

TWO COMMUNIST CHIEFS KILLED

Dawn Gun Battle At Rebel H.Q.

Australian Associated Press-Reuter

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Work has been started on the diversion of the Keswick Creek into a new channel round the West Beach airport site. Picture shows two dragline excavators cutting the channel for the creek. The Glenelg golf links are behind the trees on the left background.

Two Communist leaders were among 11 terrorists killed by police in a dawn gun battle on a rubber estate near Kajang, 14 miles south of Kuala Lumpur today.

One of the men was Lau Yew, 30-year-old Chinese president of the Malayan Peoples' Anti-Japanese Army, who marched with the Malayan contingent in the Victory Parade in London in 1946. The other is believed to have been the leader of the Johore rebels.

The battle began when 20 detectives and police, led by a British officer, stormed a house on the estate, killed the two leaders and captured one man and five Chinese women.

Thirty Communists, armed with Bren and Sten guns and grenades, counter-attacked and forced the police to withdraw.

Six detectives had gone to find transport, but although outnumbered by three to one, the remaining 14 charged twice,

shouting:—"Police reinforcements are here. Gurkhas have arrived."

The second charge was successful and the terrorists withdrew, leaving 11 dead, including their leaders, the five Chinese women prisoners, who were killed by crossfire, and four others.

Some of the police were wounded by grenade splinters.

The bodies of the two leaders were recovered, but the other nine bodies, including the five women, were taken away by the

women, were taken away by the gang before Gurkhas and police reinforcements recaptured the house.

Police believe that the house was either the headquarters of the Selangor Branch of the MPAJA or the main headquarters of the Malayan Peoples Anti-British Army.

Unrolled British war maps of Selangor State, Kajang, Klang and other districts in Malaya were found in the building.

The only surviving prisoner was an Indonesian Malay who said he was an ex-member of the Malay Regiment and is believed to have been an instructor for the terrorists.

Two other terrorists were killed at Bentong, West Pahang, 30 miles north-east of Kuala Lumpur.

A gang were trapped in a hut in which rifle, automatic carbines and documents were found.

In another dawn raid police and troops cordoned a country area outside Singapore and detained 375 persons, mostly Chinese, for interrogation.

The latest victim of the rebels was a 53-year-old Chinese, Soy Mok, who was awarded the British Empire Medal for services during the Japanese occupation.

He was killed near Mantin Pass, about 35 miles from Kuala Lumpur.



