

ADDRESS BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, TO THE  
CREWS OF POLICE LAUNCHES, HULUBALANG AND  
MAHARAJA SETIA ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR  
COMMISSIONING AT PORT SWETTENHAM ON 18TH  
OCTOBER, 1965

It is with pleasure that I address you on the occasion of the second Commissioning Ceremony held in the Royal Malaysia Police. The commissioning of ships in the Naval Forces throughout the world is traditional, and it is fitting that Police launches presently engaged in off-shore patrol tasks and working in close liaison with our Naval ships in the waters off Malaysia, should be accorded similar traditional rites.

The Marine Branch of the Royal Malaysia Police was formed on 1st September 1947. Some of you now present are original members of the branch formed at that time and during the past eighteen years, you have witnessed its growth from an initial small pool of launches to the present day large establishment, which is still in the process of expansion.

With the outbreak of the Emergency in June 1948, the Marine Branch was still in a formative stage. Despite this initial handicap however, the branch was able to meet all the extra and unexpected duties imposed upon it. During the twelve years of the Emergency the Marine Branch was expanded and in addition, built up a satisfactory operational and maintenance organisation.

With the ending of the Emergency in 1960, the Marine Branch began a period of consolidation and long term planning for the policing of the Malayan coast, off-shore islands and Territorial waters. By September 1963, with the advent of Malaysia, a considerable amount of re-planning had taken place. The need for launch constructions to fulfil the long term planning however, was hastened by Indonesian Confrontation.

Since September 1963, more than 200 personnel from Sabah and Sarawak have been trained in the Marine Police Training School, Tampoi, Johore. The instructors and staff at Tampoi have carried out a most difficult task with great efficiency and, in the years to come, they will have the satisfaction of knowing that they were largely responsible for the efficient build-up of the Marine Branches in Sabah and Sarawak. In addition, many Marine Branch personnel from Negeri-Negeri Tanah Melayu have carried out tours of operational duty in

both Sabah and Sarawak during the past two years. This assistance has allowed for the completion of a large recruitment and training of Marine personnel to provide crews for new launches now in service in East Malaysia.

I know too, that since September 1963, in conjunction with Naval Forces the crews of Police launches, ably assisted by crews and launches from the Marine Department have given their maximum effort, continuously watching for and guarding against the infiltration of enemy forces. The patrolling by Police and Marine Department launches, is most vital to the well-being and security of this country and you should not allow yourselves to become discouraged if you see no immediate results from your arduous duties.

I have been given to understand that the working up trials of the launches HULUBALANG AND MAHARAJA SETIA have proved to be successful. The constructors, Messrs. United Engineers (Singapore) Limited, are to be congratulated for the building of these very fine launches.

Finally, to you the crews of these two launches, I wish you good hunting and God speed.