

INTERP OF MUTO, AKIRA (19 April 46)

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一九四六年四月十九日附

武藤 章 將軍、訊問拔萃

一頁

問 武藤將軍、貴方が一九二六年ヨリ軍務局長就任迄、官職ヲ述ベラレ度イ。

答 一九二六年三月私ハ教育總監部ニ入り、全部三九二九年十二月迄在任シマシタ。陸軍大尉ヲ全部ニ入り、ソシテ一九二八年陸軍少佐ト為リマシタ。其後一九三〇年十二月迄私ハ陸軍大學ヲ學生デシタ。以後參謀本部ヨリ、一九三四年三月マテ在任シマシタ。一九三三年ニ陸軍中佐ニ昇進シマシタ。

問 どの、ソレハ何デスカ。

答 情報部デス。其後私ハ陸軍歩兵第一聯隊(東京)ニ赴任シ、一九三五年三月迄同隊ニ在任シマシタ。

陸軍省軍務局ニ轉任シ、一九三六年六月迄同局ニ在任シマシタ。一九三六年六月ヨリ一九三七年三月迄、関東軍參謀一員デシタ。一九三六年陸軍大佐ニ昇進シマシタ。一九三七年三月ヨリ同年十一月迄、東京參謀本部ヨリ(作戰)附トナリマシタ。一九三七年十一月ヨリ一九三八年七月迄、中文派遣軍參謀副官デシタ。一九三八年七月ヨリ一九三九年十月迄、北支方面軍參謀副官デシタ。一九三八年陸軍少將トナリマシタ。一九三九年十月、軍務局長ニ任命セラレマシタ。

問 其後一九四二年四月貴方ハ軍務局長ヲ去ワテ、其次ノ地位ハ何デシタフ。

答 私ハ近衛師團長(スマトラ)ニナリマシタ

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問. 貴方ハ何時迄其處ニ居リマシタカ.

答. 私ハ一九四二年ヨリ一九四四年十月迄「スマトラ」ニ滞在シタ。其後一九四四年

十月第十四方面軍參謀長トシテ「フィリピン」ニ行キマシタ。一九四二年陸軍

中將ニ爲リマシタ。一九四五年九月私ハ降伏ニ際シテ「存命」ニテリマシタ。

問. 將軍. 貴方ハ一九三七年三月ヨリ一九三七年十一月迄東京ニ於テフル參謀

本部. 作戰部長デシタカ.

答. ハ. 私ハ作戰部長デハアリマセンデシタ。作戰部附デシタ。

問. 貴方ハ次ニ作戰部長ニ任命サレマセンデシタカ.

答. 私ハ「(作戰及企劃)」. 作戰部長郎ノ下ニテ作戰ノ部長デシタ。

問. 將軍. 陸軍ニ依ル作戰ハ何レモ前以テ可成リ綿密ナル計畫ガ作

成サレテハ「バラナイ」デハ「アラマセン」カ.

答. 普通ハ毎年作戰計畫ガ作成サレマスガ非常時ニ際シテハ計畫ハ即

時作成サレマス.

問. 將軍. 毎年如何ナル計畫ガ作成サレマシタカ.

答. 其當時毎年計畫ハ北部ノ「聯」及中華民國ニ對シテ居リマシタ。

問. 將軍. 中華民國. 如何ナル部分デシタカ.

答. 北支及中支作戰デシタ。

問. 「聯」ニ對スル計畫ハ如何デシタカ.

答. 「聯」ガ攻撃シタ。際ニ於テ防禦ニ関スル計畫デシタ。

問. 如何ナル方面デ防禦ガ行ハル筈デシタカ.

答. 滿洲國境沿線デシタ。

問. 北滿デシタカ.

答. ソウデス.

問. 滿洲ハ日本ニ取リ「聯」ニ對スル絶好ノ緩衝地帯デシタカ.

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答 滿洲へ緩衝地帯を積リテシタ。

問 將軍其等計畫が毎年作成サレタハト眞實デシタカ。

答 此等計畫ハド、參謀部デモ爲サレヌ様ニ毎年再吟味サレマシタ。

問 將軍貴方ハ一九三二年及一九三三年ニ參謀デシタカ。

答 サラデス。

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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF WAR
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MUTO, Akira

Extract from Interrogation of General Akira MUTO
Dated 19 April 1946

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Q. General Muto, would you please give us your official office from 1926 up until your appointment as Chief of the Military Affairs Bureau?

A. In March 1926 I entered the Department of the Inspector General of Military Education, remaining there until December of 1929. I entered the Department as Captain, and in 1928 became a major. Then until December of 1930, I was a student in the Army War College. I was then with the General Staff, G-2, until March of 1934. I was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1932.

Q. G-2? What is that?

A. Intelligence. I then went to the First Infantry Regiment (Tokyo) and remained there until March of 1935. I was transferred to the War Department Military Affairs Bureau, remaining there until June of 1936. From June of 1936 until March of 1937, I was a member of the staff of the Kwantung Army. In 1936 I was promoted to Colonel. March of 1937 until November of the same year I was attached to G-3 (operations) in the Tokyo General Staff. From November 1937 until July 1938, I was the Adjutant of the General Staff of the Central China Expeditionary Army. From July of 1938 until October of 1939, I was the Adjutant of the General Staff with the North China Area Army. In 1938 I became major general. In October of 1939 I was appointed Chief of the Military Affairs Bureau.

Q. Then in April 1942 you left your office as Chief of the Military Affairs Bureau and what was your next position?

A. I became Commander of the Konoyo Division (Sumatra).

Q. How long were you there?

A. I remained in Sumatra from 1942 until October of 1944. Then in October 1944 I went to the Philippines as Chief of Staff for the 14th Area Army. In 1942 I became lieutenant general. In September 1945, I was taken prisoner at the surrender.

Q. G-2? What is that?

A. Intelligence. I then went to the First Infantry Regiment (Tokyo) and remained there until March of 1935. I was transferred to the War Department Military Affairs Bureau, remaining there until June of 1936. From June of 1936 until March of 1937, I was a member of the staff of the Kwantung Army. In 1936 I was promoted to Colonel. March of 1937 until November of the same year I was attached to G-3 (operations) in the Tokyo General Staff. From November 1937 until July 1938, I was the Adjutant of the General Staff of the Central China Expeditionary Army. From July of 1938 until October of 1939, I was the Adjutant of the General Staff with the North China Area Army. In 1938 I became major general. In October of 1939 I was appointed Chief of the Military Affairs Bureau.

Q. General, from March 1937 to November 1937, were you Chief of the Operations Section in the General Staff here in Tokyo?

A. Yes. I was not the Chief of operations. I was attached to Operations.

Q. Weren't you subsequently appointed Chief of the Operations Section?

A. I was Chief of the Operations Section of G-3 (Operations and Planning) and under that I was Chief of Operations.

Q. General, in any operation by the Army, rather detailed plans have to be made before hand, do they not?

A. Ordinarily operational plans are drawn up every year, however in case of an emergency, plans are drawn up immediately.

Q. General, what plans were drawn yearly?

A. At that time, the annual plans involved Northern Russia and China.

Q. What part of China, General.

A. North and Central China operations.

Q. What were the plans against Russia?

A. The plans involved defense in case of Russian attack.

Q. At what location would your defense be?

A. Along the Manchurian borders.

Q. Northern Manchuria?

A. Yes.

Q. Manchuria was a pretty good buffer against Russia for Japan?

A. It was intended as a buffer area.

Q. Those plans were drawn yearly, is that correct, General?

A. These plans were reviewed annually, as done by any staff.

Q. You were on the staff in 1931 and 1932, General?

A. Yes.