

Arisaka Type 2 Paratrooper with a history  
By  
Dale Crabtree



This Nagoya Type 2 rifle appears in an unissued condition, all matching rifle with some unique markings and a bit of history. When first viewed, this rifle could be mistaken as having mismatched halves until one takes a good hard look at the assembly numbers and serial numbers.

The forward half assembly number is very plainly marked with a single punch mark and the numbers 472. Upon examination of the assembly number on the rear side the punch mark and the numbers 47 are easy to make out but the #2 is not as easy to make out until one notices that it is turned 90 degrees to the left.



Upon examination of the remaining assembly numbers all have the single punch mark and all have the #2 turned 90 degrees to the left indicating that this was done intentionally but for what reason?



In addition to all the normal markings seen on a Type-2 this one also has the numbers 9292 electronic pencil enticed on the left rear side. When asked about these numbers the veteran who brought it back believe it was applied as an inventory number of some sought. If these numbers are a type of inventory number applied it could have been done by the ship that the veteran returned on.



The rifle serial number is 9730 and as expected on a matching Type-2 all remaining serialized parts (complete bolt assembly, and bayonet lug) are all numbered to the rifle's serial number.

The veteran who brought this rifle back was asked to provide a statement concerning how he acquired it. It is included for viewing however; the hand writing may be a bit hard to heard, so it has been typed out for easier reading.

## The Story of the Rifle

In World War II I was a Dental officer with the 2nd Marine Division for nearly 2 years. We were getting ready to get aboard ship for the Japanese Mainland when the atom bombs hit. Our Division was ordered to Nagasaki where the 2nd atomic bomb hit. We were there for about 2 months before we were headed for the states. As we were getting ready to take off for the states they announced that we could take one souvenir home (I think it was only for officers). When I went by to pick up mine, I was having a hard time making up my mind between a sword and a rifle when the officer giving them away came over and said you can take both of them if you want to. I happened to be a good friend of the dispensing officer.  
D G Briscoe

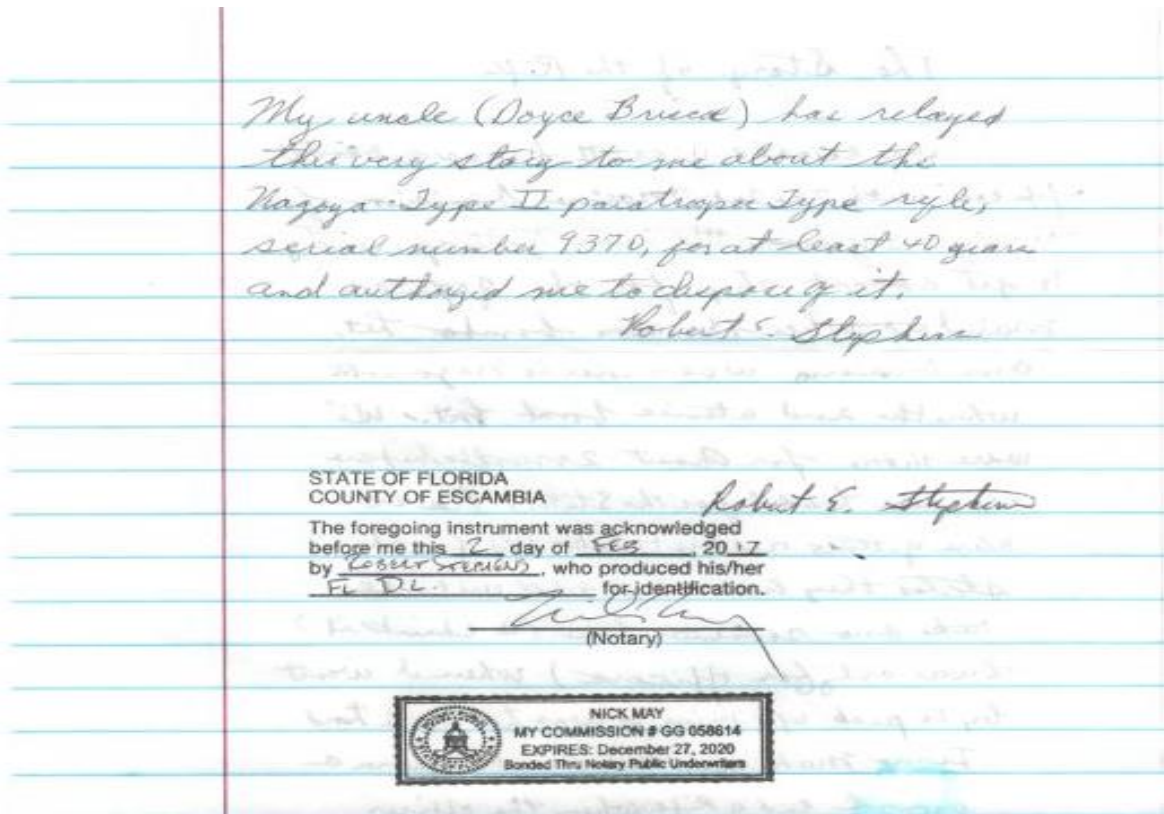
I'm 97 years old. Had a broken right hip last April 4th. I have lost writing ability and can't remember things. This is a parachute rifle.

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My uncle (Doyce Briscoe) has relayed this very story to me about the Nagoya Type II paratrooper type rifle serial number 9370 for at least 40 years and authorized me to dispose of it.

Robert E. Stephon

Certified by Florida Notary Nick May on 2 Feb 2017.

On a related note, knowing that this Naval Officer picked up this rifle at Nagasaki while serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division during the occupation of Japan adds a bit more history to the rifle. The elements of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division that were deployed to Nagasaki after the war became part of what has become known as the "Atomic Veterans." Much has been written about these events and about those who served there following the war, but a booklet titled "Pictorial Arrowhead Occupation of Japan by Second Marine Division" gives the reader a glimpse of what everyday life was like for a Marine or Sailor serving there while waiting for his return trip home to the states. To view this booklet see [http://mansell.com/pow\\_resources/camplists/fukuoka/fuk\\_01\\_fukuoka/fukuoka\\_01/Arrow/Arrow1.htm](http://mansell.com/pow_resources/camplists/fukuoka/fuk_01_fukuoka/fukuoka_01/Arrow/Arrow1.htm)

