

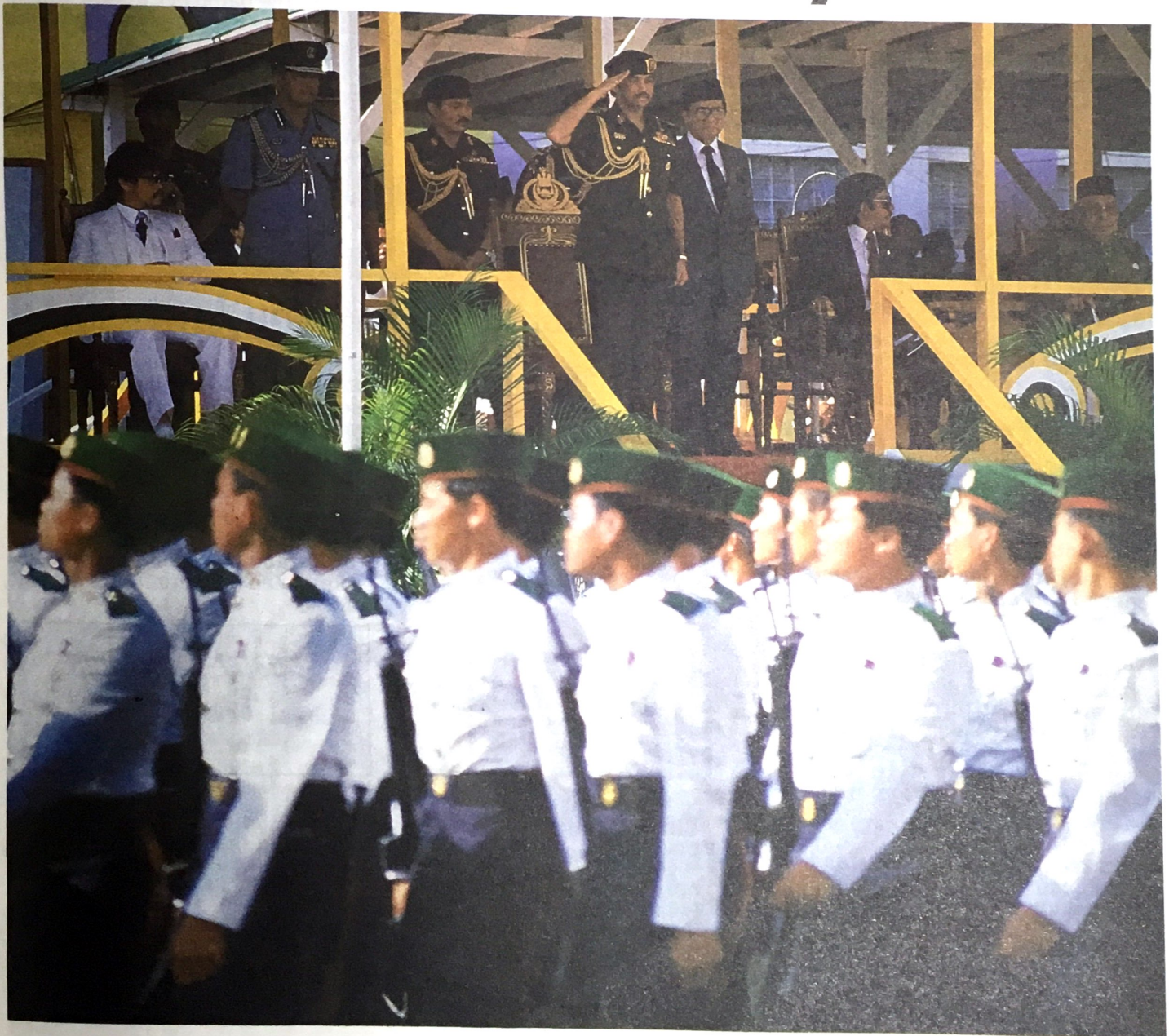
# بروني دارالسلام

## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

A newsletter produced by the Broadcasting and Information Department  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTHS AND SPORTS • NUMBER 6 VOLUME 1.

MARCH 1986

## The Sultanate celebrates National Day



His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam takes the salutes as men of the Royal Brunei Police Force march past during the National Day parade.

• see story on page 2





بروني دارالسلام  
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

MARCH 1986

## Development for the people by the people

The slogan-slinging style of celebrations has arrived in Brunei Darussalam. The one chosen for the just-celebrated second anniversary of national day has a more solid core than ones usually thought up for such celebrations.

'National development - our joint responsibility' the theme of the celebrations exhorts the people of Brunei Darussalam to discard long-resident mental straitjackets for a refreshed look at development. The outdated and murky manipulated attitude was that development was the business of bureaucracy. It was seen as 'something they do for or to us' and all that the *rakyat* (people) needed to do was to inertly albeit not always gratefully soak it up.

Independence has flushed out this thinking and what better time than when a vibrant, young and educated generation has become noticeable that the people have been invited to decide where, why and how they and this land of their birth is going.

The Fifth National Development Plan already has touches of this pace and style.

The government through its channels met the *rakyat* at grassroot level through formal and informal dialogues sounding it out on its needs and aspirations. These were then taken into consideration when formulating the plan.

It would be a source of joy and an indicator of concern should more young people come forth at such open meetings to express their legitimate views and thereby lean their weight on the rudder steering Brunei Darussalam's development.

# National Day colour

Brunei Darussalam celebrated the second anniversary of its national day on February 23, 1986 with a pageant of colour and a display of loyalty to the Sultan and country.

His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam arrived to specially constructed dais in the centre of Bandar Seri Begawan beside the Brunei River. Across the river, stands Kampong Ayer, the famed and much romanticized water village, the cradle of the nation.

His Majesty took the salute at a grand parade of nearly 12,000 of his subjects representing the armed forces, uniformed bodies, civil servants, trade associations, school children and social groups.

Also taking part in the parade were vehicles from various government departments, the most interesting of which were displays of military power on wheels.

Roads leading the centre of the city were sealed off turning Bandar Seri Begawan into a king-

sized pedestrian mall which was dressed with ceremonial arches, festoons of coloured lights and other decorations that added to carnival-style atmosphere.

For those who could not get near enough to see the various presentations before the royal dais some 50 television monitors were set up all over the city to carry the proceedings which were also telecast 'live' by Radio Television Brunei. A number of foreign journalists were also covering the event for media in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Finland.

A 1000-strong choir of school children accompanied by the Royal Brunei Armed Forces band under the baton of Captain Manap bin Haji Kamis sang patriotic songs.

Among those who attended the parade were His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong

• continued on page 3

## National Day stamp issue

Philatelists had two more to add to their collections when the Postal services Department issued three new definitive stamps on national day, February 23, 1986.



The stamps in denominations of \$1, \$2, and \$5 replace a current series which was first issued 12 years ago.

Overseas collectors can obtain the stamps by writing to the Philatelic Bureau, Postmaster-General, Brunei Darussalam to make a standing order. Requests for a standing order should be accompanied by a minimum deposit of \$30.

## Easter Greetings

Brunei Darussalam wishes its readers a blessed Easter

**BRUNEI DARUSSALAM** a monthly newsletter, reports on government, social and business events in the country. If you wish to receive this free newsletter regularly and are not already on our mailing list, please let us know. Published by the Department of Broadcasting and Information, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam. Printed by the Printing Department, Ministry of Law.

• All money values are expressed in Brunei dollars, \$, unless otherwise stated.



# Defence, education, health, priorities of His Majesty's gov't.

**T**he people of Brunei Darussalam have been told that the government will continue to ensure development.

In a televised address in conjunction with National Day His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam said that defence, education, health, development and communications would be areas of special

effort. Other projects will be executed in order of priority.

His Majesty said that it was also desire of his government to increase the pool of trained manpower in the country so that future development projects and the aspirations of the government could be fulfilled.

The people were also reminded of the importance of national unity and cautioned against those elements out to create mis-

understanding that would jeopardise the peace and prosperity of the nation.

"The past two years", His Majesty said, "showed that the people were ready and able to take up the challenge of national development and nation building".

He urged the people to work even harder so as to ensure continued stability in the country.



In conjunction with the National celebrations this year, His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam was special guest at the preview of a mammoth exhibition tracing the development of the country. The 12-day display brought together a record of the efforts of government and private enterprise in pushing Brunei Darussalam along the development road. The picture shows His Majesty at a display by the Royal Brunei Armed Forces.

## National Day colour

• from page 2

Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Jefri Bolkiah, the Culture, Youth and Sports cum Deputy Finance Minister and His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Bendahara Seri Maharaja Permaisura Pengiran Muda Haji Sufri Bolkiah. Others who attended included foreign diplomats, senior government officers, leaders of commerce and community chiefs.

The celebrations proper began the previous evening with special prayers being held at all major mosques throughout the country. Prayers were offered for the past blessings as well as for the future peace and prosperity of Brunei Darussalam.

***Greetings  
received  
from all  
over the  
world***

**H**is Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam last month received a large number of congratulatory messages from heads of state and other world leaders on the occasion second anniversary of Brunei Darussalam's National Day.

Messages came from His Majesty Sultan Iskandar, Yang Di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia and Dato Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, the Malaysian Prime Minister, His Majesty Raja Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz Al-Saud of Saudi Arabia, His Majesty Raja Birendra Bir Birkam Shah Dev of Nepal, His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf, King of Sweden, His Majesty Grand Duc

• continued on page 10



# NATIONAL DAY IN COLOUR NATIONAL DAY IN COLOUR



Below: Standard bearers of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces.



Scouts before the Royal dais



The Royal Brunei Armed Forces band which has a wide repertoire was in attendance.

Below: School children gave a special presentation before the Royal dais.





**G**eneral Sir Nigel Bagnall, the British Chief of General Staff was in Brunei Darussalam last month for a familiarisation.

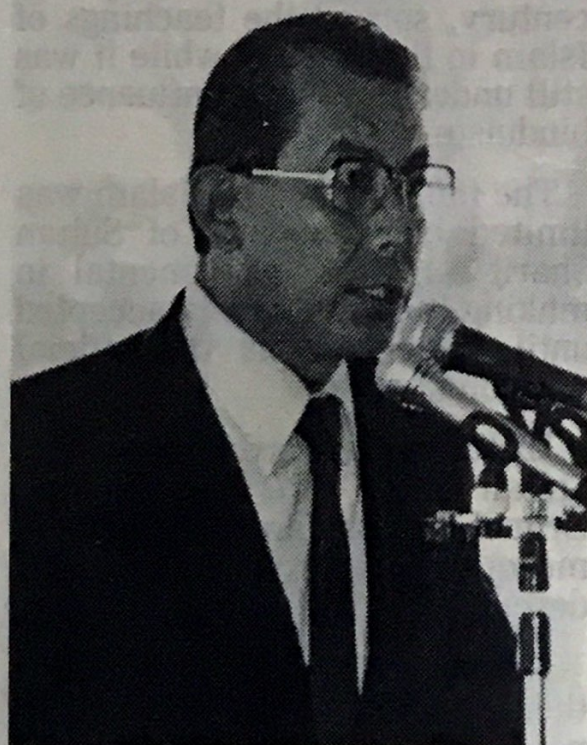
While in the country Sir Bagnall was granted an audience by His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam on February 15, 1986. He was also received by Kebawah Duli (Yang Maha Mulia) Maulana Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan General Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddien Saadul Khairi Waddien, the Defence Minister.

Sir Bagnall also visited the Royal Brunei Armed Forces and the British Army Garrison.

## ***Japanese corporation presents training centre***

**T**he Mitsubishi Corporation of Japan last month marked the second anniversary of Brunei Darussalam's independence by donating a mechanic training centre to the country

Mr Yohei Mimura, President of Mitsubishi Corporation who spoke at the opening on Feb 24, 1986 said that the centre 'cemented the relationship which Mitsubishi Corporation has enjoyed with His Majesty's government since the 1970's when the Brunei LNG pro-



His Excellency Mr T. Kawamura

## **Chief of General staff on familiarisation visit**



Sir Nigel Bagnall British Chief of General Staff being presented to His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam at the audience ceremony.

ject a joint-venture involving His Majesty's government' began.

He described the centre as a symbol of his company's commitment to development. Mr Y. Mimura also thanked the Education Department for their cooperation in the project.

His Excellency Mr Tomoya Kawamura, the Japanese Ambassador said that his country wanted to associate itself with Brunei Darussalam's efforts to strengthen the country's skilled manpower base.

Mr Kawamura thanked the government for 'well thought out guidance and numerous forms of material support' in connection with the setting-up of the centre.

The centre, sited in Kampong Tungku some 14 kilometres out of Bandar Seri Begawan, is fully equipped to train young Bruneians, as well as those already working, in the service and repair of heavy construction equipment like

bulldozers, graders, compactors and so on.

Mr N. Matsuda, Mitsubishi Corporation's General Manager in Brunei Darussalam said that his company was for a long time seeking to do something for the country's young people. The centre was decided on, after the discussions with the government.

'The centre', he said, 'could become a source for much needed equipment servicing personnel in the construction industry in this country'.

Japan's International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has sent three experts while two Bruneians have been trained in Japan to run the centre.

The Mitsubishi Corporation is involved in the liquefied natural gas industry in Brunei Darussalam and also runs a highly successful trial beef cattle ranch

● continued on page 7



# D'ment of Islam important: HM



The newly opened Sultan Sharif Ali Mosque near Bandar Seri Begawan. Inset: His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam, is flanked by his father Kebawah Duli (Yang Maha Mulia) Maulana Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan General Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddien Saadul Khairi Waddien, the Defence Minister and two of his brothers during prayers at the mosque.

**H**is Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam has said that the development of Islam will be given special attention in national development plans.

Speaking on February 28, 1986, at the opening of a mosque in Sengkurong, 15 kilometres from Bandar Seri Begawan. His Majesty urged muslims to be cautious against those who claim to bring new teachings or attempt other disruptions to the muslim community.

He later named the mosque, costing about \$3.7 million, after Sultan Sharif Ali, the third sultan of Brunei Darussalam who was believed to have done much for the spread of Islam in the country.

The 1.6 hectare site for the mosque was donated by Pehin Orang Kaya Digadong Seri Diraja Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Mohd Noor

bin Pehin Orang Kaya Lak-samana Haji Abdul Razak.

Among those who were at the opening ceremony were Kebawah Duli (Yang Maha Mulia) Maulana Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan General Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddien Saadul Khairi Waddien, the Defence Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Bendahara Seri Maharaja Permaisua Pengiran Muda Haji Sufri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Di-Gadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Jefri Bolkiah, Culture, Youth and Sports cum Deputy Finance Minister, senior government officers and villagers who later joined the royalty for Friday prayers at the newly-opened mosque.

## New Mosque named after third Sultan

**S**ultan Sharif Ali, after whom the mosque in Sengkurong is named, was Brunei Darussalam's third ruler, who in the early 15th century, spread the teachings of Islam in the country while it was still under the strong influence of hinduism.

The initial spread of Islam was limited but the work of Sultan Sharif Ali was instrumental in making the faith widely accepted until it become as the official religion of state.

Historical records show that Sultan Sharif Ali was the first Brunei Darussalam ruler to build mosques in the country He was described as the 'Blessed ruler'.

He married the daughter of the then reigning Sultan Ahmad. His popularity led him to succeed Sultan Ahmad to the throne.



**H**is Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam last month visited *Mukim* (district) Seria, the seat of the country's oil and gas industry.

At a meeting with representatives of the 23,000 people in the *mukim*, His Majesty said that he wanted to have a first hand look at the lives of his people and to hear of difficulties which his government could rectify.

Representatives of the people in Seria spoke at the audience with His Majesty. They pledged their loyalty to His Majesty's government while Malay businessmen in the area thanked his Majesty for the government's concern in nurturing the growth of Malay businesses.

A representative of the expatriate community which is largely involved in oilfield-related activities said that it was committed to making a positive contribution to the nation through the transfer of skills and technical know-how to Bruneians. He thanked His Majesty for the opportunities given to expatriates to work in Brunei Darussalam and assured the government that foreigners working in Seria would be loyal and committed to the government's objectives.

## His Majesty meets residents of the oil fields



His Majesty, the Sultan (in military uniform) is accompanied by Haji Puasa bin Orang Kaya Seri Pahlawan Tudin, the Belait District officer who is administratively responsible for Mukim Seria, during the visit.

## Foreign Ministry man appointed envoy to New Zealand



Mr Lim Jock Seng

**B**runei Darussalam's High Commissioner to New Zealand, His Excellency, Mr. Lim Jock Seng was bestowed his credentials by His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam at the Nurul Iman Palace, on February 3, 1986.

His Excellency, Mr. Lim who continues to be Director of ASEAN Affairs at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the post he held before his appointment, will for the time being be based in Brunei Darussalam.

The 42-year-old newly-appointed envoy said that the main area of interest in the bilateral relationship with New

Zealand would be trade, educational facilities, investment and other co-operation.

Air New Zealand has provided training for staff of the national flag carrier, Royal Brunei Airlines. New Zealand welcomes investment from Brunei Darussalam in its tourist industry.

His Excellency Mr. Lim who holds a master's degree in anthropology from the London School of Economics was at one time Director of the Brunei Museum.

### New Mechanic Centre

• from page 5

supplying young animals to be raised for the market by farmers.

Three other institutes provide technical education in the country. The Jefri Bolkiah School of Engineering in Kuala Belait, the Sultan Saiful Rijal Technical College near Bandar Seri Begawan and the recently-opened Brunei Institute of Technology together have a total enrolment of about 1,400.



# HM receives credentials from French ambassador

The first French ambassador to Brunei Darussalam presented his credentials to His Majesty, Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam, on February 3, 1986.

His Excellency Mr Patrick Amiot who arrived in the country at the end of last year has previously served his country in Phnom-penh, Hanoi, Canberra and Baghdad.

On February 5, 1986 the Egyptian Ambassador to Malaysia His Excellency Mr Aly Taha Habib also presented his papers at the Nurul Iman Palace, official

residence of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam.

The 56 year-old graduate of Cairo University has also served his country in Bonn, Copenhagen and Budapest.

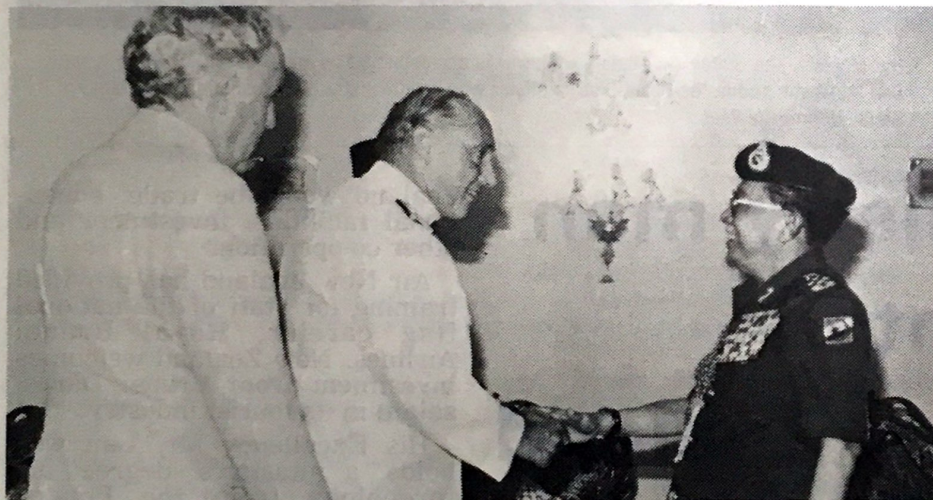
On the same day Belgium's ambassador to Singapore, His Excellency Mr Carlos De Wever also presented his credentials at the Nurul Iman palace.

All three diplomats later paid courtesy calls on His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister.



His Excellency Mr Patrick Amiot

## US Pacific Fleet Chief received at Nurul Iman



Kebawah Duli (Yang Maha Mulia) Maulana Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan Jeneral Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddien Saadul Khairi Waddien receiving Admiral James A. Lyons Jr. Commander in Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet at the Nurul Iman Palace. At left is His Excellency Mr Barrington King, US Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam.

Admiral James Lyons Jr, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet paid Brunei Darussalam a goodwill visit on January 26-28, 1986.

While in the country, Admiral Lyons was granted an audience by His Majesty, Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam at the Nurul Iman Palace in Bandar Seri Begawan.

Admiral Lyons was accompanied at the audience ceremony by His Excellency Mr. Barrington

King, United States Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam.

The Admiral was also received by Kebawah Duli (Yang Maha Mulia) Maulana Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan General Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddien Saadul Khairi Waddien, the Defence Minister.

Earlier Admiral Lyons visited the Berakas Garrison of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces where Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Dewa Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Mohammed bin Haji Daud. Commander of the RBAF gave him a briefing on the force's history.

## Capital 'phone numbers change

Telephone numbers of some government departments and commercial houses in the capital, Bandar Seri Begawan have changed following the arrival of new equipment at the main exchange on February 16, 1986.

The changes are in conjunction with the installation of NEAX 61 digital equipment at the exchange. This has enlarged its capacity by 5000 lines.

The numbers affected by the changes are those beginning with the digit '2' which has been replaced by the prefix '4'.

Subscribers can call telephone numbers 27800 or 44444 to inquire about the numbers.

A Telecoms Department spokesman said that the new numbers would be incorporated in the 1986 edition of the telephone directory which is expected to be issued by the middle of this year.



# NATIONAL DAY IN COLOUR NATIONAL DAY IN COLOUR



Bass drummer Mohd Mansor bin Saidin appears swamped by the student choir that the Royal Brunei Armed Forces band accompanied.



Government officers carrying these specially decorated umbrellas were among those who took part in the National Day parade.



Festoons of electric lights turned the main roads to Bandar Seri Begawan into fairyland.



Left: The city centre was ablaze with decorative arches and coloured lights



# ASEAN through the 'eye gate'

**S**culptors from ASEAN countries will have their works put on permanent public display at an ASEAN Square to be opened shortly.

The ASEAN Square is sited some five kilometres out of Bandar Seri Begawan.

Six sculptors, Marsidi bin Akip (Brunei Darussalam), Husna (Indonesia), Latiff Mohiddin

(Malaysia), Eduardo Castrillo (Phillipines), Micheal Ong Chu Kheng (Singapore) and Saravuth-Daungjumba (Thailand) who were selected by their respective countries, spent some 45 days producing works, each in their distinctive style around the theme 'Harmony in Diversity'.

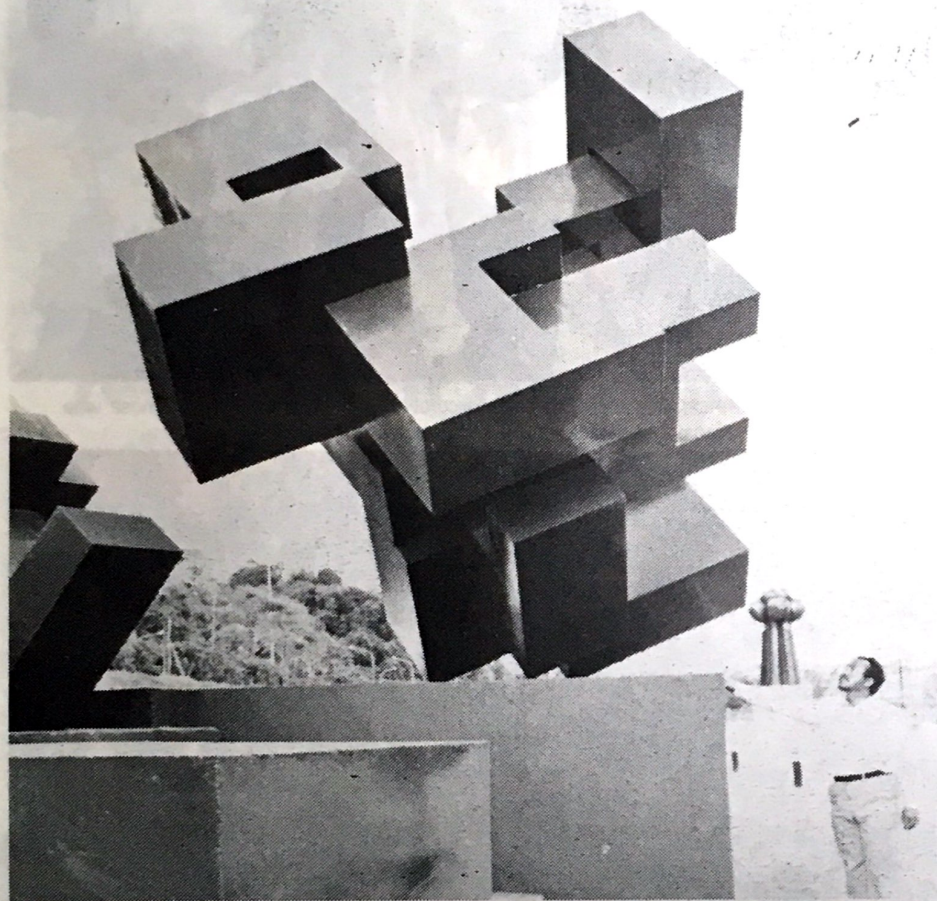
During their time in Brunei Darussalam, the artists also gave public lectures on their subject

discussing latest trends in their respective countries.

Brunei Darussalam's is the fourth ASEAN Square to be built. Since 1981 the ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information (COCI) has funded the building of similar public squares decorated with outdoor sculptures in Singapore, Bangkok and Jakarta.

A COCI spokesman said that ASEAN Squares built in each country were to promote a sense of community among ASEAN artists, to give them a chance to have their work displayed outside their own countries and to create visible symbols of ASEAN.

Manila is the home for the next ASEAN Square.



Awang Marsidi admires his handiwork at the ASEAN Square in Bandar Seri Begawan

## more greetings

• from page 3

Jean, Grand Duke of Luxembourg, His Royal Highness Saad Al-Abdullah Al-Salim Al-Sabah, Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait, His Excellency N.M. Stephen, Governor-General of Australia, His Excellency Jeanne Sauve, Governor-General of Canada, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Y. Nakasone Prime Minister of Japan, Mr U San Yu, President of Burma, Mr Kenan Evren, President of Turkey and Dr Alphons Egli, President of Switzerland.

Other messages came from His

Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman, President Soeharto of Indonesia, President Ronald Reagan of the United States of America, General M. Zia Ul-Haq, President of Pakistan, President Richard Vos Weizsacker, of the Federal Republic of Germany, President Hosny Mubarak of Egypt, President Zail Singh of India, His Excellency Lieutenant-General H.M. Ershad of Bangladesh, President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom of the Maldives, President Abdou Diouf, of Senegal, President Spyros Kyprianou, of Cyprus and Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

## Brunei Malay in a minute

Each month in Brunei Darussalam we introduce readers to common Malay words as used in this country. This month the word selected is **damit**.

**Damit** means not large or smaller than usual. The word **damit** is equivalent to 'kecil' in standard Malay.

In Brunei Darussalam an infant is called 'anak **damit**' and not 'bayi' as in standard Malay. The word 'bayi' in Brunei Darussalam means 'pig' for which the standard Malay word is 'babi'.

Let us now use the word **damit** in a sentence:

Brunei Darussalam is a small nation which is peaceful and prosperous.

Brunei Darussalam ialah sebuah negara **damit** yang aman dan makmur.



## That should be...

In the February edition of *Brunei Darussalam* His Excellency Mr Mir Abad Husain was referred to as Pakistan's High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam. The correct designation should have been 'Ambassador'. We are sorry for the error. Ed.



# Royal Brunei Polo Club beats friends



Action at the Royal Brunei Polo Club during one of the matches.

**I**t has been a winning month for the Royal Brunei Polo Club.

Last month the club side took all four friendlies against teams from the United Kingdom and Hong Kong.

An invited team from Hong Kong went down 4-12 for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Trophy and 3-16 in another game

for the Cathay Pacific Airlines Trophy.

Later in the month the Brunei Darussalam team put away an invited team from the United Kingdom 10-0 for the Standard Chartered Bank Trophy and 14-4 for the Asprey Trophy.

The Brunei side included two brothers of His Majesty the

Sultan, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister and his brother, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Di-Gadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Jefri Bolkiah, the Culture Youth and Sports cum Deputy Finance Minister.



Jaidin Haji Berudin (right) receiving the trophy for the men's title from Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja, Pengiran Bahrin bin Pengiran Hj. Abbas, The Law cum Communications Minister.

## Squashed they were

**B**runei Darussalam took the overall champion's trophy at the first ever Borneo Squash Championships held in Bandar Seri Begawan from February 13-16, 1986.

The national side collected 17 points in the team event to become overall champions. Brunei took first three places in the mens event. Brunei Darussalam's Jaidin Haji Berudin outplayed compatriot Jaafar Mohammad to take the men's title while Khamis Tengah took third place.

Sarawak and Sabah took 10 and nine points respectively.

Sabah took the women's title through Rohani Baimin who is also the Malaysian national champion. Brunei Darussalam's M. Pritchard came second.

The event was organised by the National Squash Racquet Association. The trophy for the championship was donated by His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Di-Gadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Jefri Bolkiah, Culture Youth and Sports Minister cum Deputy Finance Minister.

## Your turn

The next issue of Brunei Darussalam will appear during the first week of April 1986.

If there are events you would like featured in 'Brunei Darussalam' please call us on Tel : 02-40527 or better still, take a photograph yourself and write a short article to accompany your picture. Contributions for our next issue should arrive by 15 March 1986. All editorial rights reserved.

### Latest:

## Brunei welcomes President Aquino

**H**is Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Wad-aulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam has sent a message of congratulations to President Corazon Aquino of the Philippines on her assumption of office. His Majesty said that he 'looked forward to working together with you' describing relations between their two countries as 'warm and cordial.'





Communal cooking during the *makan tahun*. You have to have a little more if you are having guests.

## Rice harvest festival joy

**T**he Kedayans one of the seven major ethnic groups in Brunei Darussalam, celebrate the '*makan Tahun*' or the harvest festival.

The ancient tradition which has its roots in the days when agriculture did not demand the kind of technical attention it does now. The gods were thanked for

the harvest.

Today the kedayan are muslim, the event has become a one in which the whole village makes an excuse to down tools and have fun. A sosial event that simply reminds the whole village that it is still one big family.

Food for the feast which accompanies the festivities is given by

the villagers. It used to run over three days with the climax on the third day when guests are invited from the next village.

The special item on the menu is the '*kelupis*' a kind of rice croquette wrapped in leaves and steamed. The *kelupis* is eaten without accompaniment or with curries or *sambal* (chutneys).

### BRUNEI IN BRIEF

Capital City : Bandar Seri Begawan

Land size : 5765 sq.km

Population : 220,000 (1984)

### JANUARY REPORT

Rainfall 305.1mm.  
(annual rainfall 2,818 mm.)

### PRIME LENDING RATE

March 7.5%. (quoted by bankers' association).

