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THE PARTICIPATION OF THE JAPANESE ARMY IN MILITARY CONFLICTS DURING 1890-1914. PREPARATIONS FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF ANALYZING PROCEDURES OF MILITARY SECURITY AND PURCHASING AVIATION INNOVATIONS

The article describes the implementation of aeronautics and aviation technologies in Rikugun (陸軍, Imperial Army) against the background of economic and political changes in Japan in the years from 23rd Meiji era (明治, 1890) up to the 3rd year of the Taishō (大正, 1914) era, together with an introduction, covering the period from 1 to 23rd year Meiji era (1868-1890). The second part of the article is devoted to the emergence of security procedures in Rikugun and their importance in developing army structures. The main focus was on describing the importance of the degree of implementation of aeronautical and aviation technology innovations and safety procedures as an indicator of Rikugun's preparation for individual conflicts that took place in the discussed period.

Keywords: Meiji era, Taishō era, Imperial Army, the First Sino-Japanese War 1894-1895, the Boxer Rebellion, the Russian-Japanese War 1904-1905, Rinji Gun'yō Kikyū Kenkyū Kai, Rinji kikyū tai, Ballooning, airships, airplanes, safety procedures.

Introduction, to the 23rd year of the Meiji era (1890). In post-war historiography, Japan's development issues are most often considered in terms of preparations for hostilities at the turn of the 1930s and 1940s. First of all, the development of military technology is discussed, starting from the early 1930s. Only in some publications, there are references to factography from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. Their interpretation is usually based on official Japanese publications, most often published in Japan after 1945. An additional limitation for researchers from the western world is the language barrier, problems with the specifics of translation and its cost. Of course, this also limits the amount of information available in languages other than Japanese.

In the following article, an attempt was made to verify the above information with those currently available in Japanese archives. The work was based on years of research of people specializing in

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studying Japanese subjects. It was also decided to use terms as close as possible to those used in Japanese literature with Latin writing. This also applies to customary feudal remains in the naming of eras. The article will therefore - in the main - cover a more detailed analysis of armaments from the 23rd year of the Meiji (明治, 1890) era to the 3rd year of the Taishō (大正, 1914) era.

For the purposes of preserving known names of Japanese origin, it was accepted to use double ideograms with the Hepburn-type Roman letters. The next time the same term is used, the meaning in Polish is added in brackets with a syllabic designation. The exception is the record of the institution's own names (for example *General Staff*). In these cases, the Japanese entry was not used due to the lack of an appropriate dictionary of Japanese names in the available source materials.

Before discussing the details of the period mentioned above, it is necessary to specify a few earlier facts that relate to the main turning point of the article. With the beginning of the Meiji era (1868), major changes began throughout Japan. After the formation of the Provisional Government in 1868, further changes were made, the Council of State was replaced in 1885 with a cabinet headed by Itō as prime minister. The crowning achievement of these changes was the promulgation of the Meiji constitution by *Tennō* (天王, Emperor of Japan) in 1889. Against the background of the above changes of a political nature, widespread education necessary for their implementation was developed, and foundations for economic development were built. In the initial period, despite the construction of elementary schools in the country since 1872, the peasantry and workers had little interest in the education for their children. Only The Imperial Rescript on Education that obliged children to go to school reduced public resistance. For poorer families, education was also organized by schools run by Buddhist monks. Pencils and cheaper paper began to use in primary schools only from 1887. Previously, were used only chalk and clay slate.

The economic development associated with the advent of currencies was initially based at the time on the increase in agricultural and silk production. Emigrants' earnings (mainly Hawaii, California / USA, Latin America) were in the third position of currency income. By 1893, silk production had increased fivefold. The development of railway also became popular. At the end of the 1880s, there were

already fourteen private railway companies. The development of railways in the Japanese Islands also contributed to greater migration of the population in Japan. Aviation thought at that time was only a curiosity and did not constitute a significant share in industry. Nevertheless, in 1876 the first tests began in *Kaigun* (海軍, Imperial Fleet) with hot-air balloons and with gas filled lighter than air. *Rikugun (*陸軍, Imperial Army) made its first attempts only two years later.

In the 1880s began to form the foundations of large economic monopolies *zaibatsu (*財閥, literally translated «financial clique»). Some of them came from noble families supported *Edo-jidai (*江戸時代, era (the era of Edō – the era of Shogunate rule)). Others were newly formed monopolies. The essence of the *zaibatsu* functioning was functioning based on several independent industries. In the longer term, with the financial support of the government, they could provide material and supply facilities and the workforce needed for production. *Zaibatsu* also separated the sphere of management from ownership.

At the same time, the structure of the army also changed, due to the liquidation of public-military offices – *daimyō (*大名). Also changed status of soldiers of the local army – *samurai* 侍. For this purpose in 1871, was formed a conscript army, initially consisting of former *samurai. (Gordon, 2010: 98-99, 102, 134, 138-143; Frederic, 1988: 152-154; Drea, 2010: 59; Layman, 1989: 85; Mikesh, 1990: 5)*. The knowledge necessary to implement such (economic and political) transformations was acquired by sending people from the ruling team and the then armed forces, mainly to developed countries located in Europe. The *Iwakura mission* around the world (organized for Japanese ambassadors in 1871-1873), gave the opportunity to pre-screen the development possibilities of the state, using specific models of exercising power. It was also an opportunity to get information about the Franco-Prussian war. Such profound social and economic changes were not without the occurrences and rebellions of the Japanese population and the army.

One of the more influencing later decisions of the Provisional Government was the *Satsuma Rebellion* on the Kyūshū island in 1877. During the uprising it was planned to use balloons to communicate with surrounded government forces in the Kumamoto

Castle. Began to preparation for the production of balloons, but the possibility of their production was available only after the end of the fighting. These were aerostats similar to those used during the siege of Paris in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. The letters from archive described negotiations with *Rikugun* and *Kaigun* on the price and payment for making the aerostat for the needs of army training. *Rikugun* had a balloon and gas generators made by the fleet arsenal in December 1877. On June 10, 1878, took place the first presentation during a ceremony in the Imperial Japanese Army Academy in Ichigaya / Tokyo. The suppression of the uprising of dissatisfied *samurai* significantly disrupted economic trends and led to the further modernization of army structures. Civil and military powers were separated, and large savings were imposed on the state budget. Budget cuts have even hit the flagship programs of the fortress defense system of the Japanese Islands. No documents were found that confirming the development of balloon production in *Rikugun* after 1878. Staff from French military missions were dismissed, leaving only the necessary advisers in the country *(Dougill, 2017: 271, 272; Layman, 1989: 85; Mikesh, 1990: 5); Jankiewicz, 1968: 99; Drea, 2010: 57-58, 70; Gordon, 2010: 139; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Meiji 10 (1877) ; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Kakusho / Kakuken Bunsho / Kakusho Zatsu).*

From this year began on the creation of a *General Staff*, modeled on Prussia. On December 5, was created a General Staff, that reporting directly to *Tennō*. It was divided into divisions that managed individual districts. There were also separate units of military intelligence. In the same month, a General Inspectorate was created, which was a controlling and advisory body responsible directly to *Tennō*.

In 1882, a budget of 10 years was adopted, which would allow the preparation of seven divisions according to the Prussian organizational and training system. In March 1886, was established an *Interim Committee for the Study of Military Systems* to investigate the chain of command in the divisional system. In 1887 all divisions were given numbers. They replaced previously functioning garrisons. The *General Inspectorate* was reorganized in the same year. The final

reorganization of the structure of the *General Staff* – already under the name *Imperial General Staff* (with separate *General Staffs* of *the Navy* and *Army*) - was approved in March 1893. Two months earlier, the *General Inspectorate* was renamed the *General Inspectorate of Military Training* along (together) with the approved changes in its structure *(Drea, 2010: 59-60, 69, 71, 75, 77, 94)*.

Between the 23rd and 28th years of the Meiji era 明治 (1890–95). After preparing for protection against possible invasion of China into Japan (until 1891), were taken precautionary measures to create an army capable of operating outside the Japanese Islands. In 1891, training was conducted to defend the division in defense against the marines. However, three years ago, the development of transcontinental transport was of great importance (Russia – the Trans-Siberian Railway, Canada – the Trans-Canadian Railway, USA – the Panama Canal) that significantly influenced the shift of the center of expansion of the Western states towards East Asia. Two years later, Aritomo Yamagata stated in his statement about the risk of strengthening Russian influence in Korea after the completion of the Trans-Siberian Railway. He also emphasized about the possible expansion of Russia to the Japanese Islands. In each of these speeches by Japanese politicians, Korea was an important state for interests of Russia, China and Japan. The solution to minimizing the threat from China or Russia was to propose the creation of a buffer zone in the form of seizing Korea or obtaining the largest possible influence there. Since 1890, Finance Minister Matsukata Masayoshi has established a policy of public spending that has allowed the utmost development of own heavy industry branches and a gradual abandonment of imports. After the first stock market crash in 1890, continued to operate only those companies that managed to survive the financial crisis. *(Drea, 2010: 69, 85, 91, 96, 97; Frederic, 1988: 36; Gordon, 2010: 139, 141, 143)*.

Since 1890, the establishment of higher education began in the cities where were located the elementary schools. Since 1893, specialized vocational schools were established and the general level of education increased. The curriculum became more state and was associated with pro-Japanese values. However, a large percentage of the poorest stratums of each year went to conscription. In this regard, during the 1890-95s, about 60% of illiterate and semi-literate persons

served in the army. In spite of the above statistics, in the 1890s army officers started studing in Germany and France. In 1882 was opened the High School of Land Forces. Knowledge and experience were more valued in the career development system, and absolute obedience was methodically implemented in military schools.

Against the background of stabilization of command methods with the new army structure, new aviation innovations were coming to Japan from European countries. In November 1890, took place in Tokyō the parachute-balloon show of British Stanley Spencer (probably his brother Percival was also with him). Worse described in the sources are the shows featuring American Thomas Baldwin. Instead, British shows are well represented in archival documents. A year later, land acquisition came into force in *Rikugun* to prepare the base for testing purchased light aerostats. In 1892–1894, trials were carried out at the military training grounds in Aoyama. There was also an exchange of experiences with *Kaigun*. In 1894, Isaburō Yamada founded the first (and private) manufacture of balloon coatings together with rigging equipmen in Tokyo.

In April 1894, began the Chino-Japanese (Sino-Japanese) War. At the time, there were only stationary devices for service aerostats in *Rikugun*. Therefore, an order was sent to France for the purchase of a balloon with a mobile field gas generator. However, work on the order in France continued in November 1894 also. Due to the lack of literature on the use of balloons for military purposes in this conflict, the purchased apparatus was most likely not used during the war *(Gordon, 2010: 151; Frederic, 1988: 154, 155; Drea, 2010: 61, 73, 84, 88, 93; Mikesh 1990: 5; Nippon Kōkūki, 2002: 366; http://www.weatherballoon.co.jp/; https://thetokyofiles.com/; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Ichi Dainikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Go Dainikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / San Dainikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Chosen Jiken; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Kobunbiko / 10. Kobunbikoto / Kobunshorui)*.

Between the 28th and 38th years of the Meiji era (明治, 1895–1905). According to the peace treaty of Shimonoseki, signed on April 17,

1895, Japan obtained Formosa (Taiwan), the surrounding Pescador, the Liaodong Peninsula (Dalian), and strong influence in Korea. Six days after signing the treaty, Russia, France and Germany forced Japan to return the Liaodong Peninsula and the Port of Weihaiwei. This caused a great deal of dissatisfaction in the country and was the reason for the intensification of anti-Russian foreign policy. From 1901, Tarō Katsura's cabinet, that promoted nationalist politics, stabilized the situation in the country. A strong financial injection in the form of large war reparations (in the amount of 365 million yen) strongly strengthened the development of the Japanese economy. The presence of a large amount of Chinese gold on the Japanese market was led speculation by large companies. On the other hand, the value of the Japanese currency strengthened during this period. In 1896, the first steelworks in Yawata was launched. It was the beginning of the development of Japanese heavy industry. The state budget has introduced large subsidies for the development of domestic companies, as well as sea and rail transport. In primary and secondary schools, teaching was restricted to Japanese only. Western languages were only required in universities and colleges. After 1900, there was a marked increase in the number of universities. Due to the large number of people with diplomas, seven Imperial Universities tightened the selection criteria during recruitment. University staff of Western staff already had a degree. A lot of majors were conducted by staff of only Japanese descent. *(Frederic, 1988: 37-39, 157, 158; Gordon, 2010: 143, 144, 153, 154)*.

After winning the war with China, Western countries began to treat Japan's expansive actions more neutrally. In Japan, dissatisfaction with the loss of the Liaodong Peninsula was mainly directed against Russia. This was the main reason for the creation of anti-Russian policy with a focus on a possible armed conflict with Russia at that time. Cooperation with the contingent of Western troops during the suppression of the uprising in 1900, was used by Japan to strengthen its relations with Great Britain. Great Britain, isolated in Europe, focused on the Boer War at the time. This was contributed by British diplomats that looking for an ally in the Far East. The consequence was the signing in January 1902 of a cooperation agreement between Great Britain and Japan. Thanks to this, Japan began to be treated more seriously on the international stage. In addition, Japan became an ally in anti-Russian foreign policy. From the perspective of

securing their influence in Korea, in 1895-96 the influence of Chinese factions was reduced, on April 25, 1898 was signed the Japan-Russia Agreement (the Nishi-Rosen Agreement) about the presence of Japanese citizens in Korea. The stability of relations with Russia was disturbed only as a result of its expansive actions in the Manchuria region. The expansion of US influence in Hawaii (1897) and the Philippines (1898) was also significant. Korea and Manchuria remained the only direction for further Japanese expansion on land. Only in 1904 the United States decided to give up influence on Korea. *(Drea, 2010: 110-113, 120, 121; Frederic, 1988: 37, 38, 43)*.

At the time, were being made to raise funds from military reparations to expand *Rikugun* and *Kaigun*. From 1895 to 1900, the *Rikugun* allocated approximately 25% of the total amount invested in it to own development and modernization. The rest of the funds were dedicated to other purposes. *Kaigun* allocated 50% of funds in these years to modernization. At that time, differences in the view on technological innovations between the *General Staff* and Yamagata Aritomo became apparent. He saw the development of the army in merely increasing the number of soldiers in a full-time division and underestimated the impact of technology development. The General Staff preferred to increase the number of divisions to thirteen. Plans for such development were begun in 1896 and their implementation was completed in 1901. In 1897, was started replacement and modernization of the equipment. It was also contributed by a visible drop in the number of illiterates among conscripts (in 1900 this rate was at the level of 30%). From the point of view of the development of aeronautical technology in Japan, testing of balloons tethered to domestic production began. The first such balloons were produced in the Isaburō Yamada manufacture in 1896. Two years later, the *Rikugun* began researching tethered balloons that were patented in May 1900 by Isaburō Yamada. Two such balloons were accepted for use in the army under the name “Nihon shiki tako gata keiryū kikyū” (**日本式凧型繋留気球**, Japanese-type tethered balloon).

During tests carried out in 1898-1902, a railway battalion and balloon hangar infrastructure were dedicated to logistical support. From 1902, balloons were used during field training exercises. However, no separate balloon units were created, only balloon crews were prepared. These activities were purely experimental and served as a basis for possible balloon units in the future. Only after the

declaration of the Russian war in February 1904, the creation of two dedicated "Rinji kikyū tai" (臨時気球隊, Temporary Balloon Units) in connection with the needs of artillery units was accelerated. From March 1904 to October 1905, recruitment of personnel from the reserves held was carried out, where efforts were made to recruit people with appropriate education. People with professional education from the group of noncommissioned officers have also been promoted to officer ranks. The first instructions dedicated to the service carried out in aeronautical units were created. In addition, materials, equipment and livestock were ordered and reserved - necessary to conduct operations in the place. According to some studies, during combat operations on land, both units performed fourteen elevations of balloons in the air to perform combat tasks. Finally, two existing balloons "Rinji kikyū tai" were dissolved in October 1905. *(Drea, 2010: 89, 113-117; Frederic, 1988: 38; Mikesh, : 5; Nippon Kōkūki, 2002: 366; Němeček, 1974: 17; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / San Dainikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Rikumankimitsu/Mitsu/Fu Dainikki / Rikumanfu Dainikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Rikumankimitsu/ Mitsu/Fu Dainikki / Rikumanmitsu Dainikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Sanbo Honbu / Daihonei Dainikki; http://www.weatherballoon.co.jp/).*

The security of information flow in the discussed period has not yet been standardized. The individual approach of the heads of divisions in the *General Staff* resulted in the use of various methods of obtaining and storing information. During training for officers, self-gathering information was promoted, without having to rely on intelligence data. *(Drea, 2010: 137-138).*

Between the 38th years of the Meiji era and 3rd years of the Taisho era (1905–1914). Peace Treaty of Portsmouth was signed on September 5, 1905. Japanese influences in Korea were recognized, Japan received the Liaodong Peninsula, the southern part of Sakhalin and the southern branch of the East China Railway. Lack of war reparations caused serious riots in Japan.

Tarō Katsura declared a state of emergency, but he had to step down shortly after *Tennō* approved the Treaty. It was only when the political parties agreed on the alternation of their rule that it was

possible to conduct a more stable internal development of Japan. Since 1908, taxation for the army were reduced and some armament programs were postponed. Efforts were made to stimulate the national economy by introducing larger duties from 1906 on imported goods. Graduates could take internships abroad. They accounted for a large percentage of new management and specialized personnel in Japan. A lot of governmental orders were directed to native heavy industry enterprises, and the ethos of serving the nation was actively being built to improve the standard of living of the population. 98% of boys and 95% of girls attended primary schools since 1906. 10% of children continued their secondary education and were mainly boys. At the same time, a percentage drop in foreign language skills was recorded. Lecturers of foreign origin at that time contained a small percentage of the academic staff at Japanese universities.

The victory over Russia played a big role in Japan's foreign policy. Despite the lack of military reparations, the Western world already saw Japan as a developing country. In East Asia, Japan also began to be taken more seriously. In 1905, the cooperation alliance with the United Kingdom was renewed and expanded, which was signed in 1902. This agreement was primarily supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The military environment preferred to be based solely on internal resources.

In 1907, Tenno signed a new strategy for the expansion of *Rikugun* and *Kaigun*. Manchuria and Ussuria were defined as further territories for *Rikugun's* possible actions, with an indication of the extension of the sphere of influence to Manchuria. The *Kaigun* became a pacific area of activity. Political actions in dependent Korea undertaken by Itō Hirobumi in 1907 resulted in an assassination attempt on him. This was used by the government of Taro Katsura, which led to the complete annexation of Korea in 1910. The US withdrew its shares from Manchuria in 1911. These activities were a consequence of the US-Japan trade treaty. Instead, Japan reduced the emigration of its citizens to California. *(Drea, 2010: 155-157; Frederic, 1988: 42-44, 153, 158; Gordon, 2010: 144, 153, 158).*

With Tennō's approval of new strategic goals in 1907, priorities were also set for expanding *Rikugun* to the number of 50 divisions. This was to be achieved by 1928. Further expansive activity was to be conducted primarily from advanced bases in the annexed territories.

(Drea, 2010: 155-157). In 1906, the first activities were started to prepare the infrastructure for the increased personnel of the balloon unit. Balloon hangars in Nakano near Tokyō were renovated, and were developed manuals for balloon equipment and materials. In 1907, complete instructions were available for balloon flights. Thus, way the experience gained was generalized and the training base was created for new staff Kikyū tai (気 球隊, Balloon Unit). In 1908, was started the construction of an engine warehouse in the ballooning training center.

Another achievement was the advent ofthe development of airship and aviation technology. On July 30, 1909, was established *Rinji Gun'yō Kikyū Kenkyū Kai* (臨時軍用気球研究会, the Provisional Military Balloon Research Committee). In the same year, the first *Rikugun* officers were also sent to train and purchase flight equipment to France and Germany. The first Japanese airship was created at the Isaburō Yamada ballooning company. It was called *Yamada Shiki Ichi Gō Hikō Fune* (山田式一号飛行船, airship number 1, type Yamada). In 1910, the first flight was carried out on it. The next airships No. 2 and No. 3 performed their flights in February and July of the next year. During the creation of airship structures from the Yamada Shiki family, the first military airship *Kai Shiki I-go Hikō Fune* (会式イ号飛行船, airship number 1, type Kai) was created at Rinji Gun'yō Kikyū Kenkyū Kai. It was delivered to Tokorozawa airport in August 1911, and in October it carried out the first flight of several hours. Since then, airships designed for the army were only produced in military arsenals. After successful experiments with own designs, the same year in Germany was ordered an airship Parseval PL.13. It was delivered to Japan in March 1912. It was used in conjunction with other airships during field training and training of airship pilots until it was destroyed in an accident in March 1913.

Aviation thought in Japan was mainly developed by *Rinji Gun'yō Kikyū Kenkyū Kai*, which, despite the name for military ballooning, also focused on the development of motor-powered machines. The first power structures were built in 1909, on the production of balloons in Nakano. It was the first aircraft development center in Japan before moving to Tokorozawa. Before the first pilots returned from abroad in 1910, none of the first aircraft built had completed the

correct flight. Only the delivery to Japan of two aircraft produced in France and Germany allowed the creation of an aviation section in December 1910. Over the years, the next types of aircraft were created, which were a combination of existing solutions or their modification in Japan. The most of new types aircrafts (only fourteen and one imported) appeared in 1912. Of the fifteen aircraft types designed and constructed in Japan, only six had successful flights. Of the five types developed by the Japanese (but made abroad – USA, UK, France), all flights were completed correctly. Of the ten types developed abroad and built in Japan, only two failed to perform the correct flights. All imported aircraft performed correct flights in Japan. Training and training for the first *Rikugun* pilots was carried out on them and on their varieties produced in Japan by *Rinji Gun'yō Kikyū Kenkyū Kai.*

Security procedures emerged in an attempt to document and classify shipped materials in 1910. The available archival documentation includes transparent lists containing lists of submitted documents. The archives from 1912 already contained inquiries about the manner of keeping and using classified documentation. It came primarily from arsenals and divisions, and were directed to the General Secretariat of the *Rikugun.* In 1913, the Department of Military Affairs, including the Ministry, issued a recommendation regarding the keeping of classified documentation. The next document were the instructions that containing technical conditions and detailed drawings of the cassettes and boxes for classified documentation in *Dai Ichi Shidan* (第一師団, 1st Division). It was a verification of the original versions of the instructions, which, after any corrections and approval, were sent to other divisions. Also was taken into account the possibility of taking longer flights by planes. In 1914, was introduced an official ban on flights over fortress areas. It was the improvement of formal security, where the criterion was the development of military technology. *(Mikesh, 1990: 5-49; Nippon Kōkūki , 2002: 367, 368; Nohara, 2005: 10-17; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / San Dainikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Ichi Dainikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki /*

Rikumankimitsu/Mitsu/Fu Dainikki / Rikumanfu Dainikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Shidai Nikki; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Dainikki Otsushu; The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense / Rikugunsho Dainikki / Dainikki Koshu).

Conclusions. During this period, aviation and aeronautical thought in Japan were not significant until 1906, when the importance of balloon production was finally recognized after the end of hostilities with Russia. The low prioritization in the budget meant that until 1911, the production and research of balloons and airships were concentrated exclusively in the private company Isaburō Yamada. The approach of the *General Staff* and senior *Rikugun* commanders focused mainly on the quantitative development of the army. This was the second argument that the ballooning development program had low priorities. Only the creation of *Rinji Gun'yō Kikyū Kenkyū Kai* in 1909 resulted in the concentration of research and development of aeronautics and aviation at the discretion of government. Aerial research within this committee began with sending of *Rikugun* officers to Europe for training, and then focused on the structural analysis of purchased aircraft and airships. Only after the acquisition of basic knowledge, were developed and built their own aviation structures, which trained the first groups of flight personnel in Japan until 1914. Until 1910, were in place no generally imposed security procedures. Only from the aforementioned year began the gradual introduction of document classification and circulation control. The next instructions concerned ways of storing secret materials and considered threats arising from the development of technical thought as one of the elements of external threat. This level of preparation for the functioning of new weapons units and formal security rules could be regarded as an important indicator of *Rikugun's* preparation for the coming conflicts in 1914.

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Півоньскі П.

КОНФЛІКТИ ЗА УЧАСТІ ЯПОНСЬКОЇ АРМІЇ В 1890-1914 РОКАХ. ОЗНАКИ ПІДГОТОВКИ В КОНТЕКСТІ АНАЛІЗУ ВІЙСЬКОВИХ ПРОЦЕДУР БЕЗПЕКИ ТА ЗАКУПІВЛІ АВІАЦІЙНИХ ТЕХНОЛОГІЧНИХ ІННОВАЦІЙ

Стаття містить опис впровадження аеронавтичних та авіаційних технологій в Rikugun 陸軍 (Армії Великої Японської Імперії) на тлі економічно-політичних змін в Японії в роках від 23 року ери Мейдзі 明治 (1890) до 3 року ери Тайсьо 大正 (1914), а також вступ, який охоплює період від 1 по 23 рік ери Мейдзі (1868-1890).

Другий підрозділ присвячений виникненню процедур безпеки в Rikugun 陸軍 (Армії Великої Японської Імперії) та їх значенню у військових структурах, що розвивалися.

Насамперед, увага зосереджена на описі значення ступеня впровадження аеронавтичних та авіаційних технологічних новинок, а також процедур безпеки, як показника підготовки Rikugun (Армії Великої Японської Імперії) до конфліктів, які мали місце в часовому інтервалі, що розглядається.

Як тло політичних змін показана еволюція урядових структур. В контексті економічного розвитку початково встановлено ключові елементи, що складають основу економічного розвитку таких як освіта, набуття досвіду у веденні внутрішньої політики молодими урядовими кадрами.

У подальшому наведені вище елементи пов'язуються з розвитком військових структур та розбудовою промисловості у наступних виокремлених періодах. Часові межі наступних періодів визначаються конфліктами, у яких японські війська брали участь.

Додатково, як чинник, що впливає на розвиток аеронавтики та авіації, взято під увагу систему підготовки військових кадрів у Японії, зв'язану з перевагами, що виникали з закордонної політики, яка здійснювалась.

Перерахована інформація та прийнята інтерпретація дозволили ширше описати зміни в періоді, який міститься у назві статті.

Ключові слова: епоха Мейдзі, Армія Великої Японської Імперії, Японсько-цінська війна 1894-95, Боксерське повстання 1900, Російсько-японська війна 1904-1905, Rinji Gun'yō Kikyū Kenkyū Kai, Rinji kikyū tai, повітроплавання, дирижаблі, літаки, процедури безпеки.