

Interrogation of KASUDA, Takeo at  
Chiba City on 12 Jan 46 and Tokyo  
14 Jan 46.

17 January 1946

Capt R.C. PARSONS

1st Col DAVIS  
1st Col HUSCH  
Dr. HENMAN

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1. Subject was interrogated with a view to uncovering additional information concerning the espionage role played by Dr. Shuzo OKAWA's language institute in the countries of S.E. Asia, to determine more precisely the control exercised over this institute by the East Asia Economic Investigation Bureau (EAB KEIKAI CHOSA KYOKAI), via-via the Foreign Ministry and the General Staff. A substantial amount of information, originally given by OKAWA and substantiated by subject, is excluded from this report, with the exception of the list of graduates dispatched to the southern regions, where certain discrepancies may be seen. All records belonging to the institute were destroyed in the incendiary raid of 24 May 1945.

## 2. KASUDA, Takeo - brief chronology.

Born 15 May 1889  
Left Officers School 1925 and became reservist.  
Entered Kyushu Imperial University. Studied law.  
Graduated 1928.  
1938 Entered East Asia Economic Investigation Bureau.  
1939 Became Dr. Shuzo OKAWA's right hand man at the language institute, where he took over the duties of HAKAJIMA, Shinichi upon his recall to the army.  
1939 Remained with the Investigation Bureau and the language  
45 institute.

3. Contrary to OKAWA's assertions, KASUDA denies having had any liaison duties with No. 2 Department of the General Staff, and as far as he knows, no other representative from the language school had any such contact, with the possible exception of OKAWA himself. All his liaison was with the CHOSA BU Intelligence Section of the Foreign Office; before 1941 the head of this section was IWATA, Eitoku, who was subsequently sent to Bangkok as ambassador to Thailand. His successor at the CHOSA BU was one MATSUI (first name not known).

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

Approved for Release  
by the Central Intelligence Agency  
Date: 2001/2005

SECRET

COPY

Interrogation of Kasuya, Tokyo  
at Osaka City on 12 Jan 46 and Tokyo 14 Jan 46.

Except in the case of the three graduates who were dispatched to India, commercial firms and trading companies formed the corner stone of this system of "planting" these individuals in overseas territories. In the case just quoted, the consulates at KANAGAWA, CALCUTTA and BOMBAY requested the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo for three graduates from the institute to be selected and dispatched; the three involved were KIKUCHI, Saburo; SUDO, Kenzo; and possibly OTAHIRI, Hideo (See Page 4 below). In all other cases the necessary arrangements were made through branch offices of firms like DAIBAN KAI, TAKEMOTO and OTSUKI. Either KASUYA could see IWATA or MATSUI at the Foreign Ministry and discover what commercial firms had vacancies for OKAWA's graduates, or the head office of a company here in Tokyo could approach the institute and request as many language men. In either case, the CHOGA BU of the Foreign Ministry arranged with No. 3 Department of the General Staff for the physical transfer of the men concerned to their particular country. The CHOGA BU also attended to the necessary passport and visa arrangements.

KASUYA confirms that the whole idea behind the institute was essentially long-term, a period of 7-10 years residence in the country selected being a basic requirement. The war interfered with the realization of OKAWA's original plan. Graduates, for instance, who were already well established in places like BANGKOK and SAIGON were conscripted into the Army like any other Japanese national, though at first they were able to obtain a deferment of service, and were dispatched after the beginning of the war not with a certain obstructive attitude on the part of the military authorities; as an example KASUYA quotes the case of three "language men" who were taken off a southern bound boat at Formosa, by the local military commander, in spite of a permit issued by the General Staff in Tokyo.

In certain cases, branch offices of firms overseas would arrange with the local consulate for the transfer to that consulate of graduates originally assigned to the present company. This happened to ABAY, Akira and JUBAHARA Yum) at Bangkok. Men with a consulate a graduate was usually paid as a language research man, from Foreign Office sources, and if with a trading company, then by that company.

These men were in the habit of communicating direct with OKAWA by personal letter, using ordinary mail facilities, and in the case of those employed at consulate, diplomatic bag and carrier. KASUYA does not know to whom (if to anyone) OKAWA passed any information obtained in this way.

SECRET

COPY

C/S Capt K.A. PARSONS to Lt Col DAVIS, Lt Col HUSON and Lt. HUNNAN, dated 17 Jan 1944, Sub. "Interrogation of Kasuga, Taken at Chiba City on 12 Jan 44 and Tokyo 14 Jan 44."

Since all the institute records were destroyed there is no way of determining the exact number of language specialists trained since 1937. Twenty men were accepted for training each year, and after 1938 two grades were run simultaneously; but although 18 or 19 successfully completed the first course, (1939), in subsequent years the numbers dropped to 12 or 13 whilst the last course was not completed at all. Thus KASUYA estimates the total trained to be between 50 or 60. (NOTE: Of these approximately 30 have been accounted for).

There was no link between the language school and Imperial General Headquarters, and as far as secret or nationalist societies were concerned, if any connections existed, they were on a purely personal basis with OKAWA, and not with the school.

4. Graduates - when and where dispatched:

A. INDIA

OTASHIKI, Hisao	1939	BOMBAY - Hindustani language research. May have been with commercial firm or with consulate.	After war was returned to Japan on exchange ship, but taken off at Singapore, and inducted into army Nihari Kikan possibly
TOYODA, SABURO	1939	KARACHI consulate, English & Hindustani language research.	HITTO
SUDO, Kazuo	1939	CALCUTTA Consulate, language research	HITTO

B. N.S.I.

HITANI, Michi	1939	BATAVIA with commercial firm. After 1941 to Singapore, and afterwards to SUMATRA where he was engaged upon some sort of research work with an agricultural institute. Was not inducted into army. (ill health)	
---------------	------	--	--

SECRET

COPY

C/S by Capt R.O. PARSONS to Lt Col DAVIS, Lt Col BURGH and Dr. BOEHM, dated 17 Jan 1946, Sub. "Interrogation of Kaogu, Tokyo at Osaka City on 12 Jan 46 and Tokyo 14 Jan 46."

OHNOJI, HORO	1939	JAVA. Research on Dutch language	Subsequent history not known.
OTSUSA, Hideo	1939	With Takaguchi Trading Coy in JAVA.	Just before war moved to Dainan Kool, Bangkok. Late transferred to Fenching branch (which possibly operated a fruit canning concern)
<b>C. F.I.C.</b>			
HIURA, Takaji	1939	Dainan Kool SAIGON	Believed still there
HARADA, Toshiaki	1939	Dainan Kool SAIGON	Believed to have died.
WATANABE, Toru	1940	Subordinate clerk Consulate SAIGON	Subsequent history not known
KOHOKA, Hiyokazu	1940	Consulate HANOI	Inducted into army as interpreter (l.e. in F.I.C.)
YAMAGUCHI, Kaido (or Katsuki)	1940	Consulate SAIGON	Inducted into army as interpreter (l.e. in F.I.C.)
HATTORI, Goro	1940	Dainan Kool or Consulate SAIGON	Inducted into army as interpreter (l.e. in F.I.C.)
<b>D. THAILAND</b>			
ARAI, Akira	1939	One of lot dispatched. Originally with trading coy, then with Embassy BANGKOK.	Not known
IWASAKI, Yoji	1939	Dainan Kool BANGKOK	Inducted on the spot as guide or interpreter.

SECRET

COPY

C/s for Capt R.G. PARKER to Lt Col DAVIS, Lt Col RUSCH and Dr. NICHOLS, dated 17 Jan 1946, Sub. "Interrogation of Kaogu, Thoo at Chiba City on 12 Jan 46 and Tokyo 14 Jan 46."

SAKAGUCHI, Sado	1939	With KONGKAP Siamese language newspaper BANGKOK	Inducted on the spot as guide or interpreter.
SUBIDA, Iono	1939	With KONGKAP Siamese language newspaper BANGKOK. For language research.	Inducted on the spot as guide or interpreter.
KATO, Takuma	1939	Daimon Kosi, BANGKOK Foreign trade research	Inducted on the spot as guide or interpreter.
TAKII, Yasuji	1940	Daimon Kosi, BANGKOK Foreign trade research	Inducted on the spot as guide or interpreter.
KYUHANABA (Em)	1941	Originally with trading Coy, transferred to Embassy BANGKOK.	Inducted on the spot as guide or INTERPRETER.
OKUDA, Shigenoto	1941	Embassy, BANGKOK.	Transferred to HIYASHI EIKAN.
HASHIMIZU, Shoichi	1941	Daimon Kosi BANGKOK Foreign trade research	Inducted as interpreter/guide
ARITA, Yoshimasa	1941	Embassy BANGKOK	Inducted as interpreter/guide
ITO (Em)	1941	Daimon Kosi at a place south of BANGKOK (name unknown)	Inducted as interpreter/guide
YASAI, Masaburo	1941	Daimon Kosi BANGKOK subsequently (possibly after beginning of war) to HIYASHI to fruit canning factory.	Inducted as interpreter/guide
SHIBATA, Shoichi	1942	Daimon Kosi BANGKOK	Inducted. Believed died in Burma

KASHEA has no knowledge of the army formation which most of the above joined, but assumes that they were subsequently used in a capacity suitable to their language qualifications.

SECRET

o/s for Capt R.G. PARSONS TO Lt Col DAVIS, Lt Col HUGH and Mr. MURPHY, dated 17 Jan 1944, Sub, "Interrogation of Hanan, Taken at China City on 12 Jan 44 and Tokyo 14 Jan 44."

5. East Asia Economic Investigation Bureau - full title:  
(SAIDAN HOJIN TOA KEIZAI CHOSA KYOKAI)

In its very early days this organization had concentrated its research solely upon China, and to further this work it had "observers" with many trading companies in China. Later, investigation along these lines became unnecessary as far as China was concerned and in any case the Manchurian Railway had its own research department, and as a result it was decided that investigation of the bureau should be turned towards the southern regions. According to KASUYA, the Japanese agent was instructed by OKAWA to provide data on Philippines, and in addition the bureau will furnish information, economic, population, customs, languages, and dialects, all fall within the scope of the "Investigation" which was carried on.

In 1940 the structure of the bureau was as follows:

ADVISOR - OKAWA, Shunzi

HEAD OF BUREAU - HAKAJIMA, Seichi  
(of the South Manchurian Railway Company)

HANZO HAN  
(South Seas Section)  
Philippines, F.I.C.,  
Siam, N.E.I., (and  
other South Seas  
Islands) Malaya

HEAD: YUKIYAKI, Seizo

SEIHAN HAN  
(S.E. Asia Section)  
Persia, India & Ceylon  
Turkey, Arabia

HEAD: KATAGUCHI, Kinzo

HENSHU HAN  
(Collection Section)

HEAD: KASUYA, Takao

The collection section was responsible for producing, periodically, summaries of all the information gathered during that period; these summaries took two forms- one called HANZO SONHO (Southern writings), covering the southern regions country by country, the other, KAKYO SONHO, a detailed study of overseas Chinese and their activities.

Officially there was no connection between the bureau and the General Staff, but if some specific piece of information were required, then some member of the General Staff could approach the bureau on a personal basis. KASUYA claims no precise knowledge of this relationship, on the grounds that it was completely outside his own sphere.

SECRET

COPI

C/S to Capt K.C. PARSONS to Lt Col DAVIS, Lt Col HUGH and Sp.  
KISHIMOTO, dated 17 Jan 1944. Sub. "Interrogation of Kameya, Taken  
at Chiba City on 12 Jan 44 and Tokyo 14 Jan 44."

Interpreters - S/1st HAYASHI  
S/1st KISHI

K.C.P.

-----

SECRET

COPY