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The Straits Times, 15 July 1948, Page 1

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3 Bandits Killed: Police Seize Big Camp PANAMA

From Our Staff Correspondent
KUALA LUMPUR, Wednesday.

COMBINED police and military patrols made two successful attacks on terrorists today. Three bandits were killed in a jungle hut near Siputeh, Perak, and a half-built insurgents' camp was captured and burned down near Ampang Village, a few miles from Kuala Lumpur.

Six terrorists escaped in the attack near Siputeh. One of them was seriously wounded and not expected to live.

One of the dead men was identified as a former captain with the "three star" Communist guerillas during the occupation.

Police officials said they believed the hut to be the one used by marauding gangs who had been robbing shopkeepers in Siputeh and Pusing and were responsible for the killing of a detective at Pusing three weeks ago.

Describing the action, a member of the patrol—which included special constables and Gurkhas—told the Straits Times: "We might have got better results if we had not come upon the hut as suddenly as we did.

"We found the jungle path some time before first light. It was narrow and we could only go single file. We came on to the hut suddenly.

There was just time to

shout a warning to the others in the rear and to get down to cover before men in the hut began running out.

"Our first few shots brought down one man at once.

Ten Ran Out

"There appeared to be about ten in the hut. Some said there was a woman among the people who ran out. We never found out for sure.

"Those who escaped got away in the thick jungle behind the hut.

"When the shooting was over we found one man dead in the hut. Another was outside.

"A third man, with a badly injured leg but still alive we found a short distance from the hut. He died after a little while.

A fourth wounded Chinese crawled into the thick jungle and could not be found.

"From the wound he had it was obvious he wouldn't live long."

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Untitled

LADY GIMSON with little Malay girls who are betas taught to sew. at the Buona Vista Road Child Feeding

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Arms and ammunition recovered were: Two rifles and one Sten gun, with full magazines; one American carbine with three full magazines; 211 rounds of carbine ammunition, and 92 rounds of .303 rifle ammunition.

Well-Planned

The insurgents' camp captured near Ampang Village, a few miles from Kuala Lumpur, was well planned.

Accommodation had already been made for about one hundred men in five completed huts. Another five were uncompleted.

A police officer said afterwards:

"The camp had obviously been constructed by experts.

"Sentry posts guarded the approaches and the buildings were situated on the hillside at five different points.

"They were carefully concealed in the jungle.

"Observation from the air would be extremely difficult.

"A large kitchen had been built and dry wood had been stacked for firing. Dry wood would not give off smoke to be seen from the air.

"A water supply had been laid on and was piped through bamboo from a mountain stream. The approaches to the camp had been carefully screened."

All three of the Chinese shot dead at Ampang on Sunday morning have been identified as armed terrorists who escaped when pursued by the Gurkhas in the comb-out of the territory on Saturday morning.

It will be recalled that on Saturday morning the Gurkhas killed one man and eight others escaped.

Four Killed

Chinese gangsters attacked the village of Ulu Yam, Selangor, last night, killing four Chinese—one a woman—and wounding three. They were driven off by armed special constables when they tried to invade the Austral Amalgamated Tin Mine near the village.

The victims were picked out by the bandits.

Breaking into the KMT branch office, the raiders riddled with bullets a picture of

President Chiang Kai-shek, hanging on the wall.

The raid lasted from ten to 15 minutes and was directed mainly on a section of the village about a quarter of a mile from the police station, manned by one N.C.O. and three constables.

A police officer said: "On hearing firing in the near distance, the constables took up defensive positions round the station in anticipation of an attack on the station itself.

"But the attack did not materialise."

The raiders ceased fire and disappeared immediately after a special constable, one of the five guarding tin mine property, loosed off several rounds from his rifle at half a dozen Chinese who tried to approach the mine.

The wounded were taken to Kuala Kubu hospital by the manager of the mine.

Troops and police, in a combined 16-hour operation ending yesterday evening, burned down seven kongsi houses in the Baling (Kedah) jungle area and shot an armed Chinese.

The man tried to escape into the jungle and, on being shot at again, was seen falling down a precipice into a ravine. He was presumed to have been killed.

Six suspects were detained. The raiding party, which went in three groups, covered an area of 100 square miles.

In command were the commanding officer of the 1/6 Gurkha rifles stationed in Kedah and the officer-in-charge, C.I.D., Kedah and

A Chinese terrorist killed a 40-year-old Cantonese Perlis.

shopkeeper at Tanjong Tualang, 12 miles south of Batu Gajah, after entering his shop and posing as a customer.

The dead man, Chan Ming Kong, was shot four times through the back. He was a member of the Kuomintang party in the village.

Johore Swoop

A large combined police and military force combed the Johore Bahru - Pontian Road, between the 27th and 33rd mile, early today.

The area included several thousand acres of pineapple and vegetable, dotted with squatters' huts.

After a thorough search, many people were detained for questioning.

Jeram Choh and Jeram Choh Lama, where gangsters had been operating are situated in the area.

When bandits ambushed a lorry at the Bangi road, three miles from Kajang this morning, the driver drove through a hail of bullets and escaped with slight wounds caused by glass splinters.

The attendant seated next to the driver was unhurt.

The lorry, carrying fish and vegetables from Kajang to Sungai Pelek, had its bonnet

riddled by bullets.

The driver said that he heard the sound of gunfire coming from the direction of the blukar on the roadside but saw no one.

Police Escort

When bullets shattered the windscreen, glass splinters cut his hands but he put his foot down and drove on.

He returned to Kajang under police escort.

Police are combing the area. Kuala Lumpur Municipal Commissioners have decided to ask the Board of Film Censors to ban the screening of all gangster pictures in Kuala Lumpur.

Twelve of the 20 mine workers detained following the attack on Batu Arang have been released.

A hundred special constables—60 paid and 40 unpaid—have been recruited in Trengganu.

There are now only two strikes in the Federation—both on Johore estates—it is officially stated. Seventy-eight workers are involved.

This is the lowest number of strikes in the Federation since the liberation.



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