

GEORGE CROSS PRESENTATION

Monday 2nd January

Approx. 230 feet.

Commissioner-General for the United Kingdom in South East Asia, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, P.C., Commander-in-Chief ^{East} West Malaya, General Sir Charles Keightley, K.C.B., K.B.M., D.S.O., and Governor of Sarawak, Sir Anthony Abell, K.C.M.G. participate in the traditional Iban (non Dyak) ceremony of "Berdarah", which is an offering to their gods of food and drink to seek their blessing for a ~~prosperous~~ harvest.

Approx. 100 feet.

Later on, on the lawn outside the "Astana", the Governor's official residence, Dyak, Malay and Javanese dancing by floodlight is watched by the distinguished visitors to Sarawak and large and happy crowds of the local population of all races (Lighting inadequate. Expect under-exposure).

2nd January, Highlights of the Presentation

PRESENTATION OF GEORGE CROSS TO DYAK TRACKER AWANG ANAK BAWANG BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

Their Excellencies the Commissioner-General and the Governor of Sarawak and the Commander-in-Chief crossed at intervals of a few minutes in barges from the Astana situated on the opposite bank of the Kuching river and in turn inspected the Guard of Honour, provided by the Sarawak Constabulary.

Lining the approaches to the presentation dais were large numbers of Awang's Iban (Dyak) compatriots, in full national dress or military uniform, who have also served as Trackers with Security Forces in Malaya in their fight against Communism. This is the first George Cross to be awarded by the King during the Emergency in Malaya and Sarawak is rightly proud of the achievements of her Iban trackers and of the courage and spirit of Awang in particular.

His Excellency the Governor then announced the award and pinned the George Cross on Awang's breast. This was followed by a short speech (copy attached) by General Keightley, Commander-in-Chief, FARML, and the ceremony closed.