INTERROGATION NO: 162

PLACE: Meiji Bldg, Rm 340.
DATE : 26 Oct 45

Division of Origin: Military Analysis

SUBJECT: Japanese Army Air Force Training

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

Col KAIMOTO, Katsuo, senior staff officer in the
training dept of Air Headquarters.

Where interviewed: 26 Oct 45

Interrogator: Capt John C. West

Interpreter: 2nd Lt Oyama

Allied Officers Present: Col Philip Cole, GSC.

SUMMARY:

This was a continuation of the interrogation of Col
KAIMOTO begun the preceding day. A detailed training
program covering all phases of training with time
allotted each was submitted by Col KAIMOTO. This
document is at present being translated.

Col KAIMOTO stated that there was no formal training
for suicide pilots other than normal training in
dive-bombing technique which was a part of the regular
training program. However, each individual unit
did a certain amount of training in Kamikaze tech-
niques. Approximately 3000 pilots were allotted
for suicide units to be used in the defense of the
homeland. These were organized in units of six men
each and formed in groups of 20 units. Approximately
500 such units would have been formed and ready for
operations by October or early November 1945. When
asked about airborne training, Col KAIMOTO replied
that he was familiar with the program only until
early 1944. The largest airborne training center was
at KARASEHARA, Kyushu, with a smaller training center
at TSUKUBA, Honshu.

As a fuel saving device, all cadets used gliders during
their first month of flying. In this way the became
accustomed to being airborne and received their first
lessons at the controls.

Col KAIMOTO also stated that Hq of 30 Sento-Hiboshudan
were still at AKENO. It was planned that this organiz-
ation would receive the strength of the AKENO training
unit and would employ this strength in suicide attacks
against the Allies, using TAKAMATSU, Shikoku as a
headquarters.

DISTRIBUTION: All Divisions.