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COLONIAL REPORTS

Brunei
1954

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STATE OF BRUNEI



ANNUAL REPORT

1954



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1955

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
PART I	
1. GENERAL REVIEW OF 1954	1
PART II	
1. POPULATION	9
2. OCCUPATION, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANISATION	13
3. PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	21
4. CURRENCY AND BANKING	27
5. COMMERCE	29
6. PRODUCTION	31
7. SOCIAL SERVICES	63
8. LEGISLATION	111
9. JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISON	115
10. PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES	129
11. COMMUNICATIONS	149
12. PRESS, BROADCASTING, FILMS AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES	165
PART III	
1. GEOGRAPHY	171
2. HISTORY	173
3. ADMINISTRATION	179
4. WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	181
APPENDICES	
A. PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1953 AND 1954	184
B. PRINCIPAL EXPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1953 AND 1954	189
C. STATISTICS OF LAND APPLICATIONS	190

CONTENTS—(Contd.)

	PAGE
D. MONTHLY RAINFALL FOR 1954 AND PREVIOUS RECORDS COMPARED WITH 1954	191
E. GLOSSARY OF VERNACULAR NAMES AND TERMS	192
F. CONSTITUTED AND PROPOSED FOREST RESERVES	193
G. OUTTURN IN SOLID CUBIC FEET OF TIMBER AND FUEL 1954	194
H. OUTTURN OF MINOR FOREST PRODUCE 1954 ...	194
I. CRIME STATISTICS — 1954	195
J. EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT — 1954 (ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT)	196
K. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS — 1954 (ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT)	197
L. PROFIT AND LOSS (ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT) ...	198
M. REDEMPTION FUND (ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT) ...	198
N. BALANCE SHEET 1954 (ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT)	199
O. BRUNEI — BRITISH RESIDENTS AND ASSISTANT RESIDENTS	200



ILLUSTRATIONS

River Kampong, Brunei	<i>frontispiece</i>
Government Offices, Brunei	<i>overleaf</i>
Opening of first meeting of District Advisory Council, Brunei	<i>facing page 1</i>
Silversmith at work	<i>facing page 16</i>
Trainees at work in the B.M.P. Company's Trades School at Seria	<i>facing page 17</i>
Bali Cattle	<i>facing page 32</i>
Padian (River) Hawkers, Brunei	<i>facing page 33</i>
Part of new gas processing plant at Seria ...	<i>facing page 48</i>
Part of the industrial area of Seria Oilfield ...	<i>facing page 49</i>
Kuala Belait Bazaar	<i>facing page 96</i>
Seria Bazaar	<i>facing page 97</i>
Berakas Airstrip	<i>facing page 144</i>
Malayan Airways Feeder Service	<i>facing page 145</i>
New Mosque, Seria	<i>facing page 160</i>
M.V. Perlis, Straits Steamship alongside Brunei wharf	<i>facing page 161</i>
Map of State of Brunei	<i>end cover</i>

Government
Offices, Brunei.





PART I.

GENERAL REVIEW OF 1954

THE year 1954 must be described, primarily as a year of planning, rather than a year of spectacular development.

A prospective visitor who had been reading about Brunei beforehand and who arrived here at the end of 1954 would probably have been disappointed in what he saw. 1954 was a year in which many new projects had been started, and by the end of the year had only reached the untidy stage, where little improvement was noticeable, although much spade-work on the foundations, etc., had been completed. This not only applied to work of material construction such as roads, buildings, etc., but also to other schemes such as Old Age Pensions, Medical and Educational development plans.

The Development Plan has of course brought in its wake the usual difficulties which are inevitable, housing shortages, servant and labour shortages, the necessity to recruit labour overseas and consequently the necessary tightening up of immigration rules. The appalling weather conditions of heavy and continuous rainfall experienced for the last quarter of the year, greatly handicapped the Public Works Department on all their outside work, and gave the appearance that the roads and building areas were a quagmire of mud and sand.

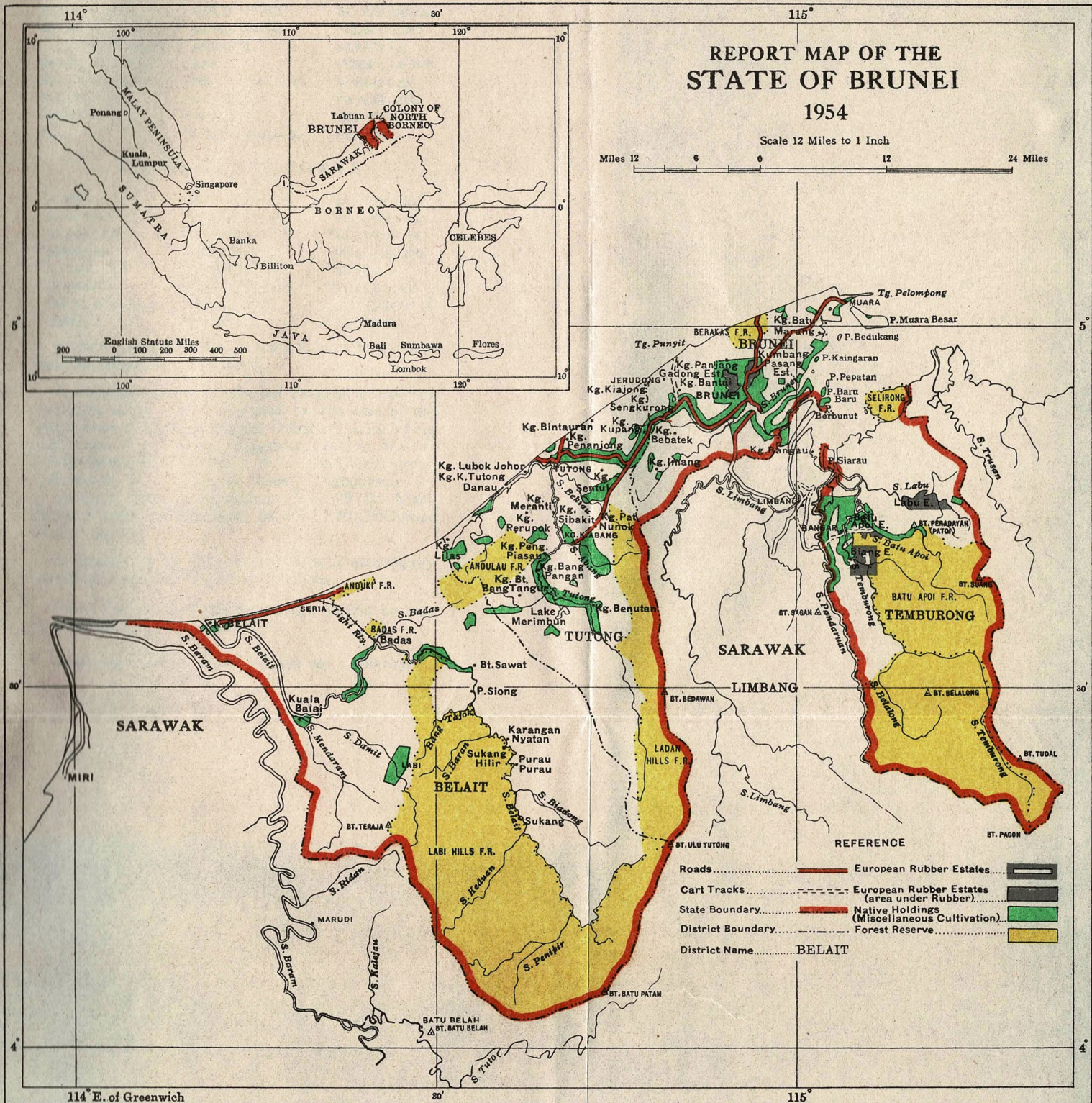
The arrival of the Commissioner of Development in October, 1954, was a most useful addition to the British Resident's Office staff, and we are now sure that the planning and co-ordination of the Development Plan is in experienced and competent hands. Progress under the Development Plan will be dealt with in greater detail later in this section, but generally speaking progress can be said to have been satisfactory in spite of the shortage of experienced staff.

The Constitution Committee, which was set up by His Highness the Sultan in 1953, toured the Federation of Malaya during

REPORT MAP OF THE STATE OF BRUNEI 1954

Scale 12 Miles to 1 Inch

Miles 12 6 0 12 24 Miles



114° E. of Greenwich

115°

