

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM newsletter

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His Majesty takes a look at the RBAF's second battalion

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has had a close look at the Second Battalion of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) in Tutong District, about 50 kilometres from the capital, Bandar Seri Begawan.

His Majesty was accompanied on the visit on August 22 by his youngest brother, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah.



His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam making suggestions during his visit to the second battalion of the Roval Brunei Armed Forces. To His Maiestv's left is the Chief of Staff Pehin Datu Indera Setia Major-General Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Sulaiman.

Upon arrival, His Majesty and his brother were welcomed by senior army officials led by the Deputy Minister of Defence, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Sanggamara Diraja Major-General Pengiran Haji Ibnu and the Chief of the RBAF Staff, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Indera Setia Major-General Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Sulaiman, who later briefed His Majesty on various aspects of the battalion including the overall future plans of the

RBAF.

The Commanding Officer of the second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Haji Awang Abas bin Haji Bagol also briefed the Brunei ruler and he, among other things, touched on the role of the battalion.

His Majesty toured various sections and units of the battalion.

(More pictures of His Majesty the Sultan's visit to the Second Battalion of the RBAF on page 11.

Third battalion by mid-1992

The strength of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) would be further boosted with the formation of its third battalion, expected by the middle of 1992.

This was revealed by the Chief of the RBAF Staff, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Indera Setia Major-General Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Sulaiman bin Haji Damit when he briefed His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during His Majesty's visit to the second battalion of the RBAF in Tutong district on August 22.

At the briefing, the Chief of the RBAF Staff also disclosed that apart from the formation of a third battalion of the RBAF, the navy and air force will also be expanded by 1993.

In his briefing, Pehin Dato Major-General Haji Awang Sulaiman also spoke of the good achievement and performance of RBAF personnel after having attended courses and training at

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military institutions overseas, such as in the United Kingdom and Australia.

He also said that the RBAF will this year hold a series of joint exercises with other armed forces. These will include the armed forces of Malaysia and Singapore.

The RBAF, formed in 1960, currently has two battalions as well as a navy and air force.

1992 will also see the RBAF beefing up its strength with fighter aircraft. Currently on order from the U.K.firm - British Aerospace (International) Ltd., are a fleet of — Hawk-100 light attack aircraft, due to join the RBAF by 1992.

Also being acquired by the RBAF are three Corvette offshore

patrol boats equipped with missiles from another British firm, Vosper Thorneycraft.

From the Indonesian firm Indastri Pesawat Terbang Nusantara (IPTN), the RBAF is purchasing four CN-235 maritime patrol aircraft, while four S-211 intermediate training aircraft are being acquired from the Italian company, Siai Mercetti.

Age-old bonds keep Brunei and Malaysia together

August 31 saw the Malaysian community in Brunei Darussalam celebrate their country's thirty-third National Day anniversary. The Malaysian High Commissioner in Bandar Seri Begawan, His Excellency Haji Zainal Azman bin Haji Zainal Abidin hosted a reception at the Brunei International Convention Centre in Berakas to mark the occasion

Attending the function for His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's government was His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and his wife, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah.

His Excellency the Malaysian High Commissioner, in his speech pledged that Malaysia would continue to strive towards strengthening the close ties with Brunei Darussalam. The relations could be further enhanced through the exchange of visits, increasing personal rapport and understanding between the leaders, officials and peoples of the two countries as well as through economic and technical cooperation, he said.

His Excellency went on to say that today Brunei Darussalam



His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Affairs Minister in conversation with the Malaysian High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Haji Zainal Azman (extreme left). On the right is Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah.

and Malaysia enjoy special relations. These special ties, he noted, are through strong traditional and cultural bonds which have been established over centuries when they once formed the bastion of the Malay Kingdom.

Today, His Excellency added, the two countries continue to share the richness of this common heritage, which have successfully gone through a difficult period in the past.

"History has proven to us and our future generation of the truth in a Malay proverb 'air dicincang tak akan putus' (blood is thicker than water). Over the years both Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia have worked towards a commitment to nurture and enrich bilateral ties based on the principle of mutual respect for the common benefit of our peoples today" and for the generations to come.

Malaysia also values her relations with other ASEAN member countries, His Excellency remarked. As a regional grouping, ASEAN has established its own built-in collective mechanism for regional stability, resilience and prospertiy while offering concerted contribution towards peace. These have been firmly embedded in the ASEAN Treaty of Amity and Cooperation and the concept of ZOPFAN) (Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality) for Southeast Asia.

"In this context," said His Excellency, "We believe that only a strong interlocking network of bilateral links between members could build a strong ASEAN which could withstand internal and external challenges. In this family of nations," His Excellency affirmed, "Malaysia will continue to respect her firm commitment to ASEAN."

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New RBAF's Chief of Staff issues stern warning to his men

New Chief of Staff for the Royal Brunei Armed Forces



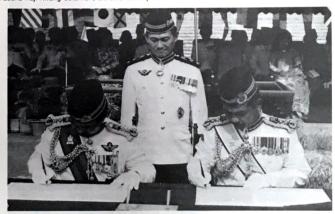
His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan dan Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam granted audience at Istana Nurul Iman on 9 August to the outgoing Chie Royal Brunei Armed Forces Staff, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Dewa Major General Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Awang Mohammad and his successor, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Indera Setia Major General Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Sulaiman, extreme left of picture.

The further enhancement of discipline, competency and administration of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) will be among the main areas on which its new Chief of Staff will keep his eyes on.

Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Indera Setia Major-General Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Sulaiman bin Haji Damit made the pledge at a ceremony on 10 August, at which he took over the portfolio as the Chief of the RBAF Staff from Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Dewa Major-General Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Mohammad bin Haji Daud, who has retired.

The new RBAF Chief of Staff also expressed confidence that the RBAF personnel would extend the same cooperation to him as they did his predecessor in playing an effective and efficient role to maintain peace and harmony in the country.

In his speech, the 49 year-old new Chief of Staff stressed on the importance of discipline in the forces. He said though the RBAF does not face any major



Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Dewa Major General Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Mohammad (left) signs over duties as Chief of the Royal Brunel Armed Forces Staff to his successor, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Indera Setia Major General Dato Seri Paduka Haji Sulaiman. Major General Pehin Dato Haji Mohammad is retiring after 30 years with the RBAF.

disciplinary problem, it has no rooms for criminals or those who lack discipline or self-respect.

Major-General Pehin Dato Haji Sulaiman warned that such group of people must be dismissed the soonest possible. Major-General Pehin Dato Awang Haji Sulaiman further urged those holding leadership positions to give recognition and show appreciation to their staff, for a job well-done for instance

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when the ocassion calls for it.

As to competency and administration, the new RBAF chief further urged RBAF staff to discharge their duties with a full sense of responsibility and with a consistent commitment in trying to give their utmost. The RBAF on its part, he said, would continue to provide adequate training through courses conducted either in the country or overseas. With such training and courses, and the attitude towards self-improvement, he said, RBAF would certainly become one of the respected Armed Forces in the region.

Major-General Pehin Dato Awang Haji Sulaiman first joined the RBAF in 1960 and rose from the rank of Captain in 1968 to Major-General on 1 August this year.

For his part, the outgoing Chief of the RBAF Staff told RBAF personnel that they should further equip themselves with skills and knowledge, in particular in the technical field. This is especially pertinent in the years ahead during which the RBAF would gradually be fully equipped with sophisticated military equipment.

Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Dewa Major-General Dato Seri Pahlawan was speaking at the same ceremony on 10 August, at which he formally handed over the rein of the RBAF command to his successor.

The call came at an appropriate time in particular after the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam had announced in November last year, the purchase of 16 Hawk-100 light attack jetfighters and three Corvette offshore patrol vessels from Britain. At the same time last year, the Ministry of Defence also announced the purchase of maritime patrol aircraft made in Indonesia and intermediate training aircraft from Italy. The move, aimed at boosting the country's defence capability, is also part of the country's contribution to regional security.

Major-General Pehin Dato Haji Mohammad also underlined the importance of diligence, close cooperation, undivided loyalty, courage and a full sense of responsibility among the RBAF personnel towards their duties. These qualities, together with the determination to master new skills and knowledge are vital in ensuring success of the forces' plan to upgrade its defence capability.

The importance of discipline was also stressed by the RBAF;s outgoing Chief of Staff. He urged personnel to uphold the good discipline record in the RBAF, which to date has recorded only two cases of court martials.

This is a very low record indeed compared to the armed forces in other countries, Major-General Pehin Dato Haji Mohammad said.

Now aged 47 years, Major-General Pehin Dato Haji Mohammad had been in the RBAF for nearly 30 years having joined on 24 December 1960.

Major-General Pehin Dato Haji Mohammad was the first local Bruneian to assume the command of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, having taken over from the last of eight expatriate commanders in October 1986.

In an interview before leaving the RBAF, he spoke on a broad range of issues, from Brunei Darussalam's contribution to regional security to military cooperation with each of the ASEAN member countries.

Following are excerpts of the interview:

Question: The Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has announced the pruchase of Hawk jetfighters and missile-equipped patrol boats from Britain, and also other defence equipment from Italy and Indonesia. The purchase is an effort to further enhance the national defence of the country. It is also part of Brunei Darussalam's contribution to regional stability.

How would Brunei Darussalam further contribute to regional stability in the 1990s, within the next decade approaching the twenty-first century?

Answer: By adequately equipping the RBAF with jetfighter aircraft and maritime surveillance aircraft this would enable the RBAF to face any possibility. It would also contribute to RBAF's capability in monitoring our areas of interest including our waters, or our exclusive economic zones. By upgrading RBAF's capability, by itself, we are enhancing our national defence in the event of a threat.

We would like to contribute to regional security by helping to monitor or ensuring that our waters are safe and not obstructed by any party. As we know, the waters are vital to us for sending our products to countries like Japan and Australia. If we cannot keep our waters open, we cannot sell our products and we would not be able to enjoy the present standard of living, a result of the prosperous economy. This is a matter of concern to us.

Stability by itself will be created if countries in the region are able to live without any obstacle from other powers. This would allow them to live in peace and harmony, in a situation in which the economy of the country is allowed to grow. Thus assuring the life of the people in the future.

In this respect, the RBAF has planned to enhance its efficiency and competency in the event of any possibility of a threat in the 1990s.

Question: What is the status of military cooperation of Brunei Darussalam with other ASEAN countries, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines, specifically RBAF's relations with the Armed Forces of other ASEAN countries. How could these relations be further fostered in the 1990s?

Answer: As we know, ASEAN is an organisation which strives to cooperate in the fields of economy, culture and politics. Members, however, have no defence ties. The possiblility of not forming a military pact is a reality which we will have to face for some time to come.

Bilateral relations and sometimes relations between two members of ASEAN and the RBAF have already existed. We have already forged bilateral ties with the Armed Forces of Malaysia and Singapore and to some extent with Indonesia.

Bilateral ties between the Armed Forces of Brunei Darussalam and Singapore have been most active since the early 1970s. Brunei Darussalam has always received assistance in terms of training by the Singapore Armed Forces. The cooperation takes the form of either training of RBAF in Singapore or in joint-exercises with the SAF in this country. The close ties in particular have been forged between the Armed Forces and the navies of the two countries. Recently, we sent a company to Singapore to take part in an exercise dubbed the "Flaming Arrow".

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As to bilateral ties with Malaysia, we have received assistance in terms of training for the RBAF in the training schools of the Malaysian Armed Forces in that country. Further, we conduct joint-exercise in a series of Gonzales training. A company will be sent to undergo training with the Malaysian Armed Forces based in Sarawak in September.

We will also be sending a mortar troop from both infantries of the RBAF to Kota Belud in Sabah for training.

With Indonesia, at the moment, our ties are not so intense like we have with Malaysia and Singapore. However, we try to further forge our relations with the Armed Forces of Indonesia.

We will send personnel of the RBAF to several places in Indonesia for "adventure training."

As with Thailand and the Philippines, we have not conducted any joint cooperation. Nonetheless, we have always extended our assistance to Thailand. Aircraft from Thailand, which are on their way for training at the Clark Air Base, would have to come to Brunei Darussalam for their oil supplies. Similarly, they would transit here for refuelling before returning home to Thailand after their training at the Clark Air Base.

As to how these ties could be further enhanced in the 1990s, efforts towards this direction would always be made, for instance between Brunei Darussalam and Sigapore and between this country with Malaysia. This could be done by increasing the number of joint-exercise and the series of visits of RBAF staff to Singapore and Malaysia. These visits would then enable us to foster closer understanding and relations.

In addition, we would always make the effort to enhance our relations by having a cultural exchange. For example, recently, the Malaysian Armed Forces sent its own cultural troupe here to perform at the RBAF's anniversary celebrations. Also in June and early July, we sent out troupe to Singapore to take part in the 25th anniversary of the Singapore Air Force. These are the efforts which are intended to further foster bilateral cooperation with the Armed Forces of ASEAN member countries.

Abook entitled 'Menjadi Tetamu Allah' or 'To be the guest of Allah' has been launched by the Minister of Education, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz at a ceremony on August 2.

Written by the Deputy State Mufti, the 134-page book is an account of the Haj pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca of His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in 1987.

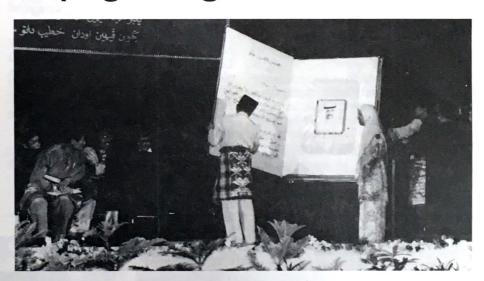
It was published by the Ministry of Education.

In a speech at the launching ceremony held at the Islamic Dakwah Centre in the capital, the Education Minister said the book would help the community to appreciate the MIB concept. MIB or the Malay Muslim Monarchy has been the system of governance in Brunei Darussalam for many centuries.

Pehin Dato Haji Awang Abdul Aziz reiterated His Majesty's "titah" about Islam assuring the security and well-being for all. No one therefore, he said, should fear or be doubtful about it.

The Education Ministry, said the Minister, would continue its efforts to ensure that MIB is fully appreciated and understood by everyone in the country. Beginning from educational institutions, both governmental and nongovernmental, village heads, imam-imam (leaders heading

Book of HM Sultan's pilgrimage launched



The Minister of Education, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz puts down his signature into a large replica of the book 'Menjadi Tetamu Allah' as its writer, the Deputy State Mufti Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Tuan Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz Juned (seated left to picture) looks on.

congregational prayers), school principals and teachers, undergraduates and students, all Government staff from the lowest to the highest level - all need the relevant reading material to better comprehend the MIB concept of governance.

The Education Minister further urged local writers to emulate the writer, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Tuan Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, by writing similar books which reflect the socio-

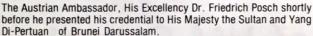
cultural heritage of Bruneians. The Ministry of Education or the publication section of Universiti Brunei Darussalam, are prepared to print suitable books for publication, the minister assured.

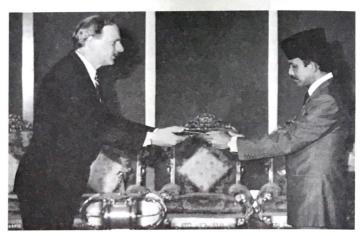
It is hoped that effort like this would help leave a positive impact on Bruneians today, that is in fully understanding MIB.

The book "Menjadi Tetamu Allah" was first printed in 1987, the year His Majesty performed the pilgrimage. The book went into its second print this year.

New Austrian and New Zealand envoys for Brunei Darussalam







The Brunei monarch receiving the credential of the new High Commissioner of New Zealand, His Excellency Mr. Michael Frank Chilton.

Two foreign diplomats have taken up their appointment to Brunei Darussalam. They are the High Commissioner of New Zealand, His Excellency Mr. Michael Chilton, 45, and Austria's Ambassador, His Excellency Dr. Friedrich Posch, 58.

The envoys, both non-resident but are based in Kuala Lumpur, presented their credentials to His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at Istana Nurul Iman on 6 August.

His Excellency Mr. Chilton is New Zealand's third High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam. A graduate with a Masters degree in history from the University of Canterbury, His Excellency has held various posts including as Second Secretary for the New Zealand High Commission in Washington, First Secretary and Permanent Secretary to ESCAP, New Zealand High Commission in Bangkok, First Secretary for the New Zealand High Commission in London, Deputy High Commissioner for the High Commissioner for the High Commissioner for the High Commissioner for the High Commission in Singapore and Director, Public Affairs Division, Ministry of External Relations and Trade, Wellington.

His Excellency Dr. Friedrich Posch is a Law graduate from the Universities of Vienna, Austria and Tuebingen, West Germany. His Excellency received his Doctorate in jurispudence in 1955 and took studies of International Relations at Merton College, Oxford as a British Council scholar.

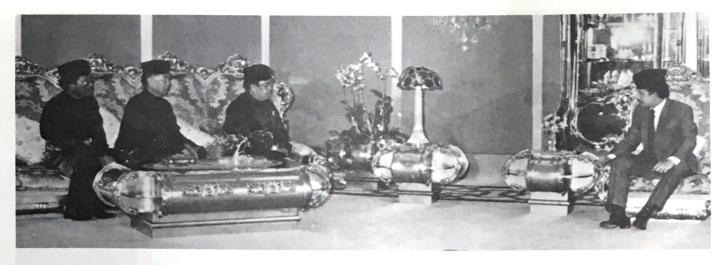
His Excellency first started as attache for the Austrian embassy in New Delhi and later as Secretary for the Austrian embassy in the Hague. He has also served in his country's embassies in South Africa, Brussels, the Philippines where he was ambassador from 1982 to 1986.

Brunei Darussalam established diplomatic relations with both Austria and New Zealand in 1984. Mrs. Barbara Posch, wife of the Austrian diplomat, had separate audiences on the same day with Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha and with Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam.





Mrs. Barbara Posch, wife of Austria's new ambassador to Brunei Darussalam in conversation with Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha (picture bottom left) and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam.



From left to right: His Excellency Pengiran Mustapha bin Pengiran Metassan, His Excellency Dato Paduka Awang Hamid bin Jaafar and His Excellency Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Setia Raja Pengiran Haji Jaya bin Pengiran Haji Rajid all of whom are being posted as Brunei Darussalam's envoys in London, Manila and Bangkok respectively, had an audience with His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam after the Brunei ruler presented them their letters of appointment.

New postings for three Brunei envoys

Three Brunei Darussalam's envoys are getting new postings.

The trio, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Setia Raja Pengiran Haji Jaya bin Pengiran Haji Rajid, His Excellency Dato Paduka Awang Hamid bin Jaafar and His Excellency Pengiran Haji Mustafa bin Pengiran Metassan received their letters of appointment from His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at Istana Nurul Iman on 14 August.

Pengiran Setia Raja Pengiran Haji Jaya, 64, who was previously Brunei's High Commissioner to Britain since 1984, is taking up a new posting as the country's ambassador to Thailand.

While in London, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Setia Raja Pengiran Haji Jaya was also accredited as ambassador to Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Ireland and the European Community.

Pengiran Haji Jaya takes over from Dato Paduka Awang Hamid, 61, who is himself going to Manila as the country's new ambassador there. While in Bangkok, Dato Paduka Awang Hamid was also accredited to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal. His Excellency served as Brunei Darussalam's ambassador to Thailand from 1984.

His Excellency Pengiran Haji Mustafa, 50, will be the country's new High Commissioner to Britain, after having served as ambassador to the Philippines since 1987.

After presenting the diplomat their letters of appointment, His Majesty granted them an audience.

Envoy presents credential to Saudi Arabia Monarch

Brunei Darussalam's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, His Excellency Awang Haji Abdul Mokti bin Haji Mohd. Daud has presented his credential to the Saudi Arabian ruler, King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz. After the presentation, which took place at the AlSalam Palace in Jeddah, the Brunei diplomat had an audience with the ruler. His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam appointed His Excellency Awang Haji Abdul Mokti, 41 as ambassador in November last year.



Brunei Darussalam and Singapore - the two smallest members of ASEAN - enjoy a particularly close relationship, one based upon a solid foundation of trust and friendship which has stood the test of time.

Stating this was the Singapore High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Mr. Tan Keng Jin at a reception he hosted in Bandar Seri Begawan on August 9 to mark the republic's 25th National Day anniversary.

His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, represented the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the function.

His Excellency Mr. Tan Keng Jin said the links between the two nations are wide and far reaching.

"The pleasant task which lies before one now is to forge new bonds and strengthen old ones," he added.

The recent ASEAN-CCI Council Meeting which Brunei Darussalam hosted, said His Excellency, was a great success. During a meeting which His Excellency had with the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, the possiblity of expanding the growth triangle of Batam-Singapore-Johore, to include

Brunei and Singapore enjoy special ties



His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, Brunei Foreign Affairs Minister (right) at Singapore's National Day Celebration at the Brunei International Convention Centre on August 9, hosted by the republic's High Commissioner in Bandar Seri Begawan, His Excellency Mr. Tan Keng Jin (seated to the left of HRH).

Brunei Darussalam, "to form a square" was raised.

His Excellency agreed with the proposal brought up by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman. Said His Excellency "..... we should try and form this square. Or at least sow the seeds that a new triangle can sprout up, which involves Brunei."

His Excellency further said that

though traditionally Southeast Asia has been an area of conflict, ASEAN have built among members, a sea of friendship and stability. ASEAN today, His Excellency pointed out, has become the envy of many a regional grouping.

At the function, guests were treated to a show entitled "Mood and images of Singapore" and a film on the republic's tourism industry.

Positive strengthening in Brunei-Korea ties



Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman (second from right) represented the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the 45th anniversary celebration of the Republic of Korea's National Day hosted by the republic's ambassador to Brunei Darusslaam, His Excellency Mr. Se Lin Huh (second from left) on August 16 at the Brunei International Convention Centre in Berakas.

The Republic of Korean community in Brunei Darussalam have been celebrating the 45th anniversary of the National Liberation Day and 42nd anniversary of the Korean Government Establishment Day on August 15, with a dinner reception hosted by the country's ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Mr. Se Lin Huh.

The Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman was at the function on behalf of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's government.

In a speech at the reception, His Excellency Mr. Se Lin Huh said he was pleased to note that the relationship between the two countries have greatly strengthened. This is particularly so after the historic state visit to

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Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah was chief guest at Indonesian Independence Day Celebration in Bandar Seri Begawan hosted by the Republic's Charge Affaires, Mr. Rijal Charis (extreme left).

Brunei-Indonesian relations flourish

The Republic of Indonesia celebrated its 45th Independence Day on August 17. And to mark the occasion in Bandar Seri Begawan, the republic's Charge d'Affaires to Brunei Darussalam, Mr. Rizal Charis hosted a dinner reception at which the chief guest was Brunei Darussalam's Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, who represented the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

The reception was held at the Brunei International Convention Centre in Berakas.

Speaking at the function, Mr. Rizal Charis spoke of the excellent ties between Brunei Darussalam and Indonesia.

Such relations are flourishing very well and are marked by an ever-increasing interchange of visits of officials of the two countries, he said.

"These visits", said Mr. Rizal Charis, "both at government and private level are made either on a bilateral basis or within the framework of ASEAN cooperation."

He further said that the existence of agreements and understanding on information, communication, Islam and other matters have also contributed positively to the promotion of good and fruitful relations between the two ASEAN neighbours.

Mr. Rizal informed his guests how Pancasila came to be adopted and became the most important development following the birth of Indonesia as a new nation. Pancasila (meaning Five Principles) adopted by the Indonesians, has become the philosophical basis of the Indonesian state.

The adoption process was mainly inspired by the urge for unity, the struggle for the common goals and spirit of democracy, based upon the Indonesian concept of "gotong royong" (mutual assistance), "musyawarah" (deliberations of representatives) and "mufakat" (consensus).

Mr. Rizal stressed that with Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution under the leadership of President Sukarno and President Suharto, the Indonesians have succeeded in surmounting a number of varied challenges and difficulties. These, sometimes, had threatened the very existence of the foundation of the young Republic, especially before the emergence of the New Order (Orde Baru) led by President Suharto. Now, he said, situation has been changing for the better.

Through the four Repelitas (five years Development Plan), Mr. Rizal concluded, "we have succeeded in attaining valuable economic progress and prosperity."

During the reception, guests who included foreign diplomats, Permanent Secretaries and Senior Government Officials, were treated to a cultural performance, depicting the traditional dances from the different regions of Indonesia.

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Republic of Korea by His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, and His Excellency President Roh Tae Woo's state visit to this country in November 1988. Since then political, diplomatic, economic and cultural ties have been further enhanced.

The close cooperation between the two countries is further reflected at multilateral regional organizations like APEC and ASEAN and the recent First Brunei-Korea Consultative Meeting held in the capital in early August.

Currently, the Republic of Korea has been importing 20 to 25 percent of Brunei Darussalam's crude oil. The Republic of Korea is also exporting to this country a large number of industrial goods, such as the Hyundai automobiles, home electrical appliances, construction materials and textiles. His Excellency Mr Se Lin Huh in addition expressed the hope that more Korean companies would establish further investment and business in Brunei Darussalam.

The Ambassador said that the Republic of Korea would continue to hold dialogues as part of its efforts to unify Korea. The unification of Korea in the future, which the Republic of Korea hopes to achieve just as Germany did, His Excellency stressed, would contribute to peace and prosperity to this region,

"Such efforts to accelerate South-North dialogue would continue despite North Korea's rejection to the Republic of Korea's proposal to our entry application," His Excellency concluded.

Proposals get Brunei's support

Brunei Darussalam supports proposals by the ASEAN Committee on Industry, Minerals and Energy (COIME) to extend the period for the sixty percent non-ASEAN equity participation in any AIJV projects due to end in December 1993.

The Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman voiced the country's support for the proposal in his address at the opening of the 38th ASEAN-CCI Council Meeting held in Bandar Seri Begawan for five days starting August 4.

This support, the Minister said, is intended to extend the opportunity for private sectors of non-ASEAN countries so that they could establish more joint-venture projects with ASEAN entrepreneurs, and to benefit from the privileges given under the revised basic agreement of the ALIV.

To date, though there has been some success in the ASEAN Industrial Projects and the AIJV programmes, progress has been somewhat slow. ASEAN economic officials have alleged on the one hand, that project proposals are not forthcoming from the private sector. On the other hand, the private sector has alleged that project proposals take a long time to get official approval.

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman urged the private sectors of ASEAN to actively pursue the opportunities and challenges provided under the revised basic agreement of the AIJV. There is now need, the Minister emphasised, for bold and new innovative approaches to enhance the existing ASEAN economic cooperation.

The Minister also announced that Brunei Darussalam supports the Philippine's proposal on the possibility of ASEAN developing an ASEAN Economic Cooperation Treaty. The proposal was recently endorsed by ASEAN foreign Ministers in Jakarta. Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman, who also attended the Post Ministerial Conference with ASEAN dialogue partners in Jakarta, also said that the Foreign Ministers had instructed senior officials to further

deliberate the proposal with a view to establishing the treaty.

More than 100 delegates from the ASEAN private sectors were in Bandar Seri Begawan to deliberate various issues to promote intra-ASEAN economic cooperation and to enlarge trade and investment links with third countries.

The Minister also spoke on various other topical issues. Chief among these is privatization and the need for a partnership between the private sector and the Government in the socio-economic development of the country.

Regional and global changes in the last decade, said the Minister have generated new challenges and opportunities for ASEAN. The warming of relation between East and West, the development in Central and Eastern Europe towards a market-oriented economy, the integration of the European Market in 1992 and the likely outcome of the GATT Uruguay Round - all these have profound and direct impact on the development efforts for economic growth in the ASEAN region.

In the domestic front, Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman said "privatization is now influencing our domestic policies. The move to privatise state owned enterprise is now the general trend where the success has been encouraging. The international

mood is now for free enterprise and the further liberalization of international trade."

These new realities of the international economic order need to be considered in the further enhancement of ASEAN enonomic cooperation, the Minister asserted.

For Brunei Darussalam to host a meeting of the ASEAN private sector, in light of all these dramatic changes, is therefore timely. Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman had reason to make this statement.

He said "I say this as a reflection of the far reaching declaration of the 3rd Summit in Manila, which amongst others had created the necessary environment and mechanism for a strengthened intra-ASEAN economic cooperation particularly in areas of trade and investment. ASEAN member countries have moved in the direction of the declaration. Government have recognised more fully the positive role of the private sector in economic development."

On the need for a partnership between the private sector and the Government in the socioeconomic development of the country, the minister spoke at length to explain why it is good business strategy to be good corporate citizen.

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Brunei Malay in a minute

Each month we introduce readers to a common Brunei Malay word as used in the country.

This month the word selected is iski, which means glad, happy or joyful.

In standard Malay iski is

merasa suka, gembira, riang or girang.

Dia iski apabila mengetahui yang ia lulus peperiksaan akhir tahun.

He was happy when he knew that he passed the final year examination.





Above: Piloting his helicopter, His Majesty arrives at Tutong camp of the second battalion to be welcomed by senior RBAF and Defence Ministry's officials. Right and centre right pictures show His Majesty being briefed on various aspects of the battalion as he toured its various sections.







Below: His Majesty takes a look at some of the light equipment which are essential to a soldier

Above left: His Majesty the Sultan and his brother, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah (to HM's right) began their tour of the RBAF's second battalion with briefings by the Chief of Staff of the RBAF and by the Commanding Officer of the Second Battalion. Left: A tour of the battalion's hospital and its facilities.



Bilingual education system extended to non-government schools by 1992

January 1992 will see the official implementation of the bilingual policy of education at all non-government schools in Brunei Darussalam. Presently the policy is applied to government schools only.

The Minister of Education, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz announced the move when he opened the Fifth Southeast Asian Conference on Mathematical Education (SEACME) held at Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) for four days starting 14 June.

In his address, the Education Minister said he would more than welcome and encourage nongovernment schools to adopt the bilingual system of education ahead of the announced date, even as early as January 1991 if they wish to do so.

"The extension of the bilingual system of eduction to all schools, including non-government, would bring certain advantages," The Minister explained.

The new policy would enable all students in the country to gain opportunities which an additional language could offer. Further, it would enable all sectors of the population in Brunei Darussalam to communicate fluently in the National language, that is the Malay language."

The current bilingual policy, announced in 1984, was implemented the following year. Under this policy, the Malay language is the medium of instruction for students in the preprimary level up to the first three years of primary education. In the fourth year of primary school onwards, certain subjects are taught in the English language, while others continue to be taught in the Malay language.

This policy was introduced with the aim of ensuring the sovereignty of the Malay language, while at the same time, recognising the importance of the English language. The Minister later went on to explain the rationale of the policy.

He said, "for a small population of less than ¼ million people, this policy is considered essential to allow Bruneians access to the The Minister of Education, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz announces the extension of the bilingual system of education to non-government schools in Brunei Darussalam.



large amount of important information which are available in the English language and, at the same time, to widen their opportunities for advanced training overseas."

The Minister said he hoped the new policy would see the "fruition of the objective of developing Brunei Darussalam as a nation which is technologically oriented, and yet retain the values and traditions which we all hold dear to."

The conference was held in conjunction with Brunei Darussalam's declaration of 1990 as the "year of the Enchantment of Mathematics."

Recently the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Abdul Razak bin Haji Mohammad opened an exhibition entitled "Mathematics in Schools" at Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

The SEACME is the fifth, though hosted for the first time by Brunei Darussalam. The first SEACME was held in Manila in 1978. Kuala Lumpur hosted the second Conference in 1981. The third was held in Thailand in 1984 with Singapore hosting the fourth Conference in 1987. Indonesia will host the sixth Conference in Surabaya in 1993.

Said the minister, "These Conferences have made important contributions to the development of mathematical education in Southeast Asia. The series have

been primarily sponsored by the Southeast Asian Mathematical Society and the International Commission on Mathematical Instructions."

The Minister also informed that the Fifth SEACME is jointly sponsored by UNESCO, the British Council, the Education Ministry of Brunei Darussalam, and several companies in the country.

Pehin Dato Haji Awang Abdul Aziz expressed hope that mathematics teachers of Brunei Darussalam, who were attending the conference would gain new insights and ideas in order to stimulate interest in the subject. In turn, the students too, would stand to yield the benefits from the teachers' experiences as the latter incorporate in the classrooms the new skills and knowledge they have learnt. As the theme of the Conference suggests i.e. "The Enchantment of Mathematics," the minister hoped participants could communicate the subject to students, in an "enchanting" manner. The teaching of mathematics could be made more effective, in short, if it were taught in a delightful and fun

The significant role mathematics plays in modern society was also highlighted by the minister. Skills in mathematics are of great importance to the individual in his daily life. To the society in general, mathematics is also vital in the acquistion of scientific and technological skills as well as for certain management skills.



Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman expresses concern about human activities which affect the 'physical, climatic and biological make-up of the earth'

Brunei Darussalam's Minister Resources has been outlining some of the reasons behind the government taking a serious view on the conservation of the country's living resources

Opening the International Conference on Geography in the ASEAN Region on 27 June, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman said we live in an era when human activities have a direct and immediate impact on the equilibrium of the ecosystem. Humanactivities have profound effects on the physical, climatic and biological make-up of the earth.

"....the topical issues on the depletion of the ozone layers, acid rain, pollution and the depletion of the world natural resources indicate the realization that we have one common world. We live not only in a world with limited

Proper management of the environment through geography

resources", the Minister said, "We also live in a delicate environment which no longer tolerate abuses".

"In short, in the pursuit for a better quality of life, we may be destroying the very essence of life itself...". This awareness has penetrated the thinking of national planners and nation builders.

Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman highlighted that the science of geography would be making a significant contribution towards consolidating economic development within a stable and sustainable environment. Along with this is the ultimate objective of achieving a meaningful quality of life in the future.

In education, the minister went on, geography must go beyond the description of land configuration and the pattern of human settlement. The education process, he said, must stimulate and enhance environmental consiousness.

"It must provide a better understanding of the impact of human activities on the stability and the sustainability of the ecosystem."

In the case of project planning and analysis, said the minister, the assessment of the impact on environment has been applied only after the economic study has been completed. However, we can never achieve development that will be sustainable if the environmental factors are taken as a matter of choice, to be considered only when they are economically convenient.

"In this respect, the use of the science of geography, the predictive modelling of our ecosystem must be part and parcel of the planning tool."

The minister also spelled out the need for administrators, managers, engineers and other professionals to have a better understanding on the significance of a stable environment in the context of a sustained development.

The contiguity of the global ecosystem calls for a common and collaborative effort. Said the minister, "We are compelled to collaborate regionally and globally so that we may have a common peception of the cause and effect of human activities."

"In this respect", Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman said, "We are compelled to collaborate regionally and globally so that we may have a common perception of the cause and effect of human activities."

"In this respect", Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman said, "We welcome the idea that Brunei Darussalam is a model tropical system. We welcome collaborative work and study programmes with international organisations and institutions."

The minister also said he was pleased to note the progress made by the University of Brunei Darussalam (UBD) in its collaborative programme with the Forestry Departemnt and the Royal Geographical Society of the UK, to support the develoment of UBD's field study centre.

Thirty-two papers were presented by speakers from UK, the United States, Australia and ASEAN universities. Geography education, Environment and Natural Resources, and Socio-Economic Issues of Development were the main themes of the four-day conference.

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Deputy Minister of Education, Dato Seri Laila Jasa Dr. Awang Haji Ahmad (centre facing camera) hosts a dinner for the participants of the International Conference on Geography in the ASEAN region held for four days at Universiti Brunei Darussalam, which was participated by some 120 delegates.





Above: Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam is about to present the Colonel Commandant Trophy. On arrival to watch the competition, Her Royal Highness was welcomed by senior army officials (right).



Above: Her Royal Highness being briefed as she watched the shooting competition among women soldiers and below, a close look at the proceedings. On Her Royal Highness's left in both pictures is the Chief of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces Staff.



Women soldiers put shooting skills to test

Women members of the royal Brunei Armed Forces went into action on August 24 in the annual inter-platoons shooting competition at the Berakas Garrison for the RBAF's Women's Company.

Watching them in action from close quarters was Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam, who is the Colonel Commandant of the Women's Company.

More than 40 sharp-shooters from the company's five platoons put their skills to the test at the competition, which was divided into the rifles, carbine and pistols sections.

Her Royal Highness presented prizes to the individual winners in each of the three sections. The Organising Chairman, Dr. K.C.Goh in his opening speech said geographers could not ignore recent ideological changes which have far reaching geographical and geopolitical implications. They, too, must take note of the rise of newly industrialised countries in Asia, in particular in ASEAN, and the prospect of the Pacific Ocean being economically dynamic. Geography education and research must thus address these issues so that it is not perceived as an archaic subject.

The Minister of Industry and Primary Resources announced that Brunei Darussalam had received international acclaim for having the unique plant species exhibited at the recent Osaka Greenery Exhibition in Japan.

For this unique heritage, Brunei Darussalam has been awarded a best award, two gold medals, two silver medals and three bronze medals for the range of plant specimens displayed at the exhibition.

In a recent survey carried out by experts from Kew Gardens in England, discoveries were also made of new species of flora and fauna, the minister disclosed.

This unique characrter in the diversity of the flora and fauna of the tropical forest in Brunei Darussalam will continue to be preserved despite efforts to diversify the predominantly oil-based economy. Eighty-five percent of the land area in the country are still covered by forests.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Minister of Education has urged schools in ASEAN to adopt a common curriculum in geography. Each country could at least in the future include in the discipline, topics like "Cultivating an Awareness on the Value of a Clean Environment" in secondary schools. The Deputy Minister also explained why schoolchildren must be taught to be kind to the environment.

A common curriculum in geography in schools in ASEAN could also enhance awareness on the regional grouping. The proposal, if adopted, "should stimulate integration and conformity on a wider scope."

Speaking at the closing of the International Conference on Geography in the ASEAN region

at Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Dato Seri Laila Jasa Dr. Haji Ahmad explained that education could contribute considerably towards changes in attitudes in a society.

"Since geography is closely related to the study of the environment, I am inclined to suggest that schools geography should be used as an agent to help create and inculcate a positive attitude and awareness regarding the environment among schoolchildren, in particular about the importance of proper and effective environmental management.

The deputy minister further told the delegates that schoolchildren should be made aware of the perils and other consequences associated with environmental damages, some of

which have proved irrepairable. Others may even affect them directly. In short, the deputy minister said, "We must teach them to be kind to the environment."

Serious concern from environmentalists, pressure groups and governments on pollution and the damages inflicted on the environment have already been heard.

We have been forewarned, the deputy minister said, of the impending global disasters which await us, if men continue to abuse and mismanage the environment Every citizen of the world, should therefore play an active and positive role, "to love and care for this fragile environment."

The deputy minister also pointed out that very few have responded positively despite the serious adverse consequences on the environment, telecast over television screens. Education could help bring about a more positive response.

"We know that education can contribute considerably towards attitude changes in a society," he said.

Dato Seri Laila Jasa Dr. Haji Ahmad went on to explain why ASEAN educationsts and geographers need to consider adopting a common geography curriculum. And how this could promote awareness and stilumate integration and conformity among members of ASEAN.

He said, "For many years here in Brunei Darussalam geography has taught children about countries, places and people" from all over the world. It is however, disheartening to note that even among ASEAN, many of their citizens are still not familliar with their neighbours.

The deputy minister stressed that, "As a region, ASEAN is a comparatively small one. As an organisation, it calls for solidarity, understanding and cooperation of its citizens.

To enhance ASEAN awareness as effectively and as long lasting as possible", the deputy minister emphasised the need to establish our target.

"I believe", he said, "we should begin with the school children. ASEAN secondary schools should adopt a common geography curriculum. This notion, if it can be adopted, should stimulate integration and conformity on a wider scope."



Guests attending the opening ceremony of the International Conference on Geography in the ASEAN region hosted by Brunei Darussalam included senior government officals and foreign diplomats based in Bandar Seri Begawan.

Royal Brunei wings its way to London

Royal Brunei Airlines will round off an exceptional year of intensive development with the introduction of its first-ever service to the United Kingdom in November.

"After prolonged negotiations, an agreement has been reached which enables Royal Brunei to introduce up to two services per week between Bandar Seri Begawan and London Gatwick," said an RBA press release recently.

Passengers may be embarked and disembarked en route at Singapore and Dubai.

Subject to government approval, the first weekly service, to be operated by the airline's Boeing 757, will commence on Wednesday November 21 with a 60-minute stop over in Singapore and 65-minute stop over Dubai, to arrive at London's Gatwick airport at half-six in the morning on Thursday November 22.

The return flight will leave London at one in the afternoon the same day, to arrive in Bandar Seri Begawan at shortly four in the afternoon the following day, Friday.

By March next year, said the press release, a twice-weekly service would be commenced, to be operated by the airline's Boeing 767. The services will be on Wednesdays and Saturdays with the return flights on Fridays and Mondays respectively.

The introduction of the UK service marks the culmination of a year of major developments for Royal Brunei, which celebrated its fifteenth anniversary and introduced scheduled flights to Frankfurt, its first service to Europe, on 14 May this year.

The year also saw the arrival the first of RBA's two Boeing 767s. Royal Brunei has also successfully operated its first charter series for 3,000 Brunei pilgrims perform-



Managing Director of Royal Brunei Airlines, Pengiran Haji Tengah.

ing the Haj in Mecca — flying them to Jeddah on board its Boeing 757s and flying them home by the new Boeing 767.

"Flying to London will be our boldest step forward to date", said RBA's Managing Director, Pengiran Haji Tengah bin Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Metassim.

"This year of innovation has generated new confidence and greater productivity amongst many of our staff in all departments. Our service is being further enhanced to meet the challenge of these highly competitive international market", he said.

Royal Brunei Airlines (RBA) can now boast of having the newest fleet of passenger airliners in the world, for all its aircraft's average age is three years.

The Brunei Darussalam national flag carrier said farewell to the last of its Boeing 737s in mid-July and delivered it to its new owners - Aloha Airlines in Hawaii.

The B737, registered UED (passenger cum freighter) joined RBA brand new in March 1980 and after just more than ten years with the airline, was sold to Aloha Airlines on July 17, marking the end of the B737 era for RBA.

But at the same time, the departure of the 737 marked a new age of B757s and B767s for Royal Brunei, which now has a fleet of three B757s, delivered in 1986, and the first of its two B767s arrived only in June this year with the second B767 to be delivered in Autumn next year.

Of RBA's two other Boeing 737s - one was sold on July 5, 1988 after having served the airline since

Farewell and Aloha!



The last of RBA's three Boeing 737s now has a new owner, Aloha Aurlines in Hawaii.

May 9, 1975; while the other was sold on July 18, 1989 after having been in service since 16 August, 1975.

Before being stripped of its RBA livery in preparation for its joining Aloha Airlines, the last B737, also dubbed as the Grand Old Lady, had a final fling.

With staff from various depart-

ments of RBA as well as other guests on board, it took off from Brunei International airport on July 9 for a final flight over Mount Kinabalu.

The combined B737 fleet had clocked up some 80,000 flying hours covering around 40 million miles and recording about 40,000 take-offs and landings during their operations with RBA.





Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha touring the handicraft section (above left) and cookery section (above) of the Domestic Science Exhibition organised recently by the Pertiwi Women's organisation.

Domestic Science products on display

Hundreds of items in the form of cookery products, handicraft, fashions and flower arrangements were on display at the Youth Centre in the Brunei Darussalam capital, Bandar Seri Begawan on August 5 in a domestic science exhibition organised by the Pertiwi Women Association.

Officiating at the exhibition's opening was Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha.

It was held as part of the many celebration events to mark the 44th birthday of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

Apart from items put up by the Pertiwi Association, there were also numerous items displayed by members of the foreign missions based in Bandar Seri Begawan who were invited to take part.



Included in the exhibition was flower arrangment (above) as well as fashions (below) especially by members of the foreign diplomatic missions who participated in the exhibition (below).



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"Lessons have been learnt that there are certain activities which the Government must do. And there are certain economic activities which are best done by the private sector."

"Perhaps there is now the realization that self-judgement will lead to self delusion, which can lead to self destruction. This is surely the case for the centrally planned economies in which the government controlled every activity."

Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman further stated that in the context of free enterprise, the mechanism of market forces have tapered the terms of what is good for business to include more specifically "moral" and "social" values. The corporate entities are recognising that sustainability of activities requires them to be good corporate citizens. The inclusion of moral and social obligation is now part and parcel of corporate strategy.

The competitiveness of skilled manpower in an open market, the minister said, have created the need for better terms of employment and more competitive fringe benefits for employees. The need for staff loyalty have created more paternal corporate employers. The more apparent good enconomic sense of increasing "local content" in business activities are now realised. It is now becoming good business sense to be more morally and socially more responsible. In short, it is thus goodbusiness strategy to be good corporate citizen, the minister stressed.

In light of this scenario, the Minister continued "...... We see more of the converging of mutual respect between the Government and the private sector. On the one hand, the Government has realised that there are things which the private sector can do better, and the other, the private sector has recognised that there are moral and social values which need to be addressed for the business activities to be sustainable."

For Brunei Darussalam, there is a clear political direction from His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam. In his address, His Majesty has highlighted the impor-

tance of the private sector and their active role in the national economic development.

Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman further said ASEAN Economic Ministers would look forward to proposals by the ASEAN-CCI to enhance economic cooperation. The Ministers are scheduled to meet in Bali in October this year.

The ASEAN private sector has contributed to intra-ASEAN economic cooperation, through their attendance at the various meetings of ASEAN economic committees. And at the highest level, at the ASEAN Economic Ministers meeting.

ASEAN-CCI's interaction with their counterparts from the ASEAN dialogue partners, on the other hand, provides the necessary linkages for trade and investment at the most practical level.

The time has come for a new thinking, the minister concluded. It is no longer sufficient to think in terms of what is good for business, but, the minister pointed out, we must also address the issue of what is good for ASEAN.

Utilise know-how fully to start own enterprise

The full utilisation of knowledge gained from training for setting up their own enterprises has been urged amongst new graduates of the Sinaut Agricultural Training Centre (SATC).

And alternatively, such knowledge can be used as qualification for seeking employment with the private sector.

Job opportunities in the Government service are limited and by venturing into the private sector or better still by engaging in business (related to farming, livestock, etc), the new graduates, too, could contribute towards the country's national development and hence economic growth.

Making these relevant points at the Fifth Convocation Ceremony of SATC was the Deputy Home Affairs Minister, Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abidin bin Orang Kaya Perwira Abdul Rashid. The ceremony took place at the SATC in Tutong on August 18. The call by the Deputy Home Affairs Minister is not the first made by a top Government official. Others including Ministers

and Permanent Secretaries had made similar calls, strongly urging the youths in the country,

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One of the new graduates of SATC receives her award from the Deputy Home Affairs Minister, Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abidin during SATC's fifth convocation ceremony.

school leavers and graduates of UBD alike to look elsewhere other than the Government, for employment.

Bruneians were reminded about the government's intensive and aggressive efforts in the promotion of the economic diversification policies. The growth of industries including agriculture and livestock are of primary concern.

Having graduates of the SATC working in these spheres either as entrepreneurs or employees is therefore compatible with the Government's aspirations.

Sixteen graduates received their Brunei National Diplomas in Agriculture at the convocation after completing a three-year course. Some 33 others also received certificates after attending short-term courses (June -August) at the SATC.

Those who took short-term courses are mainly farmers, some of whom have already engaged in livestock farming or have just begun farming using the hydroponics method - an intensive high technology crop production system without the use of soil.

Short term courses also include accounts management in farming, the use of machinery in farming and tips for the entrepreneurs to start a business venture.

To date, more than 150 have graduated from SATC since the Centre offered courses leading to the Brunei National Diploma in Agricultural Technician Certificate Course, the Livestock Technician Certificate Course, the Rice Technician Certificate Course and the Brunei National Diploma In Agriculture (Engineering). The Technician courses had been replaced with

Your turn

The next issue of the Brunei Darussalam newsletter will appear during the second week of November 1990. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel: 02-25941 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. Contributions for our next issue should arrive by October 20, 1990. All editorial rights reserved.



The Deputy Home Affairs Minister, Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abidin talking to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, Dato Paduka Malai Ali (extreme left) as they toured an agricultural exhibition at the Sinaut Agriculture Training Centre. On the extreme right is the centre's principal.

the Brunei National Diploma courses in Agriculture since 1983.

The Centre had also introduced the MIB (Malay Muslim Monarchy) course as of this year. The SATC's principal, Awang Haji Shahri bin haji Awang Besar said that this is part of the Centre's efforts to upgrade its curriculum. The move in making MIB course compulsory for all students to pass in also consistent with the Education Ministry's policy.

Another move to further upgrade the syllabus of the Centre is the choice given to students starting this year to major in Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry or Industry.

The SATC started as a joint venture between the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Brunei Shell Petroleum Company in 1976. It aims to produce youths who will become full-time farmers on a commercial basis.

Only about ten years later in 1987, the management of SATC was handed over by Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn. Bhd. to the Government of His Majesty.

The Brunei National Diploma (engineering) is also accepted by the Business and Technician Educational Council of the United Kingdom (BTEC). Students are, therefore, also awarded the BTEC diploma certificates.

A three-day agro-industry exhibition was held at the SATC. Some 40 booths featuring among others the hydroponics system of farming, poultry and coffee farms were shown.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, meanwhile, has said that efforts are now being made to elevate agriculture activities in the country into high-technology farming.

Because the population in Brunei Darussalam is small and because most people tend to work with the Government, there are few farmers in the country.

Dato Paduka Malai Ali stressed the need to make farming attractive. "We have to make it very attractive for them to farm, not for reasons of subsistence but in providing another alternative source of employment which will be profitable, and one that can sustain or maintain the standard of living. One that is better if not equal to other forms of economic activities," he said.

The Permanent Secretary was addressing twenty-three delegates from ASEAN, including five from Brunei Darussalam, who were attending the Joint Meeting of the 14th ASEAN Animal Protection Programme and the 13th Meeting of the ASEAN COFAF (Comittee on Food and Forestry) - Coordinating Group on Livestock.

The meeting is very important, the Permanent Secretary said, in assisting farmers in elevating the farming industry especially in livestock to accommodate to new techniques in farming.

Dato Paduka Malai Ali further said that livestock development is very important. This would become more and more so with increasing demand both because of increasing population and because of the changing consumption patterns.





Above: A woman is surrounded by her children as she has a good look at what the padian had

Left: Wearing a huge hat called 'saraung padian' made of the leaves of nipa palm to protect her from the sun and rain, a padian paddles her boat from house to house to sell such goods as fish, vegetables and fruits as well as other daily household needs.

Padians a vanishing breed of traders

n Brunei Darussalam there is a group of people who could well be regarded as door-to-door salesmen or salespersons. They are the 'padians'. Unlike the salesmen or salespersons that we are well familiar with though, the 'padians' conduct their trade by boats from house to house, selling goods to residents of the Kampong Ayer community (village settlement on water) along the Brunei river. The settlement cropped up many centuries ago.

Easily recognised from the large hat called 'saraung padian' made of the leaves of nipa palm which they wear to protect them from the sun and rain, the padians' would paddle their boats slowly from house to house selling items such as fish, vegetables and

Starting their trade at dawn, 'padians' would often return home quite late in the evenings.

Sadly, the padians are today a vanishing breed of traders as few are willing to continue the life of a 'padian' partly due to the stiff competition from modern shops and supermarkets. And the small number of 'padians' that remain would often be seen gathered at a communal place especially where residents of the Kampong Ayer get off and on water taxis.

BRUNEI IN BRIEF

Capital City:

Bandar Seri Begawan

Land size:

5765 sq.km

Population: Official Language: 241,400 (1988) Malay

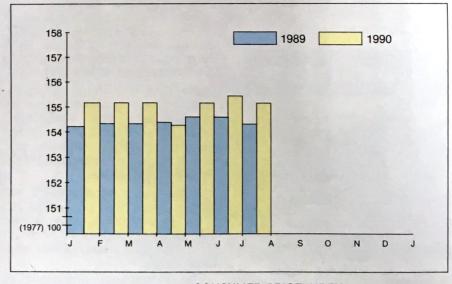
Official Religion: June 1990 rainfall: Islam

(annual 2,818mm)

161.0 mm.

PRIME LENDING RATE

September 6.75%. (quoted by Bankers' Association).



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX