

بروني دارالسلام BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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NOVEMBER 1986

HM: No changes in our government policies

Sultan presents
new and bigger
cabinet 2 days
after mourning
period

His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam has assured his subjects that existing government policy will not be changed with the passing of his father, the late Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Saadul Khairi Waddien, the nation's 28th ruler who died on September 7, 1986.

Speaking from Nurul Iman Palace in a 'live' television broadcast on October 20, 1986, two days after the end of the mourning period for his father, His Majesty announced a new enlarged cabinet of ministers and deputy ministers 'to smoothen the administrative machinery of his government.'

In the 37-minute broadcast His Majesty paid tribute to his father who laid the foundations for many areas of national endeavour.

In the cabinet reshuffle His Majesty retained the Prime Minister's portfolio and took over the Defence Ministry formerly run by his father.

His younger brother, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah



His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam addressing the nation 'live' from the Nurul Iman Palace.

Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah continued in the Foreign Affairs portfolio.

The youngest brother, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Jefri Bolkiah

takes over the Finance Ministry from His Majesty. He was formerly Culture, Youth and Sports Minister and also Deputy Finance Minister.

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NOVEMBER 1986

A good thing whose time's come

The cabinet reshuffle presented to the nation last month is the single biggest change in the government administration since the country's independence.

His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam has put to rest, confirmed or denied speculation on the era since the passing of his father, the late Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Saadul Khairi Waddien, the nation's 28th ruler.

The timing of the announcement, apart, the new cabinet was a good thing whose time has come. It speaks of a desire to make the best use of the nation's technocrats each of whom brings to their new offices specific experience and training. His Majesty did make a commitment when the first cabinet was announced to make changes to his administration from time to time.

Thus this broadening the base of government will result in each being responsible for a specialised area and to pay maximum attention to it. All this while supreme authority still rests with the throne as is traditional in Islamic sultanates.

Brunei Darussalam-watchers smugly waiting to cry 'I told you so,' at even the hint of hairline cracks in political stability must be disappointed.

His Majesty has said in no uncertain terms that there would be no major policy changes giving credence to the existing national and international policies and postures.

The sharing out of the heavy responsibilities of running the government amongst the ablest of Bruneians must be seen as auguring well for the future of this developing nation.



His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam pouring scented water over the grave of his late father, the nation's 28th ruler.

National mourning officially ends

The official mourning period for the death of the late Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Saadul Khairi Waddien ended on October 18, 1986 with His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam leading the royal household in fortieth-day post-funeral prayers. The prayers ended with the sprinkling of scented water on his father's grave at the royal mausoleum in the capital, Bandar Seri Begawan.

The royalty present at the graveside prayers included His Majesty's three brothers, 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 Permaisura Pengiran Muda Haji

Sufri Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Jefri Bolkiah, formerly the Culture, Youth and Sports Minister cum Deputy Finance Minister now the Finance Minister.

Also attending the prayers were Cabinet Ministers and senior government officials in the country.

Later in the day *nobat* (ceremonial music) was played at the Lapau in Bandar Seri Begawan to mark the end of the mourning period.

The late Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Saadul Khairi Waddien died at the age of 71 and was the country's 28th ruler who abdicated in 1967 in favour of his son the present Sultan and Yang Di-

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V-P Laurel at Nurul Iman

Philippines Vice-President Salvador Laurel was in Brunei Darussalam for an eight-hour visit on October 16, 1986. While here he 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.

He told the *Brunei Darussalam newsletter* 'We had a very pleasant meeting and I personally conveyed to him the sympathy and condolence of President Cory Aquino, the entire new government and the people of the Philippines. I conveyed to him that we shared his bereavement.'

Asked if he had discussed any bilateral issue with His Majesty the Vice-President described his visit as 'purely to condole.'

The Filipino leader was also received in audience by His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister at his residence.



His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam with Philippines Vice-President, S. Laurel at the Nurul Iman Palace. At left is His Excellency Mr. Benjamin Domingo, Philippines Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam.

Our Manila envoy presents papers



His Excellency Awang Haji Jaya (left) presenting his credentials to President Corazon Aquino at the Malacanang Palace last month.

President Corazon Aquino last month received credentials of His Excellency Awang Haji Jaya bin Abdul Latif, Brunei Darussalam's Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines.

The ceremony took place in Manila at the Malacanang Palace on October 2, 1986.

Awang Haji Jaya, 45, who was previously his country's High Commissioner to Malaysia has also served the country at its London mission.

He joined the civil service in 1961 as a magistrate and has held various posts including Assistant District Officer for the Belait and later the Brunei-Muara District.

Turkish and Islamic art show

A collection of Turkish and Islamic art objects went on display at the Brunei Museum last month.

The ten-day show was officially opened by Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajah Mariam on October 23, 1986.

Another royal guest at the opening was Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Masna, a sister of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam.

The 250-piece collection, brought in from sources in Europe and the United States, featured lifestyles in the historical Ottoman Empire and included Islamic calligraphy dating from the ninth century. Other items on show included embroideries, silver, jewellery, arms, armour and paintings.

The exhibition arranged, and organised by Devisco International of New York, was to share the cultural heritage of Islam. The firm's President, Nilufer Dobra, was in Brunei Darussalam for the event.

Nilufer Dobra, a Turkish citizen, has travelled to Malaysia and other parts of Southeast Asia and found that Malay customs, traditions, music and other art similar to those of her homeland.

The exhibition was mounted to show the similarities between Malay art and the art of the Ottoman Empire whose calligraphers, weavers, silversmiths and architects made a significant contribution to Islamic art.



Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajah Mariam (left) is shown a silver-inlaid brass Koran box by Miss Dobra, the President of Devisco International of New York who organised the display.

International award for writer

Brunei Darussalam writer of the year 1986, Awang Haji Muslim bin Haji Burut was among five who received the Southeast Asia Writers' Award given by a group of banks in Bangkok, Thailand.

The award was presented by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Thailand, Maha Vajiralongkorn at a gala banquet on October 9, 1986.

Awang Haji Muslim, 43, writes under the pen-name 'Muslim Burmat' and has to date completed three novels. Two of them 'Hadiah sebuah impian' (A gift of a dream) and "Puncak pertama" (first summit) won prizes in national competitions in 1984. The latter in one to mark Brunei Darussalam's independence.

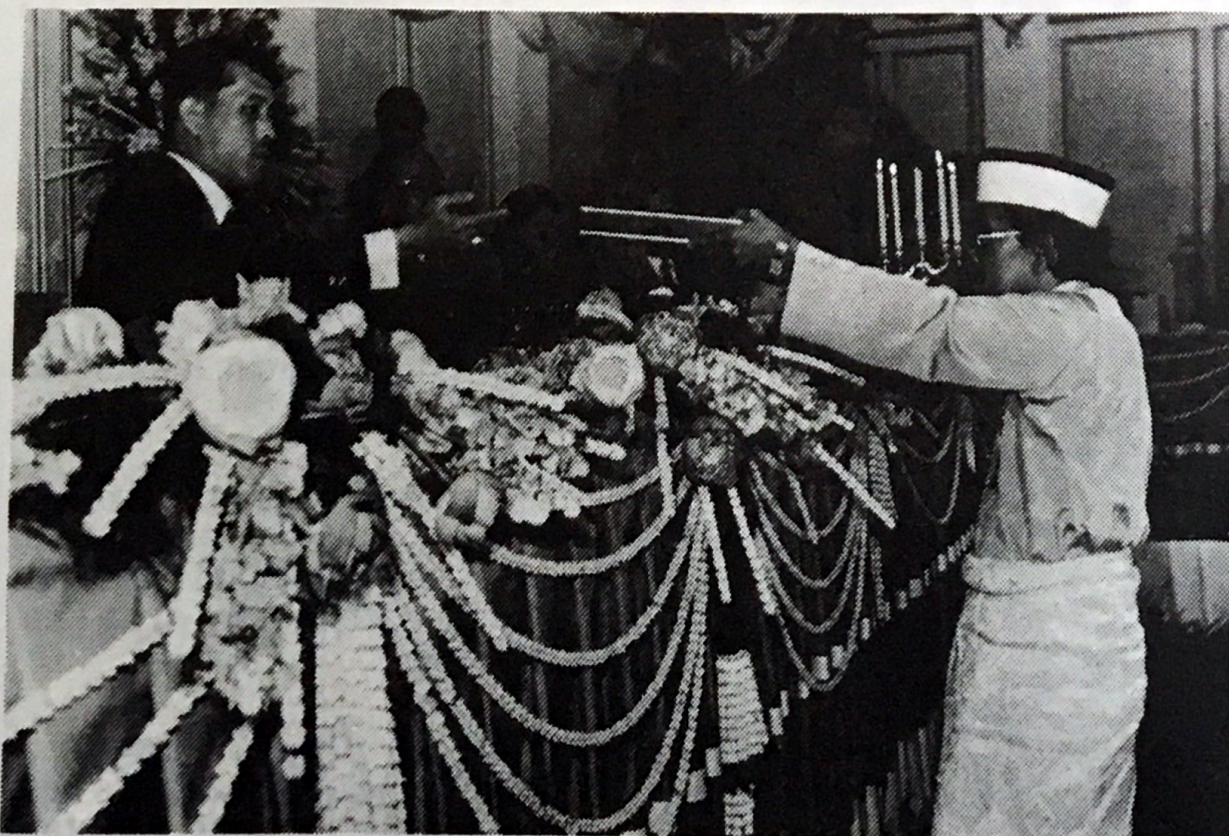
His works have also been published in the Evening Standard of London.

The award-winning author now concentrates more on short stories. He has written more 80 short stories and 20 children's text books. Five volumes of his short stories have been published in Malaysia.

He works as deputy editor at the Language and Literature Bureau, Brunei Darussalam.

He started writing while still in school at the Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddin College. In 1969 he attended a course on modern literature at the University Malaya in Kuala Lumpur.

Awang Haji Muslim bin Haji Burut is also editor of ASEAN Literature Collection in Brunei Darussalam.



Awang Muslim Hj Burmat (right) receiving his award from HRH Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn.

New ministerial cabinet line-up

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The Home Affairs Ministry was entrusted to Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia Bakti Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Isa (above) who continues to be Special Adviser to His Majesty in the Prime Minister's Department.

The Communications Ministry went to the charge of Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Haji Abdul Aziz who previously held the twin portfolios of health and education.

Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja Pengiran Bahrin bin Pengiran Haji Abbas retains the Law portfolio. He was also responsible for communication in the previous cabinet.

The Education Ministry will now be taken over by Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib who formerly was Development Minister.



A newcomer to the cabinet is Pehin Orang Kaya Ratna Diraja Dato Seri Utama Ustaz Haji Awang Mohd Zain bin Haji Serudin (above) Head of the Religious Affairs Department, who becomes Religious Affairs Minister.

The Development Ministry now comes under Pengiran Dato Seri Laila Jasa Dr Ismail bin Pengiran Haji Damit, an architect who served as Permanent Secretary at the same Ministry.

The former Director of the Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Jawatan Luar Pekerna Raja Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Hussain joins the cabinet as Culture, Youth and Sports Minister.

Deputy Ministers

The Health Ministry comes to the hand of Dato Paduka Dr Haji Johar bin Dato Paduka Haji Nor-din, formerly Director of Medical and Health Services.

His Majesty also announced the appointment of eight deputy ministers; Pengiran Sanggamara Diraja Brigadier General

Pengiran Haji Ibnu bin Pengiran Datu Penghulu Pengiran Haji Apong (Defence), Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Zakaria bin Datu Mahawangsa Haji Awang Sulaiman (Foreign Affairs), Dato Paduka Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Ahmad Wally Skinner (Finance), Dato Paduka Awang Haji Abidin bin Orang Kaya Periwara Abdul Rashid (Home Affairs), Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Ahmad bin Haji Jumat (Education), Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Yahya bin Haji Ibrahim (Religious Affairs), Dato Paduka Awang Haji Selamat bin Haji Munap (Development) and Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd Ali bin Haji Mohd Daud (Culture, Youth and Sports).

Earlier in a eulogy to his father His Majesty recounted the contributions of the former ruler to the nation's development and his love for his subjects.

Fighting back tears, he said that it was his father who laid the foundation for the development of Islam in the Sultanate, and initiated the building of the country's infrastructure.

His father was also the prime mover in setting up the core of what is now the Royal Brunei Armed Forces.

His Majesty also spoke to his civil servants calling on them to make the government more efficient and productive.

To his subjects came a monarch's word of advice and concern on the dangers of drug-abuse saying that drugs could destroy the nation while warning that traffickers would be dealt the full weight of the law.

mourning ends

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Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam. Known for his vigorous interest in the progress of the sultanate and his subjects the late Sultan was often referred to as the "The architect of modern Brunei." Until his death he was a cabinet minister with responsibility for defence.

On his death on September 7, 1986, the nation observed a 40-day mourning with all public entertainment including regular television and radio programmes stopped for two weeks. Public functions were postponed while all flags were flown at half-mast, Muslim wore *songkoks* with a white band around it while non-muslims wore white armbands.



Court musicians performing "nobat" to mark end of official mourning for the country's 28th ruler.

Youth visitors enjoy hospitality

Delegates on the ship for Southeast Asian Youth enjoyed their homestay with Bruneian families as part of their two-month voyage covering ASEAN countries and Japan.

The 245 young people from Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Brunei Darussalam arrived on the October 31, 1986 to an official welcome at Muara Port.

Datuk Awang Sidek bin Yahya, the then Permanent-Secretary to the Culture, Youth and Sports Ministry was there to receive them as the 10,000-ton Nippon Maru slid quayside under the hand of Captain T Watanabe.

In his welcoming remarks to the delegates he hoped that they would use their time together to learn about the culture and lifestyles of the other national delegates and eventually contribute to the good relations among ASEAN countries and Japan.

Later in the day leaders of national contingents were 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.

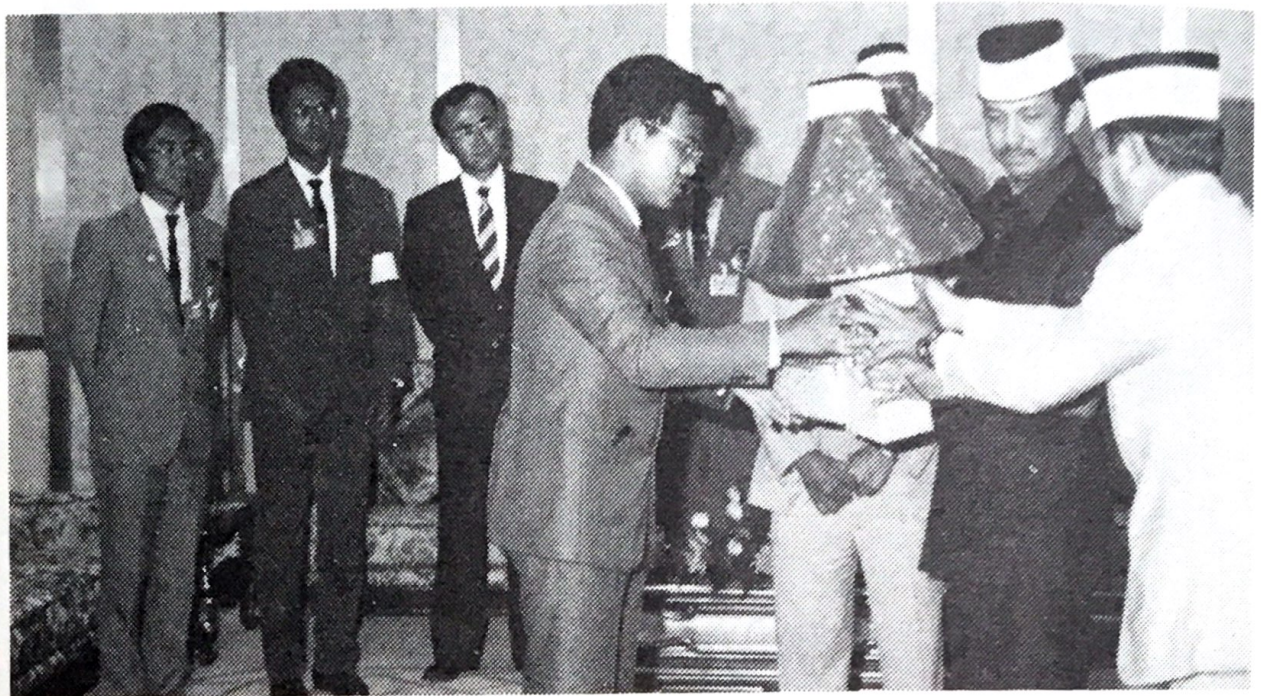
The youth delegates were also hosted to a reception by the His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Jefri Bolkiah, formerly the Culture Youth and Sports cum Deputy Finance Minister, now the Finance Minister.

Speaking to the delegates just before the Nippon Maru sailed out of Muara Port on October 16, 1986 verdicts of the home guests ranged from 'very warm families' to 'terrific, I must come back again.'

The Ship for Southeast Asian Youth programme is now in its 13th year. The Nippon Maru left Tokyo on the September 29, 1986 arriving Manila, the starting point for this year's programme, on October 5, 1986.

Mr Shinichi Kuyama, the ship's Administrator remembers the Manila call very clearly.

He was told that Philippines President Corazon Aquino would come on board the vessel in Manila. Recalling the ruffles and



His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam received leaders of the various national contingents at the Nurul Iman Palace. Picture shows V.R.de Los Reyes of the Philippines presenting a souvenir to His Majesty.

panic that was unleashed because 'we have never had a VIP of such standing on board the Nippon Maru', he was in a frenzy making preparation. But the show had to go on and that visit was 'the fantastic experience and the great event in Manila.'

Another person who remembers the presidential visit was Singapore delegate Dr Jean Ong Choo Khim.



Dr Jean Ong Choo Khim.

'I will always remember meeting Mrs Cory Aquino, shaking hands with her and having a very short chit-chat with her. She joined us on board the ship for a reception on our second evening there,' the Singaporean flashbacked.

After Muara Port the delegates sailed for Jakarta and later Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and arriving at the last port call, Tokyo on November 19, 1986.

Hope it's not just a joy trip

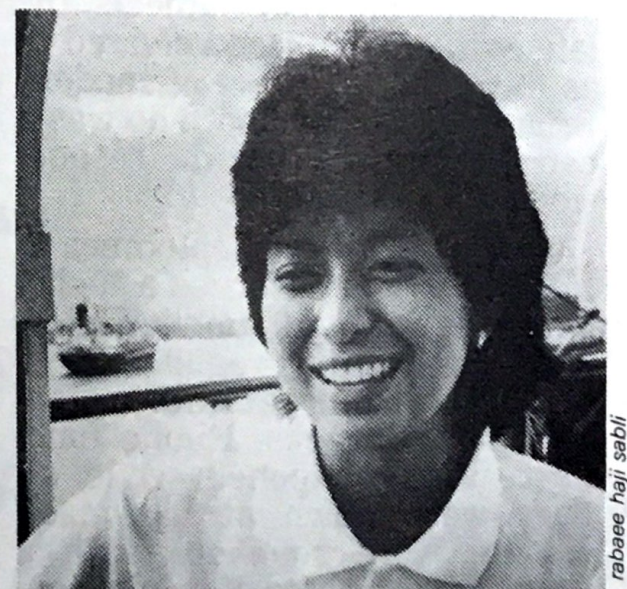
Filipina Melissa S Reyes, said of her Brunei Darussalam homestay 'I am very, very privileged to have a very warm family in Kampong Ayer. If I can be back (in Brunei Darussalam) I'll stay with my foster family again.'

The bubbly social science graduate of Ateneo de Manila University said that she felt 'very much like home.'

Melissa, had the opportunity to eat some traditional food and her foster mother even taught her to make some, including *lenggang*, a kind of crepes folded around sweetened coconut meat.

She hoped that there would be some concrete projects emerging out of this two-month voyage.

'I really hope that it does not stay at the level of a joy trip, like let's get down to some serious things,' she added.



Melissa S. Reyes.

Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja Pengiran Bahrin bin Pengiran Haji Abbas, the Law Minister attending the 41st session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on October 2, 1986. Below we print excerpts from his speech touching on Brunei Darussalam's stand on a number of regional and international issues.

United Nations necessary

..... the United Nations is necessary for achieving the ultimate goal of world peace and stability and that there is much more that the United Nations can do towards achieving this cherished goal.

We cannot hope to achieve world peace and stability unless and until we are able to accept and translate into action this shared responsibility.

Same old problems

Colonial and foreign domination still exist which need to be rectified, the arms race and the growth of the nuclear arsenals continue to cast a dark shadow over the very future of mankind. There is a gap everwidening between the poor and the rich, there is hunger and poverty and there is misery and deprivation.

World peace will remain illusive so long as the nations of the world continue to ignore the principles of peaceful settlement of disputes so long as powerful nations continue to use force with impunity on smaller nations.

Small nations

Brunei Darussalam considers, as crucial to world peace, that the security and sovereignty of small nations be guaranteed. Their right to exist as independent sovereign nations must be respected and assured in the international environment of peace stability and progress.

Apartheid - evil system

Of late, much of our attention is focused on the events in South Africa. We have all condemned the whole system of apartheid. It is an evil system. It is degrading the dignity of mankind. Brunei Darussalam joins other like-minded nations to express its conviction that there is urgent need to bring world-wide pressure to bear South Africa.

Namibia

The racist Pretoria regime continues to impose its will in Namibia. Brunei Darussalam deeply regrets the continued refusal of the Pretoria regime to implement the Security Council

resolution 435 as it has promised to do. Brunei Darussalam believes the only way to solve the problem is for the international community to continue to increase pressure against the Pretoria regime.



Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja Pengiran Bahrin bin Pengiran Haji Abbas.

Pakistan commended

We also commend the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for its patience and contributions. As a neighbour to Afghanistan, Pakistan has to shoulder the very heavy burden of looking after several hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees. We are saddened, however, to learn that Pakistan territorial integrity and sovereignty have been violated many times causing not only damage to properties but also loss of human lives. These violations are contrary to international law. Brunei Darussalam joins other nations in condemning these acts of unprovoked aggression.

Kampuchea

Brunei's position as a member of ASEAN is that we wish to see a peaceful political settlement to this problem. We wish to see the withdrawal of all foreign forces so that sovereignty and territorial integrity can be restored to the Kampuchean people. Brunei Darussalam supports the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea under the leadership

“ Brunei Darussalam considers as crucial to world peace, that the security and sovereignty of small nations must be guaranteed.”

of His Royal Highness Prince Norodum Sihanok.

The Kampuchean problem can only be solved by peaceful negotiation in which all the Kampuchean people are represented.

Korea

We feel that the Korean question could be resolved peacefully through dialogue and negotiations between the South and the North. We also wish to reiterate our support for the admission of the Republic of Korea into the United Nations and indeed urge the admission of both Koreas consistent with the principle of universality.

Protectionism

Brunei Darussalam joins other Third World nations in urging the developed countries to be more open minded. We urge them to be more receptive to proposals put forward by the Third World.

Drug abuse

Drug abuse and illicit trafficking have reached an alarming stage. The implication to socioeconomic security and cultural aspect of human life are evident. Brunei Darussalam recognises that this social epidemic can only be eradicated by concerted by national, regional and international efforts. We have taken appropriate steps in Brunei Darussalam by establishing an anti-drug unit to coordinate drug related programmes and activities such as enforcement of narcotic laws, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts and the implementation of drug-abuse prevention programme.

One-stop shop for industrialists

Local and foreign industrialists intending to open up shop in Brunei Darussalam will welcome a government agency specifically set up to help with the necessary bureaucratic spadework.

The Industrial Unit under the Development Ministry will help businessmen, with an industrial idea, to coordinate with the many government authorities that need to give consultation and approval.

These include the Economic Development Board, Economic Planning Unit, Town and Country Planning and the Public Works Department.

A spokesman for the unit said that its formation coincided with the general direction of the five-year national development and coordinates the work of various departments and ministries involved in industrial development. The plan, launching last December, has an allocated budget of \$261 million for industry and commerce.

Businessmen initially would have to go to Economic Development board to get permission for

business, later to other authorities for land, utilities and infrastructure.

A question of pioneer status, said the spokesman, is only dealt with by the Economic Development Board.

The unit identified new industries either for import-substitution or export-oriented industries which could viably be established in the country. Its other area of concern is the upgrading of existing industries either in terms of technology, scale, management skills or relocation. The unit has found that as there is need for higher industrial management skills in Brunei Darussalam.

The unit will not only assist local businessmen but also foreign entrepreneur, as long as production will benefit the country and economy. In the case of overseas entrepreneurs, it would like local participation in the investment.

The industrial unit monitors and implements government policy and priority, encourages non-labour intensive activities,

mechanisation and automation in industry as well as encourages research and development in industry.

To date the unit has identified 12 industrial sites and 26 agricultural areas. One factory site almost completed will have lots for rental.

Project proposals also from government departments

Some of the proposals for industrialisation have come from government departments needing particular services or supplies.

The Agriculture Department proposed an abattoir complex which was approved and implemented. The abattoir, already in operation since July, handles poultry, buffalo, cattle and goats for public consumption. The complex situated some 16 km out of Bandar Seri Begawan is able to process some 3500 chickens a day.

A cement factory has been proposed by the Public Works Department. Already international assistance has been offered in setting up a plant locally.

A pre-cast concrete industry has been proposed by the same government agency which is much involved in providing infrastructure for the country.

At present Brunei Darussalam imports almost all of its building materials, including cement.

Inundated with business proposals

More than a dozen of proposals have been received from private sector firms wishing to start industries in the country. Many of these are still being studied by the Industrial Unit while a few are far along the drawing abroad.

Of the former, possibilities include a steel-mill to recycle scrap, ceramics with special reference to heavy duty tiles, glass production, garment production, ice-cream, aerated beverages, plastic and aluminium plants.

Already one joint venture between a local and international

business partner has got the green-light to operate a garment factory. The firm will produce jeans and shirts solely for markets in the United States. Brunei Darussalam is the only ASEAN country which has not used up its export quotas to that country.

A spokesman from the unit said that although local production costs may be higher the U.S. market will be able to bear it.

High quality silica sand deposits in Tutong estimated at about 20 million tons is also being studied by a European country.



The Brunei Darussalam cultural troupe performing at the Vancouver Expo 86'.

We were at the Vancouver Expo

Over 1.5 million visitors trooped in to see Brunei Darussalam exhibits at the Vancouver International Exposition which ended on October 13, 1986.

The national pavilion at the Expo 86 had a display on the country's transportation, aviation and communication in line with the expo theme 'World in Motion, World in touch -Transportation and Communication.'

The country's theme 'Adaptation through time' emphasized the way Brunei Darussalam's transportation had modified over time with modern technology.

Brunei Darussalam also celebrated its National Day at the Expo on September 29, 1986.

Speaking on the function, Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja Pengiran Bahrin bin Pengiran Haji Abbas, the Law cum Communications Minister said that the Brunei Darussalam pavilion was a showcase of some of the progress we have achieved in our economic and social development.'

Pengiran Bahrin added that Brunei Darussalam's presence at the Expo 86 was a symbol of the importance placed by His Majes-

ty's government on achieving progress for its people.

The celebrations of National Day at the Expo held when the country was still observing a period of mourning,' he said, 'testifies to the importance Brunei Darussalam attaches to

international friendship and co-operation.

The Minister also spoke of the friendly relations between Brunei Darussalam and Canada.

Traditional dances and music were among the items on the programme performed for the national day celebrations.

Year of peace stamps



The Brunei Darussalam Postal Services Department last month issued three stamps to mark the International Year of Peace declared by the United Nations at its fortieth anniversary in 1985.

Three commemorative stamps in denominations of 50 sen, 75 sen and \$1 were place on sale on October 24, 1985, one year after the UN proclamation was made.

Overseas collectors who wish to acquire these and other issues of the Brunei Darussalam post office should write 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.

All clear for cooperation say ASEAN weathermen

ASEAN climatologists meeting in Brunei Darussalam have decided on four areas of joint action.

The topics were agreed during a conference of the ASEAN sub-committee on climatology, held for four days, beginning on October 20, 1986. The resolutions will be forwarded to the ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology.

The meeting focussed on the preparation of a users' manual on the ASEAN climatic atlas, a compendium of climatic statistics, a weather modification programme and the possibility of setting up regional committee on meteorology.

Speaking at the opening of the meeting, Pengiran Dr Ismail bin Pengiran Haji Damit, the Development Minister hoped that the group's study of solar and wind energy resources and solar radiation and sky luminance measurements would be successful.

Among those who attended were R. Susanto of Indonesia, A. David of Malaysia, Tan Suan Foon of Singapore, Sukit Yensuang of Thailand and Dr R.L. Kintanar of the Philippines who also chaired the meeting.

Brunei Darussalam's delegations was led by Haleh P.A. Jaafar, Head of the country's meteorology services.

Brunei Malay in a minute

Each month in Brunei Darussalam we introduce readers to common Malay words as used in this country. Sometimes even native Malay speakers may be faced with words unheard of before. This month the word selected is **sigup**.

Sigup is the Brunei word for cigarettes.

Here is a sentence using the word **sigup**.

Ramai orang suka menghisap sigup selepas makan.

Many people like to have a cigarette after meals.

Sigup adalah merbahaya untuk kesihatan.

Cigarettes are harmful to health.



At the ASEAN drug talks

Brunei Darussalam was at the ASEAN 10th Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters which ended in Manila on October 3, 1986.

The national delegation was led by Awang Haji Abdul Razak bin Haji Mohammad, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Education. Datin Hajjah Masni, Head of Brunei Darussalam's Anti-drug Abuse Unit was at the talks too.

The unit formed late last year coordinates the drug law enforcement, addict treatment and rehabilitation programmes and is involved in international cooperation in the fight against drug abuse.

At present the units analytical laboratory is in the final stages of completion. When ready it will be able to perform all tests pertaining to screening for drug abuse, a task now undertaken by the government Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha hospital in Bandar Seri Begawan.

Brunei Darussalam's drug legislation prescribes severe penalties for unauthorised trafficking and possession of drugs.

RBA's best to Bangkok

Royal Brunei Airlines has introduced newly-acquired Boeing 757 aircraft on its Bangkok route. The run, which has been operation in 1977, used to be serviced by the airline's Boeing 737's.

An RBA spokesman said that the introduction of the 757's gave a 54 percent increase in passenger capacity while cargo shippers will benefit from the almost threefold increase in freight capacity to seven tonnes.

Much of the airfreight into Brunei Darussalam is fresh fruit and vegetables.

He added, 'After ten years on the route, Bangkok has proved to be the most popular destination after Singapore and passenger traffic is growing.'

To mark the use of the 757's RBA has announced a reduction of about 40 percent on all its fares between Bandar Seri Begawan and Bangkok for this month.

The 1 hour 55-minute flight leaves Bandar Seri Begawan on

Tuesdays at 7.00 p.m. arriving Bangkok to provide connections with a number of airlines bound for Europe. In the reverse direction the flight leaves on Wednesday at 10.00 a.m. Flights on Fridays and Sundays leave Bandar Seri Begawan at 9.30 a.m. The flights return on both days at 12.25 p.m.

All B757 passengers between Brunei and Thailand have a choice of eight stereophonic sound channels featuring classical, regional, light, pop, jazz and country music plus comedy and children's programmes. An advanced inflight video system provides documentary or comedy entertainment.

For first class passengers regional and western cuisine is served on Royal Doulton bone china featuring traditional patterns in gold with specially designed cutlery, crystal glassware and Swiss cotton napkins. Giveaways include collector's items of Royal Doulton and a Pierre Cardin pen.



Awang Johari Achee (right) of Brunei Darussalam's radio and television service was among a group of seven Asian journalists who visited Bonn, Federal Republic of Germany, late last September. At the Federal Press Office Mr Peter E Buehler (fourth from right) briefed the guests on the organisation and function of the Federal Press Office and the German mass media. While in the Federal Capital, the visitors had opportunities to meet experts on international relations, and those from the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation. They also visited the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (CDU), Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung (FDP) and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (SPD). Talks with German counterparts at Deutsche Welle and Transtel in Cologne gave them an insight into the work of radio and television companies.

Residents in Brunei Darussalam's outlying have not been left out in the quest to encourage the reading habit among Bruneians, even if the local library is not handy.

The government-owned Language and Literature Bureau has a fleet of three buses converted into mobile libraries to bring books to readers at 43 destinations throughout the country.

The mobile libraries each carrying as much as 8,000 volumes of fiction and academic books calls at each destination, usually the local school, on average of about twice a month.

Your turn

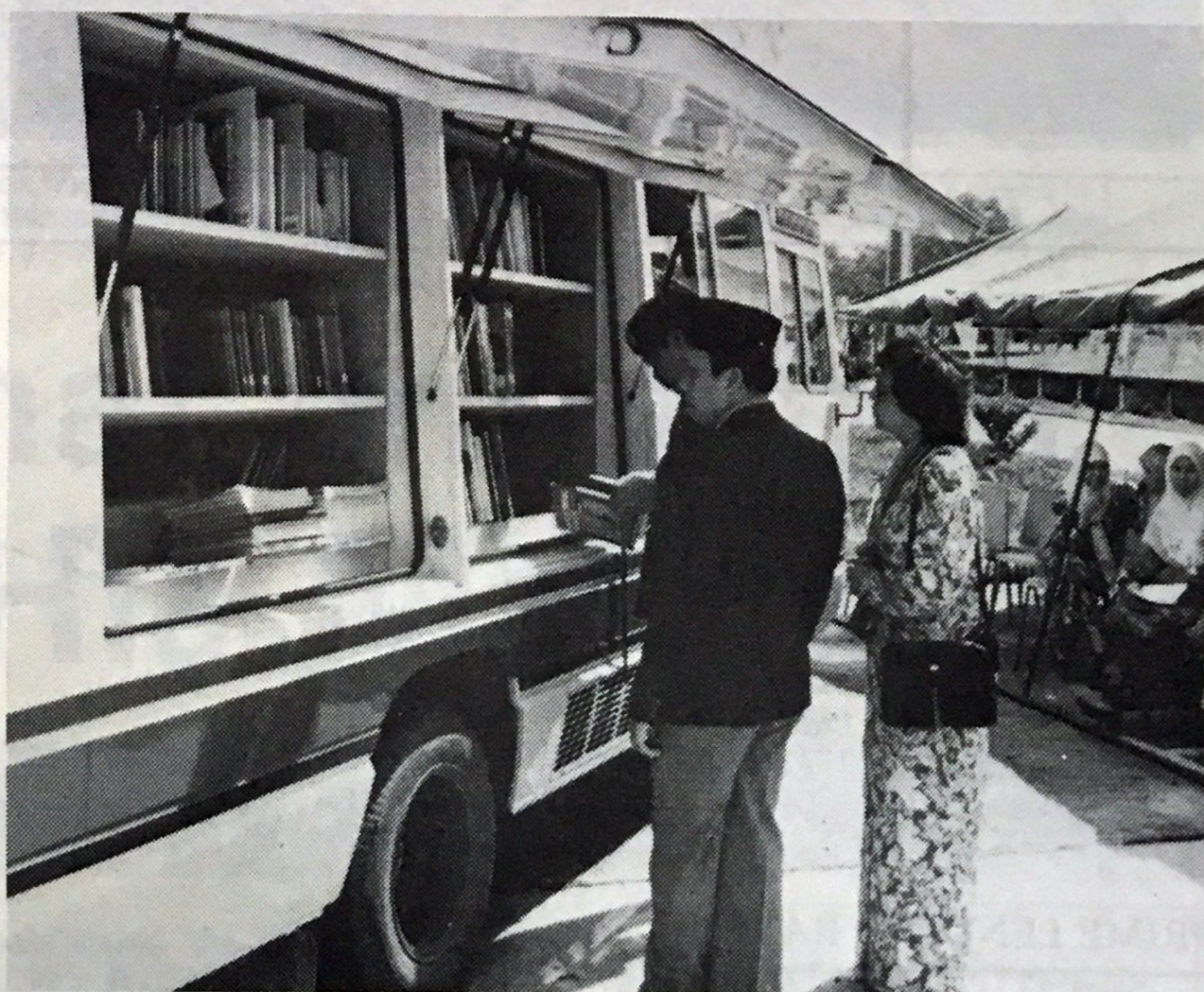
The next issue of *Brunei Darussalam* will appear during the first week of December 1986. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel : 02-40527 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. Contributions for our next issue should arrive by November 15, 1986. All editorial rights reserved.

Visiting library for rural readers

Membership to the scheme launched 16 years ago stands about 3,800 all of whom would need to be above 12 years old.

The mobile library network

recently extended its services to its newest destination last month, the Berakas Garrison of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces some 24 km out of the capital Bandar Seri Begawan.



Awang Haji Ahmad Kadi, Director of the Language and Literature Bureau (in suit) and Dayang Nellie bte Hj. Sunny, the bureau's Chief Librarian at the mobile library when it arrived at the Berakas Garrison.

Red, pink white and yellow and yet we are all fellows

The Hibiscus flower (below) is known locally as *Bunga Raya*. *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*, as it is known scientifically, is a common plant in Brunei Darussalam planted either as hedges, as single plants or in pots.

The plants bearing, single or multiple petals in colours ranging from scarlet to pink and white to

yellow and tints of orange, are in bloom all year round.

Although now primarily used as an ornamental plant it is known to have medicinal uses both internally and as a poultice.

The flowers can even be used as a food dye by crushing in water, adding lime juice.

An infusion of flowers were known to have been used as an expectorant before treatments arrived in coloured, sweetened and flavoured syrups at the local pharmacy.

The leaves of the plants may enter a decoction for fever while a drink made from the white flowers is recommended for thrush, sprue or diphtheria.

A poultice of leaves was used for headaches. Crushed roots of a white-flowered plant have also been advised for carbuncles with a decoction being drunk at the same time.

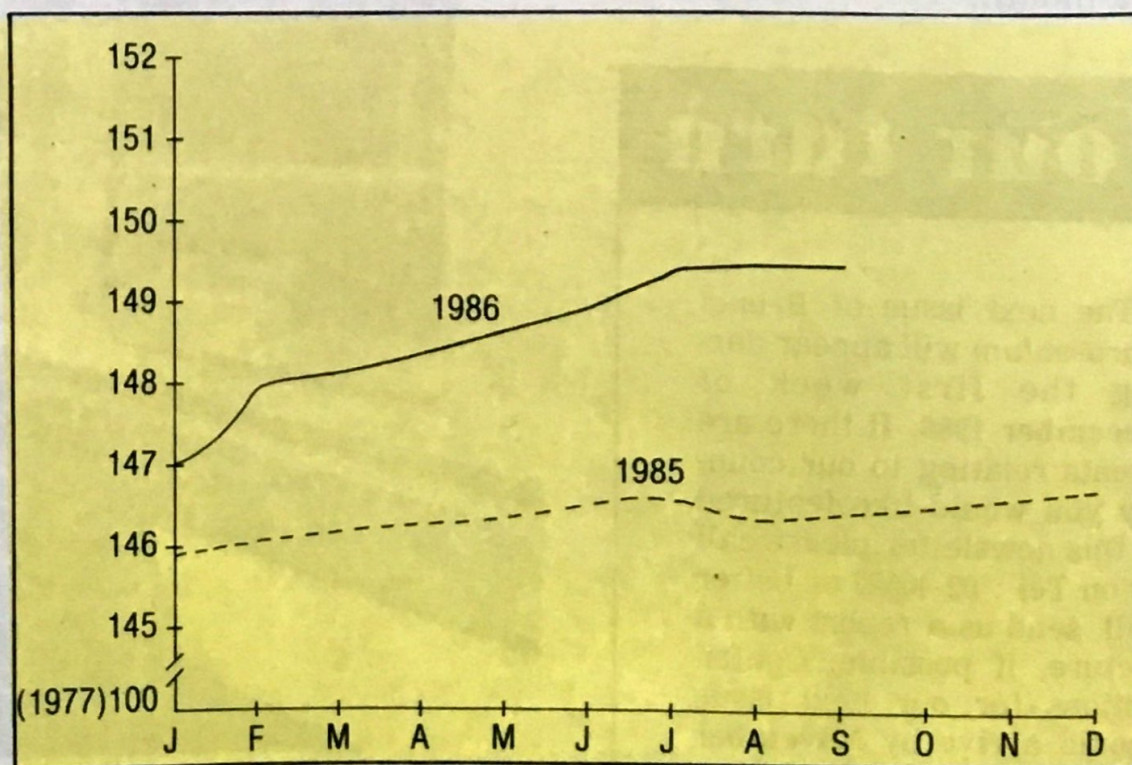


BRUNEI IN BRIEF

Capital City :	Bandar Seri Begawan
Land size :	5765 sq.km
Population :	220,000 (1984)
National Language :	Malay
Official Religion :	Islam
August 1986 rainfall :	172.3 mm.
(annual 2,818mm)	

PRIME LENDING RATE

November 6.5%. (quoted by Bankers' Association).



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX