

Reply to Military Analysis Division Questionnaire (No. 3)

Pacific Ocean Areas

7 December 1941 to 30 September 1944

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I. There were no Army Air Force Units operating in the Pacific Ocean Areas (excluding the PHILIPPINES, the NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES, the BISMARCK ISLANDS, and the SOLOMON ISLANDS) between 7 December 1941 and 30 September 1944.

II. However, the following base facilities were used by the Army Air Force in the Pacific Ocean Areas (excluding the above islands) between 7 December 1941 and 30 September 1944.

1. TRUK

a. 12th HIKODAN (1st HIKOSENTAI, 11th HIKOSENTAI) with about 100 fighters.

When this unit was sent from BURMA to reinforce RABAU on 10 December 1942, it was transported by CVE from SOERABAJA to TRUK. At TRUK the planes were serviced for a week and then flown to RABAU.

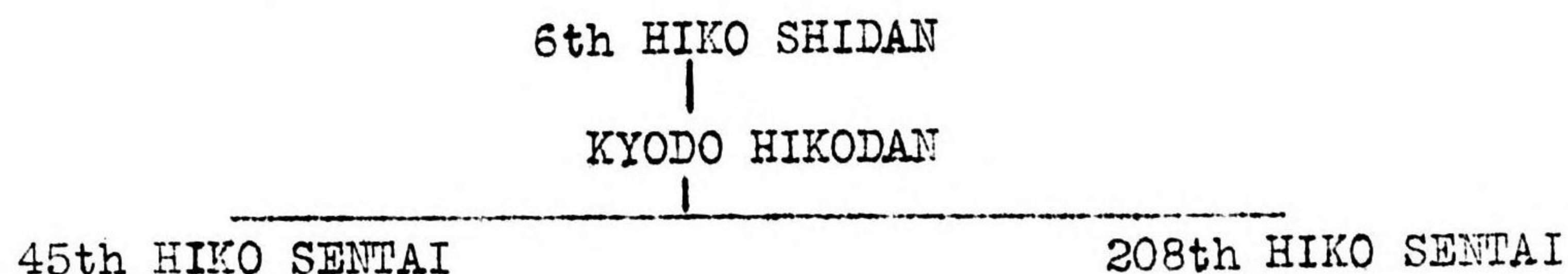
The commanding officer, Lt. Col. OKAMOTO, was under the command of the 6th HIKO SHIDAN at RABAU.

(Lt. Col. TAKAKI is available for interrogation.)

b. 208th HIKO SENTAI and the 45th HIKO SENTAI - with about 30 twin-engined bombers.

When these units were sent from MANCHURIA to reinforce RABAU in the end of February 1943, they were transported by CVE from YOKOSUKA to TRUK. The 45th HIKOSENTAI then flew to RABAU about 10 days later; the 208th HIKO SENTAI flew to RABAU in May.

The Commanding Officer was Lt. Col. ODA, and the chain of command was as follows:

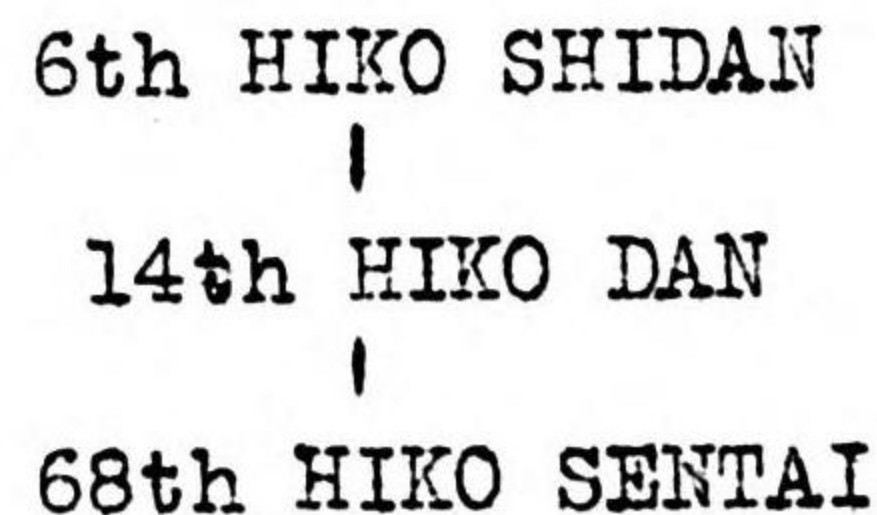


(Lt. Col. ODA is available for interrogation.)

c. The 68th HIKO SENTAI - with about 30 fighters.

When this unit was sent from MANCHURIA to reinforce RABAU in the latter part of April 1943, it was transported by CVE from YOKOSUKA to TRUK. After debarking, it flew on to RABAU.

The Commanding Officer was Major SHIMOYAMA and the chain of command was as follows:



(Lt. Col. SHIMOYAMA is available for interrogation.)

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2. PALAU

In February 1944, one element of the 61st HIKO SENTAI (Heavy Bombers) planned to use PALAU as an alternate airfield but it is not clear whether or not it was so used.

The Commanding Officer was Major YAGI and the chain of command was as follows:

4th KOKUGUN

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61st HIKOSENTAI

III. Losses received in the above areas.

The 208th HIKOSENTAI abandoned about 10 planes in rear areas due to poor maintenance work at TRUK.

The 68th HIKOSENTAI lost about 18 planes when they were forced down in the ADMIRALTY ISLANDS during the flight from TRUK to RABAU.