

Malaya Sees End in Sight for Costly Jungle Warfare Against Communists

Editor's Note: The government of Malaya recently kicked off another large-scale campaign against Communist terrorists, hoping to end the 10-year jungle war in the foreseeable future. This war of attrition, seldom in the headlines, has cost an estimated 2.5 billion dollars with many times the casualties of some more heralded conflicts. In the following dispatch, The United Press manager for Japan, Arnold Dibble, reviews the long, costly jungle war.

By ARNOLD DIBBLE
United Press Correspondent
Kuala Lumpur — (U) — Malaya saw hopes today that the end was in sight for the 10-year-old jungle war which has cost nearly 11,000 lives on both sides and nearly \$250,000 for every Communist terrorist put out of action.

Within the last few days, the government has kicked off "Operation Tiger," a massive four-battalion campaign to wipe out an estimated 100 terrorists in the Kulai area of Johore state in Southern Malaya. "Operation Tiger" is typical of the large-scale actions waged during the last 10 years from land, sea and air.

But food and not firearms is winning Malay's pocket

war. At the height of the Red terrorist campaign, 11,000 Reds roamed the jungle preying on natives and sabotaging British and Malayan efforts to keep law and order. They moved almost at will in lethal gangs of up to 100 men each. Only 1,100 remain.

Today there are fewer than 1,100 left and they seldom venture forth in groups of more than three or four. Their life is so insecure that "cells" are getting smaller and smaller.

As of the end of February, these were the casualties: Communist terrorists—killed 6,313; surrendered 2,042.

Malayan—Briths—killed 1,101 police; 241 home guards; 513 military; 2,468 civilians (including 106 Europeans) and one former terrorist who went back into the jungle to fight against his former comrades.

That the campaign was touched off and supported by Red China can be seen, the Malayan government said, in the fact that 95 per cent of

all Communist terrorist casualties were Chinese. A high percentage of civilians killed also were Chinese as the Reds warred against members of their own race who were loyal to the government.

Has Cost Billions
The campaign has cost more than \$2.5 billion, of which Britain has paid an estimated \$1.8 billion and Malaya the remainder.

Though the figures show that considerable shots have been fired in anger, the real key to the campaign has been control of food.

"We've just starved them out," one official said.

In what is called the "food

denial" campaign, all mass cooking, as practiced by many jungle villagers, was banned. Whole jungle villages which were used as laagers for terrorists were evacuated as people settled in so-called "new villages."

Under the "new villages" program more than a half-million persons have been resettled. Though, natural, a number are not happy about it, their health and well-being have improved to a marked extent. All told, Malaya has now cleared terrorists from 29,000 square miles—more than half the new nation's 50,000 square miles—with a population of 6,500,000.

The Hollywood Scene

By HAZEL JOHNSON
United Press Writer
Hollywood—(U)—The Hollywood partygiver isn't passing out gems with the dessert these days and it must be pretty disappointing to the die-hard movie fan who remembers the old days.

Taxes aren't the only reason the movie kings and queens have cut down on the splashy, "help-yourself-to-a-diamond-tiara" type of parties which were the vogue a few years ago.

The explanation? "Celebrities have become more attuned to the world around them and their taste has improved," says florist-party consultant Stanley Medeiros, whose customers include Joan Crawford, Cary Grant, Loretta Young and scores of other personalities.

"The stars have learned they don't have to float a barge down the Nile to have a party or arrive at Ciro's on an elephant to set the proper 'party' tone," he said.

No Time for Watches
"It was nothing to pass platters of wrist watches at the dinner table as favors for the evening a few years back.

"Fifteen years ago with the easy spend attitude of the war years the idea was to spend lavishly with little concern for taste."

But today's movie colony

bash is liable to be a "good party in the eastern tradition." "Eastern" as opposed to "Hollywood western."

While Medeiros' reputation as a party consultant is growing, his forte is flower arrangement. With a collection of props which would rival that of any major studio, Medeiros is prepared to use items which range from a 50 cent Chinese teacup to \$1,000 sterling candelabra.

When a wealthy man-about-town Hollywood wanted to surprise his lady friend with a mink coat, Medeiros delivered her the pelts intricately tied to a dazzling white orchid tree.

At actor Dan Dailey's birthday party for his wife, guests were presented corsages in which they found golf balls and folding money for greens fees.

Medeiros made up a special order for the late Humphrey Bogart when he was hospitalized with cancer—a tree of red carnations and cigarettes perched on an antique chess-board set for a game.

ENGINEER DIES

Scarsdale, N.Y.—(U)—Jacob Mark, 72, head of the consulting engineering firm of Jacob Mark and Sons of New York City, died at his home here Thursday.



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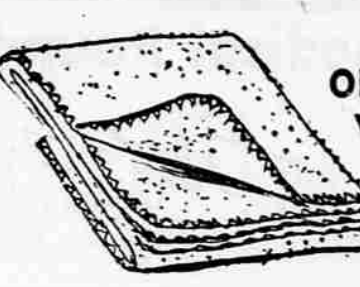
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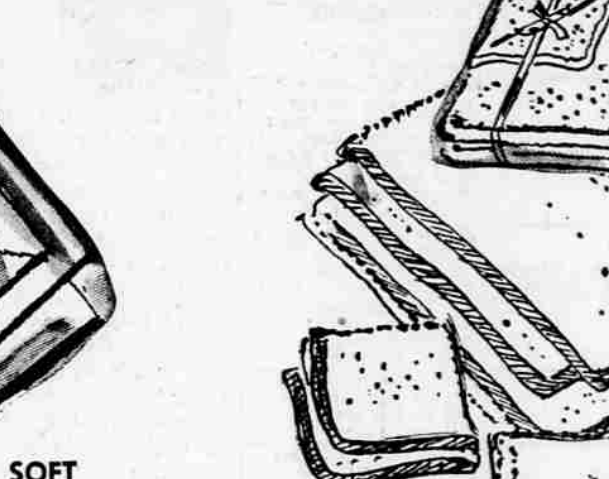


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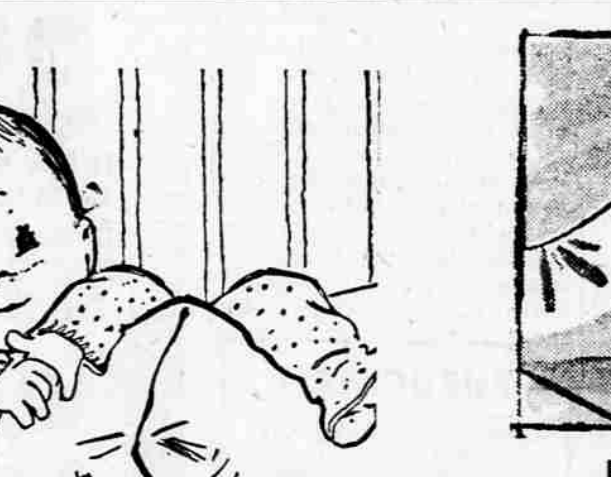
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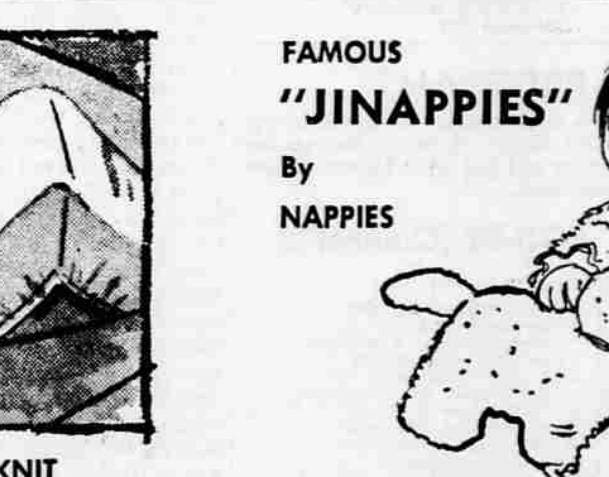
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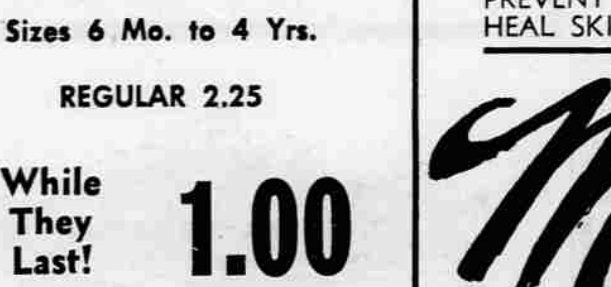
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