

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

FILE NO. 206

21 March 1946

SUBJECT: Status of interrogation of Lt. General
ISHIDA, Otagoro.

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman, Executive Committee.

1. The above subject was confined to Sugamo as the alleged head of Kempei Tai during the years 1942 to 1944, it having apparently been assumed that as the alleged occupant of such position his office would have played a great part, particularly, in connection with atrocities throughout the war.

2. The interrogation of the above subject commenced the first week in February and was concluded this date.

3. It is not believed that the above subject is suitable for inclusion as a major war criminal in this or any subsequent trial.

4. It is believed that the subject may be valuable as a witness as to certain specific phases of the case, particularly those relating to atrocities, and has expressed his willingness to testify on any phase concerning which he possesses knowledge, and has likewise expressed his willingness to cooperate in any form or manner that may be desired. It is believed that if used as a witness on any phase in which he is competent, he will stand up under any form of cross examination. His reputation appears to be unimpeachable. He is a moderate, modest, retiring, and somewhat courageous person. This latter is supported by the views of General TANAKA who likewise believes that if he were released from Sugamo and authorized to cooperate with him, that General ISHIDA could be of material assistance to him in the establishment of our case.

5. It is believed that through General ISHIDA and General TANAKA that proof can be afforded as to the establishment of the Prisoners of War Bureau and its function

placing responsibility wherever desired.

6. Both Generals ISHIDA and TANAKA say that on or about the first week of April 1945 the authority of Kempei Tai and in fact all military forces dealing with prisoners of war in Japan proper were placed under the direct command of an Area Commander. It is believed that if atrocities in Japan proper can be established that the placing of responsibility therefor can be directly established through the above individuals, particularly General ISHIDA.

7. In considering General ISHIDA as a possible witness it should be born in mind that he alleges his parents as having lived in Sacramento, California for 23 years and that his sister has resided in Hawaii for approximately 50 years and continues to reside there. He professes a sincere love for America and I have had no reason to question these statements.

Respectfully submitted,

K. N. PARKINSON