

On the Issuance of a Certificate of Identity to Travelers to China

Author: Kotora Okamatsu, Governor of Fukuoka Prefecture

Recipients: Nobumasa Suetsugu, Minister of Home Affairs; Kōki Hirota, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Prefectural Governors

Date: December 15, 1937

File: Miscellaneous Matters Concerning the Restrictions and Regulations of Japanese Citizens Who Travel to China after the Outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War; Issues Related to Various Certificates and Certificates of Identity, Vol. 2

Location: Shanghai (China), Fukuoka Prefecture (Japan)

Keywords: Mobilization

Annotation Source: Northeast Asian History Foundation

Annotation Link: http://contents.nahf.or.kr/id/NAHF.iswc.d_001_0020_0010

Annotation:

This document is a report from the Governor of Fukuoka Prefecture regarding the certificates of identity issued by local authorities up to the end of November 1937 (Classified Ministry of Foreign Affairs Documents, no. 79).

The certificate of identity contains date of issuance, destination, purpose of travel, duration of travel, place of family register, occupation, name, and age. On November 30, 1937, Yahata Police, Fukuoka Prefecture, issued certificates of identity to two women who would leave for China to serve the Japanese Navy in Shanghai “comfort stations.” They were given certificates with validity of 12 months and 21 months, respectively. Kenji Magari recruited the two women. * Kenji Magari was the owner of the “comfort station” for the Japanese Navy, located on North Sichuan Road in Shanghai.

Sources:

WAM Collection (Foreign Affairs_001)

Collection of the Asian Women's Fund, Vol. 1, pp. 113-115.

Sourcebook by Suzuki, Yamashita, and Tonomura, Vol. 1, pp. 73-74.

Sourcebook by Yoshimi, pp. 100-101.