

The fifth phase witnesses a heightening of Chinese nationalism in these territories in the wake of the Japanese invasion of Manchuria. This intensified China-oriented nationalism stimulated individual KMT members to participate in the National Salvation Movement led by a non-partisan community and political leader, Tan Kah Kee. In this phase, the KMT leaders and members contributed substantially to the nationalist cause without being legally prosecuted or persecuted, owing principally to the fact that the British authorities were more concerned with the communist influence in these territories.

While the authors have provided an extensive coverage on the history of the Kuomintang movement in Malaya, they could have paid more attention to the developments that took place between 1937 and 1949. No doubt, the period 1937 to 1941 has been well-documented by a number of other historians, but this would have made the book more complete. Furthermore, the writers have not adequately discussed the period from the time of the Japanese invasion of Malaya in December 1941 to the Japanese surrender in August 1945. What did the KMTM do at this point in time and what was its role in defending Malaya and Singapore against the Japanese? This is one area that requires much research and until something is written extensively about it, the history of the KMTM remains incomplete.

Nevertheless, the writers have been able to accomplish what they set out to do. They have shown the complex nature of the politics that existed in colonial Malaya, and how the changing political circumstances in China influenced the development of Chinese nationalism in Malaya. The dynamics of this movement in British Malaya have been identified through close examination of its leadership, organization and ideology. The changing perception of the British authorities has also been clearly represented.

Notwithstanding the shortcomings, the writers deserve high praise and appreciation for producing an authoritative study of the Kuomintang movement in Malaysia and Singapore during the British colonial period.

MANIVANNAN  
*Ministry of Defence*  
Singapore

**World Bibliographical Series, Vol. 93. By Sylvia C. Engelen Krausse and Gerald H. Krausse. Clio Press, 1988. 249 pp.**

Negara Brunei Darussalam is an ancient country, with a history and traditions that stretch beyond the millennia of human memory. Yet a researcher

attempting to reconstruct its past faces the formidable problem of the lack of written and other sources at least till the nineteenth century. Whilst a number of historians, such as Nicholas Tarling, Colin N. Crisswell, A.V.M. Horton, and anthropologist D.E. Brown, have examined Brunei's past, few have come to grips with its present. One factor that has discouraged scholarly interest in Brunei has been its virtual absorption into the United Kingdom's foreign policy and defence network for almost a century. Malaysian historian Ranjit Singh has touched briefly on the post-1959 Constitution period of Bruneian history, whilst the most recent work by David Leake attempts only a cursory examination of Brunei after independence in 1984. The definitive account of Brunei's post-war years must yet wait the release of official British Public Record Office documents coinciding with, among other things, the formation and activities of the Partai Rakyat Brunei and its subsequent abortive revolt in 1962.

In this light, Sylvia and Gerald Krausse's bibliographical inter-disciplinary country profile, which the authors claim treats the country in greater detail than any other reference work, is a most welcome contribution to the growing interest in one of the last sultanates of its kind in the world. This is a very competent, well organized bibliography, divided into thirty-one main subject headings, four of which are further sub-divided. Each entry gives bibliographical details and is also amply annotated. The authors have also provided a very effective referencing and indexing system. This bibliography is, so the authors boast, "a first step towards providing useful and readily available references for a study of Brunei, its environment and society". Unfortunately, this reference work is designed to cater primarily for an English-speaking audience and consequently neglects to include sources in Malay.

The book is not without its shortcomings. Anyone studying Bruneian history encounters almost immediately the perplexing and often exasperating problem of chronology. As the historian Robert Nicholl has observed, there is no shortage of dates: "there is a plethora of them, but there is a sad lack of evidence which would chronologically link events in Brunei with those in the outside world" ("Some problems of Brunei chronology", *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* XX, no. 2 [September 1989]: 175). However, this is not apparent in Sylvia and Gerald Krausse's introduction to the work and the authors appear to be oblivious to this problem.

The authors have, perhaps unwittingly, made a number of glib assertions in their introduction, gleaned no doubt from the material they have at hand. For example, they point out that "the Gurkha regiment has only limited fire power and backup and is, therefore, no real deterrent to external aggression" (p. xxiv). In fact, precisely because the role of the British Gurkhas has never been publicly defined, its presence has enjoyed an

informal deterrent function. More importantly from an internal viewpoint, the fighting prowess and record of the Gurkhas are well understood and serve as a major constraint on possible political adventurism on the part of any faction within the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF).

This bibliography is by no means definitive and the authors have readily acknowledged this in their preface. Whilst it does throw up some intriguingly obscure references, it ignores some very important studies. Nicholas Tarling's solid work, *Britain, the Brookes and Brunei* (Kuala Lumpur, 1971), and P. Blundell's *The City of Many Waters* (London, 1923) are, strangely enough, not mentioned nor is reference made to that excellent monograph by the late Dr David Bassett on *British Attitudes to Indigenous States in Southeast Asia in the Nineteenth Century* (Hull: Centre for South-East Asian Studies, University of Hull, 1980). In this monograph, Bassett expressed his misgivings about the reliability of British historical sources and disputed whether there was a decline at all in Brunei's trade or political stability between 1521 (the zenith of Brunei's "Golden Age") and the early nineteenth century. Dr Bassett also questioned Pigafetta's glowing description of Brunei in 1521, a stock-point of comparison for the more derogatory nineteenth century Western accounts of the sultanate. Additionally, in the section on fiction, Anthony Burgess's delightful novel, *Devil of a State*, earns nary a mention. Burgess has also much to say of his riotous experiences in Brunei in his more recently published autobiography, *Little Wilson and Big God* (London, 1987).

Fortunately, the book under review, which had apparently been frowned on by the Brunei authorities because of its inclusion of a number of references to the banned publications of the exiled leaders of the Partai Rakyat Brunei, was recently released for circulation within Brunei. Otherwise, it would have been a pity that the Bruneians themselves would have been deprived of knowing the extent of serious scholarly interest in their own country.

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***Grand Strategies in War and Peace.* Edited by Paul Kennedy. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1991. 228 pp.**

Professor Paul Kennedy has edited a volume that will give more food for thought to those policy-makers and general readers targeted by his earlier