

BRITISH POLICY IN
THE MALAY PENINSULA
1880-1910

VOLUME I
THE SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL STATES

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PREFACE

This book was originally a thesis in two parts presented to the University of London in 1956 for the degree of Ph.D. At that time the British records were opened up to 1902. Since then, documents for the subsequent years were periodically released to researchers and I spent my study leave from April to September 1962 in London where I was able to examine relevant material for the period 1903-11. I have also looked at local collections of records in English which were not available prior to 1956. With the help of such documents, of theses related to a greater or lesser extent to my subject and secondary sources not previously consulted, part one of my thesis—revised and expanded—now appears as Volume I of a two-volume work.

I am very grateful to Dr. E. T. Stokes and Dr. C. N. Parkinson, formerly lecturer and Professor respectively in the Department of History at the University of Malaya, for arousing my interest in Malayan history and research in the B.A. Honours class of 1952; to Professor D. G. E. Hall, under whom I worked from 1953-6, without whose patient guidance and kindly encouragement the thesis would not have been completed; and to Professor H. R. Tinker and Professor C. D. Cowan for helpful comments on different portions of early drafts of the thesis. I am also much indebted to the latter for reading the revised manuscript of this volume, drawing attention to the Federal Records (as they have been called) in the Arkib Negara Malaysia (which collection he was the first to examine during a sabbatical leave spent in Malaysia early in 1966) and generously placing at my disposal his own notes on this collection covering the years 1896-1903. To Dr. D. K. Bassett, Dr. K. S. Sandhu, Mr. Lee Yong Leng, Dr. E. Sadka, Dr. D. P. Singhal, Professor K. G. Tregonning and Professor Wang Gungwu, I owe sincere thanks for advice and assistance rendered in one way or another. I must make special mention of my colleague, Dr. R. Suntharalingam, whose invaluable criticism of each chapter, when he himself was burdened with problems of re-

search, is here most gratefully acknowledged. Needless to say, I am solely responsible for any errors and defects in the book.

Finally, I wish to record my appreciation for the facilities offered and courteous service rendered by the staffs of the Arkib Negara Malaysia (to which I am also indebted for the loan of the photographs appearing in this volume), Public Record Office, British Museum, Colonial Office Library, Foreign Office Library, Singapore National Library, and the University of Singapore Library.

E. Thio

University of Singapore
September 1966