

The Diary Notes of E.P. Gueritz, 1875 to 1885

Introduced and Annotated

by

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INTRODUCTION

Edward Peregrine Gueritz was the seventh governor of Sabah under the North Borneo (Chartered) Company Administration (1904 to 1911). First recruited into the Company service in 1882, he served until 1884 when he left the service. He then joined the British administration in Negeri Sembilan, serving as Collector for Sungei Ujong, and later Collector and Magistrate at Jelebu. Gueritz rejoined the North Borneo Company service in 1890 and served until 1911 when he retired and returned to England. Between 1890 and 1911, he held various positions including Magistrate, Government Secretary, Acting Governor, and finally, as Governor from 1904 to 1911.

Born in 1855, Gueritz was the son of the Rev. M. Gueritz. He was educated at St. Andrew's School at Stoke Newington. Prior to joining the Company's service, Gueritz was with the Sarawak Service from 1874 to 1877. His entry into the Sarawak service was probably influenced by the presence of his eldest brother, George, an official in the Sarawak service since 1870. George Gueritz would die in Baram in 1885, where he was the Resident.¹ After leaving the Sarawak service in August 1877, Gueritz returned to England. He then went to work in New Zealand for the bank of New Zealand in June 1878 before returning to Borneo in 1881. From then until joining the British North Borneo Company, Gueritz served as the agent for Captain John Ross, the writer adventurer who was in Borneo from late 1870s to 1880s. During this time, Gueritz was stationed at Labuan. In his book, Captain Ross gave a description of Gueritz:²

The agent at Labuan, Mr. Gritz (Gueritz), was a handsome, plausible man, of about thirty years of age, whom Northwood (Captain John Ross) had picked up cheap, partly because he was taken by his good looks, and partly because Gritz was in trouble of sorts, including a plentiful lack of cash.

Attracted by the prospect of rising in the official ranks of the newly-formed Company, Gueritz left the service of Captain Ross, and joined the Company's staff, much to the displeasure of Ross.

During the early days of its administration of Sabah, the North Borneo Company recruited several experienced officers from the Sarawak Service under the Brooke Administration. Besides Gueritz, other Sarawak officers who were engaged by the British North Borneo Company, were A. Harold Everett, Resident for Papar, and C.A. Bampfylde. Out of the three, only Gueritz remained. Both Everett and Bampfylde resigned in 1883.

After retiring from the service, Gueritz's contact with the British North Borneo Company and Sabah was maintained through various means. First, there was the family tie, as Gueritz's daughter was married to Aylmer Cavendish Pearson, another North Borneo Company official who was the acting Governor during Gueritz's last home leave in England. Pearson became the Governor from 1915 to 1922, and again for a second term in 1925 to 1926. Gueritz himself returned to Sabah in 1913-14 during his world-trotting trip and visited his daughter's family. There was the monthly pension that he continued to draw until his death in 1938. In the process, he was never far from the North Borneo Company Headquarters in Threadneedle Street in London. Apart from that, Gueritz had maintained constant correspondence with members of the service, both in London and in Sabah, among the notable ones were Sir Neill Malcolm, the president of the Company during the thirties, Owen Rutter, and George C. Woolley. However, the most lasting link between Gueritz and Sabah, must have been his enormous collection of documents, collected over the years of his service in Sabah, Sarawak and Jelevu in Negeri Sembilan.

There was also a large collection of memorabilia from Sabah, including ethnography, weapons and historical exhibits from the first museum in Sabah. The collections of the museum were dispersed in 1905, part being sent to the Company Headquarters. When the displays were broken up, some of the exhibits were sent to Gueritz who allocated a building attached to his residence to house the collection. However, the collection was destroyed in a fire some years later.

Told them I should visit with the Sultan of Brunei in
South Cele. Went back to Labuan. Goham Syden Khan in
landed on beach, fell, and broke both of my legs -
May 7. To Muluangin in Sabah with Dady - who left me here
for the night & went on to Sandakan
8. "Montgelais" picked me up & took me back to Muluangin
where I found "Rogelst" from Sandakan. Mr. Treacher
& Bampfylde on board. Later going to Brunei
10. To Sempangnangai in Montgelais to look for
reported pearl shell bed. Found it in 10 fathoms
about 2 miles the Kuddat side of the Permit. Took
about 1000 shells - very good size - no pearls.
16. Went to Bantian & examined coal boring being
done by Dady. Spent evening reaching Korum
land with Haji Dschinn.
21. To Bantian Bantian with Governor & Harman who
is looking for good planting land.
23. A black day for Kuddat - which is given up and
beaquested to Governor. Mr. Treacher left at 10 in
the "Borneo".
"Marchen" left from Sandakan Mr. Harman
Kubley, Dschinn, Mayman, Schickel, Powell
Gustavus & Howell
"Hij" was from Sandakan. - Capt. Hope
25. Went to Bangan in Haid "Hij" Capt Hope told
me he is expected to go there with reference to the
late disturbances. The "Marchen" also came down
the Bay. It was in temporary contact with the
main with the boats from both ships. Capt. Dady
then this people were much impressed. Capt. Hope
Hope was satisfied that the disturbances and disturbances
arose from a private matter and not from any
disaffection towards the Government. In
returning, our boat was being chased and

Fig. 1. A sample page of The Diary Notes of E.P. Gueritz.

THE DIARY

The Diary Notes of Gueritz introduced and annotated here verbatim is not the original diary. In one of his many letters to Sir Neill Malcolm in the Thirties, Gueritz related how he had burned his diaries dated from 1874 to 1884 out of frustration at not being consulted by a North Borneo Company official who was compiling a history of Sabah at that time. Nevertheless, he also mentioned having taken "a few notes which may be useful to Owen Rutter when he brings out a new edition of *"British North Borneo"*"³ Thus, what we have here is actually the notes taken by Gueritz, a mere fragment of what he had seen and experienced during his tenure in Borneo.

The Diary Notes consist of 18 pages in a single-bound foolscap-size paper volume. It is deposited at the Library of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London University under the manuscript collections as part of Volume 26 of the *British North Borneo Papers* (MS 283792). The collections were acquired by the SOAS Library in 1976.

The Diary Notes consist of selected entries from the years 1875, 1877, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884 and 1885. The entries for 1882 to 1884 are relevant to Sabah as they were made while Gueritz was the Assistant Resident in charge of Kudat.

- 1875: One entry: 26 January.
– Gueritz in Sarawak.
- 1877: 11 entries: for the months of February, May, July, August and September.
– Sarawak
- 1881: 15 entries: for the months of June, July, August, September, October and December.
– From New Zealand to arrival in Sabah and Labuan.
- 1882: 12 entries: 1 January to 21 January; and 1 February;
– Labuan, Sandakan and Kudat
- 1883⁴: 97 entries: 22–23 March; 1 April to 27 December.
– Kudat, Bengkoka, Sugut, Paitan, West Coast Area, Balabac and Palawan in western Philippines.
- 1884: three entries: all for the month of March.
– Leaving Sabah.

- 1885: 8 entries: 1 January to July. (These were taken from Gueritz's Jelevu Diary)
– Jelevu.

The Diary Notes of Gueritz is a very interesting document. It is Gueritz's daily recording of events during the early years of the North Borneo Company administration in Sabah. It is also the daily notes and observations of one of the earliest of North Borneo Company officials, covering a period when little is known about Sabah. Gueritz's Diary Notes are useful in supplementing three other diaries of his contemporaries that cover other areas in Sabah. These include the diaries of William B. Pryer,⁵ the first Resident of Sandakan, the diaries of William Pretymann,⁶ the first Resident of Tempassuk, and that of A. Harold Everett,⁷ the first Resident of Papar. As Kudat and the northern part of Sabah had come under North Borneo Company rule at the same time as Sandakan, Tempassuk and Papar, Gueritz's Diary Notes help to fill in many gaps on the earlier days of the North Borneo Company rule in Sabah, particularly regarding the northern region. The main drawback is that Gueritz's original diaries were destroyed, and the present Diary Notes are only a small part of the original entries.

The surviving entries however, prove to be valuable in providing information, including personal insights to at least three important events in Sabah during that period. First, the Bongon affair (starting with 22 March 1883), secondly, the transferring of the North Borneo Company Headquarters from Kudat to Sandakan (22 May 1883), and the trade mission to southern Philippines (17 July 1883).

DIARY NOTES†

1875

Jan 26. Met George⁸ at Oya.⁹ I was stationed at Sibul.

1877

Feb 16. Pomfret fishing. Letter to *Sarawak Gazette*.

May 5. On Board *H.M.S. "Moorhen"* in Kuching (Rigby, Slokro, Hope and Dr Patterson)*

July 8. At Tamoring's house. Balaga.¹⁰ after long trip from Bintulu—First European there.¹¹

July 11. Ordered chiefs to settle at Talagi.

July 17. Sunstroke up Maburong—antimony Hill.

June 16. Rajah, Ranee¹² and De Crespigny¹³ staying with me at Bintulu—execution by Kris morning of their departure.

Aug 1. Tisanbacker (German) comes to open up trade. “So difficult to get “upstairs” in this country”, meaning “to reach the interior”.

Aug 4. Lokir came to escort me to Kuching. Bad dysentery.

Aug 25. Resigned Sarawak Service.

Aug 31. To Singapore in *Rajah Brooke*.¹⁴

Sep 6. To England in *Mikado*.

1881

17 June. Left Waikouaiti.¹⁵

19 June. Sailed in “*Wakatipu*” from Port Chalmers.

22 June. Wellington.

27 June. Sydney.

2 July. Left in *Cutty Sark* for Shanghai.¹⁶

20 Aug. At Shanghai.

24 Aug. Left Shanghai in *Gleniffer*.

25 to 28 Aug. Typhoon.

29 Aug. Foochow.

11 Sep. Singapore.

6 Oct. Left Singapore in “*Cleator*” for Labuan.¹⁷

10 Oct. Labuan.

12 Oct. To Brunei.

13 Oct. Called on Sultan.

6 Dec. Visit to Brunei as “Interpreter” on French warship “*Kersaint*” Capt. Ronquette—Called on Sultan.

1882

Jan 1. Gave a breakfast party at “Hawkesbury” (Labuan) to Mrs. Treacher—Governor,¹⁸ Leys,¹⁹ Hamilton,²⁰ Witt,²¹ Cook,²² Father Jackson.²³

Jan 4. Left in “*Far East*” with Witt—for Papar.²⁴ Anchored at Bakungan for night.

Jan 5. Anchored at Gaya.²⁵

Jan 6. Arrived Abai.²⁶ I had tiffin in Witt’s Bungalow—Left in *Far East* at 4.

Jan 7. Arrived Kudat²⁷ 6 am and left at 5 pm.

Jan 8. Arrived at Sandakan²⁸ 5.30 pm.

Jan 11. Started in *Far East* for Sulu—at noon—Gale prevented getting past Bahalla²⁹—anchored for night.

Jan 12. Returned to Sandakan in ship’s boat.

Jan 18. Left in “*Royalist*” at 12 pm—with Governor.

Jan 19. Arrived Kudat at night.

Jan 21. Arrived Labuan 6 pm.

Feb 1. Lunched on board *HMS “Comus”*—in Labuan.

1883

22 March. Murder of Malanjang³⁰ at Bongon.³¹ He had accidentally shot Ah Kim’s wife (a native).³² Her relatives captured him. When I sent Sergeant Nahim with a warrant to bring him in for trial, they cut him up in front of Nahim.³³

27 March. Sent Foley³⁴ and Sikhs³⁵ to Bongon to arrest 6 murderers, after a fight Foley returned with 2 dead Sikhs.

1 April. I went to Bongon—to make enquiry.

2 April. Met S. Alun (Serif Alun),³⁶ who was under suspicion of having fired on Hatton³⁷—but no information to warrant arrest—afterwards found out he was friendly with the Bongon murderers (S. Alun was later on found guilty of harbouring the murderers and was banished for life, he was arrested on 9th July—tried and I took him to Singapore on August 6).³⁸

7 April. To Abai in *Sabine* hearing Tuaran was going to attack Kalawat—on account of a late murder.³⁹

8 April. Up Abai River. Datu Rajah Mullah's house—sent for O.K. Drarman of Kalawat.⁴⁰

10 April. To Tampasuk—Datu Rambangan⁴¹ not at home. Took depositions of a wounded man. Stayed at Tampasuk.

11 April. Walked back to Abai—breakfast at Fort Alfred⁴²—Found Datus⁴³ and 2 Dusuns awaiting me at Abai.

12 April. Cross to Mantanani Island.⁴⁴ Returned at 3 and held enquiry during afternoon.

13 April. Interview Datus and Dusuns—arranged day next week to meet Tuaran and Tingilan Dusuns. Slept on board launch.

14 April. Abai (4.30 am) to Kudat (1 pm) in *Sabine*⁴⁵—found small pox in Kudat.

18 April. Walked over Hakka settlement with Chinese.⁴⁶

21 April. Saw Frank Hatton's Diary—written up to 3.30 the day he accidentally shot himself—on the last page he had sketched a Flagstaff with the flag at half-mast.⁴⁷

25 April. Alfred Dent arrived at Kudat from Hong Kong in the S.S. "*Thales*".⁴⁸

26 April. Governor and Dent left for Sandakan in "*Thales*". Sent launch "*Mongelas*" [Sic. "*Montgelas*"] to Banguey⁴⁹ with Dalrymple⁵⁰—to show

land to Meyerinck and Fleming—for planting.
HMS "Fly" came in—Capt. Hope.

28 April. To 1st Point in "*Montgelas*" to start fishing on reported pearl shell bank—Capt Hope, Dr. Armstrong and Pritchard of *HMS "Fly"* came with me. Shells found at five fathoms—only one small pearl—very few shells.

30 April. *HMS "Fly"* left for Sandakan.

1 May. 4 am left in Launch for Sulaman—arrived 3.30 pm. anchored in 3 fathoms. Sent Abang Drahman on shore to see chiefs and arrange for my meeting them.

2 May. Met the Datus—but no Dusuns had arrived so I walked to small range of hills where tin had been reported. Found no trace. Went on to Ambong.

3 May. Back to Sulaman and met the Dusuns in the Datu's house. They will not accept a fine and are bent on fighting. Told them I should treat with the Sultan of Brunei in such case. Went back to Abai—Golam Hyder Khan⁵¹ in landing on beach, fell and broke stock of my gun.

7 May. To Mulaiangin⁵² in "*Sabine*" with Daly⁵³—who left me there for the night and went on to Sandakan.

8 May. "*Montgelas*" picked me up and took me back to Kudat where I found "*Royalist*" from Sandakan—Mr. Treacher and Bampfylde⁵⁴ on board. Latter going to Brunie.

10 May. To Simpang Mangaio in "*Montgelas*" to look for reported pearl shell bed. Found it in four fathoms about 2 miles the Kudat side of the Point. Took about a dozen shells—very good size—no pearls.

16 May. Went to Bengkoka⁵⁵ and examined coal boring—being done by Smith—spent evening reading Koran law with Haji Drahim.⁵⁶

21 May. To Bangka Bangka⁵⁷ with Governor and Harrison⁵⁸ who is looking for good planting land.

23 May. A black day for Kudat—which is given up as headquarters—Governor Mr. Treacher left at 10 in the "*Borneo*".⁵⁹

"*Marchesa*" yacht from Sandakan. Mr. & Mrs. Kettlewell, Duberley, Streeter, Meyerinck, Wickham, Powell, Guillemard and Hewett.

HMS "Fly" arrived from Sandakan—Capt Hope.

25 May. Went to Bongon in *HMS "Fly"*. Capt. Hope tells me he is deputed to go there with reference to the late disturbances. The "*Marchesa*" also came down the Bay. We made an imposing entry into the river with the boats from both ships—and Serib Shea⁶⁰ and his people were much impressed. Captain Hope was satisfied that the murder and disturbances arose from a private matter and not from any disaffection towards the Government. In returning, our boat took wrong channel and we were stuck on a mud flat for six hours of the night and nothing to eat or drink. I returned to Kudat in the "*Marchesa*".

26 May. Took a party from "*Marchesa*" on board "*Kimanis*" to Benkoka for a game drive—which provided 17 pigs—not one of which was killed.

27 May. Going up Benkoka river in "*Kimanis*" with Kettlewell, Streeter, Wickham, Dalrymple and Walker—landed in three places to shoot—No sport.

30 May. On Board "*Marchesa*". Watered ship at Labuan Karata. Landed at Simpang Mangaio for shooting. Saw one enormous Boar, missed it, numerous tracks of Tembadau⁶¹—nice site for house on North Point.

31 May. To Banguay—boated up very pretty river for some distance—lunched at Dusun village.

1 June. To Abai in "*Marchesa*". Took Skiff and Cutter up river to inspect salt works. Landed and walked to Datu Rajah Mudah's house—where we camped for night. Views of Kinabalu were taken by the photographer. (This photo as published in Guillemard's "*Cruise of the Marchesa*" and includes Kettlewell, Powell and Gueritz).*

2 June. Exploring up the Abai. Returned to ship.

3 June. Too rough to land. Took ship into Usukan Harbour. Landed there to look for supply of water—good supply but difficult of access for ships large boat.

4 June. To Abai—where I left the "*Marchesa*" which went on to Gaya. Whilst I met Datu Rajah Mudah and Haji Abdul Rahman—and settled a few cases which awaited hearing.

5 June. Explored hills at the back of Usukan Bay, got a touch of the sun.

6 June. Started for Kudat in Pakarangan but had to return after reaching the mouth of Tempassuk, owing to heavy sea.

7 to 9 June. Bad time, effects of sun.

10 June. Started for Gaya in Pn. Bantilan's boat—Head wind prevented our passing Ambong—so returned, started again at 8pm—got as far as Sulaman where a S.W. squall blew us back to Ambong.

11 June. Started at 7am for Kudat as S.W. wind was blowing and a high sea on. Boat leaking badly had to bale the whole time—wet through and could eat nothing. Off Tambuharan at dark the men begged to go in—which we did after a rough passage over the bar.

12 June. Started at 6—fresh wind—sighted "*Royalist*" and "*Banka*" and we rounded Simpang Mangaio saw *HMS "Magpie"* some two miles off—They must have seen us—for a flag was hoisted. I stood up in the boat—the "*Magpie*" altered course a little and picked me up—Governor Treacher was on board and told me the "*Marchesa*" had reported leaving me at Abai—The "*Magpie*" had called there and heard I had left on a small boat—and that I had been ill. Arrived Kudat when we found *HMS Champion*. Capt. Pasley. Commander of "*Magpie*" was Capt. Verreker.

21 June. Elected captain of first Cricket Club in N. Borneo.

8 July. Started in the "*Kimanis*" at 7 am for Bongon with De Fontaine, Walker, 16 Sikhs, 4 Somalis, 5 boatmen, and went up river in two gigs. Neither Seribs Ali, or Shea were at home. Sent off a letter to Datu Alun⁶² who I hear had been harbouring the rebels—in the late fight at Bongon—Slept in S. Shea's house.

9 July. Back to the "*Kimanis*" and then to Tertipan, to enquire into a reported murder. To my surprise, Serib Alun arrived at 1 pm in a small boat. He was invited into the cabin—and sat down next to me—at the table—De Fontaine⁶³ and Walker⁶⁴ being at the opposite side. The clerk drew his attention to his Kris⁶⁵—which he was wearing with uncovered hilt, and told him to take it off. He turned to me and asked what would happen if he did not take it off. I said I hadn't thought of such a contingency, as of course he would respect the "adat"⁶⁶ and remove it—He then unfastened it, and placed it on the table at his right hand with hilt towards him, saying "sahya taroh sini"⁶⁷. I stretched across him and taking up the Kris—put it at my left hand saying "Lebih baik taroh sini"⁶⁸. I then told him it was reported he had been harbouring the Bongon outlaws—and that he would be taken to Kudat for an enquiry. We then called at S. Trusan for Serib Shih and returned to Kudat.

10 July. Busy all day with trial of Serib Alun—who was sentenced to banishment for life.

16 July. Started at 5 pm on "Royalist" for Balabac and Palawan⁶⁹ being seedy—having been bitten by my dog. Cowie⁷⁰ on board.

17 July. Arrived Balabac 6am. Called on Governor—The Harbour⁷¹ is 3 miles by 2 1/2. Anchored 1/4 mile from shore in 3 1/2 fathoms—Harbour is open to NE. Town is in hollow—surrounding hills have gentle slope up 1,000 feet—about 20 houses only—Citadel on South side—at 100 feet—small fort behind town—cocoanut groves. No signs of life or trade—30 European (Spanish) 2 companies of marines who are convicts—Guard ship. Governor was lately commandant of marines in Sulu—No duties in Balabac but English ships cannot trade unless they first get a permit from Sambawas [Zamboanga?] in the Phillipines⁷² [Philippines]. Very fine grazing ground and cattle. Chin Ting (Cowie's partner) made a contract to supply 50 head of cattle per month,⁷³ for 5,000 piculs of rattans a year. Large local manufacture of rattan mats only two Chinese resident traders, who make \$10,000 a year, each.

[Pencil Sketch of the settlement on Balabac, with Mount Sembano in background]

18 July. Left Balabac. 5.30 am. Reached Kalasian Bay, south of Washington Point. Palawan⁷⁴ at 3 pm—Shoals and small islands the whole way. Harbour very exposed to S.W. Anchored 1/2 mile from shore in 3 fathoms—Found that the "Vigilant" had been here and had gone on to Nakoda Harbour.

Sent Abang Drahman ashore to expatiate on Kudat, and to say that the duty charged there on rattan from Palawan, had been cancelled.⁷⁵

[Pencil sketch of the village of Datus Aroum⁷⁶ and Kassim⁷⁷ with Mount Penalingahan, 6,000ft in background, at Kalasian Bay, Palawan Island]

20 July. Left Kalusian Bay—12 noon—arrived Eran Bay 4.30. Eran Bay protected from S. winds but quite open to North.

21/23 July. Visited Kinalogan.

24 July. at Eran Bay.

25 July. at Kalusian Bay.

27 July. Arrived Kudat.

28 July. At Kudat. The "Aline" came in but did not anchor. I went on board and had a short talk with Rajah Brooke—before they went on. De Crespigny and Low were on board.

4 Aug. Left Kudat in "Royalist". Bound for Singapore with the banished S. Alun, the Governor having decided that I shall see the Serib safely out of N. Borneo.

6 Aug. Left Labuan in "Hong Ann" for Singapore.

9 Aug. Arrived Singapore. During voyage, S. Alun asked me if he could return to Borneo after a time. I told him it would not be allowed because of his intrigues against the Gov't. I asked him why he had come down in reply to my message to him—He said "It was fate".

10 Aug. Handed over S. Alun to the Agents—who are arranging a passage to Mecca, whence he wishes to go. He made his will in the office, I signed as witness. On my leaving him, he shook hands, said he had no bad feeling against the Gov't. He had opposed but the Gov't had won. (S. Alun died during the voyage to Mecca)*

1 Sept. At Kudat. Rec'd Capt. Beeston⁷⁸ from Australia to prospect for land.

4 Sept. Left Kudat with Reece, Beeston and Riman for Sugut, but anchored off Muliangin.⁷⁹

5 Sept. Anchored at Tigapil.⁸⁰

6 Sept. Entered Sugut (Sisip)⁸¹. Took launch through Trusan⁸²—a tight squeeze—passed Pantai Buling⁸³ and anchored 20 miles up.⁸⁴

7 Sept. Passed Batu Tumangong. anchored at 5.15.

8 Sept. Started at 6.30 in two Pakarangans. Arrived Papan in afternoon and camped on bank.

9 Sept. Explored hills back of Papan—camped on bank.

10 Sept. Back to launch and down river—examining soil at intervals. Went aground at 3 pm and off at 2 am.

11 Sept. Arr'd Sisip. Stuck on bar from 6 pm till 1.30 am then anchored at 3 fathoms.

12 Sept. Started 5am. went up Paitan. Till sundown when a high rock stopped us. Met Pakasa Maharajah Indah and 30 boats.

13 Sept. On at 6. Got past rock and anchored at mouth took to boats and went on to Gumpit. Returned down river.

14 Sept. Down the Paitan. Got ashore in Straits and anchored off Semanddal.

15 Sept. Cutting firewood for launch. skating through Straits. Continually grounding in 5 1/2 feet. Anchored in Straits for night.

16 Sept. To Mallawalee Island for more firewood. Then on to Muliangin and anchored.

17 Sept. Tried to get to Banguay. Sea too strong but eventually got there in boat and walked along shore and slept at a Bajau house at [Pemiano?].

18 Sept. Went up Penkalan⁸⁵ river and explored. Slept at the mouth.

19 Sept. Reached launch and returned to Kudat.

20 Sept. Started at 5. To Morasinsing.⁸⁶ Explored inland and then upriver to Dusun village. Steamed to Binkan-Binkan and anchored.

21 Sept. To Benkoka and up to Silat in launch.⁸⁷ getting past the built boulder bar. North on to Belangah in boats. Slept there.

22 Sept. Paddled 6 miles upriver and passed the haunted Batu Momaton—examined soil.

23 Sept. Returned to Silat.

24 Sept. Down river and anchored at mouth.

25 Sept. Over Benkoka bar and found "*Vigilant*" in distress—Round Simpang Mangaio a fearful sea. Had to put back and anchored at Labuan Karata.

26 Sept. Returned to Kudat.

27 Sept. Left Kudat for Abai—went on all night keeping alternate watch with Beeston.

28 Sept. Over Abai Bar at 7.30 am, Walked over range to Kota.

29 Sept. Walked to Pandassan—put up in Datu Si Rajah Mudah Indajaya's house. He gave me a kempilan.

30 Sept. Went up Pandassan River and explored a plain. Rode to Tampassuk river on Buffalao.

1 Oct. Back to Abai-Out over bar—but sea too rough to proceed—anchored in Usukan Bay.

2 Oct. Started 5 am and went on to Gaya.

4 Oct. Left Gaya at 5 am reached Kudat 8.30 pm.

11 Oct. De Fontaine left Kudat in "*Kimanis*" to attack the rebels at Kimanis.

22 Oct. Kudat. Letter from Governor Treacher—saying he will take me to England. Paying my passage as his P. Sec'y. "*Sri Passair*" Capt. Chippendell was towed in by "*Banca*". She is for pearl fishing (112 tons).

23 Oct. Went over to Benkoka in "*Kimanis*" with Von Donop⁸⁸ and Purdon⁸⁹.

27 Oct. at Kudat. Letter from Governor Treacher who hopes I will stay through 1884.

6 Nov. To Pandassan where to my surprise the Datu gave a salute of 13 guns. Fine shooting, deer stalking on grassy hills. Saw 12. Shot 3. Rode back on buffaloe. Slept at Datu's house.

7 Nov. Held court at Pandassan and left for Kudat. Where I found *HMS "Fly"*.

8 Nov. Sir Walter Medhurst⁹⁰ arrived in "*Thales*" from Hong Kong.

27 Dec. Kudat. Won sailing match in Cutter. Cricket afternoon.

During 1883. W.C. Cowie floated a private Syndicate for a Patent Propeller. I took one share of \$ 100 on Oct. 21. (it failed)*.

1884

18 Jan. Left N. Borneo on retirement.⁹¹ *SS Borneo* for Singapore.

10 March. Called at the N. Borneo office—Crocker⁹² tells me a telegram had been sent to Treacher, telling him to cancel my retirement.

17 March. N. Borneo Company gave me £75 as compensation for want of longer notice.

1885 (Notes from Jelebu Diaries)

1 Jan. H. O'Brian. Resident S. Ujong⁹³ offers me appointment in S. Ujong pending the taking over of Jelebu. Advises me first to go to Perak where Swettenham may have a better appointment to offer.

6 Jan. At Kuala Kangsa. Swettenham advises me to accept S. Ujong appointment. Met Martin Lister and Hugh Clifford.⁹⁴

12 Jan. Arrived in Sungei Ujong.

13 Jan. Commenced work in Land Office.⁹⁵

11–12 Feb. First visit to Jelebu. Slept at Ulu Kalawang. In the morning received letter from O'Brien reporting death of my brother George in Sarawak. Gave me leave to go to Sarawak.

2–13 March. arrived Sarawak—dealt with George's effects. Returned to S. Ujong on March 13.

31 May. Walked to Jelebu (21 Miles) and took up residence at Kuala Kalawang. The house has no walls yet.

10 July. Hoisted Union Jack in Jelebu.

NOTES

¹ "Diary Notes", 11–12 February 1885.

² John Dill Ross, *Sixty Years: Life and Adventure in the Far East, Vol. I*, London: Hutchinson & Co., 1911, p. 172. In the book, Gueritz's name is given as Gritz, while that of Governor William Hood Treacher is William Hood.

³ "E. P. Gueritz to Sir Neill Malcolm", nd. (Most likely to be a week before 9 March 1933), *CO 874/663*. Owen Rutter, who was a trusted friend of Gueritz, and the man to whom Gueritz had possibly bequeathed his documents, had published a book entitled, *British*

North Borneo: An Account of its History, Resources and Native Tribes, London: Constable, 1922, as well as several other books relating to Sabah and Borneo.

⁴ The Diary Notes entries for 1883 are divided into two parts. The first with entries from 22nd March to 1st September, and the second part started with the 4th September to 27th December. The second part was recopied by Gueritz after the 1885 entries.

⁵ "Diaries of William Pryer", *CO 874/67, 68 & 69*.

⁶ "Diaries of W. Pretyman", *CO 874/70, 71 & 72*; also published as Tom Harrison (ed.), "The Diary of Mr. W. Pretyman, First Resident of Tempassuk, North Borneo", *Sarawak Museum Journal*, Vol. VII, December 1956.

⁷ "Diaries of A. H. Everett", *CO 874/ 73*.

†Due to Gueritz's difficult handwriting, some words are illegible and they are marked with [?].

⁸ George Gueritz, the eldest brother of EPG who had joined the Sarawak Service in 1870. He was later Resident for Baram where he died in February 1885.

⁹ A small town at the mouth of River Oya, in the Third Division of Sarawak.

* Gueritz's pencil notes at the margin of the page.

¹⁰ Balaga in upper Rejang, also in the Third Division.

¹¹ This trip would have taken Gueritz upstream on the River Bintulu before crossing overland to reach the River Balaga. Gueritz seemed to have a tendency for making claims of being the first European to have arrived at some places. In 1931, Gueritz claimed that he was the first European to find that Jambongan was an island and the first European to have navigated the strait between Jambongan Island and the mainland. As the strait was unnamed at that time, he suggested to the North Borneo Company Court of Directors to name the strait after his name. See "Minutes of the Managing Director of North Borneo Company", 21 August 1931, *CO 874/633*. Today, the strait remains unnamed.

- ¹² Rajah Charles Brooke and his wife Margaret.
- ¹³ C.C. de Crespigny was the Resident of Baram in the 4th Division.
- ¹⁴ During his retirement, Gueritz compiled a list of ship voyages undertaken by him, complete with name of ship, date and weight (tonnage) of the ship. See "The Peregrinations of Edward Peregrine Gueritz, 1874-1914", see **CO874/663**.
- ¹⁵ After he resigned from the Sarawak service, Gueritz was in New Zealand from 1878 to 1881, working for the Bank of New Zealand.
- ¹⁶ Gueritz was very proud about this journey on the "Cutty Sark"; he wrote an article during his retirement, and had it published in *Lake's Falmouth Packet, Cornwall Advertiser*. See "Cutty Sark's Only Passenger", **CO874/663**.
- ¹⁷ This time, Gueritz returned to Borneo as agent for one Captain John Dill Ross, the captain of the "Cleator", the only regular steamship for Sabah. Ross was also known as the man who "carried most of Labuan's trade with Singapore...". Nicholas Tarling, *Sulu and Sabah*, Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press, 1978, p. 137; see also Frank Hatton, *North Borneo: Exploration and Adventures on the Equator*, London: Sampson Low, Marson, Searle & Rivington, 1885, p. 71.
- ¹⁸ William Hood Treacher was the former colonial secretary at Labuan. He was appointed the first Governor of Sabah in 1881, and arrived on 7 August 1881 at Labuan which became his first headquarters. Treacher was responsible for laying the foundation of the North Borneo administration in Sabah, and was instrumental in obtaining more land concessions from the Brunei Sultanate during his tenure, which lasted until April 1887.
- ¹⁹ H.E. Peter Leys was described as "Governor of Labuan" in the Sarawak Gazette, quoted in BNB Herald 1/3/1883 page 9. In Herald/Gazette 1/6/1883 page 7, he is called "Administrator".
- ²⁰ The Honourable A. Hamilton was member of the executive Council, police general-in-chief, and harbour master of Labuan. He was formerly a Lieutenant Commander in the Royal Navy, see Maxwell Hall, *Labuan Story, Memoir of a Small Island*, Jesselton: Chung Nam Printing Company, 1955, p. 234.

- ²¹ F. Xavier Wittl was a Austrian-Hungarian who was engaged by the North Borneo Company as its first mineral geologist. He served from 1880 to 1882. He was killed by the Muruts and his head was severed. For many years, his missing head became the source of interest among North Borneo Company officials including Gueritz. Gueritz had also collected a lot of information on Wittl, including some pages of the latter's travelling journals: 1) *Diary of F. Wittl, esq., Marudu Bay to Papar Via Sandakan, 4th November to 5th December 1880*, 23 pp. 2) *Diary of F. Wittl, 13 May to 17 June 1881*. 3) *Wittl's Journal, Journey from Kimanis to Nabai, 9 March to 28 March 1882*. All in "Papers relating to British North Borneo, Vol. IV", *British North Borneo Papers, Handlists MS 283792 (Library of the School of Oriental & African Studies, University of London)*, Vol. 14.
- ²² Alexander Cook was the first and longest serving Treasurer general of the North Borneo Company in Sabah. He first joined the Company as an auditor before he was appointed Treasurer General in 1882. Throughout his service in Sabah which lasted until 1908, he was stationed in Sandakan, and was the officer-in-charge of Sandakan when Mat Salleh came to Sandakan in August 1895. One of Cook's important works is *Notes on the Timbers of British North Borneo*, Sandakan: Government Printer, 1885. It is agreed that Gueritz and Cook did not get on very well, as evident from the many hostile exchanges in their correspondence.
- ²³ Monseignor Thomas Jackson was the first English Catholic priest in Sabah. He was a member of the Mill Hill (St. Joseph) Mission in London. He succeeded Father Don Cuarteron, the Spanish Bishop as the Prefect Apostolic of Labuan and Borneo. Before arriving in Labuan in August 1881, he was with the Madras Mission, and saw action in the Afghan Wars as a military chaplain where he was mentioned in dispatches for brave conduct. See John Rooney, *Khabar Gembira: A History of the Catholic Church in East Malaysia and Brunei, 1880-1976*, London: Burns & Oates Ltd., 1981, pp. 26-27. In one of his letters to his family, Frank Hatton made an uncanny remark about Monseignor Jackson, "A Catholic Priest came from Afghanistan to convert the natives, which he will never do". See Frank Hatton, *North Borneo*, p. 71.
- ²⁴ Papar was the first station established by the North Borneo Company on the West Coast in 1878. The first Resident was A. Harold Everett. For a description of Papar and its vicinity, see "Diary of A. H. Everitt", **CO 874/73**. Papar lost its importance after the establishment of Beaufort and Jesselton in 1897.

²⁵ At the time of Gueritz's visit to Gaya, the North Borneo Company had just started its station at Gaya, which served as the collecting centre for the West Coast. It was on Gaya that the original township for the west coast was started in 1883 before it was burnt down by Mat Salleh in July 1897. The island never regained its pre-1897 importance, and a new site was found opposite the island, and named Jesselton [present day Kota Kinabalu].

²⁶ For many years between 1878 and 1900s, Abai and Ambong on the Northwest coast of Sabah were part of the shipping network of the North Borneo Company on the West Coast, along with Gaya, Papar and Kimanis in the Southwest direction. The two places were also the main landing ports for trans-East-West land traffic, corresponding with the Sugut River as the entry-point from the East Coast. During the Mat Salleh rebellion, this route was used by both Mat Salleh and the Company officials who were in pursuit of him as the shortest possible overland route.

²⁷ At this time, Kudat was the seat of the North Borneo Company. The North Borneo Company's headquarters was moved to Sandakan in 1883. Since then, Kudat did not flourish beyond a small township. Gueritz was the first resident for Kudat, and remained so until 1884. Gueritz was retrenched in the first part of 1884 as part of a cost-saving programme implemented by Governor Treacher.

²⁸ Sandakan was the main port in Sabah until the Second World War. At this time, it was administered by William Pryer, the first resident appointed by the North Borneo Company, who named the place Elopura. The township had grown from a fishing village to that of a commerce town, and earned the name of 'Little Hong Kong'. For the early history of Sandakan, See Supriya Bhar, "Sandakan, From Gun Running Village to Timber Centre 1879-1979", *Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society (JMBRAS)*, Vol. 53, Part 1, 1980.

²⁹ Bahalla Island is the main island situated at the mouth of Sandakan Bay. It was first used as a processing depot for prospective immigrants into Sandakan from late 1880s to 1900s. After that, it was converted into an asylum colony for lepers. At the beginning of the Japanese occupation, the island was used as a temporary internment camp for the European civilians by the Japanese Army, before they were transferred to the main POW camp in Batu Lintang, Kuching.

³⁰ The real name of the deceased was Li Sing, a Chinese trader who probably originated from Labuan. He had two indigenous wives, and was commonly called by the Bajaus in Bongon as Malanjang. See "Stair Elphinstone Dalrymple to E.P. Gueritz", 27 March 1883, *CO 874/234*.

³¹ A place near Kota Marudu, on the Bongon River.

³² It was common to find Chinese married to indigenous women at that time. Due to the fact that very few Chinese women actually travelled out of China, many Chinese men took indigenous women as their wives. Spencer St. John who travelled in the Southwest of Sabah in 1860 recounted some reports from Chinese petty traders of encounters with Bisayas and Muruts of Kalias, Padas, Membakut and Putatan who claimed to be descendants of Chinese and who could speak fluent Chinese (most likely to be Hokkien). See Spencer St. John, *Life in the Forests of the Far East: Travels in Sabah and Sarawak in the 1860s, Vol. II*, Singapore: Oxford University Press, 1986, p. 311. One of the earliest reports on Putatan by S. Elphinstone Dalrymple in 1884, mentioned the existence of 80 to 100 Chinese settled in the vicinity of Putatan, the bulk of them being the descendants of former Chinese settlers, who had intermarried with Dusuns and showed evidence of mixed blood. See S. Elphinstone Dalrymple, "The Tawaran and Putatan Rivers", *Journal of the Straits Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society* (hereafter *JSBRAS*), No. 13, June 1884, p. 270. Nonetheless, in this case mentioned by Gueritz, the woman was not the wife of Ah Kim, instead, she was Utu, the Dusun wife of Sherif Jantan who was also known as Si Injan. There was another Chinese trader in Bongon at that time, he was Si Pit who was a British subject from Labuan. See "Gueritz, Assistant Resident in-Charge of Kudat to Governor Treacher", 22 March 1883, *CO 874/234*.

³³ Nahim, or Sergeant Nahim of the Armed Constabulary who was of Malay origin, see "Governor Treacher to Chairman", 24 March 1883, *CO 874/234*. Gueritz's diary account is slightly different from the official reports, including one made by Gueritz himself in 1883. See also Ian Black, *A Gambling Style of Government*, p. 79.

³⁴ W.F. Foley was the chief Inspector of Police on the West Coast.

³⁵ The North Borneo Company's first police force (Armed Constabulary) was made up of foreigners of diverse background. In 1883, the police force was composed of three European officers, 50 Sikhs, 50 Somalis,

20 Malays and 30 Dayaks (Ibans). The origin of the Somalis however, remains a question to be explored. They were recruited by A.M. Harington in Bengal in January 1882. See Ian Black, *A Gambling Style of Government*, p. 53.

³⁶ Serib or Sharif or Serif or Sherif, was an honorific title. Among muslims, it carries the religious connotation of being a descendant of the Prophet Muhammad, through the line of Ali, the Caliphe. Ian Black gave the Sherif's name as Sherif Alam instead of Sherif Alun as given in the official correspondence and reports, Ian Black, *Ibid.*, p. 75.

³⁷ Frank Hatton, the North Borneo Company's first Scientific Explorer, who started working for the Company in 1881. Hatton's journal and letters were published posthumously by his father, see Frank Hatton, *North Borneo*.

³⁸ According to Black, Serif Alun, who was a paid government chief was also suspected of encouraging resistance to the Company. After the murder, he was later reported to have crossed the Bongon River and was sheltering one of the two murderers of the Chinese. See Ian Black, *A Gambling Style of Government*, p. 75. Treacher gave a brief description of Serif Alun, "This Sherif Alun is the man who not long ago went to Cagayan Sulu to raise men to resist the Government", see "Treacher to Chairman", 6 April 1883, *CO 874/234*.

³⁹ This was probably due to the fact that Utu, the deceased woman, was a Dusun.

⁴⁰ It is not clear if this O. K. (Orang Kaya) Drarman was the same Drahrman, the mandore (supervisor) in the employment of Frank Hatton. See Frank Hatton, *North Borneo*, pp. 105 & 191. But it is most likely that both Datu Rajah Mullah and O. K. Drarman were two of the seven unnamed chiefs from Tempassuk who received a government allowance, see William Treacher, *British North Borneo Report by Governor Treacher from 1 July to 31 December 1882*, Kudat: Government Printing, 29 March 1883.

⁴¹ One of the Company's seven chiefs in Tempassuk.

⁴² Fort Alfred was the station at Abai established by William Pretyman, the first Resident of Tempassuk, named after Alfred Dent.

⁴³ Datu is an honorific hereditary title which accorded a person the

position of a chieftain. Commonly used among the Sulus or Bajaus, a legacy of the Sulu Sultanate.

⁴⁴ There are two islands called Mantannani, namely, Mantannani Besar and Mantannani Kecil. It is not clear which of the two that Gueritz had visited here.

⁴⁵ The "Sabine" was one of the North Borneo Company's launches during the early years of 1880s to 1890s.

⁴⁶ The first Hakka settlement was situated just outside of Kudat township at a place named by the Hakkas as Lawson (old hill or settlement). The Hakkas of this settlement were mainly Christians who came down via the Medhurst Immigration Scheme, for detailed information, see Danny Wong Tze-Ken, *The Transformation of an Immigrant Society: A Study of the Chinese of Sabah*, London: Asean Academic Press, 1998, pp. 18-20.

⁴⁷ Frank Hatton accidentally shot himself on 1 March 1883 at Sugoon Jukol, which is 60 miles up the Segama River and 160 miles from Sandakan. The drawing mentioned here appears on page 75 of Hatton's book. Gueritz's collected a substantial number of documents pertaining to Frank Hatton. These documents which including manuscript of diaries, photographs, mimogram, sketches by Frank which appeared in the book. All these were collected by Joseph Hatton, Frank's father during the preparation of the book on Frank Hatton. See "British North Borneo Papers", *Handlists, MS 283792*, Vol. 15. For a more recent study on Hatton, see Anne Tagge, "Hatton's Folly: Assaulting 'This Eden of the Eastern Wave'", *JMBRAS*, Vol. LXX, Part 1, 1997, pp. 111-123.

⁴⁸ According to Tregonning, Dent had came out to Sabah to prevent Governor Treacher from over spending the British North Borneo Company's limited funds, K.G. Tregonning, *A History of Modern Sabah 1881-1963*, Singapore: University of Malaya Press, 1965, p. 50.

⁴⁹ The largest island in Sabah, situated on the northern part of Kudat, adjacent to Balambangan Island.

⁵⁰ S. E. Dalrymple was a cadet in the North Borneo Company service. He was acting as magistrate in the enquiries on the death of Malanjang.

⁵¹ One of the policemen, probably of Pathan origin.

- ⁵² Possibly the same Merugin in Paitan and Sugut region mentioned by Black. See Ian Black, *A Gambling Style of Government*, p. 74.
- ⁵³ D.D. Daly came to Sabah as Alfred Dent's secretary, when the latter visited Sabah. Prior to joining the Company's service, Daly had served in the Straits Settlement for seven years, and could speak Malay fluently. Among the most experienced officials during the early days of the North Borneo Company rule, Daly died of malaria in 1889, see Black, *A Gambling Style of Government*, pp. 45–46.
- ⁵⁴ C.A. Bampfylde was formerly in the Sarawak service, joined the Company for a few years before he resigned and returned to the Sarawak service.
- ⁵⁵ On the Bengkoka Peninsula in the northern tip of Sabah, opposite the Kudat peninsula.
- ⁵⁶ Haji Drahim or Haji Durahim of Bengkoka was a well-trusted chief who was from Labuk-Sugut Rivers, Telaga, but had settled in Bengkoka for many years, see "Gueritz to Treacher", 24 March 1883, *CO 874/234*. In one of his reports to the Company Chairman, Treacher gives a brief description of the Haji. According to Treacher, Haji Drahim was "of great service to the Company...a reformed pirate and has in the good old times made excursions to Manila, Maccasar, Ternati and Borneo ports", "Treacher to Chairman", 6 April 1883, *CO 874/234*.
- ⁵⁷ Present day Pingan Pingan on the Bengkoka peninsula.
- ⁵⁸ Most likely to be G.L. Harrison, formerly of Deli Maatscappij and Langkat. His venture in Kudat was called, Singora Planting Syndicate. See *British North Borneo Herald* (Hereafter *BNBH*), 1 June 1896.
- ⁵⁹ Kudat was Treacher's second headquarters after Labuan. Treacher had great hopes of turning the place into a major town in Sabah and Capital, given the place's centrality between east and west Sabah. But the place never took off, and Treacher was compelled to move to Sandakan, which was already thriving. See K. G. Tregonning, *A History of Modern Sabah*, p. 49 & Ian Black, *A Gambling Style of Government*, p. 37. Ross who met both Treacher and Sir Walter Medhurst suggested that it was Medhurst who had championed Kudat as the capital, while Treacher was more keen on having Sandakan as the seat of Government, John Ross, *Sixty Years*, pp. 191–192.

- ⁶⁰ Sherif Shih, the principal Company chief from Bengkoka who received an allowance of \$ 30 per month, "Treacher to Chairman", 30 March 1883, *CO 874/234*.
- ⁶¹ Tembadau, or Banteng, *Bos javanicus*, the largest species of wild buffalo in the Borneo region, commonly found in eastern Sabah. Before 1940s, the species was also sighted in areas of shifting cultivation on the west and north of Sabah. Main distribution area include Sugut River, Segama River, Kinabatangan River, and Upper Padas River. See Junaidi Payne, Charles M. Francis & Karen Philipps, *A Field Guide to the Mammals of Borneo*. The Sabah Society, Kota Kinabalu & World Wildlife Fund Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, 1995, pp. 300–301.
- *Gueritz's note dated 8 January 1933.
- ⁶² Here Gueritz refer to Serib Alun as a Datu Alun.
- ⁶³ Inspector De Fontaine, the Commandant of Police who was killed in Kawang in 1885.
- ⁶⁴ Henry Walker, the long serving Land Commissioner who was at that time the Clerk of Works and Survey.
- ⁶⁵ Malay dagger.
- ⁶⁶ Customs or tradition.
- ⁶⁷ Translated as "I will put it here".
- ⁶⁸ Translated as "It is better to put it here".
- ⁶⁹ Gueritz's trip on the "Royalist" to Balabac and Palawan was probably prompted by the incident where in that same year, some Chinese traders of Labuan who had chartered the "Royalist" to trade in Balabac were denied permission by the Spanish authority there for direct trade. They were told to go to Zamboanga for permission. This brought about complaints from Peter Leys, the administrator of Labuan to the Foreign Office and the Spanish authority. Thus, Gueritz's trip was probably an effort by the North Borneo Company to smoothen things out. Also at that time, the status of both Palawan and Balabac was still questioned by Treacher, the first Governor of Sabah under North Borneo Company. See Nicholas Tarling, *Sulu and Sabah*, pp. 260–263.

⁷⁰ William Clarke Cowie was elected a director of the British North Borneo Company in 1894, and was appointed Managing Director in 1897 (Ref. B.N.B. Herald 1910, page 170, Cowie Obituary). He was an independent trader who had been conducting various trades in the vicinity of Sabah and Sulu. First employed at the Labuan Trading Company, he later ventured into gun smuggling into Sulu, which was blockaded by the Spanish navy. Initially, Cowie was trying to purchase the North Borneo concession from J.W. Torrey, who had obtained the concession from the Sultan of Sulu. For a brief study on Cowie, see Colin Crisswell, "W. C. Cowie and the British North Borneo Company", *Sarawak Museum Journal*, Vol. XXIV, No. 45 (New Series), June–December 1976, pp. 299–314.

⁷¹ The harbour, Port Alfonso was open only for the discharge of coals.

⁷² The manner in which Gueritz wrote this entry seemed to suggest his consciousness of the ambiguous or contested position of Balabac and Palawan.

⁷³ Sabah continued to import cattle from southern Philippines including Balabac for many years.

⁷⁴ Kalasian Bay, or present day Culasian Bay, at the south west of Palawan Island.

⁷⁵ Gueritz did not manage to establish direct trade arrangement with Balabac.

⁷⁶ Datu Aroum was probably the same Datu Harun of Sulu. He was a Sulu of royal rank and had been residing at the southern part of Palawan for some years. He was considered as pro-Spanish, and was the latter's nominee to be the Sultan of Sulu. In 1886, Harun became the Sultan of Sulu, but his authority, which depended on Spanish support, was contested by the Sulu nobles. He abdicated in 1894 in the face of strong opposition. See Nicholas Tarling, *Sulu and Sabah*, pp. 263–269, 288. Gueritz seemed to spell things quite differently, as in the case of Serib Alam which he spelled as Serib Alun.

⁷⁷ Datu Kassim was the principal noble in the southern part of Palawan. He was reported to be of Sulu and Palawan parentage. See Nicholas Tarling, *Sulu and Sabah*, p. 263.

*Gueritz's pencil note.

⁷⁸ Captain Robert Dudley Beeston was a former soldier in the Bengal Army from 1857 to 1873. He arrived in Sabah in 1883 and returned in 1885 to report on the mineral deposits of the territory. In August 1886, Captain Beeston entered the North Borneo Company service as Chief Inspector of Constabulary, replacing J. Smith who had died. Beeston passed away in March 1895. Alexander Cook was his son-in-law, *BNBH*, 1 April 1895.

⁷⁹ The Island of Molleangan now. There are two of them, namely, Molleangan Besar and Molleangan Kecil. The latter is a cluster of islands.

⁸⁰ The island of Tegipil off the mouth of Sugut River.

⁸¹ The River Sisip, one of the tributaries of the Sugut at the mouth of the Sugut River.

⁸² Trusan, a settlement at the first major bend of the River Sugut.

⁸³ About 20 miles from the mouth of the Sugut River.

⁸⁴ Gueritz's report on this trip is found in *CO 874/235*.

⁸⁵ Pankalan River, on the mid-western part of Banguay Island, facing Balambangan Island.

⁸⁶ Present day Marasim on the western part of the Bengkoka Peninsular.

⁸⁷ Kusilad, about six miles up River Bengkoka.

⁸⁸ L. B. Von Donop was the first Superintendent of Agriculture for Sabah. He was instrumental in the establishment of the experimental stations at Labuk Road, Sandakan.

⁸⁹ This was J. M. Purdon who was the assistant surveyor. A brief description of the positions of the Company's officials for 1883 is given in Governor Treacher's report entitled, "List of Europeans, Eurasians and Others in the Employment of the North Borneo Company, Whose Salaries are Above \$50 a Month During the Quarter Ending 31 March 1883", *CO 874/234*.

⁹⁰ Sir Walter Medhurst (1822–1885), joined the Office of the British Superintendence of Trade in China in the 1840s as a clerk. Prior to

that, he was a part of the London Missionary Society establishment in Singapore. For many years an interpreter to the English Government and also Consul General at Shanghai until 1877 when he received a knighthood. He was appointed Immigration Commissioner of British North Borneo in 1882, see Danny Wong Tze-Ken, *The Transformation of an Immigrant Society*, n 8, p. 47.

⁹¹ Gueritz was laid-off in one of the North Borneo Company's efforts to cut cost. Ironically, that same year, Gueritz had written a paper on British North Borneo that was being read on his behalf by J.S. O'Halloran, Secretary of the Royal Colonial Institute at the Montreal Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science (29 August 1884). It was subsequently published in *JSBRAS*, No. 14, December 1884, pp. 323–335.

*Pencil Note.

⁹² William Crocker, the Accountant of the North Borneo Company in the Headquarters. He was sent out to act as governor after Treacher's departure in 1887.

⁹³ Gueritz's appointment as Collector for Jelebu was announced by H. A. O'Brian, the Resident of Sungei Ujong in the Journal of the Straits Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. See "Jelebu", *JSBRAS*, No. 14, December 1884, p. 343.

⁹⁴ Sir Hugh Clifford later became the Governor of Sabah for 1900 to 1901.

⁹⁵ Gueritz was appointed Collector.

For the record, the editors would like to thank Mr. K.P. Tabrett for his assistance in the editing of this article. Mr. K.P. Tabrett—Resident in Sabah since 1948, he pursues private and independent research into Sabah history, specialising in Chartered Company medals, honours and awards (1883–1941), Colonial medals and honours (1945–1963) and British North Borneo names (1883–1963). He is happy to correspond, supply and exchange information in those areas with interested parties.

Some Interesting Late Pleistocene-Early Holocene Finds from Excavations in Balambangan Island, Sabah, Malaysia

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INTRODUCTION

There are not many palaeolithic sites in the island of Borneo and thus far, they have all been found in the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak. The Niah caves (Sarawak) and Tingkayu, Madai (Sabah) are among the well-known Palaeolithic sites in Borneo, first studied by the Harrissons in the 1950's and later by Zuraina in the 1970's and Bellwood in the 80's. Among the issues and problems were cultural chronology and periodisation, lithic typology, and cultural movements and influences, of sites that ranged from about 35,000 years ago to about 10,000 years ago. These are issues and problems not only relevant to Sabah, but also to Malaysian archaeology. In order to contribute towards solving some of these outstanding issues and problems, the Centre for Archaeological Research Malaysia at the University