

Kajikawa Masaru [梶川勝], a private in Changsha, China

Excerpt from his book *War Experiences of a Private* (陸軍二等兵の戦争体験) (1991)

OVERVIEW: Former soldier of the Japanese Imperial Army, Masaru Kajikawa, recorded his memory of “comfort stations” near Changsha where his unit was located. He published [War Experiences of a Private] (1991) in which he says of the “comfort women,” who were called “Special Nursing Unit,” were unmarried women who had been recruited or forcibly conscripted from rural villages of Korea.

Excerpt:

“A group of “comfort women” for the military, also known as ‘Special Nursing Unit,’ arrived here. A “comfort station” was installed in a village where we were scheduled to stay for the next four days. They are called ‘Pi-ya.’ They say the women who are serving to handle the soldiers’ sexual desires were recruited from rural villages of Korea, or were forcibly taken away. They say only unmarried women were selected. They also say that there are considerable number of Chinese women who were taken at gunpoint. Those women were called ‘Josen(Korean)-pi(translator’s note: Korean whore)’ and ‘Chugoku-pi(translator’s note: Chinese whore),’ respectively.”