Batavia, September 29:

For Public Relations Service Singapore please pass PR Alfsea from mani
army observer with 23rd Indian division begins Indian and British troops
of the 23 Indian division who are to occupy Java landed at Tanjoeq Prik
today after a voyage of over nine hundred miles in landing crafts stop
the first occupation troops to arrive were the Seaforth Highlanders comma
first Patiala infantry and sixteenth Punjab regiment stop the voyage was
uneventful and the troops enjoyed it immensely particularly the Seaforths
who did not miss the customary quote ducking unquote ceremony while
crossing the equator stop to Indian troops Java brings back the memories
of Indian colonisation of the country in the early centuries of the
occupation of the quote Pallava comma quote Chola comma quote Gupta stop
and the quote Gupta period of Indian history stop though
not fully conversant the Indian quote jawan unquote has a vague idea
of this ancient connection extremely anxious to renew and strengthen
this centuries old bond of friendship stop these views were expressed to
me while on board by a soldier from Punjab stop compared with the
enthusiastic reception we had in Burma and Singapore comma local
reaction has been a little lukewarm owing to strong nationalist feelings
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Batavia: Inspite of a few unhappy clashes with armed mobs, Indian troops are quite friendly with the local population. They move freely with the Dutch, Eurasian, Indian and Indonesians whom they meet and are generally happy.

Their main work consists in patrolling, escorting European and Eurasian internees and refugees guarding hospitals, vital points and internment camps. In addition to these, whenever the peace of the city is disturbed or looting occurrences are reported, their detachments are rushed to maintain law and order.

But their routine activities continue to be the same. They have their morning "P.T." and parades and in the evenings they either play volley-ball or hockey. As more sports goods are available, the now empty playing-fields in Batavia will witness the nimble footed Indians play with great joy their national game of hockey.

All of them have comfortable lodgings. They have clean baths and electric lights but the whole area had to be cleaned thoroughly before they could use any of the buildings. Their recreation rooms have been installed and what really makes them most happy are the mails from home which have commenced to arrive regularly.

Note for Editor: At the discretion of the DDPR, this may be sent to PR Alfsea and India since I have not filed any copies for them.
For PR alfsea from mani army observer batavia october elven begins after an armed Indonesian mob attacked and killed a British officer and an Indian viceroy's commissioned officer of a Punjab battalion Indian troops opened fire 'fhhh' afternoon on the locals and have rounded up about forty Indonesians armed with rifles and dahs stop six wounded Indonesians were brought in for medical attention in our aid post stop as far as known no local was killed stop on hearing shots which were being fired at a passing truck in the Cornelis area stop the British captain with a platoon of Punjabis went to investigate when he went forward with one section near railway stop on nearing a road junction he left the section and accompanied by his jemedar moved east towards the railway stop near the railway they were shot at by small arms and their bodies subsequently mutilated with knives stop immediately the section and more troops rushed in and opened fire when six Indonesians were wounded and were brought into our first aid post stop the whole area which is a thickly built up one with innumerable lanes was combed before sunset and about forty Indonesians have been arrested some of them armed with arms rifles and dahs stop the strength of the armed Indonesian mob has not so far been estimated stop ends
For PR alfsea from mani army observer begins batavia october sixth stop while on their way in landing crafts from malaya to java a punjabi soldier fell overboard in the lonely and rough south china sea but was saved by the vigilance of a patiala officer stop as the convoy entered the heaving waters most of the troops were lying seasick in their hammocks but one punjabi soldier rather fond of fresh air was on open deck sitting on a bench and dreaming about the new country he was to visit stop it was near midnight when a high roaring wave rocked the ship wide and flung him and his wooden bench into the sea stop he shouted and cried but his ship passed him by without his fall being seen or his cries being heard stop at the approach of the next ship he shouted again and major kuldeep singh first patiala infantry sleeping on the watch deck heard the cry and told the skipper to stop the vessel stop the latter thought the cry was from the vessel behind where troops were having a gala party singing and shouting stop the major insisted on the vessel being stopped and on flashing the searchlight around they found the punjabi soldier floating on his bench stop the vessel veered close to him and ropes were thrown to him with which he climbed on board stop when he heard the story of his rescue he went and thanked the major profusely stop among other duties in batavia the patialas are guarding the indian ex prisoners camp thirtyeight of whom left yesterday by air for singapore stop hundred are leaving today and remaining fifty will be reaching singapore in the next few days
For PR alfsea from mani army observer begins batavia october fifth eight jap bodies victims of the murder in the manggarai wireless station four days ago were exhumed this evening stop jap fatigue party under directions from a royal signals officer dug only four feet before they located a body stop two bodies in a fairly decomposed state which eye examined sword wounds on the back of the neck stop the area for hundreds of yards around is permeated with the smell of dead stop the wall of a small outhouse facing the entrance to the place bears bullet marks and a few of the bullets picked from the ground below are quite rusted stop according to an indonesian from the adjoining village mentargpulau the locals stopped a jap truck whose inmates instead of stopping fired a shot with the result that a mob of five hundred men chased them with swords and killed them right in front of the wireless station one jap who escaped was caught a little later and done to death in the same way stop after burying their victims the mob went into the station and raided the station looting the furniture and equipment stop ends.

by air bag to singapore for PR alfsea from mani army observer begins batavia october fifth acting as guide to the first troops of the twenty-third indian division comes twenty-four year old sumatra born sikh captain jagjit singh dhillon fourteenth punjab regiment was one of the first officers to arrive in batavia stop he speaks malay fluently and also chinese stop he was born in medan repeat medan sumatra where his people have settled down stop they originally came from village chabhal district amristar stop captain dhillon had his early education in medan and later in the punjab university stop in medan athletics he was a well-known long distance runner and in batavia now among the indonesians he is known as the only indian officer who can speak their language fluently stop ends.
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For PR alfsea from mani army observer begins batavia october eighteen stop indian motor drivers who courageously faced the heavily mined roads into burma have now brought their vehicles to batavia travelling more than four thousand miles by road and sea stop while they had to drive on land, they had to travel with their vehicles in landing crafts over rough seas stop before embarking on every sea voyage they had to attend to the waterproofing and readjusting of their vehicles stop these men driving trucks and jeeps are now driving de luxe and saloon cars and know their maintenance equally well stop the japs had neglected most of their cars stop mechanics who have been with these drivers throughout the war are also here and have among them a few who have been mechanics in big garages in india before the war stop ends

For PR alfsea from mani army observer begins batavia october eighteen shop bengal sappers who lifted mines and booby traps and built bridges and roads along the roads to burma and who blew the japs out of their bunkers are now here doing almost everything from turning off water taps in officers mess to printing a small newspaper stop they have to repair fuses replace bulbs and repair leaky taps stop all of a sudden they receive a telephone call from some unit to attend to their electric current failure and the sappers rush to set it right stop another officer rings up to say that his bath room is flooded and once again the sapper is there with his tools to do the job stop official notices and proclamations and a local newspaper for troops is printed at a local press run by them with japanese and indonesian staff stop ends

Landed at Sourabaya without any incident along with the 49 Ind. Inf. Bde. Traveled on a LCI from Batavia and the sea was rough. Honawar and Donald with me. Reached already at Sourabaya. The port is "decorated" with anti-Dutch and anti-imperialist slogans and for the first time in Java, slogans have also appeared in Hindustani: "Azadi ya Khunrezi" (Freedom or bloodshed). Its effect on Indian troops, especially the Maharrut and the Rajarifs, who compose this brigade, is remarkable. Reports have reached me that they are already beginning to ask their officers if they have to fight the Indonesians. I have already been warned by the G1 at Batavia that I have to be guarded as Sourabaya is an extremist centre. The locals here don't seem to be as cordial as those in Batavia. When I produced my passport from the Republican govt. and requested the police at the harbour to produce a car to get to the city, they were most reluctant and sneered at my Malay. Reached Hotel Liberty in the evening in Tony Cardew's jeep which he had brought along. The route was manned by heavily armed military and armed police and a number of barricades were seen. None of them would acknowledge greetings and they look suspicious. In the light of incidents in and around Batavia, I think, they are beginning to regard us as the vanguard of Dutch Imperialism. The pity is that we are all Indians here and appreciate like their leaders in Batavia that we have not come to Java of our own volition. We meet a few local Indians and they have warned us to be careful as they anticipate trouble. I would like to talk to indonesians but have not met any today.

26th.

Attned a press confce. in the evening. Brig Mall does not seem to gauge the situation here properly and pooh-poohs Indo might. Playing for time, usual game. A thousand regrets I am not, a free correspondent to report what I observe. Anyway duty by troops from my country and cannot leave them...... Little Meny plays me their national anthem (merdeka) on the piano in the hotel and as I watch her play, I see the fire in her eyes whenever the words 'merdeka (freedom)' come to her lips. Hardly fifteen, she hypnotizes me with her zeal for the freedom of her country. She doesn't speak in English and we speak Malay. As I hid her goodnight, she pleads with me to take protection during the coming days. Though I think her childish, her tears move me but not till I go to bed do I have a vague suspicion that there may be a blood-bath in store for us. The others in the hotel are still drinking the plentiful beer. It's 12 and I must sleep.....

27 Oct.

The day rises brighter. I am more cheerfully. Jamil, charming Stri Souchy and the Balinese Christian, all of the Youth Party (Promoea) call on me. They want to take correspondents round the city on a conducted tour. We accept the idea as we have no transport of our own to go round. Conny (New York Times) and I choose the Balinese girl for guide and she speaks fluent English. We are first taken to the police HQ to be issued with permits. On our way there, we see a couple of propelling and ill-fated leaflets which are to cause the deaths of hundreds of Indian soldiers. Crowds rush to pick the leaflets but the police prevent and snatch them away. Our guides read a copy and look grave. I snatch one and read it in Malay and its meaning becomes quite clear to me. I feel that the proud Indonesians would not surrender their arms till the fear of Dutch menace is removed. Our guides predict trouble. They rush us to Antara (Press Agency) office and after showing us round the place swiftly take us back to our hotel. Excited talk there least interesting to both Honawar and me and so we tramp to go and see a few more Indian merchants. Kunda, the President of the Indian Assn and much harassed by our FSS, gives us plenty of dope re the local situation. Honawar, as usual the art critic, plies them with a number of questions re landscape, Indo painting and dancing and they promise to arrange for us a show of Bali dancing. We promised to have lunch with him tomorrow and tramp back to our hotel. Evening press confce. all serious faces at brig ad. Some champsting all look grave. We understand situation serious but brig does not want us to report so. He wants us to vet our copies and most correspondents unwillingly agree. We are furious that truth is being suppressed but can do little and escape by blaming Betty for letting down PR and taking such orders lying down... more because my copies are uneasily delayed by him and the signals. Appears to mebrigadier is posing a calm exterior though he is very much perturbed. He tells us that...
the Ind. 111 crew Mr. Mustafa had fled from the town without fulfilling
his promise to execute the brig's orders and that he had in his
command another soldier who is prepared to carry out the orders. He also
told us that he had emphatically insisted to the locals when
that he was the ruler of the place and they have to obey him.

Eye consider this sheer arrogance and left the coffee sad.
ly disappointed at the ability of our leaders to avert incidents.
Went back to hotel and told Honey for the first time that we were
in a trouble spot and how sorry I felt for the Indian troops who
were weary of war and were longing to be back home. These famous warriors
sent to the forever trapped in the web of destiny to which they so
pathetically cling......... Here plays again, is filing the Moonlight
Sonata and I am reminded of Delhi, the Red Fort, the Jumna and my
friends... she looks sadly into my eyes and pleads with me to leave
the hotel and go to the town at once but Eye tell her that Eye an Indian will
never flee in face of danger..... Honey butts in and plays a few Indian
tunes which stir me all the more and I retire...... Perhaps my fears
are imaginary but why on earth are the Indonesians parading the streets
in armoured cars and tanks. Maybe tomorrow everything would be quiet.

26th.

Jomal came early in the morning to apologise and promised to
show us the town as soon as everything became quiet......had excellent
lunch with Kundan and sat chatting till four then we walked back... on
our way, we heard the first shots and the sound of the town was shattered..... more shots were heard and by dusk we heard the
sounds of battles raging. Little platoons of marines who were guarding us
took up positions. By seven the fire was increasing and I remained to be his adjutant. We mobilised all the PR, RAPWI and
security personnel in the hotel and gave them their perimeters. Since the
fire was increasing, we stood to for two hours. However, Honawar, Donald, and
Irwin readily cooperated and took up positions along with the infantry.
I remained at command post to monitor our radio receiver since our
telephone communication with brigade HQ was cut. Our walkie talkie
was not tuned. We could not speak to either the brigade HQ or any of
our other troops outside but we were able to listen on our broadcast
receiver to all that the HQ and the other units were saying. Each
unit or detachment was sending an SOS and the HQ was replying that
they themselves were cut off and surrounded and that fierce battles
were raging. After reporting to Major Finlay about the broadcasts, I
went round the perimeter and several times to encourage the
men. Meanwhile some telephone calls trickled through and one was from
Kundan telling me that Indonesians were anxious to call off the fight
and that I should arrange with the HQ to stop firing. Betty, mean
while, was intercepted the call and without telling me tried to get
at the HQ in vain. When the next ring came, I happened to take up the
telephone and explained to him that I could not leave the post and
that he should go personally to HQ. I cannot appreciate Betty sitting
idle on the phone when all the others were on the perimeter
but since he told me that he had orders from Major Finlay to do so,
I did not interfere. About ten in the night, a broadcast from HQ announced a truce, evidently Kundan has been successful, and we stood
down. All, except sentries, were sent to bed and I remained on duty
along with Donald. There was no more sound of gunfire during the night
except for an occasional sniper being active.
Press Flash Immediate

Für Public Relations batavia repeats singapore and div hq from mani army observer begins soerabaja october 24. stop indian troops of the twenty-third indian division landed this afternoon at soerabaja stop there were no incidents stop the rajputana rifles occupied the main harbour after landing at rotterdam quay while fourth battalion of mahrattas occupied the naval base stop as in batavia local reception was cold and enthusiastic and antidutch slogans greeted us all over the harbour stop the few indonesians on the wharf appeared indifferent stop indian troops reconnoitred the areas not with pointed bayonets as usual but with their rifles slung on their shoulders apparently in order to be least provocative stop ends
For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani soerabaja oct 26 begins occupation soerabaja par indian troops proceeding peacefully et according plan stop it is an extremely delicate operation cum so far there has been no hitch stop indonesian police escort allied military officers when required cum they also provided an armed escort including armoured cars for brigadier mallaby commander allied land forces soerabaja on his way to and back from the british consulate this morning where he conferred with local indonesian leaders cum explained to them why his troops were here stop armed locals patrol the streets cum vital points stop quite large number of barricades are thrown across the main roads in the form of speed traps cum only some of them are manned stop all essential services with the indonesian government and they are cooperating well with our troops stop even after dusk they were busy shifting their office from a building into which our headquarters moved in this afternoon stop there is normal activity in the city and shops are open stop large number of motor cars flying the indonesian flag pass swiftly along the roads and a car flying an yellow flag in addition to the national flag flies past them now and then carrying carrying doctor mustafa local military governor of soerabaja stop this city appears to be a stronger centre of indonesian nationalism than batavia cum the control is mostly in the hands of the youth party stop ends
For public relations Batavia please pass Singapore from Mani Soerabaja Oct 27 begins Indian merchants of Soerabaja helped to avert what would have been a clash of arms between Indian troops and armed Indonesians. Soon after we landed here on the twenty-fifth stop under the impression that Gurkha troops were landing and since the local population opposed to Gurkhas Indonesian leaders approached the Indian merchants and asked them to advise the Gurkhas advancing into Soerabaja from Tanjungperak Harbour as they feared a clash. Meanwhile Indonesian leaders were in conference deciding on the kind of reception to Allied troops stop on their way to the Harbour the Indian merchants met an Indian major marching with Indian troops to whom they explained the situation and requested him to harbour his troops outside the city stop as it was dark by then and anxious to avoid a scrap the major agreed stop Next morning as per agreement with local leaders the major and his troops proceeded into the city without incidents to take over their areas stop
For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani soerabaja oct 27 begins press conference this evening brigadier mallerby commanding alfsoerabaja said that the occupation of city by indian troops proceeding peaceably stop doctor mustafa indonesian governor of east java met brigadier this afternoon and agreed to a voluntary disarming of indonesians by the end of the month in accordance with gen hawthornes proclamation copies of which were dropped from the air this morning stop brigadier told doctor that his orders to disarm the indonesians were direct from sacsea that voluntary disarmament should be complete by the end of the month and that public utility services in the hands of the indonesian government should continue as at present stop all internees have been liberated and are now in british protection stop some of them have been already evacuated to singapore today stop more indian troops have landed here today stop ends
Sourabaya, Nov. 4: Thirtyfive year old Indian merchant, Mr. T. D. Kundan from Hyderabad, Sind, played a leading role in the "truce" negotiations between the British authorities here and the Indonesian leaders. He is on the "Contact Committee" and is the main ambassador between us and the local leaders with whom he is extremely popular.

Today he is a much disappointed man. In spite of his best efforts to avoid a clash between our forces and the armed gangs of the Indonesians, things took a turn for the worse in Sourabaya. On the first night when armed Indonesians attacked us in strength, his car flying a white flag was speeding along the bullet-swept roads between our headquarters and the Indonesians. While the battle was raging, he telephoned me twice with "truce" offers from the locals to be conveyed to our headquarters. He was present next to Brigadier Mallaby when he was shot; he himself escaped with slight injuries.

Mr. Kundan graduated from the Sind National College, Karachi.

ends
Singapore, Nov. 6: After six hours in an Indonesian jail and four days internment in a hotel in Sourabaya, a party of pressmen and photographers returned to Singapore yesterday. We were evacuated along with the first flight of refugees comprising 500 Dutch and Eurasian women and children.

Along with personnel of the RAPWI, we were billeted in one of the largest hotels in the city with a platoon of Indian troops for our defence. Small detachments of Indian troops were scattered in different parts of the city.

We knew the situation as tense but did not expect any attack as early as that. But, when at four o'clock on the evening of October 28, we heard the first shots fired by the indonesians, we knew we were going to have a tough time. Our troops, fars of the 5th. Rajputana Rifles, exhibited good fire-discipline and did not open fire.

With the fall of dusk, the firing increased in intensity. Our "walkie-talkie" went "dis" and we had no contact either with brigade headquarters or any of our other troops. After an all-night vigil, we found the locals much closer to us and firing with automatics at close range. One of the Jats at the entrance to the hotel was wounded seriously and then we opened fire.

Within a few minutes, we had two more casualties and since we were short of men, we withdrew to an attic and arranged our defence. We had four Bren guns, twenty rifles and ten pistols. Our men defended themselves for three hours. They had been at their posts since the previous evening without food and sleep. But they were not tired and still determined to hold the place.

The enemy fire, mostly from rifles and Brens, increased in intensity. Closing in on all sides, nearly 400 indonesians armed with tommy guns, Brens, machine revolvers, pistols, rifles, swords, bamboo spears and sticks had surrounded us. Fire came from all sides and through the tiled roof. Four more Jats were wounded and some of the wounded were dying of thirst and for want of medical attention. We knew no help could come to us as our troops everywhere were in the same plight. So, we decided to give in and the major commanding us approached the indonesians with a white flag. A truce was effected, our casualties were quickly evacuated by the indonesians in their ambulances and we were stripped of our arms and ammunition. Meanwhile, part of their army entered our rooms and took away most of our possessions.

On our way to the prison in a truck a few hours later with guards pointing their loaded weapons at us, armed crowds jeered, aimed and waved their weapons menacingly shouting "Merdeka" (Freedom).

After four hours in small cells like those used for maximum convicts in India, a member of the Indonesian Youth Party came and announced to us that Mr. Soekarno, who was in town that day, had passed orders releasing all pressmen and photographers. We were released and taken to dine with the Governor at Government House where profuse apologies were offered for all that had happened.
From then, we were kept in a comfortable hotel and our police guard was reinforced as passing armed crowds began to threaten us. The Governor tried to send us back to Batavia under an armed escort but while in the train, our guards thought it better to take us back to Sourabaya as they felt that it was unsafe to go any further west.

On the evening of November 1, we returned to our lines after four hours in an unhealthy Indonesian jail and comfortable internment for four days. The Indonesians had been both cruel and kind to us. They attacked us and would have killed us if we had not called a truce and they looted all our belongings. But while we were in their "protective custody", they made us comfortable and returned our typewriters and cameras.

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தேர்ந்தெடுத்த குறிப்பிட்ட காலம்: 01-05-1998
When the autumn of 1943 arrived, it was felt that the Division needed rest badly in a good climate after the hardships of fighting in the monsoon. Though not the whole, a greater part of the Division was able to rest and retrain in the healthy winter climate of the Imphal plain. Rations were good though there was still a lack of all kinds of fresh food.

Some troops were still holding several defences. The 37 Ede were relieved by the 20th Indian Division only in the middle of November while the 49 Ede were not relieved at Shuganu till December. In October, the 1/16 Punjab Regiment and 13 Mountain Battery went to the assistance of 63 Ede of the 17th Indian Division in the Chin Hills. While the mountain battery did some excellent shooting, the Punjabis were involved in stiff fighting in which they had been encircled by the Japanese. Displaying their usual tenacity they were able to extricate all their troops after inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. This was not achieved without sacrifice and in this encounter besides several troops, their C.O., Lt. Col. Wilcock, his adjutant and quartermaster were all killed. Both these units rejoined the Division at the end of December 1943.

The bulk of the Division was now able to recuperate and the health of the troops recovered remarkably. The Division was also able to get through a programme of training which had been found necessary in the light of experience on the Burma border. The 1 and 37 Edes trained with the 254 Indian Tank Brigade which arrived in Imphal in January 1944. Later events showed that this was very valuable training indeed.

*End* (To be continued)
Sourabaya is another outstanding achievement of the 5th Indian Division. Given an altogether new kind of task requiring determination as well as restraint, they have acquitted themselves well. In Sourabaya, they had no formidable foes to fight nor had they to counteract powerful enemy pincer and drives as they did in North Africa and Burma and which brought them success and fame. Though often groups of Indonesian extremists fought fanatically and foolishly, Indonesian resistance was not in any organised fashion. Spirited charges with bows and arrows and bamboo spears on our tanks and wasting of ammunition on useless objectives were what we witnessed. Minimum of casualties, rescue of thousands of internees and causing the least possible damage to public property and to the unfortunate civilians of all nationalities including Indonesian was the essence of this operation which was carried out as required. Our casualties have been low in keeping with the slow speed of our advance. Nineteen days were spent in clearing the town of armed Indonesian hotheads. Our troops have earned the gratitude of the internees and the civilians. Indian, Gurkha and British troops of this Division have shown admirable adaptability to the special circumstances in Sourabaya.

Maj-Gen E.C. Mansergh, O.B.E., M.C., the Commander of the Division, writing personally to commanders of all units who took part in the Sourabaya operations, has congratulated and thanked all the troops for "their having accomplished so successfully the task of clearing Sourabaya and for their splendid success in a particularly exacting operation". He has also paid a tribute to the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force for "their accurate and willing support which has been a considerable factor in the success of this operation and has earned the admiration and thanks of the ground forces".

ends
For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani begins sourabaya december first stop supporting the first madras infantry with his troops of sherman tanks in the recent sourabaya operations a young madrasi tank troop leader has earned the gratitude of the madrasi soldier stop he is lieutenant tee kay theogaraj of palamcottal tinnevelley district madras province and of the 13 duke of connaught's own lancers stop he has seen service in italy and quite used to tank battles inside towns and cities stop on a patrol south of the wonokromo canal a few days ago he destroyed three ack-ack guns couple of two pounder antitank guns and one large 105 mm gun stop after smashing one indonesian road block one of the antitank guns opened fire from behind and was making very near misses stop quickly veering his tank round he got within sixty yards of the gun and opened up the shermans guns which belching fire sent the antitank gun and its crew high up into the air stop a convoy of indonesian lorries carrying their retreating troops and stores also met with the same fate stop the madrassis call him quote gun bursting raju unquote stop ends
FOR HORROCKS FROM MANI REGIMENTS SOURABAYA WEDNESDAY(1) RECOMMEND SUPPRESSING
THE INDONESIAN EXTREMIST RISING INDIAN TROOPS HERE HAVE BEEN DOING
MAGNIFICENT WORK DAILY RESCUING HUNDREDS OF DUTCH AND EURASIAN WOMEN
AND CHILDREN (1) WHILE DOING THIS THEY HAVE OFTEN GONE BEYOND OUR
LINES INTO EXTREMIST POSITIONS AND IN THE FACE OF SNIPER AND MORTAR FIRE
RESCUED THESE WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO HAD BEEN STARVING FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS BY THEN (1)
DURING THE LAST TWO DAYS THE SECOND FIRST PUNJAB REGIMENT AFTER OCCUPYING THE EMMA
SCHOOL HAVE SENT OUT RESCUE PATROLS TO FETCH HUNDREDS OF THESE WOMEN AND
CHILDREN INTO OUR LINES (1) IN THIS HUMANITARIAN WORK THESE SOLDIERS FROM
THE PUNJAB REGIMENT HAVE DISPLAYED THE SAME COURAGE AND SACRIFICES AS IN THE DAYS OF
WAR WHEN THEY OPENED THE NGAKYED AUK PASS IN ARAKAAN (1). AT FIRST THESE
REFUGEES CAME DRIBBING INTO OUR LINES IN GROUPS OF FIVE AND TEN AS THE
PUNJABIS ADVANCED ON MONDAY TOWARDS THE EMMA SCHOOL (1) THEY INFORMED
OUR TROOPS OF MANY MORE HUNDREDS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE CUSTODY OF
ARMED INDONESIANS BEYOND OUR LINES AND ALMOST ON THE VERGE OF DEATH DUE
TO STARVATION AND THE SHOCK OF BEING IN THE MIDDLE OF A BATTLEFIELD (1).
MANY OF THESE WOMEN WERE RENDERING MEDICAL AID TO THE INDONESIAN WOUNDED BUT THESE FASCIST INSPIRED
EXTREMISTS HAD NO HEART FOR THEIR WORK AND PERMITTED THEM TO STARVE (1)
IMMEDIATELY LT COL SARDJIST SINGH KAHA DSO COMMANDER OF THE PUNJABERS
SENT OUT RESCUE PATROLS BEYOND OUR LINES TO FETCH THESE THEM (1) ARMED
INDONESIAN GUARDS HAD BEEN POSTED AT EVERY HOUSE WHEREIN WERE COLLECTED
FIFTY OR SIXTY OF THESE WOMEN AND CHILDREN (1) A TWENTY YEAR OLD EURASIAN
GIRL WARING THE RED CROSS ON HER ARM ESCORTED BY ONE

MAJOR MOHAMED IQBAL OF KALANAUR DISTRICT ROHTAK DELHI AND PREACHED WITH HIM FOR THE RESCUE OF THE HER COMRADES SEVERAL OF WHOM WERE SICK AND WOUNDED BUT MOST OF WHOM WERE DYING OF STARVATION. THE PUNJABIS WENT INSPITE OF BOOBY TRAPS AND SNIPERS AND GRADUALLY BROUGHT BACK THESE WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE PUNJABIS HAD TO EITHER SHOOT DOWN THEIR INDONESIAN GUARDS OR DISARM THEM BUT THEY MOSTLY RAN AWAY. BUT AS SOON AS THE REFUGEES SAW OUR TROOPS THEY RAN TO THEM AND MADE WARM HEARTED DEMONSTRATIONS OF THEIR GRATITUDE. THE MEN VOLUNTEERED WITH ALL THEIR NATIONS TO FEED THE REFUGEES IMMEDIATELY AND BETWEEN MOUTHFULS OF THE Manna THAT HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO THEM BY THE PUNJABIS THESE WOMEN WERE ECSTATIC WITH JOY RELIEF AND THANKFULNESS. LITTLE CHILDREN WITH BISCUITS IN THEIR HANDS CAME AND LOOKED UP WITH ADMIRATION AT THE TALL HANDSOME PUNJABIS AND THOUGH LANGUAGE SEPARATED THEM THEIR EYES EXPRESSED GRATITUDE AND MORE THAN ANY HONOURS OF WAR THE PUNJABIS TODAY CHERISH THE PICTURES OF THESE CHILDREN LOOKING UP AT THEM AND THEY CONSIDER IT A HIGH HONOUR TO BE SOLDIERS IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY.

IN ONE DAY ON TUESDAY THE PUNJABIS RESCUED NEARLY FOUR HUNDRED WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM THE HANDS OF THE INDONESIAN EXTREMISTS. QUOTE WE ARE ONE OUR LIVES TO THE INDIAN TROOPS BUT FOR THEM WE MUST HAVE BEEN DYING A GRADUAL DEATH IN INDONESIAN HANDS. THIS HAS BEEN OUR FIRST CONTACT WITH INDIAN TROOPS AND WE HAVE NO WORDS TO EXPRESS OUR ADMISSION FOR THEIR COURAGE KINDNESS AND HOSPITALITY.

EVERSINCE I ARRIVED IN SOURABAYA I BECAME A REFUGE ALONG WITH HER AGED PARENTS.
eighteen stop Indian motor drivers who courageously faced the heavily mined roads into Burma have now brought their vehicles to Batavia travelling more than four thousand miles by road and sea. While they had to drive on land, they had to travel with their vehicles in landing crafts over rough seas before embarking on every sea voyage they had to attend to the waterproofing and readjusting of their vehicles. Stop these men driving trucks and jeeps are now driving de luxe and saloon cars and know Indian mechanics who have been with them these drivers throughout the war are also here and have among them a few who have been mechanics in big garages in India before the war stop.

story two

For Pte Alfsea from Mani army observer begins Batavia October
eighteen begins Bengal sappers who lifted mines and booby traps and built bridges and roads along the roads to Burma and who blew the Japs out of their bunkers are now here doing almost everything from turning off water taps in officers mess to printing a small newspaper stop they have to repair fuses replace bulbs and repair leaky taps stop all of a sudden they receive a telephone call from some unit to attend to their electric current failure and the sappers rush to set it right stop another officer rings up to say that his bath room is flooded and once again the sapper is there with his tools to do the job stop official notices and proclamations and a local newspaper for troops is printed at a local press run by them with Japanese and Indonesian staff stop.
For PR Alfred from Mani Army Observer begins Batavia October thirteen stop two more incidents occurred yesterday afternoon when Indian troops had to open fire purely in self defence against an unruly mob armed with spears and daggers stop while on his way to inspect his guards at the KPM hospital in the Ziekenhuis area a senior officer of the Patiala Regiment noticed road blocks with boulders and logs of wood in the process of being established by the locals stop since he did not have enough men with him he passed them by and while returning from the hospital he saw six road blocks manned by a crowd armed with daggers and spears stop instead of clearing the barriers when requested by him the crowd shouted menacingly and commenced throwing stones at his vehicle one of which breaking the windows injured him slightly stop as he saw the mob closing in on him he ordered them to disperse but the latter waving their swords and dags took up a threatening attitude stop after firing one shot he told them peqū meaning go away but they continued to be menacing and so he and his men fired three more shots killing two and wounding one stop then the crowd dispersed and he removed the other five barriers without any further incident stop as he reached a section post the crowd was following him when they were once again told to disperse but they remained and maintained a threatening attitude stop as the crowd approached the post out troops fired four shots after which the crowd dispersed stop another patrol of sikhs on a different road were attacked with spears later in the evening when they were forced to fire one round and arrest nine men who were manning the road block stop ends
Batavia:— Inspite of a few unhappy clashes with armed mobs, Indian troops are quite friendly with the local population. They move freely with the Dutch, Eurasian, Indian and Indonesians whom they meet and are generally happy.

Their main work consists in patrolling, escorting Europeans and Eurasian internees and refugees, guarding hospitals, vital points and internment camps. In addition to these, whenever the peace of the city is disturbed or looting occurrences are reported, their detachments are rushed to maintain law and order.

But their routine activities continue to be the same. They have their morning "P.T." and parades and in the evenings they either play volley-ball or hockey. As more sports goods are available, the now empty playing-fields in Batavia will witness the nimble footed Indians play with great joy their national game of hockey.

All of them have comfortable lodgings. They have clean baths and electric lights but the whole area had to be cleaned thoroughly before they could use any of the buildings. Their recreation rooms have been installed and what really makes them most happy are the mails from home which have commenced to arrive regularly.

Note for Editor: At the discretion of the DDPR, this may be sent to PR Alfseca and India since I have not filed any copies for them.
For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani begins sourabaya december first stop supporting the first madras infantry with his troops of sherman tanks in the recent sourabaya operations a young madrasi tank troop leader has earned the gratitude of the madrasi soldier stop he is lieutenant tee kay theogaraj of palamcottah tinnevelley district madras province and of the 13 duke of connaughts own lancers stop he has seen service in italy and quite used to tank battles inside towns and cities stop on a patrol south of the wonokromo canal a few days ago he destroyed three ack ack guns couple of two pounder antitank guns and one large 105 mm gun stop after smashing one indonesian road block one of the antitank guns opened fire from behind and making very near misses stop quickly veering his tank round he within sixty yards of the gun and opened up the shermans guns belching fire sent the antitank gun and its crew high up into the air stop a convoy of indonesian lorries carrying their retreating troops and stores also met with the same fate stop the madrassis call him quote gun bursting raju unquote stop ends

mani
Capt.
1/12
Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations batavia please pass Singapore wireless from Mani begins Soerabaja November elementh Indian Gurkha et British troops of the fifth Indian Division have advanced further into the town mostly against sniper opposition stop Artillery bombardment of areas wherein armed Indonesians are concentrated continues stop Eye went round the portion of the town so far occupied by us and eye did not notice much damage stop the main streets were deserted stop All big buildings which have been my landmarks in the town some ten days ago are still intact stop Women and children are pouring into our lines among whom are Eurasians and Indonesians and our troops are feeding them stop While Chinese residents remained behind in their homes in the occupied zone Indonesian civilians are gradually coming back stop Ends
For public relations Batavia from mani please pass Singapore begins
Sourabaya December fourth stop former swimming champion of Cochin South India major CP Ayyappa Menon first Madras Regiment has added a Sourabaya achievement to his swimming career stop In recent operations commanding a company of Madrassis on the north bank of the Wonekromo Canal he and his men were fired upon with mortars and machine guns by the Indonesians who were in a village on the opposite bank Stop the canal was thirty yards wide and the only boat was lying on the Indonesian bank stop on his own initiative and acting with quick decision major Menon asking his men to give him covering fire plunged into the canal Stop dodging and ducking mortars and machine gun and sniper fire he brought the boat safely to his own bank stop within a few minutes with a section of his men he crossed the canal in the boat and cleared the village stop quote eye saw the boat on the further bank and eyes saw the water and eye Menon found a swim was necessary to conclude my task stop it was exciting and it was my first swim under fire stop unquote said major Menon to me stop
Story two an accidental enquiry by an army postal officer led to the recovery of two bags of mail containing nearly 3,000 letters which had been lost by the 49 Indian infantry brigade during the six October disturbances in Sourabaya stop the mail was addressed to hundreds of Indian soldiers from their homes in India stop while on his way to inspect forward field post office the officer noticed at a sentry post a Dogra Sepoy examining an envelope stop with the postman's pride the officer asked the Sepoy how soon he had received his mail to which the latter said that it did not belong to him stop on perusal the officer found the letter addressed to the 49 brigade and on searching with the aid of the Sepoy the place wherefrom he had picked up the letter discovered most of the lost mail and postal equipment stop sorting them in a few hours the postal staff had them delivered to the addresses within a day stop
For public relations batavia please pass singapore from

mani begins sourabaya november 24 stop making a sweeping move on
our left flank across the river kalimas the ninth indian infantry
brigade composing jats madrassis and punjabis have linked up with
troops of the one two three brigade near the gobeng railway station
stop the opposition appeared stiff in the beginning of the move
yesterday when the madrassis fought a pitched battle but today
there was little opposition stop our forward line extends a little
south of ixm and parallel to the tramway line from the tramway
workshops in the sawahan area to gobeng station from where our left
flank extends almost along the canal running close to the railway
workshops atop our troops are now consolidating and have before them
only the gobeng and darmo areas of the town to be cleared stop
during the last few days our tanks have completely shaken up the
morale of the indonesian extremists stop last week they made a
fanatical attack with spears and sticks on one of our tanks but now
at the mere approach of our tanks they desert their machine gun posts and make a dash for cover even as the first burst from one
of our tanks sends their machine guns up in the air flying behind
them stop ends
Mani: Indian Army Observer
25.11.45

For public relations batavia please pass Singapore from Mani begins Sourabaya November twenty-fifth stop nearly 200 tons of supplies is being handled by a field maintenance unit in Sourabaya which has to feed thousands of troops and refugees and hundreds of Jap prisoners who work at the docks in the absence of local labour stop while the problem of feeding the army is systematised and hence presents no difficulties feeding food distribution for the 4000 refugees who flood into our lines all times of the day and night is by no means easy for a supply unit trained by the long years of war stop under Capt PN Singh and Capt NK Khanna of Lahore the men of this Riasc unit have seen to it that these women and children get proper and good food particularly after days of starvation stop they have to issue special food and comforts to hospitals stop supply of ammunition and petrol to units is also their responsibility and they distribute nearly 200000 gallons of petrol stop ends
Mani: Indian Army Observer
26.11.45

For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani
begins sourabaya november 26 stop famous indian tankmen comma
veterans of north africa and burma comma with their
stuart tanks made a lighting raid this morning into the
darmo area of the town and put to rout its indonesian defenders stop these are men from the
eleventh indian cavalry popularly known as prince albert and queen victorias own cavalry stop early this morning one
squadron of these tanks left our lines and driving at speed
shot up cars and vehicles on the road and sent shells flying
into the sidestreets and byelanes throwing up doors
windows and articles of furniture into the air stop within three hours traversing nearly ten miles in all they entered fork roads and made a wide and complete sweep of the area to the north of coen boulevard stop the indonesians were completely surprised their road blocks were not being manned and the indonesian troops were caught napping as they were drinking their early morning tea stop two of their headquarters were thrown into pell mell and all of them ran for cover throwing away their arms and raising shrieks of terror stop the situation was so exciting and dramatic that our tank troop commanders instead of the usual crypt wireless messages began to broadcast eye witness accounts on their wireless stop eye have been with this men in burma when they made swooping raids into the heart of jap territory and they came with flying colours every time stop the war in sourabaya does not excite them equally inspite of several tank showing demonstrations by the indonesian extremists stop in this raid they destroyed one ack ack gun and three antitank guns one of our tanks was hit slightly and its crew escape with minor injuries stop later punjabis and dogras with tank support have mopped up the area raided by the stuarts stop ends

[Signature]
Mani Capt 26/11
For public relations bata ia please pass singapore &
from mani begins sourabaya november 26 stop lt gen
sir miles christopher dempsey kcb kbe dao mc cinc
alfsea who was on a visit here some days ago has
sent a congratulatory message to the troops of the
fifth indian division stop i say want to congratulate
you and the troops under your command on the splendid
way in which you are all carrying out your invidious
task stop pare by forethought and careful planning
and by the skill and courage of your troops you are
doing the job with the least possible loss to ourselves and to the unfortunate
people who find themselves unwilling participants
in the battle stop pare you have the great
satisfaction of knowing that you have saved the
lives of many thousands of women and children who
are now safe in our hands and you may well feel
proud of all you have accomplished stop good luck
to you all stop unquote ends.

Mani: Indian Army Observer
26;II;45
For public relations Batavia please pass Singapore from Mani.

Begins Sourabaya November 27 stop Seventy-five Indians
including women and children have been brought into the
occupied area today stop Yesterday as Punjabis and
Dogras advanced into the Darmo area two leading Indians
slipped into our lines and requested help to evacuate the
rest of them stop While a small percentage of Indians left
Sourabaya for Singapore before the ninth November most of the
remained behind to look after their shops and homes stop In
the first few days of our advance we brought under protection
about a hundred of them stop but those living in the centre
of the town concentrated themselves together in the Coen
Boulevard in the Darmo area and these are the people who
came in today stop All of them are safe and without any
wounds whatsoever stop They told me that the Indonesians did
not treat them well and did not harm to them stop They report of
several more Indians including the head of their community and our peacemaker sometime ago Kundan
Das having evacuated to the interior with their families stop.

ends

Mani
Capt
27/11
Mani: Indian Army Observer
28.11.45

For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani
begins surabaya november 28 stop with two bridgeheads
established this morning across the wonokromo canal by two
renowned punjabi battalions the occupation of surabaya town
is virtually complete stop these are men from the second first
punjab regiment who won renown in arakan and kohima and men
from the third second punjab regiment who are veterans of this
war since north africa and are one of the oldest battalions
in the fifth indian division stop they were not supposed and are
now operating as patrols further south into the wonokromo area
stop within the x x x x x x x x x town troops are vigorously searching
for hidden arms ammunition and x x x armed indonesians stop
patrols to the sea cost the east and west of the town find very
little opposition stop the wonokromo gas works oil works and
locks and sluices are now in our hands and their serviceability
is being investigated stop x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x our tanks
also have gone out on patrol along the modjokerto and sidoarjo
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x roads leading to the west and south respectively from the
town stop ends
For public relations batavia please pass telecomwise singapore
from mani begins soerabaja november twelfth stop mopping up
in areas of the town occupied by us has begun and further
advance into the town continued today against mostly sniper
and machine gun opposition stop for the first time two or
three seventyfive millimetre guns fired at us from the indonesian
side but no damage was caused stop they became silent as soon
as the xxmxxmxxx guns of the royal navy brought fire upon their
gun positions stop indonesian ackack and mortars were also in
evidence today stop our casualties have been extremely light
while the counting of indonesian casualties has been rendered
difficult owing to the fact that the latter remove their dead
quickly stop our aircraft on reconnaissance have observed
indonesians digging in several parts of the town stop upto this
evening there has been no response from the locals if they
desired to send anyone to speak to our commander stop according
to an unofficial estimate there were about fifteen
thousand trained indonesian troops in the town in addition to
several times that number of armed people who know to handle
rifles stop ends

mani: indian army observer

Capt
11/12
For public relations batavia please pass Singapore from Mani begins piece two Surabaya November twenty-fourth stop prompt and bold action by a Dogra Naik averted a serious situation for the first Dogra Regiment while they were advancing along the west bank of the river Kalimas on Thursday stop since we had no troops on the east bank the Dogras were exposed to fire from the Indonesian guns on the other bank stop one of our machine gun posts on the water's edge was covering our advance along a bridge held by us stop when the sentry at the machine gun was wounded severely and a second gunner was sent to take his place was also wounded fatally on his way Lance Naik Faquir Chand Dogra Rajput of village Naror District Undampur who was the third gunner rushed out of cover and exposing himself to more than twenty yards swept by machine gun fire brought back the wounded first gunner to safety stop then once again daunting the twenty yards of fire he manned the machine gun post and silenced the Indonesian machine gun by killing its entire crew stop but for his prompt and bold action our advance would have been held up causing us quite heavy casualties stop ends
FOR HORROCKS FROM MANI BEGINS SOURABAYA WEDNESDAY.(-) IN ADDITION TO SUPPRESSING THE INDONESIAN EXTREMIST RISING INDIAN TROOPS HERE HAVE BEEN DOING MAGNIFICENT WORK DAILY RESCUING HUNDREDS OF DUTCH AND EURASIAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN (.) WHILE DOING THIS THEY HAVE OFTEN GONE BEYOND OUR LINES INTO EXTREMIST POSITIONS AND IN THE FACE OF SNIPER AND MORTAR FIRE RESCUED THOSE WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO HAD BEEN STARVING FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS BY THEN (.) DURING THE LAST TWO DAYS THE SECOND FIRST PUNJAB REGIMENT AFTER OCCUPYING THE EMMA SCHOOL HAVE SENT OUT RESCUE PATROLS TO FETCH HUNDREDS OF THESE WOMEN AND CHILDREN INTO OUR LINES (.) IN THIS HUMANITARIAN WORK THESE SOLDIERS FROM THE PUNJAB HAVE DISPLAYED THE SAME COURAGE AND SACRIFICE AS IN THE DAYS OF WAR WHEN THEY OPENED THE NGAK YEDAUK PASS IN ARAKAAN (.) AT FIRST THESE REFUGEES CAME DRIBBLING INTO OUR LINES IN GROUPS OF FIVE AND TEN AS THE PUNJABIS ADVANCED ON MONDAY TOWARDS THE EMMA SCHOOL (.) THEY INFORMED OUR TROOPS OF MANY MORE HUNDREDS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE CUSTODY OF ARMED INDONESIANS BEYOND OUR LINES AND ALMOST ON THE VERGE OF DEATH DUE TO STARVATION AND THE SHOCK OF BEING IN THE MIDDLE OF A BATTLEFIELD (.) MANY OF THESE WOMEN WERE ACTUALLY RENDERING MEDICAL AID TO THE INDONESIAN WOUNDED BUT THESE FASCIST INSPIRED EXTREMISTS HAD NO HEART FOR THEIR WORK AND PERMITTED THEM TO STARVE (.) IMMEDIATELY LT COL SARBJEET SINGH KALHA DSO COMMANDER OF THE PUNJABI DIVISION SENT OUT RESCUE PATROLS BEYOND OUR LINES TO FETCH THEM (.) ARMED INDONESIAN GUARDS HAD BEEN POSTED AT EVERY HOUSE WHEREIN THEY COLLECTED FIFTY OR SIXTY OF THESE WOMEN AND CHILDREN (.) A TWENTY YEAR OLD EURASIAN GIRL WEARING THE RED CROSS ON HER ARM ESCORTED BY ONE OF THE COMPANY COMMANDERS ACTUALLY HANDED OVER THESE WOMEN AND CHILDREN TO THE INDONESIANS BUT THESE EXTREMISTS HAD NO HEART FOR THEIR WORK AND FORCED THEM TO STARVE.
MAJOR MOHAMED IQBAL OF KALANAUR DISTRICT ROHTAK DELHI AND PREACHED WITH HIM FOR THE RESCUE OF THE HER COMRADES SEVERAL OF WHOM WERE UK AND WOUNDED AND MOST OF WHOM WERE DYING OF STARVATION. THE PUNJABIS WENT INSIDE OF BOBBY TRAPS AND SHIPING AND GRADUALLY BROUGHT BACK THESE WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE PUNJABIS HAD TO EITHER SHOOT DOWN THEIR INDONESIAN GUARDS OR DISARM THEM BUT THEY MOSTLY RAN AWAY. BUT AS SOON AS THE REFUGEES SAW OUR TROOPS THEY RAN TO THEM AND MADE WARM DEMONSTRATIONS OF THEIR GRATITUDE. THE MEN VOLUNTEERED WITH ALL THEIR RATIONS TO FEED THE REFUGEES IMMEDIATELY AND BETWEEN MOUTHFULS OF THE MANNIA THAT HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO THEM BY THE PUNJABIS THESE WOMEN WERE ECSTATIC WITH JOY RELIEF AND THANKFULNESS. LITTLE CHILDREN WITH BISCUITS IN THEIR HANDE CASE AND LOCKED UP WITH ADMIRATION AT THE TALL HANDSOME PUNJABIS AND THOUGH LANGUAGE SEPARATED THEM THEIR EYES EXPRESSED GRATITUDE AND MORE THAN ANY HONOURS OF WAR THE PUNJABIS TODAY CHERISH THE PICTURE OF THESE CHILDREN LOOKING UP AT THEM AND THEY CONSIDER IT THEIR A HIGH HONOUR TO BE SOLDIERS IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY. IN ONE DAY ON TUESDAY THE PUNJABIS RESCUED NEARLY FOUR HUNDRED WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM THE HANDS OF THE INDONESIAN EXTREMISTS. QUOTE WE ARE OWE OUR LIVES TO THE INDIAN TROOPS BUT FOR THEM WE MUST HAVE BEEN DYING A GRADUAL DEATH IN INDONESIAN HANDS. THIS HAS BEEN OUR FIRST CONTACT WITH INDIAN TROOPS AND WE HAVE NO WORDS TO EXPRESS OUR ADMIRATION FOR THEIR COURAGE KINDNESS AND HOSPITALITY NAAM AHMAD AHMAD. THE INDIAN EXTREMISTS HAVE MADE HER HOMELESS AND A REFUGEE ALONG WITH HER AGED PARENTS. AN EURAGIAN GIRL SAID TO ME SHE WAS BORN AND BRED IN SOURABAYA BUT NOW THE EXTREMISTS HAVE MADE HER HOMELESS AND A REFUGEE ALONG WITH HER AGED PARENTS.
Mani: Indian Army Observer

23.11.45

For public relations Batavia please pass Singapore from Mani be ins

Sourabaya November twenty-third stop Orange Hotel XX a prominent

landmark on the pemex essar road and one of the biggest hotels in

Sourabaya was captured this afternoon by the XXXX first dogra regiment

stop it was in this hotel that correspondents and photographers were

captured in the last week of October by the Indonesians stop the

opposition was not stiff as most of the Indonesians who had dug in ran

away as the approach of our tanks stop operations to the hotel had been

noticed by the Indonesians but since this information had been earlier

brought in by our patrols we were prepared for it stop the Indonesians

continue to offer fairly stiff resistance on our left flank across the

river Kalim stop the opposition is mostly from light machine guns

and snipers in well concealed positions stop the Indonesians stick to their

positions till our tanks close in then they run out return to snipe after

we consolidate and dig in stop yesterday a XXXX section of the first

army rushed an machine gun post and captured the guns after killing the

crew stop ends

[Signature]

Capt 23/11
Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani begins sourabaya november twentysecond stop since yesterday evening indonesian artillery activity against us has reduced itself in intensity stop in addition to large quantities of ammunition nine 120mm howitzers and four bofor ackack guns have been recovered from the race course area stop yesterday the indonesians lost one light tank and one armoured car stop there was a dramatic lull on the pesar bazaar front this morning when dogras awaited the approach under white flag of the indonesian minister mangacen koesoemo who had been urgently summoned by his government at batavia stop three copies of letter to koesoemo conveying the message from batavia and containing the safe conduct with proper instructions for approaching our lines dropped at three different places by our aircraft yesterday stop at exactly half past eight this morning the hour fixed the dogras put up a prominent white flag in front of their forward position but greeted by an indonesian flag stop an indonesian tank along with about eighty armed men made their appearance next but there was no sign of the minister stop one of our armoured cars with a white flag advanced a little further and noticed armed indonesians running to and fro but none of them approached our car stop our troops had waited nearly an hour and the minister did not come stop ends note for editor please let us know delay if any in the receipt of my copies stop ends

[Mani's signature]
22/11
For public relations batavia please pass Singapore from Mani
begins surabaya november twentyfirst stop an outstanding patrol yesterday morning by men of the first madras regiment located an ack ack gun position being set up by the indonesians to the west of the airstrip seriously threatening our use of the airstrip stop immediately this patrol under jemadar prk rama rao of coconada town east godavari district madras province brought back accurate position of the gun position and immediately our planes strafed and bombed the area stop in the afternoon on his way to investigate the results of the bombing he and his platoon were quote ambushed unquote by nearly two hundred armed indonesians stop the indonesian ambush consists in laying tree trunks along the road and to crowd near there on the approach of our troops stop the unruly noises they make is quite predominant on such occasions stop jemadar rao and his men killed fifteen indonesians and returned to his base without suffering any casualties stop on monday night the second first punjabis had to withdraw from the emma school owing to the explosion of an ammunition dump nearby but reoccupied the school yesterday morning and evacuated from the area one hundred and seventy five more dutch women and children stop the tramway workshop has also been occupied by our troops as also a dairy farm containing three hundred and fifty cows stop ends
Mani: Indian Army Observer
19.11.45

For public relations Batavia please pass Singapore telecommwise from Mani begins Soerabya November nineteen stop two thirds of the town of Soerabaya has now been occupied by the Fifth Indian Division in the course of which they have captured altogether 800 rifles, 52 light automatics, 48 heavy machine guns, 33 guns including two 75mm guns, ten mortars, seven light tanks, 402 swords, 40 spears, 200 shot guns and two bows with 20 arrows stop one of our patrols found a dead Jap in a weapon pit in the area to the east of the river Kalimas which brings the total number of Jap bodies found by us so far to four stop yesterday first Punjabis occupied the Emma school against stiff opposition wherefrom 60 Dutch women and children were recovered stop in addition to a large ammunition dump another was discovered in the area containing half manufactured rifles giving the impression of a local arms factory stop since yesterday our fighting patrols have been active to the east of the river Kalimas stop men from the West Yorks regiment along with tanks of the Eleventh Indian Cavalry on a patrol killed 14 Indonesians and captured one heavy machine gun one light machine gun and several other weapons stop Mahratta patrol approaching a village was fired upon and as the villagers stood by to watch 41 of their armed countrymen being killed and on the return journey the mahrattas killed four more stop last night the Indonesians made two small attacks on our forward positions and were easily repulsed stop Indonesian guns and mortars and ack-ack are still quite active stop Sniping continues on a smaller scale fanatical attacks are fewer in number and their resistance is gradually weakening stop ends
For public relations Batavia please pass telecommunicate Singapore from
mani begins Soerabaya November seventeenth stop nearly half of Soerabaya
town is now in British hands stop operations here may be said to be entering on its second phase and our troops are
pushing on against gradually decreasing opposition stop in addition to
the capture of a large number of rifles and machine guns two Indonesian
seventyfive millimetre guns were bagged by the Jats today stop one
Indonesian light tank has also been knocked out stop but their artillery
and mortar fire on a lesser scale continues stop the second first Punjabis
have advanced farthest south unto the orange school against mostly
sniper opposition stop they have also opened the prison nearby and there were only five
dutchmen in it who have been brought safely to our lines stop more
Eurasian and Chinese refugees from that area are now safe in camps which
we have set up for them stop Indonesian torture of Chinese continues stop
last night Indonesians rounded up half a dozen residents and burnt them
in their houses stop on Madoera island little activity has been noticed
except for the gun positions in the process of preparation but without
any guns stop ends
Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations batavia please pass telecomoise singap0re from mani begins soerabaj9a november sixteenth stop three striking advances/have been made today by indian troops across the kali semampir river stop the opposition was mostly from snipers and light machine guns stop third battalion of jat regiment crossed the river crack of dawn and are pushing forward and the the booty captured by them so far includes three jeep loads full of machine guns stop one indonesian officer was careless enough to drop his sword and in the flash of a second one of the jats picked it up and slashed the indonesian officer in two stop third battalion second punjab regiment sent out a fighting patrol across the river to the south east and returned with loads of rifles and machine guns stop they also attacked the first punjabis three tanks and/3 driven away with the aid of our artillery stop a staff car containing three indonesians wearing civilian clothes and armed with sten's approached our positions and was shot up killing the occupant stop this morning indonesians attacked madras infantry near the sea plane base with mortars and machine guns but were quickly repelled by our troops and artillery stop a large influx of chinese refugees from the east of kali semampir river and chinese generally complain of ill treatment by indonesians stop while in sourabaja before the troubles started eye had noticed that there was no love lost between the chinese community and the indonesian extremists who often resorted to third degree methods to enforce the viewpoint stop most of the muslim troops in our lines today celebrated the quote id repeat id unquote with festoons and music and feasting stop white quote mufti unquote and multicoloured handkerchieves marked the centres of celebration in an area almost entirely jungle green stop story ends note for editor regret unable yet send story position indian nationals still collecting information stop ends
FOLLOWING FROM MANI BEGINS SOEABAYA NOVEMBER FIFTEENTH.

THERE HAS BEEN A MARKED DECREASE IN ACTIVITY ON THE INDONESIAN SIDE TODAY IN AREAS OF PREVIOUS RESISTANCE. MUCH MOVEMENT BEHIND THEIR LINES HAS BEEN OBSERVED AND THEY ARE SETTING FIRE TO GOODS AND WAREHOUSES. LAST NIGHT ONE WAREHOUSE CONTAINING RUBBER CLOTH AND OIL IN THE CHINESE AREA WAS SET ON FIRE BY THEM AND BLACK CLOUDS OF SMOKE RISING FROM THERE COULD BE SEEN FOR MILES AROUND. INEFFECTIVE SHELLING BY THE INDONESIANS HAS INCREASED SINCE LAST EVENING. ONE OF OUR MOSQUITOS ON RECONNAISSANCE WAS HIT BY ACKACK FIRE. TWO INDONESIAN TANKS WERE KNOCKED OUT TODAY ONE BY OUR TANKS AND THE OTHER BY OUR TROOPS. MORE REPORTS OF ILL TREATMENT OF CHINESE NATIONALS BY THE INDONESIANS ARE COMING IN AND A LEADING CHINESE WALKED INTO OUR LINES TODAY IN HIS PYJAMA SUIT HAVING LOST THE REST. WE ARE GIVING THE CHINESE MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND EVERY ASSISTANCE. NOTE FOR EDITOR COLLECTING INFORMATION REGARDING POSITION BRITISH INDIAN NATIONALS IN TOWN AND SHALL SIGNAL THEM TOMORROW.

ENDS.
Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations Batavia please pass telecomwise Singapore from Mani begins Soerabaya November fourteenth stop Indonesians XXX XXXIINNIX continue to offer stiff resistance and they are now using mostly automatics and mortars stop their guns are still active but most of their shells do not explode and our tanks have knocked out one of their guns stop quite strong Indonesian resistance XXX has been experienced today near the hotel Soerabaya and the telegraph office changed hands twice stop sniping on our left flank continues stop one of our trucks bringing back wounded was ambushed but our driver accelerated his vehicle and ran over some of them killing at least two stop three Jap dead XXXX bodies were found near the court of justice this morning stop Chinese XXX delegates approached our commander this evening requesting protection to bury their dead most of whom they say have been killed by the Indonesians and not by our fire stop Indonesians are attempting to XXX remove all food from the town and locomotives XXXYINGXXX carrying food out of the town have been strafed by our mosquitoes stop ends
Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations Batavia please pass telecommwise
Singapore begins Soerabaja November thirteenth stop our troops
have advanced further today against stiff opposition and
occupied the government building stop mopping up in areas
already occupied by us continues and several armed indonesians
found selling vegetables have been shot stop indonesians are
offering stubborn resistance near the Kota railway station and
are fighting from pill boxes stop the area cleared by us
includes Chinese and Arab quarters whose residents have been
all the time confining themselves to their houses and not
taking any part in the fighting stop last night XXXX indonesians
attacked our forward lines near hotel Soerabaya but were driven
off with heavy casualties stop sniping continues on our left
flank from the east bank of the Kali Semampir river stop
large XXXXXXX number of arms and equipment have been recovered
by our troops while searching areas already occupied by us stop
our casualties today have been extremely light stop compared
to our speed of operations against the Japs in Burma operations
here seem to be XXXX slow apparently with the purpose of
avoiding larger number of casualties stop our own troops regard
these operations more as an XXXX uprising that has to be
suppressed than as a war with indonesians but Soerabaya burns
and the XXXXXXXXX sky glows red with clouds every night
as Indonesian hotheads continue to bear arms against the allies
stop ends