

PLG  
Dutch East Indies

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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SERIAL No. 8-8

FILE No. (from index sheet) 202-400

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U. S. S. JOHN D. FORD (228) Place Manila, P. I. Date 26 March, 1923.  
Name of Intelligence Officer Lt. Jeranald Wright Name of C. O. A. Pownall, Lt. Comdr.  
Source General observation Reliability of source (mark on scale 4.0) 3.0  
Subject Dutch East Indies Foreign Population  
(Nation.) (City.) (Index title.) (Subtitle.)

The entire population of the Island of Java may be classified as follows:

- A. Dutch
  - (Native)
  - (Half Caste)
  - (Pure Dutch)
- B. Foreign
  - (European)
    - (British)
    - (German)
    - (American)
  - (Asiatic)
    - (Chinese)
    - (Japanese)

Of the foreign population the British, in number and influence predominate. Their activities in the commercial and industrial development of the island are exceeded only by the Dutch themselves, and the influence exerted by their capital and shipping interests backed by their home government has resulted in tremendous concessions in the agricultural, oil and mineral districts which no other nation enjoys.

The backing offered by the British government is largely responsible for this success.

British Capitalists have been quick to realize that the Dutch interest in the East Indies are purely mercenary and selfish and that Dutch cooperation can be gained by the nation which gives them the most of their money. A striking example of this fact is the interest which high Dutch officials show in petroleum developments. They are all financially connected with the Royal Dutch Shell and are naturally very adverse to the encroachments of other foreign companies.

The German element consists principally of merchants who are trying hard and somewhat successfully to reestablish a market for German products. Their progress has been considerably hampered by the rate of exchange.

The American element are engaged principally in the importation and sale of American products; largely automobiles, farming implements and clothing.

The Chinese constitute the greater portion of the Asiatic foreign population. As merchants and bankers they deal directly with the natives and by their shrewd and businesslike methods have gained practically a complete monopoly of this trade. As a consequence they exert tremendous influence over the native population.

Submitted by Jeranald Wright, Lieutenant Forwarded C. A. Pownall, Lieut. Comdr.  
(To be signed by the officer who compiled this report.) "U. S. N." (Sign only Page 1 of original.) Commanding Officer.

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