

7. Comfort Women and the Coomaraswamy Report

(1) Relevant Recommendations of the Committee, and statements of the Government Report

- Paragraph 18 of the concluding observations (CERD/C/JPN/CO/7-9)
- Comments by the Government of Japan regarding the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/JPN/CO/7-9/Add.2)

(2) Main Points: The Committee's Understanding of the Comfort Women is Incorrect

Considering the pointless, irrelevant observations and recommendations of the committee, much to our great regret we must tell you that your understanding of the Comfort Women is terribly incorrect.

Primary source evidences such as US Army Reports clearly indicates that "a comfort girl is nothing more than a prostitute or professional or camp followers attached to the Japanese Army for the benefit of soldiers"; they worked on contract to pay off the family debt, which was advance loan payment provided by a procurer, and their average income was 1,500 yen per month, when a skilled factory worker could earn only 30 yen per month; and allowed a prerogative of refusing a customer such as drunken ones. (See the words underlined in red in Appendix 1). Another US Army Report states that "all Korean prostitutes that PoW (Prisoner of War) have seen in the Pacific were volunteers or had been sold by their parents into prostitution" (See the words underlined in red in Appendix 2)

Comfort Women were highly-paid prostitutes, working on a voluntary contract basis at the rear of battlefields. They were basically no different from the Japanese prostitutes worked for RAA (Recreation and Amusement Association) of the U.S. Army during the Occupation Years following the WWII and therefore, the government of Japan is not required to do anything further than those already made so far.

(3) Background

Presumably, the committee's incorrect understanding of the comfort women is based on the 1996 Coomaraswamy Report (*1) (hereinafter the "Report" where appropriate). The Report does not reflect the true picture of the Comfort Women. The Report is written based on the two books highly motivated to spread biased views of the Comfort Women

in an attempt to smear or disparage the nation and people of Japan.

One such book is “The Comfort Women” written by G. Hicks. The author quoted heavily from the book titled “The Emperor’s Forces and Korean Comfort Women” by Kim Il Myon, which is filled with baseless rumors, unfounded hearsays, wildly farcical and ridiculous hoaxes and fabrications, some of which are part of porn novels, movie scenes, and cartoon stories. This book is worthless as a historic material.

Moreover, “Select annotated bibliography” of “The Comfort Women” by G.Hicks writes, Many sources are of limited circulation and accessibility, being the nature of pamphlets or special interest publications obtained through direct contact with activists.” This means the main sources of the information of the author was activists such as Yun Chun-ok (Chair of Chong Dae Hyup: Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan) and USUKI Keiko (President of the Association for Clarifying Japan’s Postwar Responsibility).

Generally, source materials written by activists require serious examination of the validity since such literature materials are often written under strong influence of the activists. Lack of such serious examination by the author is obvious in this book.

However, by blindly believing that the content of the book is true, Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy made a serious mistake of containing distorted views of the comfort women in the Report, even a part of novel in Paragraph 21.

There were comfort women and comfort stations. However, there was no forcible recruitment by the Japanese Army and/or Officials as G. Hicks claims in his book. The results of 1993 investigation by the Japanese Government and also 2007 IWG Report (*2) by the U.S. Government corroborate and back up the views. Moreover, Korean Government and/or civic groups have not presented hard evidences to the contrary up to this time.

The “Women’s Volunteer Service Corps” were basically the same as “Rosie the Riveter” and nothing else. No girls or women were mobilized as “Women’s Volunteer Service Corps” and then deceived into serving as military sexual slaves as Paragraphs 15, 29, or 30 claims in the Report.

Mr. Lee Yong-hoon, professor emeritus at Seoul University, wrote in his book “大韓民国の物語 (The Story of the Republic of Korea)” published in 2009 that “Out of 175 former comfort women who came forward so far, I guess there is no one who testified that she had been first mobilized as “Women’s Volunteer Service Corps” and then forced to become a comfort woman. So many researchers spent a long time and made efforts to clarify this point to their no avail. Little wonder that these two historical events are entirely different from the very start. (p.134)”

The same applies even today. No one claimed she was first mobilized as a member of the “Women’s Volunteer Service Corps” and then forced to become a comfort woman. If you still claim there is such a case, you should identify her name with kanji-letters.

The other book is “My War Crimes” by Yoshida Seiji, the only the offender’s side of story of “large-scale coercion and violent abduction of women in what amounts to slave raids in countries under Japanese control.” (Paragraph 27)

The Report describes in Paragraph 29 that “Moreover, the wartime experiences of one raider, Yoshida Seiji, are recorded in his book, in which he confesses to having been part of slave raids in which, among other Koreans, as many as 1,000 women were obtained for “comfort women” duties under the National Labor Service Association as part of the National General Mobilization Law.”

Yoshida’s “My War Crimes” has already been proven to be a fabrication conjured by a greedy liar who just craved fame and fortune. Yoshida Seiji declared this book was a fabrication in May, 1996, and the Asahi Shimbun newspaper, which made a “self-tormenting war-guilt campaign” based on the Yoshida’s book admitted that his raids in the Cheju Island had never happened, made a formal apology to the public, and retracted 16 news articles relating to the author in September, 2014. Yoshida’s son testified that his father had never been to the Cheju Island, wrote the book by referring to the maps of the island, and publicly expressed his wish to pull out and remove all comfort women statues built around the world by using cranes in Aril, 2016. As Paragraphs 29 and 30 of the Report were written based on the Yoshida’s book, their description must be substantially revised.

(4) Conclusions and Recommendations

1996 Coomaraswamy Report presents distorted wrong views of the Comfort Women, and UN/CERD committee is spreading unsubstantiated stories of former comfort women. The resultant by-product is racial hostility between Japan and South Korea, which appears non-repairable for the next decades. These two nations are otherwise two democracies that should enjoy mutual friendship and peace as good neighbors. In effect, you are violating the human rights of the present-day Japanese by false accusations of sexual slavery, quite like witch trials in the Medieval Age. Considering the above, we strongly urge that the UN/CERD committee take immediate action to:

- (a) Notice that the committee has a wrong idea on the comfort women based on the 1996 Coomaraswamy Report and, as the result, presented recommendations

- that are categorically unacceptable for the nation and people of Japan;
- (b) Stop the insults and disparagement that damage the reputation of the nation and people of Japan by making such false accusations. Particularly, disrespectful remarks against our ancestors are intolerable.
 - (c) Substantially revise or invalidate the whole of the 1996 Coomaraswamy Report;
 - (d) Devote your attention and effort to the current problems now going on in the world such as human trafficking of North Korean female refugees being captured and sold for coerced marriage with Chinese farmers who are short of brides, rather than intervening into history matters still in dispute, which must be left to the discussion of historians.

Reported by “Japanese Women for Justice and Peace”

Note:

(*1) 1996 Coomaraswamy Report

E/CN.4/1996/53/Add.1

Addendum

Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy, in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/45

Report on the mission to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea and Japan on the issue of military sexual slavery in wartime

http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/CN.4/1996/53/Add.1

(*2) 2007 IWG Report

Nazi War Crimes & Japanese Imperial Government Records

Interagency Working Group

Final Report to the United States Congress, April 2007

<http://www.archives.gov/iwg/reports/final-report-2007.pdf>

This is a massive research mandated by two acts of the U.S. government, which was carried out over nearly seven years reviewing through classified U.S. government documents expending \$30 million since 1999. The study found no evidence of crimes in the the comfort women system. The final report was submitted to U.S. Congress in 2007.

Appendix

1. UNITED STATES OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION Psychological Warfare Team Attached to U.S. Army Forces India-Burma Theater Japanese Prisoner of War Interrogation Report No. 49 ----- 63
2. Military Intelligence Service Captured Personnel & Material Branch Composite Report on Three Korean Navy Civilians, List. 76, Dated 28 Mar 45, Re "Special Questions on Koreans. ----- 71

Classified *JMK*

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION
Psychological Warfare Team
Attached to U.S. Army Forces India-Burma Theater.
APO 689

Japanese Prisoner of War Interrogation Report No. 49. Place interrogated: Leda Stockade Date interrogated: Aug. 20 - Sept. 10, 1944 Date of Report: October 1, 1944 By: T/3 Alex Yorichi

Prisoners: 20 Korean Comfort Girls Date of Capture: August 10, 1944 Date of Arrival at Stockade: August 15, 1944

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PREFACE:

This report is based on the information obtained from the interrogation of twenty Korean "comfort girls" and two Japanese civilians captured around the tenth of August, 1944 in the mopping up operations after the fall of Myitkyna in Burma.

The report shows how the Japanese recruited these Korean "comfort girls", the conditions under which they lived and worked, their relations with and reaction to the Japanese soldier, and their understanding of the military situation.

A "comfort girl" is nothing more than a prostitute or "professional camp follower" attached to the Japanese Army for the benefit of the soldiers. The word "comfort girl" is peculiar to the Japanese. Other reports show the "comfort girls" have been found wherever it was necessary for the Japanese Army to fight. This report however deals only with the Korean "comfort girls" recruited by the Japanese and attached to their Army in Burma. The Japanese are reported to have shipped some 703 of these girls to Burma in 1942.

RECRUITING:

Early in May of 1942 Japanese agents arrived in Korea for the purpose of enlisting Korean girls for "comfort service" in newly conquered Japanese territories in Southeast Asia. The nature of this "service" was not specified but it was assumed to be work connected with visiting the wounded in hospitals, rolling bandages, and generally making the soldiers happy. The inducement used by these agents was plenty of money, an opportunity to pay off the family debts, easy work, and the prospect of a new life in a new land - Singapore. On the basis of these false representations many girls enlisted for overseas duty and were rewarded with an advance of a few hundred yen.

The majority of the girls were ignorant and uneducated, although a few had been connected with "oldest profession on earth" before. The contract they signed bound them to Army regulations and to work for the "house master" for a period of from six months to a year depending on the family debt for which they were advanced

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Approximately 800 of these girls were recruited in this manner and they landed with their Japanese "house master" at Rangoon around August 20th, 1942. They came in groups of from eight to twenty-two. From here they were distributed to various parts of Burma, usually to fair sized towns near Japanese Army camps. Eventually four of these units reached the Myitkyina vicinity. They were; Kyoel, Kinsui, Bakushiro, and Momoya. The Kyoel house was called the "Maruyama Club", but was changed when the girls reached Myitkyina as Col. Maruyama, commander of the garrison at Myitkyina, objected to the similarity to his name.

PERSONALITY:

The interrogations show the average Korean "comfort girl" to be about twenty five years old, uneducated, childish, whimsical, and selfish. She is not pretty either by Japanese or Caucasian standards. She is inclined to be egotistical and likes to talk about herself. Her attitude in front of strangers is quiet and demure, but she "knows the wiles of a woman." She claims to dislike her "profession" and would rather not talk either about it or her family. Because of the kind treatment she received as a prisoner from American soldiers at Myitkyina and Ledo, she feels that they are more emotional than Japanese soldiers. She is afraid of Chinese and Indian troops.

LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS:

In Myitkyina the girls were usually quartered in a large two story house (usually a school building) with a separate room for each girl. There each girl lived, slept, and transacted business. In Myitkyina their food was prepared by and purchased from the "house master" as they received no regular ration from the Japanese Army. They lived in near-luxury in Burma in comparison to other places. This was especially true of their second year in Burma. They lived well because their food and material was not heavily rationed and they had plenty of money with which to purchase desired articles. They were able to buy cloth, shoes, cigarettes, and cosmetics to supplement the many gifts given to them by soldiers who had received "comfort bags" from home.

While in Burma they amused themselves by participating in sports events with both officers and men; and attended picnics, entertainments, and social dinners. They had a phonograph; and in the towns they were allowed to go shopping.

PRICE SYSTEM:

The conditions under which they transacted business were regulated by the Army, and in congested areas regulations were strictly enforced. The Army found it necessary in congested areas to install a system of prices, priorities, and schedules for the various units operating in a particular area. According to interrogations the average system was as follows:

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1. Soldiers 10 AM to 5 PM 1.50 yen 20 to 30 minutes
2. NCOs 5 PM to 9 PM 3.00 yen 30 to 40 minutes
3. Officers 9 PM to 12 PM 5.00 yen 30 to 40 minutes

These were average prices in Central Burma. Officers were allowed to stay overnight for twenty yen. In Myitkyina Col. Maruyama slashed the prices to almost one-half of the average price.

SCHEDULES:

The soldiers often complained about congestion in the houses. On many occasions they were not served and had to leave as the army was very strict about overstaying leaves. In order to overcome this problem the Army set aside certain days for certain units. Usually two men from the unit for the day were stationed at the house to identify soldiers. A roving MP was also on hand to keep order. Following is the schedule used by the "Kyoel" house for the various units of the 18th Division while at Maymyo:

Sunday	-----	18th Div. Hdqs. Staff
Monday	-----	Cavalry
Tuesday	-----	Engineers
Wednesday	-----	Day off and weekly physical exam.
Thursday	-----	Medics
Friday	-----	Mountain artillery
Saturday	-----	Transport

Officers were allowed to come seven nights a week. The girls complained that even with the schedule congestion was so great that they could not care for all guests, thus causing ill feeling among many of the soldiers.

Soldiers would come to the house, pay the price and get tickets of cardboard about two inches square with the price on the left side and the name of the house on the other side. Each soldier's identity or rank was then established after which he "took his turn in line". The girls were allowed the prerogative of refusing a customer. This was often done if the person were too drunk.

PAY AND LIVING CONDITIONS:

The "house master" received fifty to sixty per cent of the girls' gross earnings depending on how much of a debt each girl had incurred when she signed her contract. This meant that in an average month a girl would gross about fifteen hundred yen. She turned over seven hundred and fifty to the "master". Many "masters" made life very difficult for the girls by charging them high prices for food and other articles.

In the latter part of 1943 the Army issued orders that certain girls who had paid their debt could return home. Some of the girls were thus allowed to return to Korea.

The interrogations further show that the health of these girls was good. They were well supplied with all types of contraceptives, and often soldiers would bring their own which

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had been supplied by the army. They were well trained in looking after both themselves and customers in the matter of hygiene. A regular Japanese Army doctor visited the houses once a week and any girl found diseased was given treatment, secluded, and eventually sent to a hospital. This same procedure was carried on within the ranks of the Army itself, but it is interesting to note that a soldier did not lose pay during the period he was confined.

REACTIONS TO JAPANESE SOLDIERS:

In their relations with the Japanese officers and men only two names of any consequence came out of interrogations. They were those of Col. Maruyama, commander of the garrison at Myitkyina, and Maj.Gen. Mizukami, who brought in reinforcements. The two were exact opposites. The former was hard, selfish and repulsive with no consideration for his men; the latter a good, kind man and a fine soldier, with the utmost consideration for those who worked under him. The Colonel was a constant habitue of the houses while the General was never known to have visited them. With the fall of Myitkyina, Col. Maruyama supposedly deserted while Gen. Mizukami committed suicide because he could not evacuate the men.

SOLDIERS' REACTIONS:

The average Japanese soldier is embarrassed about being seen in a "comfort house" according to one of the girls who said, "when the place is packed he is apt to be ashamed if he has to wait in line for his turn". However there were numerous instances of proposals of marriage and in certain cases marriages actually took place.

All the girls agreed that the worst officers and men who came to see them were those who were drunk and leaving for the front the following day. But all likewise agreed that even though very drunk the Japanese soldier never discussed military matters or secrets with them. Though the girls might start the conversation about some military matter the officer or enlisted man would not talk, but would in fact "scold us for discussing such un-lady like subjects. Even Col. Maruyama when drunk would never discuss such matters."

The soldiers would often express how much they enjoyed receiving magazines, letters and newspapers from home. They also mentioned the receipt of "comfort bags" filled with canned goods, magazines, soap, handkerchiefs, toothbrush, miniature doll, lipstick, and wooden clogs. The lipstick and clogs were definitely feminine and the girls couldn't understand why the people at home were sending such articles. They speculated that the sender could only have had themselves or the "native girls" in mind.

REACTION TO THE MILITARY SITUATION:

It appears that they know very little about the military situation around Myitkyina even up to and including the time of

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their retreat and capture. There is however some information worth noting:

* "In the initial attack on Myitkyina and the air strip about two hundred Japanese died in battle, leaving about two hundred to defend the town. Ammunition was very low.

"Col. Maruyama dispersed his men. During the following days the enemy were shooting haphazardly everywhere. It was a waste since they didn't seem to aim at any particular thing. The Japanese soldiers on the other hand had orders to fire one shot at a time and only when they were sure of a hit."

Before the enemy attacked on the west air strip, soldiers stationed around Myitkyina were dispatched elsewhere to stem the Allied attack in the North and West. About four hundred men were left behind, largely from the 114th Regiment. Evidently Col. Maruyama did not expect the town to be attacked. Later Maj. Gen. Mizukami of the 56th Division brought in reinforcements of more than two regiments but these were unable to hold the town.

It was the consensus among the girls that Allied bombings were intense and frightening and because of them they spent most of their last days in foxholes. One or two even carried on work there. The comfort houses were bombed and several of the girls were wounded and killed.

RETREAT AND CAPTURE,

The story of the retreat and final capture of the "comfort girls" is somewhat vague and confused in their own minds. From various reports it appears that the following occurred: on the night of July 31st a party of sixty three people including the "comfort girls" of three houses (Baka-shinro was merged with Kinsui), families, and helpers, started across the Irrawaddy River in small boats. They eventually landed somewhere near Waingmaw. They stayed there until August 4th, but never entered Waingmaw. From there they followed in the path of a group of soldiers until August 7th when there was a skirmish with the enemy and the party split up. The girls were ordered to follow the soldiers after a three hour interval. They did this only to find themselves on the bank of a river with no sign of the soldiers or any means of crossing. They remained in a nearby house until August 10th when they were captured by Kachin soldiers led by an English officer. They were taken to Myitkyina and then to the Leda stockade where the interrogations which form the basis of this report took place.

PROPAGANDA:

The girls know practically nothing of any propaganda leaflets that had been used against the Japanese. They had seen a few leaflets in the hands of the soldiers but most of them were unable to understand them as they were in Japanese and the soldiers refused to discuss them with the girls. One girl

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remembered the leaflet about Col. Maruyama (apparently it was Myitkyina Troop Appeal), but she did not believe it. Others heard the soldiers discussing leaflets from time to time but no tangible remarks resulted from their eavesdropping. However it is interesting to note that one officer expressed the view that "Japan can't win this war".

REQUESTS:

None of the girls appeared to have heard the loudspeaker used at Myitkyina, but they did overhear the soldiers mention a "radio broadcast".

They asked that leaflets telling of the capture of the "Comfort girls" should not be used for it would endanger the lives of other girls if the Army knew of their capture. They did think it would be a good idea to utilize the fact of their capture in any droppings planned for Korea.

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APPENDIX "A"

Following are the names of the twenty Korean "comfort girls" and the two Japanese civilians interrogated to obtain the information used in this report. The Korean names are phoneticized.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1. Shin Jyun Nini	21	Keishonando, Shinshu
2. Kak Yonja	28	" Sanzenpo, Yundai
3. Pen Yonja	26	" Shinshu
4. Chinga Chunto	21	Keishohokudo, Taijyu
5. Chun Yonja	27	Keishonando, Shinshu
6. Kim Manju	25	Keishohokudo, Taijyu
7. Kim Yonja	19	" "
8. Kim Kenja	25	Keishonando, Hosen
9. Kim Senni	21	" Kumboku
10. Kim Kun Sun	22	" Taijyu
11. Kim Chongi	26	" Shinshu
12. Pa Kija	27	" "
13. Chun Punyi	21	" Keison Sun, Koyanen Iur-
14. Koko Sunyi	21	" Kenjo, Sekiboku So, Kyu Kuri
15. Yon Muji	31	Heiannando, Keijo
16. Opu Ni	20	" "
17. Kin Tonhi	20	Keikido, Keijo
18. Ha Tenyo	21	" "
19. Oki Song	20	Keishohokudo, Taijyu
20. Kim Guptoge	21	Zonranando, Koshu

Japanese Civilians:

1. Kitamura, Tomiko	38	Keikido, Keijo
2. " Eibun	41	" "

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Japan NGO Coalition against Racial Discrimination (JNCRD)

Comfort Women and the Coomaraswamy Report

Appendix 2

Military Intelligence Service Captured Personnel & Material Branch
Composite Report on Three Korean Navy Civilians,
List. 76, Dated 28 Mar 45, Re “ Special Questions on Koreans.”

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**MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE
CAPTURED PERSONNEL & MATERIAL BRANCH**

of Report: 24 April 1945.
Date of Interrogation: 11 April 1945.
Serial Nos and Rank: 41J-1150, Civilian, *LEE, Bok Do*
14J-185, Civilian, *PAIK, Song Hun*
41J-393, Civilian. *HANG, Ki Nam*

WME

By: Lt. Wilson

COMPOSITE REPORT ON THREE KOREAN NAVY CIVILIANS,
LIST NO. 78, DATED 28 MAR 45, RE "SPECIAL QUESTIONS ON KOREANS."

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PREAMBLE

The general anti-Japanese feeling of these Koreans is the same as almost all of some 100 Korean PW questioned by the interrogator. It is probable that some Koreans are opportunists but these 3 appear to be very sincere in their statements which may be considered reliable. A separate report will be made on one PW; the other two are not worth further interrogation.

QUESTIONNAIRE

This report is based on "Interrogations of Koreans", List No. 78 of 28 Mar 45. Paragraph numbers correspond to question numbers in this list.

2. Koreans in Local Government:

a. The village headman is always a Korean. He is an elderly man elected by the villagers for his honesty and leadership. The Japanese make no attempt to control the election.

b. Offices held in Korean political divisions:

(a) "Myon" (township) most offices are held by Koreans. Two out of 10 may be Japanese.

(b) "Gun" (county) offices are usually held by Koreans. In Cholla Pukto (Zemra-hokudo) there are 14 "Gun", 9 of which, in 1942, were headed by Koreans, appointed by the Japanese Government (No details).

(c) "Up" (town) offices are held by both Japanese and Koreans depending on the predominance of the population.

(d) "Pu" (city) is always headed by a Japanese but other positions in the city may be held by Koreans.

The governors of "Do" (provinces) are predominately Japanese. In 1942 the governors of Cholla Puk To (Zemra-hokudo), Chungchong Pukto (Chusei-hokudo), Kangwon Do (Kogendo), and Hwanghae Do (Kokaido) were Koreans, the others Japanese.

(e) Since

c. Since 1940 no change has been noted in the number of Koreans holding government positions.

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3. Korean men have been conscripted to work in Japan since 1942. They are notified by the Myun (township) office. 300 to 1,000 men would be conscripted and shipped to Japan at one time. It is not known how often these shipments took place. In one village of 93 houses 30 men were conscripted in two years time (1942-44). Though conscription is for a period of two years, it is believed that many are kept for 3 years or longer. One PW who lived in Japan had many personal contacts with Koreans working in coal and iron mines, and building airfields. They were always required to do the worst type of work such as was found in the deepest and hottest part of a mine.

Men working at the coal mines received ¥ 3.50 per day out of which ¥ 0.10 was put in postal savings. They were given food and quarters. There was no provision made for the care of families of conscripts. The men would send what money they could save to their homes. At the Chinnai, Karafuto, coal mines native and Japanese laborers earned ¥ 7.00 to ¥ 24.00 per day but conscripts were given fixed rages. Correspondence was permitted but all mail was censored.

The treatment of these Koreans is worse than that given Allied POW. The prisoner who lived in Japan assisted 3 Koreans to escape from a coal mining camp near Yoshima, Fukushima Ken, at which 500 conscripts were working. One of these he took to Akira to work in a coal mine, but was apprehended through his letters to his family. He was taken back to Yoshima, tortured for 15 days and then imprisoned at Taira. The other two were never caught.

4. Koreans have not been allowed to migrate to North China, Manchuria, or Japan since 1942. One PW said that Koreans are conscripted to work in Manchuria, the other two said that no conscripts were sent to Manchuria.

5. Any one refusing to be conscripted is imprisoned and his family deprived of food.

6. Employees of plants producing war material must carry a pass bearing their photograph and signature.

7. Farmers are allotted 2 go, 5 shaku, and office workers 2 go, 4 shaku of rice per day. Before the harvesting of a crop it is inspected by a government official who estimates the yield and deducts the year's allotment for the farmer and family. The remainder must be sold to the government agent. If the crop is better than estimated, the farmer is lucky and will hide the extra rice but if it is below the estimated amount he must meet the requirement from his own allotment.

8. Koreans are very resentful because they believe that the Japanese farmers are not rationed. Although the farmers are half starved they still work just as hard. Due to little rain the 1942 rice crop in Challa Fukto (Zenra-hokudo) was very poor. For the same reason the 1945 crop was only a little better. Since 1941 all crops have been below average because of the complete absence of commercial fertilisers. There has been no crop land left untended because of shortage of labor. Women and children do more farm work than they did before the war. Villagers all pitch in and help wherever needed.

In the southern provinces of Korea, the farmers are required to put one-half of the cultivated land, excluding rice plots, into cotton. Inspectors estimate the probably yield. This must be met by the farmer, borrowing from someone with a surplus if necessary.

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9. Peasants are not required to carry identification cards; (no information on other classes) however, a personal history of every individual is kept in the "Myon" office.

10. Two PsW, farmers, who left Korea in 1942 and 1944 respectively had not seen ration tickets of any type. (The other PW lived in Japan from 1935). Request for purchase of clothing was made direct to the "Myon" office. Food was allotted out of their own crops.

11. In April 1944, a law was passed forbidding Koreans to travel over 100 km on any vehicle without a permit from the police. Pedestrians are not controlled. Citizens are subject to inspection by government officials in their homes at any time. Inspections are not made very often but when they are, full account must be made of every one in the household. In 1943 the home of one PW was inspected twice for sanitary conditions. There is a curfew for everyone at

10. Anyone found out of their homes after that will be arrested. Blackouts are enforced occasionally. Sirens within hearing distance of all villages are used for warning.

12. PW from the vicinity of Chonju (Zenshu), Cholla Pukto (Zenro Hokudo) knew a number of men who were given military training under the so-called "Volunteer System" which was first set up in 1938.

From 1938 six and one-half months basic training was given at Kyungung (Keijo) or Nanan (Nanan). Training was separate from Japanese but by Japanese NCOs. After the basic, volunteers were given 2 or 3 months furlough and then assigned to combat units. Koreans were always well dispersed among the Japanese troops. Ability to speak Japanese and at least 2 years education was required before being accepted for training.

13. Pre-conscription Japanese language training schools are set up in each "Myon" (township). Students would attend 3 or 4 hours every day for about 1 year.

14, 15. PsW left Korea before the conscription law went into effect; therefore, knew little about it. They have heard of Koreans who fled from this and law or conscription but could give no names. Natives of Northern Korea have more of a tendency to rebel against such laws than those in the south.

16. PsW knew of the "Tonari Gumi" but had not heard of such organizations in Korea.

17. The war has brought about no noticeable change in the percentage or position of Koreans working on railroads. Conductors, railroad engineers, or any other job with the exception of station master may be held by Koreans.

18. All Korean prostitutes that PsW have seen in the Pacific were volunteers or had been sold by their parents into prostitution. This is proper in the Korean way of thinking but direct conscription of women by the Japanese would be an outrage that the old and young alike would not tolerate. Men would rise up in a rage, killing Japanese no matter what consequence they might suffer.

19. Older Koreans who lived in the days of Korean independence invariably hate the Japanese. While some younger men who have attended Japanese schools are outwardly pro-Japanese; many of them are most outspoken in their feeling against the Japanese rule.

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20. All POW state that they were forcibly conscripted.

21. Although the Koreans dislike the effect that the war has had on them, many have hopes that it will eventually lead to their independence. Their attitude toward Japan is that of tolerance.

It is generally believed that Russia will get into the war against Japan. One prisoner is definitely pro-Russian and would like to see a communist form of government in Korea.

China is considered a weak nation incapable of handling its own problems, much less those of Korea. Most Koreans look to America for their liberation.

22. Koreans in the Pacific Islands receive very cruel treatment from the Japanese. All prisoners know of civilian laborers who were killed by Japanese soldiers for fear that they would give themselves up to the Allies. PW, captured on Tinian, saw 3 women, two with babies strapped on their backs, headed for the American lines. A lieutenant hiding in the same cave as PW killed them all for security reasons. PW felt certain that he would have been killed if it had been known that he was Korean.

23. Prisoners all heard, while in Hawaii, of United Nations pledge, that in due course there would be an "Independent Korea". It is not known whether this information has been received in Korea.

24. All prisoners were emphatic in their belief that all Koreans would jump at the chance to fight Japan. Those apparently loyal to Japan would quickly change their tune if it were once known that Japan was going to lose the war. Prisoners from southern Korea state that the southerners are more passive and would be less likely to take an active part in fighting the Japanese. Independence movements have usually originated from the more active, free-thinking people of the north. The three prisoners would welcome the opportunity to receive military training and then fight the Japanese. They feel that they would be best suited for guerrilla warfare.

25. There is no resentment against Koreans holding official positions. Individuals may be disliked but it is generally felt that as a whole they should retain their position in any future government of Korea.

26. One prisoner is of the opinion that all Japanese should be removed from Korea. "A Japanese is always a Japanese at heart" and in case of future troubles with Japan any remaining would be a detriment to Korea.

Other prisoners felt that only high officials should be removed. Koreans in Japan would counterbalance the Japanese in Korea.

27. Prisoners believe that Korea should be governed temporarily by United Nations representatives. This would be accepted by all Koreans. Straight American government would be acceptable to many but any other single nation would be met with opposition.

28. Village government would operate normally and without help if the country were under United Nations control. There are an average of 60 police in each kun, 50% of whom are Koreans. It is felt that this percentage could maintain satisfactory control over their country until a larger police force could be trained.

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29. Yo, Un Hyung (Lo, Un Kyo) (呂雲享), is known to be an active member of the Korean Independence Movement. He lived in Kyongsung (Keijo) in 1942. Other details could not be given.

30. One prisoner had heard of a Korean Communist Leader who worked in Japan in 1943. The only name known was Kim (Kanamoto).

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