

Resume by: Commander Cole

Date : 28 May 1947

TAZUMI, Motozo (Genzo)

1. Requested as witness by: KIMURA

2. Subpoena request: states that "The facts to be proved by this witness are that he was Chief of the Camp of Prisoners of War in Rangoon, Burma, during the time that the accused KIMURA was Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army in Burma, that the prisoners of war in Burma were properly treated and that he received a letter of thanks from the top-ranking British prisoner of war; the testimony of this witness is relevant in that it tends to prove that the prisoners of war received humane treatment."

3. Summary of Personal History:

- 1 January, 1899 - Born
- 18 May, 1917 - Appointed a substitute teacher in Kanno Primary School, Shishiguri-Gun, Hyogo Prefecture
- 5 Oct. 1923 - Appointed Chief Priest of the village shrine (Hachiman - God of War - Shrine) of Nishitani-Mura, Shishiguri-Gun
- 31 July 1937 - Appointed a company commander in the Replacement Unit of the Himeji 10th Field Artillery Regiment and received in the Army thereafter.
- 23 August 1941 - Went to Manchuria
- 30 Dec. 1942 - Sent to Singapore
- 9 Mar. 1943 - Appointed Captain
- July, 1943 - Served with the Malaya POW Camp
- 21 April, 1946 - Confined in Changi POW Camp

4. Decorations:

No record can be found. Further search is being made in Japanese Government files by Investigative Division.

(TAZUMI, Motozo (Genzo))

5. Present status: ex-Captain, Japanese Army.
Believed to be in Singapore in custody of
British Army.

6. Summary of Interrogations:

None available in files of IPS. The British Division has been requested to obtain copies of any interrogations taken in Singapore.

7. Cross-Examination:

(a) TAZUMI is apparently the same Captain TAZUMI, Motozo, described in Prosecution Court Exhibit #1541-A (Pros. Doc. #5336). TAZUMI and three Japanese soldiers were tried before the War Crimes Court at Rangoon charged with ill treatment of POWs at the Rangoon Central Jail resulting in the death of 17 POWs. The evidence indicated that Allied airmen received worse treatment than other POWs. TAZUMI claimed that as camp commandant he had done what he could to improve conditions. It was stated in several prosecution affidavits in evidence at the trial that TAZUMI was a better prison commandant than any of his predecessors. TAZUMI was found guilty and sentenced to seven years imprisonment. On page 13 of Court Exhibit #1541-A it is stated in reference to the TAZUMI trial: "This case like the New Law Courts Annexe and New Law Courts jail cases deals particularly with the ill-treatment of airmen who were prisoners of war. It appeared from the evidence that these men were treated in a different fashion from ordinary prisoners of war on instructions from high authority because they were regarded as criminal suspects."

TAZUMI should be cross-examined as to his trial and conviction as a war criminal in Rangoon particularly in regard to any orders he received from higher authorities such as KIMURA regarding the treatment of airmen.

(b) In the event TAZUMI denies having received any such orders from higher authorities he should be cross-examined as to the following:

Prosecution Court Exhibit #1992 (Pros. Doc. #1681) was an Army secret communication from KIMURA, as Vice Minister of War, to each Chief of Staff inside or outside Japan dated 28 July, 1942, stating that a decision was made as to treatment of enemy airmen. Those who do not violate wartime international law are to be treated as POWs while those who show actions of violating this law are to be treated as war criminals. (Transcript p. 14,666)

TAZUMI should be questioned as to whether this communication

(TAZUMI, Motozo (Genzo)

or the substance thereof was ever transmitted to him as
commandant of Rangoon Prison and whether it influenced his
treatment of the captured allied airmen.

Report by: Lt. J. Curtis

TAZUMI, Captain (unknown)

11 March 1947

Request by: KIMURA

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Pedro Lopez, Associate Prosecutor,
Philippines Division
Witnesses: Capt. James J. Robinson, USNR and British Army.
Mr. William E. Edwards

The facts to be proved by this witness are that he was
SUBJECT of : Defense Witness of War in Bataan, Burma, during
the time that the accused KIMURA was Commander-in-Chief of the
Japanese Army in Bataan, that the prisoners of war in Bataan were
The following information has been located on TAZUMI, a
Japanese witness, requested by KIMURA:

The testimony of this witness is relevant in that it tends
to His first name is Motozo (Genzo) and he is believed to be
at 1643, Saiki, Nishitanimura, Shinso-gun, Hyogo-ken.

He was formerly a Captain but no information can be located
at the First Demobilization Ministry.

DOUGLAS L. WALDORF,
Chief, Investigation Division,
IPS

TAZUMI, Captain (unknown)

Request by: KIMURA

Nationality - Unknown

Witness is in Singapore in the custody of the British Army.

The facts to be proved by this witness are that he was Chief of the Camp of Prisoners of War in Rangoon, Burma, during the time that the accused KIMURA was Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army in Burma, that the prisoners of war in Burma were properly treated and that he received a letter of thanks from the top-ranking British prisoner of war;

The testimony of this witness is relevant in that it tends to prove that the prisoners of war received humane treatment.

Resume by: Commander Cole

Date : 28 April 1947

TAZUMI, Motozo (Genzo)

1. Requested as witness by: KIMURA
2. Subpoena request: states that "The facts to be proved by this witness are that he was Chief of the Camp of Prisoners of War in Rangoon, Burma, during the time that the accused KIMURA was Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army in Burma, that the prisoners of war in Burma were properly treated and that he received a letter of thanks from the top-ranking British prisoner of war; the testimony of this witness is relevant in that it tends to prove that the prisoners of war received humane treatment."
3. Summary of Personal History:

No curriculum vitae is at present available. Further search is being made for it among the Japanese Government files by Investigation Division.
4. Decorations:

No record can be found. Further search is being made in Japanese Government files by Investigation Division.
5. Present status: ex-Captain, Japanese Army.
Believed to be in Singapore in custody of British Army.
6. Summary of Interrogations:

None available in files of IPS. The British Division has been requested to obtain copies of any interrogations taken in Singapore.
7. Cross-Examination:
 - (a) TAZUMI is apparently the same Captain TAZUMI, Motozo, described in Prosecution Court Exhibit #1541-A (Pros. Doc. #5336). TAZUMI and three Japanese soldiers were tried before the War Crimes Court at Rangoon charged with ill treatment of POWs at the Rangoon Central Jail resulting in the death of 17 POWs. The evidence indicated that Allied airmen received worse treatment

than other POWs. TAZUMI claimed that as camp commandant he had done what he could to improve conditions. It was stated in several prosecution affidavits in evidence at the trial that TAZUMI was a better prison commandant than any of his predecessors. TAZUMI was found guilty and sentenced to seven years imprisonment. On page 13 of Court Exhibit #1541-A it is stated in reference to the TAZUMI trial: "This case like the New Law Courts Annexe and New Law Courts jail cases deals particularly with the ill-treatment of airmen who were prisoners of war. It appeared from the evidence that these men were treated in a different fashion from ordinary prisoners of war on instructions from high authority because they were regarded as criminal suspects."

TAZUMI should be cross-examined as to his trial and conviction as a war criminal in Rangoon particularly in regard to any orders he received from higher authorities such as KIMURA regarding the treatment of airmen.

- (b) In the event TAZUMI denies having received any such orders from higher authorities he should be cross-examined as to the following:

Prosecution Court Exhibit #1992 (Pros. Doc. #1681) was an Army secret communication from KIMURA, as Vice Minister of War, to each Chief of Staff inside or outside Japan dated 28 July, 1942, stating that a decision was made as to treatment of enemy airmen. Those who do not violate wartime international law are to be treated as POWs while those who show actions of violating this law are to be treated as war criminals (Transcript p. 14,666).

TAZUMI should be questioned as to whether this communication or the substance thereof was ever transmitted to him as commandant of Rangoon Prison and whether it influenced his treatment of the captured allied airmen.

INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

24 April 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. A. Comyns-Carr
Associate Prosecutor, British Division

FROM : Commander Cole

SUBJECT : Defense witnesses called by accused KIMURA

1. The accused KIMURA has called among others four witnesses who are in the custody of the British Army in Singapore or Rangoon. Presumably they will testify either as witnesses or accused in war crimes trials in Singapore or will at least be interrogated by British authorities. In either case, their testimony in Singapore would be extremely valuable for purposes of cross-examination at this trial. It is suggested that if possible the Singapore authorities be asked to furnish us with copies of all interrogations, transcripts of court testimony or other documentary evidence relating to such witnesses.

2. The names of these witnesses and the subject matter of their anticipated testimony at the trial are as follows: -

- (a) IKEJIRI, Bin (Major) - in custody of British Army in Singapore. The subpoena request states that: "The facts to be proved by this witness are that he had charge of the prisoner-of-war camps in Burma during the time that the accused KIMURA was Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army in Burma; the policies of General KIMURA concerning the treatment of prisoners of war were humane and other pertinent facts."
- (b) ICHIDA, Jiro (Major General) - in custody of British Army in Singapore. The subpoena request states that "the facts to be proved by this witness are that he was the Vice Chief of Staff in the Japanese Army in Burma when the accused KIMURA was Commander-in-Chief of such Army; that he attended the War Co-operation Council in Burma as Chief of the Japanese Members and is familiar with the treatment of the Burmese people by the Japanese Army."
- (c) TANAKA, Nobuo (Lieutenant General) - in custody of British Army in Rangoon but is believed not to be charged as a war criminal. The subpoena request states that: "This witness is familiar with the Kalegon case in which some 500 civilian in-

habitants in Kalagon, Burma, were allegedly unlawfully killed and tortured. He will testify that the accused KIMURA did not authorize nor have knowledge of this alleged atrocity, the relevancy of which is obvious."

(d) TAZUMI, Motozo or Genzo (Captain) - in custody of British Army in Singapore. The subpoena request states that: "The facts to be proved by this witness are that he was Chief of the Camp of Prisoners of War in Rangoon, Burma, during the time that the accused KIMURA was Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army in Burma, that the prisoners of war in Burma were properly treated and that he received a letter of thanks from the top-ranking British prisoner of war."

C. T. COLE
Cmdr., USN

17 April 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Edward P. Monaghan
Acting Chief of Investigative Division

TO : Commander Cole

SUBJECT : Defense Witness TAZUMI, Motozo (Genzo)

1. It is requested that a further search be made for any information relating to the above named witness. In particular, a search should be made in the appropriate Japanese Government Bureaus for (a) his Curriculum Vitae. (Since he was apparently a Captain in the Japanese Army, such information should be available.); (b) a record of any decorations awarded to him; (c) his present status; (d) any facts relative to his activities in Rangoon.

2. Attention is directed to the fact that the subpoena request shows that TAZUMI was Chief of the POW Camp at Rangoon, Burma, during the time that KIMURA was Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army in Burma.

C. T. COLE
Cmdr., USN

26 May 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Capt. Robinson USN Att: Cmdr. Cole; Mr. Edwards;
Mr. Lopez; 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

KIMURA

WITNESS

TAZUMI, Motozo

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

Military Personal History

Permanent residence: No. 1642 SAIKI, NISHITANI-MURA, SHISHIGURI-GUN, HYOGO Prefecture.
Present residence : Same
Head of family : Self

TAZUMI, Motozo
1 January 1899 - born

Items of Personal History

30 July 1941 Enlisted in the TOTTORI 47th Force.
23 August 1941 Went to MANCHURIA.
December 1941 Served there /MANCHURIA/ until this month.
30 February 1942 Sent to SINGAPORE.
Middle of July '43 Served with the MALAYA POW Camp. (However, the above is according to his family's word.)
21 April 1946 Confined in the CHANGI POW Camp.

Educational History

April 1905 Entered the primary course of the NISHITANI Primary School, SHISHIGURI-GUN, HYOGO Prefecture.
March 1911 Graduated from the primary course of the said school.
April 1911 Entered the higher primary course of the said school.
March 1912 Graduated from the higher primary course of the said school.
April 1912 Entered the TATSUNO Middle School of HYOGO Prefecture.
March 1917 Graduated from the said school.

Employment

18 May 1917 Appointed a substitute teacher in the KANNO Primary School, SHISHIGURI-GUN, HYOGO Prefecture.
31 May 1918 Appointed a licensed teacher in the said school.
31 March 1919 Resigned at his own request.
3 September 1919 Appointed a licensed teacher in the CHIGUSA Higher Primary School, SHISHIGURI-GUN, HYOGO Prefecture.
31 January 1920 Appointed a licensed teacher in the primary schools of SHISHIGURI-GUN.
18 April 1922 Appointed a teacher in the NISHITANI Primary School of SHISHIGURI-GUN.
5 October 1923 Appointed chief priest of the village shrine, the FACHIMAN Shrine, of NISHITANI-MURA, SHISHIGURI-GUN. This was a concurrent appointment.
31 March 1930 Appointed a teacher in the KOBE Higher Primary School.

1 July 1931
1 August 1932
31 March 1933
1 November 1933
31 March 1934
31 March 1937
31 July 1937

Owing to a revision of the salary schedule for teachers in the municipal primary schools by HYOGO Prefectural Ordinance No. 47,.....

Appointed a teacher in the Public Primary School of HYOGO Prefecture in accordance with the change in position titles, and also appointed a teacher in the KOBE Higher Primary School of SHISHIGURI-GUN.

Appointed a teacher in the KAWACHI Higher Primary School of SHISHIGURI-GUN.

Salary schedule revised in accordance with HYOGO Prefectural Ordinance No. 50 of 30 October 1933.

Appointed a teacher in the SHIMOSAMPO Higher Primary School of SHISHIGURI-GUN.

Appointed a teacher in the SHIGEMORI Higher Primary School of SHISHIGURI-GUN.

Appointed a company commander in the Replacement Unit of the HIMEJI 10th Field Artillery Regiment, and remained in the Army thereafter.

(NAME), (Rank) (Grade)

Resume by: Commander Cole

Date : 28 May 1947

TAZUMI, Genzo (Genzo)

- 1. Requested as witness by: KIMURA
- 2. Subpoena request: states that "The facts to be proved by this witness are that he was Chief of the Camp of Prisoners of War in Rangoon, Burma, during the time that the accused KIMURA was Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army in Burma, that the prisoners of war in Burma were properly treated and that he received a letter of thanks from the top-ranking British prisoner of war; the testimony of this witness is relevant in that it tends to prove that the prisoners of war received humane treatment."

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4. Decorations:

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(TAZUMI, Motozo (Goetz))

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Believed to be in Singapore in custody of
British Army.

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TAZUMI should be questioned as to whether this communication

(TASUKI, Motoso (Genso))

or the substance thereof was ever transmitted to him as
commandant of Rangoon Prison and whether it influenced his
treatment of the captured allied airmen.

TAZUMI, Captain (unknown)

Request by: KIMURA

Nationality - Unknown

Witness is in Singapore in the custody of the British Army.

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The testimony of this witness is relevant in that it tends to prove that the prisoners of war received humane treatment.

Report by: Lt. J. Curtis

11 March 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Pedro Lopez, Associate Prosecutor,
Philippines Division
Capt. James J. Robinson, USNR
Mr. William E. Edwards

SUBJECT : Defense Witness

The following information has been located on TAZUMI, a Japanese witness, requested by KIMURA:

His first name is Motozo (Genzo) and he is believed to be at 1643, Saiki, Nishitanimura, Shinso-gun, Hyogo-ken.

He was formerly a Captain but no information can be located at the First Demobilization Ministry.

DOUGLAS L. WALDORF,
Chief, Investigation Division,
IPS