

Unit 731 and the Japanese Biological Warfare Effort

Unit 731, its subunits and facilities were coordinated by the Epidemic Prevention Research Laboratory in Tōkyō.

UNIT 731	(Manshū Dai 731 Butai / 満洲第七三一部隊) Led by Ishii Shiro, the Water Supply and Purification Unit HQ was designated Unit 731 in August, 1941. Located in the Beiyinghe area of Harbin, Manchuria and later moved to Pingfan. According to an anonymous Youth Corps member T-San "...the name of the unit was not 731 – it was 731-T. That's because it was a secret unit." (Gold page 191) The code number later changed to 25202.
UNIT 100	Located in Hsinking, Manchuria (present day Changchun). Was headed by a veterinarian, Dr. Wakamatsu Yujiro.
UNIT 200	731 subunit located in Manchuria. No other details.
UNIT 516	In April, 1942, joined Unit 731 on the outskirts of Hailar near the Soviet border for tests.
UNIT 543	Branch of Unit 731 in Hailar. Located in old Russian barracks in front of station.
SAKAE 1644 榮	(Tama Unit) Under the China Expeditionary Army. Officially the Central China Water Supply and Purification Department. Located in Nanking.
KŌ 1855 甲	Under the North China Area Army. Water Supply and Purification Department located in Peiping. Had branch in Chinan that was a combination prison and experimentation center.
NAMI 8604 波	The South China Water Supply and Purification Department under 23 Army. Established in 1938, at the Chungshan Medical University, Canton. Staffed by several hundred personnel.
OKA 9420 岡	Established in February 1942 at the former Raffles Medical University in Singapore. Staffed by 1,000 people and led by Major General Kitagawa Masataka. Had two Subunits: Kono Unit and Umeoka Unit.

Other 731 subunits were believed to have been located in Bangkok, Thailand and Rangoon, Burma.

Source: Gold, Hal, *Unit 731 Testimony*, 1996, Yen Books, Tokyo.

Field Water Supply and Purification Departments (Yasen Bōeki Kyūsuibu)

野戦防疫給水部

Code Name	Code No	No	Superior Unit	Home Desig	Home Station	
徳	Toku	2624	21	Kwantung Army	E6	Tōkyō
森	Mori	2625	22	Burma Area Army	E6	Tōkyō
胆	Tan	2626	23	53 IMB		
猛	Mō	2626	23 (element)	18 Army	E6	Tōkyō
剛	Gō	2626	23 (element)	14 Division		
剛	Gō	2627	24	8 Area Army		
猛	Mō	2628	25	18 Army		
森	Mori	10282	26	Burma Area Army	C37?	Kyōto?
球	Kyū	5753	27	32 Army	C13	Nagoya
輝	Kagayaku	6066	28	2 Area Army		Ōsaka Army Hospital
森	Mori	12367	29	Burma Area Army		
威	I	12368	30	Shōbu Group		
		13360	31			
統	Tō	12467	32	6 Area Army		
信	Shin	17022	33	38 Army		
義	Gi	17113	34	18 Area Army		
龍	Tatsu	6747		56 Division		Kurume

Japanese Army Unit Code Names

Code Name			Unit	Activation		Final Location
Magatama	勾玉	Comma-shaped jewels	134 Division	7/45	Manchuria	Eastern Manchuria
Magokoro	真心	sincerity, devotion	135 Division	7/45	Manchuria	Eastern Manchuria
Maishin	邁進	push on, press on	120 Division	11/44	Zentsūji	Keijō (Seoul)
Maizuru	舞鶴	city in Kyōto Fu	122 Division	1/45	Tōkyō	Eastern Manchuria
makoto	信	truth; confidence	(see Shin)			
makoto	真	truth, reality	(see Shin)			
Makoto	誠	fidelity	8 Flying Division	6/44	Tōkyō	Taichū (Taichung), Taiwan
Mamoru/shu	守	defend, protect	6 Army	8/39	Hailar	Hangchow
Manshū	滿洲	Manchuria	Kwantung Army	4/19	Hsinking	Hsinking
Maru	丸	make round	Utsunomiya Divisional District	4/45	Utsunomiya	absorbed by 51 Depot Division
Masurao/jōfu	丈夫	hero, warrior	79 Independent Mixed Brigade	2/45	Nagoya	Manchuria
Matsu	松	pine	Asahikawa Divisional District	2/45	Asahikawa	absorbed by 7 Depot Division
Matsukaze	松風	wind in the pines	123 Division	1/45	Nagoya	Sunwu, China
Matsuri/sai	祭	festival; offer prayers	15 Division	4/38	Kyōto	Thailand
Megumi	恵	mercy, benevolence	9 Independent Infantry Brigade			absorbed by 118 Division Megumi
Megumi	恵	mercy, benevolence	118 Division	7/44	Kyōto	Chiangchiakou (Kalgan), N China
Meguri/jun	巡	surround	2 Amphibious Brigade	11/43	Fukuoka	Celebes
mei	明	bright, shining	(see Akira)			
Mei/chikau	盟	oath, alliance	58 Independent Mixed Brigade	6/44	Hirosaki	Luzon
Michi/ro	路	route, road	Continental Asia Railway Command	5/45	Changed to Kwantung Army Field Railway Unit	

Code No	Unit	Code Name		Superior Unit	Location/Remarks
687	78 Flying Regiment (<i>Sentai</i>)	滿洲	Manshū	South Seas Exped Unit	Manchuria→ New Guinea
688	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	(Kwantung Army)	Peian, Manchuria
689	2 Flying Division Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	2 Flying Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
690	9 Mountain Artillery Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	9 Division	Manchuria→ Taiwan
691	45 Flying Regiment (<i>Sentai</i>)	滿洲	Manshū	4 Flying Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
692	8 Division Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	8 Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
693	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
694	5 Flying Brigade Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
694	5 Border Garrison Artillery Unit	滿洲	Manshū	5 Border Garrison	Manchuria
695	93 Air Sub-Depot	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
696	Chiamussu 2 Army Hospital	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Chiamussu, Manchuria
697	1 Army Intelligence Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	1 Army	Taiyuan, North China
698	53 Airfield Battalion	滿洲	Manshū	2 Air Army	Hsinking, Manchuria
699	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Tsitsihar, Manchuria (1/43)
700	8 Border Garrison, 5 Sector Unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
701	Unidentified flying unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
701	8 Border Garrison, 5 Sector Unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
702	13 AAA Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
703	23 Division Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	23 Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
704	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Mukden, Manchuria
705	27 Flying Regiment (<i>Sentai</i>)	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
706	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Mutanchiang, Manchuria
707	99 Airfield Battalion	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
708	Training Air Sector Command	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Paichengtzu, Manchuria
709	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
710	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria

712	43 Infantry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	11 Division	Kōchi
713	6 Independent Heavy Artillery Battalion	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
714	Unidentified	臺灣	Taiwan	(Taiwan Army)	Takao (Kaohsiung), Taiwan
714	205 Airfield Battalion	球	Kyū	32 Army	Miyako Jima
715	10 Flying Brigade	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
716	70 Flying Regiment	林	Hayashi	15 Army	French Indochina
717	Unidentified Flying Unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
718	4 Army Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	4 Army	Manchuria
719	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
720	Kwantung Army Provisions Branch Depot	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Mukden, Manchuria
722	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
723	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
725	Unidentified Air Unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
726	Fuchin Garrison Unit Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
727	Unidentified Air Unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
728	88 Infantry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	71 Division	Asahikawa→ Manchuria
729	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
731	Kwantung Army Water S&P Department	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria (Infamous Unit 731)
732	4 Flying Division Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	4 Flying Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
733	71 Engineer Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	71 Division	Asahikawa→ Manchuria
734	25 Division Decontamination Training Center	滿洲	Manshū	25 Division	Manchuria→ Kyūshū
737	13 Field Artillery Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	23 Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
738	Flying Brigade (Tsitsihar?)	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
739	12 Flying Brigade HQ	滿洲	Manshū	4 Flying Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
740	69 Airfield Battalion	滿洲	Manshū	(Kwantung Army)	(later listed in Ryūkyūs)
741	207 Air Sub-Depot	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
743	Medical Supply Depot, Mukden Branch	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Mukden, Manchuria
744	23 Transport Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	23 Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
745	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	(Kwantung Army)	Manchuria
746	8 Division Signal Unit (<i>Tsūshin</i>)	滿洲	Manshū	8 Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
746	20 Independent Field Machine Cannon Company	剛	Gō	19 Division	(Probably Gō 7464)
747	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	(Kwantung Army)	Manchuria
749	10 Division Ordnance Duty Unit?	滿洲	Manshū	10 Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
751	Manchuria Air Depot, Chinchow Branch	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Chinchow, Manchuria
753	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	(Kwantung Army)	Manchuria
755	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	(Kwantung Army)	Manchuria
756	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	(Kwantung Army)	Tsitsihar, Manchuria
757	3 Air Intelligence Unit	滿洲	Manshū	2 Air Army	Hsinking, Manchuria
758	10 Field Air Supply Depot	滿洲	Manshū	2 Air Army	Hsinking, Manchuria
759	25 Division Veterinary Aid Station	滿洲	Manshū	25 Division	Manchuria→ Kyūshū
760	6 Signal Regiment (<i>Denshin</i>)	滿洲	Manshū	36 Army	Manchuria→ Urawa
761	28 Veterinary Aid Station	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
762	Nakamura Unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
763	18 Transport Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	12 Division	Manchuria→ Taiwan
764	5 Infantry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	8 Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
765	6 Army Transport Unit	滿洲	Manshū	6 Army	Hailar, Manchuria
766	Unidentified		Misaki?		possible Timor (2/43)
767	3 Air Intelligence Unit (changed to below)	滿洲	Manshū	2 Air Army	Hsinking, Manchuria
767	3 Air Intelligence Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	2 Air Army	Hsinking, Manchuria
768	24 Infantry Group?	滿洲	Manshū	24 Division	Manchuria→ Okinawa
769	Suiyang Army Hospital	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
770	86 Air Sub-Depot	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
771	1 Division Decontamination Unit	滿洲	Manshū	1 Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
772	9 Border Garrison HQ	滿洲	Manshū	9 Border Garrison	Manchuria
773	Songo Unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army Unit 731	Manchuria
775	25 Independent Garrison Infantry Battalion	滿洲	Manshū	7 Independent Garrison	Manchuria
775	267 Independent Infantry Battalion	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
776	12 Field AAA Defense Unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
777	1 Border Garrison, 4 Sector	滿洲	Manshū	1 Border Garrison	Tungning area, Manchuria

778	24 Independent Engineer Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
780	89 Infantry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	24 Division	Manchuria→ Okinawa
782	18 Field Freight Depot, Harbin Branch	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
783	14 Division Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	14 Division	Manchuria→ Palau
783	2 Flying Division HQ?	滿洲	Manshū	2 Flying Division	Manchuria
784	Unidentified Air Unit	隼	Hayabusa	5 Air Army?	Keijō (Seoul), Korea?
786	28 Division Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	28 Division	Manchuria→ Miyako Jima
787	208 Flying Regiment (<i>Sentai</i>)	滿洲	Manshū	4 Flying Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
789	2 Army Hospital	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
790	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
791	1 Army Hospital	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
793	12 Air Sub-Depot	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
794	Liaoyang 2 Army Hospital	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
795	42 Field Artillery Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	24 Division	Manchuria→ Okinawa
796	2 Tank Division Rcn Unit?	滿洲	Manshū	2 Tank Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
797	1 Motor Transport Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
797	64 Independent Motor Transport Battalion	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
800	2 Air Army Headquarters	滿洲	Manshū	2 Air Army	Hsinking, Manchuria
800	2 Air Army Headquarters	羽	Hane	2 Air Army	Hsinking, Manchuria
802	19 Infantry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	9 Division	Manchuria→ Taiwan
803	32 Infantry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	24 Division	Manchuria→ Okinawa
804	18 Independent Garrison Infantry Battalion	滿洲	Manshū	9 Independent Garrison	Chinan (Tsinan)
804	242 Infantry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	108 Division	Manchuria
805	16 Independent Garrison Infantry Battalion	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
806	8 Signal Regiment (<i>Denshin</i>)	滿洲	Manshū	51 Army	Manchuria
806	8 Signal Regiment (<i>Denshin</i>)	東部	Tōbu	51 Army	Iwamachi
807	24 Cavalry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	3 Cavalry Brigade	Paoching, Manchuria
808	Unidentified	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria→ Tsuchiura
811	23 Division Medical Unit	滿洲	Manshū	23 Division	Manchuria→ Philippines
812	6 Army Judicial Department	滿洲	Manshū	6 Army	Hailar, Manchuria
813	23 Cavalry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	3 Cavalry Brigade	Paoching, Manchuria
815	Kwantung Army Intendance NCO Training Unit	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
816	1 Medium Artillery Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	Kwantung Army	Manchuria
817	9 Cavalry Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	9 Division	Manchuria→ Taiwan
818	20 Field Artillery Regiment	滿洲	Manshū	14 Division	Manchuria→ Palau