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COMPILATION OF NEFIS INTERROGATION REPORTS
Nos. 418-425 INCLUSIVE (NOT ISSUED SEPARATELY).

NOTE:

The above reports refer to eight Javanese informants, released by U.S. Forces on Biak Island and on Dutch New Guinea during May - Aug '44.

Three former members of the Legion of the Mangkoe Negoro were not interned; one former soldier was released after internment, and another was not interned but used by the Japanese as a driver. The other three are civilians. All had been forced to join Hei-Ho units.

As their information for the greater part is identical with that in interrogation reports issued previously, this compilation deals only with additional information.

III. TACTICAL DATA ON ENEMY MILITARY FORCES.Dispositions and Strength of Organisations and Units:

At Solo (Mid-Java) in Jul '43, about 500 Japanese Infantry were quartered in former Left Half 21st Bn barracks. Another informant estimates the total in Nov '43 at only 200 personnel.

During an informant's residence in Djember (East Java), up to Aug '43, he estimated the total strength there to be about 200 Army personnel. Informant thought that the majority were Kempei, and a number of others were military personnel engaged on supervisory work in the State Railway offices.

At the end of Dec '43, about 60 Japanese troops were quartered in the residences of the former Assistant Resident and the Controleur at Toeloengagoeng (East Java).

About Sept '43, barracks for Japanese troops were seen to be under construction at Popoh (East Java). Informant judged them to be of some importance, as the construction was supervised by Japanese personnel and by personnel from Toeloengagoeng (East Java) workshops. Smaller barracks were being built in Prigi Bay (south coast of East Java).

An informant, member of Hei-Ho, who was quartered at former 8th Bn barracks at Malang (East Java) in Sept '43 - Jan '44, noted that in the barracks immediately to the rear there were about 300 Japanese Army personnel quartered.

At Poerworedjo (Mid-Java) in Jul '43, about 200 Japanese troops were quartered at the former 2nd Depot Bn barracks.

Names of Unit Commanders: The Commander of Hei-Ho Coy. 10446 at Manokwari (Dutch New Guinea) about Jun '44, was 1st Lieut. Arai.

Native Troops: An informant who left Toeloengagoeng (East Java) in Sept '43, said that he knew of two Javanese who joined the Soekarella and went to an Officers' School in Batavia. On completion of the course, which lasted three months, they were sent to Kediri (East Java) to train Soekarella troops. Their names were Djono, formerly a clerk in the Toeloengagoeng pawn shop, and Soekijat, formerly a foreman in the sugar factory at Modjopangoeng (East Java).

Lines of Communication and Transport: According to one informant, the Japanese, towards the end of '42, began constructing a direct road from Tanggoel (East Java) to Kentjong (East Java), through Semboro (East Java). However, by Jan '44, the work was still not completed. To reach Kentjong by the existing route it is necessary to proceed from Tanggoel to Pondokdalam (East Java) before turning south to Kentjong.

Supply Arrangements and Installations: In Aug '43, Japanese

) having a secret radio, and of having received and secreted enemy (Allied) property.

Civilians: Up to Aug '43, the Dutch manager of "Kamoening" coffee estate, Karangpandan, Solo, named Blommenstein, was permitted to continue as manager. He was provided with a Japanese brassard.

The leading Chinese in Tanggoel area (East Java), named Tjim Hoea, was still in possession of his properties when an informant left the area in Sept '43.

Two Dutch people were allowed to retain their positions in the sugar factory at Modjopangoeng (East Java) after Japanese occupation. They were Mrs. Spruit, (whose husband was serving in the Militia and is believed to be a PW), and a Dutchman named van Eerzel, who was plantation assistant at the above factory. The latter's services were retained by the Japanese for some time until he was ultimately sent to Malang. Informant later heard that van Eerzel was free and was working for the Japanese. Mrs. Spruit worked in the office of the sugar factory until '43, and was then transferred to Malang (East Java), where informant saw her at large; she told informant that she was employed as a cashier at another sugar factory.

XIII. GENERAL.

Forced Abduction of young girls: On the order of the Assistant Wedana of Ngargojoso, Solo (Mid-Java) a number of young girls were assembled, of whom five were selected and forcibly taken to Solo by the Japanese. Informant did not actually witness this, but knows for certain of the incident, which took place in the first half of '43. He knows of one girl, aged 14, named Waginem from Kampong Plawan (Mid-Java) who was taken. This girl was sent back to the village shortly after, infected with venereal disease.

Collaborators: According to an informant, the undermentioned individuals worked for the Kempei in Toeren near Malang (East Java). Their reports were made to the Japanese in Malang, there being no Kempei office in Toeren.

Doerachman, approximately 25 years old;
Dosoep, approximately 33 years old;
Biran, approximately 40 years old.

collaborator
Women's Internment Camp: The existence in Jun '44 of the camp at Malang as shown in NEFIS Map 5218, is confirmed. Informant further states that female Javanese provision vendors were daily allowed into the camp, where a market had been established for the internees.

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Lt. Cdr. J. C. Smit.
Deputy Director NEFIS.

Camp Columbia, 23rd October, 1944.

Moshi San, aged about 30 years, short and well-built. He arrived about Jun '44, and was still there when informant left in Aug '44. Moshi San once beat informant for having Malayan currency in his possession on his return from Penang.

At Bindjai, Kempei officials had their office near the Indonesian Field Police barracks.

Civilians: The Sultan of Langkat - Toenkoe Mahmoed - was reported to be very dissatisfied with present conditions, as he was no longer permitted to collect taxes from his people. He received a salary from the Japanese. The people of his domain are strict Mohammedans, and have very little contact with the Japanese.

The former Assistant Resident of Tandjoeng Balei (name unknown) is still in office. It is reported that the Sultan of Tandjoeng Balei (Toengoe Seiboen) used his influence to prevent the A.R.'s internment. He has been given a house overlooking the harbour, and lives with his family, comprising wife and two children. He receives a salary from the Japanese of /60.00 per month, plus free rations. He works in his old office and is largely concerned with Police affairs.

The Imams of Belawan and Tandjoeng Balei are both believed to be passively anti-Japanese.

XIII. GENERAL.

Prostitution: Japanese officers at Medan have access to Japanese women imported from Japan.

Other ranks have access to Javanese women kept in organized brothels.



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Enclosures:

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NEFIS Map No. FY 5342 - 1 - Belawan Harbour Area.
NEFIS Map No. FY 5342 - 2 - Medan.

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