

Cx 1718

C E R T I F I C A T E

The undersigned CHARLES JONGENEEL, first Lieutenant R.N.I.A., head of the War Crimes Section of NETHERLANDS FORCES INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (NEFIS) being first duly sworn on oath deposes and states that the annexed Dutch document (with English translation) entitled:

" Summary of Examination drawn up by H.J. HANA Superintendent of Police N.E.I., on the 12th and 15th day of January, 1946, containing a sworn statement of Cornelis BROERTJES, Teacher, born at Soest (Holland) on December 13th 1902 No. OM/1552/R.

has been taken from the official records of the NEFIS.

SIGNATURE:

/s/ Ch. Jongeneel

(SEAL)

BATAVIA, June 7th 1946.

Subscribed and sworn to before me K.A. de WEERD, first Lieutenant R.N.I.A. Higher Official attached to the Office of the Attorney - General N.E.I.

/s/ K. A. de WEERD



On Saturday 12 and Tuesday 15 January 1946, there appeared in the barracks of the 10th Infantry Battalion before myself, Hendrik Jan FANA, Superintendent of Police, a person, who, on enquiry, declares himself to be:

Cornelis BROERTJES,  
born on 13 December 1902 at Soest (TN. Holland), occupation: teacher at the secondary school at Jogjakarta, at present Pte. in the Home-Guard, living at the barracks of the 10th Battalion at Batavia Centrum; who after having been sworn before me in accordance with his religious convictions to tell the truth and nothing but the truth answered the questions put to him as stated hereunder.

.....

In the beginning of 1942 I was a prisoner of war at Jogjakarta and was in the H.B.School building. This was fenced off with barbed wire. However, prisoners of war often climbed over the wire and got out. This occurred, as it were, with the acquiescence of some Japanese guards. At any rate I know that some of them said to prisoners of war in Malay, "Go home; but take care to return on time". Consequently, one or two days before Whit Monday 1942 Kramer or Cramer, who was employed by the Court of Chancery at Jogja, Meyer and Kraag climbed over the wire to visit their families. In all fairness I must mention in this connection that in view of a recent change in the Japanese command, the Netherlands camp direction strongly advised against leaving the camp. At the second roll-call held that evening it was discovered that three men were missing. It appeared that during their "escape" they had been arrested by the Indonesian police and taken to the guard. During the second roll-call the escaped persons were brought into the room where they used to sleep, and as I have heard were badly thrashed in view of their roommates. Thereafter they stood the whole night through near the guard within circles drawn on the ground. We thought that the matter was now closed; but the following day Capt. Goedhardt announced that the three escaped men were to be shot. In spite of all our officers did to have this order cancelled, the execution had to be carried out on orders from the Bandoeng headquarters.

The execution took place as follows: On the afternoon of 26 May 1942 the whole camp had to fall in on the football field. When everyone was in line, the three victims were driven in on a truck. Their comrades had already dug a long pit. The three men were placed in front of it. Then the sentence was read in Japanese and Malay. The three men were blindfolded. Meyer, who understood that this was the end, got out his purse and wanted to hand it to one of the Japanese soldiers for his wife. The purse was flung out of his hands and he got some slaps in his face. Thereafter the three men were stabbed into the pit by three Japanese soldiers who were standing in front of them. One of the men who was apparently not dead, crawled out of the pit and was stabbed back into it with a bayonet. Then the grave was filled up and some Japanese officers put wreaths on it and gave the military salute. Later on the Japanese officers told our officers that executions by bayoneting constituted an honourable death amongst Japanese. We were warned that if there was another escape, not only the escapers but also ten arbitrarily chosen prisoners of war would be executed.



I can further state that the food situation at Jogja was very bad, made worse by the fact that we were there compelled to do very heavy work on the airfield at Magocuma. Especially during the months of June and July 1942 food was extremely insufficient.

.....

After his statement has been read over to the witness, he adheres to it and signs it together with myself

The witness:

The recorder:

/s/ C. Broertjes.

/s/ H.J. Hana.

and I have made, signed and concluded this official record in pursuance of my oath of office at Batavia on 15 January 1946.

The recorder:

H.J. Hana.