

South-East Asia from Colonialism to Independence

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KUALA LUMPUR SINGAPORE JAKARTA HONG KONG TOKYO

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Preface

The present volume deals with the process of decolonization in South-East Asia. As its starting-point 1940 has been chosen, the year Japan entered the area and also the first year of the most decisive period in South-East Asia's development from foreign rule to national emancipation. The book ends with the termination of traditional Western colonial domination.

The latter may seem quite an unwieldy criterion, since it entails breaking off the story on various dates, ranging from 4 July 1946 for the Philippines to 3 July 1959 for Singapore. As the struggle for political freedom constitutes the main theme of this book, it is reasonable, however, not to proceed beyond these limits.

There are a few exceptions to the general rules set by the subject theme and the chronological scheme. One is that several events are not discussed in any great detail when, by their nature, they belong to the next period rather than to the one in which they were taking place. On the other hand the story of political decolonization is not dealt with until its conclusion, that is: 1963 for British Borneo, 1963 or 1965 for Singapore, let alone the year *x* for Brunei or Timor, since the connexions with post-independence developments in neighbouring countries, particularly Malaya, are so close that it cannot possibly be treated as a separate subject.

As a result this book may create the impression of being incomplete and in a sense this is, of course, true. But so is the course of history. The only conclusion that might be drawn is that, in due time, a second volume may pick up the loose ends and bring the story up-to-date.

My thanks are due to Miss Jesse Bos who was kind enough to do the indexing.

Abbreviations

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| A.B.D.A. (-command) | American-British-Dutch-Australian |
| A.F.P.F.L. | Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League |
| B.F.O. | Bijeenkomst Federaal Overleg, Federal Consultative Council |
| B.D.A. | Burma Defence Army |
| B.E.A. | Burma Executive Administration |
| B.I.A. | Burmese Independence Army |
| B.M.A. | British Military Administration |
| B.N.A. | Burma National Army |
| B.P.A.R. | Barisan Pemuda Asia Raya, Greater Asia Youth Corps |
| B.P.F. | Burmese Patriotic Forces |
| D.M.H. | Dong Minh Hoi, short for: Viet Nam Cach Menh Dong Minh Hoi, League of Vietnamese Revolutionary Organizations |
| D.R.V. | Democratic Republic of Vietnam |
| D.S.A. | Dobama-Sinyetha Asiayone, a coalition of Dobama Asiayone (= We Burmans Association) and Sinyetha (= Poor Men's) Party |
| F.D.R. | Front Demokrasi Rakjat, Popular Democratic Front |

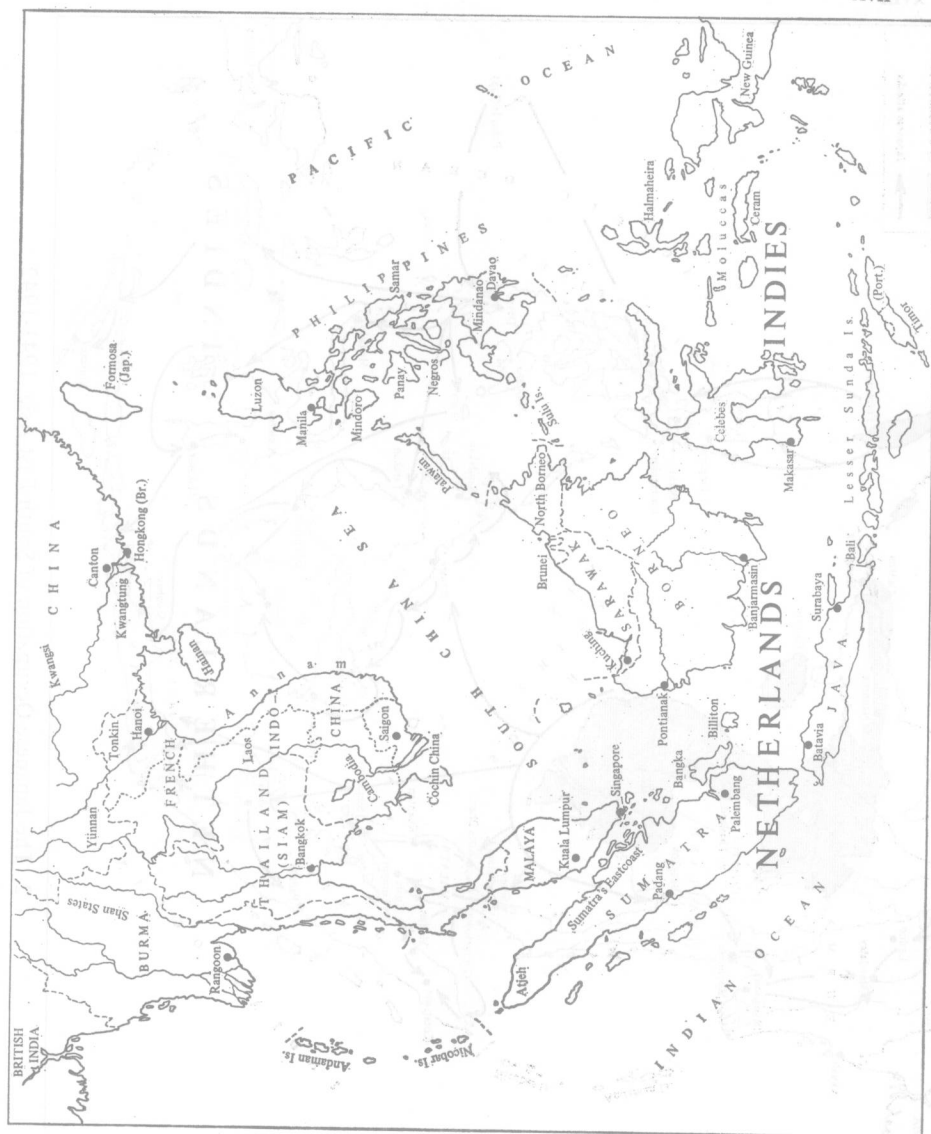
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| F.M.S. | Federated Malay States |
| Gapi | Gabungan Politik Indonesia, Indonesian Political Federation |
| Gerindo | Gerakan Rakjat Indonesia, Indonesian People's Movement |
| Hukbalahap | Hukbo ng Bayan Laban sa Hapon, People's Anti-Japanese Army |
| I.I.L. | Indian Independence League |
| I.M.P. | Independence of Malaya Party |
| I.N.A. | Indian National Army |
| Kalibapi | Kapisanan sa Paglilingkod sa Bagong Pilipinas, Association for the Service of the New Philippines |
| K.M.M. | Kesatuan Melayu Muda, Young Malay Association |
| K.M.S. | Kesatuan Melayu Singapura, Malay Association of Singapore |
| K.N.I.P. | Komite Nasional Indonesia Pusat, Central Indonesian National Committee |
| K.R.I.S. | Kesatuan Ra'ayat Indonesia Semenanjung, People's Union of Peninsular Indonesians |
| K.M.T. | Kwo Min Tang |
| Lao Dong | Viet Nam Lao Dong Dang, Vietnamese Workers' Party |
| Makapili | Makabayan Pilipinos, League of Patriotic Filipinos |
| Masjumi | Madjelis Sjuro Muslimin Indonesia, Advisory Council of Indonesian Muslims |
| M.C.A. | Malayan Chinese Association |
| M.C.P. | Malayan Communist Party |
| M.D.U. | Malayan Democratic Union |
| M.I.A.I. | Madjlisul Islamil A'laa Indonesia, Indonesian Supreme Council for the Islam |
| M.I.C. | Malayan Indian Congress |

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| M.N.P. | Malay Nationalist Party |
| M.P.A.J.A., M.P.A.J.U. | Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army, Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Union |
| M.R.I. | Madjelis Rakjat Indonesia, Indonesian People's Council |
| M.R.L.A. | Malayan Racial Liberation Army |
| P.A.P. | People's Action Party |
| Parindra | Partai Indonesia Raya, Greater Indonesia Party |
| P.C.I. | Parti Communiste Indochinois, Indochinese Communist Party |
| Pesindo | Pemuda Sosialis Indonesia, Indonesian So- cialist Youth |
| Peta | Tentara Pembela Tanah Air (in Malaya: Ayer), Army for the Defence of the Fatherland |
| Phuc Quoc | Viet Nam Phuc Quoc Dong Minh, League for the Liberation of Vietnam |
| P.I.I. | Partai Islam Indonesia, Indonesian Islamic Party |
| P.K.I. | Partai Kommunis Indonesia, Indonesian Communist Party |
| P.M.C.J.A. | Pan-Malayan Council of Joint Action |
| P.M.F.T.U. | Pan-Malayan Federation of Trade Unions |
| P.N.I. | Partai Nasional Indonesia, Indonesian Nationalist Party |
| P.P. | Persatuan Perdjungan, Fighting Front |
| P.S.I. | Partai Sosialis Indonesia, Indonesian Socialist Party |
| P.S.I.I. | Partai Sarekat Islam Indonesia, Indonesian Party of Islamic Associations |
| Putera | Pusat Tenaga Rakjat, Centre of People's Power |
| P.V.O. | People's Volunteer Organization |
| S.E.A.C. | South-East Asia Command |

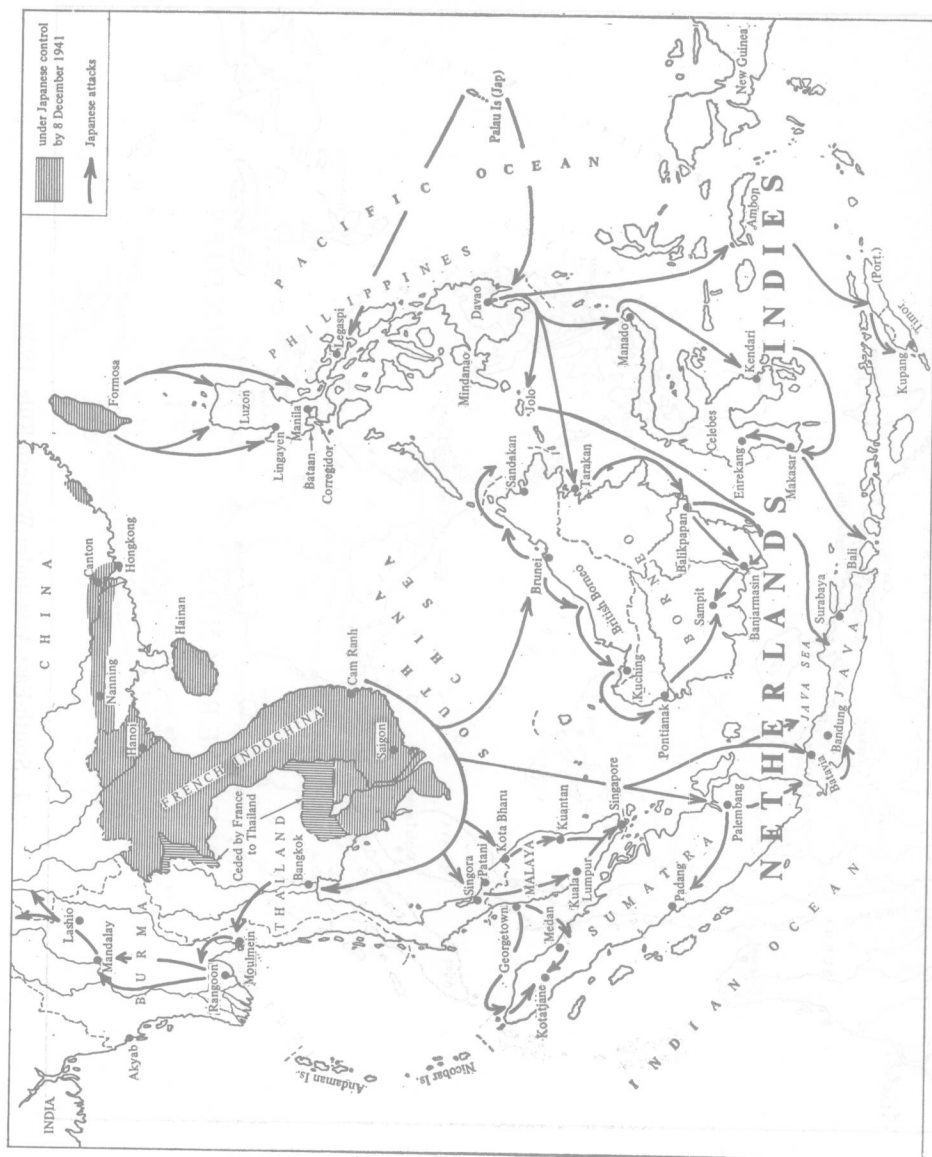
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| S.I. | Sarekat Islam, Islamic Association |
| S.O.B.S.I. | Sentral Organisasi Buruh Seluruh Indonesia, All-Indonesian Trade Union Federation |
| S.W.P.A. | South-West Pacific Area |
| T.N.I. | Tentara Nasional Indonesia, Indonesian Na- tional Army |
| U.M.N.O. | United Malay National Organization |
| U.N.C.I. | United Nations Commission for Indonesia |
| Viet Minh | Viet Nam Doc Lap Dong Minh, League for Vietnam's Independence |
| V.N.Q.D.D. | Viet Nam Quoc Dan Dang, Vietnamese Nationalist Party |

Note

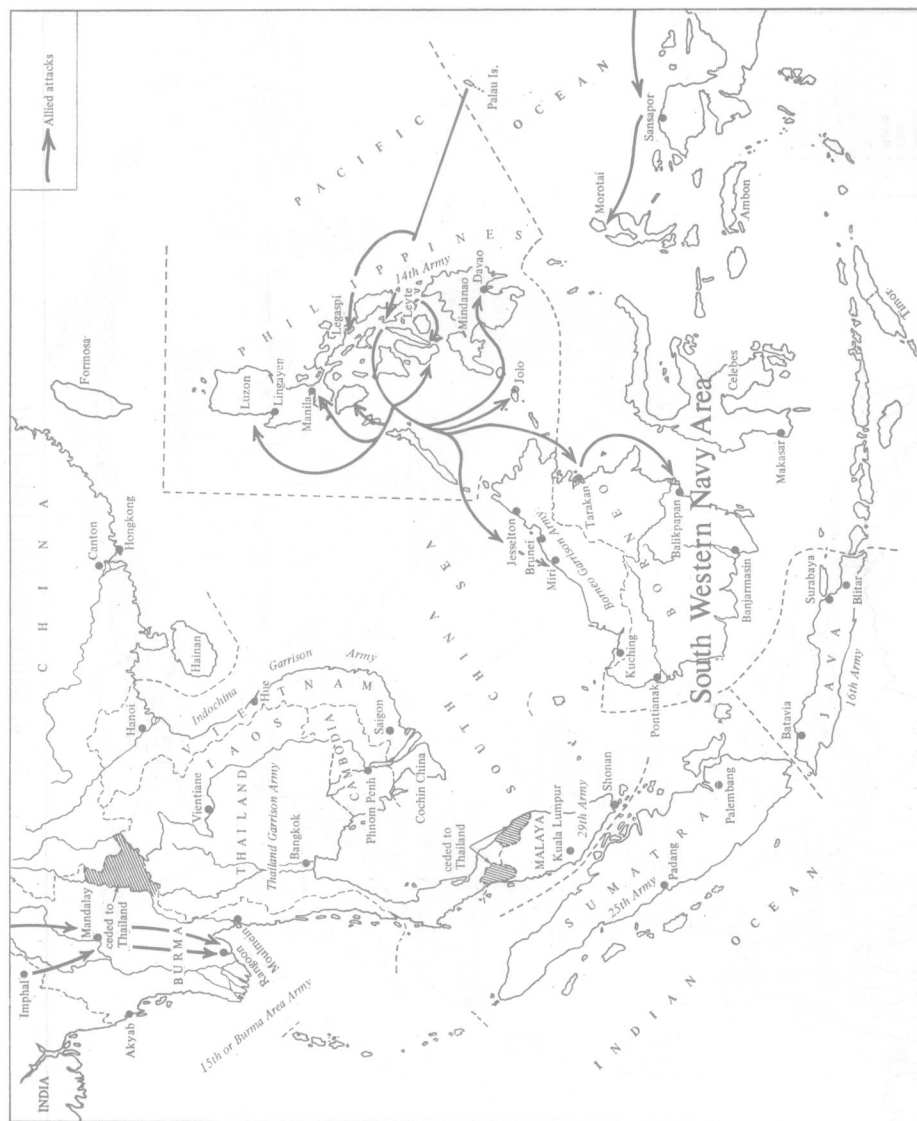
Throughout the following pages the words 'Burman' and 'Malay' are used to denote ethnic groups to the exclusion of any other group living in Burma and Malaya. The entire population of both countries is referred to as 'Burmese' and 'Malayan'.



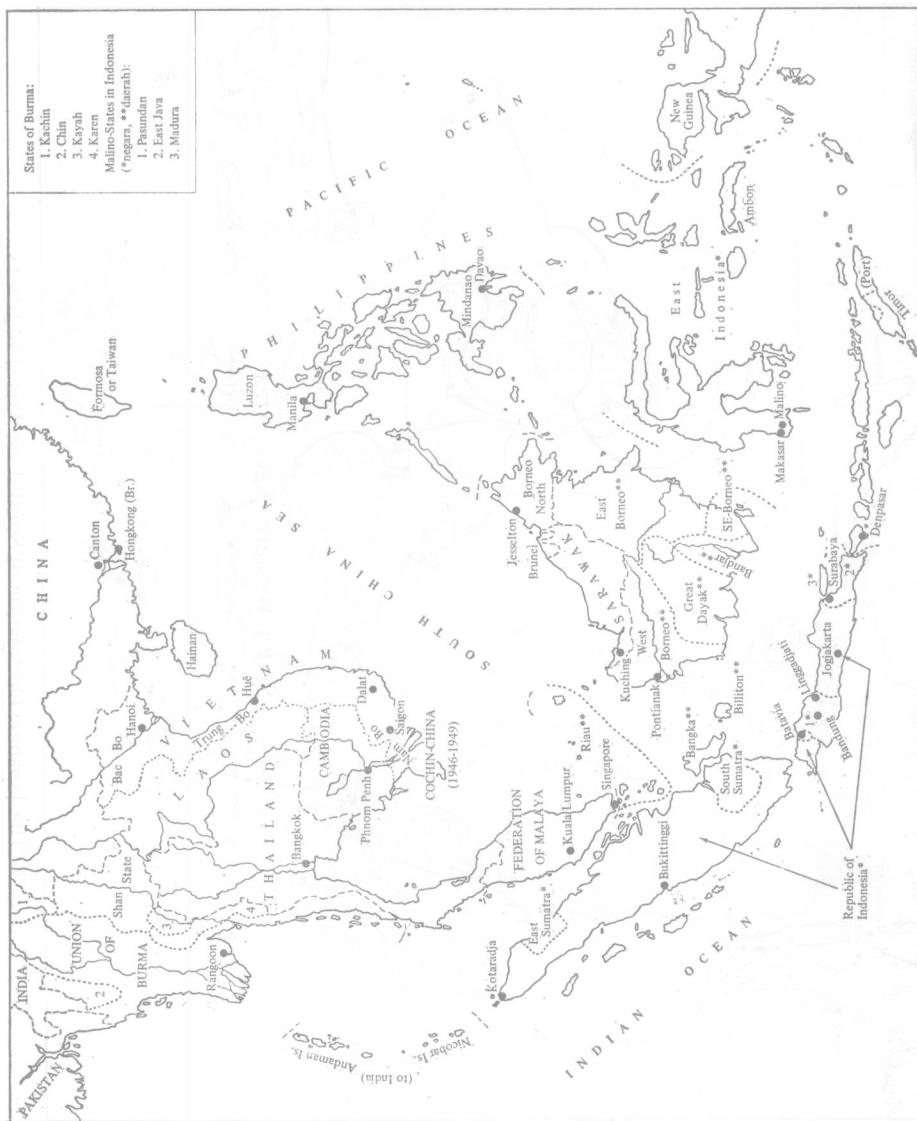
1. South-East Asia under Western Rule, 1939



2. The Japanese Occupation of South-East Asia, 1941-1942

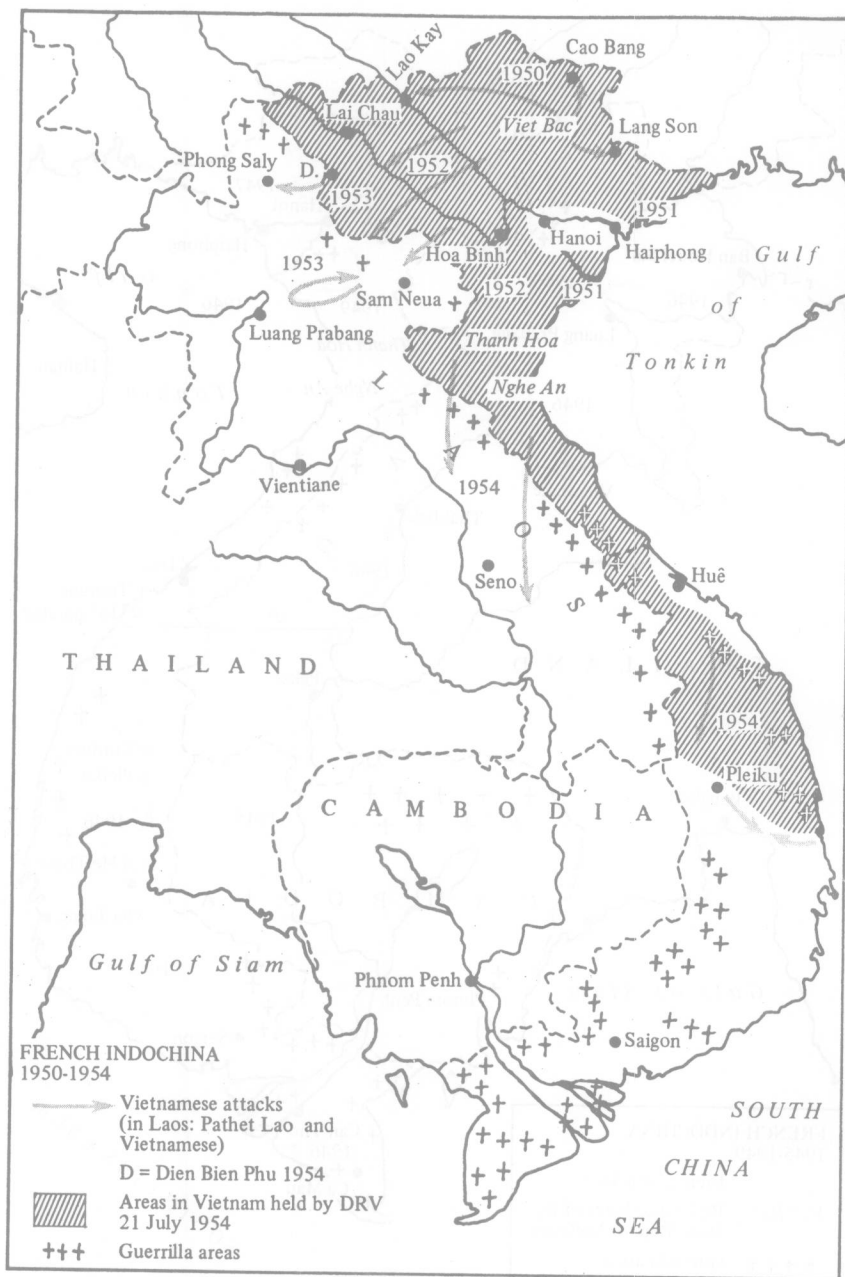


3. The Japanese Occupation of South-East Asia, 1942-1945





5. French Indochina, 1945-1949



6. French Indochina, 1950-1954

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