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DATE: 22 Jan. 1918

I. P. S. Evidentiary Document Number 3151

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Doc. No. 3151 - 3156

21 August 1947

ANALYSIS OF DOCULENTARY EVIDENCE

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

Title and Nature: RUSSIAN telegrams and letters reporting information concerning unlawful acts of Japanese in area of NIKOLAMVSK and Mongolia frontier.

Date: 1920 & Original ( ) Copy (x) Language:
Russian
English

Has it been translated? Yes (x) No () Has it been photostated? Yes () No (x)

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL

. Russian Document Division

SOURCE OF ORIGINAL: State Central Record Office of Red army of USSR.

PERSONS IMPLICATED:

CRIMES OR PHASE TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: MANCHURIAN Lilitary Aggression; Atrocities against USSR. Relations with USSR.

SUMLARY OF RELEVANT POINTS

Doc. No. 3151. Affidavit of witness BIKOV, Afinogen Erastovich, dated 20 March 1947. Witness, formerly Russian army officer with duty on territory of MONGOLIAN People's Republic in 1939, testifies to Japanese unlawful actions against the MONGOLIAN border-guards.

Doc. No. 3152. Photocopy of document entitled "A Telegram, No. 7.190 of March 3, 1920, from the Red Army Headquarters in NIKOLAEVSK addressed to IRKUTSK, concerning the murder by the Japanese of the Soviet bearer of a Flag of Truce."

Doc. No. 3151-3156 Page 1 : Doc. No. 3151-3156 - Page 2 - Summary Cont'd.

Doc. No. 3153. Photostatic excerpt from "Journal of Battle ...ctions of the Units which make up the ... IUR Front" concerning the events in NIKCLEVSK on MAUR and evidence of Japanese atrocities on civilian population.

Doc. No. 3154. Photocopy of an article entitled "Events in NIKOL VSK on the mur" published in the VL.DIVOSTOK newspaper the "N.B.T" No. 35 of Harch 30, 1920, regarding Japanese atrocities and violation of code of warfare.

Doc. No. 3155. Photocopy of document entitled "11 Direct Wire Joint Telegram from MIROL EVSK, No. 98, dated 24 March 1920, about Japanese Bloody Crimes."

Doc. No. 3156. Copy of "Letter of the Paople's Commissar of Home Affairs of the USSR, May 17, 1939, No. 1556, to Comr. MOLOTOV, Peoples' Commissar of Foreign .ffairs," referring to the violation of the frontier of the MONGOLIAN People's Republic by the Japanese - BARGUTS.

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analyst: E.T. GARDEN Doc. No. 3151-3156 Page 2

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Fundamental Edition

Exhibit No. 3857

## of the witness Bykov Afinogen Erastovich

## The City of Tokyo, January 7, 1948

I, Colonel Smirnov, Assistant Prosecutor for the U.S.S.R. in the International Military Tribunal for the Fer East, interrogated as a witness the undersigned who testified:

Surname, First name, Second name: Bykov Afinegen Erastovich

Malor

Melor

Place of employment

RETURN

A group of Soviet Occupation forces in Gen namy

Previous trial

I have never been under trial.

The witness has been warned of the responsibility for giving false testimony under Article 95 of the R.S.F.S.F. (The Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic).

The oath of the witness is attached to the affidavit.

1. In 1939, I served in the Soviet forces on the territory of the Mongolian People's Pepublic. ...t that time my rank was senior lieutenant and I commanded a mechanized rifle battalion of the 11th tank brigade stationed in the town of Undur-han.

On Merch 1, 1939 Major-General Yakovlev, brigade commander put me in command of a mixed detachment and ordered to march with the detachment to the area of the Mongolian town Tamtsak-Bulak 120-130 kilometers west of the Halhin-Gol river. As Major-General Yakovlev explained to me the purpose of sending the mixed detachment was as follows: in the Halhin-Gol river area, on the sector guarded by the 7th Mongolian frontier guard outpost increased the cases of the boundary line being crossed by the Japanese troops and there were cases when the Japanese kidnapped the Mongolian tsiriks (soldiers) and officers and took them to the Manchurian territory. The purpose of having the Soviet mixed letachment in that area was to prevent the Japanese from similar unlawful actions directed against the Mongolian border-guards.

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My mechanized rifle battalion reinforced with an armoured-car (BA-6) company, with a battery of 76 mm. self-propelled guns (4 guns) and with a battery of 122 mm. howitzers (4 howitzers) was a part of the mixed detachment placed under my command.

On May 28, 1939, this detachment was the first unit of Soviet regular troops which engaged in battle with the Japanese Manchurian troops crossing the border of the Mongolian People's Pepublic east of the Halhingol river and seizing the part of the Mongolian territory on the eastern bank of that river.

2. On Merch 5, 1939, the detachment arrived in the area of the town Temtsak-Bulak and was stationed there.

In the town Tamtsak-Bulak was also stationed the 6th Mongolian cavalry division.

East of Tamtsak-Bulak were neither Mongolian nor Soviet regular troops, but only the Mongolian border-guard outposts.

3. Insofer as the violations of the border were perpetrated by the Japanese on the sector guarded by the 7th Mongolian border guard outpost I went to that outpost in March 1030 in order to investigate the situation at the border.

The 7th border guard outpost guarded the sector of the state border of the Mongolian People's Republic east of the Halhin-gol river beginning from Eris-Ulin-Obo and further to the north in a straight line to Hulat-Ulin-Obo and from that place also i. a straight line to Nomongan-Burd-Obo.

In such a way the territory guarded by the outpost was on the eastern bank of the Halhin-gol river 20-22 kilometers in depth in the direction of Nomongan-Burd-Obo east of the river.

The sector of the border guarded by the outpost ended a few kilometers north of the place Nomongan-Burd-Obo.

The bulk of the outpost was on the western bank of the river in the Sumburin-Tsagan-Nur lake area. The outpost daily sent patrols to and set posts on the eastern bank of the river.

The Gastern bank of the river was very carefully guarded by Mongolian border guards especially in connection with systematic violations of the state border in that area perpetrated by the Japanese-Manchurian troops beginning from January 1939.

4. On the night of May 15, 1939; the headquarters of the 6th Mongolian cavalry division received a report from the 7th border guard outpost to the effect that on May 11 the Japanese-Manchurian cavalry unit more than 200 men strong crossed the border in the Nomongan area and advanced 15-1° kilometers into the Mongolian territory.

In a clash with that unit several Mongolian border guards were killed. On May 12, 1939, border guard reserves drove the violators of the border into the Menchurian territory.

However on May 14, 1939, up to two squadrons of the Japanese. and Manchurians again crossed the border and advanced into the Mongolian territory on the eastern bank of the Halhin-gol river driving back the border guards. The state of the Art of the state of the sta

In connection with that report the Command of the 6th Mongolian division and I decided to go to the location of the 7th border guard outpost to investigate the situation.

about 35-40 kilometers from the 7th Mongolian border guard outpost we came across 2 mounted tsiriks (soldiers) riding on horseback at top speed in the western direction. We stopped them. The tsiriks were carrying a message from the chief of the outpost to the effect that 5 Japanese single-engined dive-bombers raided the outpost and made four bombing runs. During the first two runs the outpost was bombed and then during the last two the outpost was machine-gunned from the air.

We went to the outpost at once and I myself saw the damage inflicted by the Japanese. Three tsiriks were killed, 25 were injured. I saw myself the traces of machine-gunning. On the same day we returned to Temtsak-Bulak (we had motorcars). I put in a through call to the corps headquarters in Ulan Pator and reported about what had happened.

5. On May 18 by order of the command the Mongolian division went to the Hemardaba mountain area on the western bank of the Halhin-gol river.

By order of the corps headquarters my reconnaissance platoon went together with the 6th Mongolian cavalry division. The first minor clash of Soviet troops with Japanese-Manchurian troops took place on May 22 or 23 when in accordance with the instructions of the corps headquarters I ordered my reconnaissance platoon to cross the Helhin-gol river to its eastern bank and to conduct the reconnaissance inforce on the Mongolian territory seized by the Japanese. I gave strict orders to the platoon commander under no circumstances to cross the state border line.

The reconnaissance platoon went 7-8 kilometers to the east with- ! out hindrance and being 12-13 kilometers from the state border line was fired upon by the enemy, surrounded, and fighting broke through the encirclement and withdrew to the western bank of the Halhin-gol river.

6. On May 25 the 6th Mongolian cavalry division crossed the Halhingol river to its eastern bank and took up the defensive position 8-10 kilometers from the state border line. My detachment arrived at the Halhin-gol on May 24, 1939.

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On May 26 I received a vorder; to put across the river to its eastern bank two mechanized rifle companies, a battery of 45 mm. guns and a few armoured cars. On May 27 I transferred our command post to the eastern bank of the Halhin-gol river, about 9-10 kilometers from the state border line.

On May 26 and 27 Soviet-Mongolian units had no battle contacts with the Japanese. We thought that the border incident was closed.

7. However, on the night of May 28 the Japanese took up the offensive.

It began at about 3 a.m. As I know from the testimony of those taken prisoner the offensive was conducted by a group (which was a part of the 23d infantry division and Bargut cavalry) under the command of Colonel Yamagata, commander of the 64th infantry regiment of the 23d infantry division.

The group contained a part of the 64th infantry regiment, a reconnaissance detachment of the 23d division under the command of Lt.-Colonel Azuma, a motorized company under the command of Captain Kawano, the 8th cavalry regiment and the units of the 1st and 7th Pargut cavalry regiments.

The Japanese tried to outflank the Soviet troops from the left flank to appear in our rear and get to the Halbin-gol river crossing cutting off our way of retreat.

Regular fighting took place in the course of which my detachment lost 65-70 officers and men. At the end of the day of May 28 a regiment of the 36th rifle division under the command of Major Pemizov arrived at the Helhin-gol river. That regiment from the march was thrown into action.

This day may be considered as the date of the opening of largescale hostilities on the Halhin-gol river between the Japanese who violated the border and the units of the Soviet army. Prior to May 28 major clashes of regular troops did not take place.

8. I participated with my detechment in further battles and stayed in that area till the constain of hostilities and the conclusion of truce. As a participant of those battles I can testify that in all the operations I had strict orders not to cross the state border line and those orders were never broken by me.

I know that the commenders of other units had similar strict orders I definitely know that during the hostilities there was not a single case of a border-violation on the part of our troops or Mongolian units.

As an eye-witness of the cessation of hostilities I can testify that after the Japanese had been defeated we did not follow them across the border though we had a chance of going forward up to Hailer without encountering resistance. After the cessation of hostilities we took up the defensive along the state border line which remained exactly in the same place in which it had run prior to May 11, 1939.

The affidavit is written in my own hand.

/s/ Mejor Bykov

Interrogated: Colonel Smirnov
Assistant Prosecutor for the U.S.S.F.
In the International Military Tribunal
For the Far East.

## Oath of Witness

The City of Tokyo, January 7, 1948

I, the undersigned Major Bykov Afinogen Erastovich, give this oath to Colonel Smirnov, Assistant Prosecutor for the U.S.S.R. in the International Military Tribunal for the Far East, to the effect that I, being called as witness in the case of major Japanese war criminals, pledge myself to tell the truth and nothing but the truth.

I have been warned of the responsibility for giving false testimony under Article 95 of the Criminal Code of the F.S.F.S.R.

Major Bykov Afinogen Trastovich

The text of the oath was given to me.

Colonel Smirnov Assistant Prosecutor for the U.S.S.R. in the International Military Tribunal for the Far East.



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軍人トシテノ官 陸軍少佐

年 一九〇六年

聯隊長代理

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