

Outpost Report WDC-400

Annotation Source: Seoul Metropolitan Archive

Annotation and Image Link: <https://archives.seoul.go.kr/item/9>

The Office of War Information (OWI) was a U.S. government agency, created for propaganda activities within and outside the U.S. during WWII. For efficient propaganda activities, direct interactions with the target audience were necessary. For this purpose, the OWI outposts were established in different regions. The OWI defined its target audience and set goals of its propaganda at its outposts in China, Burma (today's Myanmar), India, the Philippines, Japan, and Korea as follows: 1) Long-term propaganda to prevent Japan's influence from maintaining, expanding, and strengthening in its occupied territories; 2) Long-term propaganda toward Japanese civilians; 3) White and black propaganda with respect to the Japanese soldiers in each war theater, in cooperation with commanding officers of the theaters of war; 4) Propaganda toward local residents to make them solidify and cooperate with the Allied Forces in the U.S. occupied territories or where the U.S. forces were stationed; and 5) Propaganda activities to boost morale of the US troops dispatched overseas.

This document is an outpost report from the OWI outpost in New Delhi, containing an interrogation report of a Japanese lance corporal, Fuyumoto Ichiro. This report numbered #J-POW-1 is the first interrogation report of a POW created by the Psychological Warfare team in Ledo. The interrogation was assisted by John K. Emmerson. Fuyumoto stated that "Comfort Units" accompanied all Japanese units and that "comfort women" were mostly Koreans, but some were Chinese and Japanese. He asked the interrogator if there were no "comfort units" attached to the US military and was very surprised to hear that there was none.

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