

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 tandjoeg priok
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
^{of the first indian infantry brigade}
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 ~~its~~
occupation ^{during} by the quote pallava unquote ~~and~~ comma quote chola
unquote and ~~the~~ quote gupta unquote periods of indian history stop though
not fully conversant the indian quote jawan unquote ~~is~~ has a vague idea
of this ancient connection and ^{is} extremely anxious to renew and strengthen
this centuries old bond of friendship stop these views were expressed to
me while on board by a ~~sikh~~ 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
among the indonesians stop in singapore we were received at the docks
by cheering crowds who hung festoons all along our way but here in
batavia only children waved and cheered at us stop ends

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Feature
for Jawan

Mani: Army Observer

Batavia:--- In spite 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 ^{and} guarding hospitals, vital ~~xxxxxx~~
~~xxxxxx~~ 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 ~~xxx~~ maintain law and order.

~~xxxxxx~~ 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 eleven begins after an armed ~~indonesian~~ indonesian mob attacked and killed a british officer and an indian viceroys commissioned officer of a punjab battalion indian troops opened fire ~~this~~ this 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 ~~by~~ the british captain with a platoon of punjabis want to investigate when he went forward with one section ~~xxxxxx~~ 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 ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ shot at ~~by~~ small arms and their bodies were 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
~~with~~ 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 wathh deck heard
the cry and told the skipper to stop the vessal but the
latter thought ~~xxxxxxx~~ 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 th
story of his rescue he went and thanked the major profu-
profusely stop among other duties in batavia the
patialas are guarding the indian ex prisoners camp
~~xxxx~~ thirtyeight of whom left yesterday by air for
singapore stop ~~xxxx~~ hundred are leaving today and
remaining fifty will be reaching singapore in the next

few days

For PR alfesa from mani army observer begins batavia october fifth
eight jap bodies ~~of the~~ victims of the murder in the maggarai
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 ~~by~~ sword wounds on
the back of the neck stop the area for hundreds of yards around
~~xxxxxxx~~ 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 ~~xxxxx~~
are quite rusted stop according to an indonesian from the adjoining
village mentargpualau the locals stopped a jap truck ~~xxxxxxx~~
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 stop ~~ixxxxxxxx~~
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 alfesa from mani army
observer begins batavia october fifth ~~xxxx~~ stop acting
as ~~xxxxxx~~ quote guide unquote to the first troops of
the twentythird indian division come twentyfour year ~~xx~~
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 chabnal district amritsar 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

Feature
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~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ 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.

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For PR alfsea from mani army observer begins batavia october ~~nights~~
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 waterproof-
ing and readjusting of their vehicles stop these men driving trucks
and jeeps are now driving de luxe and saloon cars and know ~~how~~
their maintenance equally well stop the japs had neglected most
of their ~~cars~~ ^{indian} cars stop mechanics who have been with ~~ix~~
these drivers throughout the ~~war~~ ^{to help in huphal} are also here and have among them
a few who have been mechanics in big garages in india before the
war stop ends

story two

For PR alfsea from mani army observer begins batavia october
eighteen ~~begins~~ ^{stop} bengal sappers who lifted mines and booby traps
and built bridges and roads along the roads to burma ~~ix~~ 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

25 Oct.

----- Landed at Sourabaya without any incident along with the 49 Ind. Inf. Bde. Traveled on a ~~ix~~ LCI from Batavia and the sea was often rough. Honavar and Donald with me. Irwin 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 Mahrattas and the Rajrifs, 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 GI 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 me a car to get to the city, they were most reluctant even to answer me and sneered at my Malay. Reached Hotel Liberty in the evening in Tony Cardew's jeep which he had brought ~~xxxxx~~ along. The route was manned by heavily armed military and armed police and a number of barricades were seen. None of them would ~~x~~ 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. Would like to talk to Indonesians but have not met any today.

26th.

----- Attnd 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 Mena 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 hypnotises me with her zeal for the freedom of her country. she doesn't speak in english and we speak Malay. as I bid 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. Jamal, charming Stri Souchy and the Balinese Christian, all of the Youth Party (Promoeda) call on me. They want to take correspondents round the city on a conducted tour. We jump at 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 from there we notice circling spitfires dropping the ill-timed 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 ~~xxxxx~~ 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 Honavar and me and so we tramp to go and see a few more Indian merchants. Kunden, the President of the Indian Assn and much harassed by our FSS, gives us plenty of dope re the local situation. Honey, as usual the art critic, plies them with a number of questions regarding 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 hq. aslam chopra singh all look grave. we understand situation serious but brig does not want us to report so. he wants 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 unnecely delayed by him and the signals. appears to me brigadier is posing a calm exterior though he is very much perturbed. He tells us that

the Ind. gov. Dr Mustafa had fled from the town without fulfilling his promise to execute the brig's orders and that he has in his custody another who is prepared to carry out the orders. He also told us that he had emphatically ~~xxxxxx~~ told the locals ~~xxxxxx~~ that he was the ruler of the place and they have to obey him.

Eye consider this sheer arrogance and left the confce sadly 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 ~~xxx~~ felt for the Indian troops who were weary of war and were longing to be back home. These famous warriors seem to be forever trapped in the web of destiny to which they so pathetically cling..... Mena plays again; this time 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 sourabaya 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 all 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.

28th.

Janal 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 when we walked back... on our way, we ~~xxxxxx~~ heard the first shots and the peace of the town was broken... more shots were heard and by dusk we heard the sounds of battles raging.. 1st platoon of rajrifs who were guarding us took up positions. By seven the fire came in our direction but our troops did not open fire. The benadar came and requested me to take ~~xxx~~ over command but Major Finlay, being senior officer, took over from me and I remained to be his adjutant. We mobilised all the PR, RAPWI and FSS personnel in the hotel and gave them their perimeters. Since the fire was increasing, we stood to for two hours: Honavar, 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 out 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 ~~xxxxxx~~ went round the perimeter ~~xxx~~ 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 fighting. Betty, mean that he 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 tinkling with the telephone 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 ~~xxxxxx~~ 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

For Public Relations batavia repeatsingapore and div hq from
mani army observer begins soerabaja october 25 stop indian
troops of the twentythird indian division landed ~~xxxxx~~ 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
unenthusiastic and antidutch ~~graxkingx~~ slogans greeted us all
over the harbour stop the few indonesians on the wharf appeared
indifferent stop indian troops ~~xxxxxx~~ 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

human

Capt

25/10

Plan
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 ~~xxxxxxx~~ cum so far there has been no hitch
stop indonesian police escort allied military officers when
requited 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 ~~and~~ explained to them why his troops were here stop
armed locals patrol the streets ~~and~~ cum vital points stop
quite large number of barricades are thrown across the main roads
in the form of speed traps cum ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ 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~~r~~ from a
building into which our headquarters moved in this afternoon stop
there ~~was~~^{is} normal activity in the city and shops ~~was~~^{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 ~~stop~~
~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~^{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

Mani
Capt
28/x

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/^{here}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

Mani

Capt
27/X

Mani: Army Observer

5.11.45

XXXX Sourabaya, Nov. 5: 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} ~~he~~ ^{like latter} was shot ^{dead} ~~and~~ ^{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, Jats 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 convict 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.

page two

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.

ends

Dr. A. C. Sivakumar

☎ 567993

R.M.P.

ஜோதிடர், மாந்திரீகர்
S/o. S.A. Chandrasekar, Astrologer

"SARADA NILAYAM"
No. 7, 4th Cross, Ulsoor,
Damodara Mudaliar St.,
Bangalore-560 008.

ஜெனன / ருது ஜெனன ஜாதகம்

ஜெனனி ஜென்ம செளக்யானும் வர்தனி குல சம்பதாம்
பதனி பூர்வ புண்ணியானும் லீக்யதே ஜென்ம பத்ரிகா

ஜாதகர் ஜாதகி பெயர்..... செவதி
தந்தை பெயர்..... மெகலாஜி
தாயார் பெயர்..... சீரணி
இங்கிலீஷ் வருஷம்..... 01. 5. 1998
சாலிவாகன வருஷம்..... 1920
கலியுகாதி வருஷம்..... 5100
பசலி வருஷம்..... 1407
மாதம்..... சிந்தை
தேதி..... 18
சுக்ல / கிருஷ்ணபக்ஷம் திதி..... சூழ்சி
ருது / ஜென்ம லக்கினம்.....
ருது / ஜென்ம நக்ஷத்திரம்..... ஹரிதாசுரம்
ருது / ஜென்ம இராசி..... கேரளம்
ருது / ஜெனன காலத்தில் திசை..... கி. மகேசுவரன்
ஜென்ம நாமம் (பெயர்)..... Perathu என்ற எழுத்தில் ஆரம்பம் செய்யவும்.

வாழ்க வையகம். ஆழ்க தீயவை. குழ்க அரன் நாமம்.

44 4198

For "The Fighting Cock"

THE UBIQUITOUS 23rd.

:3: Rehearsal for Battle

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 ^{serious} lack of all kinds of fresh food.

Some troops were still holding several defences. The 37 Bde ^{at Shenam} were relieved by the 20th. Indian ~~Division~~ Division only in the middle of November while the 49 Bde. were not relieved at Shuganu till ~~the~~ December. In October, the 1/16 Punjab Regiment and 13 Mountain Battery went to the assistance of 63 Bde 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 ~~fast~~ necessary in the light of experience on the Burma border. The 1 and 37 Bdes trained with the 254 Indian Tank Brigade which arrived in Imphal in January 1944. Later events showed that this was very valuable training. indeed.

~~XXXX~~ (To be continued)

Mani: Indian Army Observer

29.11.45

DRAFT FOR APPROVAL

Sourabaya is another outstanding achievement of the 5th. ~~Indian Division~~ 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 ^{moves} and drives as they did in North Africa and Burma and which brought them success and fame.

Cut

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 were 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".

end's

Mani
Capt
29/11

Mani: Indian Army Observer
1 Dec '45

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 &
own lancers stop he has seen service in italy and ^{is} 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 ^{to} within ~~in~~ sixty yards of the gun and
opened up ^{stop} 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

Mani

Capt

1/12

Call

Srl. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin.

Office Date Stamp

For Action

PAGE TWO

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions. G R

Originator's No.

PAGE TWO CONTINUED

MAJOR MOHAMED IQBAL OF KALANAUR DISTRICT ROHTAK DELHI AND PERADED WITH HIM FOR THE RESCUE OF THE HER COMRADES SEVERAL OF WHOM WERE SICK AND WOUNDED AND MOST OF WHOM WERE DYING OF STARVATION(.) THE PUNJABIS WENT INSPIRE 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 RATIONS 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 PICTURE OF THESE CHILDREN LOOKING UP AT THEM AND THEY CONSIDER IT AN EQUAL 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 UNQUOTE A TWENTY YEAR OLD EURASIAN 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(.)

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except

WIRELESS

If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER.

Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

Signed.

Signed.

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 waterprooing and readjusting of their vehicles. stop these men driving trucks and jeeps are now driving de luxe and saloon cars and know ~~how~~ their maintenance equally well stop the japs had neglected most of their ~~xxxxxxx~~ cars ^{indian} stop/mechanics who have been with ~~xx~~ 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

story two

For PR 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 ~~xx~~ 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

For PR alfsea from mani army observer begins batavia
october thirteen stop two more incidents occurred yesterday
afternoon when ^{at 4:30} 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 ~~xx~~ noticed ~~xxxxxxx~~ 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~~ 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 ~~xxxxxxx~~ throwing stones at his vehicle
one of which breaking the windscreen 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 daks
took up a threatening attitude stop after firing one shot
he told them quote pegi unquote 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 ~~xxxxxxx~~ one round
~~stop~~ and arrest nine men who were manning the road block
stop ~~xxxxxxx~~ ends

Mani
Capt
13/X-

mani: Indian Army Observer
1 Dec '45

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 ^{is} 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 ^{to} within ~~xx~~ sixty yards of the gun and
opened up ^{stop} 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

mani
Capt.
1/12

Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations batavia please pass singapore wireless from
mani begins soerabaja november eleventh indian gurkha et british
troops of the fifth indian division have advanced further into
the town mostly ~~against~~ against sniper opposition stop ~~artillery~~
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
~~the~~ ^{stop} the main streets were deserted stop all big ~~buildings~~
buildings which have been my landmarks in the town some ten days
~~ago~~ ^{ago} are still in tact 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 ~~dripping~~ coming back stop ends

Mani
Capt
11/11

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 ~~the~~ 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~~
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
Capt
22/11

Mani: Indian Army Observer
25.11.45

For public relations batavia please pass singapore from
mani begins sourabaya november twentyfifth stop nearly
200 tons of supplies is being ^{every day} handled/ by a field mainte-
nance 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 ~~xxx arranging~~ food distribution
for the ~~xxxxxxx~~ 4000 refugees who flood into our lines
all times of the day and night is by no means easy for a
supply/ ^{unit} strained 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 ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ 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

Law
Capt
25/11

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 ~~the~~ north africa and burma comma with their
stuart tanks made a lightning raid this morning into the
darmo area of the town ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ and ~~it~~ 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 ~~xxxx~~ throwing up doors
windows and articles of furniture into the air stop within
three hours ~~and~~ 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 ma
manned and the ~~xxxxxx~~ indoneisan ^{troops} ~~army~~ were caught napping as
they were drining 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
mesages began to broadcast eye witness accounts on their
wireless stop eye have been with this men in burma when they
made swooping raids ^{in armoured cars} into the heart of jap territory and they
came ^{out} with flying colours every time stop the war in sourabay
does not excite them equally inspite of several tank showing
demonstrations by the indonesian extremists stop in this rai
they ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ destroyed one ack ack gun and three antitank
guns ~~XX~~
~~XXXXXX~~ stop one of our tanks was hit slightly and its crew escape
with minor injuries/ stop later punjabis and dogras with tank
support have ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ mopped up the area raided by the
stuarths stop ends

Mani Capt
26/11

Mani: Indian Army Observer

26; II; 45

For public relations data in please pass Singapore
from Mani begins Sourabaya November 26 stop Lt Gen
Sir Miles Christopher Dempsey KCB KBE DSO 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 ^{quite} we 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 para by forethought and careful planning
and by the skill and courage of your troops you are
doing the job with the least ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~
possible loss to ourselves and to the unfortunate
people who find themselves unwilling participants
in the battle stop para 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.

Man
Capt
16/4

41011072

For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani
begins sourabaya november 27 stop seventyfive indians
including women and children have been brought into the
occupied area ~~xxxx~~ today stop ~~xxxx~~ yesterday as pungabis 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 them
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 these 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
~~treat~~ treat them well and did no/ harm to them stop they report of
several more indians ~~xxxxxx~~ including the head of
their community ~~xxxx~~ and our peacemaker sometime ago kundan
das ^{who have} ~~xxxx~~ evacuated to the interior with their families stop
ends

ham
copy
27/11

Mani: Indian Army Observer
28.11.45

For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani
begins sourabaya november 28 stop with ~~two~~ bridgeheads
established ~~this~~ morning across the wonokromo canal by two
renowned punjabi battalions the occupation of sourabaya 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~~ ^{not} ~~opposed~~ and are
now operating as patrols further south into the wonokromo area
stop within the ~~xxxxxxx~~ town troops are vigorously searching
for hidden arms ammunition and ~~any~~ armed indonesians stop
patrols to the sea/^{coast} to 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 ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ our tanks
also have gone out on patrol along the modjokorto and sidoarjo
~~xxxxx~~ roads leading ^{to the} ~~xxx~~ west and south respectively from the
town stop ends

Mani Colpm
28/11

mani:indian army observer

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 sevetyfive millimetre guns fired at us from the indonesian
side but no damage was caused stop they became silent as soon
as the ~~xxxxxxx~~ guns of the royal navy brought fire upon their
gun positions stop indonesian ackack and mortars were also in
evidence today stop our casuaaties 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
efening there has been no response from the locals ^{to our enquiries} if they
desired to send anyone to speak to our commander stop according
to an ~~xxxxxx~~ unofficial estimate there ~~are~~ ^{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
Capt
12/10

Mani: Indian Army Observer
24.11.45

For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani
begins piece two sourabaya november twentyfourth stop prompt
and bold action by a dogra naik averted a serious situation
for the first dogra regiment ~~xxxxxx~~ 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~~ ^{its first gunner}
~~machine gun~~ was wounded severely and a second gunner ~~who went~~ ^{on his way}
to take ~~his~~ ^{over} place was also wounded fatally ~~on his way~~ lance
naik faquir chand dogra rajput of village naror district
undampur ~~who was the third gunner~~ ^{in charge of the gun section} 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

Mani
Capt
24/11

Call

Srl. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin.

Office Date Stamp

For Action

PAGE TWO

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions. G R

Originator's No.

PAGE TWO CONTINUED

MAJOR MOHAMED IQBAL OF KALANAU DISTRICT ROHTAK DELHI AND PEEADED WITH HIM FOR THE RESCUE OF THE HER COMRADES SEVERAL OF WHOM WERE SICK AND WOUNDED AND MOST OF WHOM WERE DYING OF STARVATION(.) THE PUNJABIS WENT INSPITE OF BOOBY TRAPS AND SHIPERS & D 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 MANNA THAT HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO THEM BY THE PUNJABIS THESE WOMEN WERE ECSTATIC WITH JOY RELIEF AND THANKFUENESS(.) LITTLE CHILDREN WITH BISCUITS IN THEIR HANDS CAME AND LOOKEDUP 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 AN EQUALLY 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 UNQUOTE ~~SHE~~ A TWENTY YEAR OLD ~~INDIAN~~ EURASIAN GIRL, 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(.)

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WIRELESS

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Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

Signed.

Signed.

Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani
begins sourabaya november twentysecond stop since yesterday
evening ^{there has been a reduction in} 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 rocovered ^{by us} from the ~~grandstandxxxxxxx~~ 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 mangaoen 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 ~~xxxxxxx~~ with
proper instructions for approaching our lines ^{were} ~~xxxxxxx~~
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 ^{this was} ~~xxxxxxx~~ greeted by an indonesian flag
stop an indonesian tank ~~xxxx~~ along with about eighty armed men
made their appearance next but there was no sign of the minister
stop ~~xxxxxxx~~ ^{then} one of our ^{armoured} cars with a white flag advanced
a little further and noticed armed indonesians running to and
fro but ^{as} none of them approached our car stop ~~our armoured car~~ ^{it}
withdrew 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
Capt
22/11

Mani: Indian Army Observer

21.11.45

For public relations batavia please pass singapore from mani
begins sourabaya november twentyfirst stop an ~~ammunition dump~~
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 ^{information} ~~position~~
~~of~~ the gun position and immediately our planes strafed and
bombed the area stop ~~in the afternoon~~ in the afternoon on his
way to investigate the results of the bombing he and his
platoon were ~~ambushed~~ 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~~ 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 workshops ~~have~~ also been occupied by our
troops as also a dairy farm containing three hundred and fifty
cows stop ends

Mani
Capt
21/11

Mani: Indian Army Observer
19.11.45

For public relations batavia please pass singapore telecomwise from mani
begins soerabaya november nineteen stop two thirds of the town of sourabaya
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 indoneisans 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 mortars and ack ank 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

Mani
Capt
17/11

Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations batavia please pass telecomwise singapore
from mani begins soerabaya november sixteenth stop three striking
advances/^{to the east} 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 ^{at crack of dawn} ~~xxxxxxx~~ and are pushing forward ^{stop} ~~xxxxxxx~~
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 ~~xx~~
~~xx~~ fighting
patrol across the river to the south east and returned with loads
of rifles and machine guns stop they reckon to have killed about
twenty indonesians stop further north mah rattas have also advanced
the east across this river stop on thursday night indonesian activity
was limited to mainly artillery and mortar fire and some sniping
stop they also attacked the first punjabis ^{with} ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ three tanks
and ^{were} driven away ^{with the aid of} ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ our artillery stop a staff car
containing three indonesians wearing civilian clothes and armed with
stuns approached our positions and was shot up killing the occupant
stop this morning indonesians attacked ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ madras infantry
near the sea plane base with mortars and machine guns but were ^{quickly}
repelled by our troops and artillery stop there has been 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 soerabaya 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 ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ most of the muslim troops in our
lines today celebrated the quote id repeat id unquote with festoons
music and ~~xxxxxxxx~~ 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 ~~xxxxxxx~~ position indian nationals still
collecting information stop ends

Mani
Capt
16/11

PUBLIC RELATIONS SINGAPORE

PUBLIC RELATIONS BATAVIA

FOLLOWING FROM MANI BEGINS SOERABAYA 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 MOSQUITOES 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~~ ^{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
Capt
15/11

Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations batavia please pass telecomwise
singapore from mani begins soerabaya november fourteenth
stop indonesians ~~xxx xxxxxxxx~~ 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~~
~~xxxx~~ ^{has been} experienced today near the hotel Sourabaya 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 atleast 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 ~~take~~ remove all food from the town and
locomotives ~~xxxxingxxxx~~ carrying food out of the town
have been strafed by our mosquitoes stop ends

Mani
Capt
14/11

Mani: Indian Army Observer

For public relations batavia please pass telecomwise
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 ^{concrete} pill boxes stop the area cleared by us
includes chinese and arab quarters whose residents have been
all the time confin/ing themselves to their houses and not
taking any part in the fighting stop last night ~~XXXX~~ indonesians
attacked our forward lines near hotel sourabaya 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 ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ 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 ~~XXXXX~~ uprising that has to be
suppressed than as a war with indonesians but soerabaya burns
and the ^{clouded} ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ sky glows red with ~~clouds~~ every night
as indonesian hotheads continue to bear arms against the allies
stop ends

Mani
Cape
18/11