

7 May 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. David N. Sutton
FROM : Mr. Smith N. Crowe, Jr.
SUBJECT : OKAMURA, Neiji - Defense Witness

Please find attached hereto report on the above witness
who has been called for the defendant HATA.

SMITH N. CROWE, JR.
Assistant Counsel

1 Incl:
Report, OKAMURA, Neiji

7 May 1947

MEMORANDUM RE: OKAMURA, Neiji

- I - Subpoena subject of testimony - The witness will testify regarding the policies, utterances and actions of the accused HATA during the time in which he is charged by the indictment. The testimony will tend to establish that the accused HATA took no part in any of the conspiracies charged to him and was not in anywise connected with the planning and initiating of wars of aggression.
- II - Information from the Investigation Division - The Investigation Division has forwarded the Curriculum Vitae on this witness, the pertinent portions of which are the following:
- Appointed to assume a concurrent post as Section Chief in Army Ministry.
(Army Ministry)
- Aug. 1, 1929
- Decorated with the Order of Middle Cordon of Rising Sun. - In recognition of the China Incident.
- Sep. 5, 1929
- Ordered to assume the duty as Vice-Staff Officer of SHANGHAI Expeditionary Army. (not published in the Official Gazette)
(Army Ministry)
- Feb. 26, 1932
- Promoted to Major General.
(Cabinet)
- Apr. 11, 1932
- Ordered to be with the Military Ordnance Depot.
(Army Ministry)
- May 16, 1932
- Granted the senior class of the 5th Court Rank.
- Aug. 8, 1932
- Appointed Vice-Chief of Staff of KWANTUNG Army. (Not published in the Official Gazette)
(Army Ministry)
- Feb. 14, 1933
- Appointed to take up office as Military Attache at Japanese Ambassador in Manchukuo.
(Cabinet)
- May 16, 1933
- Appointed a Commissioner in Manchuria to create the Japan-Manchukuo Communal Company with joint capital of Japan and Manchukuo.
(Cabinet)
- Aug. 3, 1933
- Granted the second order of merit with the Sacred Treasures.

Memo re: OKAMURA, Heiji, dtd 7 May 47 (cont'd.)

Sep. 19, 1933 Released of the commissionership as above.
(Cabinet)

Dec. 10, 1934 Released of the concurrent post of the
military Attache.
(Cabinet)

" " " Appointed to be with Military General Staff.
" " " Released of the duty as the Vice Chief Staff
of KWANTUNG Army - not published in Official
Gazette
(Cabinet)

Mar. 15, 1935 Appointed Chief of the 2nd Section at
Military General Staff Office.
(Army Ministry)

Apr. 29, 1934 Decorated with the 3rd grade of Golden-Kite
with an annual grant of ¥ 7,000
" " " Decorated with the order of Rising Sun with
double beams in recognition of the incident
of SHOWA 69 to 9.

Mar. 7, 1936 Promoted to Vice-General.
(Cabinet)

Mar. 23, 1936 Released of the present post.
(Army Ministry)

Mar. 23, 1936 Appointed Commander of the 2nd Division.
(Cabinet)

Apr. 15, 1936 Granted the junior class of the 4th
Court rank.

Dec. 11, 1937 Decorated with the order of Merit with
Sacred Treasures.

May 2, 1938 Granted the senior class of the 4th
Court rank.

June 6, 1938 Released of the present assignment - not
published in Official Gazette
(Army Ministry)

June 6, 1938 Appointed Commander of the 11th Force - not
published in Official Gazette.
(Army Ministry)

Nov. 2, 1938 Received Imperial present of a silver cup
in recognition of merit for the conclusion
of Japan-Germany Anti-Comintern Pact.

Memo re: OKAMURA, Heiji, dtd 7 May 47 (cont'd.)

Feb. 16, 1940	Decorated with Grand Cordon of Rising Sun.
Mar. 9, 1940	Appointed Councillor of Military Council. (Cabinet)
Mar. 9, 1940	Released of the present post. (Army Ministry)
Apr. 28, 1941	Promoted to full General. (Cabinet)
May 15, 1941	Granted the junior class of the 3rd Court rank.
July 7, 1941	Appointed Commander North China Theater Force. (Cabinet)
Apr. 29, 1940	Decorated with the 1st Grade Golden-Kite in recognition of the merit of the China Incident.
June 15, 1944	Granted the senior class of Court rank.
Aug. 25, 1944	Appointed Commander of the 6th Theater Force - not published in Official Gazette. (Army Ministry)
Nov. 22, 1944	Appointed General Commander of All Forces in China Theater. - not published in Official Gazette. (Cabinet)

In addition, they have forwarded a report prepared by Legal Section of SCAP, dated 17 April 1947, and found in Case File No. 465. This report is a very comprehensive report on the witness and contains practically all the information available in our files as well as some additional information. A copy of this report was handed to you this morning (6 May 47). The major positions held by the witness are on page one of this report. In addition to this, our files show that the witness was a Supreme War Councillor in 1940 when the defendant HATA was War Minister, and following that period he was in China at the same time that General HATA was Commander in Chief of the Japanese armies in China.

III - Examination of case file - The case file on this witness is File No. 465 and to date the only information contained therein is the report by the Investigation Division of Legal Section referred to above.

IV - Cross-reference file on case file - The cross-reference files show the following pertinent information:

1. File 383-10 - This is a memorandum stating that the witness was an active member of Sakura Kai (Cherry

Blossom Society), and further that he, together with General DOIHARA and ITAGAKI, was largely responsible for the creation of Manchukuo.

2. File OO-110 - A Stars and Stripes article of 9 December 1945 relates that the witness was charged by the Chinese Communist War Crimes Commission with personally directing and witnessing the massacre of an entire North China village in 1942. Further, the article states that OKAMURA now is in Nanking as Chief Liaison Officer between Chinese National troops and the remaining Japanese forces. (The Chinese Division informs me that OKAMURA is still in China.)

3. File 234-37-5 & 6 - In the interrogation of TANAKA, Ryukichi, of 19 March 1946, the following appears:

"Q. After the South Manchurian Railroad was blown up, or a section of track was blown up at Mukden, did you hear that Doctor OKAWA was mixed up in the planning back in Tokyo?

A. I heard about it when I was in Shanghai.

Q. From whom?

A. On the morning of the nineteenth of September of that year, I received the information by telegram from the Kwantung Army headquarters that was dispatched to the Japanese Embassy.

Q. Just what information was contained in this dispatch?

A. That was a very brief telegram. The telegram read something like this: 'Chinese Army on Mukden destroyed section of South Manchurian Railroad System.'

Q. Well now, how soon after that did you hear that this section was in effect actually destroyed by the Japanese Army?

A. I think it was about March of the following year, or 1942. I heard that news from Colonel Heiji OKAMURA. He told me that Captain IMADA---I don't know whether he was a captain or a major---did that job."

4. File 405-9-1 - A report of an interrogation of SUGAHAMI, Shoji, of 13 March 1946, relating to the KOA IN and the administration of the puppet government at Nanking during the time when this witness and the defendant HATA were in China shows the following:

"He states positively that SUZUKI, who was Chief of the Political Affairs Bureau of KOA IN, was by far the most powerful and most influential official in it. He admits that KOA IN advocated co-prosperity for Japan and China but actually it was never intended that China should be on a par with Japan. When DAI TOA SHO was created, he retained his same job but thereafter his superior, Lt. Gen. SHIOZAWA, received his instructions from SHIGOMITSU at Nanking. He says that business and government in his area were under the domination of KOA IN and that the prominent officials were selected by General OKAMURA and his staff."

V - Evidentiary document card file in Document Division - I have not had time to thoroughly investigate this file but I wish to call your attention to the following documents which have not been processed:

1. IPS Document No. 2996. This is a bound file of the newspaper Tokyo Nichi Nichi for June of 1935. The document implicates the witness OKAMURA and relates to the all time military aggression, and more specifically the Ho-Umezumi Agreement. The document is broken into subdivisions, the most important of which are:
 - a. Document No. 2996-A (a visit of Ambassador Chang to Foreign Minister Hirota desiring a local statement and the talk of the War Vice Minister with the Prime Minister indicating no change in policy).
 - b. Document No. 2996-C. (A draft of the settlement demands of the Japanese.)
 - c. Document No. 2996-D. (Relating to negotiations and in which the witness OKAMURA as Chief of the Second Section, the General Staff Office, said delay of Chinese replies to notes would not be allowed.)
 - d. Document No. 2996-E. (The Army expresses dissatisfaction over the decision of the Administrative Councilors meeting and demands thorough going punishment)

The remaining subdivisions show a gradual combination of Japanese demands in final settlement.

Memo re: OKAMURA, Heiji, dtd 7 May 47 (cont'd.)

2. IPS Documents No. 2997 and 2998. These are bound files of the newspaper Osaka-Mainichi for the months of May and June 1935. These are substantially the same stories as are found in Documents 2995 and 2996. These documents are now being processed.
3. IPS Document No. 2999. This is a bound file of the newspaper Tokyo Asahi for the month of July, 1940. They implicate the defendant HATA due to the fact that they relate to the period when he was War Minister. In Document No. 2999-B, it is stated the Army decided on a stiff course of action. This document is now being processed.
4. Document Nos. 3001 to 3004. These are bound files of the newspaper Osaka Asahi for June and July of 1940 and the newspaper Tokyo Asahi for June 1940 and Myako Shimbun, Tokyo, for the Month of July 1940. They implicate the defendant HATA as his resignation was responsible for the fall of the Yonai Cabinet on 17 July 1940, and state that the Army advocated a firm policy in dealing with China.

VI - Reference in evidence to witness or to the subject matter of his testimony - a. So far as I have been able to determine there is no reference to this witness by name in evidence, to date.

b. The important references to the subject matter of the witnesses testimony will be found in the attached paper. The request for the production of this and certain other HATA witnesses is so indefinite as to the subject matter of their testimony that a summary of the evidence now in the record regarding all of HATA's activities should be made a part of the report on each of these witnesses. I am, therefore, preparing it separately and will attach it to the reports on the proper witnesses which I henceforth forward to you.

VII - Summary of testimony given - This witness has not yet testified.

VIII - Decorations - In the memorandum of 11 March 1947, the witness is shown to have received the following decorations:

1. 29 April 1934 - The Military Order of the Golden Kite, 3rd Class, and the Order of the Compound Light of the Rising Sun, both recommended by the War Ministry for achievement in the Manchurian Incident.

Memo re: OKAMURA, Neiji, dtd 7 May 47 (cont'd.)

2. 9 May 1934 - 2nd Class Ching Yuan-Chang (Princes Manchukuo) recommended by the Foreign Ministry for achievement regarding Japanese-Manchurian amity.
3. 29 April 1940 - The Military Order of the Golden Kite, 1st Class, recommended by the War Ministry for achievement in the China Incident.

In addition to these, the Curriculum Vitae shows the witness received the following decorations:

1. 3 August 1933 - The 2nd Order of Merit with the Sacred Treasure
2. 11 December 1937 - The Order of Merit with the Sacred Treasure
3. 2 November 1938 - Received an imperial present of a silver cup in recognition of merit for achievement in the conclusion of the Japan-Germany Anti-Comintern Pact.
4. 16 February 1940 - The Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun.

IX - Non-listed investigation - I have examined the document analysis of recent IPS documents.

SMITH N. CROWE, JR. .
Assistant Counsel

Personal History

Name: OKAMURA, Neiji
Date of birth: May 15, Meiji 15 /1884/
Permanent Domicile: Tokyo

May 30, 1903 Finished the course of the Military Preparatory School.
Ordered the Military Cadet.
Assigned to the 1st Regiment of Infantry.

Oct. 24, 1904 Graduated from the Military Academy.
Ordered a Military Probationary Officer.

Nov. 1, " Promoted to 2nd Lieutenant
Assigned to Recruit Regiment to 1st Battalion.

Dec. 8, " Granted the 8th senior grade court rank.

Apr. 1, 1906 Decorated with single rayed Rising Sun;
received the war-medal of Russo-Japanese War
with a grant of ¥400.

June 30, 1907 Released of the present post and assigned to a
post at 1st Regiment. Attached to 49th Regiment.

Dec. 21, " Promoted to 1st Lieutenant. Released of the
present post to be assigned to a position in
the Students Corps of Military Academy.

Mar. 20, 1908 Granted the seventh junior grade of Court Rank.

Dec. 12, 1911 Admitted to enter the Military Staff's College.

Dec. 26, " Released of the present assignment to assume a
post in the 1st Regiment.

May 20, 1913 Granted the seventh senior grade of Court Rank.

May 31, " Decorated with the 5th class of Sacred Treasure.

Aug. 31, " Promoted to Captain. (Cabinet)
Released of the assignment and appointed
Company Commander of 1st Regiment.

Aug. 13, 1914 Ordered to take up a duty at Military Staff Office.

Feb. 15, 1915 Released of the assignment to assume an office
in the Staff Office. (Army Minister)

Nov. 7, " Decorated with the class of Small Cordon of
Rising Sun. Received the War Medal of 1914/15
War. /World War I in China Area/.

Sept. 25, 1916 Ordered to travel in Manchuria.

Jan. 23, 1917 Released of the present assignment to assume a post in Military Staff Office.

Nov. 10, 1915 Granted with the Colonization Medal.

July 10, 1918 Granted the junior grade of the 6th Class Court-Rank.

Sept. 29, 1918 Granted a Gold-Cup (Bureau of Decorations)

July 5, 1919 Released of the duty at the Staff Office to be assigned to a post at Military Ordnance Depot. (Army Ministry)

July 25, " Promoted to major. (Cabinet)

Sept. 27, " Permitted to accept and wear the decoration of 4th class of the order of merit with Book and Tiger sent by Chinese Republic. (By Bureau of Decoration)

July 20, 1921 Released of the post at Military Ordnance Depot and assigned to a post in 14th Regiment of Recruits. (Army Ministry)

Dec. 25, 1920 Received a grant of 1,200 yen in recognition of merit in the war of 1915/1920.

Feb. 8, 1922 Released of the post and appointed Battalion Commander of 14th Regiment of Infantry (Army Ministry)

Mar. 17, 1923 Released of the commander and ordered to be a staff member at Military Staff Office. (By Army Ministry)

Aug. 6, 1923 Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel (Cabinet)
Granted the senior class of 6th Court Rank.

Sept. 3, 1923 Ordered to serve in the Headquarters of the forces enforcing Martial Law. (Army Ministry)

Sept. 14, " Released of above post. (Army Ministry)

Dec. 7, " Released of the post as staff member to assume a new post at the Staff Office. (By Army Ministry)

Nov. 30, " Decorated with 3rd class of the order of Merit with Sacred Treasures. (By Bureau of Decoration)

Dec. 2, " Released of the duty at the Staff Office.
Ordered to be with the 13th Regiment of Infantry. (by Army Ministry)

" " " " " " (by Army Ministry)

- Feb. 26, 1926 Permitted to accept a post in China offered by Chinese Government in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 367 - Art. II. (Cabinet)
Permitted to receive a salary from Chinese Government during the said office.
- Mar. 1, " The term of the office in China to be Mar. 1, 1926 - Feb. 28, 1927. (Army Ministry)
- Mar. 31, 1927 Ordered to be with 1st Regiment of Infantry. (By Army Ministry)
- July 26, " Promoted to Colonel. (Cabinet)
- July 26, " Released of the duty at the 1st Regiment of Infantry.
Appointed to the 6th Regiment Commander of Infantry. (Army Ministry)
- Sept. 1, " Granted the junior class of 5th Court Rank.
- Aug. 10, 1928 Appointed to a section chief at the Military General Staff Office.
- Aug. 1, 1929 Appointed to assume a concurrent post as Section Chief in Army Ministry. (Army Ministry)
- Sept. 5, " Decorated with the Order of Middle Cordon of Rising Sun. - In recognition of the China Incident.
- Feb. 26, 1932 Ordered to assume the duty as Vice-Staff Officer of SHANGHAI Expeditionary Army. (not published in the Official Gazette) (Army Ministry)
- Apr. 11, " Promoted to Major General. (Cabinet)
Ordered to be with the Military Ordnance Depot. (Army Ministry)
- May 16, " Granted the senior class of the 5th Court Rank.
- Aug. 8, " Appointed Vice-Chief of Staff of KWANTUNG Army. (Not published in the Official Gazette) (Army Ministry)
- Feb. 14, 1933 Appointed to take up office as Military Attache at Japanese Ambassador in Manchukuo. (Cabinet)
- May 16, 1933 Appointed a Commissioner in Manchuria to create the Japan-Manchukuo Communal Company with joint capital of Japan and Manchukuo. (Cabinet)
- Aug. 3, 1933 Granted the second order of merit with the Sacred Treasures.
- Sept, 19, " Released of the commissionership as above. (Cabinet)

Dec. 10, 1934	Released of the concurrent post of the military Attache. (Cabinet)
" "	Appointed to be with Military General Staff.
" "	Released of the duty as the Vice Chief Staff of KWANTUNG Army - not published in Official Gazette (Army Ministry)
Mar. 15, 1935	Appointed Chief of the 2nd Section at Military General Staff Office. (Army Ministry)
Apr. 29, 1934	Decorated with the 3rd grade of Golden-Kite with an annual grant of ¥7,000
" "	Decorated with the order of Rising Sun with double beams in recognition of the incident of SHOWA 69 to 9.
Mar. 7, 1936	Promoted to Vice-General. (Cabinet)
Mar. 23, 1936	Released of the present post. (Army Ministry)
Mar. 23, 1936	Appointed Commander of the 2nd Division (Cabinet)
Apr. 15, "	Granted the junior class of the 4th Court rank.
Dec. 11, 1937	Decorated with the order of Merit with Sacred Treasures
May 2, 1938	Granted the senior class of the 4th Court rank.
June 6, "	Released of the present assignment - not published in Official Gazette (Army Ministry)
" "	Appointed Commander of the 11th Force - not published in Official Gazette (Army Ministry)
Nov. 2, "	Received Imperial present of a silver cup in recognition of merit for the conclusion of Japan-Germany Anti-Comintern Pact.
Feb. 16, 1940	Decorated with Grand Cordon of Rising Sun.
Mar. 9, "	Appointed Councillor of Military Council. (Cabinet)
" "	Released of the present post. (Army Ministry)
Apr. 28, 1941	Promoted to full General (Cabinet)
May 15, 1941	Granted the junior class of the 3rd Court rank.
July 7, 1941	Appointed Commander North China Theater Force. (Cabinet)

- Apr. 29, 1940 Decorated with the 1st Grade Golden-Kite in
recognition of the merit of the China Incident.
- June 15, 1944 Granted the senior class of Court rank.
- Aug. 25, " Appointed Commander of the 6th Theater Force -
not published in Official Gazette (Army Ministry)
- Nov. 22, 1944 Appointed General Commander of All Forces in China
Theater. - not published in Official Gazette.
(Cabinet)

REPORT BY: H. SHIMOJIMA
5 Feb 47

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SUBJECT: OKAMURA, Neiji

Address: Unknown

Formerly a General. Subject took part in the
March Incident, 1931 and was member of the Inner Group.

OKAMURA is ^{MENTIONED IN} ~~subject~~ of IPS Case File No. 102.

COPIES: 3 File 102
1 Mr. Newbill

OKAMURA, Meiji

Request by: HATA, Shunroku

Address: Not stated, but believed to be in Nanking, China

He was formerly a General in the Japanese Army.

Okamura, Reiji

Subject of Testimony: See file on
Sawada, Shigeru, Same.

See PS Doc 2996-D - not intro,
2972-2976
3001-3004

Okamura, Yosuji, (Born 1885)

This witness proposed by the accused Hata is the last commander-in-chief of the Japanese forces in China when the peace came, and is now being detained by Chinese authorities in Nanking. He graduated from the Military Cadet School, infantry division, with distinction. Subsequently he graduated from the Army Staff College and went to Europe for higher studies. He held the following positions: member of the China Division of the Army General Staff; member of the Topographical Section, Information Section, Strategy History Section of the Army General Staff; Commander of the 6th Brigade; Chief of China Division, Army General Staff; Military Adviser to Marshal Sun Chuan-Fang; Chief of the Division of Personnel, War Ministry, Director of Military Research; Vice-Chief of Staff of the Shanghai Expeditionary Force. In 1933, he was Vice-Chief of Staff, Kwantung Army and concurrently Military Attache to the Japanese Embassy in "Manchukuo". In Nov., 1934, he was transferred to Tokyo and became Director of the 2nd Division, Army General Staff. In March, 1936, he became Commander of the 2nd Division Corps. In 1939 he came to China as Commander of Army Corps and returned to Japan in the following year as Supreme War Councillor. He was promoted General in April, 1941, at the same time with General Doihara. He is being detained by the Chinese government to assist in the repatriation of Japanese forces in China.

Directory of Japan's Contemporary Men

Japan's No 1 Men in China.