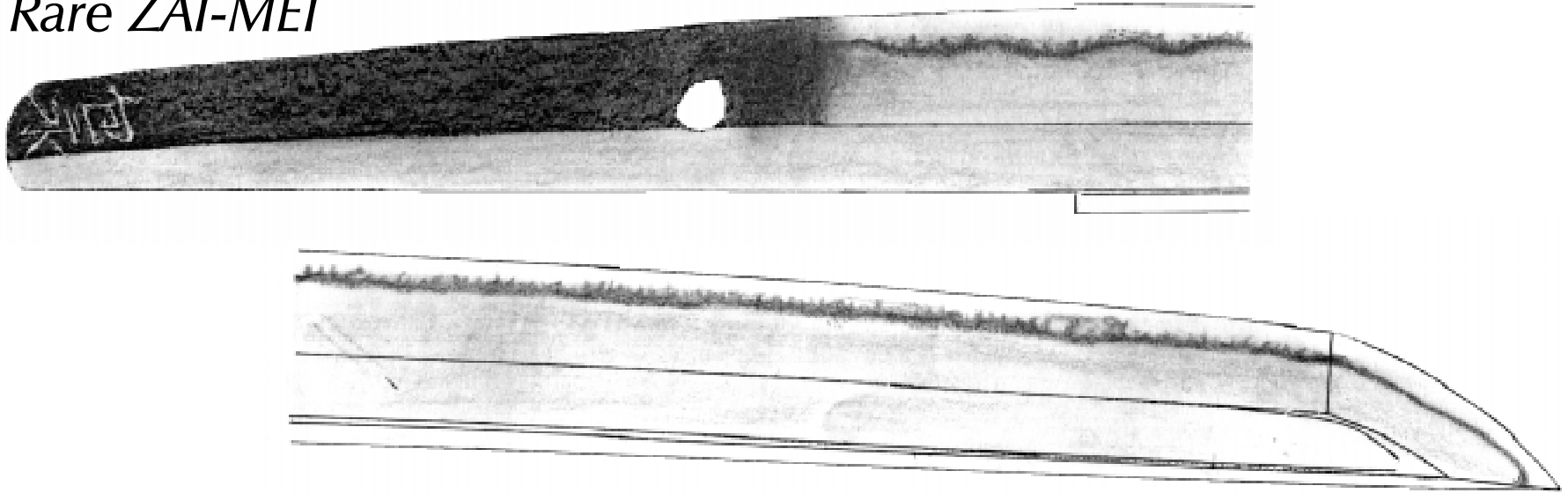


TEGAI KANENAGA 3

Rare ZAI-MEI



NTHK KANTEI-SHO, this signed main TEGAI master is placed by time. Mr Yoshikawa has said this piece is exactly like the GYO-BUTSU his family has taken care of for the Emperor in the Imperial collection. The NTHK have placed EI-KYO for this sword. However, the sword appears similar with many OEI and earlier. The steel is bright and it's deep BO-HI is another feature suggesting earlier work. SURIAGE, this strong sword is 20 3/16" but was UBU at 24", between 23 3/4" to 24 1/4" - this brings the possibility of the NAMBOKUCHO of EN-BUN. We can think KANENAGA(3), regardless. To insist EI-KYO is to place the firm energy of an OEI stylist in the SUGATA. The early MUROMACHI saw OEI style slowly transform away. OEI style can still be seen in the EI-KYO, but it was a time where the MUROMACHI grew and displaced OEI men and their work. Not the work from an aged and feeble, shaky hand, there is a strong power in the construction and beauty. A great exuberance and energy shines forth from this solid work of a strong and vibrant master. The sword is a broad and stately, strong MITSU-MUNE, SHINOGI-TSUKURI with CHU-KISSAKI and a wide, smooth BO-HI that drops all the way through the NAKAGO. The BO-HI is shallow-welled and particularly difficult to create, occupying the whole of the SHINOGI-JI area. HADA is a tight, defined and well-knit, flowing ITAME that stands strongly. Grain lines are neither white nor dark, but fused KIN colored steel. Bright NIOI-FUKASHI reveals a shining scene of KO-GUNOME MIDARE BA leaning together in a stretch of far-a-way mountains. Examination reveals finely brushed KO-NIE. The SURIAGE NAKAGO is in excellent condition and finely finished with remnants of the original MEKUGI-ANA barely discernible on the JIRI which is KURI shaped. His signature sits just above in clear definition. One of the finest HABAKIs, its value is the same as good TOGI. The gold on this covered double is almost 1/16" thick. It is perfectly sculpted and fits together and around the NAKAGO with its BO-HI perfectly; and like the sword it seats, is not over-stated. This sword is SHIBUI, just right, a SHINOGI-TSUKURI, perfectly strong and balanced from all perspectives and a signed or ZAI-MEI YAMATO by the main TEGAI master. A rare and superlative collector's piece. The Emperor has another by the same man in exactly the same condition. "Fit for a King." TEGAI KANENAGA with NTHK KANTEI-SHO: \$8500