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Raja works a piling machine to officially start the construction of the National Theatre at King George V Park, 26 March 1962. When completed, the building was iconic. (SPH)



The National Theatre launches the first-ever Southeast Asia cultural festival.  
8 August 1963. (NAS)



Raja (fourth from right) persuades chief delegates from the North Borneo territories to join Malaysia, 1962. (NAS)



Raja and Lee Kuan Yew at the signing of the “Memorandum for Malaysia” blueprint ceremony at the Singapore Assembly House. Others involved: Yeo Cheng Hoe (Sarawak), Mustapha bin Dato Harun (North Borneo), Pengiran Ali bin Pengiran Haji Mohd Daud (Brunei), Mohd Khir Johari (Malaya) and Donald Stephens (Sabah), 3 February 1962. (SPH)



*Left Lee Kuan Yew and Raja prepare to debate with opposition members Lee Siew Choh and David Marshall at a radio forum on merger, 16 August 1962. (SPH)*

*Below Lee and Raja meet the press at the Singapore airport after their merger talks with the Tunku in Kuala Lumpur, 21 June 1963. (SPH)*





Raja announces plans to build the new *Television Singapura* studio site at Caldecott hill, 8 June 1963. (NAS)



Above The first person appearing on the screen at the launch of *Television Singapura* was Raja, 15 February 1963. (SPH)

Left Thousands through the opening of *Television Singapura* at the Victoria Theatre. (SPH)



Raja, Piroska and Education Minister Yong Nyuk Lin at a Thaipusam festival, 7 February 1963. (NAS)



Raja chats with the Hongkong stars who came for the Southeast Asia cultural festival, 6 August 1963. (NAS)



Raja and Toh Chin Chye at a multicultural exhibition during the Malaysia Solidarity Consultative Committee meeting in Singapore, February 1962. (NAS)



Cultural diplomacy in Malaya: Raja eats with the Singapore “goodwill cultural troupe” in Kuala Lumpur, 22 April 1963. (NAS)



And meets performers backstage in Kuala Lumpur, 23 April 1963. (NAS)



Lee Kuan Yew, accompanied by Raja, inspects the guard-of-honor on Malaysia Solidarity Day, 31 August 1963. (NAS)



Despite the uncertainty ahead, the two leaders project confidence at the celebrations at the Padang. (NAS)



Lee Kuan Yew and Raja on a constituency tour of Kampong Glam, Rochore and Crawford, 20 July 1963. (NAS)



Above Raja and Lee with the Malaysian Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, 18 August 1964. (SPH)

Left Dream come true: Celebrating merger at City Hall, 16 September 1963. (NAS)