

SATO

The particulars with regard to him are on page 336 of the Summary. Additional documents are Exhs. 2235-2238A.

He is a younger man than most of the accused, and the evidence relates chiefly to the later periods. In 1931 he was in the United States, engaged in military study. He joined the Military Affairs Bureau on 1 August 1933 and became concurrently Secretary of the Planning Board on 26 November 1937 (at the outset of the five-year plan) and army spokesman on 15 July 1938.

In the latter capacity he made two speeches on the China affair in 1938, in which he said Japan made what amounted to a declaration of war, that North China would be put completely under Japan's control, and Inner Mongolia would be the same (R. 481, Exh. 270, Exh. 2235).

From May 1939 to March 1941 he was deputy Chief of Staff, South China Expeditionary Force at the time when the occupation of Northern French Indo-China took place and the attack on French troops occurred on 22 September 1940. He admitted he was in Indo-China on several occasions during this period (Exh. 2238). He was decorated for the Manchuria and China Incident, though in the former he did not know the nature of his services. He returned to the Military Affairs Bureau as head of 1st Section in March 1941 until 20 April 1942, when he succeeded Muto as Chief of the Bureau. Tanaka says (R. 15,872) that Sato was held in great confidence by Tojo. Sato told him that when Konoye resigned he went to see Generals Abe and Hayashi (both ex-premiers who would attend the conference to choose his successor) and told them that unless Tojo became Premier it would be difficult to control the army. At the meeting Abe supported Tojo and Hayashi, after suggesting Prince Higashikuni, acquiesced. As there was only a majority for Tojo, Sato's efforts may have influenced the result (Exh. 1154 and A. 2250). Sato says that he agreed with Tojo's policies (Exh. 2238).

He was a member of the General Commission under Article 4 of the Tri-Partite Pact (Exh. 559, R. 950). On 11 March 1942 Sato made a speech in which he stressed the importance of the choice of date for starting

the war. For various reasons December 8th was the last opportune moment. He lauded the decision of Japan to start the Greater East Asia War on that day. He described the armament production plans for 1936-7 and made clear that they were evolved before and not for the purpose of the China incident, and that only a small part of the increased production had been used for that purpose; thus the fighting power of the Japanese arm was more than three times what it was before the incident. He said the march into Indo-China gave powerful footing for the Greater War. (Exh. 849).

On 17 May 1942, Maj. Gen. Sato was one of those recommended for German decoration as belonging to "the immediate group surrounding Tojo who will presumably retain for some time their decisive influence on the shaping of Japanese policy." Sato is described as "Chief of the Political Section of the War Ministry, definitely pro-German; representative and adviser ... the importance wielded by him during the last three months before Japan's entry into the war has obviously increased." (Exh. 1272).

On 18 August 1943 Sato, attended the Privy Council Meeting with Minami, Tojo, Sugemitsu and Oka to explain the proposed treaty by which Siam was to be rewarded by giving her part of Malaya, when Tojo made the remark already quoted about International Law.

As Chief of the Military Affairs Bureau, entitled to attend Imperial General Headquarters, until December 1944, it is our submission that Sato bears a major responsibility for all the PC. offences. He was at the meeting of Bureau Chiefs of May 1942 already mentioned, he received the Swiss protests, as controller of the War Ministry budget he must have approved the Burma-Siam railway decision. Exh. 1961-1977, 1979., 473, 475, 476, 1983-2001a, 2003, 2010, 2016A-2026 are among the exhibits which, coupled with the evidence of Tanaka, fix the responsibility on him. In our submission all the charges are properly brought against him.

FILE NO. 77

REPORT BY: R. H. GILLILAND  
1st Lt., Inf.

RE: SATO, Kenryo

DATE: 9 March 1946

STATUS : Pending

On 9 January 1946 the records of the Personnel Section, Cabinet Secretariat were examined at the Diet Building, Tokyo.

Complete personnel records of the subject were micro-filmed. Photostatic copies, together with translation, are on file as Exhibit No. 118.

Following is a transcript of the translation:

KENRYO SATO

BORN : 1 June 1895

RESIDENCE: Ishikawa Prefecture

1914 Mar 24 Graduated from the Kanazawa 1st Middle School in Ishikawa Prefecture.

1914 Oct 29 Appointed as a cadet and assigned to the 1st Field Artillery (War Dept.)

1914 Dec 1 Entered the 1st Field Artillery Regiment;  
Granted the rank of artillery Pfc (First Field Artillery Regiment)

1915 Jun 5 Promoted to artillery superior private (First Field Artillery Regiment)

1915 Aug 1 Promoted to artillery corporal (First Field Artillery Regiment)

1915 Sep 1 Promoted to artillery sergeant (First Field Artillery Regiment)

1915 Nov 28 Entered the Military Academy

1917 May 25 Graduated from the Military Academy;  
Returned to the original regiment;  
Promoted to artillery sergeant-major and ordered to be a probationary officer in the 1st Field Artillery Regiment (First Field Artillery Regiment)

1917 Nov 26 Passed in the Officers' Selection Council in accordance with Article 12 of the Army Replacement Ordinance

1917 Dec 25 Commissioned 2nd Lt. in the artillery (Cabinet);  
Ordered attached to the 1st Field Artillery Regiment (War Dept.)

1918 Feb 20 Granted the 8th Court Rank, Senior Grade

1921 Apr 1 Promoted to 1st Lt. in the Artillery (Cabinet)

1921 May 20 Promoted to the 7th Court Rank, Junior Grade (Cabinet)

1922 Dec 14 Ordered to enter the Army General Staff College (War Dept.)

1926 Jun 15 Promoted to the 7th Court Rank, Senior Grade

1926 Aug 6 Promoted to Captain in the Artillery (Cabinet)

1926 Aug 27 Released from the principal post and appointed as a Company Commander in the 1st Field Artillery Regiment (War Dept.)

- 1926 Dec 10 Ordered to serve in the Readjustment Bureau of the War Department (War Dept.)
- 1926 Dec 22 Released from the principal post and ordered to be attached to the 1st Field Artillery Regiment (War Department)
- 1928 Feb 24 Ordered to be attached to the Army Ordnance Main Depot and concurrently as section staff member of the Mobilization Plans Bureau of the War Dept.
- 1929 Nov 25 Ordered to be stationed in the U.S.A. for study of military affairs (War Dept.)
- 1930 Jul 8 Granted the 6th Order of Merit with the Sacred Treasure
- 1931 Jul 15 Promoted to the 6th Court Rank, Junior Grade
- 1932 Jun 4 Ordered to be attached to the 8th Medium Artillery Regiment (War Department)
- 1932 Aug 8 Promoted to Major in the Artillery; (Cabinet)  
Appointed as a Battalion Commander in the 8th Medium Artillery Regiment (War Dept.)
- 1933 Aug 1 Ordered to be attached to the Army Ordnance Main Depot and concurrently as a staff member of the Mobilization Plans Bureau (War Department)
- 1934 Aug 30 Appointed officer in attendance to the inspector for the maintenance of munition supplies (War Dept.)
- 1935 Aug 1 Appointed as instructor of strategy at the Army General Staff College (War Dept.)
- 1934 Apr 29 Promoted to the 4th Order of Merit with the Sacred Treasure in recognition of his service between 1931-1934.
- 1936 Aug 1 Promoted to the 6th Court Rank, Senior Grade;  
Ordered to be attached to the Army Ordnance Main Depot and concurrently as a section staff member of the Bureau of Military Affairs (War Dept.)
- 1937 Mar 1 Promoted to Lt. Col. in the Artillery (Cabinet)
- 1937 Jun 24 Appointed as an investigator of the Planning Office (Cabinet)
- 1937 Aug 3 Commissioned special member of the North China Incident General Mobilization Business Affairs committee (Not reported in the Official Gazette) (Cabinet)
- 1937 Aug 6 Promoted to Lt. Col. in the Air Force (Cabinet);  
Appointed as an investigator of the Planning Office (Cabinet); commissioned special member of the North China Incident General Mobilization Business Affairs committee (Not reported in the Official Gazette) (Cabinet)
- 1937 Sep 2 The name of the North China Incident General Mobilization Mobilization Business Affairs Committee was changed to China Affair General Mobilization Business Affairs Committee.
- 1937 Aug 6 Attached to the Army Ordnance Main Depot and assigned concurrently as a section staff member of the Bureau of Military Affairs of the War Dept. (Not reported in the Official Gazette) (War Dept.)
- 1937 Oct 25 The post of investigator of the Planning Board was abolished by Imperial Ordinance No. 605
- 1937 Nov 26 Appointed secretary (jimukan) of the Planning Board
- 1938 Jul 15 Promoted to Colonel in the Air Force (Cabinet);  
Appointed member of the Cabinet Information Board Committee (Cabinet)

- 1938 Jul 29 Relieved of the post of secretary of the Planning Board (Cabinet)  
Relieved of the post of special member of the North China Incident General Mobilization Business Affairs Committee (Not reported in the Official Gazette) (Cabinet)
- 1938 Jul 15 Appointed concurrently to serve in the Bureau of Military Affairs (War Dept.)
- 1938 Sep 1 Promoted to the 5th Court Rank, Junior Grade
- 1938 Dec 12 Released from the post of member of the Cabinet Information Board Committee (Cabinet)
- 1939 Jun 17 Granted the 3rd Order of Merit with the Sacred Treasure
- 1941 Mar 14 Appointed Government commissioner dealing with affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Department in the 76th Diet (Cabinet)
- 1941 Mar 15 Appointed secretary of the liaison committee of the Asia Development Board (Cabinet)
- 1941 Mar 18 Appointed secretary ("jimukan") of the Manchurian Affairs Board;  
Appointed secretary of the Committee for the Assessment of Government Assets Invested in the North China Development Company and the Central China Development Company (Cabinet)
- 1941 Apr 2 Appointed secretary of the China Affair Damage Investigation Committee (Cabinet). This was abolished by Imperial Ordinance No. 839 dated Sept. 3, 1941.
- 1941 Jun 9 Appointed secretary of the Oversea Colonization Investigation Committee (Cabinet)
- 1941 Oct 15 Promoted to Maj. Gen. (Cabinet)
- 1941 Nov 15 Appointed Government commissioner dealing with affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Department in the 77th Diet (Cabinet)
- 1941 Nov 15 Promoted to the 5th Court Rank, Senior Grade
- 1941 Dec 15 Appointed government commissioner dealing with affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Department in the 78th Diet (Cabinet)
- 1941 Dec 25 Appointed government commissioner dealing with affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Department in the 79th Diet (Cabinet)
- 1941 Dec 29 Appointed secretary of the Enemy Property Administration Committee (Cabinet)
- 1941 Dec 16 Commissioned secretary of the 6th Committee (Cabinet)
- 1942 Feb 21 Appointed as an assistant-secretary of the Greater East Asia Construction Council. (Cabinet)
- 1942 May 11 Appointed as a Councillor of the General Affairs Bureau of the Agriculture and Forestry Department;  
Appointed as a member of the Agricultural and Forestry Planning Committee (Cabinet)
- 1942 May 12 Released from the post of secretary of the 6th Committee (Not reported in the official gazette) (Cabinet)
- 1942 May 13 Appointed as a Councillor of the Manchurian Affairs Board;  
Appointed as a Councillor of the Planning Board;  
Appointed as secretary of the National Mobilization Council;  
Appointed as secretary of the Greater East Asia Construction Council;  
Appointed as a member of the Liaison Committee of the Asia Development Board;

- Released from the post of secretary of the Manchurian Affairs Board;
- Released from the post of assistant-secretary of the Greater East Asia Construction Council;
- Released from the post of secretary of the Liaison Committee of the Asia Development Board;
- Released from the post of secretary of the Committee for Assessment of Government Assets Invested in the North China Development Company and the Central China Development Company (Cabinet)
- 1942 May 26 Appointed government commissioner dealing with affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Department in the 84th Diet (Cabinet)
- 1942 Jun 9 Released from the post of secretary of the Overseas Colonization Investigation Committee (Cabinet)
- 1942 Sep 16 Appointed as a member of the Enemy Property Administration Committee; (Cabinet)  
Released as manager of the Enemy Property Controlling Committee (Cabinet)
- 1942 Nov 1 Appointed a member of the Liaison Committee of the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Department (Cabinet)
- 1942 Nov 21 Appointed a member of the Liaison Committee of the Home Ministry (Cabinet)
- 1942 Dec 10 Commissioned member of the Temporary Production Promotion Committee (Not reported in the Official Gazette) (Cabinet)
- 1942 Dec 17 Appointed as Japanese Government representative on the Italo-German-Japanese Mixed Commission of Experts held at Tokyo (Cabinet)
- 1942 Dec 21 Appointed a member of the Committee for the Training of Essential Men for Greater East Asia (Cabinet)
- 1942 Dec 24 Appointed government commissioner dealing with affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Dept. in the 81st Diet (Cabinet)
- 1943 Jan 27 Appointed a Councillor of the Instruction and Education of the Education Department (Cabinet)
- 1940 Apr 29 Decorated with the 3rd Order of the Golden Kite and the Middle Cordon of the Rising Sun (In recognition of service in the China affair)
- 1943 Jun 15 Appointed government commissioner dealing with affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Department in the 82nd Diet (Cabinet)
- 1943 Jul 21 Appointed a member of the Judging Committee on Specially Salvaged Copper (Cabinet)
- 1943 Aug 4 Appointed as a Councillor of the Racial Research Institute (Cabinet)
- 1943 Sep 6 Appointed concurrently as an Investigator of the Planning Board;  
Promoted to the 2nd Rank of the Higher Civil Service (Cabinet);  
Ordered to be attached to the General Affairs Chamber of the President's Secretariate of the Planning Board (Cabinet)
- 1943 Sep 9 Appointed to the retinue of the Administrative Inspector; ordered to join the retinue of Administrative Inspector, Fujihara
- 1943 Oct 25 Appointed as government commissioner dealing with affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Dept. in the 83rd Diet (Cabinet)
- 1943 Oct 29 Released from post of member of the retinue of the Administrative Inspector (Cabinet)

- 1943 Oct 30 Released from the concurrent post (Cabinet)
- 1943 Dec 22 Appointed as a Councillor of the General Affairs Bureau of the Agriculture and Commerce Department (Cabinet)
- 1943 Dec 24 Appointed as Government commissioner dealing with the affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Dept. in the 84th Diet (Cabinet)
- 1943 Dec 27 Appointed concurrently as munitions official of the Munitions Ministry (Cabinet)
- 1943 Dec Appointed to the retinue of the Administrative Inspector; Ordered to join the retinue of the Fujihara Administrative Inspector
- 1944 Jan 27 Appointed as a member of the Religious Enlightenment Policy Committee (Cabinet)
- 1944 Jan 28 Appointed as a member of the Council on Commodity Prices (Cabinet). This was abolished by Imperial Ordinance No. 114 dated Mar. 10, 1945.
- 1944 Apr 19 Released from the retinue of the Administrative Inspector (Cabinet)
- 1944 Jun 10 Commissioned as member of the Wartime Food Problems Council (Agriculture and Forestry Dept.)
- 1944 Jun 30 Appointed as a Councillor of the Munitions Ministry (Cabinet)
- 1944 Sep 6 Appointed as government commissioner dealing with affairs under the jurisdiction of the War Dept. in the 85th Diet (Cabinet)
- 1944 Sep 19 Appointed to the retinue of the Administrative Inspector (Cabinet)
- 1944 Sep 19 Appointed to the retinue of Administrative Inspector, Toyoda (Cabinet)
- 1944 Dec 15 Appointed as a member of the Preparation Committee for the Establishment of the Greater East Asia Museum (Cabinet)
- 1944 Dec 27 Released from the post of member of the Preparation Committee for the Establishment of the Greater East Asia Museum (Cabinet)
- 1945 Jan 12 Released from the post of Councillor of the Instruction and Education Bureau of the Education Ministry (Cabinet); Released from the post of Councillor of the Munitions Ministry (Cabinet)
- 1945 Jan 23 Appointed as a member of the Religious Enlightenment Policy Committee (Cabinet)
- 1945 Jan 27 Released from the post of secretary of the National General Mobilization Council (Cabinet)
- 1945 Feb 8 Released from the post of member of the Enemy Property Administration Committee (Cabinet)
- 1945 Feb 19 Released from the post of councillor of the General Affairs Bureau of the Agriculture and Forestry Ministry (Cabinet)
- 1945 Mar 1 Promoted to Lt. Gen. (Not reported in the official gazette) (Cabinet)
- 1945 Mar 15 Promoted to the 4th Court Rank, Junior Grade

Doc 1513

1945 Apr 7 Appointed commander of the 37th Division (Not reported  
in the Official Gazette)

1945 Jun 1 Released from the retinue of the Administrative Inspector  
(Cabinet)

P E N D I N G