

SECRET

SHIMOMURA, Sadamu

Present position: War Minister (carry-over from the HIGASHIKUNI Cabinet).

Reference: AP Dispatch, published in Daily Pacificer 23 Aug 45.

".....Supreme Commander of Japanese forces in North China, was appointed War Minister on 25 August 1945, relieving Premier Prince HIGASHIKUNI of the post he was holding concurrently with the Premiership."

Reference: Department of Information, Listening Post Report, 8 May 1945, Shortwave Division, 275 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I.

".....has since last November (1944) been associated with the staff of the Expeditionary Forces in North China, and, holding important posts in military administration and military strategy, he has thrice visited Europe, including the attendance at the disarmament conference at Geneva."

Reference: Listening Post Report, 7 May 1945, Department of Information, Shortwave Division, 275 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I.

".....promoted from Lt Gen to full General in May 1945. Is a native of Kochi city. Graduated from Army Academy. Became department chief of the General Staff Office; then commanding officer of some defense force; then was principal of the Army Academy; commanding officer of an Army Corps, CO of Western Army District and then became Supreme Army Commander of the North China area."

Reference: Nippon Times of 9 October 1945.

".....has become War Minister again in the new Cabinet, was installed as War Minister shortly after the induction of the HIGASHIKUNI Cabinet last August. The portfolio of War was held concurrently by the Prime Minister then, due to lack of a suitable

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SHIMOMURA, Sedamu (Cont '2)

person at home. General SHIMOMURA who then was Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in North China was solicited to join the HIGASHIKUNI Cabinet and on his entry into it he started the difficult task of demobilization, which he has undertaken successfully."

Reference: Interrogation Report (Extract), 7 October 1945. (Information given by TOKUDA, Communist leader just released from imprisonment as a political prisoner.)

".....he resisted the surrender order opposing the Potsdam Declaration and continued fighting in North China after the end of the war. TOKUDA regards him as one of the more fanatical army leaders."

Reference: Japanese Personal Intelligence--published by United States Office of War Information, San Francisco, California, 10 July 1945.

".....1944 Appointed Commander-in-Chief of Western Armies, announced War Ministry 3/25/44. Gave biographical material:

From Kochi Prefecture.  
Graduated from Army college, later studied in France.  
Member of committee attached to Yosuke Matsuka at time of Japanese withdrawal from League of Nations.  
One of outstanding authorities on European conditions.  
Was director of Army artillery and engineering school.  
Commander of Tokyo Bay Fortress.  
Director of Army Staff College.  
Commanded Army unit in China from Nov. 1942 until present appointment.

".....Lt Gen, chief of Western Defense Command, in moves to strengthen defensive structure. Much is expected of him as he has served as chief of external Army Corps (outside Japan), and has much experience in combat."

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SHIMOMURA, Sadamu (Cont'd)

".....1944 The new C-in-C in North China, Lt Gen  
SHIMOMURA, also has participated in the China  
Incident." (Tokyo-Domei-in Romaji to GEA 11/22/44)

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