JAPANESE PREPARATIONS FOR OPERATIONS IN MANCHURIA (PRIOR TO 1943)

PREPARED BY
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JAPANESE PREPARATIONS FOR OPERATIONS IN MANCHURIA
(PRIOR TO 1943)

November 1954

JAPANESE MONOGRAPH
NO. 77
This monograph, written from the viewpoint of the Army General Staff of Japanese Imperial General Headquarters, covers Kwantung Army's preparations for operations in Manchuria prior to 1943. (Information covering the years 1943-1945 may be found in Monographs No. 138, 154, and 155.) Emphasis in this monograph is on Kwantung Army's troop build-up, its subsequent troop reduction resulting from supplying reinforcements to operational areas in the south, followed by efforts at revitalization. Of especial value, the editor feels, is the comprehensive list of unit gains and losses contained in the Appendix; this covers the years 1941-1945, and is the only such compilation of ground units in the series of Japanese monographs.

The original monograph was compiled in 1946 from the scanty information (mostly diaries and personal recollections) then available. At that time no members of the wartime staff of Kwantung Army Headquarters had as yet been returned to Japan. Contributing authors, all former army officers who at one time served with Imperial General Headquarters, were: Lieutenant Colonel Heizo Ishiwatari (formerly Army War History Compilation Section), Lieutenant Colonel Katsushiro Mizumachi (Kwantung Army staff officer prior to 1944); Majors Yasuji Komuratani, Ryuhei Nakamura, Juro Shishikura, and Masataka Iwano. During editing by the Military History Section, Headquarters Army Forces Far East, supplementary information was obtained from the First Demobilization Bureau. Research assistance was provided the editor by ex-Colonel Muraji Yano while a consultant with the Japanese Research Division.

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Chapter I

Manchuria

Kwantung Army Build-up

Description of Kwantung Territory (1895-1919)

When the terms of the Treaty of Shimonoseki (1895) ended the

bitterly fought 19th-century Chinese-Japanese rivalry in Korea,

China ceded to Japan the Liaotung Peninsula, including the naval

port at Port Arthur and the commercial port of大连. At the time Japan

being generally interested in the sovereignty of Korea, did not have

the "anonymous" interest in Manchuria that Russia, for instance, had.

Japan's aid to China in 1910, made the short-lived, for whatever

momentary pressure exerted jointly by Russia, Germany, and France, the

Japanese one of the main issues to the southern part of the peninsula

that was known as Kwantung Territory. (See Map No. 1)

Gradually, the rivalries of conflicting interest spread beyond Korea and

into Manchuria, and to the Far East in general, particularly by

the Russo-Japanese War of 1905. Under the terms of the Treaty of

Portsmouth, which terminated the 2-year Russo-Japanese War, the

Kwantung Territory was transferred to China. In addition, Japan

obtained occupancy of the Manchurian railway between Dalny and

1. Hence, this lease passed in 1909. In 1915, Japan obtained

an extension of the lease to 99 years. Until 1932, it was part of the "

Japanese colonial system."
CHAPTER I
Kwantung Army Build-up

Acquisition of Kwantung Territory (1895-1919)

Under the terms of the Treaty of Shimonoseki (1895) which brought to an end the late 19th Century Chinese-Japanese rivalry in Korea, China ceded to Japan the Liaotung Peninsula, including the naval base at Port Arthur and the commercial port of Dairen. At the time Japan, being primarily interested in the sovereignty of Korea, did not have the "awakened" interest in Manchuria that Russia, for example, had. If Japan's hold on this peninsula was short-lived for within a week, under pressure exerted jointly by Russia, Germany, and France, she was obliged to retrocede it to China. Russia, moreover, in 1898 obtained from China a 25-year lease of the southern part of the peninsula—the area known as Kwantung Territory. (See Map No. 1)

Thereafter, Russia replaced China as Japan's main rival in Korea. Gradually, the field of conflicting interests reached beyond Korea and into Manchuria, and to the Far East in general, leading ultimately to the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05. Under the terms of the Treaty of Portsmouth, which terminated this war, Russia's 25-year lease of Kwantung Territory was transferred to Japan. Japan, in addition, acquired ownership of the Russian-built railway between Dairen and

1. Hence, this lease dated from 1898. In 1915 Japan obtained an extension of the lease to 99 years (until 1997) as part of the 21 demands on China.
Changchun (760 route miles). The transfer of rights was recognized by the Chinese Government in the Sino-Japanese treaty of 1905, and the railway became known as the South Manchuria Railway. Through subsequent treaties with China, Japan gained extraterritorial rights over the narrow strip of land on both sides of the railway. This led to the establishment of the South Manchurian Railway Zone, and the stationing of railway guard units there.

In the year following the Russo-Japanese War, Japan kept the newly-acquired territories under military administration directed by the local commander of Japanese forces. In 1906 the office of the Governor General of Kwantung Territory was created, and although a civilian administration was nominally in effect, the governor general's post was occupied by the Japanese military commander. Holding both posts, he was responsible not only for security and the maintenance of public peace and order, but also for the administration of the territories and the operation of the railroad. The military force at his disposal consisted principally of the railway guard units, which though small initially were gradually enlarged. In his capacity of governor general, he had a substantial police force in Kwantung Territory. This arrangement continued through World War I.

Origin of Kwantung Army, 1919

In 1919 the situation in the Far East was unstable (the Siberian expedition was under way) and on 12 April of that year, the Japanese
Army General Staff in Tokyo formally created the Kwantung Army. At the same time it established Kwantung Army Headquarters, giving it control of all military forces in Kwantung Territory and in the Railway Zone. Earlier, an infantry division had been sent to Kwantung Territory, with plans for its rotation in two years. At the time of its formation, therefore, Kwantung Army consisted of one division, one independent garrison unit (with six battalions), the Port Arthur Fortress Heavy Artillery Battalion, and numerous small railway units. Troops of these units, totaling approximately 10,400, comprised the initial strength of Kwantung Army. Kwantung Army's missions were to defend Kwantung Territory and to protect the South Manchurian Railway and Zone. The initial staff of Kwantung Army Headquarters, organized at Port Arthur, was more administrative than tactical in nature. The first Kwantung Army commander was General Koichiro Tachibana. (A list of Kwantung Army Commanders is given in Chart No. 1)

The Mukden Incident (1931)

From 1919 until the outbreak of the Mukden Incident on 18 Sep-

2. In the same year, civilian administration was actually effected with the appointment of a civilian governor general in Kwantung Territory, with greatly diminished authority. To a large extent he was under military influence. This joint military-civilian rule continued from 1919 until 1932, all but the last year of which was a period of civilian ascendancy in Japan.

3. The numerical designation of this division and the year it was sent to Manchuria are not known. Pertinent records kept by Kwantung Army and IGH were destroyed after World War II.
## List of Kwantung Army Commanders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commanders</th>
<th>Date Assumed Command</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Koichiro Tachibana</td>
<td>April 1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Misao Kawai</td>
<td>January 1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Sanenobu Ono</td>
<td>May 1922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Yoshinori Shirakawa</td>
<td>October 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Nobuyoshi Muto</td>
<td>July 1926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Chotaro Muraoka</td>
<td>August 1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Eitaro Hata</td>
<td>July 1929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Takashi Hishikari</td>
<td>June 1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Shigeru Honjo</td>
<td>August 1931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Nobuyoshi Muto</td>
<td>August 1932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Takashi Hishikari</td>
<td>July 1933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Jiro Minami</td>
<td>December 1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Kenkichi Ueda</td>
<td>March 1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Yoshijiro Umezou *</td>
<td>September 1939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Otozo Yamada *</td>
<td>July 1944</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The title commander-in-chief was inaugurated in June 1942, when Kwantung Army was elevated to the status of a general army.
tember 1931, the Army General Staff in Tokyo (hereafter referred to simply as AGS) maintained Kwantung Army at substantially its original strength. During and after the Incident, Kwantung Army was gradually reinforced. At least one of the early reinforcements, however, was not authorized by the AGS. The commander of the Korea Army, for example, arbitrarily sent an element of the 20th Division to the fighting scene at the first reports of action; this element—the 39th Mixed Brigade—reached Mukden on 21 September.

The reinforcements authorized by the AGS were homeland units and did not arrive until more than a month later. These were the 8th Mixed Brigade which arrived on the scene on 11 November, and the 4th Mixed Brigade which arrived on 7 December. At the end of December, the remainder of the 20th Division joined its brigade in the fighting zone.

Meanwhile, Kwantung Army, which at the outbreak of the Incident had moved its headquarters to Mukden, attempted to localize operations. Guerrilla resistance became so widespread, however, that operations had to be extended throughout all of Manchuria. These developments presaged the proclamation of Manchukuo as an independent state on 18 February 1932. In connection with the formation of the new state, the Kwantung Army commander was given a second title—that of Ambassador Plenipotentiary to Manchukuo, and his headquarters

4. The Korea Army commander, Lieutenant General Senjuro Hayashi, later became Japanese Prime Minister (for a brief period in 1937).
## Xwantang Army Build-up, 1931–1940

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Units</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>End of 1932</th>
<th>End of 1933</th>
<th>End of 1934</th>
<th>End of 1935</th>
<th>End of 1936</th>
<th>End of 1937</th>
<th>End of 1938</th>
<th>End of 1939</th>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>MB</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 MB</td>
<td>1 MB</td>
<td>2 MB</td>
<td>2 MB</td>
<td>2 MB</td>
<td>1 TkB</td>
<td>1 Cav</td>
<td>1 Cav</td>
<td>1 Cav</td>
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<tr>
<td>Border Garrison Units</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>27</td>
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**Legend:**
- MB = Mixed Brigade
- Cav = Cavalry
- TkB = Tank Brigade
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Units</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>End of 1941</th>
<th>End of 1942</th>
<th>End of 1943</th>
<th>End of 1944</th>
<th>August 1945</th>
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<td>1 Cav, 1 TkB</td>
<td>1 Cav, 1 MbI</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
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1: Kwantung Defense Army Headquarters is included (through 1944), Mechanized Army Headquarters (in 1942 only).
2: Air Force Headquarters changed to Air Army Headquarters (Koku-Gun) in 1942
3: Air Group Headquarters changed to Air Division Headquarters (Hiko-Shidan) in 1942

Legend: Mb - Mixed Brigade; Cav - Cavalry; TkB - Tank Brigade; Mbl - Mobile
was moved to Changchun which was renamed Hsinking or "new capital" (of Manchukuo.) In September of that year, furthermore, the title of Governor General of Kwantung Territory was restored to him.

Subsequent reinforcement of Kwantung Army kept pace with national and international developments. Between April and December 1932, the AGS doubled the tactical strength of Kwantung Army. In early April it assigned the 8th and 10th Divisions, and although these gains were partly offset by the return to the homeland and to Korea of the units brought in for the Mukden Incident, other augmentations were authorized shortly thereafter: the 14th Division arrived at the end of April, the 1st Cavalry Brigade during June, and the 4th Cavalry Brigade as well as the 14th Mixed Brigade during September. Also during September, the month in which the Japanese-Manchukuo protocol providing for joint defense of Manchuria was announced, the AGS ordered the 2d Division (then the rotation division) back to Japan and sent the 6th Division to replace it. Thus at the end of December 1932 the bulk of Kwantung Army's tactical strength consisted of four divisions (the 6th, 8th, 10th, and 14th), one mixed brigade, and two cavalry brigades. (See Chart No. 2 for unit strength from 1931 to 1940)

In 1933 the AGS withdrew one division (the 6th) from Kwantung Army. Thereafter, and until the outbreak of the China Incident in July 1937, it maintained Kwantung Army's divisional strength at three; in the meantime, however, it substantially increased the number of garrison
units for guard duty and for the maintenance of public peace and order. (In 1934, the Kwantung Bureau was created under the jurisdiction of the Ambassador to Manchukuo, and a civilian governor of Kwantung territory was appointed under the jurisdiction of the new bureau.)

Kwantung Army Growth from 1937 to 1941

Following the China Incident, and for the first time since the end of the Russo-Japanese War, Imperial General Headquarters (IGH) was re-activated (November 1937) as a superstructure of the Army and Navy General Staffs. It promptly initiated an increase of Empire forces, including an increase of Kwantung Army divisions to six. Thereafter, IGH gradually continued the build-up in Manchuria, so that by the time the Nomonhan Incident broke out in 1939 the Kwantung Army had eight divisions, plus a sizeable number of lesser tactical units. (See Chart No. 2) Shortly afterwards, the arrival of the 24th Division from Hokkaido brought the number to nine. (At that time IGH estimated the Soviets had thirty divisions in the Far East.)

The Nomonhan Incident was concluded late in 1939 by a truce, with a Soviet-imposed boundary established in the disputed area. At this time the direction of Japan's national policy—whether to go "north" or "south"—had not been determined, although there was strong sentiment, particularly in Army circles, to go north. IGH resumed the build-up in Manchuria and by the beginning of 1941 Kwantung Army reached a peak strength of 350,000, including thirteen divisions—the 1st, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 23d, 24th, 25th, 28th, 29th,
ORGANIZATION CHART, KWANTUNG ARMY
(DOWN TO DIVISIONS)
SEPTEMBER 1941

IMPERIAL GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

KWANTUNG ARMY

13 JAN 1938
15 JUL 1938
19 MAY 1939
4 AUG 1939
10 SEP 1941

1 2 3

4TH ARMY
5TH ARMY
6TH ARMY
20TH ARMY

12 57

3D ARMY

9 1 11 23 8 25

REMARK: DATES INDICATE TIME OF ORGANIZATION
* FOR OTHER ELEMENTS, SEE CHART NO. 2
and 57th. Four of these divisions were assigned directly to Kwantung Army Headquarters; the remainder were assigned to one of the four subordinate armies (3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th) established in 1938 and 1939. (See Chart No. 3)

IGH’s increase of the divisional strength of Kwantung Army over the years was gradual and kept pace more or less with important national or international events. The following tabulation shows the gradual increase during the twenty-two years prior to the beginning of the war in the Pacific:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Divisional Strength</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Formation of Kwantung Army</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mukden Incident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Manchukuoan Independence and Japanese–Manchukuoan Protocol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>China Incident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nomonhan Incident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Soviet–German War</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The latter years of this period were marked by intense diplomatic activity, particularly among the Axis powers vis-a-vis the Soviet Union. In November 1936 Japan and Germany, pledging collaboration, signed the first Anti-Comintern Pact. In August 1939, however, while Japan was engaged in "a little war" with the Soviets at Nomonhan, Germany signed a non-aggression pact with the USSR, and a month later precipitated World War II with an attack on Poland. In September 1940 the Tripartite Alliance was formed, and in April 1941 Japan signed a non-aggression pact with the Soviet Union. Finally, on 22 June 1941, German armies invaded Russia along a 2,000 mile front. This invasion opened a new stage in the war. Japan looked
Kwantung Army "Special Maneuvers," Mid-1941

To meet changes in the international situation, IGH recommended to the Government that the armed forces be increased. Its recommendation included a specific proposal to strengthen the Kwantung Army in order to gain numerical superiority over Soviet forces in the Far East. This proposal was accepted and during July and August, under the pretext of carrying out "special maneuvers," IGH sent to Manchuria two divisions (the 51st and 57th) along with more than one hundred smaller ground units and an equal number of air units. (See Appendix to this monograph for ground units, and Appendix No. 1 in Monograph No. 151 for air units.)

The net effect of the "special maneuvers," was to double Kwantung Army's troop strength to 700,000, to increase the number of horses to 140,000, and the number of aircraft of various types to 600. (The strength of the Far Eastern Soviet Army prior to the outbreak of the German-Soviet War, although undeterminable in numbers, was estimated by IGH to be 30 divisions, 2,700 tanks, and 2,800 airplanes.) In conjunction with the "special maneuvers" IGH directed Kwantung Army to accelerate training programs and to speed up the construction of fortifications. It also authorized the formation of new divisions in Korea. To strengthen internal defense in Manchuria, Kwantung Army Headquarters on 12 July consolidated five independent garrison units in the south-central part of the country under the newly-formed Kwantung Defense Army.
Headquarters. All these measures were carried out in secrecy so as not to alarm the USSR, lest they be interpreted as war preparations.

The Decision to Go South (August 1941)

In the midst of the "special maneuvers" in Manchuria, IGH held frequent conferences with the Government in Tokyo in an effort to determine the direction of Japan's national policy. Two major currents pervading national life at that time had been gaining almost equal momentum. One of these, favored by the Army and advocated by Foreign Minister Matsuoka, sought a showdown with the USSR "in the north"; the other, favored by the Navy, inclined strongly toward a showdown with the United States and Great Britain "in the south." During a cabinet conference on 15 July concerning an exchange of notes between Japan and the U.S. aimed at a peaceful settlement of Far East problems, a crisis occurred, and resulted on the following day in the fall of the second Konoye cabinet, including the resignation of Foreign Minister Matsuoka, who despite a lifetime of advocating friendship with the U.S. refused to accept the position taken by the U.S.

Meanwhile, in Manchuria, despite Kwantung Army's attempts to conduct the "special maneuvers" in secrecy, the Soviets early detected the build-up, and apparently interpreted it as a preliminary to war.

5. A description (from a Japanese viewpoint) of the events surrounding this exchange of notes is given in The Complete History of the Greater East Asia War, by Takushiro Hattori, Vol I, p. 154 et seq. of the English translation, a copy of which is on file in OCMH.
IGH was notified by the Kwantung Army intelligence chief on 2 August that the Soviets had imposed radio silence on all their border units; the intelligence chief added that Kwantung Army interpreted this silence as indicative of Soviet intentions to start hostilities.

As tension mounted in the Far East, IGH continued to keep an opportunistic eye on developments along the Soviet-German battlefront, and saw that things were not progressing as favorably as the German leaders had predicted. This, together with deteriorating relations with the U.S. helped to shape Japan's national policy. At a conference held on 9 August, the Army and Navy Departments of IGH decided to abandon hope for a favorable opportunity to exploit the situation in the north against the USSR, and to concentrate all efforts on a southward advance, regardless of any new developments in the German-Soviet war. (Although, later, reconsideration was given from time to time to an advance northward, 9 August marks the date that the first step was taken toward the final decision to go south.) The Army Department, in a policy document drawn up on 9 August 1941 and called "Outline of Operations by the Japanese Army," phrased its intentions as follows:

1. Sixteen divisions, stationed in Manchuria and Korea, will maintain strict guard against the Soviet Union.

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6. "During July and August 1941, the whole attitude of the American Government toward Japan was changed." On Active Service in Peace and War, p. 387, Stimson and Bundy.
2. The present campaign against China will be continued.

3. Preparations shall be made promptly for a war against the United States and Great Britain which will be started about the end of November in the southern area.

This decision was one of the most important steps affecting the fate of Kwantung Army. It was made at a time when Kwantung Army was an effective fighting force at peak strength. It signaled the shift of attention to the south, despite the fact that there had been no lessening of tension in the "north."

The decision was still open to revision, however, and, pending the outcome of negotiations then going on with the United States, did not constitute a decision to go to war, but merely one to prepare for war. As a follow-up of the "special maneuvers," therefore, IGH during September authorized the formation of the Kwantung Army Air Force. At Port Arthur it increased the garrison to a regiment, and added an antiaircraft battalion for air defense. At the same time, furthermore, in view of the continuing tension with the USSR, IGH decided to strengthen the eastern front and authorized the activation of the Twentieth Army to fill a gap on the eastern front between Third and Fifth Armies. The new Army was given commands already on the eastern front. Principally, these were the 6th and 25th Divisions and the 2d, 3d, 10th, and 11th Border Garrison Units. Army headquarters was at Chihsi.
of continuing to strengthen the eastern front would continue so long as it did not hinder in any way the new national policy of preparing for war in the southern areas.

**Effect of "Special Maneuvers" on USSR**

Since 1931, the year of the Mukden Incident, the USSR had been increasing its military strength in the Far East, the divisional strength increasing from 6 in 1931 to 30 in 1940. Between the outbreak of the German-Soviet war in June 1941 and the end of the year, the USSR transferred almost half of its Far East numerical strength in a steady stream to the German front. It was estimated that fifteen sniper divisions, three cavalry divisions, 1,700 tanks, and 1,500 airplanes were moved to the west. To replace these regular army units it rapidly activated new units, filling them with recruits.

The Kwantung Army "special maneuvers" in Manchuria, undertaken as a temporary measure in response to the abrupt change in German-Soviet relations, had little effect on the action of the troops along the border who continued to maintain the policy in effect before the build-up. However, the maneuvers did cause the USSR to replace its units as rapidly as they were transferred, and also to organize the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Division Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>6 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>10 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>12 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>17 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>20-24 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>20 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>24 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>30 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>30 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>23 divisions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Using the division as an index to over-all strength, the following tabulation shows the increase:

1931 6 divisions  1937 20 divisions
1933 10 divisions  1938 24 divisions
1934 12 divisions  1939 30 divisions
1935 17 divisions  1940 30 divisions
1936 20-24 divisions  1941 23 divisions
Twenty-fifth Army, with headquarters at Voroshilov, and the Thirty-fifth Army, with headquarters at Iman, both of which were placed under the Far Eastern Area Army.

Reconciling transfers with replacements, both in units and armaments, IGH estimated at the end of 1941 that the Far Eastern Area Army had 800,000 troops, 23 sniper divisions, 1,000 airplanes, and 1,000 tanks.

Upon the outbreak of war in the Pacific, IGH assumed that the USSR would not take active measures against Japan or Manchuria. Nevertheless, it believed that an alliance between the United States and the USSR might be realized as the situation changed. In this, Kwantung Army Headquarters was equally concerned. During the first few months after the Pacific war began, however, IGH observed no specific changes in the attitude of the Soviet Army in the Far East.
CHAPTER II
Build-up of Kwantung Army Ends

Deployment to the South Begins

In the fall of 1941, the strength build-up of the Kwantung Army, begun in 1931 and accelerated in 1939, was brought to a temporary halt, and a reverse trend was begun. In view of the national policy decision to prepare for operations in the south, IGH planned a strategic re-deployment of armed forces, particularly to the south China area (including Hainan), Formosa, and French Indo-China, which were to be used as the principal jumping-off places for operations in the so-called "southern areas." Aside from alerting homeland units, IGH alerted Kwantung Army to prepare certain units for movement to these jumping-off bases.

Kwantung Army began preparations at once but expected that the first order for re-deployment would not come until October. On 18 September 1941, however, IGH ordered the prompt re-deployment of numerous units, most of which had been brought to Manchuria only a few weeks earlier as part of the "special maneuvers." The destination of these units, all of which were to be transported from Dairen and Hulutao in ships (except aircraft pilots and their crews), were:

8. The term "southern area" or "southern areas" is not a precise term. Generally, its meaning embraces Malaya, Thailand, Burma, the Philippines, and the Dutch East Indies. It was used less as a term of direction than as one to define the potential enemies, the U.S. Britain, and the Netherlands, just as the term "north" indicated the USSR rather than geographical direction. (See Lap No. 2)
To South China Area (including Hainan) — Under China Expeditionary Army
51st division (assigned to Twenty-Third Army)
One line of comm sector unit
Two motor transport companies
One surveying unit
One bridge construction company
One road construction unit
Two line of comm hospitals
One casualty clearing unit

To Formosa — Under the Southern Army
Ground Units:
One tank regiment
One medium arty regt (100-mm cannon)
One antiaircraft battalion
One ind hv arty bn (150-mm cannon)
One field transport command
One motor transport battalion
One bridge construction company
Two line of comm hospitals
One casualty clearing unit
One veterinary quarantine station
Two railroad station commands

Air Units:
One ind air unit headquarters
Two ind air companies (Hq long-range recon planes)
One ind air company (close-range obsn planes)
Two airfield battalions
One airfield company
One air signal regiment (minus)
One element of an air intelligence unit
Two meteorological companies
One antiaircraft battalion
One construction unit

To northern French Indo-China — Under the Southern Army
One ind air unit headquarters
One ind air company (Hq long-range recon planes)
Three airfield battalions
Three airfield companies
Two meteorological companies
Two motor car companies
One construction unit

The Kwantung Army units thus diverted were assigned either to
SOUTHERN ARMY, MAJOR COMPONENTS
(WITH LOCATIONS AND OPERATIONAL AREAS)
1 DECEMBER 1941

HQ
SOUTHERN ARMY
SAIGON, FIG

OPERATIONAL AREAS
PHILIPPINES
THAILAND AND BURMA
DUTCH EAST INDES
MALAYA
(CRERES) 36P --- MALAYA
56P --- PHILIPPINES

3 GP
21
TUNGHAN, CHINA

48
FORMOSA

65
FORMOSA

15
FIG

16
AMAMI OSHIMA

15
FIG

33
NANKING, CHINA

2
FORMOSA

56 MIXED
PALAU

18
CANTON, CHINA

1G
HAINAN, CHINA

25
FIG

25
FIG

1G

IG ---- IMPERIAL GUARD INFANTRY DIVISION
FIG ---- FRENCH INDO-CRINA
the Southern Army or to the China Expeditionary Army. The Southern Army, whose headquarters was at Saigon and whose elements were deployed mainly in French Indo-China, Hainan, and Formosa, was to be responsible for conducting operations in the southern areas, hence its name. It consisted principally of four armies: the 14th which was to attack the Philippines, the 15th which was to take Thailand, the 16th which was slated for operations in Java, and the 25th which was to capture Malaya. (See Chart No. 4)

IGH continued to issue orders transferring troops to southern areas, despite the fact that actual troop movements did not keep pace with orders. On 6 November it issued one of its largest transfer orders, both of ground forces and air units. Kwantung Army air units ordered south on 6 November included the 5th Air Group which was sent to Formosa to prepare for operations against the Philippines, and the 10th and 12th Air Brigades which were assigned to the 3d Air Group then based in French Indo-China and scheduled to participate in operations in Malaya.

On the same day, 6 November, IGH took the significant step of issuing an order of battle to the Southern Army, thus technically placing it on a war footing. (The China Expeditionary Army had been in such a status since 1937). On the 8th, furthermore, IGH transfer-

9. Other elements were in the homeland, for example, 16th Army's 2d Division. One element, the 56th Inf Gp, was on Palau.
red Kwantung Army's 45th Air Regiment (light bombers) to the China Expeditionary Army, and on the 15th ordered the 24th Air Regiment (fighters) to join the Southern Army. (A complete list of Kwantung Army ground and air units transferred may be found in Appendices No. 1 and 2).

**Kwantung Army's Role Limited**

The August decision to go south clearly indicated a lessening in Kwantung Army's role. It was not until December, however, when the decision to go south was crystallized into a decision to go to war in the south that Kwantung Army's lesser role was announced. If the earlier decision, followed as it was by the transfer of forces to the south, had the effect of weakening military strength in Manchuria, the latter decision because of its finality signaled the end of the build-up for a major role. Even though most of the transferred units were scheduled to return to Manchuria, their return was dependent upon the uncertain outcome of events in the major drive to the south.

On 3 December, the day after the decision to go to war was made, IGH summoned to Tokyo the deputy chief of staff of Kwantung Army, Major General Tomokatsu Matsumura, to give him a detailed explanation of its policy, to outline the Empire's new objectives, and, in conformance with this policy and these objectives, to clarify the limited role thenceforth to be assigned to Kwantung Army.

Up to this time Kwantung Army's mission in Manchuria, modified annually on the basis of guidance furnished by IGH in the form of
"outlines,"\textsuperscript{10} had been one of preparing for hostilities against the USSR. Although basically a defense mission, it nevertheless required Kwantung Army to develop an operational plan for use in the event of a Soviet invasion. In addition to providing against such an eventuality, however, the plan formed the basis for operations to be undertaken to exploit an opportunity in the north when and if such an opportunity was presented. The plan in effect in 1941 when General Matsumura was summoned to Tokyo prescribed a major effort along the eastern front to be carried out in conjunction with holding operations in the northern and western parts of Manchuria.

At the Tokyo conference, IGH gave General Matsumura a copy of Army Department Order No. 578.\textsuperscript{11} This document stated that Japan had decided to go to war against the United States, Great Britain, and the Netherlands "in order to insure the Empire's self-sustenance and self-defense, and to establish a new order in Greater East Asia." It set down IGH's objectives as 1) to occupy immediately the strategic areas in the south, 2) to end the China Incident, and 3) to avoid as much as possible an outbreak of war with Russia during this period. It will be noted that the second objective reversed the 9 August decision to continue the war in China, and that the third objective in effect

\textsuperscript{10} See Monograph No. 138, Ch I.

\textsuperscript{11} The complete text of this order may be found on page 194, Volume I (translated) of Imperial General Headquarters, Army Department Orders (IGH ADO), a copy of which is on file in OCMH.
defined the limited role Kwantung Army was to play. This was the first directive to avoid hostilities with the USSR issued to Kwantung Army since the outbreak of the German-Soviet war.

The order re-stated the Kwantung Army commander's responsibility for the defense of Manchuria and the Kwantung Territory. "At the same time, in order to meet any changes in the situation," it directed the Kwantung Army commander to make operational preparations against the USSR in accordance with IGH's 1941 "outline" or "guide" for operations in Manchuria (which prescribed the operations on the eastern front.) Superficially this seemed to indicate little change from earlier missions. Significantly, however, it cautioned the commander to avoid incidents with the Soviets in border areas under dispute or difficult to defend.

Upon receiving this order the commander of Kwantung Army, recognizing that the uppermost mission of his army was to support the execution of Japan's national policy, urged all officers and men to exercise prudence in dealing with border disorders, and at the same time notified them that he expected the rapid completion of Manchuria's defenses.

With the opening of the war in the Pacific, Kwantung Army remained the only major overseas command not engaged in hostilities or on a war footing. Its ground organization consisted of five tactical armies (of which the 3rd, 5th, and 20th were deployed along the eastern front, the 4th in the northeast, and the 6th in the northwest), one peace
and order army (the Kwantung Defense Army in southcentral Manchuria), thirteen infantry divisions, one cavalry brigade, thirteen border garrison units (either regimental or battalion sized), nine independent garrison units, and two area garrison units (one at Arshaan, one at Hunchun) (deployment of ground units is shown in Map No. 3); its air force, commanded by Lieutenant General Saburo Ando until December 1941 and thereafter by Lieutenant General Ritsudo Suzuki with headquarters at Hsinking, consisted principally of six air brigades. (See Chart No. 5)

Re-appraisal of Manchuria, Early 1942

IGH's plans to strengthen Kwantung Army in late 1941, consistent with the policy to go south, could not be fully carried out because of budgetary limitations. Only part of these plans had been realized (for example, the organization of the Twentieth Army), and Kwantung Army's preparations for war were still very inadequate. Early in 1942 IGH made a re-appraisal of the situation in Manchuria.

Budget increases in 1942 led IGH to believe it could afford to resume the strengthening of Manchuria's defenses. The measures decided upon were 1) to increase troop strength, 2) to reorganize units, particularly the large number of miscellaneous units brought in during the "special maneuvers," 3) to increase efficiency in the use of troops, 4) to reorganize the command structure, and 5) to undertake intensive training programs in order to improve the quality of soldiers and thereby compensate to some extent for the shortage of strength.

Although these were concrete measures, they did not constitute a
full-scale strengthening of Manchuria; IGH realized that they could do little more than improve Kwantung Army's "appearance." Furthermore, although these measures to a great extent were carried out during the first half of 1942 when Japan was victorious in the southern areas, some of them were later to be nullified when withdrawals had to be resumed because of reverses suffered during the latter half of the year.

Strengthening of Manchuria

In any event, a considerable strengthening of Manchuria's defenses was actually effected in early 1942. To carry out the first of these measures, troops had to be brought back from the southern areas; they could not be furnished from the home islands which had supplied sizeable forces for the southern operations and were left principally with homeland defense troops. The units brought to Manchuria from the southern areas were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Returned</th>
<th>From the Philippine Area (14th Army)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>7th Tank Regiment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Artillery Command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3d Ind Mt Arty Regt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150-mm How</td>
<td>1st Hv Fld Arty Regt (150-mm How)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240-mm How</td>
<td>1st Hv Arty Regt (240-mm How)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2d Ind Hv Arty Btry (240-mm How)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9th Ind Hv Arty Bn (150-mm Cannon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5th Arty Intelligence Regt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23d Ind Engr Regt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One ind engr co</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One motor transport unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One bridge constr materials co</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One road constr unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 July</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the Malaya Area (25th Army)

3d Tk Brig Hq
6th Tk Regt
3d Tk Brig Engr Unit
3d Tk Brig Sig Unit
3d Tk Brig Maintenance Unit
3d Tk Brig Ammo Train
Five antitank gun cos
One bridge constr materials co
One road constr unit
One river fording materials co

From the Java Area (16th Army)

One hv fld arty bn, 17th regt (150-mm How)
3d Antitank Gun Bn
Two wireless telegraph (non-mobile) units
One bridge constr materials co

4 July

The following air units, after participating in the southern area operations, were sent to Manchuria and arrived between June and August to join Second Air Army:

10th Air Brigade
77th Air Regt (fighters)
27th Air Regt (light bombers)
31st Air Regt (light bombers)
Three airfield battalions.

In the reorganization of units, other commands were brought to Manchuria. On 16 May, for example, while the 71st Infantry Division was being organized from the Hunchun Garrison Unit, the 140th Infantry Regiment arrived from China and became part of the division. The organization of this division had been planned earlier, but was delayed by operations in China. The new division took charge of the defense of the Hunchun front extending from Tumentsu to the Tumen River, and incorporated within its command the 9th Border Garrison Unit at Wuchiatzu.
The reorganization of the command structure, in Manchuria affected almost every command from top to bottom. IGH in June redesignated Kwantung Army Headquarters as General Headquarters, Kwantung Army, and its commander as commander in chief. On 4 July it authorized Kwantung Army to form the First Area Army Headquarters, and to centralize under its command the entire eastern front. It also authorized the formation of Second Area Army Headquarters, Second Army Headquarters, and Mechanized Army Headquarters.

Command of the First Area Army, whose headquarters was at Mutanchiang, was given to Lieutenant General Tomoyuki Yamashita, after his assignment to Manchuria following the completion of operations in Malaya and a brief visit to Germany. The organization of this headquarters had been originally planned to be accomplished in the homeland upon the outbreak war with the USSR and the headquarters was then to be dispatched to Manchuria. Its organization in Manchuria was directed in order to enable it to coordinate border defense prior to hostilities. Upon being organized it was given command of the Third, Fifth, and Twentieth Armies, as well as the newly-established Second Army.

The Second Area Army, with headquarters at Tsitsihar, was commanded by Lieutenant General Korechika Anami, and consisted of the Fourth and Sixth Armies and the Arshaan Garrison Unit. It was given responsibility for the defense of northern Manchuria. Like the First Area Army Headquarters, this headquarters in original plans was to have been organized
in the homeland and then sent to Manchuria, but for similar reasons was organized in Manchuria. Its jurisdiction over Heilung Province, Peian Province, Hsingan Tung (East) Hsingan Pei (North), a portion of Hsingan Nan (South), and the greater part of Lungchiang Province gave it an extremely large area in comparison with the small number of troops under its command.

The Second Army, with headquarters at Yenchi, was commanded by Lieutenant General Yoshio Kozuki. It was to have been organized earlier, but due to plans to go south its formation was delayed.

The Mechanized Army Headquarters was organized at Shapingchih, where the tank school was located. Both the Army and the school were placed under the command of Lieutenant General Makoto Yoshida. The Mechanized Army consisted of the 1st Armored Division, stationed at Mutanchiang, and the 2d Armored Division at Puli; two tank regiments brought up from the southern areas in mid-1942 were incorporated into the divisions. The tanks used by this force were of the medium and light class, and most of them were obsolete or obsolescent. They were used primarily for training and for developing tank tactics.

Withdrawals from Manchuria Resumed, Late 1942

The situation in Manchuria in late 1942 offered a sharp contrast to the build-up in the early portion of the year. Japanese forces were suffering reverses on Guadalcanal and IGH decided to reinforce the southeastern area, primarily New Guinea, with troops from China and Manchuria. It was the opinion of both IGH and Kwantung Army
intelligence officers that this extraction of troops would not seriously weaken the defense of Manchuria, since a large build-up had just taken place. The transfers to the southeastern area, begun in September and lasting through December, involved the following units.

**Ground Forces:**
- Three artillery Regiments
- One artillery company
- One antiaircraft defense headquarters
- Three antiaircraft artillery battalions
- Seven antiaircraft artillery battalions
- Two independent mortar companies
- One antitank battalion
- One engineer headquarters
- Two independent engineer companies
- One signal regiment
- One searchlight battalion
- One line of communications hospital
- Two casualty clearing units
- One road construction units
- Five land and sea duty units

**Air Forces:**
- Paichengtzu Air Instruction Brigade Headquarters
- 208th Air Instruction Regiment (Light Bombers)
- 45th Light Bomber Regiment
- Two airfield battalions
- One air signal regiment
- One navigational aid company
- One meteorological company

The antiaircraft artillery units diverted were well-trained and experienced. Due to increasing demands for AAA defense in operational areas, IGH transferred numerous AAA units to the Southern Areas during the latter part of 1942. As a result, Kwantung Army's own antiaircraft defenses were weakened.

During the reinforcement of Manchuria in early 1942 and the withdrawals toward the end of the year Kwantung Army continued its
ORGANIZATION CHART, KWANTUNG ARMY

(DOWN TO DIVISIONS)

END OF 1942

IMPERIAL GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

KWANTUNG ARMY

1ST AREA ARMY

4 JUL 1942

2D ARMY

3D ARMY

5TH ARMY

20TH ARMY

KWANTUNG DEFENSE ARMY

2D AREA ARMY

4 JUL 1942

4 JUL 1942

MECHANIZED ARMY

SECOND ARMY

4TH ARMY

6TH ARMY

10 JUN 1942

REM: DATES INDICATE TIME OF ORGANIZATION
preparations for operations. It concentrated particularly upon intensive training and the development of defense facilities, while complying with the IGH policy of maintaining the status quo along the borders. In the meantime, it also continued operational planning. Its primary accomplishments included the redeployment of numerous units to the Southern Area, the establishment of a stronger command structure, and the maintenance of peace along the borders. (See Chart 6 for organization at end of the year).

**Estimate of Soviet Far East Strength**

Kwantung Army intelligence determined that the large-scale transfer of Soviet troops from the Far East to the European front ended late in 1942. It estimated, furthermore, that Soviet strength in the east was boosted by at least two sniper divisions, ten sniper brigades, three tank brigades, and ten air divisions. It also observed changes in the organizational structure of the Soviet Far Eastern Army, for example, the Sixtieth Army in Zabaikal and the Seventeenth Army in Outer Mongolia were combined with the Zabaikal Army District into the Zabaikal Area Army.

Soviet Far Eastern Army strength at the end of 1942 was estimated at:

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13. See Monograph No. 138, for operational planning during this period (pp 13-15), as well as efficient employment of manpower (pp 18-19), and training. (pp 22-23)
### Appendix No. 1

**Kwantung Army**

**Ground Units Gained and Lost**  
(Mar 1941 to Aug 1945)


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Gains (shown in parentheses) and Losses to other commands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Mar 41</td>
<td>1st Fld Road Const Unit</td>
<td>(Third Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Apr 41</td>
<td>38th Inf Regt</td>
<td>(Kwantung Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50th Inf Regt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 May 41</td>
<td>Four Inf Bns</td>
<td>China Expeditionary Army</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Jul 41</td>
<td>6th Ind Tk Bn</td>
<td>(Kwantung Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18th Med Arty Regt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14th Fld AAA Defense Unit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hqs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16th Fld AAA Defense Unit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hqs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>32d Fld AAA Bn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33d Fld AAA Bn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34th Fld AAA Bn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77th</td>
<td>Land Army</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11 Jul 41
35th Fld AAA Bn
36th Fld AAA Bn
40th Fld AAA Bn
44th Fld AAA Bn
45th Fld AAA Bn

26th Ind Fld AAA Btry
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11 Jul 41 3d Ind AT Bn 3 Aug 8 to 8 (Sixth Army)
7th Ind AT Bn 7 8 Aug 1
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47th Ind MT Trans Bn 47 8 Aug 1
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12 Jul 41 Kwantung Defense Army 1941 3 to (Activated)

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2d Med Arty Regt 2 1941 1
1 Aug 41 10th Med Arty Regt (Kwantung Army)
8th Ind Sig Co
41th L of C Sector Unit
42d L of C Sector Unit
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5th Fld Const Unit (Third Army) 3rd Div
13th L of C Medical Unit (Third Army) 3rd Div
13th Cas Clear Unit (Third Army) 3rd Div
21st Fld Water Sup and Pur Dept (Fourth Army) 3rd Div

1 Aug 41 1st Med Arty Regt (Fourth Army) 3rd Div

18 Sep 41 7th Tk Regt (Third Army) 3rd Div
3d Flld Trans Cmd (Third Army) 3rd Div
38th Ind Mtr Trans Bn (Third Army) 3rd Div
96th L of C Hosp (Third Army) 3rd Div
100th L of C Hosp (Third Army) 3rd Div
17th Vet Quar Sta (Third Army) 3rd Div
38th Med Arty Regt (Third Army) 3rd Div
48th Flld AAA Bn (Third Army) 3rd Div
26th Brg Bldg Mat Co (Third Army) 3rd Div
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132d Ry Sta Co (Third Army) 3rd Div
133d Ry Sta Co (Third Army) 3rd Div
51st Div (Third Army) 3rd Div

18 Sep 41 41st L of C Sector Unit (Third Army) 3rd Div
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27th Brg Bldg Mat Co (Third Army) 3rd Div
42d L of C Sector Unit (Third Army) 3rd Div

10 Feb 42 77th Land Duty Co (Third Army) 3rd Div
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<td>16th Fld Well Const Co</td>
<td>Twentieth Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Feb 42</td>
<td>16th Sig Regt</td>
<td>Third Army</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6th Sig Regt</td>
<td>Fourth Army</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Mar 42</td>
<td>2d Engr Unit Hqs 54th Ind Engr Bn 55th Ind Engr Bn 56th Ind Engr Bn 57th Ind Engr Bn</td>
<td>Fourth Army</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
20 Mar 42  29th Ind Engr Regt (Fourth Army)
18th Ind Engr Regt (Fifth Army)
53rd Ind Engr Bn

6 Apr 42  3rd Tk Gp (Kwantung Army)
1st Ind AT Co
2d Ind AT Co
4th Ind AT Co
7th Ind AT Co
12th Ind AT Co
29th Brg Bldg Mat Co (Fifth Army)

2 May 42  53rd Ind Engr Bn China Expeditionary
54th Ind Engr Bn
55th Ind Engr Bn

16 May 42  71st Div (Kwantung Army) Activated
7th Tk Regt (Kwantung Army)
3d Ind Engr Co

3d Ind Mtn Arty Regt (Third Army)
2d Ind Hvy Arty Co

1st Arty Cdo (Fourth Army)
1st Med Arty Regt
1st Hvy Arty Regt
9th Ind Hvy Arty Bn
5th Arty Intel Regt
23d Ind Engr Regt
3d Tractor Unit

30 May 42  71st Inf Gp Hqs (71st Division)
140th Inf Regt

4 Jul 42  Element of the 17th Fld Arty Regt (Kwantung Army)
34th Fixed Wireless Unit (non-mbl)
40th Fixed Wireless Unit (non-mbl)

3d Ind AT Bn (Fourth Army)
27th Brg Const Mat Co
28th Brg Const Mat Co
34th Fld Road Const Unit
4 Jul 42 21st River Cross Mat Co
39th Fld Road Const Unit
(Fifth Army)
(Twentieth Army)

4 Jul 42 First Area Army
Activated
(Kwantung Army)

Second Area Army
Activated
(Kwantung Army)

Second Army Mtr Trans Bn
Activated
(Kwantung Army)

Mech Army
Activated
(Kwantung Army)

4 Jul 42 6th Tk Regt
7th Tk Regt
1st Ind AT Co
4th Ind AT Co
12th Ind AT Co
3d Ind Engr Co
27th Ind Fld AAA Co
28th Ind Fld AAA Co
29th Ind Fld AAA Co
16th Fld Automatic Cann Co
18th Fld Automatic Cann Co
(Mechanized Army)
(Fourth Army)
(Sixth Army)
(Mechanized Army)
(Eastern District)

4 Jul 42 8th Tk Regt
171st Ry Sta Co
17 Sep 42 6th Ind AT Bn
18th Inf Regt

10 Sep 42 171st Ry Sta Co
4th Med Arty Regt

North China Area Army
Seventeenth Army in Korea
Rabaul
### Activated (Kwantung Army)

#### Seventeenth Army

- 20 Oct 42
  - 25th Flod Mach Cann Co
  - 28th Flod Mach Cann Co
  - 31st Flod Road Const Unit
  - 21st Flod Duty Unit Hqs
  - 7th Flod Const Unit Hqs
  - 51st Const Duty Co
  - 49th Const Duty Co
  - 64th L of C Sector Unit
  - 4th Engr Unit Hqs
  - 96th Land Duty Co
  - 31st Sea Duty Co
  - 49th Sea Duty Co
  - 103d L of C Hosp

#### Southern Army—Area North of Australia

- 30 Oct 43
  - Second Area Army Hqs
  - Second Army Hqs
  - Mech Army Hqs
  - Third Area Army Hqs

- 16 Nov 43
  - 2d South Seas Det
  - 3d South Seas Det

- 16 Nov 43
  - 1st Amphibious Brig
    - 1st Mbl Bn
    - 2d Mbl Bn
    - 3d Mbl Bn

- 1 Feb 44
  - 27th Div

---

#### Southern Army—Area from China

- Burma Area Army

#### (Deactivated)

- Activated (Kwantung Army)

- Activated (Kwantung Army)—to Carolines.

- Activated (Kwantung Army)—to Marshalls.

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Eleventh Army in China
1 Feb 44 59th Ind Engr Bn
   60th Ind Engr Bn
2d  Engr Unit Hqs
91st Ind Engr Bn
55th Ind Trans Bn
31st Ind Mtr Trans Bn
32d Ind Mtr Trans Bn
33d Ind Mtr Trans Bn
49th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
83th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
54th Ind Trans Bn

7 Feb 44 12th Ind Engr Regt

10 Feb 44 14th Div
   29th Div
   257th Ind Inf Bn
   261st Ind Inf Bn
   265th Ind Inf Bn

10 Feb 44 KA Fld Ry Cmd
   KA 1st Ry Unit
   KA 3d Ry Unit

Activated
(Kwantung Army)

10 Feb 44 11th Tk Regt
   7th Ind Garr Inf Bn
   8th Ind Garr Inf Bn
   9th Ind Garr Inf Bn

15 Feb 44 16th Mort Bn
   101st Ind Wire Comm Co
   102d Ind Wire Comm Co
   103d Ind Wire Comm Co
   55th Fixed Wireless Unit (non-mbl)
   56th Fixed Wireless Unit (non-mbl)
   57th Fixed Wireless Unit (non-mbl)
15 Feb 44 58th Fixed Wireless Unit (non-mbl) China Expeditionary
15 Feb 44 9th Ind Fld Arty Bn Eleventh Army
15 Feb 44 10th Ind Fld Arty Bn
15 Feb 44 15th Mort Bn
7th Ind Fld Arty Bn Twenty-third Army
8th Ind Fld Arty Bn
100th Ind Wire Comm Co
24th Brg Mat Co Twelfth Army
25th Brg Mat Co
31st Brg Mat Co
Air Defense Unit (AAA Bn), 1st
Armd Div North China Area Army

15 Feb 44 55th Fld AAA Bn

16 Feb 44 2d Bn, 35th Inf Regt Twenty-third Army
3d Bn, 140th Inf Regt
2d Bn, 3d Ind Mtn Arty Regt

21 Feb 44 2d Ind Garr Hqs Korea Army

1st Expeditionary Unit Kosovo in the
25th Inf Gp Hqs Eastern Carolines
3d Bn, 14th Inf Regt
3d Bn, 40th Inf Regt
3d Bn, 10th Inf Regt
3d Bn, 89th Inf Regt
3d Ind Mtn Arty Regt
(less 2 battalions)
3d Bn, 10th Fld Arty
3d Co, 25 Engr Regt

2d Expeditionary Unit Martlock in the
3d Bn, 7th Inf Regt Carolines
3d Bn, 19th Inf Regt
1st Bn, 9th Mtn Arty Regt
3d Co, 9th Engr Regt

3d Expeditionary Unit Enewbi in the Marshalls
8th Inf Gp Hqs
1st Bn, 5th Inf Regt
1st Bn, 17th Inf Regt
3d Bn, 31st Inf Regt
21 Feb 44 3d 3d Bn, 8th Flt Arty Regt gq Engebi in the Marshalls
3d Co, 8th Engr Regt 49th Inf Div
4th Expeditionary Unit 11th Inf gq Yap in the Carolines
12th Inf Gp Hqs
2d Bn, 1st Inf Regt
3d Bn, 49th Inf Regt 49th Inf Div
3d Bn, 57th Inf Regt 49th Inf Div
3d Bn, 1st Flt Arty Regt 1st Inf Div
3d Co, 1st Engr Regt 49th Inf Div

5th Expeditionary Unit 9th Inf gq Pagan in the Marianas
71st Inf Gp Hqs
3d Bn, 87th Inf Regt 3rd Div
3d Bn, 88th Inf Regt 3rd Div
1st Bn, 71st Mtn Arty Regt 9th Inf Div
3d Co, 71st Engr Regt

6th Expeditionary Unit 10th Inf gq Guam in the Marianas
11th Inf Gp Hqs
3d Bn, 12th Inf Regt 7th Div
3d Bn, 24th Inf Regt 7th Div
3d Bn, 43d Inf Regt
1st Bn, 44th Inf Regt 7th Div
3d Bn, 46th Inf Regt
3d Bn, 48th Inf Regt
3d Bn, 24th Flt Arty Regt 4th Div
3d Bn, 11th Mtn Arty Regt
3d Co, 18th Engr Regt

7th Expeditionary Unit 11th Inf gq Woleai in the Carolines
1st Bn, 22d Inf Regt 1st Div
3d Bn, 32d Inf Regt
3d Bn, 42d Flt Arty Regt
3d Co, 24th Engr Regt

8th Expeditionary Unit 2d Ind Gnp Hqs (from Korea Army)
26 Jun 44
3d Bn, 3d Inf Regt
3d Bn, 75th Inf Regt
3d Bn, 76th Inf Regt
3d Bn, 25th Mtn Arty Regt
3d Co, 19th Engr Regt

1 Apr 44 9th Expeditionary Unit 19th Inf gq Yap in the Carolines
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Unit Type</th>
<th>Army</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Apr 44</td>
<td>24th Inf Gp Hqs</td>
<td>Yap in the Carolines</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th Ind Garr Inf En</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Ind Garr Inf En</td>
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<td>28th Ind Garr Inf En</td>
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<td>4 Apr 44</td>
<td>10th Expeditionary Unit</td>
<td>Phillipines</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th Inf Gp Hqs</td>
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<td>22d Ind Garr Inf En</td>
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<tr>
<td>23d Ind Garr Inf En</td>
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<td>30th Ind Garr Inf En</td>
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<td>11th Expeditionary Unit</td>
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<td>Kuriles</td>
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<td>57th Inf Gp Hqs</td>
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<td>2d Ind Garr Inf En</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th Ind Garr Inf En</td>
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<td>29th Ind Garr Inf En</td>
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<td>11 Apr 44</td>
<td>2d Amph Brig</td>
<td>Southern Army</td>
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<td>29th Inf Gp Hqs</td>
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<td>Three amph bn</td>
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<tr>
<td>One unit each of AAA, tk, engr, sig, trans, and med</td>
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<td>5 May 44</td>
<td>603d Spl Est Garr En</td>
<td>Activated (First Area Army)</td>
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<tr>
<td>604th Spl Est Garr En</td>
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<td>Activated (Kwantung Defense Army)</td>
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<td>605th Spl Est Garr En</td>
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<td>Activated (First Area Army)</td>
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<td>Activated (Third Area Army)</td>
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<td>605th Spl Est Garr Co</td>
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<td>607th Spl Est Garr Co</td>
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<td>Activated (Kwantung Defense Army)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 May 44</td>
<td>5th Fld Med Arty Regt</td>
<td>Burma Area Army</td>
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<td>22 May 44</td>
<td>1st Sig Unit</td>
<td>Activated—to Southern Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>2d Sig Unit</td>
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</table>
13 Jun 44
1st Mbl Brg
1st Raid Unit
KA Comm Intel Dep
KA Spl Intel Unit

107th Div

20 Jul

Fuchin Garr Unit
14th Border Garr Unit

13 Jun 44
2d Guer Unit
3d Med Art Regt

20 Jun 44
2d Mbl Regt
26th Tk Regt
28th Engr Regt
5th Ind AT Bn
One co, 11th Engr Regt

26 Jun
68th Brig
16th Ind Mixed Regt
5th Ind Flld Art Bn

36th Inf Regt
One Co, 27th Sig Regt

9th Div (minus 9th Cav Regt, 9th Div Vet Aid Sta, and 9th Trans Pack Horse Bn)

1st Med Art Regt
3d Ind AT Bn
4th Ind AT Bn
7th Ind AT Bn
15th Ind Mixed Regt
27th Tk Regt

26 Jun 44
13th Ind AT Co
14th Ind AT Co

17th Ind AT Co
18th Ind AT Co

30 TA Bn I
80 TA Bn I
50 TA Bn I

83 TA Activated—Kwantung Army
60 TA Activated—(Third AREA
Army)
60 TA Activated—(10th Division)
60 TA Activated (Kwantung Army)

Third Army

Sixteenth Army

Formosa Army

Fourteenth Army

Thirty-second Army

in Formosa
26 Jun 44 21st Ind AT Co (10th Division)
22d Ind AT Co (107th Division)
23d Ind AT Co
25th Ind AT Co (28th Division)
26th Ind AT Co
28 Jul 44 21st Ind AT Co (Fifth Army)
21st Ind AT Co (Third Army)
24th Ind AT Co
29th Ind AT Co
30th Ind AT Co

26 Jun 44 28th Div (minus 36th Inf Regt) Imperial General Headquarters—to
30 Jun 44 18th Ind Mixed Regt Thirty-second Army
5th Ind AT Bn

5 Jul 44 24th Div Imperial General Headquarters—later
12 Jul 44 27th Sig Regt (less one company) to Thirty-second
22d Hvy Flg Arty Regt Army
4th Ind Hvy Arty Bn
12th Hvy Flg Arty Regt
13th Ind AT Co
14th Ind AT Co
17th Ind AT Co
18th Ind AT Co
22d Ind AT Co

12 Jul 44 23d Ind AT Co Twenty-seventh Army
54th Ind Engr Bn

15 Jul 44 59th Ind Mixed Birg Thirty-second Army
60th Ind Mixed Birg
Shipping Command
Activated—to
Thirty-second Army
17 Jul 44  Defense Fort Dept

18 Jul 44  8th Div

20 Jul 44  25th Ind Mixed Regt
26th Ind Mixed Regt
23rd Med Arty Regt
24th Ind AT Co
27th Ind AT Co
35th Const Duty Co
36th Sea Duty Co
87th Land Duty Co
17th Main L of C Hosp
148th L of C Hosp

24 Jul 44  11th Div (later to China) Formosa
10th Div (later to Tenth Army, Formosa)
2d Armd Div (less the 2d Armd Div AAA Unit) (later to Philippines)
29th Ind AT Co
30th Ind AT Co
31st Ind AT Co
32d Ind AT Co
741st Ind Mort Regt

27 Jul 44  Anshan Defense Cmd AAA Bn
55th Ind Fld AAA Btry
56th Ind Fld AAA Btry
57th Ind Fld AAA Btry
68th Fld Mach Cann Co
69th Fld Mach Cann Co
70th Fld Mach Cann Co

5 Aug 44  101st Garr Unit
5 Aug 44 102d Garr Unit
103d Garr Unit
104th Garr Unit
Kwantung Terr Garr Unit
Anshan Defense Unit
108th Div
111th Div
112th Div

16 Aug 44 1st Fld Trans Hqs
13th Fld Trans Hqs
75th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
81st Ind Mtr Trans Bn
69th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
266th Ind Mtr Trans Co
279th Ind Mtr Trans Co
57th Ind Trans Co
58th Ind Trans Co
59th Ind Trans Co
60th Ind Trans Co
61st Ind Trans Co
62d Ind Trans Co

21 Aug 44 88th Fld AAA Bn
Activated—(Kwantung Defense Army)

22 Aug 44 5th Arty Hqs
33d Ind Tk Bn
Eastern District Army

26 Aug 44 31st Sig Regt

9 Sep 44 3d Raid Unit
4th Raid Unit
Activated—to Formosa Army

16 Sep 44 601st Spl Garr Engr Unit
602d Spl Garr Engr Unit
603d Spl Garr Engr Unit
604th Spl Garr Engr Unit
605th Spl Garr Engr Unit
606th Spl Garr Engr Unit

(Kwantung Defense Army)
(First Area Army)
(Third Area Army)
(Next Area Army)
(Twentieth Army)
(Twelfth Army)

Eleventh Army

Thirty-second Army

Activated—(Kwantung Defense Army)

Activated—(Kwantung Army)
16 Sep 44  607th Spl Garr Engr Unit
22 Sep 44  23d Div
27 Sep 44  Twentieth Army

4 Oct 44  6th Fld Trans Hqs
11 Oct 44  119th Div

73d Ind Mixed Brig
1st Ind Arm Brig
23d Ind Mort Bn

17th Mort Bn
13th Ind Fld Arty Bn
14th Ind Fld Arty Bn

Pensihu Garr Unit Hqs
Fushun Garr Unit Hqs
Anshan Garr Unit Hqs

90th Fld AAA Bn
91st Fld AAA Bn
92d Fld AAA Bn

71st Fld Mach Cann Co
72d Fld Mach Cann Co
73d Fld Mach Cann Co
74th Fld Mach Cann Co
75th Fld Mach Cann Co
76th Fld Mach Cann Co
77th Fld Mach Cann Co

24 Nov 44  120th Div

11 Dec 44  KA Fld Ry Unit
11 Dec 44  Continental Ry Unit

1st Ind Ry Bn

Alerted—sent to Fourteenth Army in November.
Deactivated—Headquarters sent to Sixth Area Army, China Southern Army
Activated (Sixth Army)

(Fourth Army)
(First Area Army)
(Third Army)
(Third Area Army)

(Kwantung Defense Army)

Activated—(Third Army)
(Deactivated)
Activated—(Kwantung Army)

Eastern District Army
11 Dec 44 2d Ind Ry Bn
3d Ind Ry Bn
4th Ind Ry Bn

22 Dec 44 7th Med Arty Regt
12th Div

Jan 45 Three Inf gp
One Mong cav unit

23 Jan 15 71st Div

25 Jan 45 Sixth Army
Sixth Army Hqs

1 Feb 45 1st Ry Sta Cmd
171st Ry Sta Cmd
172d Ry Sta Cmd
173d Ry Sta Cmd
174th Ry Sta Cmd
176th Ry Sta Cmd
180th Ry Sta Cmd
181st Ry Sta Cmd
186th Ry Sta Cmd
194th Ry Sta Cmd
207th Ry Sta Cmd
208th Ry Sta Cmd
209th Ry Sta Cmd
210th Ry Sta Cmd
211th Ry Sta Cmd

22 Feb 45 31st Sig Regt
37th Sig Regt

Eastern District Army
(Eighth Area Army)

Tenth Area Army
(Formosa)

North China Area Army

Tenth Area Army
(Deactivated)

China Expeditionary Army

Activated (Kwantung Army)

Activated (Kwantung Army)

North China Area Army

Thirteenth Army in China

Activated (Kwantung Army)
26 Feb 45 121st Div
122d Div
123d Div
124th Div
125th Div
126th Div
127th Div
128th Div
77th Ind Mixed Brig
78th Ind Mixed Brig
79th Ind Mixed Brig
80th Ind Mixed Brig
29th Ind AT Bn
30th Ind AT Bn
12th Ind Engr Regt
171st Cav Regt

Activated (Kwantung Army)
(First Area Army)
(Fourth Army)
(Third Army)
(Fourth Army)
(Fifth Army)
(Third Army)
(First Area Army)

15 Mar 45 1st Armd Div (less 3d TK Regt, and 1st Armd Air Defense Unit)
14th Mort. Bn

2d Hvy Fld Arty Regt
9th Hvy Fld Arty Regt
44th Ind Mtr Trans Bn

Twelfth Area Army

27 Mar 45 42d Sig Regt

Activated (Kwantung Army)

31 Mar 45 KA Arsenal
KA Ord Sup Dep

Fifteenth Area Army
Activated (Kwantung Army)
31 Mar 45
KA Clothing Dep
KA Provisions Dep
KA Mat Dep
KA Medical Sup Dep
KA Vet Sup Dep

31 Mar 45
27th Ind Engr Regt
2d Arty Intel Regt
5th Army Intel Regt
11th Ind Hvy Arty Bn
12th Ind Hvy Arty Bn
13th Ind Hvy Arty Bn
8th Arty Hqs
8th Sig Regt
66th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
2d Fld Const Unit Hqs

1st Arty Hqs
3d Engr Unit Hqs
4th Fld Const Unit Hqs
7th Fld Trans Hqs
13th Fld Duty Unit Hqs
1st Arty Intel Regt
7th Sig Regt
10th Hvy Fld Arty Regt
9th Ind Hvy Arty Bn
34th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
68th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
99th L of C Hosp
11th Tractor Co
12th Tractor Co
33d Const Duty Co
45th Const Duty Co

111th Div
120th Div
121st Div
4th Sig Regt
23d Ind Mort Bn

57th Div (less 57th Inf Gp
Hqs and 57th Recon Regt)
7th Arty Hqs

22 Apr 45
5th Fld Const Unit Hqs
6th Fld Const Unit Hqs
17th Fld Duty Unit Hqs

Activated (Kwantung as
Army)

Twelfth Area Army

Sixteenth Area Army

Seventeenth Area Army

Thirty-sixth Army

Twelfth Area Army
22 Apr 45 53d Ind Mtr Trans Bn
67th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
65th L of C Hosp
3d Tractor Unit
13th Tractor Co
14th Tractor Co
39th Const Duty Co
8th Fld Duty Unit Hqs
16th Fld Duty Unit Hqs
56th Ind Mtr Trans Bn

46th L of C Sector Unit Hqs
64th L of C Hosp
63d Ind Trans Co
64th Ind Trans Co
65th Ind Trans Co

27 Apr 45 2d Ry Regt

28 Apr 45 8th Ind Tk Brig

30 May 45 39th Div
59th Div
63d Div
117th Div
2d Engr Unit Hqs

31st Sig Regt

40th Ind Engr Regt
2d Ind Ry Brg Bn

10th Ind Fld Arty Bn
11th Ind Fld Arty Bn
15th Mtr Bn
81st Ind Mtr Trans Bn
1st Ind Ry Const and Repair Unit
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Grouping</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 May 45</td>
<td>85th Fld Mach Cann Co</td>
<td>(Third Area Army)</td>
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<td>107th Spl Const Duty Co</td>
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<td>127th Spl Land Duty Co</td>
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<td>127th Spl Sea Duty Co</td>
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<td>30 May 45</td>
<td>193d L of C Hosp</td>
<td>(Kwantung Army)</td>
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<td>79th Div</td>
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<td>Eiko Bay Fortress Garr Unit</td>
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<td>Rashin Fortress Garr Unit</td>
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<td>5 Jun 45</td>
<td>Kwantung Defense Army</td>
<td>(Redesignated Forty-Fourth Army Headquarters)</td>
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<td>18 Jun 45</td>
<td>Thirty-fourth Army Hqs</td>
<td>(Kwantung Army)</td>
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<td>137th Div</td>
<td>(Third Area Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>138th Div</td>
<td>(Thirty-fourth Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>139th Div</td>
<td>(Thirtieth Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>148th Div</td>
<td>(First Area Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Thirtieth Army)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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(Third Area Army)

(Third Army)

(Third Area Army)

(Fourth Army)

(Fourth Army)

(Fifth Army)

(Fifth Army)

(One each to 124th through 128th Divisions)

(One each to 107th, 108th, 112th, 119th, 122d to 128th, 134th to 139th, 148th and 149th Divisions, and to the 130th to 136th Independent Mixed Brigades.)

(Thirtieth Army)

(Forty-fourth Army)

(Kwantung Army)
5 Jul 45  21st Ind Hvy Flg Arty Bn
   22d Ind Ry Bn
   23d Ind Ry Bn
   27th Ind Hvy Mort Bn
   112th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
   113th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
   114th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
   115th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
   116th Ind Mtr Trans Bn
   1st Ind Hvy Mort Co
   6th Ind Hvy Arty Btry

   (Thirtieth Army)
   (Kwantung Army)
   (Thirtieth Army)
   (Kwantung Army)
   (Third Army)
   (Forty-fourth Army)

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