

# STATE PAPERS ONLINE COLONIAL: ASIA, PART II: SINGAPORE, EAST MALAYSIA, AND BRUNEI

Discover the lives of the many indigenous and migrated peoples co-existing with the development of plantations, oil, mining operations and trade, under Sultan and British administration.

Rubber Estate clearing of young rubber, 1900s. CO 1069/522/54



## COLLECTION SIZE:

3,300 volumes and files | 506,000 pages

## SOURCE LIBRARY:

The National Archives, Kew, UK

# ABOUT THE COLLECTION

*State Papers Online Colonial: Asia, Part II: Singapore, East Malaysia, and Brunei* is the second collection forming *State Papers Online Colonial*, a digitisation of the British Colonial Office's files (CO series) now housed in The National Archives in the United Kingdom. The collection includes documents, photographs and maps that reveal the daily lives of the indigenous, immigrant, and expatriate communities. *Part II* is focused primarily on Singapore, East Malaysia, and Brunei.

Researchers will find files on the rubber trade, agriculture, and forestry; the issues of opium, slavery, and communism; the grant of civic rights to non-British subjects; the Singapore Development Bill; land valuations; the Singapore riots of 1950; key British corporate and colonial interests such as the Eastern Archipelago and British North Borneo companies; changes in territorial governance; the rule of the Sultans of Brunei and Sulu, the White Rajahs of Sarawak, and other Indigenous leaders; discussions of new constitutions and developments plans, including the minutes and papers of the Consultative Committee of Colombo Plan; and the Japanese occupation during World War II. Alongside the country-specific series, this collection also includes 178 confidential correspondence files of approximately 18,000 pages about these territories.

## VALUE OF THE ARCHIVE

### Making these documents available for research and teaching is important for many reasons:

- The collection includes mainly English-language documents covering a major sector of formerly colonised Southeast Asia.
- The breadth of the material allows researchers to trace the "route to independence" for each of the key countries included.
- The archive supports studies in the religion, politics, agriculture, and trade of Southeast Asia from the mid-eighteenth to mid-twentieth centuries.
- The collection includes a country/territory and a region search limiter.
- The archive benefits from handwritten text recognition (HTR) technology as well as OCR, such that printed, typed, and handwritten texts are all fully searchable.

## MANUSCRIPT SERIES IN PART II

- **CO 144, 352, 404, 487 (1844–1914): Labuan, Original Correspondence, Registers and Entry Books**
- **CO 531, 777, 778 (1907–1951): British North Borneo Original Correspondence and Registers**
- **CO 537 (1878–1953): Colonial Office: Confidential Original Correspondence**
- **CO 874 (1865–1949): British North Borneo Company: Papers**
- **CO 938 (1946–1951): Sarawak: Original Correspondence**
- **CO 943 (1946–1951): Brunei: Original Correspondence**
- **CO 947 (1962): Cobbold Commission of Enquiry in North Borneo and Sarawak Regarding Malaysian Federation**
- **CO 953, 1010 (1936–1951): Singapore Original Correspondence and Registers**
- **CO 954 (1946–1951): Borneo Territories: Original Correspondence**
- **CO 991 (1946–1951): Malayan Union and Singapore: Registers of Correspondence**
- **CO 992 (1942–1951): North Borneo, Brunei and Sarawak: Registers of Correspondence**
- **CO 1022 (1950–1956): South East Asia Department: Original Correspondence**
- **CO 1030 (1941–1967): Far Eastern Department: Original Correspondence**
- **CO 1040 (1921–1966): The Rajah of Sarawak Fund: Papers**
- **CO 700, 1047, 1054 (1779–1956): Maps and Plans**
- **CO 1069 (1863–1960s): Photographs**

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