

**SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE FOR THE
MEMORIAL SERVICE CEREMONY AT THE
LAKE GARDENS ON 2ND AUGUST, 1960**

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Gentlemen,

The Declaration of the Ending of the Emergency is for us all a time for celebration and for pride. It is a time when all people in Malaya can rejoice that communist terrorism has been defeated and that accordingly we can now devote our attention and energy to the development of our country.

Here in Kuala Lumpur yesterday we witnessed a magnificent review of Security Forces and other Services who have taken part in the Emergency and who have come both from Malaya and from our Commonwealth friends across the sea. No one seeing that review could do other than feel proud in the men and women who have served in all the Forces which took part.

Also we have had the opportunity to recall, as we looked at the models, demonstrations and pictures in the Emergency exhibition, the horrors caused in this country by the Communist terrorists who sought to destroy Malaya by Militant force. It is as well to be reminded of these horrors and to see how these evil forces were defeated so that we may forever remain on guard against their repetition.

In addition to the review and the exhibition, there are many other events for public rejoicing at this particular time both here in the Federal Capital and throughout Malaya and it is an occasion for both happiness and celebration.

But it is only right that it should be a period of remembrance too and that we should recall the many thousands who gave their lives in order that victory should be won. In the midst of our celebrations let us now pay tribute and give our thanks to those who died for Malaya's freedom for communist suppression.

The victory was not achieved easily and, during the twelve year's struggle, many thousands lost their lives. Men and women from all sections of the community were killed and wounded.

A heavy toll was borne by the Police and the Armed Forces both from Malaya and from the Commonwealth but equally severe was the loss to the people as a whole in all walks of life on estates and mines and in towns and villages alike throughout Malaya.

Each and everyone of those who died contributed to the final victory and each should be remembered with gratitude, respect and honour today.

On this site will be built a Memorial to commemorate all those whose lives were lost to preserve Malaya's freedom. That Memorial, standing as it will close to the new House of Parliament, will remind all those who travel up and down this new road that the ideals of democratic government were preserved for Malaya only at great cost in human life. This will make us and our children cherish even more dearly the ideals and freedom which were so dearly bought. The new Parliament Buildings themselves will in that way be a tribute to those who gave their lives but here, on this site in particular, will be expressed a special mark of gratitude by the people of Malaya.

As a symbol of our intention I now ask the Hon'ble Prime Minister to designate the site of the Memorial by turning a piece of earth and, in memory of those whose lives were lost in the cause of Malaya's freedom, I will then ask you to join me in paying respect by prayer and silence.