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OMT NO. R-107-51
PAGE NO. 1
From: OARMA, Japan
Date: 11 Sep 1953

WHO'S WHO

Security Information

1190784

Surname: SHIMOMURA
 Country: Japan
 Full name: Sadama SHIMOMURA (下村定)
 Variants: Sada, Sadashi, Tei SHIMOMURA
 Military rank: Ex-General of the Japanese Imperial Army
 Present position: Unknown but he is considered one of the outstanding ex-militarists whose talents should be used in the build-up of the IAF. He has been listed as an Advisor to the Asiatic Highland Research Society and it is presumed that he serves in an advisory capacity to other organizations from which he receives additional emoluments.

Date of birth: 23 Sep 1887
 Place of birth: Kochi Prefecture
 Nationality and origin: Japanese
 Wife: Yoshiko HANAGUCHI - born 1894
 Children: Daughter - Sotsubo, born 1927

Education: 10 Jul 1909 - Graduated from Nagoya Local Military Preparatory School
 30 May 1908 - Graduated from Military Central Preparatory School
 27 May 1908 - Graduated from Military Academy, 20th Term Class

Languages: English

CAREER:
 27 May 1908 - Graduated from Military Academy, 20th Term Class

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*Army
11 Sep 53*

FOR COORDINATION WITH *US Army*

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WHO'S WHO - SHIMIZU (Cont'd)

- 25 Dec 1908 - Appointed 2nd Lt, Arty. Attached to 14th Field Arty Regt
- 26 Dec 1911 - Promoted 1st Lt, Arty
- 13 Dec 1913 - Studied at War College
- 25 Nov 1916 - Battalion Adjutant, 14th Field Arty Regt
- 28 Aug 1914 - Battalion Adjutant, 14th Field Arty Regt
- 15 Dec 1916 - Attached to 14th Field Arty Regt
- 25 Oct 1917 - Assigned to General Staff Headquarters
- 29 Jul 1918 - Promoted to Captain, Arty
- 10 Jan 1919 - Studied military affairs in France
- 1 Sep 1922 - Appointed member of General Staff Headquarters
- 29 Sep 1922 - Appointed Director, War Materials Completion Council (SAKIBEN SHIZAI SHIZAI SEIBI-KANJI)
- 7 Aug 1925 - Head of Ordnance Bureau, War Ministry
- 14 Nov 1922 - Promoted to Major, Arty
- 5 Aug 1923 - Appointed Kanto Regional Martial Staff Officer (KANTO KAIGUN SAMBO)
- 2 Oct 1923 - Concurrently assigned to Tokyo Guard Headquarters
- 1 Nov 1923 - Concurrently assigned to Tokyo Guard Headquarters
- 22 Nov 1923 - Appointed Commanding Officer, Battalion, 7th Field Heavy Arty Regt
- 7 Aug 1925 - Appointed Commanding Officer, Battalion, 7th Field Heavy Arty Regt
- 6 Aug 1926

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- 6 Aug 1926 -- Appointed Military Instructor, War College
 16 Jan 1928) -- Appointed member of Versailles Peace Treaty Executive Committee
 25 Jul 1930) --
 24 Mar 1928 -- Promoted to Lt Col, Army
 24 Jun 1929 -- Assigned as Japanese Delegate to International Conference held at Geneva for enactment of law concerning prisoners of war and also for revision of treaty concerning the improvement of conditions of the sick and wounded soldiers in the forces at the front.
 27 Nov 1930 -- Attached to General Staff Office
 10 Apr 1931 -- Assigned to Central Ordnance Dept of Army Department
 1 Aug 1931 -- Promoted to Col, Army
 9 Dec 1931) -- Appointed attendant to Commissioner Plenipotentiary for Geneva General Disarmament Conference
 15 Dec 1933) --
 20 Dec 1935 -- Appointed Commander of 1st Field Operations Heavy Army Regt
 15 Mar 1935 -- Appointed to General Staff of Kanto Army
 2 Dec 1935 -- Appointed Manager of Research Division and concurrently Instructor of Strategy in War College
 7 Mar 1936 -- Promoted to Maj Gen of the Army
 1 Aug 1936 -- Appointed Chief of Fourth Division of General Staff Office
 23 Sep 1938 -- Appointed Commander of Tokyo Bay Fortress
 9 Mar 1939 -- Appointed Lt Gen of the Army
 Mar 1941 -- Appointed Commandant, General Staff College, Tokyo

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- 8 Oct 1942 - Appointed Commander in Chief of the 13th Army, Shanghai
- 23 Mar 1944 - Appointed Commander in Chief of Western Army
- 22 Nov 1944 - Appointed Commander in Chief of the Army in North China, Peking
- 5 May 1945 - Promoted to General of the Army
- 25 May 1945 - Appointed Inspector-General, Department of Military Training
- 23 Aug 1945)
- 1 Dec 1945) - Appointed War Minister, Higashimura Cabinet
- 9 Feb 1946 - Apprehended as a suspected war criminal and incarcerated at Sugamo
- 4 Jan 1946 - Affected by SCAP Purgio Directive, Category B
- 12 Feb 1947 - Released from Sugamo Prison
- 8 Apr 1952 - Deported
- Jan 1953 - Listed as Advisor to Arctic Mainland Research Society (PAIRIKU MONDAI KENKYU SHU)

Foreign Countries visited:

Europe and the U. S.	1919-1922	3 yrs Military Research. Attended Staff School in Paris
Manila/Singapore	1925	2 mos Sightseeing trip
France	1928-1930	2 yrs Japanese delegate to Peace Treaty
Switzerland	1931-1933	5 mos Disarmament Conference
Shanghai	Oct 1942-Mar 43	5 mos Commander of 13th Army
Peking	Dec 1944-Aug 45	8 mos Commander of Army in North China

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General SHIMOMURA was a member of the 20th Class at the Military Academy, 1909, and attained the rank of full General in 1945 shortly before the war ended. During his army career, which extended over a period of 35 years, his talents were used in a wide field of endeavors and he acquired a broad knowledge of world affairs. To list some of his more important assignments, he studied military science in France for 3 years, was appointed an instructor at the War College, named a member of the Japanese delegation to the Versailles Peace Treaty Executive Committee, attended the Geneva General Disarmament Conference, served as Commander of the 1st Field Operations Heavy Artillery Regiment, Chief of Fourth Division of the General Staff, Commander of Tokyo Bay Fortresses, Commandant of the General Staff College, Commander in Chief of the 13th Army in Shanghai, Commander in Chief of the Western Army and Commander in Chief of the Army in North China.

It was while serving as Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in North China that he learned of Japan's acceptance of the Potsdam Declaration just before the Emperor made his memorable broadcast to the nation. SHIMOMURA is quoted as saying, "I was completely shocked at this news which came as a bolt from the blue. It is somewhat embarrassing but I spent the whole night in bitter tears and deep thought." The following morning he issued instructions to all his officers and men to accept the Imperial decision, adding that those who disobeyed or opposed the spirit expressed in the Imperial Rescript would be firmly dealt with as "though such acts might be originated from the genuine bushido spirit."

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Following the end of hostilities, SHIMOMURA returned to Tokyo and from 23 Aug 1945 to 1 Dec 1945, he held the portfolio of War in the HIHASHIRAMI Cabinet, known as the "Surrender Cabinet," which position formerly had been held by the Prime Minister himself, and upon SHIMOMURA's entry into the Cabinet he started the difficult task of demobilization. In this position he was extremely cooperative with and helpful to the Occupation Forces.

Later, however, pressure was brought to bear from the China Theater, and General SHIMOMURA was apprehended and incarcerated in Sugamo prison as a suspected war criminal for his alleged connection with the Doolittle flyers' case. Because of his post-war cooperation with the Occupation, it was decided to consider his case from an international standpoint rather than to hand him over to the China Theater for prosecution. Charges against SHIMOMURA were based on his alleged responsibility, as Commanding General of the 13th Army in China, for signing the execution order of the Doolittle flyers on 15 Oct 42. After lengthy and thorough investigations, it was determined that the final decision for the execution of the flyers had been made by the Imperial General Headquarters in Tokyo on 10 Oct 42, prior to his assumption of command, and that the signature of the Commanding General of the 13th Army on the execution order was simply a matter of formality. This conclusion was reached that SHIMOMURA had not been in a position to have anything to do with the Doolittle flyers' trial or the treatment of the flyers during their incarceration in Shanghai and he was ordered released from Sugamo on 12 Feb 47, having been

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confined for one year.

SHIMOMURA was affected by the SCAP Purge Directive, Category B, issued on 4 Jan 46, which ruled all career military personnel ineligible to hold public office. He was depurged in April 1952.

In 1950, after it became evident that the Japan National Police Reserve (now the National Safety Force) was to be organized, Prime Minister HOSHIDA sought the advice of a few trusted former military men and among them was SHIMOMURA. A little later he was named a member of a six-man committee which was set up to select the medical officer corps of the National Police Reserve.

Dr. Tetsuzo WATANABE, a well-informed Japanese economist (See E-54-23), in discussing the necessity of making effective use of former able military officers in the organization and build-up of a national defense army at such time as the Government establishes a positive rearmament policy, mentioned SHIMOMURA as one of the top three Japanese ex-Generals of outstanding qualifications and ability who could be trusted to head the First Staff Office without any fear that he might endeavor to usurp political authority as well.

As of 1 Jan 53, SHIMOMURA was listed as one of the advisors to the Asiatic Finland

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Research Society (TAIRIKU MOGAI KENKYU SEI), an ultra-nationalist organization which conducts research principally on military affairs of the Soviet Union and Communist China. It publishes the monthly magazine "Asiatic Mainland Affairs."

CHARACTER:

SHIMOMURA is about 5'6" tall, but slight and rather thin and wiry. Although he appears to be of a delicate nature his friends aver that he has great physical stamina. Emotionally he appears to be high strung but exercises excellent control. Has a mancrism of twisting things in his fingers upon nervous or concentrating and speaks in a studied voice and manner which indicates careful prior thought. Expresses himself directly, succinctly, and logically, and is definitely an intellectual type.

He is not an impressive looking man nor one who would command respect or inspire leadership by virtue of his physical appearance or mannerisms. However, he is greatly respected among ex-military personnel and this must be based on his proven intellectual ability.

Source: Personal History Statement, Cabinet Secretariate; G-2 AFPE (ADV) Sety Pr files; Personal contact

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Prepared by: *W. T. Rider*
Colonel, GS

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