

NO 2161



Ex 2161

AFFIDAVIT OF A WITNESS

MOSCOW March 12, 1946. The Military Investigator for the USSR, at the International Military Tribunal in Tokyo, colonel of the Judicial Corps, Dolitzky examined with due warning of the responsibility for giving false evidence under article 95 of the Criminal Code of the R.S.F.S.R. the undersigned as a witness, who stated the following.

Orelchenko, Yakov Vasilievich born in 1911, in the Kiev district, the inhabited point of Enelchino, rank major, at present a student of the Frunze Military Academy;

I live in Moscow, Harovniki, 3. Have never been charged with criminal offence.

In 1939 I was a lieutenant and held the position of Second-in command of the rifle regiment 149 which at that time was in the area of the Halhin-Gol river. The conflict in the mentioned area was caused by the provocative actions of the Japanese troops, to which I was a witness.

Thus, in April, 1939, a Japanese plane, having trespassed the frontier with the Mongolian People's Republic flew for about 75 kilometres deep into the country and opened fire at one of the platoons of my company. One of the Red Army Men was killed, two were wounded. At that time the platoon was having parade drill; it had no ammunition and therefore it was not able to defend itself from the attacks of the plane, that was flying very low.

In the same month I witnessed another provocation of the Japanese troops; 3 Japanese planes attacked a Mongolian outpost, 70-75 kilometres deep from the State frontier in the Mongolian Peoples' Republic.

As the result of this bombing the monastery, where the outpost was, was destroyed.

In the course of the fighting, near the Halhin-Gol river, in which our units were engaged against the Japanese troops who encroached on the Mongolian People's Republic, Junior Lieutenant of our company Komaristih, was wounded and taken prisoner by the Japanese.

It was on the night before the 29th of May, 1939. In the morning when we were advancing, near the mount "Renizovo" my scouts and I found the corpse of Junior Lieutenant Komaristih. 5 stars were carved out on the back of the corpse. A large star with the sickle and hammer was carved out on the chest. Cartridges were driven into his eyes. The skull was broken in many places; the wrists and ankles were broken whereas the hands



were twisted. The penis was cut off, there was an anti-tank shell in the abdomen, the heels of the feet were scorched, the finger nails were torn off, the tongue and the ears were cut off, all the body was pierced through with rarrods. I was witness of the atrocities of the Japanese military clique over our Red Army men and officers.

On the 24th of June, 1939, a Japanese cavalry squadron and 7 Japanese armoured cars surrounded a group of the Red Army men of our regiment. The group consisted of 13 Red Army men and 1 officer.

All of them were wounded and taken prisoners by the Japanese in the fighting where the odds were against them, a group, under my command consisting of 1 battalion was sent to the place of the fighting. When the Japanese were driven out, we saw the following picture: our Red Army men 13 in number and one lieutenant that were taken prisoners by the Japanese lay cut to peices in one spot.

I have nothing else to state.

My testimony has been written down and read to me to which I sign my name. The Military Investigator at the International Military Tribunal in Tokyo, Colonel Dolitzky.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION OF THE ABOVE DOCUMENT

I, BEDOVA, H., hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the Russian and English languages; and the above is a correct and true translation of the indicated Document.

SIGNATURE

BEDOVA



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Lt. Colonel Taranenko G. I.  
a member of the military forces of the U.S.S.R., do here-  
by certify that affidavit of witness Omelchenko, an eye-  
witness of the Khalhin-Gol river incident of March 12, 1946,

on 2 pages

was delivered to me by

Colonel Dolitsky.

on or about March, 12, 1946, and that the original

of the said document may be found in

I do further certify

/s/ Lt. Col. Taranenko  
(Signature and rank.)

Tokyo, Japan,

June 15, 1946.