

Personal History

(Translated by M. TAGAWA)
Checked by FEGEN 1

Name: KODAMA Kyūzo.

Born: Sept. 2, 1898.

Present Address: No. 1, TAYA-machi, FUKAKUSA-cho,
FUSHIMI-ward, KYOTO.

Dec. 25, 1919 Commissioned as
~~Promoted to~~ Sublieutenant, Infantry.

~~Assigned~~
Attached to the 28th Regiment of Infantry.

Dec. 15, 1922 Promoted to Lieutenant, Infantry.

Mar. 16, 1927 Promoted to Captain, Infantry.

Aug. 1, 1929 Appointed to an Adjutant
of the 16th Infantry Brigade.

Dec. 7, 1932 Appointed to a ^{1st} machine-gun ⁹ ^{Corps} company
Commander of the 28th Infantry Regiment.

Dec. 28, 1933 Appointed to a ^{staff member of} staff of a section of

^{Military} ~~the Army~~ Affairs Bureau of ^{the} War Ministry.

Aug. 1, 1934. Promoted to Major, Infantry.

Aug. 1, 1936. Appointed to a ^{staff member} ~~staff~~ of a section of the ^{Service} ~~Business~~ ^{Section} Military Bureau of the War Ministry.

Mar. 1, 1938. Promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel, Infantry.

July 15, 1938. Appointed to ~~a~~ Staff-Officer of the 14th Div.

Aug. 1, 1939. Appointed ~~to the~~ chief of Staff of the 8th Div.

Mar. 9, 1940. Promoted to Colonel.

Appointed to a ^{member} ~~staff~~ of the ^{Service} ~~Business~~ ^{Section} Military of the War Ministry.

Mar. 1, 1944 Promoted to Major-General.

June 26. Attached to the Air Inspectorate
General.

Aug. 20. Attached to the SENDAI ^{Army Air} ~~Military Aero~~
~~nautical~~ School.

Feb. 20, 1945. Appointed to be Director of the SENDAI
^{Army Air} ~~Military Aeronautical~~ School.

Aug. 27. Appointed to be Commander of the
~~Divisional Detachment of Military~~
Police ⁱⁿ at KYOTO ^{area} District.

Oct. 1. Appointed to be KYOTO Regimental
District Commandant.

Dec. 1. Appointed to be Chief of the ^{Military} ~~Department~~ of
Assistance ^{a Bureau} ~~in~~ for KYOTO District.

Feb. 28, 1947. Retired from office.

Oct. 3 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Sutton
FROM : EDWARD P. MONAGHAN, Chief,
Investigative Division, IPS
SUBJECT : Defense Witness

1. Please find attached hereto list of material available on the following witness and/or witnesses.

DEFENDANT

Witness General

WITNESS

KODAMA, Kyuzo

LIST OF MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Curriculum Vitae

2. Please acknowledge receipt of this memorandum by initialling and returning attached carbon copy to this office, Room 300.

Incl
(Described above)

EM
EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

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Aug. 1, 1929 Appointed Adjutant of the 14th Infantry Brigade.

Dec. 7, 1932 Appointed Machine-Gun Corps Commander of the
28th Infantry Regiment.

Dec. 28, 1933 Appointed staff member of a section of the
Military Affairs Bureau of the War Ministry.

Aug. 1, 1934 Promoted to Major, Infantry.

Aug. 1, 1936 Appointed staff member of a section of the Military
service Bureau of the War Ministry.

Mar. 1, 1938 Promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel, Infantry.

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Aug. 1, 1939 Appointed Chief of Staff of the 8th Div.

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Promoted to Colonel.

Mar. 1, 1944 Promoted to Major-General.

June 26, 1944 Attached to the Air Inspectorate General.

Aug. 20, 1944 Attached to the SENDAI Army Air School.

Feb. 20, 1945 Appointed Director of the SENDAI Army Air School.

Aug. 27, 1945

Appointed Commander of the Military Police
in KYOTO Area.

Oct. 1, 1945

Appointed KYOTO Regimental District Commandant.

Dec. 1, 1945

Appointed Chief of the Military Assistance
Bureau for KYOTO District.

Feb. 28, 1947

Retired from office.

Page

DIRECT EXAMINATION OF KODAMA, KYUZO,
by Mr. Freeman.

- 27751 * The witness identified exhibit No. 3101 as his
27752 affidavit and verified it. * The affidavit stated that the
witness served as Chief of the Military Service Section of
the Military Affairs Bureau from March 1940 to June, 1944.
The duties of the Section concerned military discipline,
punishment, regulations of various sorts, proper duties of
soldiers, etc.
- 27753 * Since discipline was the backbone of the army,
the forces as well as the central authorities concentrated
their efforts on its enforcement. All division commanders
in the homeland, as well as staff chiefs and officers of
home forces, were annually called to Tokyo for instructions
through the three heads of the Army, who always laid special
stress on discipline. Sometimes staff chiefs were called
to a special meeting. Primary importance was attached to
strengthening command power as the basis of discipline. By
emphasizing this it was possible to keep the army from
possible misbehavior and to improve the characters of those
committing such acts.
- 27754 In wartime, more immediate and concrete measures
were taken to prevent misconduct resulting from abnormal
circumstances * at the front, as well as lowered moral
standards of the troops from the increase in personnel.
The enforcement of discipline and raising of morale were
emphasized in all manuals. The training manual requires
soldiers, from their start for the front, to be careful
about discipline and set an example to the natives in
fighting areas, to heighten Japanese prestige. Both
officers and men were given necessary training in inter-
national law and regulations. Teaching concerning the
Red Cross Treaty was given in Manual No. 60, and the law-
text for the Military Academy Preparatory School dealt
with Land Warfare Regulations.
- 27755 * So that laws and regulations would be observed,
concrete instructions were given on the action of a sentry,
instructions concerning billeting, requisitioning of
materials, and the treatment of POWs. The central author-
ities did not receive formal information concerning cases
appearing before military tribunals. Consequently, their
measures were not usually adequate for the actual cases to
which they were actually applied.

Page

In view of the prolonged warfare and declined character and intelligence of the troops, the principles regarding education, control and guidance were given, and attention was called to them and other measures taken. The Wartime Service Manual was distributed to officers as a reference and guide book during front line service. Its compilation was carried out in 1938 by the Inspector-General on the basis of experience gained through service abroad.

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* Military Discipline and Morale Investigation Corps were sent out for investigation and guidance. Staff members of the central authorities were ordered in 1939 to make an inspection tour in China for two months. On their return, central authorities gave all units a guide to enforcement of discipline and morale, and adopted measures to enhance recreation facilities and replacements.

Articles brought from abroad on the return of soldiers and civilians were strictly inspected by every unit at every port of embarkation, as well as the home unit, to discover and prevent breaches of discipline and plunder.

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* Copies of instructions to the men at the front were distributed in 1941 to heighten morality. As the war was prolonged, the fear of the decline of morality and possible plundering and violations came to be felt. To meet the situation, the instructions were compiled and distributed in the name of the War Minister. A copy was carried by every man always, and by respectfully reading it he exerted himself to comply with its teachings.

In 1942, part of the Army Criminal Code was revised, and necessary provisions were added in relation to military offenses to strengthen discipline. In this change, the crime of rape at the front was prescribed as a crime for which prosecution may be instituted without complaint by the injured party. Central authorities gave strict warnings against private punishment, and applied it to the treatment of POWs and the natives, as well as to Japanese.

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* Care was taken to prevent offenses and crimes against natives. A special term for this was invented, and a statistical study of such crimes and misdeeds made, to which the attention of every unit was called.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF THE RECORD
September 5, 1947 OF THE RECORD
DEFENSE - Division V - Pacific
POW - KODAMA - Direct file

POW
Page 1993 - Cross

Page

The Military Administrative Order was revised in August, 1943. An item was added that the order applied to the forces at the front and regiment commanders, and it was stated they should give lessons and guidance to subordinates about the treatment of natives.

To improve the minds of soldiers who had become dissipated through long service and dangers, adequate consideration was taken to afford conveniences for the forwarding of letters from their homes, the sending out of entertainment and comforts, and the promotion of recreation facilities.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY COLONEL MORNANE.

27759

* The witness stated that the punishment of POWs was in the province of the Military Affairs Bureau. The Service Bureau had no connection with it. He had no positive recollection whether the camp commander had authority to punish POWs. By saying his duties covered matters concerning military discipline, the witness meant that when punishment was dealt out for violation of regulations, reports made to the Foreign Minister passed through his section.

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ferred to the periods as the revision in 1937 and 1938. After that the Army Affairs Section had general control over budgetary matters. The witness stated that he did not know whether all the employees of the Information Bureau and Administration Bureau were the same, but he did know that the principal staff members were the same. He was not familiar with the particulars or details of the expenditures of the Bureau, but knew that employees and staff were paid salaries and allowances. He thought the

Def. Doc. #2140

Exh. No.
Translated by
Defense Language Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST



THE UNITED STATES, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

measures taken
+ receive discipline
Sworn Deposition (Translation)

Deponent: /s/ KODAMA, Kyūzō (seal)

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

I. I, KODAMA, Kyūzō, served in the War Ministry as Chief of the Military Service Section, Military Affairs Bureau, during the period between March, 1940, and June, 1944. The duties of the Military Service Section covered matters concerning military discipline, punishment, regulations of various sorts relative to military service, and the proper duties of individual soldiers, etc.

II. Inasmuch as discipline was the backbone of the army, all army forces as well as the central authorities concentrated their best efforts on its enforcement. The central authorities annually called to Tokyo all the division commanders in the homeland as well as the staff chiefs and chief judicial officers of forces stationed at home and abroad in order to give them instructions through the Three Heads of the Army who never failed to lay special stress on the enforcement of military discipline. Moreover, sometimes staff chiefs were called to a special meeting for the exclusive purpose of enforcing discipline.

Def. Doc. #2140

Appendix I, 1--3, are specimens of such instructions.

III. In Japan primary importance was attached above all to the strengthening of command power as the basis of military discipline. By emphasizing this point, it was held, it was possible to keep the members of the army away from possible misbehavior and to change for the better the characters of those who had committed any such misbehavior. In time of war, however, more immediate and concrete measures were taken in addition to this in order to prevent such mis-conduct as might result from the abnormal circumstances at the front as well as the lowered moral standard of the troops owing to the increase in army personnel.

In the following paragraphs I shall describe measures taken by the central authorities in relation to those types of mis-conduct which are now being tried by military tribunals at various places.

IV. Education and guidance given by the military at the time were as follows:

(1) Manuals: --

Enforcement of military discipline and raising of morale are emphasized in every manual. Especially, the training manual clearly points out the way thereto. It requires soldiers, right from their start for the front, to be careful about the maintenance of military discipline, and the necessary example to be shown to the natives in fighting areas for the heightening of the prestige of the Japanese forces.

(2) As for international law and regulations, both officers and ^{men} were given necessary training in a sensible way. For instance, teaching concerning the Red Cross Treaty was given in Military Training Manual

central authorities in relation to...
now being tried by military tribunals at various places.

IV. Miscellaneous

Def. Doc. #2140

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IV. Misconduct at various places.

Def. Doc. #2140

No. 60, and the law text-book for the Military Academy Preparatory School (Appendix No. 7) dealt with Land Warfare Regulations. In order that the said international laws and regulations be strictly observed, concrete instructions were given concerning operational movements -- such as the action of a sentry, instructions concerning billeting, and requisition of materials -- and also about the treatment of prisoners of war.

The central authorities did not receive any formal information whatever concerning such cases as appeared before the military tribunals. Consequently, the measures taken by the central authorities were not in most cases adequate for the actual cases to which they were applied. However, in view of the prolonged warfare and the declining tendency of the character and intelligence of troops, necessary principles regarding the education, control, and guid of forces were given, attention was called to them, and other necessary military measures were taken..

1. Wartime Service Manual was compiled and distributed to the officers at large to be used as their reference material and guide-book during their service at the front. Its compilation being deemed necessary, was carried out in 1938 (Showa 13) by the Inspectorate-General of Military Training in view of experiences gained up to that time through service abroad.

2. Military discipline and Morale Investigation Corps were sent out for investigation and guidance. Staff members of the central authorities were specially ordered in 1939 (Showa 14) to make an inspection tour to various spots in China for a period of some two months. After their return, the central authorities gave all units a guide to rigid enforcement of military discipline and morale, and adopted military administrative measures for

Def. Doc. #2140

the sake of the enhancement of recreation facilities and adequate methods of replacement.

3. Articles brought back from abroad by the military men and civilians in the military service on their return^{to} their homeland, were strictly inspected and controlled by every unit, at every port of embarkation, landing spot in the homeland, as well as by the home unit, thereby to discover and prevent breaches of discipline and, above all, plundering in the battle-field.

(4) The copies of the "Instructions to the Men at the Front" were distributed in the 16th year of Showa (1941) for the heightening of morality at the front. As the war was prolonged, a fear of the decline of morality and especially of possible plundering and violations came to be felt. To meet the situation, the said "Instructions" was compiled by the central authorities and distributed in the name of the Minister of War. Every military man at the time always carried a copy of it with him, and by respectfully reading it day and night, exerted himself to comply with the teachings given in it.

(5) In the 17th year of Showa (1942), a part of the Army Criminal Code was revised by Law No. 35. By this change, necessary provisions were newly added or amended in relation to military offences, for the sake of the strengthening and rigid enforcement of military discipline.

It is, especially notable, in these changes, that the crime of rape at the front was prescribed as a crime for which "prosecution may be instituted without any complaint by the injured party."

(6) The central authorities gave several times strict warning against

Def. Doc. # 2140

private punishments. It was applied to the treatment of prisoners of war and the native population as well as to Japanese military men.

(7) Great care was taken by the central authorities as to the prevention of offences and crimes against the natives. A special term "offences against the natives" was invented, and a statistic study of crimes and misdeeds, was made, to which the authorities called the attention of every unit.

(8) The Military Administrative Order was revised in August, 18th year of Showa (1943). An item was added to it that the order was to be applied also to the forces at the front (The Order No.1), and regiment-commanders, it was stated, should give lessons and guidance to their subordinates about the rules for treating the natives. (The Order No.24)

(9) In order to pull back to the right course the mind of soldiers who unawares had become dissipated through prolonged service in the field and especially through disasters and dangers caused by fighting, adequate considerations were taken for affording every possible convenience for forwarding of letters and dispatches from their homes, forwarding comforts, sending out entertainment groups, as well as for the promotion of recreation facilities at the front, for instance, organization of film corps to make visits and establishment of military men's clubs, etc.

Def. Doc. # 2140

On this 20th day of August, 1947

At I^MT^FE.

DEPONENT KODAMA, Kyūzō (seal)

I, INOUE, Masutarō hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this Witness.

On the same date

At I.M.T.F.E.

Witness: /S/ INOUE, Masutarō (seal)

OATH

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

/S/ KODAMA, Kyūzō (seal)