

Compilation of Netherlands East Indies Forces Intelligence Service (NEFIS) Interrogation Reports Nos. 366-378, 404-407, and 410-417 (Not issued separately), Magelang, Java; Solo, Java; Djember, Java (Indonesia)

Annotation Source: Seoul Metropolitan Archives

Annotation link: <https://archives.seoul.go.kr/item/63>

Annotation:

In December 1941, Japan launched a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor and quickly advanced to occupy the regions of what is now Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei. Before the occupation, these areas were under Dutch rule, called Netherlands East Indies. Immediately after Japan occupied the hitherto Dutch-ruled regions, the Dutch forces established an intelligence agency, *Netherlands East Indies Forces Intelligence Service (NEFIS)*, to conduct intelligence operations in the regions. It is noteworthy that Japanese Forces had prevailed in the former Netherlands East Indies except for some places such as Borneo Island until the Allied Forces arrived to take over Japan's Regional Headquarters following the Japanese emperor's surrender announcement.

For this reason, NEFIS' "comfort women" related documents do not include interrogation reports on surrendered Japanese soldiers unlike most of the reports made in other regions after the war. Instead, NEFIS collected various information regarding "comfort women" and "comfort stations" in the former Netherlands East Indies and published them in the form of interrogation reports. The information gathered was mainly based on testimonies from residents who were the forced laborers, those escaped from the Japanese military bases, or those who were rescued from the sea. The reports also contain information about the enemy's strategies, political and economic conditions, propaganda, and psychological warfare. Details on "comfort women" and "comfort stations" are found in the 'General' section.

This document is a Compilation of Interrogation Reports Nos. 366-378, 404-407, 410-417 (dated October 28, 1944) containing the following information about "comfort women" and "comfort stations" NEFIS gathered from locals in various regions: (1) In 1943, in Magelang, central Java, a local person named Amat recruited young girls and made them work as "comfort women" for the Japanese military under his supervision. (2) In Solo, central Java in 1943, a Chinese ran a "comfort station" inside the hotel for Japanese officers and soldiers. This Chinese person lured the local women by telling them that they could earn daily wages under the Japanese Military Police's permission; the women who went to work as "comfort women" never came back. (3) In Amboeloe village, in Djember of eastern Java, local women were recruited for "comfort women" and sent to restaurants and hotels after they received a health examination, which is presumably a STD test necessary to verify their qualification as "comfort women." These women were not able to come back since then.

Source: WAM Collection (FM_008)