarded Order of ^{the} Sacred Treasure, 2nd Order of
Merit.

1939 Dec. 22 Relieved as member of Central Air Defense
Committee of KOREA (Cabinet).

1940 July 22 Appointed Commander of 7th Division. Now
reported in Official Gazette (Cabinet).

1940 Aug. 15 Conferred 4th Court Rank, Junior grade.

1942 Jan. 14 Awarded Order of Sacred Treasure, 1st
Order of Merit.

1942 May 12 Decorated with Grand Cordon of Rising Sun.

1943 Oct. 15 Appointed Commander of 19th Army (Cabinet)

1943 Nov. 15 Conferred 4th Court Rank, Senior grade.

1945 Sept. 23 Appointed Commander of 12th ^{Area} Army Group

③

and concurrently ~~also~~ Commandant of

Eastern District Army. Not reported in

official Gazette (Cabines).

NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF THE RECORD
5 November 1947
Defense - KOISO
KITANO - Direct

Page 5211

Page * DIRECT EXAMINATION OF KITANO, Kenzo
By Mr. Brooks

32511 The witness identified exhibit 3388 and, as corrected, verified it. * The affidavit stated that the witness was chief of staff of the Korean army from early March 1938 to September 1939. The commander of the army at that time was KOISO until 15 July 1938 when he was succeeded by NAKAMURA. The Korean army commander in 1938 had no operational duties but was only charged with defending Korea. He was not invested with any wartime duties. As regards the two divisions in Korea, the command was confined to the defense of Korea and the chief of staff was directly in charge of wartime operations.

32512 At the time of the Changkufeng incident, the only division in Korea was the 19th. * Troops under its command were constantly required to absolutely keep from exciting the Soviet army, since the China incident was in progress. They were warned to be extremely cautious as any dispute with the Soviet would be an obstacle in carrying out the policy of the central authorities towards China.

Inspections or observations were done at the spot of watch-post line or unit headquarters, and were never made close to the frontier line. It was the principle for all troops to do their utmost not to excite the Soviet as an attempt to invade Soviet territory was out of the question and impossible.

32513 The witness remembered that he presented the telegraphic instructions from the central authorities * to the succeeding commander NAKAMURA, who arrived at Seoul on July 17 and asked for necessary instructions. Korean army orders to units of the 19th division relative to the Soviet-Manchurian dispute were given by NAKAMURA, the new commander, and had nothing to do with KOISO.

There was no cross-examination of the witness.

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6 November 1947

LANGUAGE CORRECTION

If the Tribunal please, we submit the following Language Correction.

Reference: Exhibit 3388 page 2 line 16. delete
"the likes of" and substitute "even such a thing
as".

LANGUAGE ARBITRATION BOARD

Def. Doc. # 2698

*Original
Not in the knowledge of this witness
Have him produced from + any 3388A*

C E R T I F I C A T E



I, Chief of the Document Section of the First Demobilization Bureau, hereby certify that documents of the Former War Ministry and of the Former General Staff Office were deposited in our custody for filing and safekeeping; I further state that the originals and all copies of the following document are not found in our files, because they were destroyed by fire, hence the following are not available.

A telegraphic instruction dated 16 July 1938, from the Chief of the Army General Staff to the Commander in Chief of the Korean Army, concerning the latter may concentrate the forces under his command in Korea at the frontier, against unlawful crossing of the borders by the Soviet forces stationed in the vicinity of Chang-ku-feng.

on this 30th day of September, 1947.

YOSHIYAMA, Yozo

(Seal)

Chief, Document Section
First Demobilization Bureau

I certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of this witness.

on the same date,
at the same place.

Witness: TAKAGI, KAZUYA (seal)

Ex 3388

since he was in Tokyo up to July 15
he could not know of the charges made in it
copy deposited in Korea - see London
evidence on it

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

no objection

Mo + Guban



SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponent: KITANO, Kenzo

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. I am KITANO, Kenzo, an ex-Lieutenant-General, aged 59, and presently living at No. 29, Goban-cho, HIKONE City.
2. I held the post of Chief of Staff of the Korean Army as a major-general from early in March, 1938 (the 13th year of SHOWA) to September, 1939 (the 14th year of SHOWA). The commander of the Army at that time was General KOISO, until July 15, 1938 (the 13th year of SHOWA), when he was succeeded by General N. KAMURA.
3. As for Commander KOISO's intentions and actions prior to the outbreak of the CHANGKUFENG Incident, I will depose as follows:
 - A. The Commander of the Korean Army in 1938 (the 13th year of SHOWA) had no operational duties but was only charged with the

rec. July 38

object last sentence p. 2 - conclusion
2A on p. 3
1A on p. 4

duty of defending Korea. He was not invested with any war-time duties. He was therefore, as it were, a commander of a caretaker army.

As regards the 2 divisions in Korea, the command of the Army Commander was confined to the defence of Korea and, so far as the duty of wartime operations was concerned, the Chief of the General Staff was directly in charge. At the time of the CHANGKUFENG Incident, the 20th Division was in North China, so the only field division in Korea was the 19th Division.

- B. Such being the case, the troops under its command were constantly required to absolutely keep from exciting the Soviet Army. Especially since the China Incident was then in progress, were they warned to be extremely cautious as any dispute outbreak with the Soviet Union would be an obstacle in carrying out the policy of the central authorities towards China. Again the likes of watch-post line of our border guards were laid, within our territory of defence back from the frontier line in many places. On the occasion of inspections or observations, they were done at the spot of the watch-post line or at the headquarters of units, never going close to the frontier line. Such being the case, it was the principle for all troops from the Army Commander down to do their utmost not to excite the Soviet. Therefore, such an attempt as to invade Soviet territory was quite out of the question and was impossible from the standpoint of military strength.

Object

C. Just before the outbreak of the CHANGKUFENG Incident in July, 1938 (the 13th year of SHOWA), I was in TOKYO to attend the conference of the chiefs of staff, and was completely ignorant of any changes in the situation of the Soviet Army on the frontier with the central authorities at TOKYO also, who naturally, never expected such a border dispute, gave neither orders instructions nor warning whatsoever concerning this during my stay in TOKYO.

objed

As the conference concluded I left TOKYO and returned to SEOUL on July 15. For the first time I learned that the situation of the Soviet troops in the vicinity of CHANGKUFENG had changed, that the Commander of the 19th Division had applied for concentrating its main force on the bank of the TUMEN River to secure the complete defense of Korea, and that the Army Commander was asking the central Army authorities for instructions.

Telegraphic instructions from the Central Authorities in reply to the above application reached the Army Commander on July 16. Its gist was "Against the Soviet troops in the vicinity of CHANGKUFENG, should they cross the frontier into our territory, the troops in Korea under your command, as occasion demands, may be concentrated to the vicinity of the frontier. On the other hand Army Commander KOISO on the previous day, in other words July 15, had been transferred and attached to

*objed +
instants
received
after
Koiso
Kangfer*

General Staff Headquarters.

I remember, as a result, I presented the telegraphic instructions from the Central Authorities to General NAKAMURA, Kotaro, the succeeding Army Commander, who arrived at SEOUL on July 17, and asked the new commander for necessary instructions and measures were made for the troops under his command.

As stated above, Korean Army orders to units of part of the ~~120th~~¹⁹ Division relative to the Soviet-Manchurian frontier dispute were given by General NAKAMURA, the new Army Commander, and had nothing to do with General KOISO.

On this 4th day of Sept., 1947

At Tokyo

Deponent: /s/ KITANO, Kenzo (seal)

I, TANAKA, Kazuya, hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date,
at the same place.

Witness: /s/ TAKAGI, Kazuya (seal)

OATH

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

/s/ KITANO, Kenzo (seal)

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Sutton; Col. Fixel, Judge Nyi. 30 Oct. 1947
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

Koiso

WITNESS

Kitano, Kenzo

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

Kenzo, KITANO

Domicile: SHIGA Prefecture.

Social Status: SAMURAI

Born: Aug. 24, 1889

* * * * *

- 1908 May 30 Graduated from Army Central Preparatory School.
- 1908 May 31 Ordered to become Officer comdidate.
Assigned to the 38th Infantry Regiment.
- 1908 Dec. 1 Entered the Military Academy.
- 1910 May 28 Graduated from the Military Academy and returned to the original Regiment.
- 1910 June 1 Appointed probationary officer. Cabinet
- 1910 Dec. 26 Appointed 2nd Lt., Infantry.
Attached to the 38th Infantry Regiment.
- 1911 Mar. 10 Conferred 8th Court Rank, Senior Grade. Cabinet
- 1913 Dec. 9 Appointed 1st Lt. Infantry.
- 1914 Feb. 10 Conferred 7th Court Rank, Junior Grade.
- 1915 Jan. 29 Ordered to serve in the General Staff.
- 1916 May 16 Relieved of the said duties. War Ministry
- 1915 Nov. 7 Granted ¥ 200.000
Bestowed the War Medal for the war 1914-1915.
- 1915 Dec. 9 Ordered to enter the Army Staff College.
- 1915 Nov. 10 Granted Coronation Commemoration Medal.
- 1919 Mar. 20 Conferred 7th Court Rank, Junior Grade.
- 1920 Apr. 9 Appointed Captain, Infantry.
- 1920 Apr. 9 Relieved of main duties and appointed a Company commander of the 38th Infantry Regiment. War Ministry

1920 Apr. 23	Ordered to serve with the Inspectorate General of Military Training.	War Ministry
1920 May 26	Relieved of main duties. Attached to the 38th Infantry Regiment.	War Ministry
1920 Dec. 1	Relieved of main duties. Appointed member of Inspectorate General of Military Training.	War Ministry
1920 Dec. 1	Ordered to be acting staff officer.	War Ministry
1922 July 15	Relieved of main duties and member of Inspectorate General of Military Training.	War Ministry
1922 July 26	Awarded the Order of Sacred Treasure, 6th Order of Merit.	
1922 Sep. 1	Relieved of service in the Inspectorate General of Military Training. Ordered to stay in Germany to study military affairs.	War Ministry
1924 May 15	Conferred 6th Court Rank, Junior Grade.	
1925 Aug. 7	Promoted to Major, Infantry.	Cabinet
1925 Oct. 5	Relieved of residence in Germany and Ordered to serve in the Inspectorate General of Military Training.	War Ministry
1925 Dec. 2	Relieved of service in the Inspectorate General of Military Training.	War Ministry
1925 Dec. 2	Appointed member of the Inspectorate General of Military Training.	War Ministry
1928 Mar. 24	Appointed Battalion commander of the 3rd Infantry Regiment.	War Ministry
1928 July 30	Awarded the Order of Sacred Treasure, 5th Order of Merit.	
1929 Aug. 1	Appointed Lt. Colonel, Infantry.	Cabinet
1929 Aug. 1	Appointed member of the Inspectorate General of Military Training.	War Ministry
1929 July 1	Conferred 6th Court Rank, Junior Grade.	
1930 Aug. 1	Attached to Army Ordnance Main Depot and concurrently member of Personnel Affairs Bureau of the War Ministry.	appointed War Ministry

1932 Aug. 8	Appointed member of Personnel Affairs Bureau of War Ministry and concurrently attached to Army Ordnance Main Depot.	War Ministry
1933 Aug. 1	Appointed Colonel, Infantry.	Cabinet
1933 Aug. 1	Appointed leader of Cadet Troops at the Military Academy.	War Ministry
1933 Sep. 1	Conferred 5th Court Rank, Junior Grade.	
1934 Feb. 7	Awarded the Order of Sacred Treasure, 4th Order of Merit.	
1935 Mar. 15	Appointed Commander of the 37th Regiment.	
1934 Apr. 29	Awarded Middle Cordon of Rising Sun, 3rd Order of Merit for services in 1931-34 Incident.	
1937 Aug. 2	Promoted to Major General.	Cabinet
1937 Sept. 1	Conferred 5th Court Rank, Senior Grade.	
1938 Mar. 1	Relieved as HUNCHUN Garrison Commander. Appointed Chief of Staff of KOREAN Army. Not reported in Official Gazette.	War Ministry
1938 Apr. 8	Appointed member of Central Air Defense Committee of KOREA.	Cabinet
1938 Aug. 27	Appointed member of Korean Government-General Investigation Committee for Measures to Meet Situation.	Cabinet
1939 Sept. 7	Appointed Commander of Military Police stationed in China.	War Ministry
1939 Dec. 2	Promoted to Lieutenant General.	Cabinet
1939 Nov. 13	Awarded Order of the Sacred Treasure, 2nd Order of Merit.	
1939 Dec. 22	Relieved as member of Central Air Defense Committee of KOREA.	Cabinet
1940 July 22	Appointed commander of 4th Division. Not reported Official Gazette.	Cabinet
1940 Aug. 15	Conferred 4th Court Rank, Junior Grade.	
1942 Jan. 14	Awarded Order of Sacred Treasure, 1st Order of Merit.	

1942 May 12 Decorated with grand Cordon of Rising Sun.

1943 Oct. 15 Appointed Commander of 19th Army. Cabinet

1943 Nov. 15 Conferred 4th Court Rank, Senior Grade.

1945 Sept. 23 Appointed Commander of 12th Area Army and
concurrently commandant of Eastern District
Army. Not reported in Official Gazette. Cabinet.