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The Route Maps of the Korean Peninsula drawn by Japanese Army Officers during 1880s

Abstract

During 1880s, Japanese Imperial Army dispatched young officers to China, Korea and Taiwan for intelligence gathering. Their mission was to prepare geographical handbooks and maps of strategic areas of East Asia, where contemporary Japanese military supposed to debouch. Recently the authors found a series of drafts of maps drawn by these officers at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. In this presentation, we give an outline of this series of draft and examine their activities in field survey. Cartographic features of these drafts are also the target of the analysis.

Most of the drafts are maps on middle scale (1: 100,000 or 1: 200,000) and describe main routes of Korea, which connect central places. The officers found bearings with compass and measured the distance by pace. The results were recorded on plotting papers. Among them, *Chosen zen zu* (A complete map of Korea, 1: 1,000,000) is remarkable because it is an index map of the routes which the officers surveyed.

Chosen Hanto ni ju man bun no ichi zu (Maps of Korea on a scale of 1:200,000) were compiled from these drafts up to 1894 and distributed to the military units at the Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895). We confirmed that the Emperor *Meiji* also had perused this kind map according to those left in a collection of the National Institute for Defense Studies of Japan.



Madison Bldg of the LC

The Route Maps of the Korean Peninsula drawn by Japanese Army Officers during 1880s

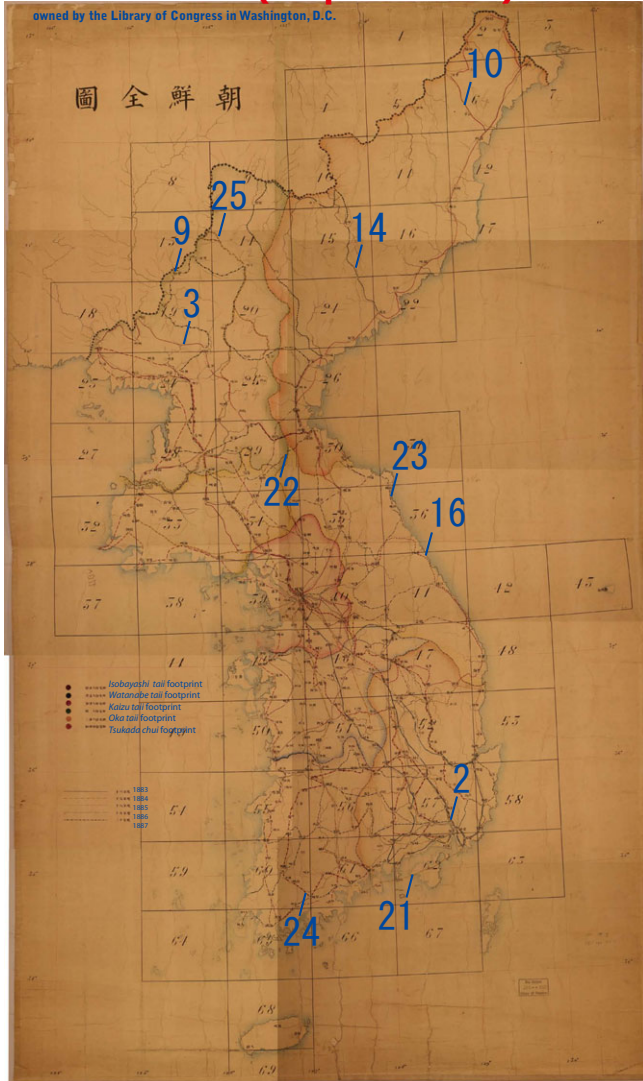


G&M Reading Room

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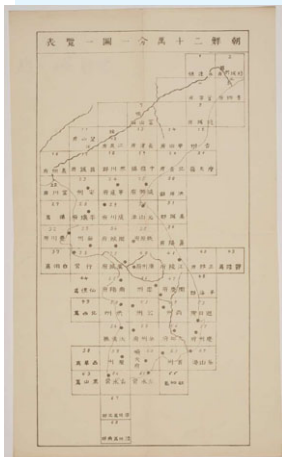
Chosen zen zu (Map of Korea)



Kankoku zenzu : Isobayashi Taii aka rokumei, Meiji 16-nen yori 21-nen itaru ashiato shiteizu G7900 1887. K3 Vault Geography & Map Reading Room (Madison, LMB01) 113.0x67.0cm

An Index Map of the Korean Peninsula at a scale of 1:200,000

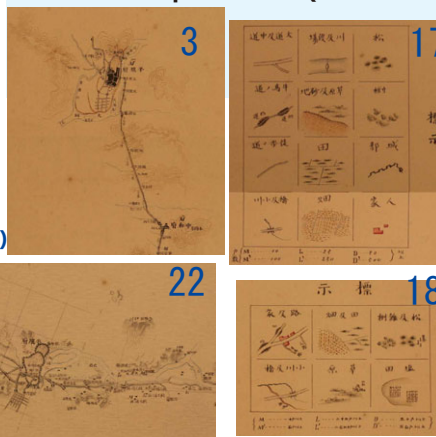
- The numbers in "Chosen zen zu" are different from those in this map
- This new numbers for this map are written in pencil in "Chosen zen zu"
- This map was made about 1894 when "Kasei toa yochizu" was printed
- Emperor Meiji also perused this kind of map, which is now part of "Chiyoda collection" of the National Institute for Defense Studies of Japan



"Kasei toa yochizu" printed in 1894 (1:1,000,000*200%) by National Diet Library

5. Conclusion

- A lot of topographical information was given in a series of drafts
- The survey in Korea by Japanese Imperial Army was begun earlier than generally believed
- These maps were distributed to the military units during the Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895)



1. Aim of this presentation

- To give an outline of a series of drafts that Japanese Imperial Army drew during 1880s
- To examine their activities in field survey

2. Background of "Chosen zen zu" During 1880s:

Japanese Imperial Army dispatched young officers to China, Korea and Taiwan for intelligence gathering

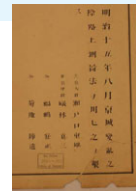
Their mission: to prepare geographical handbooks and maps of strategic areas of East Asia

After the Imo Incident(1882):

Japanese officers could survey inside the Korean Peninsula

Table1 Maps of Korea before 1883

Title in English	Year (Year of Issue)	Scale	Surveyor	Footprint
Road from Chemulpo (Inchon) to Hwangso (Seoul)	1879	40,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
Mouth Chango River between Chungchong-do and Cholla-do Okku Bay, Cholla-do, Chongau Bay, Chungchong-do	1879	28,800	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
Mouth Chango River between Chungchong-do and Cholla-do Okku Bay, Cholla-do	1879	60,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
Chongau Bay, Chungchong-do	1879	30,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
Brief map of the Alan River and Alan Bay between Kyon-gi-do and Chungchong-do present (Shanghaigang-canal)	1882	40,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
Brief map of the Irin River (from Chongau-bu, Kyong-gi-do to north of Alan River)	1882	40,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
Brief map of the Irin River (from Chongau-bu, Kyong-gi-do to north of Irin River)	1882	20,000	Isobayashi	Fukushima
Road from Incheon (Chemulpo) to Hansong (Seoul)	1882	20,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
Road from Sihung-hyon (Kyonagi-do) to Incheon	1882	20,000	Takeda	Isobayashi



"Road from Incheon to Hansong" (part)



3. Research at the Library of Congress, USA

About: a series of drafts of maps drawn by Japanese officers at the Geography & Map Reading Room of the LC in Washington, D.C.

Dates: ● Mar.2-10,2008 ● Sep.22-Oct.4,2008 ● Mar.3-13,2009

Cartographic features:

- routes; positions and sizes of villages; the topography
- compass bearings ● distances paced out

(1) Road maps: at medium scale (1: 100,000 or 1: 200,000)

(2) Area maps: at large scale (1:2,000 ~)

(3) Brief maps

4. Analysis of "Chosen zen zu"

- An index map of the routes which 6 officers surveyed
- A map of Korea, at a scale of 1: 1,000,000 (in 69 sections)
- Surveyors and years indicates by colors and types of line
- Compilation of almost medium scale road maps

Table2 Maps of Korea in 1883-1887

No.	Title in English	Year (Year of Issue)	Scale	Surveyor	Footprint
1	Map of Korea	1883	1:1,000,000	Watanabe	Isobayashi
2	The Chado Road, Kyongsang-do	1883	200,000	Watanabe	Isobayashi
3	Korea map of Uju to Kyongsong (Seoul)	1883	40,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
4	Wonsan harbor and settlement, Hamgyong-do	1883	2,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
5	Korea map of road from Wonsan to Manchoung-Hangyong-do	1883	40,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
6	Korea map of road from settlement Wonsan to Yongjuon, Hamgyong-do	1883	40,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
7	Area west of Seoul, including Chemulpo, Korea, etc. 1883	1883	40,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
8	Pyeongan	1884	20,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
9	Korea Road map Hamgyong-do and Pyongan-do, Korea 1884	1884	200,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
10	Road in Hamgyong-do	1884	200,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
11	Road from Mapo to Manju, Kyongsang-do	1884	40,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
12	Mapo	1884	10,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
13	Japanese settlement in Chemulpo, Hamgyong-do	1885	200,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
14	Chungyongjin, in Hamgyong-do and Pyongan-do, Korea	1885	200,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
15	Overview from the settlement at Chongyong-bu, Hamgyong-do	1885	200,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
16	Site for harbor/sea-port to and from Kangwon-do	1885	100,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
17	Road from Chongok Bridge to Kwangju, via Sorae-Ohn and via Incheon, Kyongsang-do	1885	20,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
18	Road from Chemulpo to Sokochwon, Kyongsang-do	1885	20,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
19	Chemulpo the cemetery area	1885	2,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
20	Plan of the settlement at Chemulpo 1884	1885	2,000	Kobayashi	Isobayashi
21	Road map to Kyongsong from Pusan to Chwasuyong-Cholla-do	1886	100,000	Mura	Isobayashi
22	Road map, from Kyongsong (Seoul) to Wonsan, Hamgyong-namdo	1887	200,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
23	Road from Albon Pref. Hamgyong-do to Kyongsong	1887	200,000	Isobayashi	Isobayashi
24	Korea (south)-Road from Seoul-Cholla-do, via Taegu, Kyongsang-do, to	1887	200,000	Takeda	Isobayashi
25	Road from Kyongsang to Suwang, Yongpung-gun, Hamgyong-do	1887	200,000	Mura	Isobayashi
26	Road map of the Kyongsong (Seoul) area, with in travelling distance	1887	100,000	Mura	Isobayashi