

Curriculum Vitae

Permanent Residence: No. 3 YATOI-MICHI, DAISHOJI-MACHI, ENUMA-GUN, ISHIKAWA Prefecture.
Status: Warrior class.

Name: KUSAKA, Ryuhosuke

Former clan name:

Birthplace and date of birth: TOKYO - 25 September 1892.

Former name:

Family names and birth dates:

Father: Deceased - 25 April 1931.

Mother: NAO - Born 22 March 1867.

Sister: KO - Born 11 October 1896.

Brother: SAINOSUKE - Born 21 October 1898.

Brother: ASANOSUKE - Born 25 October 1900.

Brother: UNOSUKE - Born 26 February 1903.

Sister: SONE - Born 4 November 1904.

Sister: SUFU - Born 26 February 1907.

Sister: NOBU - Born July 1910.

Wife: KIYO - Born 14 January 1899. Married 23 July 1922.

Daughter: KAZU - Born 7 October 1923.

Son: RIICHIRO - Born 14 April 1925.

Son: JUNJIRO - Born 1 February 1928.

Daughter: MICHI - 13 January 1934.

Daughter: YOSHI - 22 September 1935.

- 12 September 1910: Appointed an Officer Candidate at the Naval Academy by the Naval Academy.
- 19 December 1913: Furnished proof of graduation from the course at the Naval Academy by the Naval Academy.
- " " " : Appointed candidate for Ensign.
- " " " : Assigned to serve aboard the AZUMA by the Naval Academy.
- 12 January 1914: Sailed from SASEBO for CHINA. Arrived 31 January at CHEMULPHO. Returned temporarily to Japan.
- 20 April 1914: Sailed from YOKOSUKA for North China. Arrived 2 August at HAKODATE.
- 11 August " : Transferred from the AZUMA to the OTOBA, 1st Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.
- 23 August " : Outbreak of war with GERMANY.
- Arrived at MAKO Island 7 May 1915.
- 1 December " : Commissioned an Ensign by the Cabinet.
- " " " : Assigned to serve aboard the OTOBA, 1st Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 February 1915: Conferred with the 8th Court Rank, Senior Grade, by the Ministry of the Imperial Household.
- 11 February " : Left MAKO and participated in combat enroute to SINGAPORE area.
- 19 July " : Transferred from the OTOBA to the KAWACHI, 1st Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 August " : Transferred from the KAWACHI to the YAGUMO, 1st Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.
- 7 November " : Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Single-Rays of the Rising Sun and given 350 yen for ##### war service 1914-1915 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- " " " : Decorated with the War Medal, 1914-15, by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 10 " " : Decorated with the Medal in Commemoration of the Imperial Enthronement in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 154 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 13 December " : The YAGUMO, a 2nd Class Reserve Ship, became 1st Class Reserve on 1 August, and on 1 September 1916 became a part of the Training Fleet.
- 1 December 1916: Promoted to Lieutenant (j. g.) by the Cabinet.
- 11 " " : The YAGUMO became a guard ship.
- 28 " " : Conferred with the 7th Court Rank, Junior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 12 " " : Sailed (escort duty) from SASEBO for CHINA. Arrived 2 January 1917 at CHEMULPHO. (Returned temporarily to Japan.)

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- 5 April 1917: Sailed from YOKOSUKA for the North China coast (escort duty). Arrived 30 July at TAKAO.
- 25 August " : The YAGUMO became a 2nd Class Reserve Ship. On 1 October the YAGUMO became a 1st Class Reserve Ship.
- 10 October 1917: Transferred from the YAGUMO to the KONGO, 2nd Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December " : Relieved from assignment aboard the KONGO by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed an ordinary student at the Naval Gunnery School by the Navy Ministry.
- 20 May 1918: graduated as an ordinary student from the Naval Gunnery School and appointed an ordinary science student at the Naval Torpedo School by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1918: Graduated as an ordinary science student from the Naval Torpedo School.
- " " " : Service period increased one year in accordance with Secretariat /Directive/ No. 2978 dated December 3, 1918. By the Navy Ministry. Assigned to serve aboard the KUWA.
- " " " : Given the 1st salary grade by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1919: Promoted to Lieutenant by the Cabinet.
- " " " : Released from service aboard the KUWA by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a higher science student at the Naval Gunnery School by the Navy Ministry.
- 20 January 1920: Conferred with the 7th Court Rank, Senior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 12 January " : While convalescing from influenza took a 7-day trip to OSAKA.
- 19 " " : Returned to active duty completely recovered.
- 1 December " : Graduated from the Naval Gunnery School as a higher science student by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December " : Appointed a division officer and assigned to the fitting-out crew of the MUTSU. On 3 December 1920 fitting-out duties ended. By the Navy Ministry.
- 10 February 1921: Relieved from principal duty and assigned to the fitting-out crew of the SUZUKI by the Navy Ministry.
- 19 March " : Relieved from principal duty and assigned to serve aboard the SUZUKI, which became a 1st Class Reserve Ship on 25 May 1921. By the Navy Ministry.
- 1 November 1920: Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 5th Class, and given 400 yen for services in the war of 1914-1920 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- " " " : Decorated with the War Medal for services in combat 1914-1920 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 1 August 1921: The SUZUKI became part of the 1st Fleet.
- 19 August " : Sailed (escort duty) from SASEBO for TSIENGTAO. Arrived on the 30th at the Bay of ARIAKE.
- 1 October " : Relieved from assignment aboard the SUZUKI and appointed a division officer of the KWANTO, a 2nd Class Reserve Ship, by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1921: Given the 2nd salary grade by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 June 1922: Relieved from principal duty and appointed a division officer aboard the YAMASHIRO, a training ship, by the Navy Ministry.
- 30 October 1921: Sailed from YOKOSUKA for Russian coastal territory (escort duty).
- 9 November 1921: Placed on combat service as of this date. (Secretariat /Directive/ No. 3922 of 1921.)
- 30 April 1922: Placed on escort duty as of this date. (Secretariat /Directive/ No. 1728 of 1922).
- 2 June 1922: Returned to YOKOSUKA.
- 1 November 1920: Decorated with the Victory Medal (1920) in accordance with the Victory Medal Ordinance by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 3 July 1922: Request for marriage approved the 12th of July.
- 20 November 1922: Relieved from principal duty; appointed a secretary of the YOKOSUKA Naval District and, concurrently, an operations officer by the Navy Ministry.

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- 1 October 1924: Revision in form of appointments in accordance with KAIJIN /TN: Naval Personnel Dept./ /Directive/ No. 79.
- 1 December 1924: Relieved from principal and concurrent duties by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed to the Naval War College as an "A" Class student by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Given the 1st salary grade by the Navy Ministry.
- 16 February 1925: Conferred with the 6th Court Rank, Junior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 10 September 1925: Appointed assistant to the Umpire for the Small Navy Maneuvers of 1925 by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1925: Promoted to Lieut. Commander by the Cabinet.
- 27 January 1926: Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 4th Class, by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 1 March 1925: Given 400 yen for services rendered on dispatch to Russian territorial areas by the ~~Imperial Household Ministry~~ Navy Ministry.
- 23 March 1926: Assigned to serve with the Headquarters of the First Destroyer Squadron then on cruise by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 September 1926: Appointed Umpire for the small Navy Maneuvers of 1926 by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1926: Assigned to the Naval Air Force at KASUMI-GA-URA by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 June 1927: Relieved from principal duty; appointed as instructor with the Naval Air Force at KASUMI-GA-URA and, concurrently, an instructor at the Naval War College by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 September 1927: Appointed Umpire for the Special Navy Maneuvers of 1927 by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 December 1928: Appointed a staff officer in the Naval General Headquarters and, concurrently, a member of the Navy Technical Conference by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Assigned to serve with the 2nd Section of the First Subsection by Navy General Headquarters.
- " " " : Assigned to serve with the 3rd Section of the Second Subsection by Navy General Headquarters.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Committee for Selection of Prizewinners of the Imperial Bounty given for Study by the Navy Ministry.
- 27 February 1929: Assigned to serve with the Special Inspector by the Navy Ministry.
- 16 November 1928: Decorated with the Medal in Commemoration of the Imperial Enthronement in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 188 of 1928 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 10 August 1929: Ordered to proceed on business to America. Departed Tokyo 22 August 1929 and sailed from KASUMI-GA-URA aboard the Graf Zeppelin. By the Navy Ministry.
- 15 September 1929: Appointed Umpire for the small Navy Maneuvers of 1929 by the Navy Ministry.
- 11 October 1929: Returned to Japan arriving at Yokohama.
- 15 March 1930: Conferred with the 6th Court Rank, Senior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 11 September 1930: Appointed Umpire for the Special Navy Maneuvers of 1930 by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1930: Promoted to Commander by the Cabinet.
- 1 " " : Appointed an operations officer with the First Air Force Squadron /TN: Same designation is used in Defense Doc. No. 1975, but a more accurate translation is "First Carrier Division"/ by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 May 1931: Became head of his family as a result of his father's death.
- 2 November 1931: Assigned to service with Navy General Headquarters and, concurrently, with the Navy Ministry by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Directed by the Minister to serve in the Bureau of Naval Affairs, the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Ordered to serve with the First Subsection by Navy General Headquarters.

- 1 December 1931: Given concurrent appointment as an instructor at the Naval War College by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 December " : Appointed a member of the Navy Student Selection Board by the Navy Ministry.
- 12 September 1932: Appointed Umpire for the small Navy Maneuvers of 1932 by the Navy Ministry.
- 3 February 1933: Appointed a member of the Committee For Revision of the Naval Warfare Service Regulations by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 June 1933: Appointed Umpire for the Special Navy Maneuvers of 1933 by the Navy Ministry.
- 22 June 1933: Appointed a member of the Special Inquiry Section by the Navy Ministry.
- 4 August " : Appointed a member of the Air Combat Training Rules Committee by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 September 1933: Appointed Executive Officer of the IWATE, an escort ship as of 1 December 1933. By the Navy Ministry.
- 7 February 1934: Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 3rd Class, (No. 782,738) by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 1 August 1934: Appointed Umpire for the ~~big~~ big Navy Maneuvers of 1934 by the Navy Ministry.
- 22 October 1934: Assigned to serve in the Naval Air Headquarters. *See Added Sheet*

ADDED SHEET

- 22 October 1934: Assigned to serve with the First Section of the Administration Dept. by the Naval Air Headquarters.
- 15 November 1934: Promoted to Captain by the Cabinet.
- " " " : Appointed Chief of the First Section, Administration Department, Naval Air Headquarters, by the Navy Ministry. Concurrently, made a member of the Navy Technical Conference.
- 4 December " : Given non-regular duty as Secretary of the Aviation Inquiry Commission by the Communications Ministry.
- 16 November 1934: Appointed member of the Committee For Selection of Naval Air Reserve Trainees by the Navy Ministry.
- 19 November " : Appointed a member of the Naval Students Selection Committee by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Commendation Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Fuel Measures Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Committee For Establishment of the Navy Memorial Hall (temporary name) by the Navy Ministry.
- 17 November " : Appointed member of the Inquiry Commission on Factories and Projects Outside the Naval Service by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed member of the Committee For Study of the Guidance of MANCHURIA and MONGOLIA by the Navy Ministry.
- 17 " " : Appointed a member of the Committee For Study of Armament Restrictions by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 December 1934: Conferred with the 5th Court Rank, Junior grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 17 November " : Appointed a member of the Committee For Investigation of Preparations For Dispatch of Troops. (Term expired 24 October 1936). By the Navy Ministry.
- 1 February 1935: Membership in the Navy Technical Conference abolished in accordance with revisions in the Navy Technical Department Regulations under Imperial Ordinance No. 8 of 1935.
- ~~" " " : Appointed a member of the Navy Distinguished Service Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.~~

- 12 September 1936: Appointed a member of the Investigation Committee of Army-Navy Air Headquarters by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed Secretary of the Investigation Committee of Army-Navy Air Headquarters by the Navy Ministry.
- 21 September 1935: Decorated with the Medal in Commemoration of the visit of the Emperor of MANCHUKUO to Japan by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 16 November 1936: Appointed CO of the HOSHO, 1st Fleet, effective 18 November 1936 and lasting until 23 October 1937 by the Navy Ministry.
- 17 December 1936: Relieved of non-regular duties as Secretary of the Aviation Inquiry Commission by the Communications Ministry.
- 16 October 1937: Assigned to serve with the Headquarters of the Third Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 20 October " : Appointed an operations officer of the China Area Fleet and, concurrently of the Third Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 January 1938: Assigned to serve with Navy General Headquarters by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Ordered to serve with the First Section, the First Department, by Navy General Headquarters.
- 3 March 1938: Ordered to proceed on business to the Republic of China and to MANCHUKUO by the Navy Ministry.
- 2 May 1938: Appointed a member of the Committee For Study of Joint Army-Navy Strategy by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Submarine Study Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- 25 April 1938: Appointed a section chief in Navy General Headquarters and, concurrently, a member of the Navy Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Navy staff, Imperial General Headquarters, by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Navy Technical Department Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed Chief of the First Section, the First Department, by the Navy General Headquarters.
- 2 May 1938: Appointed a member of the Fuel Measures Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Committee on Standards of Power of Naval Bases and Naval Stations by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Navy Distinguished Service Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- 7 May " : Appointed member of the Committee To Secure the Construction of Naval Stations by the War Ministry.
- 25 April 1938: Given concurrent appointment as a member of the Headquarters of the General Staff by the War Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed concurrently to the Army staff, Imperial General Headquarters, by the War Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed Chief of the First Section, First Department, Operations Department, by the Imperial General Headquarters.
- 14 October 1939: Appointed a member of the Committee For Study of Capital Ship Bridges by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 November 1939: Appointed CO of the AKAGI. Term expired 2 November 1940. By the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Relieved of membership in the Committee To Secure the Construction of Naval Stations by the War Ministry.
- " " " : Relieved of concurrent appointment to the Army staff, Imperial General Headquarters, by the War Ministry.
- " " " : Relieved of concurrent appointment as a member of the Headquarters of the general staff by the War Ministry.
- 15 January 1940: Conferred with the 5th Court Rank, Senior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 15 November 1939: Granted a special remuneration for services as CO of the AKAGI while on active service by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 October 1940: Assigned to serve with the Headquarters of the Combined Fleet by the Navy Ministry.

- 15 October 1940: granted a special salary by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 October 1940: Designated to serve aboard the AKAGI by the Combined Fleet.
- 15 November 1940: Promoted to Rear Admiral by the Cabinet.
- " " " : Appointed CO of the Fourth Combined Air Group by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 January 1941: Appointed CO of the 24th Air Flotilla by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 April 1941: Appointed Chief of Staff of the First Air Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 April " : Assigned aboard the flagship AKAGI by the First Air Fleet.
- 21 May " : Transferred to the KAGA due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 6 June " : Transferred to the AKAGI " " " " " " " " " " .
- 13 July " : " " " KAGA " " " " " " " " " " .
- 19 July " : " " " SAZANAMI " " " " " " " " " " .
- 31 July " : " " " AKAGI " " " " " " " " " " .
- 25 August " : " " " SHOKAKU " " " " " " " " " " .
- 8 Sept. " : " " " AKAGI " " " " " " " " " " .
- 26 Sept. " : " " " KAGA " " " " " " " " " " .
- 29 April 1940: Decorated with the Imperial Military Order of the Golden Kite and given 8700 yen for services in the CHINA Incident by the Bureau of Decorations.
- " " " : Decorated with the War Medal in Commemoration of the China Incident by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 25 October 1941: Transferred to the AKAGI due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 16 June 1942: Transferred to the KIRISHIMA " " " " " " " " " " .
- 14 July " : Appointed Chief of Staff of the Third Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Assigned aboard the flagship ZUIHOKU by the Third Fleet.
- 20 July " : Transferred to the SHOKAKU due to change in flagships by the Third Fleet.
- 12 May " : Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 2nd Class, by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 27 October 1942: Transferred to the ZUIHOKU due to change in flagships by the Third Fleet.
- 23 November " : Appointed commander of the Naval Air Group at YOKOSUKA and, concurrently, member of the Navy Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- 25 November " : Appointed a member of the Navy Technical Department Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Naval Air Headquarters Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- 20 November 1943: Assigned to serve with the Headquarters of the Southeast Area Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 29 November " : Appointed Chief of Staff of the Southeast Area Fleet, and, concurrently, of the First Air Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 6 April 1944: Appointed Chief of Staff of the Combined Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 May 1944: Promoted to Vice Admiral by the Cabinet.
- 15 May " : Conferred with 4th Court Rank, Junior grade, by Imperial Household Ministry.
- 15 April 1942: Citation: Striking Force

strength of the enemy American Pacific Fleet and to its air strength. Moreover, he made a very great contribution to ensuing operations by this great destruction. In recognition of his meritorious services I hereby convey this citation.

15 April 1942
 YAMAMOTO, Isoroku
 Commander-in-Chief, the Combined Fleet

- 25 April 1945: Appointed Chief of Staff of the Navy General Fleet /TM: i.e., KAIGUN SOTAI/ by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 May 1945: Appointed Chief of Staff of the Navy General Fleet and, concurrently, of the Combined Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 24 June 1945: Assigned to serve with Navy General Headquarters by the Navy Ministry.
- 3 July 1945: Assigned to serve under the Vice Chief of Navy General Headquarters by Navy General Headquarters.

17 August 1945: Relieved of principal duty by the Navy Ministry.
" " " : Appointed CinC, the 5th Air Fleet, by the Emperor.
10 " " : Assigned to serve with Headquarters of the Navy General Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
10 October " : Assigned to serve in the Navy Ministry by the Navy Ministry.
15 October " : Placed in the First Reserves by the Navy Ministry.
15 October " :
17 May 1945: Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 1st Class, by the Bureau of Decorations.

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DIRECT EXAMINATION OF KUSAKA, HYUNOSUKE,
 By Mr. Roberts.

26757 * The witness stated that he lived in Osaka. He examined
 exhibit No. 3010, and after making corrections, said it was his affidavit
 26758 and verified it. * The affidavit stated the witness was a Vice-Admiral
 who participated at Pearl Harbor as Chief of Staff of the First Air
 Force Fleet. The plan was begun by Admiral YAMAMOTO, Commander of
 the Combined Fleet, around January 1941. In April or May, after the
 witness was assigned as Chief of Staff of the First Air Fleet, he learned
 of the plan.

26759 This attack was a hazardous and speculative operation, pene-
 trating deep into enemy lines. Since it was considered too venturesome,
 * various studies were repeatedly made. However, the witness did not
 consider the plan to be practical and expressed lengthy opposition to
 YAMAMOTO. YAMAMOTO replied that he understood the witness' opinion,
 but if war broke out with the U. S., considering Japan's military
 strength, he had no confidence in carrying out national strength
 except by attacking the U. S. fleet immediately after war broke out.
 As long as the fleet is stationed at Hawaii, they must begin by an
 attack there. He asked that opposition be stopped, and that force be
 concentrated toward securing a success.

26760 The General Staff in early October, despite previous opposition,
 gave way to YAMAMOTO's opinion and consented to a study of the Hawaiian
 operation, so that preparations could be made for an emergency. * Joint
 studies were then made between the General Staff, staff officers of the
 Combined Fleet and the First Air Force Fleet. As the studies were made,
 the atmosphere changed to the point of view of adopting the Hawaii Attack
 Plan as the first priority. This was due to the fact that headquarters
 were so convinced of its possibilities as compared with the disadvantage
 of planning a counter attack strategy to protect the undefended mandate.

26761 At that time there was only one carrier based air force fleet,
 the First, consisting of three air force squadrons, the First, Second,
 and Fourth. There were also two light aircraft carriers, forming the
 * Third Air Squadron of the First Fleet. On September 25, 1941, the
 Fifth Air Force Squadron was assigned for service under the First Air
 Fleet. Of the four air force squadrons, both carriers of the Fourth
 were capable of carrying only a small number of outmoded planes, which
 were slow with a short cruising range, and entirely unfit for the
 operation. The Combined Fleet submitted certain demands to the central
 authorities.

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They asked that they select highly trained air crew members from both carriers of the Fourth Air Force Squadron to fill vacancies in the First and Second, thereby increasing the number of carrier planes on both squadrons, and fighter planes. They asked that they fill vacancies in the Fifth Squadron with trained personnel experienced on carriers, from land air force units.

762 * There was no other way to supply men for the first demand than to pull out training officers and air instructors. There was great reluctance from the Personnel Bureau because this would inconvenience the training of future air crews. However, the Combined Fleets demands were strong enough to get this wish.

The attack was conducted by a temporarily organized task force, with the First Air Force Fleet as its main body. It was the middle of October when the shifting of personnel and the formation of the force was completed. Because the attack was not thought possible without rigid training, they had to carry out practice schedules until late November. Since the date of embarkation was around the middle of November, the fleet left without a month's training.

763 Studies revealed that an attack by daylight or before daybreak was the desirable time of attack, but due to the insufficient training of personnel and the lack of confidence in taking off from carriers and formation flying, together with navigation before daybreak, it was arranged to have the planes leave 30 minutes before daybreak, and the hour for attack was fixed for an hour and a half after daybreak.

26764 * There were two major difficulties with this operation. One was the problem of a shallow submergence torpedo. Previous studies had been made to lessen the submergence degree of torpedoes after firing, and to shorten the distance of stabilization. These studies were made before the Pearl Harbor Operation was conceived, and was designed for aerial torpedo attacks on shipping. The results were not satisfactory. When work on Pearl Harbor began, research on this became more important because it was unanswered as to whether aerial torpedo attacks were possible in the restricted and shallow waters of Pearl Harbor. The First Air Force Fleet, with the cooperation of the Yokusuka Naval Air Corps and Air Technical Department, made repeated experiments, and finally concluded it was possible.

26765 Remodeling of torpedoes was delayed and they could not be delivered before embarking for the rendezvous point at Tankan Bay, so the aircraft carrier Kaga remained behind until it received the remodeled torpedoes, * and then distributed them at the rendezvous.

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There was also the question of torpedo net cutters thought necessary for the operation, but the studies and experiments did not produce satisfactory results and it was decided not to equip them with cutters. The second difficulty was extending the cruising range of the ships for the attack. The force took a northerly course where ships were scarce to avoid discovery, and planned to approach Hawaii from the north where they thought air patrols would be sporadic.

It was the northeastern monsoon period, and they knew that certain carriers and the destroyers would not have sufficient cruising range if refueling was impossible due to strong wind and high waves. As to refueling destroyers, they had had considerable experience, and if it was impossible they could turn back and the operation be carried on by cruisers and heavier ships.

26766

The problem was different as to carriers. * If three out of six were omitted, the operation could not be performed. After many studies, it was decided to carry fuel in the double bottomed sections and stacking fuel drums outside storage rooms. If refueling was found impossible, the ships could return to a point 160° east longitude. However, such loading was prohibited by naval regulations on one carrier, considering the strength of the ship. The witness entered into negotiations to neutralize the regulation, but without success. YAMAMOTO was forced to take full responsibility for the possibility of an accident, and the decision was made to load in this manner although not in compliance with regulations.

26767

The task force was to leave port, either alone or in small groups, around November 15, in accordance with orders, and rendezvous at Takan Bay by November 22. After refueling, the force left the Bay at 0600 * November 27 to the next stand-by point at 42° north latitude, 170° west longitude.

During this operation, there were two important problems which were of great concern to the witness. One was whether the main U. S. Fleet would be stationed in Hawaii when the attack was to be made. The other was the fear of enforcing the attack when orders might have been transmitted to return but which were not received due to remote distance of communication or other causes. This would have been a grave problem had orders been sent to return and not received.

On December 2, Imperial Headquarters Naval Section stated that diplomatic negotiations would be continued even after they had reached a decision designating December 8 as the day to open hostilities and there was a ray of hope that hostilities could be avoided.

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26768 If they reached an amicable settlement, or a possibility of reaching a peaceful settlement became a certainty, * all operational forces would have stopped and they would have returned home. This was indicated in Imperial Headquarters Naval Department Instruction Number 5 and in Combined Fleet Headquarters Instruction No. 1. The words, "In the event of important change in situation" meant an amicable settlement of the negotiations. They had heard of this matter from YAMAMOTO at every opportunity. The witness was greatly concerned until the 5th or 6th of December, when he received a telegram from the Naval Staff stating there was no hope.

He thought that the ultimatum was to be delivered prior to the attack and was being taken care of by the central authorities. He was convinced that notification had been communicated before the attack began. Strategically, an attack without notice might be idealistic, but such treacherous action was unthinkable from the point of view of training and common sense of the Japanese naval officer and because of the code of Bushido.

26769 * The witness expected a possible discovery of the operation by patrol planes in Hawaii. The observation sea planes were to arrive at Pearl Harbor at least 30 minutes ahead of the forces, and they were expecting the attacking forces to be caught by radar, thus revealing the potential attack. They were prepared to suffer considerable damage and casualties in this risky attack, and were surprised when it did not occur.

THERE WAS NO CROSS-EXAMINATION OF THE WITNESS.

26770 From exhibit No. 809, it was stated that on November 21, 1941, NAGANO * sent to YAMAMOTO a message in which it was stated that in the event an agreement was reached in negotiations, the Commander of the Combined Fleet would immediately order the forces to return. Attention of the Court was called to exhibit No. 809.

Curriculum Vitae

Permanent residence. No 3 YATOI-MICHI, DAISHOJI-MACHI, ENUMA-GUN, ISSIKAWA Prefecture.

Status: Warrior class.

Name: KUSAKA, Rynnosuke

Former clan name:

Family names and birth dates:

Father : Deceased -25 April 1931.
 Mother : NAO - Born 22 March 1867.
 Sister : KO - Born 11 October 1896.
 Brother : SAINOSUKE - Born 21 October 1898.
 Brother : ASANOSUKE - Born 25 October 1900.
 Brother : UNOSUKE - Born 26 February 1903.
 Sister : SONE - Born 4 November 1904.
 Sister : SUFU - Born 26 February 1907.
 Sister : NOBU - Born July 1910.
 Wife : KIYO - Born 14 January 1899. Married 23 July 1922.
 Daughter: KAZU - Born 7 October 1923.
 Son : RIICHIRO - Born 14 April 1925.
 Son : JUNJIRO - Born 1 February 1928.
 Daughter: MICHI - Born 13 January 1934.
 Daughter: YOSHI - Born 22 September 1935.

12 September 1910: Appointed an Officer Candidate at the Naval Academy by the Naval Academy.

19 December 1913: Furnished proof of graduation from the course at the Naval Academy by the Naval Academy.

" " " : Appointed candidate for Ensign.

" " " : Assigned to serve aboard the AZUMA by the Naval Academy.

12 January 1914 : Sailed from SASWEO for CHINA. Arrived 31 January at CHEMULPHO. Returned temporarily to Japan.

20 April 1914 : Sailed from YOKOSUKA for North China. Arrived 2 August at HAKODATE.

11 August " : Transferred from the AZUMA to the OTOBA, 1st Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.

- 23 August 1914 : Outbreak of war with GERMANY.
Arrived at MAKO Island 7 May 1915.
- 1 December " : Commissioned an Ensign by the Cabinet.
- " " " : Assigned to serve aboard the OTOBA, 1st Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 February 1915 : Conferred with the 8th Court Rank, Senior Grade, by the Ministry of the Imperial Household.
- 11 February " : Left MAKO and participated in combat enroute to SINGAPORE area.
- 19 July " : Transferred from the OTOBA to the KAWACHI, 1st Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 August " : Transferred from the KAWACHI to the YAGUMO, 1st Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.
- 7 November " : Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Single-Rays of the Rising Sun and given 350 yen for war service 1914-1915 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- " " " : Decorated with the War Medal, 1914-15, by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 10 " " : Decorated with the Medal in Commemoration of the Imperial Enthronement in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 154 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 13 December " : The YAGUMO, a 2nd Class Reserve Ship, became 1st Class Reserve on 1 August, and on 1 September 1916 became a part of the Training Fleet.
- 1 December 1916 : Promoted to Lieutenant (j. g.) by the Cabinet.
- 11 " " : The YAGUMO became a guard ship.
- 28 " " : Conferred with the 7th Court Rank, Junior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 12 " " : Sailed (escort duty) from SASBO for CHINA. Arrived 2 January 1917 at CHEMULPHO. (Returned temporarily to Japan.)
- 5 April 1917 : Sailed from YOKOSUKA for the North China coast (escort duty). Arrived 30 July at TAKAO.

- 25 August 1917 : The YACUMO became a 2nd Class Reserve Ship. On 1 October the YACUMO became a 1st Class Reserve Ship.
- 10 October 1917 : Transferred from the YACUMO to the KONGO, 2nd Fleet, by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December " : Relieved from assignment aboard the KONGO by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed an ordinary student at the Naval Gunnery School by the Navy Ministry.
- 20 May 1918 : Graduated as an ordinary student from the Naval Gunnery School and appointed an ordinary science student at the Naval Torpedo School by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1918 : Graduated as an ordinary science student from the Naval Torpedo School.
- " " " : Service period increased one year in accordance with Secretariat /Directive/ No. 2978 dated December 3, 1918. By the Navy Ministry. Assigned to serve aboard the KUWA.
- " " " : Given the 1st salary grade by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1919 : Promoted to Lieutenant by the Cabinet.
- " " " : Released from service aboard the KUWA by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a higher science student at the Naval Gunnery School by the Navy Ministry.
- 20 January 1920 : Conferred with the 7th Court Rank, Senior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 12 January " : While convalescing from influenza took a 7-day trip to OSAKA.
- 19 " " : Returned to active duty completely recovered.
- 1 December " : Graduated from the Naval Gunnery School as a higher science student by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December " : Appointed a division officer and assigned to the fitting-out crew of the MUTSU. On 3 December 1920 fitting-out duties ended. By the Navy Ministry.
- 10 February 1921 : Relieved from principal duty and assigned to the fitting-out crew of the SUZUKI by the Navy Ministry.
- 19 March " : Relieved from principal duty and assigned to serve

- : aboard the SEKI, which became a 1st Class Reserve Ship on 25 May 1921. By the Navy Ministry.
- 1 November 1920: Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 5th Class, and given 400 yen for services in the war of 1914-1920 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- " " " : Decorated with the War Medal for services in combat 1914-1920 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 1 August 1921 : The SUZUKI became part of the 1st Fleet.
- 19 August " : Sailed (escort duty) from SASEBO for TSINGTAO. Arrived on the 30th at the Bay of ARIAKE.
- 1 October " : Relieved from assignment aboard the SUZUKI and appointed a division officer of the KANTO, a 2nd Class Reserve Ship, by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1921: Given the 2nd salary grade by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 June 1922: : Relieved from principal duty and appointed a division officer aboard the YAMASHIRO, a training ship, by the Navy Ministry.
- 30 October 1921: Sailed from YOKOSUKA for Russian coastal territory (escort duty).
- 9 November " : Placed on combat service as of this date. (Secretariat /Directive/ No. 3922 of 1921.)
- 30 April 1922 : Placed on escort duty as of this date. (Secretariat /Directive/ No. 1728 of 1922).
- 2 June 1922 : Returned to YOKOSUKA.
- 1 November 1920: Decorated with the Victory Medal (1920) in accordance with the Victory Medal Ordinance by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 3 July 1922 : Request for marriage approved the 12th of July.
- 20 November " : Relieved from principal duty; appointed a secretary of the YOKOSUKA Naval District and, concurrently, an operations officer by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 October 1924 : Revision in form of appointments in accordance with KAIJIN /IN: Naval personnel Dept./ /Directive/ No. 79.

- 1 December 1924 : Relieved from principal and concurrent duties by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed to the Naval War College as an "A" Class student by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Given the 1st salary grade by the Navy Ministry.
- 16 February 1925 : Conferred with the 6th Court Rank, Junior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 10 September 1925 : Appointed assistant to the Umpire for the Small Navy Maneuvers of 1925 by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1925 : Promoted to Lieut. Commander by the Cabinet.
- 27 January 1926 : Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 4th Class, by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 1 March 1925 : Given 400 yen for services rendered on dispatch to Russian territorial areas by the Navy Ministry.
- 23 March 1926 : Assigned to serve with the Headquarters of the First Destroyer Squadron then on cruise by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 September 1926 : Appointed Umpire for the Small Navy Maneuvers of 1926 by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1926 : Assigned to the Naval Air Force at KASUMI-GA-URA by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 June 1927 : Relieved from principal duty; appointed an instructor with the Naval Air Force at KASUMI-GA-URA and, concurrently, an instructor at the Naval War College by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 September 1927 : Appointed Umpire for the Special Navy Maneuvers of 1927 by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 December 1928 : Appointed a staff officer in the Naval General Headquarters and, concurrently, a member of the Navy Technical Conference by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Assigned to serve with the 2nd Section of the First Subsection by Navy General Headquarters.
- " " " : Assigned to serve with the 3rd Section of the Second Subsection by Navy General Headquarters.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Committee For Selection of prizewinners of the Imperial Bounty Given For Study by the Navy Ministry.

- 27 February 1929 : Assigned to serve with the Special Inspector by the Navy Ministry.
- 16 November 1928 : Decorated with the Medal in Commemoration of the Imperial Enthronement in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 188 of 1928 by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 10 August 1929 : Ordered to proceed on business to America. Departed Tokyo 22 August 1929 and sailed from KASUMI-GA-URA aboard the Graf Zeppelin. By the Navy Ministry.
- 15 September 1929 : Appointed Umpire for the small Navy Maneuvers of 1929 by the Navy Ministry.
- 11 October 1929 : Returned to Japan arriving at Yokohama.
- 15 March 1930 : Conferred with the 6th Court Rank, Senior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 11 September 1930 : Appointed Umpire for the Special Navy Maneuvers of 1930 by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 December 1930 : Promoted to Commander by the Cabinet.
- 1 " " : Appointed an operations officer with the First Air Force Squadron /TN; Same designation is used in Defense Doc. No. 1975, but a more accurate translation is "First Carrier Division"/ by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 May 1931 : Became head of his family as a result of his father's death.
- 2 November 1931 : Assigned to service with Navy General Headquarters and, concurrently, with the Navy Ministry by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Directed by the Minister to serve in the Bureau of Naval Affairs, the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Ordered to serve with the First Subsection by Navy General Headquarters.
- 1 December 1931 : Given concurrent appointment as an instructor at the Naval War College by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 December " : Appointed a member of the Navy Student Selection Board by the Navy Ministry.
- 12 September 1932 : Appointed Umpire for the small Navy Maneuvers of 1932 by the Navy Ministry.

- 3 February 1933 : Appointed a member of the Committee For Revision of the Naval Warfare Service Regulations by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 June 1933 : Appointed Umpire for the Special Navy Maneuvers of 1933 by the Navy Ministry.
- 22 June 1933 : Appointed a member of the Special Inquiry Section by the Navy Ministry.
- 4 August " : Appointed a member of the Air Combat Training Rules Committee by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 September 1933 : Appointed Executive Officer of the IWATE, an escort ship as of 1 December 1933. By the Navy Ministry.
- 7 February 1934 : Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 3rd Class, (No. 782, 738) by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 1 August 1934 : Appointed Umpire for the big Navy Maneuvers of 1934 by the Navy Ministry.
- 22 October 1934 : Assigned to serve in the Naval Air Headquarters.
- 22 October 1934 : Assigned to serve with the First Section of the Administration Dept. by the Naval Air Headquarters.
- 15 November 1934 : Promoted to Captain by the Cabinet.
- " " " : Appointed Chief of the First Section, Administration Department, Naval Air Headquarters, by the Navy Ministry. Concurrently, made a member of the Navy Technical Conference.
- 4 December " : Given non-regular duty as Secretary of the Aviation Inquiry Commission by the Communications Ministry.
- 16 November 1934 : Appointed member of the Committee For Selection of Naval Air Reserve Trainees by the Navy Ministry.
- 19 November " : Appointed a member of the Naval Students Selection Committee by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Commendation Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Fuel Measures Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Committee For Establishment of the Navy Memorial Hall (temporary name) by the Navy Ministry.

- 17 November " : Appointed member of the Inquiry Commission on Factories and Projects Outside the Naval Service by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed member of the Committee For Study of the Guidance of MANCHURIA and MONGOLIA by the Navy Ministry.
- 17 " " : Appointed a member of the Committee For Study of Armament Restrictions by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 December 1934 : Conferred with the 5th Court Rank, Junior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 17 November " : Appointed a member of the Committee For Investigation of Preparations For Dispatch of Troops. (Term expired 24 October 1936). By the Navy Ministry.
- 1 February 1935 : Membership in the Navy Technical Conference abolished in accordance with revisions in the Navy Technical Department Regulations Under Imperial Ordinance No. 8 of 1935.
- " " " : Given concurrent appointment as a member of the Navy Technical Conference (in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 7) by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Navy Technical Department Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 March 1935 : Assigned to serve with the Special Inspector by the Navy Ministry.
- 11 March " : Ordered to proceed on business to MANCHUKUO by the Navy Ministry.
- 4 March " : Appointed a member of the Accident Investigation Committee of the Naval Air Headquarters by the Naval Air Headquarters.
- 1 March 1934 : Decorated with the Medal For Service in Founding the Nation by the Emperor of MANCHUKUO by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 15 July 1935 : Appointed a member of the Committee For Study of Measures For the South Pacific by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 August 1935 : Appointed Umpire for the second phase of the big Navy Maneuvers of 1935 by the Navy Ministry.
- 29 April 1934 : Decorated with the Medium Cordon of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun (1-57-57) and given 450 yen for Service in the 1931-1934 Incident by the Bureau of Decorations.

- 29 April 1934 : Decorated with the War Medal in Commemoration of the 1931-1934 Incident by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 4 November 1935 : Appointed a member of the Air Expenses Curtailment Investigation Committee by the Navy Ministry.
- 4 December 1935 : Appointed a member of the Committee For Establishment of Navy Hall by the Navy Ministry.
- 27 January 1936 : Given non-regular duty as an adviser to the Imperial Aviation Conference.
- 19 March 1936 : Appointed a member of the 2nd Committee of the Naval System Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 August 1936 : Appointed Umpire for the third phase of the Special Navy Maneuvers of 1936 by the Navy Ministry.
- 12 September 1936 : Appointed a member of the Investigation Committee of Army-Navy Air Headquarters by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed Secretary of the Investigation Committee of Army-Navy Air Headquarters by the Navy Ministry.
- 21 September 1935 : Decorated with the Medal in Commemoration of the Visit of the Emperor of MANCHUKUO to Japan by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 16 November 1936 : Appointed CO of the HOSHO. 1st Fleet, effective 18 November 1936 and lasting until 23 October 1937 by the Navy Ministry.
- 17 December 1936 : Relieved of non-regular duty as Secretary of the Aviation Inquiry Commission by the Communications Ministry.
- 16 October 1937 : Assigned to serve with the Headquarters of the Third Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 20 October " : Appointed an operations officer of the China Area Fleet and, concurrently of the Third Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 January 1938 : Assigned to serve with Navy General Headquarters by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Ordered to serve with the First Section, the First Department, by Navy General Headquarters.
- 3 March 1938 : Ordered to proceed on business to the Republic of China and to MANCHUKUO by the Navy Ministry.
- 2 May 1938 : Appointed a member of the Committee For Study of Joint Army-Navy Strategy by the Navy Ministry.

- 2 May 1938 : Appointed a member of the Submarine Study Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- 25 April 1938 : Appointed a section chief in Navy General Headquarters and, concurrently, a member of the Navy Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Navy staff, Imperial General Headquarters, by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Navy Technical Department Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed Chief of the First Section, the First Department, by the Navy General Headquarters.
- 2 May 1938 : Appointed a member of the Fuel Measures Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Committee on Standards of Power of Naval Bases and Naval Stations by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Navy Distinguished Service Inquiry Commission by the Navy Ministry.
- 7 May " : Appointed member of the Committee To Secure the Construction of Naval Stations by the War Ministry.
- 25 April 1938 : Given concurrent appointment as a member of the Headquarters of the General Staff by the War Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed concurrently to the Army staff, Imperial General Headquarters, by the War Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed Chief of the First Section, First Department, Operations Department, by the Imperial General Headquarters.
- 14 October 1939 : Appointed a member of the Committee For Study of Capital Ship Bridges by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 November 1939 : Appointed CO of the AKAGI. Term expired 2 November 1940. By the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Relieved of membership in the Committee To Secure the Construction of Naval Stations by the War Ministry.
- " " " : Relieved of concurrent appointment to the Army staff, Imperial General Headquarters, by the War Ministry.
- " " " : Relieved of concurrent appointment as a member of the Headquarters of the General Staff by the War Ministry.

- 15 January 1940 : Conferred with the 5th Court Rank, Senior Grade, by the Imperial Household Ministry.
- 15 November 1939 : Granted a special remuneration for services as CO of the AKAGI while on active service. by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 October 1940 : Assigned to serve with the Headquarters of the Combined Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 October 1940 : Granted a special salary by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 October 1940 : Designated to serve aboard the AKAGI by the Combined Fleet.
- 15 November 1940 : Promoted to Rear Admiral by the Cabinet.
- " " " : Appointed CO of the Fourth Combined Air Group by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 January 1941 : Appointed CO of the 24th Air Flotilla by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 April 1941 : Appointed Chief of Staff of the First Air Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 April " : Assigned aboard the flagship AKAGI by the First Air Fleet.
- 21 May " : Transferred to the KAGA due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 6 June " : Transferred to the AKAGI due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 13 July " : Transferred to the KAGA due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 19 July " : Transferred to the SAZANAMI due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 31 July " : Transferred to the AKAGI due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 25 August " : Transferred to the SHOKAKU due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 8 September " : Transferred to the AKAGI due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 26 September " : Transferred to the KAGA due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 29 April 1940 : Decorated with the Imperial Military Order of the Golden Kite and given 8700 yen for services in the

- : CHINA Incident by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 29 April 1940 : Decorated with the War Medal in Commemoration of the China Incident by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 25 October 1941 : Transferred to the AKAGI due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 16 June 1942 : Transferred to the KIRISHIMA due to change in flagships by First Air Fleet.
- 14 July 1942 : Appointed Chief of Staff of the Third Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Assigned aboard the flagship ZUIKAKU by the Third Fleet.
- 20 July " : Transferred to the SHOKAKU due to change in flagships by the Third Fleet.
- 12 May " : Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 2nd Class, by the Bureau of Decorations.
- 27 October 1942 : Transferred to the ZUIKAKU due to change in flagships by the Third Fleet.
- 23 November " : Appointed commander of the Naval Air Group at YOKOSUKA and, concurrently, member of the Navy Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- 25 November " : Appointed a member of the Navy Technical Department Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed a member of the Naval Air Headquarters Technical Council by the Navy Ministry.
- 20 November 1943 : Assigned to serve with the Headquarters of the Southeast Area Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 29 November " : Appointed Chief of Staff of the Southeast Area Fleet, and, concurrently, of the First Air Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 6 April 1944 : Appointed Chief of Staff of the Combined Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 May 1944 : Promoted to Vice Admiral by the Cabinet.
- 15 May " : Conferred with 4th Court Rank, Junior Grade, by Imperial Household Ministry.
- 15 April 1942 : Citation: Striking Force
With the opening of Hostilities on 8 December 1941 after flying a great distance, he carried out a surprise attack against the enemy naval base in Hawaii.

His planes dealt a severe blow to the main strength of the enemy American Pacific Fleet and to its air strength. Moreover, he made a very great contribution to ensuing operations by this great destruction. In recognition of his meritorious services I here by convey this citation.

15 April 1942

YAMAMOTO, Isoroku

Commander-in-Chief, the Combined Fleet

- 25 April 1945 : Appointed Chief of Staff of the Navy General Fleet /TN: i.e., KAIGUN SOTAI/ by the Navy Ministry.
- 1 May 1945 : Appointed Chief of Staff of the Navy General Fleet and, concurrently, of the Combined Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 24 June 1945 : Assigned to serve with Navy General Headquarters by the Navy Ministry.
- 3 July 1945 : Assigned to serve under the Vice Chief of Navy General Headquarters by Navy General Headquarters.
- 17 August 1945 : Relieved of principal duty by the Navy Ministry.
- " " " : Appointed CinfC, the 5thth Air Fleet, by the Emperor.
- 10 " " : Assigned to serve with Headquarters of the Navy General Fleet by the Navy Ministry.
- 10 October " : Assigned to serve in the Navy Ministry by the Navy Ministry.
- 15 October " : Placed in the First Reserves by the Navy Ministry.
- 17 May 1945 : Decorated with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, 1st Class, by the Bureau of Decorations.

Translation of Defense Document #1975 (Original in Japanese)

Title KUSAKA deposition

Sandusky
19 August, 1947

From Section III

To: Mr. Sandusky

Thru: Mr. Ashton

~~Translation is free from material errors.~~

Following errors are noted:

Page	Lines	Now reading:	Should read:
1	14	...Isorofu...	...Isoroku... /P. 2, line 4/
3	13	...training corps...	...Training Air Group... /P. 5, line 5/
3	14	...Naval Aviation Board...	...Naval Air Headquarters... /P. 5, line 6/
3	28	...daylight...	...daybreak... /P. 5, line 15/
4	17	...Department...	...Depot... /P. 7, line 11/
6	13-16	...that.....hostilities..	...that even after the 8th of December had been decided as the day to open hostilities as per Imperial Headquarters Naval Section Order of 2 December, diplomatic negotiations continued... /P. 10, lines 12-13/

15.0

*Should we object to the next &
the last #*

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

- VS -

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition

Deponent: Ryunosuke KUSAKA



Having first duly sworn an oath as shown on attached sheet and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country I hereby depose as follows:

1. My name is Ryunosuke KUSAKA. I was formerly a Vice Admiral in the Japanese Navy and participated in the Pearl Harbor Attack 8 December 1941, as Chief of Staff of the First Air Force Fleet.
2. As has been stated, the plan of attack was originated by Admiral Isorofu YAMAMOTO, Commander in Chief of the Combined Fleet, around January of 1941. I remember it was April or May of that year and after I had been assigned to the post of Chief of Staff of the First Air Force Fleet that I learned of the plan. Generally speaking, the Pearl Harbor Attack was a hazardous and speculative operation penetrating deep into enemy lines. Since it was considered too venturesome, as a first step in military operations which decided the fate of the State, various studies were repeatedly made. However, since I could not agree with Commander in Chief YAMAMOTO's idea as I did not consider the plan to be practical, I expressed a lengthy opposition opinion directly to the Commander in Chief himself.

Commander in Chief YAMAMOTO listened carefully to my opinion and then said as follows:

"I fully understand your opinion; however if war should break out with the United States, taking into view the condition of military strength as it stands today, I have no confidence in fulfilling the responsibility of our national defense other than by attacking the United States Fleet immediately after the outbreak of war. Therefore, as long as the United States Fleet is stationed at Hawaii, it is my conviction as Supreme Commander, that we must commence operations by an attack there. I ask you, then, to stop opposing me from now

on and concentrate your efforts toward securing the success of this attack."

3. The Naval General Staff in early October 1941, in spite of its previous opposition to the plan, gave way before the firm opinion of Commander in Chief YAMAMOTO and finally consented to study the Hawaii Operation so that preparations could be made for any emergency situation that might arise. Subsequently, joint studies were made between the Naval General Staff Operations Section, staff officers of the Combined Fleet and the First Air Force Fleet. As studies of the operation advanced, the atmosphere gradually changed to the point of view of adopting the Hawaii Attack Plan as the first priority plan. This was largely due to the fact that the Combined Fleet Headquarters was so strongly convinced of its possibilities as compared with the disadvantage of having to plan a counter attack strategy against the enemy for the purpose of protecting the undefended South Sea Islands.

4. At that time there was only one carrier based air force fleet which was the First Air Force Fleet consisting of the following three air force squadrons:

First Air Force Squadron with aircraft carriers AKAGI and KAG.

Second Air Force Squadron with aircraft carriers SORYU and HIRYU.

Fourth Air Force Squadron with aircraft carriers RYUJO and the converted carrier "Kasuga Maru", named the "Taiyo."

At that time there were also the light aircraft carriers "Hosho" and "Zuiho" which formed the Third Air Force Squadron of the First Fleet.

On September 25th, 1941, the aircraft carrier "Zuikaku" was commissioned and, together with the aircraft carrier "Shokaku", which had been completed one month before, composed the Fifth Air Force Squadron. These were assigned for service under the First Air Force Fleet.

5. Of the four air force squadrons attached to the First Air Force Fleet, both carriers of the Fourth Air Force Squadron were capable only of carrying a small number of planes and those planes were out moded craft. They were slow with a short cruising range and entirely unfit for the Hawaii Operation. Therefore, the

Combined Fleet Headquarters submitted the following demands to the central authorities.

(a) Select highly trained air crew members from both carriers of the Fourth Air Force Squadron to fill vacancies in the First and Second Air Force Squadrons, thereby increasing the number of carrier planes on both air force squadrons and particularly the number of fighter planes.

(b) Fill the vacancies in the Fifth Air Force Squadron with trained personnel, experienced in service on carriers, from land air force units.

Concerning the two above items, there was no other way to supply men for item (b) other than to pull out training officers and enlisted men instructors from the training corps. The Personnel Bureau Naval Aviation Board showed great reluctance to do this because it would inconvenience the training and supplying of future air crew personnel. The demands of the Combined Fleet, however, were strong enough to enforce its wishes and it was finally done.

6. The Pearl Harbor Attack was thus conducted by a temporarily organized task force consisting of the First Air Force Fleet as its main body. It was mid October 1941 when the shifting of necessary personnel and the formation of the First Air Force Fleet was completed. Because the Pearl Harbor Attack was not thought possible unless rigid training be enforced, it was necessary to carry out practice schedules until late November. But as the embarkation date was around the middle of November, it left port without even a month's training.

As a result of studies made on the Pearl Harbor Attack Operation, daylight, or if possible, before daybreak, as the time of attack was desirable. But due to such circumstances as the insufficient training of air crew personnel, the accompanying lack of confidence in taking off from the carriers and flying in formation, together with navigating before daybreak, were problems which caused a change in the schedule of the attack so that it

was finally arranged for the planes to leave the carriers thirty minutes before daybreak and to fix the hour of attack at one hour and a half after daybreak.

The Pearl Harbor Attack was an extremely difficult operation and its major difficulties were the following two points:

(a) The problem of a shallow submersion torpedo.

Previous studies had been made to lessen the submersion degree of torpedoes after firing and to shorten the distance required to stabilize itself at an adjusted depth. These studies were made before the Pearl Harbor Operation was conceived and were designed for the purpose of aerial torpedo attacks on shipping. The results were far from satisfactory. When studies on the Pearl Harbor Attack began, research work in this field became more important for it was an unanswered question as to whether aerial torpedo attacks were possible in the restricted and shallow waters of Pearl Harbor. The First Air Force Fleet, with the cooperation of the Yokosuka Naval Air Corps and Naval Air Technical Department made repeated experiments and finally, in late October, reached the conclusion that it was possible.

The remodeling of torpedoes necessary for such operation was delayed and they could not be delivered to the ships before embarking for their rendezvous point at Takan Bay. So the aircraft carrier AKAGI stayed behind until the last to receive the remodeled torpedoes and then to distribute them to each ship at Takan Bay. There was also the question of torpedo net cutters which were thought to be necessary for the operation but, although the research work was hurried, the studies and experiments did not produce satisfactory results and it was decided not to equip the torpedoes with cutters.

(b) The second difficulty was the problem of extending the cruising range of the ships participating in the attack. The attack force took a northerly course where navigating ships were scarce in order to avoid early discovery and planned to approach Hawaii from the north where we thought air patrols would be

sporadic.

It was the northeastern monsoon period and we knew that the aircraft carriers AKAGI, SORYU and HIRYU, as well as the destroyers, would not have sufficient cruising range if refueling en route was impossible due to the strong winds and high waves. As for refueling destroyers on the high seas, we had had considerable training and experience and in the event refueling was impossible, these ships could turn back and the operation be carried on by cruisers and heavier type ships.

The problem was different in regard to aircraft carriers. If three out of six participating were omitted, the operation could not be performed. Consequently, after many studies were made, it was decided to carry fuel even in the double bottomed sections and stacking fuel drums outside the storage rooms. Then, in case refueling was impossible, these ships would be able to return to a point at 160° east longitude.

However, loading fuel into the double bottomed sections of the aircraft carrier AKAGI and also the reserve fuel tanks was prohibited by naval regulations considering the strength of the ship's structure. I therefore entered into negotiations with proper officials, attempting to neutralize this naval regulation, but achieved no success. Whereupon the Commander in Chief of the Fleet was forced to take full responsibility regarding the possibility of an accident occurring and the decision was made to load fuel in the reserve fuel tanks and double bottom sections, although not in compliance with regulations.

The Task Force which was temporarily organized for the Pearl Harbor Attack was to embark from their port either alone or in small groups around 15 November 1941 in accordance with Combined Fleet Headquarters orders, and rendezvous at Takan Bay by 22 November. After refueling, the Task Force left the bay at 0600 hours 26 November to the next stand-by point at 42° north latitude, 170° west longitude.

During this operation, there were two important problems which

caused me great concern in my capacity of Chief of Staff of the Task Force.

One was whether or not the main body of the United States Fleet would be stationed in the Hawaiian area at the time the attack was to be made. The other was the fear of enforcing the attack when orders to return might have been transmitted (if United States - Japanese negotiations reached an amicable settlement) but which might not be received owing to the remote distance of communications or other causes. It would indeed have been a grave problem had orders been dispatched to return and were not received by the Task Force.

longways

Behind the reason for my concern on the latter point was the fact that on 2 December, Imperial Headquarters Naval Section orders stated that diplomatic negotiations would be continued ever after a decision was passed designating 8 December as the day to open hostilities, and a ray of hope that hostilities could be avoided was still seen. If United States - Japanese negotiations reached an amicable settlement, or a possibility of reaching a peaceful solution became a certainty, all forces were to stop all operational actions and, after hurriedly rounding up all units, were to return home. This was so indicated in Imperial Headquarters Naval Department Instruction Number 5 and concurrently in Combined Fleet Headquarters Instruction Number 1. (In the instruction the words "In the event of important change in situation meant the amicable settlement of United States - Japanese negotiations.) Moreover, we had heard of this matter from Commander in Chief Admiral YAMAMOTO at every opportunity. Therefore, I was greatly concerned until on the 5th or 6th of December I received a telegram from Chief of Division One, Naval General Staff, stating that there was no hope of United States - Japanese negotiations coming to a peaceful conclusion.

10. As for the ultimatum to be delivered prior to the attack, I thought it was naturally being taken care of by the central authorities. Therefore, I was convinced that a notification

had been communicated before the attack began.

From a strategical viewpoint, an attack without notice might be idealistic, but such treacherous action was unthinkable from the point of view of training and common sense of the Japanese naval officer, and also because of the traditional 'Bushido' (the creed of the Samurai).

As a matter of fact, I expected the possible discovery of our operation before the attack by United States patrol planes in Hawaii. Our observation sea planes were scheduled to arrive at Pearl Harbor at least thirty minutes ahead of the attacking forces, and moreover, we were expecting our attacking forces to be caught by radar, thus revealing to the United States our potential attack. We actually were prepared to suffer considerable damage and casualties in this risky undertaking and were greatly surprised when such did not occur.

On this _____ day of August, 194
At Tokyo.

DEPONENT: KUSAKA, Ryunosuke (seal)

I, KUSAKA, Ryunosuke hereby certify that the above state-
ment was sworn by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and
seal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date
At the same place

Witness (signed) OKUYAMA, Hachiro (seal)

OATH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole
truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

KUSAKA, Ryunosuke (seal)