

No. 3397

EL 3397

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### Instructions

I was deeply moved by the gracious words that His Majesty was pleased to grant me again at this time when the Central China Expeditionary Forces carried at one charge the walled-city of Nanking, Capital of China, by dint of the fierce pursuit following the battle of Hu-tung, and thus have accomplished this historically splendid undertaking. It was thanks to the very hard fighting and exertions on the part of the soldiers who participated in the fighting that such a humble one as I am could discharge his duty and meet His Majesty's expectations. Therefore, I cannot but express my deep gratitude for the efforts that have been made.

It should be borne in mind, however, that our goal is a long way off, and the responsibility assumed by the Army is all the more heavy, so that you should not relax in your efforts in the least. Hence all of you should strive to render all the more service to the state. All officers and men should realize the true significance of command, should enforce stricter military discipline, should concentrate their energy on education and training based on experience, and should strive for the perfection of the fighting strength of the Army, thereby making the preparations for the next military operation complete and wanting nothing. At the

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same time, you should be on stricter guard against possible enemy attack, should keep military secrets as best you can, and should maintain public peace and order, thus affording no opportunity for recalcitrants to arise. On the other hand, with the long-range view of the future prosperity of the Orient and in accordance with the traditions of Japan, you should be merciful to the Chinese masses groaning under misgovernment, and should cooperate in pacifying them through guidance and enlightenment. The principle of the Imperial Army, of course, remains the same irrespective of whether fighting is carried on or not. Every one of you should be cautious with regard to conduct on your part and should exert your utmost efforts to maintain and augment our splendid battle results, thereby enhancing the prestige of the Imperial Army.

The above are my instructions.

On December 18, 1937.

MATSUI, IWANE, Commander of the Central China Expeditionary Forces.

**Certificate**

I hereby certify as follows:

As commander of the 1st Battalion of the 19th Infantry Regiment of the 9th Division, I participated in the capture of Nanking in December, 1937. The document hereto attached written in Japanese and entitled "Instructions", is a copy of the instructions distributed among the entire Central China Expeditionary Forces on December 17, 1937 in the name of MATSUI, the then commander of the Central China Expeditionary Forces, which I received at that time to insert in the staff diary of my battalion and has been in my custody to date.

At Tokyo.

On this 1st day of October, 1937.

Deponent: /s/ NISHIJIMA, Go (seal)

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

At the same place.

on the same date,

Witness: /s/ KAMISHIRO, Takuzen (seal)