

# SECRET

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

APO 500  
29 July 1947

SUBJECT : KOZUKI, Yoshio  
DATE OF BIRTH : 7 Nov 1886  
PERMANENT ADDRESS: 84, 1 chome, Shin-machi, Kumamoto-shi, Kumamoto-ken.  
PRESENT ADDRESS : 68 Wakabayashi-machi, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo.  
CAREER :

1909 Graduated from Military Academy.  
Dec 1909 Second Lieutenant, attached to Guards Infantry Regiment.  
Feb 1913 Lieut. Graduated from Army General Staff College. Attached to Army General Staff Headquarters.  
Jul 1913 Adjutant, War Ministry. Captain.  
Aug 1924 Major. Member of Military Affairs Investigation Dept. (GUNJI CHOSA BU).  
Member, Military Affairs Bureau.  
Aug 1928 Lieut. Col.  
Aug 1932 Colonel. Chief, Control Dept., Equipment Bureau (SEIBI KYOKU).  
Commander, 11th Guards Infantry Regiment.  
Aug 1937 Major-General. Commander, 40th Infantry Brigade. Chief, Equipment Bureau, War Ministry.  
Oct 1939 Lieutenant-General. Commander of Ship Transportation (SEMPAKU YUSO SHIREIKAN).  
Commander of the 19th Infantry Brigade.  
Commander of the 2nd Army; Army in Mongolia; the 11th Army; the 17th Area Army of KOREAN Army Area (CHOSEN GUNKAN-KU).

Incl 21

# SECRET



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KOZUKI, Yoshio--cont'd.

CAREER (cont'd) :

Dec 1945            Reservist. Vice-Minister, 1st Demobilization  
Ministry.

Dec 1921--        Sent by War Ministry to Germany to study. Visited  
Aug 1924        England, France, Italy, Austria, Bulgaria, Poland  
and Czechoslovakia during this period.

SECRET



Report by: Lt. J. Curtis  
15 May 1947

Memorandum for the File:

Subject: KOZUKI, Yoshio  
(FUTAMI, Akisaburo)  
(UKAI, Yoshio)

A search of the files of I.P.S. reveal no further  
information on the above subject.



KOZUKI, Yoshio

Witness General - Affidavit Def. Doc. No. 1153

Served in Chientao, Manchoukuo under General Umezu, Commander in Chief of Kwantung Army, as Commander of Second Army from July 1942 to May 1943.

Statement is with regards to efforts of General Umezu to maintain peaceful relations with USSR.



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Translated by K. YAMADA.  
Checked by FEGEN.

1

### Personal History

~~Place of origin~~  
Domicile of Choice:

84, 1-chome, Shin-machi,

City of KUMAMOTO, KUMAMOTO

Prefecture:

Present Address: 68, Wakabayashi-cho,

Setagaya-Ku, City of TOKYO.

Name: <sup>Yoshio</sup>  
YOSHIO KŌZUKI

Date of Birth: November 7, 1886.

1909	Graduated Military Academy.
December 25, ditto	2nd Infantry Lieutenant



Ditto	Assigned Attached to the Fourth <sup>Imperial</sup> Guards Infantry Regiment.
February 2, 1913	1st Infantry Lieutenant
August, 1918	Attached to Army General Staff
July 25, 1919	Infantry Captain
August, ditto	Adjutant <sup>E</sup> of the War Ministry
November, 1921	Resident officer in GERMANY
August 20, 1924	Infantry Major
Ditto	A member of Military Investigation Department.



August, 1925	A member of <sup>a</sup> the Section of the <sup>Military</sup> War <del>Service</del> Bureau, War Ministry.
August 10, 1928	Infantry Lieutenant-Colonel
December, 1930	A member of the Section of the Mobilization Plans Bureau, War Ministry
August 8, 1932	Infantry Colonel
August, 1933	Head of the Control Section of the Mobilization Plans Bureau, War Ministry.



March, 1935	Commander of the Eleventh Infantry Regiment.
August 2, 1937	Major-General
Ditto	Commander of the Fortieth Infantry Brigade.
July, 1938	Chief of the Mobilization Plans Bureau, War Ministry.
October 2, 1939	Lieutenant-General
March, 1940	Chief of the Army Transportation Department; Shipping Transport



	Commander.
October, ditto	Commander of the 19th Division.
July, 1942	Commander of the Second Army.
June, 1943	Commander of the Army stationed in Mongolia.
November, 1944	Commander of the Eleventh Army.
April, 1945	Commander of the Korean Army; Commander of the 17th Area Army.
December 19, ditto	Appointed Vice-Minister of the First Demobilization Ministry; raised to



the First Rank of the Higher Civil Service; especially treated as an official of the Imperially commissioned class.

June 15, 1946 Chief of the First Demobilization Bureau, Board of Demobilization.



20 May 1947

Memo for the files

KOZUKI, Yoshio

A report from G-2 reveals no information on this witness.



NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF THE RECORD  
June 3, 1947  
DEFENSE - Division IV - Russia  
KOZUKI - Direct

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DIRECT EXAMINATION OF KOZUKI, Yoshio  
by Mr. Blakeney

23,456  
23,458

The witness stated that he lived in Tokyo. He identified Exhibit 2683 and verified it. The witness stated that \* he served in Chientao under UMEZU as commander of the 2nd Army from July 1942 to May 1943. He made every effort to avoid any trouble with the Soviet and to maintain a state of tranquility.

23,459

Upon arrival in Hsinking UMEZU instructed him that from the standpoint of Japan's general circumstances he was to take all possible and complete measures to avoid any trouble with the Soviet and to avoid irritating them. Chief of Staff YOSHIMOTO told him the same thing, at the same time, and particularly emphasized that he was to strictly abide by the border guard regulations and, in going in or out of a restricted zone, even if it was only a patrol, UMEZU's permission must be obtained. At commander conferences or when he inspected, UMEZU repeatedly reminded them to avoid anything that might irritate the Soviet. \* In accordance with the senior officer policy the witness instructed his subordinates and guided them.

In November 1942 there was a field fire, which started and spread from the Soviet Maritime Province and finally burned a part of the fortification, since they were prohibited from going into the restricted zone to extinguish the fire. This is how strictly the troops obeyed border guard regulations and avoided irritating the Soviet.

In January 1943 the witness climbed a small mountain between Hunchun and Chunhwa to inspect the fortifications. Though the mountain was within Japanese fortifications, Soviet soldiers came out of theirs and approached. Realizing that he might have provoked them, the witness immediately stopped his inspection and came down from the mountain.

23,460

Since UMEZU was his senior and the witness had served under him he knew his character very well. UMEZU was a serious-minded and impartial man and always had his eyes on the general overall situation, \* always warning against thoughtless action. He exercised care and circumspection in handling matters. He had always believed that UMEZU was the right man for the front line commander to carry out Japanese national policy of maintaining peace with the Soviet.



Cross Examination of KOZUKI by Col. Ivanov

Page  
23461

The witness stated he had instructions to prevent border clashes with the Soviet.\* He had never heard directly from the Commander in Chief of the policy of the Japanese Government. He knew nothing about the decision of the Imperial Conference of July 2, 1941. Since these policies were matters of the utmost secrecy they were not divulged to the subordinate commanders of the Kwantung Army by UMEZU. As commander of the 2nd Army he was directly under the command of the First Area Army \* The First Area Army was directly under the Kwantung Army and the Second Army was under the First Area Army. He knew nothing about the plan of war against the Soviet for 1942 drafted by the Headquarters of the Kwantung Army and sanctioned by UMEZU and did not know that the General Staff in Japan had sent instructions on drafting this plan.

23,462

23,463

He was not informed of any plan of operations. Nothing was ever told him that the plan provided for seizure of the Soviet Maritime Province by the First Area Army. \* The First Area Army was formed in July, 1942. He was not informed of the purpose of the formation of the army but he believed it was to renovate the line of command. He did not believe that the Japanese forces were increased to occupy Soviet territory. He was never shown battle plans \* that the Second Army was to seize the southern Ussuri District of the Soviet Maritime Province.

23,464

23,465

He stated that after having heard Exhibit 836, he heard of these battle plans for the first time \* in the courtroom. They were not shown at the time even to the Headquarters of the various armies. He insisted that he did not know the fighting tasks of the army in case of war. He likewise supposed that the commanders of other armies did not know about the battle plans.

23,466

When asked whether he considered it possible for the Soviet in 1941-1942, on her own initiative to start a war against Japan, under her hard circumstances, he stated \* he could not testify with



23,466 regard to anything before 1942 since he was not commander before that period. But during 1942 and 1943 he thought it possible that border incidents might break out but did not believe it possible that large scale fighting would develop.

Re-Direct Examination by Mr. Blakeney

23,467 \* When asked whether he knew anything about the decision of the Imperial Conference of September 6, 1941 which provided that Japan would not take the military initiative so long as the Soviet would respect the neutrality pact and not threaten both Japan and Manchukuo, the witness said he knew nothing directly about decisions arrived at in the Imperial General Headquarters. He did not know about this particular time of any plans for war against the Soviet. He was never as commander of the Second Army in any way informed of plans of waging war against the Soviet.

23,468



INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

- vs -

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

A F F I D A V I T

I, KŌZUKI Yoshio, served in Chientao, Manchoukuo, under General Umezu, Commander-in-Chief of the Kwantung Army, as Commander of the Second Army from July 1942 to May 1943. During my service there I made every effort to avoid any trouble with the U.S.S.R. and to maintain a state of tranquillity vis-à-vis that country.

(1) Upon my arrival in Hsinking, Commander Umezu gave me instructions that from the standpoint of Japan's general circumstances I was to take all possible and complete measures to avoid absolutely any trouble with the U.S.S.R. and thereby to avoid irritating them.

(2) Lieutenant-General Yoshimoto, Chief of Staff of the Kwantung Army, told me the same thing on the same occasion. He particularly emphasized that I must strictly abide by the Border Guard Regulations and that in going in or out of the restricted zone of operation, even if it be a patrol, the permission of the Commander-in-Chief must be obtained.

(3) After that, at Commanders Conferences or when he came to Chientao on a field inspection, Commander Umezu repeatedly reminded us to avoid anything that might irritate the U.S.S.R.

(4) In accordance with the policy of my senior officers, I instructed my subordinates and guided them so as not to irritate the U.S.S.R.

(5) In January 1942, there was a field fire which started in and spread in our direction from the Soviet Maritime Province and finally burned a part of our fortifications, as we were prohibited from going into the restricted zone of operation to extinguish the fire. To such an extent my subordinates strictly obeyed the Border Guard Regulations and avoided irritating the U.S.S.R.

(6) Some time in January 1943, I climbed a little mountain between Hunchun and Chunchwa, for the purpose of inspecting our fortifications there. Though the mountain was within our fortifications, Soviet soldiers came out of their fortifications and approached us. Realizing that I might have provoked them, and feeling that it was unfortunate if that were the case, I immediately stopped my inspection and came down from the mountain.

(7) As General Umezu is my senior and I having at times served under his direct command as his subordinate, I know his character very well. He is a serious-minded and impartial man. In performing his duties he always had his eyes on the general overall situation. Always warning against thoughtless action, he, by his very nature exercised care and circumspection in handling matters. I have always believed that he was the right man as a front line commander-in-chief to carry out Japan's national policy which was to maintain peace with the U.S.S.R.

*Gen Umezu good man  
tried to keep peace with Russia*



Def. Doc. No. 1153

OATH

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

Inoue Tadao (seal)

On this 31st day of March 1947

At Tokyo

Deponent KŌZUKI Yoshio (seal)

I, Inoue Tadao, 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) Inoue Tadao (seal)



16 May 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**

WITNESS

**KOZUKI, Yoshio**

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)

*E P M*  
EDWARD P. MONAGHAN



PERSONAL HISTORY

Domicile of Origin: 84, 1-chome, Shin-machi, City of KUMAMOTO,  
KUMAMOTO Prefecture.

Present Address: 68, Wakabayashi-cho, Setagaya-ku, City of-TOKYO.

Name: Yoshio KOZUKI

Date of Birth: November 7, 1886

1909 Graduated Military Academy.

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Nov 1921 Resident officer in GERMANY.

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" A member of Military Investigation Department

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"	"	Commander of the Fortieth Infantry Brigade.
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Mar	1940	Chief of the Army Transportation Department; Shipping Transport commander.
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Jun	1943	Commander of the Army Stationed in Mongolia.
Nov	1944	Commander of the Eleventh Army.
Apr	1945	Commander of the Korean Army; Commander of the 17th Area Army.
Dec	19 " "	Appointed Vice-Minister of the First Demobilization Ministry; raised to the First Rank of the Higher Civil Service; especially treated as an official of the Imperially commissioned class.
Jun	15 1946	Chief of the First Demobilization Bureau, Board of Demobilization.



Report by: Lt. J. Curtis  
15 May 1947

Memorandum for the File:

Subject:           KOZUKI, Yoshio  
                  (FUTAMI, Akisaburo)  
                  (UKAI, Yoshio)

A search of the files of I.P.S. reveal no further  
information on the above subject.



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