

CONFIDENTIAL

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND
Military Intelligence Section, General Staff
Civil Intelligence Section

General Activities
APO 500
29 June 1947

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

SUBJECT: YANO, Masao

Date of Birth: 20 Jan 1894
Permanent Domicile: Oita Ken

Education:
17 Mar 1913: Graduated Usa Middle School, Oita Ken.

Career:
7 Nov 1913: Attached to 24th Field Artillery Regiment as Officer Candidate.
1 Dec 1913: Promoted to Private 1st Class, Artillery.
1 Jun 1914: Promoted to Superior Private.
1 Aug 1914: Promoted to Corporal.
18 Aug 1914: Assigned to 24th Field Artillery Regiment Replacement Unit.
1 Sep 1914: Promoted to Sergeant.
1 Dec 1914: Entered Japanese Military Academy.
26 May 1916: Graduated Military Academy.
5 Jun 1916: Reassigned to 24th Field Artillery Regiment.
Promoted to Sergeant Major.
26 Dec 1916: Promoted to 2nd Lt.
1 Apr 1917: Promoted to 1st Lt.
26 Dec 1924: Entered Military Staff College.
26 June 1925: Appointed Acting Battalion Adjutant, 24th Field Artillery Regiment.
7 Aug 1925: Promoted to Captain and appointed Battalion Adjutant.
16 Dec 1927: Appointed Company Commander, 24th Field Artillery Regiment.
1 Aug 1929: Concurrently appointed to 12th Division Staff.
10 Dec 1929: Appointed to 10th Division Staff.
2 Jul 1932: Member of 14th Division Staff until 18 Mar 1933.
18 Mar 1933: Appointed Battalion Commander, 24th Field Artillery Regiment.
5 Mar 1934: Appointed to Imperial Guards Division Staff.
1 Aug 1935: Promoted to Lt. Col.
Appointed to Kwantung Army Staff.

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S/I, dtd 29 June 47, subj: YANO, Masao

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 15 Jul 1938: | Promoted to Colonel. |
| 7 Sep 1938: | Awarded Order of Sacred Treasure, Third Class. |
| 15 Oct 1941: | Promoted to Major General. |
| 1942: | Chief of Staff, Kalgan Headquarters, Mongolia. Chief of Tokumu Kikan Operations in Mongolia. |
| 1 Mar 1945: | Promoted to Lt. Gen. |
| 23 Mar 1945: | Appointed Commanding General, 57th Division. |
| 15 June 1946: | Appointed Official, First Demobilization Ministry. |

REMARKS: During 1942 and 1943, while subject was Chief of Staff of the Japanese Army's Kalgan, Mongolia Headquarters, 90 million grains of crude opium were shipped yearly to Japan for refining.


CONFIDENTIAL

11 June 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE:

SUBJECT: YANO, Masao

Search of IPS Files reveals no information on the Subject.


Henry A. Dolan Investigator
IPS Investigative Division
Room 381 W.M.B.

YANO, Masao

Testified 29 May

Address - City of Fukuoka, Nagahamacho, 2 Chome, No. 55

Former Lt. General of Japanese Army

Since Nov. 1944 served as Chief of Staff of the Third District
Army under General Ushiroku's command, Remained until March 1945
in above capacity. Subsequently commanded 57th Division.

SECRET

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMIAND
Operations, CIS, G-2
Compilation Branch

APO 500
29 July 1947

SUBJECT : YANO Masao

DATE OF BIRTH : 20 Jan 1894

PERMANENT ADDRESS : Oita Prefecture.

EDUCATION :

17 Mar 1913 Completed USA Middle School, Oita Prefecture.

MILITARY CAREER :

7 Nov 1913 Cadet; attached to the 24th Field Artillery Regiment.

1 Dec 1913 Private First Class; entered the 24th Field Artillery Regiment.

1 Jun 1914 Superior Private.

1 Aug 1914 Corporal.

18 Aug 1914 Attached to the 24th Field Artillery Regiment.

1 Sep 1914 Sergeant.

1 Dec 1914 Entered Military Academy.

26 May 1916 Sergeant Major. Attached to the 24th Field Artillery Regiment.

26 Dec 1916 2nd Lieutenant; attached to the 24th Field Artillery Regiment.

1 Apr 1917 1st Lieutenant.

26 Dec 1924 Ordered to enter Military General Staff College.

18 Mar 1925 Student (SHOKUMU KOKOROE), at the 24th Field Artillery Regiment.

26 Jun 1925 Acting Battalion Adjutant (DAITAI FUKUKAN SHOKUMU KOKOROE), the 24th Field Artillery Regiment.

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SECRET

SECRET

YANO Masao--cont'd.

MILITARY CAREER :

(cont'd)

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 7 Aug 1925 | Captain. Appointed Battalion Adjutant, the 24th Field Artillery Regiment. |
| 16 Dec 1927 | Company Commander, the 24th Field Artillery Regiment. |
| 1 Aug 1929 | Attached to 12th Division Headquarters. |
| 27 Aug 1929 | Attached to the 24th Field Artillery Regiment. |
| 10 Dec 1929 | Staff-Officer (SAMBO), the 10th Division. |
| 1 Aug 1931 -- 19 Jun 1933 | Major; Battalion Commander, the 8th Field Artillery Regiment. |
| 2 Jul 1932 -- 18 Mar 1933 | Staff Officer, the 14th Division. |
| 18 Mar 1933 | Battalion Commander, the 24th Field Artillery Regiment. |
| 5 Mar 1934 | Staff Officer, the Imperial Guard Division. |
| 1 Aug 1935 | Lt. Colonel; attached to the Kwangtung Army Headquarters. |
| 15 Jul 1938 | Colonel. |
| 15 Oct 1941 | Major General. |
| 1 Mar 1945 | Lt. General. |
| 23 Mar 1945 | Commander, the 57th Division. |
| 15 Jun 1946 | Official, 1st Demobilization Bureau. |

DECORATIONS :

| | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7 Jul 1930 | 6th Order of the Sacred Treasure. |
| 9 Mar 1934 | 5th Order of the Sacred Treasure. |

SECRET

SECRET

YANO Masao--cont'd.

DECORATIONS (cont'd):

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 29 Apr 1934 | Small Cordon of the Rising Sun, and 4th Order of the Sacred Treasure. |
| 7 Sep 1938 | 3rd Order of Sacred Treasure. |
| 29 Apr 1940 | 4th Order of the Golden Kite, and Middle Cordon of the Rising Sun. |
| 18 Jan 1944 | 2nd Order of the Sacred Treasure. |

SECRET

May 29, 1947

DEFENSE - Division IV - Russia

YANO - Direct

Page

DIRECT EXAMINATION OF YANO, Masao
by Mr. Blakeney

23,272 The witness stated that he lived in Fukuoka. He identified Exhibit 2672 as his affidavit and verified it. * The affidavit stated that since November 1944 the witness served as Chief of the Staff of the Third District Army under USHIROKU and stayed in Tsitsihar until March 1945. He later became commander of the 57th Army and went to Sanshinfu. On arriving there he received an order from the Kwantung Army and was sent with his division from Manchuria to Fukuoka to join in the Pacific War. He helped draw up the plan of operations of the Third District Army for the year 1945.

While he was not well acquainted with the plan of operations before 1945, he knew the outline of the plan was to defend against possible Soviet attacks, the right bank of the Amur River and the Hailar and Great Hsingan mountains in the west. When he arrived he received a new instruction regarding new operation plans from Kwantung Headquarters.

23,273 Under this the Third District Army was to gradually retreat after slight resistance in the Songo-Hailar area and was to make the final resistance on the Peian-Nonko-Jarantong-Hsingan line. The Army, therefore, drew up a concrete plan and when the plan was about to be reported to the commander of the Kwantung Army the witness was transferred. The Third District Army then had three divisions and one brigade. Only one division was well trained, the others being newly organized. The witness became commander of the well-trained division, but it was transferred to Japan Proper for the Pacific War and a newly organized division was substituted for it. All divisions of the Third Army were therefore inferior in quality. When he arrived at Japan Proper, he learned that the Third District Army Headquarters was transferred to Mukden.

23,274 THERE WAS NO CROSS-EXAMINATION OF THIS WITNESS, but reference was made * to Exhibits 703, 722, 837 and 839A.

11 June 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Sutton

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

Witness General
Testified 29 May

WITNESS

YANO, Masao

LIST OF MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Curriculum Vitae

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

Incl
(Described above)

E P M
EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

PERSONAL HISTORY

Name: YANO, Masao
Date of Birth: Nov. 20, 1894
Permanent Domicile: Oita Prefecture.

1916 Dec 26 Was appointed artillery sub-lieutenant.
" Was attached to the 24th Field-Artillery Regiment.
1920 Apr 1 Was promoted to artillery lieutenant.
1925 Aug 7 Was promoted to artillery captain.
" Was appointed battalion adjutant of the 24th Field-Artillery Regiment.
1927 Dec 16 Was appointed company commander of the 24th Field-Artillery Regiment.
1929 Aug 1 Was ordered to serve in the Headquarters of the 12th Division.
Aug 27 Was attached to the 24th Field-Artillery Regiment.
Dec 10 Was appointed staff-officer of the 10th Division.
1931 Aug 1 Was promoted to artillery major.
" Was appointed battalion commander of the 8th Field-Artillery Regiment.
1932 Jul 2 Was appointed staff-officer of the 14th Division (original post as ever).
1933 Mar 18 Was appointed battalion commander of the 24th Field-Artillery Regiment.
1934 Mar 5 Was appointed staff-officer of the Imperial Guard Division.
1935 Aug 1 Was promoted to artillery lieutenant-colonel.
" Was attached to the headquarters of the Kwantung Army.
1938 Jul 15 Was promoted to artillery colonel.
1941 Oct 15 Was promoted to major-general.

- 1942 Dec 1 Was appointed chief of the staff of the stationary army in Mongolia and concurrently chief of the Intelligence Dept. of the same.
- 1944 Oct 26 Was appointed chief of the staff of the 3rd Area Army.
- 1945 Mar 1 Was promoted to lieutenant-general.
- Mar.23 Was appointed commander of the 57th Division.
- 1946 Jun 15 Was appointed administrative official (2nd class) of the Demobilization Ministry and assigned to Chief of the Hakata branch office of the Landing Place.
- 1947 Jan 31 Was relieved of the post at my own request.

SERVED 08:55
28 May

Def. Doc. 1155

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

vs

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponent: Yano Masao

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:

Def. Doc. 1155

I am an ex-Lieutenant General of the Japanese Army, and now living at No. 55 2 Chome Nagahamacho, Fukuoka.

Since November 1944 I served as the Chief of Staff of the Third District Army under General Ushiroku's command, and stayed in Titihr until March 1945. I subsequently became commander of the 57th Division and went to "Sanshinfu". Upon my arrival there I received an order from the Kwantung Army and was transferred along with my division from Manchuria to Fukuoka for joining in the Pacific War.

I was connected with the drawing up of the plan of operations of the Third District Army for the year 1945 while I was the Chief of Staff of that Army. The circumstances are stated as follows:

Although I am not well acquainted with the plan of operations before 1945, I knew that the outline of the plan was to defend against possible attacks of the USSR, the line of the right bank of the Amour River in the north, and the line of Hailai and Great Hsingan mountains in the west. However, when I arrived there, I received a new instruction regarding new operation plans from the headquarters of the Kwantung Army. According to this, the Third District Army was to make gradual retreat after offering a slight resistance in the area of Songo and H Hailai, and was to make the final resistance on the line of Pchien, Nonko, Jarantong and Hsingan. Following this instruction, the Third District Army drew up a concrete plan and when the plan was about to be reported to the Commander-in-Chief of the Kwantung Army, I was transferred.

At that time the Third District Army was composed of three divisions and one brigade. The divisions were the 57th, 107th and 119th, and only the 57th division was well seasoned, the others being newly organized inferior divisions.

I became the commander of this well seasoned 57th Division. However, this division was also transferred to Japan proper for the Pacific War. A newly organized division was substituted for it, thus rendering all divisions of the Third District Army inferior in quality.

After I arrived in Japan proper, I was told that the headquarters of the Third District Army was transferred from Titihr to Mukuden.

On this 27th day of Jan. 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT: Yano Masao (seal)

I, Ikeda Sumihisa, 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 Tokyo

Witness: (signed) Ikeda Sumihisa (seal)

Def. Doc. 1155

OATH

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

Yeno Masao (seal)