

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY
(Pacific)
C/O POSTMASTER, SAN FRANCISCO

RESTRICTED

INTERROGATION NO. ⁶⁰⁴ (~~Not Assigned~~) PLACE: Tokyo
(Japanese Intell. No. 48) DATE: 27 Nov 1945

Division of Origin: Japanese Intelligence Section,
G-2, USSBS.

Subject: Instruction Relating to Intelligence at
the War College.

Person Interrogated and Background:

SHIMIZU, Takeo, Col.

1923 Graduated from Military Academy
1931-1934 Attended War College.
1937 With 10th Army at outbreak of China War.
1937-1941 Instructor at War College.
1941-1944 Asst. Military Attache in Berlin.
1944 Military Attache in Bulgaria
1945 (April to August) Instructor at War College.

Where Interviewed: Meiji Building.

Interrogators: Major R.S. Spilman, Jr. AC.
Lt. Comdr. Paine Paul, USNR.

Interpreter: Major John Pelzel, USMCR

Allied Officers Present: None.

SUMMARY:

Prior to the war with the U.S., the War College gave a 3 year course to regular army officers. By the end of the war the course had been reduced to 6 months and reserves were admitted.

Instruction was of a general nature, the main courses being basic tactics, tactics in the division and military history. No course in intelligence was offered. Specialized subjects such as Supply, Communications, etc. were treated in general terms only and were intended to be supplemented by attaching students during summer months to specialized units.

Q. What courses were taught at the War College?

A. Before the war it was a 3 year course. Those who graduated in August 1945 received only a 1/2 year course. The main purpose was to train staff officers for divisions. Courses were Tactics, Military History and general instruction on Communications, Supply, etc. No intelligence course was given. Specialized training as required by communications was given by attaching students to such a unit during the summer months.

The tactical training included general instruction in some of the duties of a staff intelligence officer. Sometimes intelligence officers from the General Staff gave lectures, at most a total of 10 hours.

Q. What other courses bearing on intelligence were offered?

A. The class that graduated in August 1945 dealt mainly with anti landing tactics directed against American forces. Army headquarters officers gave lectures on general American tactics and general information about American equipment.

Q. Was there no instruction as to how to arrive at enemy order of battle, enemy capabilities?

A. No special training. Training was done in the field. After graduation an officer might become a company commander, then a communications officer, i.e. a general duty tour before becoming a staff officer.

Q. Were intelligence officers taken from graduates of the War College?

A. Not recently. Formerly they all were.

Q. What instruction was given as to the handling of prisoners-of-war and captured documents?

A. Textbooks included this briefly and in general terms. These books weren't used in the courses, however, students were supposed to be familiar with them upon entry. Particular texts for courses were prepared by the instructor.

Q. What was the method of teaching?

A. By lectures and problems, including field problems. The making of an intelligence estimate is a matter of practice, not instruction.

Q. What importance was attached to the use of aerial photos?

A. Recently no instruction was given. Formerly we gave about 1 week of practice in the operational use of aerial photos as map substitutes. No interpretation was taught.

Q. Was instruction given in the use of interpretation after it had been done?

A. Only the fact that photos could give valuable information.

Q. Was any instruction given as to how to organize natives?

A. Only the value of natives as spies. No details as to how to organize.

Q. Was this also true of radio interception, wire tapping, writing of reports?

A. Yes, General instruction only.

Q. There was a communications school near the end of the war. Do you know of any other special training schools?

A. I haven't been in Japan enough to know.

Q. How much stress was given to setting up of an organization to gather information about the enemy?

A. It was emphasized formerly, but near the end of the war, time was too limited.

Q. Were candidates for the War College all Regular Officers?

A. They were intended to be but, late in the war, reserves were admitted.

Q. How large was the faculty?

A. There were 30 to 40 instructors. About 3/5 taught tactics, about 1/2 of the rest taught military history and the remainder taught supply, personnel, communications, aircraft transportation, etc.

Q. What did the aircraft course include?

A. It was intended to give staff officers a common sense appreciation of the use of aircraft and organization of the air force.