

184

Personal History of NIGASA, Ken

Rush

Domicile OKAYAMA Prefecture

Date of Birth 1902, Dec. 1

1916, Sep 1 Entered the Local Military Preparatory School

1919, Apr. 24 Graduated from the Local Military Preparatory School

May 1 Entered the regular course of the Central Military Preparatory School

1920 Aug 7 According to the Military Academy Regulation, ~~the~~ Imperial Ordinance No 236, of 1920, admitted into the preparatory course of the Military Academy. (War Ministry)

1921 Mar 18 Completed the preparatory course of the Military Academy.

Appointed probational officer

Attached to the 69th Infantry Regiment. (War Ministry)

- 1921 Mar 25 Assigned to the 69th Infantry Regiment
- 1921 Mar 25 Appointed Superior Private, Infantry (the 69th Infantry Regiment)
- Mar 31 Served under Order of organizing the 9th Division
- Apr. 1 Admitted into the Depot unit of the 69th Infantry Regiment
- 1921 July 1 Promoted to Corporal, Infantry (the 69th Infantry Regiment)
- Sep 1 Promoted to Sergeant, Infantry (the 69th Infantry Regiment)
- Oct 1 Entered the regular course of the Military Academy
- 1922 Aug 18 ^{Served under} Order of Demobilizing the 9th Division
- 1923 July 21 Completed the regular course of the Military Academy
- July 25 Promoted to Sergeant-Major, Infantry (the 69th Infantry Regiment)
- " Appointed a probational officer

1923 Sep 25 According to Article 10 of the Army Replacement Regulation, the following was approved at the Officers' Selection Board.

Oct 25 Appointed 2nd Lieutenant, Infantry (Cabinet)

Attached to the 69th Infantry Regiment (War Ministry)

Dec 20 Awarded the 8th Court Rank, Senior Grade.

1925 May 1 Assigned to the 35th Infantry Regiment (War Ministry)

1926 Oct 25 Appointed 1st Lieutenant, Infantry (Cabinet)

Dec 1 Awarded the 7th Court Rank, Junior Grade.

1929 Dec 13 Ordered to be student of the Army Staff College (War Ministry)

1932 Jan. 15 Awarded the 7th Court Rank, Senior Grade.

" Aug 8 Appointed Captain (Cabinet)

1932 Aug 8 Appointed Battalion Adjutant, ~~the~~ 35th
Infantry Regiment. (War Ministry)

Dec 7 Appointed Company Commander of
the 35th Infantry Regiment. (War Ministry)

1933 Dec 20 Ordered to serve with the General Staff
Headquarters. (War Ministry)

1934 Mar 5 Attached to the 35th Infantry Regiment.
(War Ministry)

Aug 1 Appointed ~~General~~ ^{Field Marshal's} Adjutant, concurrently
a member of the General Staff Headquarters
(War Ministry)

Ordered attendant to Field Marshal
Prince Kotohito (War Ministry)

1934 Apr 29 Decorated with the 5th Order of ~~the~~
~~the~~ Sacred Treasure as the reward
for his services in the 1931 - 34 Affairs.

1937 Feb 15 Awarded the 6th Court Rank, Junior
Grade.

Feb 27 Ordered to reside in France for the
purpose of military research.

1937 Aug. 2 Appointed Major, Infantry (Cabinet)

Sep 22 Appointed Assistant of Military Attache to
the Imperial Embassy in France (Cabinet)

1938 Feb 17 Concurrently appointed Assistant of Military
Attache to the Imperial Embassy in Belgium.

1939 Aug 1 Appointed Lieut.-Colonel, Infantry.
(Cabinet)

1939 Aug. 15 Awarded the 6th Court Rank, Junior grade.

1939 Nov. 13 Decorated with the 4th. Order of ~~7~~
~~with~~ the Sacred Treasure.

1940 May 4 Relieved from the main post and
additional post. (Cabinet)

" Relieved from duty in the Military Section,
of the Imperial General Headquarters.
Appointed member of the General Staff
Headquarters.

Concurrently attached to army staff ~~of~~ of
the Imperial General Headquarters
(War Ministry)

6
1940 Apr. 29 Decorated with the Intermediate Cordon
of the Third Order of the Rising Sun
as the reward for his services in
the China Incident.

1943 Jan. 1 Appointed Colonel (Cabinet)

1943 Mar. 15 Awarded the 5th Court Order,
Junior Grade.

Page

DIRECT EXAMINATION OF HIGASA, KEN.

26936 * The witness stated he lived in Tokyo. He identified exhibit
26937 No. 3021 as his affidavit, and verified it. * The witness stated that
in the summer of 1941, he was a staff officer of Imperial General
Headquarters. At the conclusion of the pact with FIC, he was sent to
aid the spot negotiations which were carried out by General SUMITA at
Hanoi. SUMITA was informed from General Headquarters that the negotia-
tions on the co-defense of FIC was concluded in France on July 21, between
Darlan and Ambassador KATO, and that the exchange of official statements
was made on July 22. At the same time he was informed of the arrangement
of military expansion and cooperation, exhibit No. 651. He was informed
of its contents before July 29, when it was executed.

26938 SUMITA immediately opened negotiations. * At that time,
relations between the Japanese and the FIC government office was very
friendly and close, and the spot agreement proceeded smoothly and
speedily. The witness, with the Navy and Foreign Office representatives,
witnessed the signing between SUMITA and the Governor-General. In
addition to the Governor-General, there were present the Chief Secretary
and other persons. SUMITA, at the signing, asked the French whether the
notice from France contained the same contents as exhibit 651, and
received an affirmative answer. The date of the agreement was July 23,
1941.

26939 The contents of the agreement was for enforcing details in
compliance with the official statement. It is composed of detailed,
concrete measures, such as * movement of Japanese forces, their landing
point and date, their course, occupation regions, billeting and supply
facilities for the forces, removal of breach mechanisms from the French
guns to avoid collisions between the two forces, the gist and region of
withdrawal of the FIC forces from the beach where the Japanese planned
to land, and the establishment of land marks visible from the air at the
stationed areas of FIC forces. The telegram sent from headquarters and
the agreement cannot be found.

26940 He flew by air to Hainan Island the day after the conclusion
of the agreement, and informed the supreme commanders of the Japanese
Army and Navy of the course up to the conclusion, and the contents of
the agreement. They talked about minute arrangements for preventing
* accidental collision.

Page

On July 25, he went to Saigon with SUMITA and others. Detailed arrangements were made with the FIC forces there. The arrangements were carried out in a friendly atmosphere, and scrupulous care and preparations were made against any accidental collision in the several days prior to the landing of Japanese. It was planned in advance that the SUMITA mission should certify the withdrawal of the FIC forces, and they were to report it to the Japanese forces, and the landing would begin. This was carried out in this manner. A part of the Japanese forces landed on the 28th, and the greater part on the 29th.

26941 He later learned that the date of the formal signing of the protocol for co-defense of FIC was July 29, 1941. However, the official statements * were reported on July 22 to each respective agency, by Japan and France. Based on this, the pact was concluded harmoniously and the occupation began.

THERE WAS NO CROSS-EXAMINATION OF THE WITNESS.

26942 Exhibit No. 3022, excerpt from the interrogation of TOJO, February 13, 1946, stated * that he thought they would send troops into Southern FIC, and that was all. He thought this was to be in connection with increasing close relations with that country. On May 9, 1941, Japan had arbitrated the * border dispute between Thai and FIC. It was not planned to occupy FIC. Japan concluded a joint defense treaty to stabilize FIC on July 29, 1941. Prior to that time, the Japanese had not entered South FIC.

26944 They were sent in accord with the treaty signed on July 29, 1941. The troops were sent to Southern FIC the same day they entered on the basis of the agreement. He denied that they had decided on July 1941 to send troops whether FIC agreed or not. There was a military agreement of September 22, 1940, under which troops were stationed in northern FIC. However, military pressure from Singapore, the Philippines, and others, had continued. On July 25, the U. S. freezing of assets had gone into effect, and it was very difficult * to carry on peaceful commerce with the NEI. The China Incident was continuing, and the stabilization of FIC was very important. On July 29, troops were sent to south FIC in accordance with the agreement. The Imperial Conference had foreseen changes and decided to carry on negotiations with France.

26945 * The main reason why Japan decided to advance south in July 1941 was not that she needed raw materials. The main reason was the necessity for maintaining stability there while fighting with China. However, Japan needed peaceful trade to support production at home and maintain the China struggle. Japan needed oil, iron ore, bauxite, tin, and food, to be gained by peaceful trade.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Sutton, Major Depo
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

HIGASA, Ken

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

PERSONAL HISTORY OF HIGASA, Ken.

DOMICILE: OKAYAMA Prefecture

DATE OF BIRTH: 1 Dec 1902

- 1916, Sept 1 Entered the Local Military Preparatory School.
- 1919, Apr. 24 Graduated from the Local Military Preparatory School.
- May 1 Entered the regular course of the Central Military Preparatory School.
- 1920, Aug 7 According to the Military Academy Regulation, Imperial Ordinance No. 236, of 1920, admitted into the preparatory course of the Military Academy (War Ministry)
- 1921, Mar 18 Completed the preparatory course of the Military Academy. Appointed probational officer. Attached to the 69th Infantry Regiment (War Ministry).
- 1921, Mar 25 Assigned to the 69th Infantry Regiment.
- 1921, Mar 25 Appointed Superior Private, Infantry (the 69th Inf. Regiment)
- Mar 31 Served under order of organizing the 9th Division.
- Apr 1 Admitted into the Depot Unit of the 69th Inf. Regiment.
- 1921, July 1 Promoted to Corporal, Infantry. (69th Inf. Regiment).
- Sep 1 Promoted to Sergeant, Infantry (69th Inf. Regiment).
- Oct 1 Entered the regular course of the Military Academy.
- 1922 Aug 18 Served under Order of Demobilizing the 9th Division.
- 1923 July 21 Completed the regular course of Military Academy.
- July 25 Promoted to Sergeant-Major, Infantry (69th Infantry Regiment). Appointed a probational officer.
- 1923 Sep 25 According to Article 10 of the Army Replacement Regulation, the following was approved at the Officers' Selection Board.

PERSONAL HISTORY OF HIGASA, Ken (Con'd)

- 1923 Oct 25 Appointed 2nd Lieutenant, Infantry (Cabinet)
Attended to the 69th Infantry Regiment (War Ministry).
Dec 20 Awarded the 8th Court Rank, Senior Grade.
- 1925 May 1 Assigned to the 35th Infantry Regiment. (War Ministry)
- 1926 Oct 25 Appointed 1st Lieutenant, Infantry (Cabinet)
Dec 1 Awarded the 7th Court Rank, Junior Grade.
- 1929 Dec 13 Ordered to be student of the Army Staff College (War Ministry).
- 1932 Jan 15 Awarded the 7th Court Rank, Senior Grade.
Aug 8 Appointed Captain (Cabinet).
- 1932 Aug 8 Appointed Battalion Adjutant, 35th Infantry Regiment (War Ministry).
Dec 7 Appointed Company Commander of the 35th Infantry Regiment
(War Ministry).
- 1933 Dec 20 Ordered to serve with the General Staff Headquarters (War Ministry).
- 1934 Mar 5 Attached to the 35th Infantry Regiment (War Ministry).
Aug 1 Appointed Field Marshal's Adjutant, concurrently a member
of the General Staff Headquarters (War Ministry).
Aug 1 Ordered attendant to Field Marshal Prince Kotohito (War Ministry).
- 1934 Apr 29 Decorated with the 5th Order of the Sacred Treasure as the
reward for his services in the 1931-34 affairs.
- 1937 Feb 15 Awarded the 6th Court Rank, Junior Grade.
Feb 27 Ordered to reside in France for the purpose of military research.
- 1937 Aug 2 Appointed Major, Infantry (Cabinet).
Sept 22 Appointed Assistant of Military Attache to the Imperial Embassy
in France (Cabinet).
- 1938 Feb 17 Concurrently appointed Assistant of Military Attache to the
Imperial Embassy in Belgium. (Cabinet).
- 1939 Aug 1 Appointed Lieut-Colonel, Infantry (Cabinet).

PERSONAL HISTORY OF HIGASA, Ken (Con'd)

1939 Aug 15 Awarded the 6th Court Rank, Junior Grade.

1939 Nov 13 Decorated with the 4th Order of the Sacred Treasure.

1940 May 4 Relieved from the main post and additional post (Cabinet).

Relieved from duty in the military section of the Imperial General Headquarters.

Appointed member of the General Staff Headquarters.

Concurrently attached to Army Staff of the Imperial General Headquarters (War Ministry).

1940 Apr 29 Decorated with the Intermediate Cordon of the Third Order of the Rising Sun as the reward for his services in the China Incident.

1943 Jan 1 Appointed Colonel (Cabinet)

1943 Mar 15 Awarded the 5th Court Order, Junior Grade.

INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

MEMORANDUM

25 August 1947

TO : French Division
FROM : D. N. Sutton
SUBJECT: Defense Witnesses Concerning Occupation of
Hainan Islands and French Indo-China

Will you kindly examine and prepare a report on the four witnesses listed below:

* KONDO, Nobutake	Def. Doc. No. 1687
† SAWADA, Shigeru	No. 1523
- ABE, Katsuo	No. 1689
* HIGASA, Ken	No. 1909

We would like for this statement to include the usual report on the witness, which you may make quite brief, your suggestion as to cross-examination, if any, an analysis of the affidavit, and a statement with appropriate references to the record as to where our evidence on the same subject is found.

Since this phase will probably be reached this afternoon or tomorrow, we would like to have your report in triplicate on each of these witnesses as promptly as possible.

D. N. Sutton,
Assistant Counsel.

cc: Mr. Tavenner

Oneto says no objection

A 4 says part of the troops landed on the 28 while I say says in Doc 626A-16 Translated by Defense Language Branch It was on the 29 after the agreement signed that day.

Def. Doc. #-1909

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

30 FT

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

explains how they learned contents? to defense. The mutual assistance pact actually signed on July 29 41

SWORN DEPOSITION (Translation)

Deponent: HIGASA, Ken

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.

I. I am HIGASA, Ken.

I am now dwelling at No. 124, 2 Chome, Kitazawa, Setagaya-District, Tokyo Prefecture.

In the summer of 1941, I was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Japanese Army and occupied the post of staff officer of the Imperial General Headquarters.

At the conclusion of the co-defense pact between Japan and French Indo-China, I was despatched by the General Headquarters to aid the spot negotiation which were carried out by Major General Sumita stationed at Hanoi at that time.

II. Major General Sumita was informed by the General Headquarters that the diplomatic negotiation regarding the co-defense of Japan and French Indo-China in July, 1941, was concluded in France on 21, July, between Mr. Darlan, the then Foreign Minister of the Vichy Government and

Refers to Ex 651 / 2

object to (1) military agreement of 23 July 1941 - (2) Telegram advising its signing - not properly accounted for - Les certificats

Mr. KATO, Sotomatsu, the Japanese Ambassador to France, and that the exchange of official statements were made on 22 July, 1941. At the same time he was informed of the arrangement of military cooperation, the contents of which are identical with that of Exhibit No. 651. Although Exhibit No. 651 is dated 29 July, 1941, the contents were reported before this date.

Based upon these informations Major General Sumita immediately opened negotiations with French Indo-China.

At that time the relation between Japanese party and the party from the French Indo-China Government Office was very friendly, and always closely connected. As a result, the spot agreement based on the exchanged official statements, of which Major General Sumita was directly in charge, proceeded smoothly and speedily without any trouble. Together with the Navy and Foreign Office representatives I witnessed the signing between Major General SUMITA Raishiro and Governor-General Decoux. As the representatives of French Indo-China, there were present the Governor-General, the Chief-Secretary, Juan, and several other persons, and the signing was carried out in a very friendly manner.

At the signing, Major General SUMITA asked the French party whether the notification from France containing the same contents as that of Exhibit No. 651 stated above reached French Indo-China party, and the French party affirmed it.

I recall that the date of this agreement was 23, July, 1941.

23 July 1941

III. The contents of this agreement were none other than that of enforcing details in compliance with the official statement mentioned above.

It is composed of concrete measures in detail, such as the movement of Japanese forces, their landing point and landing date, the course of the troops, occupation regions, the facilities for billeting and supplying of the Japanese forces, the removal of breech mechanism from the guns of French Indo-China forces, particularly to avoid the accidental occurrences of collision between Japanese and French Indo-China forces as is set forth in Article II of the official statement, the gist and region of withdrawal of the French Indo-China forces stationed in the vicinity of the beach where Japanese forces plan to land and the establishment of land marks visible from the air at the stationed areas of French Indo-China forces.

Neither the telegram sent from the General Headquarters, nor the agreement documents of that time can be found today.

(refer to the certificate attached)

IV. I flew by air to "San-a" in the Hainan Island on the day after the conclusion of this agreement, and informed the Supreme Commanders of the Japanese Army and Navy, who were there as occupation forces, the course up to the conclusion and also of the contents of the agreement. We talked especially about the minute arrangements for the prevention of accidental collision.

Then, on or about the following day, the 25th of July, I remember going to Saigon by air with Major General Sumita and others. Detailed

arrangements were made there between. French Indo-China forces stationed there and us. Needless to say, the preliminary agreements etc. between Japan and French Indo-China at Saigon were carried out in a friendly atmosphere throughout these meetings. Scrupulous care and preparations were made lest any accidental collision should occur in the several days prior to the landing of Japanese forces. It was specially planned in advance that the SUMITA Mission shall certify the withdrawal of the French Indo-China forces from the beach, who in turn shall report it to the Japanese forces, and then the landing shall begin. This was executed exactly so. Accordingly a part of the Japanese forces landed on the 23th, and the greater part on the 29th, and no accident occurred.

- V. I later found in a document (Court Exhibit No. 651) that the date of the formal signing of the protocol regarding the co-defence of French Indo-China was 29. July, 1941.

However, as mentioned above, the contents of the official statement exchanged by the representatives of both countries on 22 July. were reported to each respective despatched agency, by the governments of Japan and France. Based on this, the pact was concluded harmoniously and the occupation was begun.

on this 29 day of May, 1947.

At the Compound of the International Military Tribunal For East Asia.

DEPONENT /s/ HIGASA Ken (seal)

Def. Doc. # 1909

I, KIYOSE, Ichiro, 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/ KIYOSE, Ichiro (seal)

OATH

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

/s/ HIGASA, Ken (seal)

CERTIFICATE OF SOURCE

I, YOSHIYAMA, Yozo, who occupy the post of the chief of Document Section, the First Demobilization Bureau, Demobilization Office, hereby certify that the following documents are at present not in the custody of this Bureau.

1. The telegram in which the General Headquarters informed the SUMITA Mission in French Indo-China on 22 or 23, July, 1941, that an agreement as to the co-defence of French Indo-China was concluded between Japan and France.

2. The pact concluded between SUMITA, Raishiro and Governor-General, Decoux, based upon the said telegram, in March, 1941.

Certified at Tokyo,

on this 13 day of July, 1947

/s/ YOSHIYAMA, Yozo (seal)

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

At the same place, on this same date.

Witness: /s/ KIYOSE, Ichiro (seal)