



国际检察局讯问记录

Numerical Case Files Relating to
Particular Incidents and Suspected War Criminals,
International Prosecution Section (1945-1947)

国家图书馆 上海交通大学 编

41

國家圖書館出版社

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10 December 1945

CASE NO. 234

RE : TANAKA, Ryukichi (Maj. Gen.)

STATUS: Pending.

MEMO FOR THE FILE:

Search of CIS Files on 1 Dec. 45 revealed following information on subject:

No date - attached to Soldier's Bureau of War Ministry.

Jan. 1939 - Chief of Soldiers Section of same.

1941 - Director, Soldiers Affairs Bureau of War Ministry.

Source: unknown.

Publication: Who's Who in Japan, 1941/42.

Joe B. Alexander
JOE B. ALEXANDER
2nd Lt., Inf.

COPIES : 3 File
~~1 Capt. Robinson~~

CASE NO. : 234

SERIAL NO. : /

File no. 234

17 January 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. Fihelly

1. A review of File No. 234 reflects that it contains information which may be of interest to the members of Group C.
2. This information is forwarded for such action as may be deemed appropriate.

LeRoy H. Barnard
Major, Infantry
Executive Officer
Investigation Division

Copies:

1 Mr. Fihelly
1 File 234 ✓
1 File 249
1 File C

FILE NO. 234

REPORT BY: Ray P. Normile

RE : TANAKA, Ryukichi

STATUS : Pending

DATE : 10 January 1946

A review of CIS files showed the following information as to above person.

Chief of Military Administration Section of War Office.

Won renown for bravery in Soviet-Japanese clash at Changkufen. He is known as the greatest authority on Mongolian affairs not to speak of his intensive insight into Chinese problems. (Sources: OSS, R & A and FE, Washington, August 11, 1944).

Ryukichi TANAKA, rank unknown. Army's Mongolian expert in 1930. Asst. Military Attache in China. Responsible for Creation of East Hopei autonomous Government in 1934 and the Teh Wang regime in Inner Mongolia.

Major General 1941, Director Soldiers' Affairs, Bureau of War Minister; career attached to Soldiers' Bureau of War Ministry; Chief Soldiers' Section of same since January 1939. (Source: Who's Who in Japan 1942-44)

A check of ATIS files discloses the following: Director of Military Affairs Bureau of War Ministry 1941-42.

(Source Prominent Persons in Japan and Japanese Dominated Areas, CWI, 14 ND)

Index cards of ATIS reveal Subject was attached as an artillery officer to Hqqs. Eastern District Army; later Chief of Staff of First Army and in March 1945 appointed Commanding General of Eastern Army which included Central & Northern Honshu.

COPIES

4 File 234

PENDING

Ryukichi TANAKA

LHB/ndm

IPS

COL. MUNSON
ASSISTANT G-2
JAPANESE LIAISON

4 Feb 1946

It is requested that this office be advised of the present address of Major-General Ryukichi TANAKA and that the Japanese Liaison be requested to locate this individual and have him report to Colonel Woolworth of the International Prosecution Section in the Meiji Building for interview at the earliest practical date.

In 1941 General TANAKA was the Director of the Soldiers Affairs Bureau of the War Ministry.

THEODORE GOULSBY
LT. COL. CAV.
CHIEF ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

COPY TO FILE 234 ✓

LIAISON COMMISSION (TOKYO)
FOR THE
IMPERIAL JAPANESE DEMOBILIZATION MINISTRIES



S-843

14 February 1946

TO: COL. F.P. MUNSON
GSC, G-2, GHQ, SCAP

SUBJECT: Present Address of Major General TANAKA

In compliance with the request from International Prosecution
Section on 4 Feb. 1946, we wish to inform you the present address
of Major General Ryukichi TANAKA as follows:

Major General TANAKA, Ryukichi

c/o Yamatoya Hotel,
Nagaoka Hotspring, Izu,
Shizuoka Pref.

A. Yamamoto

A. Yamamoto
Committee Member

NOTES ON INFORMAL INTERROGATION OF

TANAKA, RYUKICHI

Date and Time: 18 February 1946, 1030-1700 hours

Place : Room 735, Meiji Building

Present : TANAKA, Ryukichi
Col Gilbert S. Woolwerth, Interrogator
Mr. Hugh B. Helm, Interrogator
Mr. Denis Kildoyle, Interpreter
T/3 Ben Oshita, Interpreter

Dictated by: Col Woolwerth.

Military History: Graduated from Military Academy 1922, Company Commander for one year. On General Staff maneuvers until 1925. With Coast and Geographic Survey 1925 to 1927.

In Peking 1927-1929 and in Kalgan as student of Chinese language.

Returned to Japan 1929. Until 1930 with the Geographic Survey.

Went to Shanghai as Military Attache in 1930, remaining until August 1932.

Returned to Japan August 1932 and became Battalion Commander at Osaka. Remained at Osaka one and one-half years, until 1934, when he was examined by Kempei Tai, while a Major there, for having opposed a statement by General ARAKI, the War Minister, that Japanese soldiers were the Emperor's soldiers, he stating that the Army was "the people's." As a result failed of promotion at that time ~~as Lt Col.~~

Returned to Tokyo in 1934 as Assistant Commander of a Regiment in Chiba Prefecture.

In 1935 received promotion to Lt Col and joined General Staff ^{as G-2} of Kwantung Army with General MINAMI as Commanding General, remaining until 1937.

TANAKA, Ryukichi 18 Feb 1946

In 1937 was appointed Commander of the Raman Regiment in Korea. December 1938 returned to Tokyo as Chief, Military Affairs Bureau, War Ministry (ITAGAKI War Minister). (Was responsible for removal of Vice Chief of Staff, General NAKASHIMA, having charged him with responsibility for defeat by the Russians in Manchuria.)

March 1939 promoted to Maj Gen, Chief of Staff of First Army at Tai-Yuan west of Peking, Shansi Province, under command of Lt Gen SHINOZUKA (now deceased).

December 1939 returned to Tokyo as Chief of Military Affairs Bureau under General TOJO. Left the War Ministry in 1942 as result of opposing General TOJO, having stated that the war against the United States would not be won. General TOJO caused him to be placed in an asylum. TOGO, former Foreign Minister, resigned at the same time.

In April 1945 received a recall to active duty, but rejected the call.

NOTES

Imperial General Headquarters centered on the Emperor as the head and was composed of Chiefs of Staff of the Army and Navy and the War and Navy Ministers.

TANAKA stated that the Mukden incident of 1931 was started by the Japanese who were responsible for the blowing up of the railroad track, and that he obtained this information in Shanghai from General OKAMURA.

General MINAMI, who was War Minister when the Mukden incident took place, told TANAKA that SHIDEHARA, the Foreign Minister, was weak, whereas he was strong. TANAKA believes the Kwantung Army had a large part in the Mukden incident and in its enlargement. DOIHARA had an aggressive attitude toward Manchuria, and so did most of the staff of the Kwantung Army. They were in Manchuria and wanted to take it all. Following the Mukden incident this matter was openly discussed by officers in the Army generally.

Upon TANAKA's return to General Staff as Chief of Military Affairs Bureau, he gave a thorough study to the March and October incidents of 1931 from the secret records of the Kempei Tai. From this study he is convinced that the following named were largely responsible for the two incidents:

TANAKA, Ryukichi 18 Feb 1946

General UGAKI
General KOISO
General NINOMIYA
General TATEKAWA

General HAGATO
General SUGIYAMA
Colonel HASHIMOTO
Colonel NINOMOTO
Dr. OKAWA

(General UGAKI participated in the March incident only.)

As to the 2-26-36 incident, General TANAKA stated that Generals MASAKI and ARAKI favored the fulfillment of the revolution. YAMAGAWA was Vice Minister of War and had all key positions in the regiment stationed in Tokyo filled with revolutionary minded officers. YAMASHITA joined in plotting the incident with the other three, believing that the plot had the sanction of the Emperor. This is also stated in the official record that he remembers seeing.

On October 1, 1930 TANAKA was present when the Sakura Kai was organized by HASHIMOTO and a group of Army and Navy officers, and attended a gathering of about 50 officers, including Maj CHO. The stated object of the society at that time was to crush the Zaibatsu and political parties.

RE: OPIUM TRAFFIC

Maj Gen SHIOZAWA Kironobu knows about the distribution of opium at the time General ANDO was in China as Vice President of the China New People's Association. TANAKA states that the China New People's Association engineered the planting of the opium poppy throughout China and Manchuria and had a large part in the marketing of the product. SHIOZAWA also sent receipts from money obtained from the sale of opium in China to General TOJO personally.

NAMBA (now in Tokyo) and NURAMI (now in Manchuria) can give further information on the opium traffic. Brig Gen SANDA (now in Hankow, China) can testify as to TOJO's receiving money from opium sales.

OHKAWA Genabichi, whose address can be obtained from the First Demobilization Office in Tokyo, has further information in connection with the opium traffic.

All this information concerning the opium traffic has been given to Lt Col Hornaday for his use, and General TANAKA has been made available to him for further examination in this connection.

TANAKA, Byukichi 18 Feb 1946

Also General Woodcock has been informed of his availability as a willing witness in connection with the period assigned to General Woodcock.

Mr. Fihelly's Section has also been advised of the availability of General TANAKA as a witness in connection with his work on General TOJO.

I, Denis Kildoyle, being sworn on oath, state that I truly translated the questions and answers given from English to Japanese and from Japanese to English, respectively, and that the above transcription of such questions and answers, consisting of four pages, numbered 1 to 4 inclusive, is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Denis Kildoyle
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of February 1946.

G. Woolworth Lt Col H.S.A. Ret'd
(Name and Rank)
Duly Detailed Investigating Officer
International Prosecution Section, GHQ, SCAP

I, Ben Oshita, ASN 38668331, being sworn on oath, state that I truly translated the questions and answers given from English to Japanese and from Japanese to English, respectively, and that the above transcription of such questions and answers, consisting of four pages, numbered 1 to 4 inclusive, is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Ben Oshita
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of February 1946.

G. Woolworth Lt Col H.S.A. Ret'd
(Name and Rank)
Duly Detailed Investigating Officer
International Prosecution Section, GHQ, SCAP

We, Gilbert S. Woolworth and Hugh B. Helm certify that on the 18th day of February 1946 personally appeared before us TANAKA, Byukichi and according to Denis Kildoyle and Ben Oshita, interpreters, gave the foregoing statements in answer to the questions asked.

Tokyo, Japan
19 Feb 1946

-4-

G. Woolworth
Hugh B. Helm

The original notes on this interrogation will be found
in our EXHIBIT FILE as EXHIBIT # 315.

FILE # 234

SERIAL # 8

INTERROGATION OF

TANAKA, KYUKICHI

19 February 1946

INTERROGATOR: Lt. Col. HORNADAY

File No. 234

INTERROGATION OF

TANAKA, RYUKICHI

Date and Time: 19 February 1946, 0930-1200
1330-1700

Place : Meiji Building, Tokyo, Japan

Present : TANAKA, Ryukichi
Lt. Col. William T. Hornaday, Interrogator
J. K. Sano, Interpreter
Ingeborg Nyden, Stenographer
Corp. KATSUBE, Shigeichi (Corporal of Reserve
Army and bodyguard for Gen. TANAKA)

Oath of Interpreter: Administered by Col. Hornaday:

Col. HORNADAY: Do you solemnly swear, by Almighty God, that you will truly and accurately interpret and translate from English into Japanese and from Japanese into English, as may be required of you, in this proceeding?

Mr. Sano : I do.

Q. First of all, I want to ask some questions about your background because by doing so we will be able to show the Chief Prosecutor and the Court that when you talk about years past that you were in a position to know.

A. Yesterday another investigator made a complete record of my background.

Q. Yes but this time everything that is said is being written down. I want it written in the record.

A. I understand.

Q. What is your full name?

A. Ryukichi TANAKA.

Q. Your last grade was what?

A. I was Brigadier-General.

Q. Let me ask a few questions about where you were born, the date, and

when you finished military academy, and then by years review what your assignments were in the army?

A. I was born the 9th day of July the 26th year of the Meiji Era. 1892. At Arashima-mura, Noki-gun, Shimane-ken.

Q. Graduated from Military Academy?

A. Graduated from the Military Academy 30th day of November 11th year of Taisho Era. 1923.

Q. Very briefly, simply stating the years when you were assigned, I would like to know what your different assignments were and where they were?

A. I was in Seoul, Korea one year immediately after graduation and became a commander of artillery company. On the 1st day of December 1924 I was ordered to return to Tokyo reporting to General Staff Headquarters. At that time my rank was that of Captain. My duties chiefly consisted of preparing the grand maneuver for Imperial review in artillery branch. On the 1st day of December 1925 I was assigned to the Research Division of the General Staff. Chief function of Research Division was to study the geographic condition of Asia.

Q. That was what section of the General Staff? First section?

A. First section has to do with maneuvering and my new assignment was to the second section, intelligence. August 1, 1927 I was sent to Peking, China. The purpose of my assignment there was to study Chinese language and Kalgan Province of Jehol. On the 31st day of August, 1929 I again returned to the Army General Headquarters in Tokyo and returned to the same office which I held in the Second Section. Served under Lt. Col. ITAGAKI, Seishiro. In a short while I became the chief of the Second Division when Lt. Col. left. At that time my rank was that of Commander (Major).

Q. At that time did Lt. Col. ITAGAKI go to the Kwantung Army General Staff as chief of the General section there?

A. He was transferred as Superior General Staff member of the Kwantung Army, means the rank next highest to the Chief of Staff.

Q. Do you know whether he actually became chief of the Second Section in the Kwantung Army then?

A. He became Chief of Staff of the Kwantung army later.

Q. Did he become Chief of Second Section then?

- A. No, he did not. At that time Kwantung Army was so small in size naturally they had fewer number on their staff and we did not have such a thing as first section or second section.
- Q. Was the staff of the Kwantung Army reorganized shortly before or at any time before the outbreak of fighting in Mukden so that they had the sections suggested then?
- A. No sir. There was not.
- Q. Your next assignment?
- A. On the 1st day of October 1930 I became military attache at Shanghai.
- Q. In other words, you went to Shanghai as military attache approximately one year before the Mukden Incident?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. What was the next assignment?
- A. On the 1st day of August 1932 I became Commander of Battalion at OSAKA, Japan. On the 1st day of March 1934 I became Assistant Commander (same as US Regimental Executive Officer) of the First Regiment of heavy field artillery in Tokyo, with rank of Lt. Col. The 1st day of March 1935 I became staff member of Second Section of the Kwantung Army. My duty was to conduct investigations.
- Q. In other words, is that the same thing as counter-intelligence?
- A. No sir. It is mainly of geographical condition of the area.
- Q. That is making geographic or what we call terrain studies?
- A. I am considered expert on study of terrain or contour study.
- Q. You obviously have had lots of experience with that, General?
- A. My livelihood depended on that work. The 1st day of August 1937 I became Commander of Field Artillery Regiment stationed at Hsuan, Korea. At that time the Chinese Incident broke out and at that time Gen. TOJO planned inner Mongolian strategy.
- Q. At that time TOJO was commanding Kwantung Army?
- A. He was Chief of Staff of the Kwantung Army. Because of my intimate knowledge of geography of inner Mongolia I was invited to join his staff so I reported on temporary duty status for a period of about