



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

2

國家圖書館出版社

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Case # 2

Serial 1

Re: HATA, SHUNRUKU, Field Marshal

Status: Pending

Age: 66

Address: 122 Taishido, Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo

Mil. Post: 1939-40 War Min. Abe and Yonai Cabinets

1940-41 Supreme Mil. Council

Mar. 41 C. in C. Jap Forces in China

Family: Wife Chiyo Ikebe -3 sons.

Present Whereabouts:

Incidental: Ref. to XIV Corps ATIS ADV. ECH. Interrogation
Report 30063, Page 7. Source PW-Captured in Manila
Former Newspaper Man. Highly educated. Was with Manila
Defense forces. Nothing of importance on Hata.

Source: CIS Files

14 Nov. 45

J. J. Gaine Jr.
J. J. Gaine Jr.

Capt. Inf.

CASE No. 2.

4 Dec 45
RE: SHUNROKU HATA

Status: Pending.

The following information was
contained in a ~~SCAP~~ SCAP press
release dated 2 Dec 45.

HATA, Shunroku. The Field Marshall was a member of the Supreme Military Council as long ago as 1938. He has held such important other posts as Inspector General of Military Education, Commander in Chief of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in China, and Minister of War.

Lt. H. Gorman
Maj. Inf.

Copies

1 File

En. 2

4 Dec 1945

CASE NO. 2

RE: HATA, Shunroku

STATUS: Pending.

MEMO FOR THE FILE:

Source: Not stated.

From: NIPPON TIMES, #16780, 4 Dec 1945

Information:

"HATA, Shunroku. The Field Marshal was a member of the Supreme Military Council as long ago as 1938. He has held such important other posts as Inspector General of Military Education, Commander in Chief of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in China, and Minister of War."

UNDEVELOPED LEAD:

Review Nippon Times "morque" for possible further information.

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

COPIES: 4 File

CASE NO. : 2

SERIAL NO.: 3

Case # _____

RE : HATA, Shunroku

STATUS : Pending

Memorandum for the files:

On 4 Dec. 1945 CIS files reflect the following information on personnel indicted as War Criminals and ordered apprehended 3 Dec 45:

Member of Supreme Military Council 1938 and same year Inspector General of Military Education; Commander Japanese Expeditionary Forces in central China in 1938 replacing General Matsui; Minister of War in the ABE and YONAI Cabinets (August 1939-July 1940); Commander-in-Chief Japanese forces in China, 1941.

Although without affiliations in the Army clique and a stern disciplinarian, HATA was a foremost advocate of expansion and totalitarian policies within the country. While Minister of War in the YONAI Cabinet he made the following demands of Premier YONAI: (1) reasonable speedy disposal of China Incident; (2) establishment of new political structure (new single party); (3) creation of super-defense system; (4) change in foreign policy (closer ties with Axis). The YONAI Cabinet fell because of these intransigent demands and they illustrate something of HATA'S political views.

General HATA has held every important position in the hierarchy of the Japanese command and therefore was intimately associated with Japanese training, policy, and political ambitions during the past decade.

He should be held chiefly because of his over-all responsibilities for the behavior of the Japanese Army in China where he was Commander both in 1938 and from 1941-1944.

He appears on the U.S. War Crimes list prepared by State, War and Navy Departments.

He qualifies under Paragraph 7-a. of Joint Chiefs of Staff Basic Directive for Post Surrender Military Government in Japan Proper of 3 Nov., 1945.

Copies:

3 File

See 5

James J. Gaine Jr.
JAMES J. GAINE JR.
Capt., Inf

File No. _____

Report By: L. H. BARNARD,

RE: General Shunroku HATA

STATUS: PENDING.

Date: 30 December 1945.

U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey Interrogation Report Number 522 carries an interview with General HATA that should be read in detail by anyone making a study of his activities. A copy of the above referred to report is on file in our document division.

The USSBS report indicates that subject has attained the rank of Field Marshal and states that he is a graduate of Military Academy and Staff College. Studied in German in 1920. Inspector General of Artillery 1931. Director Army Aviation Dept. 1935. Commander Japanese Garrison FORMOSA 1936. Member SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL and Commander Japanese Expeditionary Forces in Central China in 1938. Principal Aide-de-Camp to EMPEROR 1939. WAR MINISTER in ABE and YONAI Cabinets 1939-40. Member SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL 1940-41. CinC Japanese Forces in China 1941-44. Inspector General of Military Education Nov. 1944; in April 1945, given one of two General Army Commands in Japan, directly responsible to EMPEROR.

The above referred to report was summarized as follows:

Field Marshal HATA discussed the mission of the Japanese Armies in CHINA during the early stages of the CHINA INCIDENT, and described the forces involved. He commented on Japanese war aims in the CHINA INCIDENT, the economic exploitation of CHINA, various engagements during the war, and the role of the Japanese Air Forces in CHINA. He outlined the policies he advocated as WAR MINISTER and discussed the American entry into the war in relation to its effect on planning and on operations in China. He reviewed the circumstances of the NAMONHAN INCIDENT in regard to Russo-Japanese relations and in regard to its effect on the expansion of the Japanese Air Forces. He outlined the preparations made by the 2nd General Army under his command, to repel Allied landings in southern Japan. He also described his experiences in HIROSHIMA when the first Atomic Bomb was dropped and concluded by attributing Japan's defeat to general inferiority, and underestimation of American power.

Copies:

P E N D I N G.

3 File

**MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL MORROW, COLONEL WOOLWORTH, MR.
FIBELLY AND MR. SACKETT**

5 January 1946

**A review of File No. 2 indicates that the contents
may be of interest to Groups B, C, E and F.**

**This information is brought to your attention for
such action as you may deem appropriate.**

**L. H. Bernard
Major Inf.
Ex. Officer Inv. Div.**

**cc: Col. Morrow
Col. Woolworth
Mr. Sackett
Mr. Fibelly
Files 2, 249, B, C, E, F**

17 January 1946

MEMO FOR THE FILES

From: Carlisle W. Higgins

Subject: General HATA, Interrogation of

The interview of General Hata on the 14 January was without preparation and was conducted only because General Matsui, the subject of interview for that day, was not in custody.

The interview of General Hata was intended as only preliminary and a complete interrogation will be made next week.

INTERROGATION OF

General Shunroku HATA

Date and Time: 14 January 1946, 1545-1700 hours

Place : Sugamo Prison, Tokyo, Japan

Present : General Shunroku HATA
Carlisle W. Higgins, Interrogator
Col. Thos. H. Morrow, Interrogator
Denis Kildoyle, Interpreter
Claire Farrell, Stenographer

Questions by : Mr. Higgins

Q. -- Tell the General that Colonel Morrow and Mr. Higgins of the International Prosecution Section are here and would like to talk to him if he is willing to answer questions and if it is all right with him.

A. - He said yes.

Q. - How old is the General?

A. - He will be 67 in July.

Q. - What military school, if he was a student at such, did the General attend?

A. - He is a graduate of the Officers School, which is equivalent to West Point, and then of the Army Artillery and Engineering School; also the Army College (Staff College).

Q. - What was his branch of the service?

A. - He did not specialize in anything. His branch is artillery but he didn't specialize.

Q. - When was he first commissioned as an officer in the Imperial Japanese Army?

A. - In 1901 he became a Sub-Lieutenant.

Q. - What military commands has the General held?

A. - He became Commander of the 16th Field Artillery Regiment -- he doesn't remember the exact date. The year before the earthquake -- it would be 1922. In 1926 he became 4th Artillery Brigade Commander.

Q. - What service did the General perform outside the Islands?

A. - He was Commander of the Taiwan (Formosa) Army from 1936 to 1937. And Commander-in-Chief of the Expeditionary Armies in central China in 1938.

- Q. - Did he assume command on the 17th of February 1938?
- A. - Yes. He became Commander-in-Chief of all the Expeditionary Armies in China.
- Q. - Did the General succeed General Iwane MATSUI?
- A. - He succeeded General MATSUI in central China. And when he became Commander-in-Chief for all the forces in China he succeeded General NISHIO.
- Q. - Where were General NISHIO's headquarters?
- A. - In Nanking.
- Q. - Where were MATSUI's headquarters?
- A. - First in Shanghai; then moved to Nanking.
- Q. - When did the General first go to China as a Commander?
- A. - In 1936.
- Q. - What command did he have at that time when he first went to continental China?
- A. - In August of 1937 he came back and became Inspector General of Military Education; in 1938 he went to China again. When the China Incident began he was in Formosa.
- Q. - Did he move his command with him from Formosa to China?
- A. - No, he came back here to Tokyo. They were two entirely different operations and he had come back to Tokyo to be Inspector General. It was a very small affair in China at this time.
- Q. - How many troops were under his command when he first went to China?
- A. - Five divisions under his command when he first went to China.
- Q. - Was that about 80,000 men?
- A. - He doesn't remember but he thinks it was a little more because there are other services attached to this - like supply services.
- Q. - Were those troops from the home islands of Japan or were they continentals made up of Formosan or Korean troops, or both?
- A. - They were all from Japan proper. The numbers of the Divisions he commanded are 3d, 6th, 9th, 13th Reserve Division, 18th Reserve Division; all from the main islands.
- Q. - Were those troops already in China when the General assumed command or were they transferred from the islands when he assumed command?
- A. - They had been under MATSUI and he took over.

- Q. - Does the General know why he was assigned to relieve MATSUI?
- A. - Yes, he said the object of General MATSUI's expeditionary forces had been achieved with the capture of Nanking and he was sent there with the principal object of pacifying the district that had been captured. His instructions were that Nanking -- that it was not advisable to leave the triangle comprised by Shanghai, Nanking and Foochow, and that he was to pacify this district -- and, if he found it necessary to leave this triangle, it would be advisable to obtain instructions from the Imperial General Headquarters.
- Q. - Did he ever receive instructions from the Imperial General Headquarters to leave the triangle?
- A. - No. He left this for Hangchow.
- Q. - Was that after instructions were given by the General Headquarters not to leave?
- A. - No, this instruction was received from the Imperial Headquarters to leave the triangle.
- Q. - What military mission was he assigned to perform in his orders to leave the triangle?
- A. - The capture of Hangchow was his objective and instructions.
- Q. - At the time he received these instructions what was the total number of troops under his command?
- A. - He said for this Hangchow operation an army was sent down from the North and this army comprised 4 or 5 divisions.
- Q. - Who was in command of the army?
- A. - It was under his command.
- Q. - Before he received command who was actually in command?
- A. - Prince HEIYASHI-KUMI. There was another army under General OKAMURA which came down the Yangtze River. And these all came under his command.
- Q. - Prior to the time these two armies started South, where were their headquarters?
- A. - It wasn't in one place; it kept on moving with the advances they made.
- Q. - What was the numerical strength of each of these forces that came down from the North?
- A. - He thinks about 300,000 or 400,000, although this is from memory. He is not certain.

- Q. - What Chinese Commander-in-Chief opposed him in this move to capture Hangchow?
- A. - He thinks it must have been Chiang-kai Shek himself.
- Q. - From the time he first initiated his move how long was it until Hangchow was captured?
- A. - Five months.
- Q. - What was the approximate number of his troops that were engaged in that operation, including his forces in the triangle and the armies that came down from the North?
- A. - In addition to these, later on, after this triangle had been emptied of the forces, two or three divisions arrived to take over this triangle so there would have been 11 or 12 divisions altogether in this sector.
- Q. - What was the available strength of each Division?
- A. - He thinks about 15,000 to 16,000 troops.
- Q. - Were these experienced troops or recruits?
- A. - Yes, they were experienced troops. Four Divisions had been recently mobilized but all the rest were seasoned troops.
- Q. - Of course the recently mobilized troops had had military training under the Japanese conscription laws?
- A. - Yes.
- Q. - What were the General's approximate losses in this five months' operation -- casualties?
- A. - He had plenty. He does not know and even if he would make a guess it would be very unreliable. The wounded and the dead were not very heavy but the sick were.
- Q. - Well, I'd like to have an estimate of the number of killed and wounded -- the battle casualties?
- A. - It is a matter of many years ago and he doesn't remember. This was a long time ago and he has no idea but he does remember figures after he became Commander-in-Chief of all the armies in China.
- Q. - How long did he serve as Commander-in-Chief?
- A. - Ten months. 1938 from February to November.
- Q. - What were the battle casualties of the Japanese armies under him during that period?
- A. - There is a little mistake. From February to November 1938 he was in central China and he became Commander-in-Chief in 1941 until 1944.

Q. - What were the figures up until about November?

A. - He does not remember those. He remembers figures in connection with 1941-4 but he has forgotten figures for the earlier period. For 1941-4 the dead numbered 50,000 in China.

Q. - According to the usual ratio then, isn't it likely to assume that the wounded amounted to about 200,000?

A. - He figures about 200,000. He mentioned a ratio of 1-5 -- the others died of illness -- but he doesn't remember figures.

Q. - What was the date on which Hangchow was captured?

A. - He thinks it was October 25, 1938.

Q. - Does the General not have some definite idea as to his losses in that operation?

A. - He could guess a figure but it would be just a figure taken at random.

Q. - Can the General give me his estimate of what the Chinese losses were then from the time he left the triangle until Hangchow was captured?

A. - No, he has no idea.

Q. - How many Chinese troops did his army capture in this operation? How many prisoners were taken?

A. - He doesn't think there were so many. He didn't worry about figures of prisoners taken there. He thinks many of them just turned tail and left the field of battle.

Questions by: Colonel Morrow

Q. - Ask the General if the order putting him in the place of General MATSUI came from the Imperial General Staff?

A. - Yes.

Q. - Who was the Chief of the General Staff then?

A. - Prince KAN-IN.

Q. - Was that a written order?

A. - The order actually came from the Emperor because the Emperor gives his orders to the Imperial General Headquarters so actually it came from the Emperor.

Q. - What was the state of discipline of the army that he took over from General MATSUI?

A. - It was after the Nanking Incident and it was fairly rough.

Q. - Well, was it not good in his opinion?

A. - He thought it was not good. When he took over he made up his mind to improve that.

Q. - What became of General MATSUI when he relieved him from duty? Where did he go?

A. - He went back to the Reserve -- inactive service.

Q. - Isn't it a fact that General MATSUI was relieved because the army displayed bad discipline at Nanking when they captured it?

A. - Maybe there was that reason too but the objective of the operation had been achieved -- the capture of Nanking.

Q. - Well, he was sent there to give better discipline to the army, was he not?

A. - No, that wasn't the sole reason. As he pointed out before the operations had been completed.

Q. - That was one of the reasons?

A. - Yes. He did his utmost in connection with improving the discipline of the troops.

Q. - Then the Imperial Staff decided there ought to be a change of command to improve the behavior of the troops?

A. - Yes.

Q. - Did he look upon this as a war in China or was it just a frontier incident?

A. - Although it actually was a war all they ever considered it was as a China Incident. Actually it was a war.

Q. - And there were thousands of men killed and wounded, and there was use of artillery, aviation and infantry, and he was advancing against a town and took it and that is what you do in war. Tell him that.

A. - They looked at it in the way he described on orders from the Imperial General Headquarters and this occupation of the triangle was never called occupation. It was just troops were stationed there. This was on orders from Imperial General Headquarters.

Q. - Was he ordered to take Hangchow?

A. - Yes.

Q. - By the Imperial General Staff?

A. - Yes.

Q. - In writing?

A. - Yes.

- Q. - Does he know where that order is?
- A. - He thinks it is in the General Staff. He first received a telegram order and then the order came in writing in official form.
- Q. - Do I understand the General ~~Matsu~~ advanced or started an offensive or aggressive operation without orders from the General Headquarters?
- A. - No, he could not do that. Because he had orders that leaving the triangle was only to be done under orders from the Imperial General Headquarters.
- Q. - Did he hear, when he took over command, that the Japanese troops who took Nanking took women and put them in houses of prostitution, and tied boys and men up with ropes in bunches and shot them, and that foreign observers made great complaint about this and that is why MATSUI was relieved? Is that correct?
- A. - He has heard of these atrocities himself but he thinks that Imperial General Headquarters, partly as a result of these atrocities, decided to change the command and as a result MATSUI was recalled.
- Q. - Then what was done in Nanking when they captured it was not done under orders of the Imperial General Staff of Tokyo?
- A. - He thinks not. His opinion is that it could not have been by orders of the Imperial General Headquarters.
- Q. - When such a thing happens the General in charge of the troops is responsible under military law?
- A. - Yes, according to the Japanese ideas he would be responsible.
- Q. - Did the General study international law in his Staff College?
- A. - Yes. In the War College.
- Q. - Did the General know that Japan had treaties in which they promised not to invade China and not to wage war against China -- like in 1922 and 1928?
- A. - What is this treaty called?
- Q. - The Nine-Power Treaty.
- A. - Yes, he knows it.
- Q. - Well, did he think that they were breaking that treaty or not?
- A. - He knows of the existence of this treaty but he does not know the terms and there seems to be no other way out but to resort to armed force when other means fail.