

Exhibit 2656

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Def. Doc. # 1376

I M T F E

United States of America et al

against

ARAKI, Sadao et al

SWORN DEPOSITION (Translation)

Deponent : Rippei Ogisu

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached sheet and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country I hereby depose as follows.

OATH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

/S/ Rippei Ogisu (seal)

I am a former lieutenant-general in the Japanese army. During the interval between August to October of 1939 I participated in the NOMANHAN affair as the commander of the Six Army which was under the command of the Kwantung Army.

1. It was August 2, 1939 that I as the commander of the Six Army arrived at HAILAR. I encountered then in affair which was later on known as the "NOMANHAN Affair" already broken out. The Six Army had under its command the 25rd Division, part of the 7th Division and a frontier garrison.

2. It was a settled opinion on the part of MANCHUKUO since its national inception that the frontier line between MANCHUKUO and Outer MONGOLIA was a line along the River HALHA. The frontier

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Observation post of MANCHUKUO was located at NOMANCHAN, a little over 10 kilometers back off the HALHA. It is a common practice to set a frontier guard post at a spot a little removed from the border line of any two countries. Moreover, the east bank of the River HALHA is low land and was therefore, unfit for the site of a frontier guard post. The aforesaid guard post at NOMANCHAN was composed of MONGOLIAN (Inner) soldiers who were to keep watch at the frontier of the MANCHURIAN side. The Outer MONGOLIAN side had its pickets disposed along the left bank of the River HALHA. The armed clash occurred as the Outer Mongolian soldiers made an assault against the aforesaid MONGOLIAN frontier guards on the MANCHURIAN side on May 12 of the same year.

I arrived at NOMANCHAN on August 12, 1939 and, on the following 13th, reached the spot where the fighting was taking place. I took a general view of the actual situation with our side facing the opponents across the River HALHA and right away ordered the commander of the 23rd Division to quickly concentrate forces for winter-encampment. Then I returned to HAILAR. At HAILAR I was keeping myself busy in making an inspection visit of the garrisons when on the 20th of the same month an aerial message was brought in, which said that united forces of Outer MONGOLIANS and SOVIETS with tank units as their major strength had made inroad into the MANCHURIAN territory along seven separate roads. I despatched the chief of the staff to the battle-ground next of day (21st) and I myself reached there on the 23rd and endeavored to check their advances. In September I we found them building defence

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positions along the line from the River HARBIN -GOAL to NOMANHAN. On September 6 we received an Imperial Command from Headquarters ordering the 6th Army to make an agreement for the cessation of hostilities holding the positions on both sides as they were. Consequently, I sent the chief of staff as my representative to the SOVIET position, and the cessation of hostilities was concluded.

4. My duty at that time was to guard the frontier line. No order had we received from either the Kwantung Army or the Headquarters to advance forward by crossing the frontier line. The duty of the 23rd Division prior to my installation in the post of commander of the 6th Army was also to guard the frontier line.

On this 25th day of April, 1947

at the premises of the International Military Tribunal Far East.

DEPONENT Rippei Ogisu (seal)

I, Ichiro Kiyoshe hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date, at the same place.

Witness: (signed) Ichiro Kiyoshi (seal)

OATH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

Rippei Ogishi (seal)