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AMERICAN EMBASSY SINGAPORE

KEY PERSONNEL

TELEPHONE LISTING

Embassy Tel: 338-0251

		Ext. #
Executive Office		
Ambassador	Robert D. Orr	218*
Deputy Chief of Mission	Arthur Kobler	217*
Section Chiefs - State Department		
Administrative Counselor	Bob Courtney	223*
Communications Officer	Frank Pressley	264*
Consular	Caryl Courtney	328*
Econ/Pol Counselor	C. Lawrence Greenwood Jr.	300/309*
General Service Officer	Frank Matthews	271*
Personnel Officer	Ben Justesen	251*
Systems Manager	Aila Long	227*
Reg. Security Officer	Douglas Quiram	222*
Chiefs - Other Agencies		
Agricultural Trade Office	Geoff Wiggin	737-1233
Defense Attache Office	CAPT. William Cooper, USN	315/316*
Drug Enforcement Admin.	Harry Fullett	286*
Federal Aviation Admin.	Don Schmidt	341*
Foreign Commercial Service	George Ruffner	338-9722
Immigration & Nat.	Donald Addington, acting	334-4075
Internal Revenue Service	Charles Landry	245*
Marine Security Guard (NCOIC)	GySgt. Dempsey	203*
Navy Regional Contracting Cen.	LCDR. Anthony Mosley	221-6266
Refugee Office	Caryl Courtney	328*
AID - Regional Inspector General / Audit	James Durnil	334-2766
AID - Regional Inspector General / Investigations	Philip Rodokanakis	334-1766
Customs Service	James Wilkie	345*
U.S. Information Service	Dennis D. Donahue	224-5233

*Embassy Telephone: 338-0251

ISTANA NEGARA
(National Palace)

The Istana Negara (formerly Government House) was built in 1869 to house the British Governor of Singapore. The grounds had been the nutmeg estate of Charles Robert Princep, with an estimated 6,700 trees in 1848. It was renamed and converted to the official residence of the President of Singapore at independence in 1959.

Gov. Sir Harry George Ord came to Singapore in 1867 after the administration of the Straits Settlements (Singapore, Malacca and Penang) was transferred from India to direct control of the Crown. Lady Ord laid the foundation stone for their new residence in July 1867. It was built primarily with convict labor and was criticized at the time as an unnecessary extravagance. The building was completed in time for the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh in 1869. Total cost of land, construction and furnishings (brought from England) was $43,800.

A statue of Queen Victoria was installed in the drawing room to mark her jubilee in 1889. The gun in front is a Japanes 105 mm captured in Burma in 1945 and presented in 1946 by Adm. Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander for Southeast Asia.

Since 1959, the Istana has been used only for official functions and VIP guests of state. Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh stayed there in February 1972. The President, the Prime Minister and the Senior Minister (Lee Kuan Yew) have their offices in the Istana.

From "Singapore Then and Now," by Ray Tyers, 1973.

THE ISTANA

The Istana, previously known as Government House, was designed and built by a British colonial engineer, Maj. J.F.A. Nair. The foundation stone was laid in July 1867, and the building was completed in 1869.

It became the official residence of governors appointed under the British colonial office. Fifteen governors were appointed under this arrangement, until the fall of Singapore to the Japanese in 1942. Following the Japanese occupation from 1942 to 1945, Government House was again occupied by colonial governors.

In 1959, the name of Government House was changed to "Istana Negara (National Palace)." It is now known as the "Istana."

The staff of the President, the Cabinet Office and a section of the Prime Minister's office work at the Istana. The President and his staff work in the main building. The Prime Minister and his staff, including Cabinet Office staff, occupy the Annex.

EXCHANGE TABLE

Exchange Rate: US $1.00 = S$ 1.678

SINGAPORE DOLLARS	US DOLLARS
1.00	.60
5.00	2.98
10.00	5.96
25.00	14.90
50.00	29.80
100.00	59.59

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INFO RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC 2931

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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF * SINGAPORE 09787

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
CHRGE: USIS 10/24/91
APPRV: PAO:DDDONAHUE
DRFTD: PAO:DDDONAHUE
CLEAR: 1.DCM:ALKOBLER
2.E/P:LGREENWOOD
DISTR: USIS DCM

USIA FOR EA

E.0.12356: N/A
SUBJECT: VISIT OF PRESIDENT BUSH: LOCAL COLOR FOR SPEECH

1. FOLLOWING IS OFFERED AS LOCAL COLOR FOR CONSIDERATION FOR INCLUSION IN PRESIDENT'S SPEECH IN SINGAPORE:

-- AMERICA'S BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP WITH SINGAPORE GOES BACK TO THE FOUNDATIONS OF YOUR COUNTRY, AND MINE.

-- THE FIRST AMERICAN CONSUL IN SINGAPORE CAME TO THIS AREA IN 1834. HE WAS JOSEPH BALESTIER. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS SPOUSE, MARIA REVERE BALESTIER, DAUGHTER OF PAUL REVERE, ONE OF THE HEROES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

-- MR. BALESTIER FIRST ESTABLISHED HIS OFFICE IN BINTAN. YOU MIGHT CALL HIM ONE OF THE EARLIEST ADHERENTS OF THE "GROWTH TRIANGLE." HOWEVER, HE MOVED TO SINGAPORE AND BECAME U.S. CONSUL IN 1837, BEGINNING A DIPLOMATIC CONNECTION THAT HAS CONTINUED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER THE PAST 154 YEARS.

-- INTERESTINGLY, A BALESTIER HISTORIAN TELLS US THAT IT WAS THE CONSUL'S JOB, FIRST AND FOREMOST, TO LOOK AFTER AMERICA'S TRADING INTERESTS. IN THAT BALESTIER SAW HIS JOB VERY MUCH AS OUR PRESENT AMBASSADOR, BOB ORR, DOES.

-- ALONG WITH OTHER SINGAPORE BUSINESSMEN, BALESTIER ALSO LEARNED WHAT HAPPENS WHEN TRADE BARRIERS ARE ERECTED. IN ADDITION TO HIS TRADING BUSINESS, HE BEGAN A SUGAR PLANTATION ON WHAT IS NOW BALESTIER ROAD. HOWEVER, THE BUDDING SUGAR INDUSTRY IN SINGAPORE WAS KILLED, BALESTIER'S HISTORIAN TELLS US, "BECAUSE SINGAPORE WAS DENIED THE PRIVILEGE ACCORDED TO PROVINCE WELLESLEY OF HAVING HER SUGAR AND RUM IMPORTED INTO THE HOME MARKETS AT A REDUCED DUTY."

-- MODERN SINGAPORE'S DEDICATION TO FREE TRADE SEEMS WELL-FOUNDED IN HER HISTORY.

-- I WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT THE BALESTIERS ARE REMEMBERED HERE VIA A BELL CAST IN THE REVERE WORKS IN

BOSTON, WHICH WAS PRESENTED TO THE ORIGINAL CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW BY MARIA REVERE BALESTIER. AS YOU KNOW, THAT BELL NOW IS IN SINGAPORE'S NATIONAL MUSEUM.

3. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE PRESIDENT'S ODYSSEY WILL END WITH PEARL HARBOR COMMEMORATIONS, HE MAY WISH TO TAKE A MINUTE TO REMEMBER EVENTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, ALSO 50 YEARS AGO:

-- ON SATURDAY I WILL BE AT PEARL HARBOR IN HAWAII TO COMMEMORATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAPANESE ATTACK ON OUR FORCES THERE. MORE THAN 2,400 AMERICANS WERE DEAD OR MISSING AFTER THAT ATTACK. WE WILL REMEMBER THEM. WE WILL HONOR THEM.

-- WE ALSO REMEMBER THAT ON THAT SAME DAY, BUT ON THIS SIDE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DATELINE, THE WAR BEGAN FOR THE PHILIPPINES, FOR THAILAND, FOR MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE. BOMBERS APPEARED OVER CLARK FIELD AND OVER SINGAPORE. GROUND TROOPS LANDED AT SONGKHLA AND PATTANI (THAILAND) AND AT KOTA BAHARU (MALAYA). FRENCH INDOCHINA ALREADY WAS OCCUPIED BY THE JAPANESE AND EARLY IN 1942, BURMA AND INDONESIA (THEN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES) ALSO CAME UNDER ATTACK. BY MID-1942, THE REGION WAS UNDER JAPANESE OCCUPATION, A SITUATION THAT WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL THE JAPANESE SURRENDERED IN 1945.

-- WE IN AMERICA REMEMBER WITH YOU IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE REMEMBER TO HONOR THOSE IN UNIFORM AND THOSE THOUSANDS OF CIVILIANS WHO SUFFERED AND WHO DIED IN THIS WAR. NOT IN BITTERNESS, BUT IN SORROW. NOT IN DESPAIR THAT SUCH A THING COULD HAPPEN, BUT IN HOPE THAT IN THE HALF CENTURY SINCE THOSE ATTACKS WE SEEM TO HAVE FOUND A BETTER WAY.

--(NOTE: IN SINGAPORE IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER CIVILIANS WHO ENDURED THE OCCUPATION -- THOSE WHO DIED AND THOSE WHO SUFFERED AND SURVIVED.)

4. THE "GROWTH TRIANGLE" IS A DEVELOPMENT PLAN THAT INCLUDES SINGAPORE, THE RIAU PROVINCE OF INDONESIA AND JOHORE STATE IN MALAYSIA. THE TRIANGLE COMBINES THE FINANCIAL/MANAGERIAL/TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATIONS ASSETS OF SINGAPORE WITH THE LAND AND LOW-COST LABOR ASSETS OF NEIGHBORING RIAU AND JOHORE FOR THE ECONOMIC

BENEFIT OF ALL THREE COUNTRIES. BINTAN ISLAND IS ONE OF THE RIAU PROVINCE ISLANDS UNDER DEVELOPMENT.

5. THE DATE FOR THE JAPANESE ATTACKS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA IS DECEMBER 8. THE ATTACKS STARTED A FEW HOURS AFTER PEARL HARBOR, BUT BECAUSE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DATELINE, THE DATE IS ONE DAY LATER.

6. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN CLEARED BY THE EMBASSY.

DONAHUE

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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 SINGAPORE 09787



2nd Singapore Lecture
30 October 1981

American Foreign Policy: A Global View
by HENRY KISSINGER



Inaugural
Singapore Lecture
14 October 1980

The Invisible Hand in Economics and Politics
by MILTON FRIEDMAN

The Singapore Lecture is designed to provide the opportunity for distinguished statesmen, scholars and writers, and other similarly highly qualified individuals specializing in banking, commerce, international economics and finance, and philosophical and world strategic affairs, to visit Singapore. The presence of such eminent personalities will allow Singaporeans, especially the younger executives and decision-makers in both the public and private sectors, to have the benefit of exposure to — through the Lecture, televised discussions, and private consultations — leaders of thought and knowledge in various fields, thereby enabling them to widen their experience and perspectives.

The Singapore Lecture Series is organized by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. The Series was inaugurated in 1980 with a founding endowment from the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), which has since been augmented with a generous donation from Mobil Oil Singapore.



11th Singapore Lecture
3 April 1991

International Economic Developments
by R.F.M. LUBBERS



10th Singapore Lecture
15 October 1989

Trade Outlook: Globalization or Regionalization
by BRIAN MULRONEY



9th Singapore Lecture
14 December 1988

Regionalism, Globalism and Spheres of Influence: ASEAN and the Challenge of Change into the 21st Century
by MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD



8th Singapore Lecture
27 November 1987

The Challenge of Change in the Asia-Pacific Region
by BOB HAWKE



7th Singapore Lecture
25 November 1986

Trends in the International Financial System
by RAYMOND BARRE



6th Singapore Lecture
5 December 1985

Deficits, Debts and Demographics. Three Fundamentals Affecting Our Long-term Economic Future
by PETER G. PETERSON



5th Singapore Lecture
8 November 1984

The Future of the Western Alliance and Its Implications for Asia
by JOSEPH LUNS



4th Singapore Lecture
10 November 1983

The Soviet Union: Challenges and Responses as Seen from the European Point of View
by HELMUT SCHMIDT



3rd Singapore Lecture
2 December 1982

Peace and East-West Relations
by GISCARD D'ESTAING

AMERICAN PRESENCE IN SINGAPORE

I. The United States Government Representation and Activities

A. The Embassy: The United States Ambassador in Singapore is Robert D. Orr. He heads the U.S. Embassy and is responsible for its component organizations listed below. The Embassy maintains communication with the Government of Singapore at all levels, reports on local developments, promotes U.S. economic and commercial interests, protects the welfare of American citizens, documents travelers to the United States, and maintains liaison with other diplomatic missions. In the administrative field, the Embassy regularly is called upon to assist with procurement in Singapore of supplies for most of the other Embassies in the region. Singapore also is the medical evacuation point for Indonesia. There are no U.S. economic assistance programs in Singapore, no Peace Corps, and no PL 480 programs. The Embassy is located at 30 Hill Street.

B. The United States Information Service offices are in the Tung Building. The staff handles the information and cultural programs for the Embassy, and runs the Resource Center (library), which is located on the 15th floor of the Tung Building, Collyer Quay.

C. The Foreign Commercial Service provides export assistance, promotion and counseling to U.S. companies wanting to develop markets in Singapore. From their office and commercial library located at One Colombo Court #05-12, the FCS staff produces a broad range of in depth market research reports, organizes and hosts trade missions and trade shows, and identifies emerging trade opportunities with the primary goal of promoting the increased sale of U.S. goods and services in Singapore.

D. The Agricultural Trade Office, in Liat Towers, is the U.S. Department of Agriculture office in Singapore. It's primary objective is to promote the exportation of U.S. foods. The office is shared with representatives of the American Soybean Association, the U.S. Wheat Associates, the U.S. Poultry and Egg Export Council, and the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

E. The U.S. Refugee Office was set up to process Indo-Chinese refugees for possible resettlement in the U.S. Now a part of the Embassy consular section, the office has responsibility for both Singapore and Indonesia.

F. The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service interviews Indo-Chinese refugees and deters illegal immigration to the United States throughout the region. The office can also assist the American community with foreign adoptions, petitions for foreign spouses and inquiries on naturalization proceedings.

G. The Internal Revenue Service is the regional office for the IRS and is available for tax consultation by the American community. It is located in the Embassy.

H. The Department of Defense is represented in Singapore by:

1. The Defense Attache Office, located in the Embassy, represents the U.S. Military in Singapore.

2. Detachment 1, 13th Air Force, located at Sembawang Port and at Paya Lebar Airport. The commanding officer, Colonel USAF, is also the U.S. Cincpac (Commander in Chief, Pacific) representative in Singapore. The organization is responsible for all U.S. Air Force activity on the island.

3. The U.S. Naval Regional Contracting Center, Singapore, located in the Ong Building, 15th floor, 76 Shenton Way, is commanded by a Captain, USN. This command is responsible for repair, construction and overhaul of all U.S. Navy ships and craft in Singapore, provides contracting support to other DOD agencies in Singapore, has sole responsibility for contracting activities in the Far East and Australasia, and provides logistical support for the fleet in Singapore.

4. The Defense Fuel Quality Assurance Residency, Singapore, co-located in the Ong Building, is staffed by two quality assurance fuel specialists. The mission of this agency is to provide quality and quantity assurance of fuel purchased by the U.S. Military in the Pacific region.

5. The U.S. Naval Air Pacific Repair Activity Detachment, Singapore is commanded by a Navy Commander and is part of the U.S. Naval Air Pacific Repair Activity headquarted in Atsugi, Japan. The Detachment is responsible for accomplishment of depot level maintenance, overhaul, repair and modifications to U.S. Navy aircraft, aircraft systems and aero-components.

6. The Defense Contract Management Area Operations Residency in Singapore is part of the Defense Department's Defense Logistics Agency. The office is responsible for contract management of all Defense Department contracts awarded to Singapore contractors except for U.S. Navy contracts.

7. The U.S. Marine Security Guard Detachment protects classified materials, government property and personnel.

I. Drug Enforcement Administration, located in the Embassy, maintains close liaison with all Singaporean enforcement organizations in gathering information and evidence about drug traffickers and is active in on-site training and U.S. training for selected Singaporean enforcement officers.

J. Agency for International Development consists of the Regional Inspector General's Office located in the Hong Leong Building. This office has two functions: one for Audit and one for Investigations.

K. Federal Aviation Administration is located in the Embassy. It serves to promote the development of international civil aviation in Southeast Asia .

L. United States Customs Service is an enforcement office responsible for conducting and coordinating Customs investigations on a wide variety of case categories. Its second function is as an advisory service to tourists, etc. The office is on the first floor of the Embassy.

II. Private American Representation: Singapore has an active American community which currently numbers over 7,000 U.S. citizens, including dependents. Principally, they represent U.S. business, religious and educational organizations. Also included are a large number of dependent families of U.S. citizens working in Indonesia. The community has developed several organizations to advance its collective interests:

A. The American Association, founded in 1917, has been the prime mover in originating many other American organizations and continues to coordinate their activities. The American Asociation publishes "Living In Singapore", the Singapore American Newspaper and organizes several American national holiday activities such as the George Washington Ball, Fourth of July picnic, and various recreational activities.

B. The American Business Council serves much the same function as an American Chamber of Commerce. It holds periodic functions featuring speakers on topics of current interest, and maintains an office and reference library at #16-07 Shaw Center. There are approximately 800 American firms represented in Singapore.

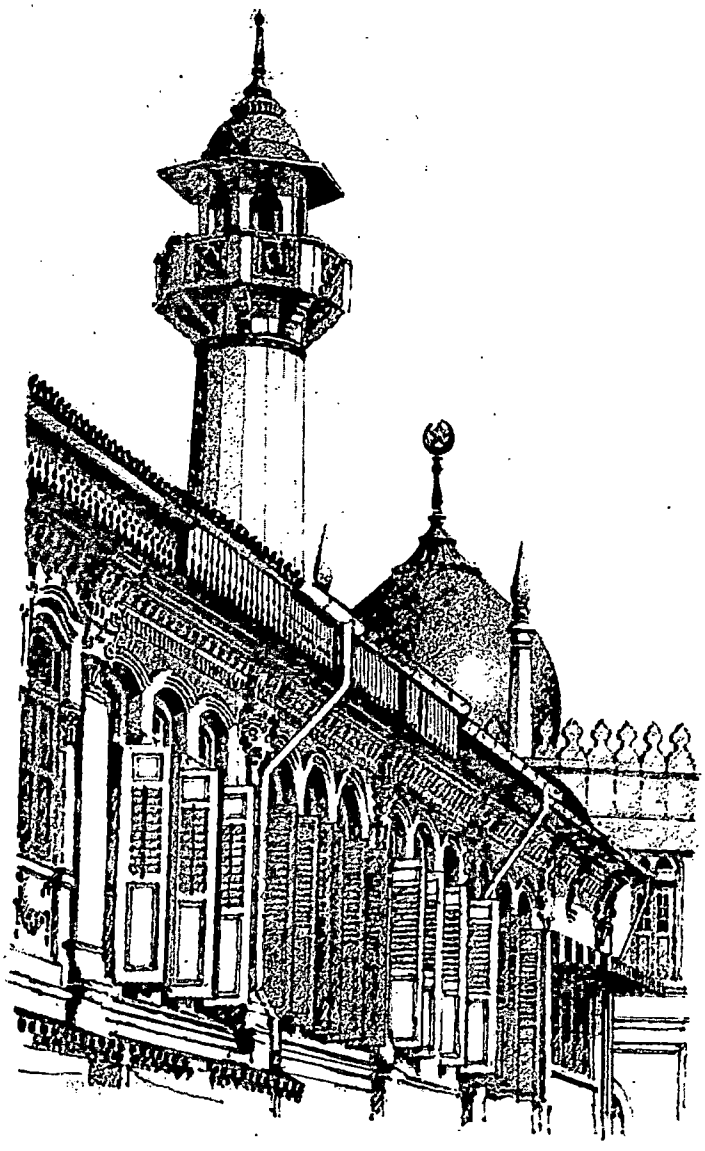
C. The American Women's Association is the organization of the American women in the community. It is a part of the American Association but functions separately. The AWA undertakes many charitable projects, welcomes newcomers to the community, and maintains a schedule of tours, classes and social functions. There are more than 1300 members, both American and non-American.

D. The Singapore American School is a private institution which provides educational facilities from preschool through high school on American standards for American children. The school currently has about 2000 students.

E. The Singapore American Community Action Council (SACAC) was set up by the American community to deal with social problems encountered by Americans living in Singapore, particularly young people. Sports, counselling and referral services, student employment programs, drama groups, etc. are available through SACAC.

F. The Singapore American Newspaper, published monthly, is supported entirely by advertisers, produced by a staff of volunteer Americans and mailed free of charge to all American residents requesting copies. The newspaper tells of happenings in the community and provides news of the American school and of the American Women's Association, as well as giving information about local culture, sports and other activities in the American community.

7 Singapore



Introduction

by Nigel Fisher

Nigel Fisher is the editor of the monthly travel publication Voyager International. *He has traveled extensively throughout Asia and the world.*

As you are efficiently processed through Changi International Airport, then whisked away in a taxi or air-conditioned coach along a park-lined expressway to your high-rise hotel, don't let first impressions lead you to write Singapore off as just another modern international city. Though it may no longer be the richly exotic and romantic city so vividly documented by Conrad and Kipling, Singapore is yet a unique city where the flavor, spirituality, and gentle manners of the East peacefully co-exist with the comforts, conveniences, and efficiency of the West.

Here you'll find some of the world's most luxurious hotels, offering incomparable service and all the amenities, from fitness centers with computer-monitored exercise equipment to thick terry-cloth bathrobes. On Orchard Road, smartly dressed shoppers browse among glittering shop windows before heading into the dozens of huge side-by-side shopping complexes, jam-packed with boutiques carrying the latest Paris fashions or Japanese electronics at irresistible prices. And in elegant French restaurants, with gleaming silver and crystal and elaborate displays of orchids and roses, tuxedoed waiters serve some of the best cuisine this side of the Seine.

Here you'll also find ethnic neighborhoods, built up around mosques and temples, where Chinese or Indian or Malay merchants dressed in traditional garb hawk the herbal medicines or spices or batiks that spill out of their small shops onto the narrow streets. At the many food centers that dot the city, Teochew and Hokkien, Tamil and Malay cooks in adjacent open-front stalls whip up authentic and delicious dishes whose recipes have been handed down in their families for generations.

To arrive in Singapore is to step into a world where the muezzin call to prayer competes with the bustle of capitalism; where old men play mah-jongg in the streets and white-clad bowlers send the ball flying down well-tended cricket pitches; where Chinese fortune tellers and high-priced management consultants advise the same entrepreneur.

This great diversity of lifestyles, cultures, and religions thrives within the framework of a well-ordered society. Singapore is a spotlessly clean—some say sterile—modern metropolis, surrounded by green, groomed parks and populated by 2.7 million extremely polite, well-mannered people.

Malays, who have the oldest historical claim to Singapore, today account for 14.9% of its population. Their faith in Allah and their orientation to family and service to the community provide a more relaxed, peaceful, and communal flavor and act as a counterpoint to the entrepreneurial vigor of the Chinese.

Though the Chinese make up approximately 76% of the population, their ranks comprise at least half a dozen different ethnic groups—Hokkien, Teochew, Cantonese, Hakka, Fukien, Hainanese—each with its own language, mythology, and especially cuisine. They came as impoverished immigrants in the 19th century and now hold the economic and political strings of the island nation.

Singapore's Indian population, who also descend from 19th-century immigrants, are almost as ethnically diverse as the Chinese. While the majority are Hindu Tamils from South India, there are also Muslims from South India and, in smaller numbers, Bengalis, Biharis, Gujeratis, Marathis, Kashmiris, and Punjabis. From Sri Lanka come other Hindu Tamils and the Sinhalese (often mistaken for Indians), who are neither Hindu nor Muslim but follow the teachings of Hinayana Buddhism.

Today, Indians, who account for 7% of Singapore's population, remain deeply tied to their community and traditional customs. Hinduism remains a powerful force—Singapore has more than 20 major temples devoted to Hindu gods—and some of the Tamil Hindu festivals, such as Thaipusam, are expressed with more feverish ritualism than in India. Indian food, too, remains true to its roots; it has been said that one can eat better curries in Singapore than in India.

While the Malays, Chinese, and Indians account for 97% of Singapore's population, other ethnic groups—from Eurasians to Filipinos, from Armenians to Thais—contribute significantly to the nation's cultural mix. Understandably, the British and the heritage of their colonial stay is profoundly felt even though Singapore became an independent nation in 1967.

In a part of the world where histories tend to be ancient and rich, Singapore is unique in having almost no history at all. Modern Singapore tends to date its history from the early morning of January 29, 1819, when a representative of the British East India Company, Thomas Stamford Raffles, stepped ashore at Singa Pura (Sanskrit for "lion city"), as the island was then called, hoping to establish a British trading settlement on the southern part of the Malay Peninsula. The two sons of the previous sultan, who had died six years earlier, were in dispute over who would inherit the throne. Raffles backed the claim of the elder brother, Tunku Hussein Mohamed Shah, and proclaimed him sultan. Offering to support the new sultanate with British military strength, Raffles persuaded him to grant the British a lease allowing them to establish a trading post on the island in return for an annual rent; within a week the negotiations were concluded. (A later treaty ceded the island outright to the British.)

Thus began the continual rapid changing and adapting that characterizes Singapore to this day: Within three years, the small fishing village, surrounded by swamps and jungle and populated by only tigers and 200 or so Malays, had become a boomtown of 10,000 immigrants, administered by 74 British employees of the East India Company.

As Singapore grew, the British erected splendid public buildings, churches, and hotels, often using Indian convicts for labor. The Muslim, Hindu, Taoist, and Buddhist communities—swelling rapidly from the influx of fortune-seeking settlers from Malaya, India, and South China—built mosques, temples, and shrines. Magnificent houses for wealthy merchants sprang up, and the harbor became lined with *godowns* (warehouses) to hold all the goods passing through the port.

It was certainly an exotic trade that poured through Singapore. Chinese junks came loaded with tea, porcelain, silks, and artworks; Bugis (Indonesian) schooners carried in cargos of precious spices, rare tropical hardwoods, camphor, and produce from all parts of Indonesia. These goods, and more like

them from Siam, the Philippines, and elsewhere in the region, were traded in Singapore for manufactured textiles, coal, iron, cement, weapons, and machinery and other fruits of Europe's industrial revolution. Another major product traded here by the British was opium, grown in India and sold to mainland China.

By the turn of the century, Singapore had become the entrepôt of the East, a mixture of adventurers and "respectable middle classes." World War I hardly touched the island, although its defenses were strengthened to support the needs of the British navy, for which Singapore was an important base. When World War II broke out, the British were complacent about the impregnability of Singapore, expecting that any attack would come from the sea and that they were well prepared to meet such an attack. But the Japanese landed to the north, in Malaya. The two British battleships that had been posted to Singapore were sunk, and the Japanese land forces raced down the peninsula on bicycles.

In February 1942 the Japanese captured Singapore. Huge numbers of Allied civilians and military were sent to Changi Prison; others were marched off to prison camps in Malaya or to work on the notorious "Death Railway" in Thailand. The 3½ years of occupation was a time of privation and fear for the civilian population; up to 100,000 deaths are estimated during this period. The Japanese surrendered on August 21, 1945, and the Allied military forces returned to Singapore. However, the security of the British Empire was never again to be felt, and independence for British Southeast Asia was only a matter of time.

In 1957 the British government agreed to the establishment of an elected 51-member legislative assembly in Singapore. General elections in 1959 gave an overwhelming majority—43 of 51 seats—to the People's Action Party (PAP), and a young Chinese lawyer named Lee Kuan Yew became Singapore's first prime minister. In 1963 Singapore became part of the Federation of Malaysia, along with the newly independent state of Malaysia.

Mainly due to Malays' anxiety over a possible takeover by the ethnic Chinese, the federation broke up two years later and Singapore became an independent sovereign state. The electorate has remained faithful to Lee Kuan Yew and the PAP. Today there is only one opposition member in Parliament, though, at the last election, the PAP's popular majority was the lowest it has ever been. Singaporeans don't necessarily like the fact that Lee Kuan Yew's will substantially decides their future, but they recognize that it is largely as a result of his firm control and acumen that Singapore is a safe, clean, comfortable, prosperous nation. Lee Kuan Yew promises to resign at the end of 1990, after 31 years in office. Because his son is unable to immediately step into his shoes, however, Yew will remain influential in government as a senior minister.

lic transportation system that provides easy, low-cost access around the city of Singapore and the island.

Taxes There is no sales tax in Singapore. A 4% government tax is added to restaurant and hotel bills; sometimes a 10% service charge is added as well. There is a S$12 airport departure tax (for travelers to Malaysia, the tax is S$5). It is payable at the airport. To save time and avoid standing in line, you can buy a tax voucher at your hotel or any airline office.

Sample Prices Cup of coffee, 50¢; large bottle of beer, $2; lunch at a hawker stand, $5; dinner at an elegant restaurant, $25; full breakfast at a luxury hotel, $9. The cost of a standard double room: moderate, $75–$115; very expensive, over $150.

Language

Singapore is a multiracial society with four official languages: Malay, Mandarin, Tamil, and English. The national language is Malay; the lingua franca is English. English, also the language of administration, is a required course for every schoolchild, and is used in the entrance examinations for universities. Hence, virtually all Singaporeans speak English with varying degrees of fluency. Mandarin is increasingly replacing the other Chinese dialects. However, many Chinese will use SinEnglish, a Singaporean version of English, to converse with other ethnic groups, including other Chinese.

Opening and Closing Times

Businesses are generally open weekdays 9 or 9:30 to 5 or 5:30; some, not many, are also open on Saturday mornings.

Banks Banking hours are weekdays 10–3, Saturday 9:30–11:30 AM. Branches of the Development Bank of Singapore stay open until 3 PM on Saturday. The bank at Changi airport is open whenever there are flights. Money-changers operate whenever there are customers in the shopping centers they serve.

Museums Many museums close on Monday; otherwise, they are generally open 9–5.

Shops Shop opening times vary. Department stores and many shops in big shopping centers are generally open seven days a week from about 10 to 8 (later some evenings). Smaller shops tend to close on Sundays, although there is no firm rule now that competition is so intense.

National Holidays

The following are national holidays: Jan. 1 (New Year's Day); Jan. 27, 28 (Chinese New Year); Good Friday (Apr. 13); Hani Raya Puasa (Apr. 26); Labor Day (May 1); Vesak Day (May 9); Hari Raya Haji (July 3); National Day (Aug. 9); Dee'pavali (Oct. 7); Dec. 24.

Festivals and Seasonal Events

Singapore is a city of festivals, from the truly exotic to the strictly-for-tourists. The exact dates vary from year to year according to the lunar or Islamic calendar.

Mid-Jan. During **Ponggal**, the four-day harvest festival, Tamil Indians from South India offer rice, curries, vegetables, sugarcane, and spices in thanksgiving to the Hindu gods. In the evening, the celebration takes place at the temples, where rice is cooked while prayers are chanted to the music of bells, drums, clarinets, and conch shells. The Perumal Temple of Serangoon Road is the best place to view these rites.

Mid-Jan.–Feb. **Thaipusam**, probably the most spectacular—and certainly the most gruesome—festival in Asia, celebrates the victory of the Hindu god Subramaniam over the demon Idumban. After night-long ritual purification and chanting, penitents enter a trance and pierce their flesh with knives, steel rods, and fish hooks, which they wear during the procession. The 8.1-km (5-mi) procession begins at the Perumal Temple on Serangoon Road, passes the Sri Mariamman Temple on South Bridge Road, and ends at the Chettiar Temple.

Chinese New Year is the only time the Chinese stop working. The lunar New Year celebration lasts for 15 days, and most shops and businesses close for about a week.

Feb. The end of the Chinese New Year is marked by the **Chingay Procession.** Chinese, Malays, and Indians all get into the act for this event. Clashing gongs and beating drums, lion dancers lead a procession of Chinese stilt-walkers, swordsmen, warriors, acrobats, and characters from Chinese myth and legend.

Feb. or Mar. The **Birthday of the Monkey God** celebrates this character greatly loved by the Chinese. His birth is marked with a festival twice a year in Chinese temples—once in the spring and again around September. Mediums, with skewers piercing their cheeks and tongues, go into trances. Chinese street operas and puppet shows are usually performed in temple courtyards, and processions are held at the temples along Eng Hoon and Cumming streets.

Apr.–May **Ramadan** is the month of daytime fasting among the city's Muslim population. Food stalls in Bussorah Street and around the Sultan Mosque sell a variety of dishes at the end of the day's fast.

May or June The **Birthday of the Third Prince** celebrates this child god. The Chinese worship him as a hero and a miracle-worker. A temple in his honor is located at the junction of Clarke Street and North Boat Quay, near Chinatown; on his birthday, it is crowded with noisy worshipers who come to watch the flashy Chinese operas, which begin around noon.

Vesak Day commemorates the Buddha's birth, Enlightenment, and death. It is the most sacred annual festival in the Buddhist calendar. Throughout the day, starting before dawn, saffron-robed monks chant holy sutras in all the major Buddhist temples. Captive birds are set free. Candlelight processions are held around some of the temples in the evening.

June The **Dragon Boat Festival** commemorates the martyrdom of Qu Yuan, a Chinese poet and minister of state during the Chou dynasty (4th century BC), who was exiled for speaking out against court corruption and finally threw himself into the river. On seeing Qu Yuan's final and desperate act, local fishermen thrashed the water with their oars and beat drums to prevent fish from devouring their drowning hero. The anniversary of his death is cele-

brated with a regatta of boats decorated with dragon heads and painted in brilliant colors.

July During the **Birdsong Festival,** owners of tuneful birds hold competitions to see whose chirps best.

Aug. 9 **National Day,** the anniversary of the nation's independence, is a day of processions, fireworks, folk and dragon dances, and national pride. The finest view is from the Padang, where the main participants put on their best show. Tickets for special seating areas are available through the STPB.

Aug.–Sept. For a month each year, during the Chinese **Festival of the Hungry Ghosts,** the Gates of Hell are opened and ghosts are free to wander the Earth. The unhappy ghosts, those who died without descendants, may cause trouble and must therefore be placated with offerings. Imitation money ("Hell money") and joss sticks are burned, and prayers are said at all Chinese temples and in front of Chinese shops and homes. Chinese-opera *(wayang)* performances are held on open-air stages set up in the streets.

Sept. The **Mooncake Festival,** a traditional Chinese celebration, is held on the night of the year when the full moon is thought to be at its brightest. The Chinese have nighttime picnics and carry lanterns through the streets. Mooncakes—sweet pastries filled with red-bean paste, lotus seeds, nuts, and egg yolks—are eaten in abundance.

Sept.–Oct. During the nine-day **Navarathri Festival,** Hindus pay homage to three goddesses: Parvati, consort of Shiva the Destroyer; Lakshmi, goddess of wealth and consort of Vishnu the Protector; and Sarawathi, goddess of education and consort of Brahma the Creator. On all nights, at the Chettiar Temple on Tank Road, there are performances of classical Indian music, drama, and dancing from 7 to 10. On the last evening, the image of a silver horse is taken from its home in the Chettiar Temple and paraded around the streets.

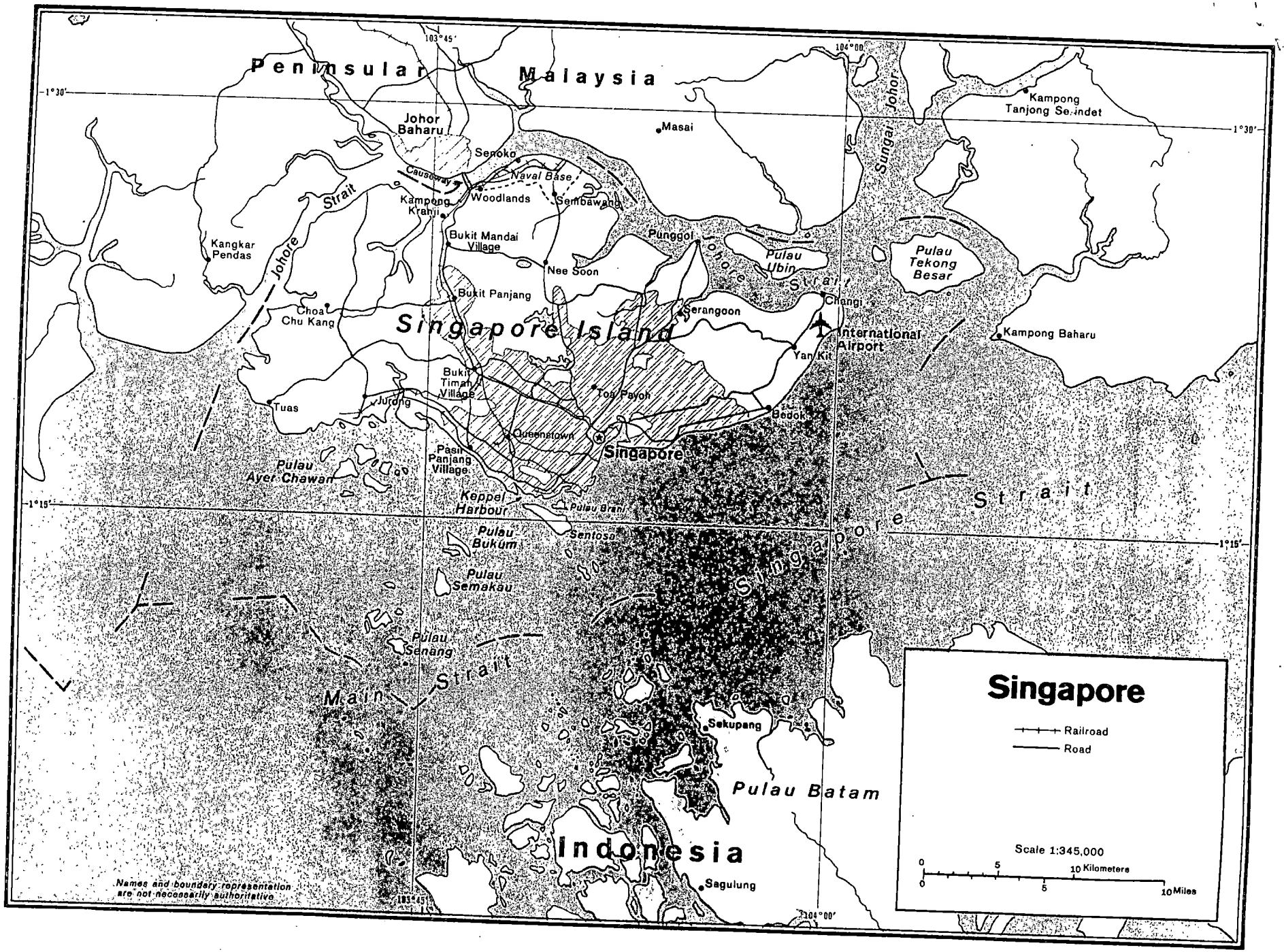
Oct. The Chinese believe that the deities celebrated in the **Festival of the Nine Emperor Gods** can cure illness, bring good luck and wealth, and encourage longevity. They are honored in most Chinese temples on the ninth day of the ninth lunar month; the celebrations are at their most spectacular in the temples on Upper Serangoon Road and at Lorong Tai Seng.

Oct.–Nov. In the **Thimithi Festival,** Indian Hindus honor the goddess Duropadai by walking on fire. According to myth, Duropadai proved her chastity by walking over flaming coals. Today worshipers repeat her feat by walking barefoot over a bed of red-hot embers. See the spectacle at the Sri Mariamman Temple on South Bridge Road.

Deepavali celebrates the triumph of Krishna over the demon king Nasakasura. All Indian homes and temples are decorated with oil lamps and garlands. In Little India the streets are brilliantly illuminated.

Nov. **Merlion Week** is Singapore's version of Carnival, with food fairs, fashion shows, masquerade balls, and fireworks displays. Brochures of the activities are available in every hotel.

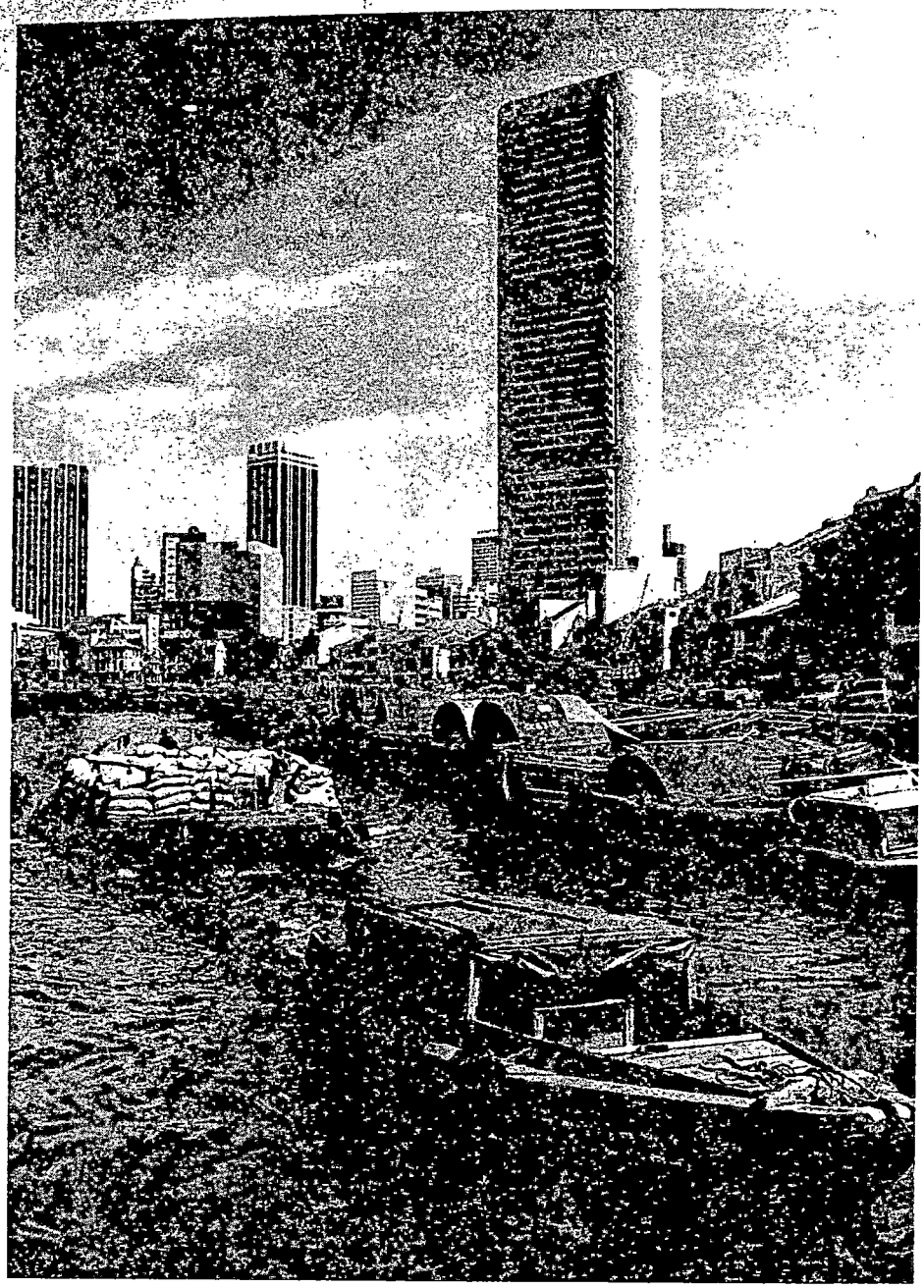
Nov.–Dec. Being a multiracial society, Singapore has taken **Christmas** to its commercial heart. All the shops are deep in artificial snow,


Peninsular Malaysia
Johor Baharu
Masai
Kampong Tanjong Se.indet
Sungai Johor
Senoko
Causeway
Naval Base
Woodlands
Sembawang
Kampong Kranji
Strait
Johore
Kangkar Pendas
Bukit Mandai Village
Punggol
Johore Strait
Pulau Ubin
Pulau Tekong Besar
Nee Soon
Bukit Panjang
Changi
Choa Chu Kang
Serangoon
Singapore Island
International Airport
Kampong Baharu
Yan Kit
Bukit Timah Village
Toa Payoh
Jurong
Tuas
Bedok
Queenstown
Singapore
Pasir Panjang Village
Pulau Ayer Chawan
Keppel Harbour
Pulau Brani
Sentosa
Pulau Bukum
Pulau Semakau
Singapore Strait
Pulau Senang
Main Strait
Sekupang
Pulau Batam
Indonesia
Sagulung
103°45'
104°00'
1°30'
1°15'
Names and boundary representation are not necessarily authoritative
Singapore
Railroad
Road
Scale 1:345,000
0 5 10 Kilometers
0 5 10 Miles

Singapore is located in Southeast Asia at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula and is separated from Malaysia by the Strait of Johore, which is traversed by a 1.2-kilometer (3/4-mi.) causeway carrying a road and a railway. The Singapore Strait separates the country from Indonesia. Singapore is a focal point for Southeast Asian sea routes. Its total land area includes one large island and about 55 nearby islets. The diamond-shaped main island is 41 kilometers (26 mi.) at its broadest from east to west, and 22 kilometers (14 mi.) from north to south.

Much of Singapore is lowland and originally consisted of swamp and jungle. Now mainly urban and industrialized, its geographical features are small in scale—the highest point on the main island, Bukit Timah (Hill of Tin), is only 177 meters (581 ft.) above sea level; the longest river is 14 kilometers (9 mi.) long. A central plateau of about 31 square kilometers (12 sq. mi.) contains a water catchment area and nature preserve. The main urban area lies on the southern part of the island, primarily on land reclaimed from swamp and sea.

Singapore's climate is characterized by warm temperatures, high humidity, and copious rainfall. Virtually no seasonal temperature variation exists. The average maximum temperature is 31 °C (88 °F); the average rainfall is 158 centimeters (62 in.). Singapore has no pronounced wet or dry seasons.



Singapore's modern skyline.

PEOPLE

With a population density of 4,231 persons per square kilometer (10,961 per sq. mi.), Singapore is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. The annual growth rate has fallen, however, from 2.5% in 1965 to 1.3% in 1988. Health standards are high for the region, with about 1 physician for every 837 people (US has about 1 to 700).

Singapore has a varied linguistic, cultural, and religious heritage. Malay is the national language, but Chinese, English, and Tamil also are official languages. English is widely used in professions, businesses, and schools.

The government mandated that English would be the primary language used at all levels of the school systems by 1987, and aims to provide at least 10 years of education for every child. Primary and secondary school students total almost 470,000, or nearly 18% of the entire population. Enrollment at the National University of Singapore is 14,972 and 13,753 at Singapore Polytechnic. The practical engineering-oriented Nanyang Technological Institute, founded in 1981, now has 3,940 students. The overall literacy rate is 87% and is more than 90% for Singaporeans under 35.

Singapore has religious freedom. Almost all Malays are Muslim; other Singaporeans are Hindus, Sikhs, Taoists, Buddhists, Confucianists, and Christians.



A blacksmith for 45 years.

HISTORY

Although Singapore's history dates from the 11th century, little was known about the island until the 19th century, when in 1819, Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles arrived as an agent of the British East India Company. In 1824, the British purchased Singapore Island, and by 1825, the city of Singapore had become a major port, with trade exceeding that of Malaya's Malacca and Penang combined. In 1830, Singapore, Penang, and Malacca were combined as the Straits Settlements to form an outlying residency of the British East India Company; in 1867, the Straits Settlements were made a British Crown Colony, an arrangement that continued until 1946.

The opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 and the advent of steamships launched an era of prosperity for Singapore as transit trade expanded throughout Southeast Asia. In the 20th century, the automobile industry's demand for rubber from Southeast Asia and the packaging industry's need for tin helped make Singapore one of the world's major ports. It is now second largest in the world in terms of annual tonnage.

In 1921, the British constructed a naval base, which was soon supplemented by an air base. The Japanese captured the island in February 1942, however, and it remained under their control until September 1945, when it was recaptured by the British.

In 1946, Penang and Malacca were united in a single British Crown Colony called the Federation of Malaya; Singapore remained a separate colony. In 1959, Singapore became self-governing, and, in 1963, it joined the now-independent Federation of Malaya, Sabah, and Sarawak (the latter two former British Borneo territories) to form Malaysia.

Indonesia adopted a policy of "confrontation" against the new federation, charging that it was a "British colonial creation," and severed trade with Malaysia. The move particularly affected Singapore, since Indonesia had been the island's second largest trading partner. The political dispute was resolved in 1966, and Indonesia resumed trade with Singapore.

After a period of friction between Singapore and the central government in Kuala Lumpur, Singapore separated from Malaysia on August 9, 1965, and became an independent republic.

GOVERNMENT

According to the constitution, as amended in 1965, Singapore is a republic with a parliamentary system of government. The president, the ceremonial chief of state, is elected every 4 years by parliament. Political authority rests with the prime minister and the cabinet. The prime minister is the leader of the political party or coalition of parties having the majority of seats in parliament.

The unicameral parliament consists of 81 members (80 of whom are from the governing People's Action Party-PAP) elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage. Up to 3 opposition candidates are invited to become nonconstituent members of parliament after any general election in which less than three opposition candidates are elected. Nonconstituent members may debate but may not vote on constitutional amendments or on bills requiring the expenditure of funds. After the last general election (September 1988), two members were named, one of whom subsequently was disqualified. The maximum term of any one parliament is 5 years. Voting has been compulsory since 1959.

Judicial power is vested in the High Court and Court of Appeal. The High Court exercises original criminal and civil jurisdiction in serious cases as well as appellate jurisdiction from subordinate courts. Its chief justice, senior judge, and six judges are appointed by the president. Appeals from the High Court are heard by the Court of Appeal. Further appeal can be made in certain cases to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council at London.

Principal Government Officials

President—WEE Kim Wee
Prime Minister—LEE Kuan Yew
First Deputy Prime Minister—GOH Chok Tong
Second Deputy Prime Minister—ONG Teng Cheong

Ministers
Communications and Information—YEO Ning Hong
Community Development—WONG Kan Seng
Defense—GOH Chok Tong
Education—Tony TAN
Environment—Ahmad MATTAR
Finance—Richard HU Tsu Tau
Foreign Affairs—WONG Kan Seng
Health (Acting)—YEO Cheow Tong
Home Affairs—S. JAYAKUMAR
Labor—LEEYock San
Law—S. JAYAKUMAR
National Development—S. DHANABALAN
Trade and Industry—LEE Hsien Loong

Ambassador to the United Nations—CHAN Heng Chee
Ambassador to the United States—Tommy KOH Thong Bee

Singapore maintains an embassy in the United States at 1824 R Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20009 (tel. 202-667-7555).

POLITICAL CONDITIONS

The ruling political party in Singapore (in power since 1959) is the People's Action Party (PAP), headed by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. In the 1963 general elections, the PAP won 37 of the 51 seats in parliament. In October 1966, the opposition Barisan Sosialis Party (Socialist Front), a left-wing group that split off from the PAP in 1961, resigned from parliament, leaving the PAP as the sole representative party. In the April 1968 general elections, the PAP won all 58 seats—51 without opposition.

In the general elections of 1972, 1976, and 1980, the PAP won all of the seats in an expanding parliament. In an October 1981 by-election, the PAP lost a seat to the Workers' Party Secretary General J.B. Jeyaretnam, the first time an oppositon party had won a seat since 1963.

In the 1984 elections, the PAP polled 62.9% of the popular vote, a 12% drop from 1980 returns, and lost a second seat. In 1988, the PAP polled 61.9% of the popular vote to win 80 of 81 seats.

Following the 1988 elections, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew indicated that in 1990 he would retire as head of government but not from politics. First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong has been designated to assume the office of prime minister as part of a transition process to a new generation of political leaders.

ECONOMY

Singapore's strategic location and industrious population have given the country an economic importance in Southeast Asia out of proportion to its small size. Following independence, its economy expanded rapidly. Average annual growth in gross domestic product (GDP) during the 1970s was close to 10%, and for 1980–84 it was 8.5%. Following a recession in 1985–86, the economy steadily recovered and registered an impressive 11% GDP growth rate in 1988. The 1988 per capita income, $8,782, is the third highest in Asia after Japan and Brunei. At the end of 1988, official foreign exchange reserves stood at $16.6 billion.

Singapore began as an entrepot (warehousing and transshipment) center for the region but began to industrialize and modernize its infrastructure after independence. The marine and oil services and processing industries were among the leaders in the important manufacturing sector. The late 1970s and early 1980s brought an increasing emphasis on high technology high-value-added goods and services, which made Singapore an electronics and regional banking center. Government policy, aimed at providing modern housing for most of the population by 1990, spurred public and private building, creating a construction and property boom in the early 1980s.

However, by 1984, the government's accelerated construction program was nearly concluded, and there was a massive oversupply of new buildings. Property values tumbled. At the same time, there was a near-collapse of marine and petroleum-related industries worldwide, a shakeout in the US electronics market, and worsening economic conditions in Malaysia and Indonesia. The net result was Singapore's first recession after 21 years of sustained growth. Real GDP growth plummeted to -1.6% in 1985, began to show the first signs of recovery in mid-1986, and has been remarkably buoyant since.

Singapore continues to upgrade worker skills and to search for new products and markets to drive its export-led economy. One major effort is to become a complete business center, offering multinationals a manufacturing base, a developed financial infrastructure, and excellent communications to service regional and world markets.

Trade

In the past, about two-thirds of Singapore's imports and exports consisted of entrepot trade. With rapid industrialization, however, the relative importance of this sector has declined. The trade pattern reflects a shift toward importing capital goods and raw materials for industry and exporting locally manufactured products.

In 1988, the United States was Singapore's largest trading partner.



Major exports to the United States consisted of crude rubber, electronic equipment, electrical machinery, and textile products; major imports from the United States were machinery and other manufactured products.

US Investment and Assistance

The United States is the largest source of foreign investment in Singapore, with more than one-third of all private foreign investment and a quarter of total investment. US private investment played a leading role in Singapore's rapid economic expansion, particularly in general manufacturing, electronics, and in modernizing regional distribution facilities. US activities also include oil refining, shipping, banking, hotels, insurance, and importing and exporting. The resident US business community, including dependents, was estimated at about 5,000 in late 1988. Total US investment in Singapore at the end of 1988 stood at $3 billion, with investment flows continuing at a brisk pace.

The United States has a small military training assistance program with Singapore but provides no other bilateral aid.

Industry

The government's development policy from independence has emphasized industrialization. Separation from Malaysia removed any semblance of a large domestic market, leading naturally to emphasis on manufacturing for export. To support this policy, the government introduced new and remarkably successful financial incentives for export-oriented industry and provided efficient infrastructure for manufacturing. Singapore opened its economy and has pursued a vigorous free-trade policy ever since. Labor legislation enacted in 1968 reduced labor unrest and gave employers more flexibility in hiring and firing. By the early 1980s, Singapore had become a relatively high wage locale by Asian standards, but the government moved in 1985 to restrain wage increases and reduce other costs with a view to making Singapore more competitive.

Several institutions played a key role in carrying out the industrialization policy. The Development Bank of Singapore was responsible for industrial financing. The Jurong Town Corporation was charged with developing industrial estates. Its major achievement, the Jurong Industrial Estate, is a government-planned satellite community devoted to manufacturing, which had more than 1,400 factories in production in the early 1980s and many others in various stages of completion. The government's Economic Development Board has organized a massive program to promote foreign investment in Singapore and has set up a network of offices in Europe, Japan, and the United States (in New York, Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago, and Houston).

These efforts resulted in a dramatic increase in the level of foreign and local investment. From 1962 to 1974, the manufacturing sector grew an average of 20% per year and registered an annual average increase of more than 10% through 1981. After a pause in 1982, growth resumed in 1983. Manufacturing increased as a percentage of total economic activity from 17% in 1960 to 29% in 1988. Extensive petroleum refining operations make that industry—in terms of total value of production—the largest in Singapore. It is closely followed by electronics, transportation equipment and marine services—including ship repair—textiles, electrical machinery, and food industries. The manufacturing sector contracted because of the recession, but the prospects for high-tech manufacturing are still bright.

Construction was the cutting edge of the economy in the early 1980s, providing as much as 30% of total growth. Although the frenzied pace of construction in that period left a massive surplus of offices, hotels, and warehouses, the program also resulted in modern housing for most Singaporeans and an up-to-date system of ports, airports, and roads. Construction of a 66.8-kilometer (41.5-mi.) rapid transit system is underway. The first stage was completed in December 1987.



Agriculture

Singapore's limited agrarian land is devoted primarily to intensive cultivation of vegetables, some poultry and pork, and other food crops. Although rice is a dietary staple, it is not grown domestically. All the island's other food requirements are imported. Singapore is a major exporter of orchids and tropical fish.

Labor

Singapore has a work force of about 1.3 million. The National Trades Union Congress, the sole trade union federation, has 209,000 members or about 98% of total organized labor. Extensive legislation covers general labor and trade union matters. The Industrial Arbitration Court handles labor-management disputes. In recent years, few incidents have occurred to ruffle the generally harmonious state of labor-management relations.

Singapore enjoyed virtually full employment in the early 1980s with an unemployment rate of only 3%. The 1985 recession drove the jobless figure to more than 6% in mid-1986, but with the recovery, it dropped back to 3.3% in mid-1988. Spot labor shortages persist, however, in some growth areas, such as electronics and in industries, such as construction, where foreign workers predominate.

Transportation and Communications

Situated at the crossroads of international shipping and air routes, Singapore is a center for transportation and communication in Southeast Asia. The world's second most active port (after Rotterdam), Singapore handled 93 million tons of cargo in 1988. Singapore is a regional aviation hub served by 50 international airlines. Changi International Airport, opened in 1980, is being expanded. The country also is linked by road and rail with Malaysia and Thailand.

Telecommunications and telephone facilities are modern and comprehensive, providing high-quality communications with the rest of the world. Radio and television stations are government-owned and operated. Privately owned daily newspapers are published in English, Chinese, and Malay.

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FOREIGN RELATIONS

Singapore is nonaligned and seeks cordial relations with all nations. As a small country heavily dependent on world trade, it has a special interest in maintaining wide international contacts. It is a member of the Commonwealth and also the United Nations and several of its specialized and related agencies. Singapore supports the concept of Southeast Asian regionalism and plays an active role in the Association of South East Asian Nations, founded in 1967.

DEFENSE

Singapore relies primarily on its own defense forces, which are continuously being modernized. The Singapore armed forces comprises 50,000 army, 3,500 navy, and 6,000 air force personnel. Reserve forces total about 200,000. Singapore is a member of the Five Power Defense Arrangement—United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and Malaysia. Designed to replace the former defense role of the British in the Singapore-Malaysia area, the arrangement obligates members to consult in the event of external threat and provides for stationing Commonwealth forces in Singapore.

US-SINGAPORE RELATIONS

The United States has maintained formal diplomatic relations with Singapore since that country became independent in 1965. Singapore's efforts to maintain economic growth and political stability and its support for regional cooperation harmonize with US policy in the region and form a solid basis for amicable relations between the two countries. The growth of US investment in Singapore and the large number of Americans living there enhance opportunities for contact between Singapore and the

Encyclopedia Americana

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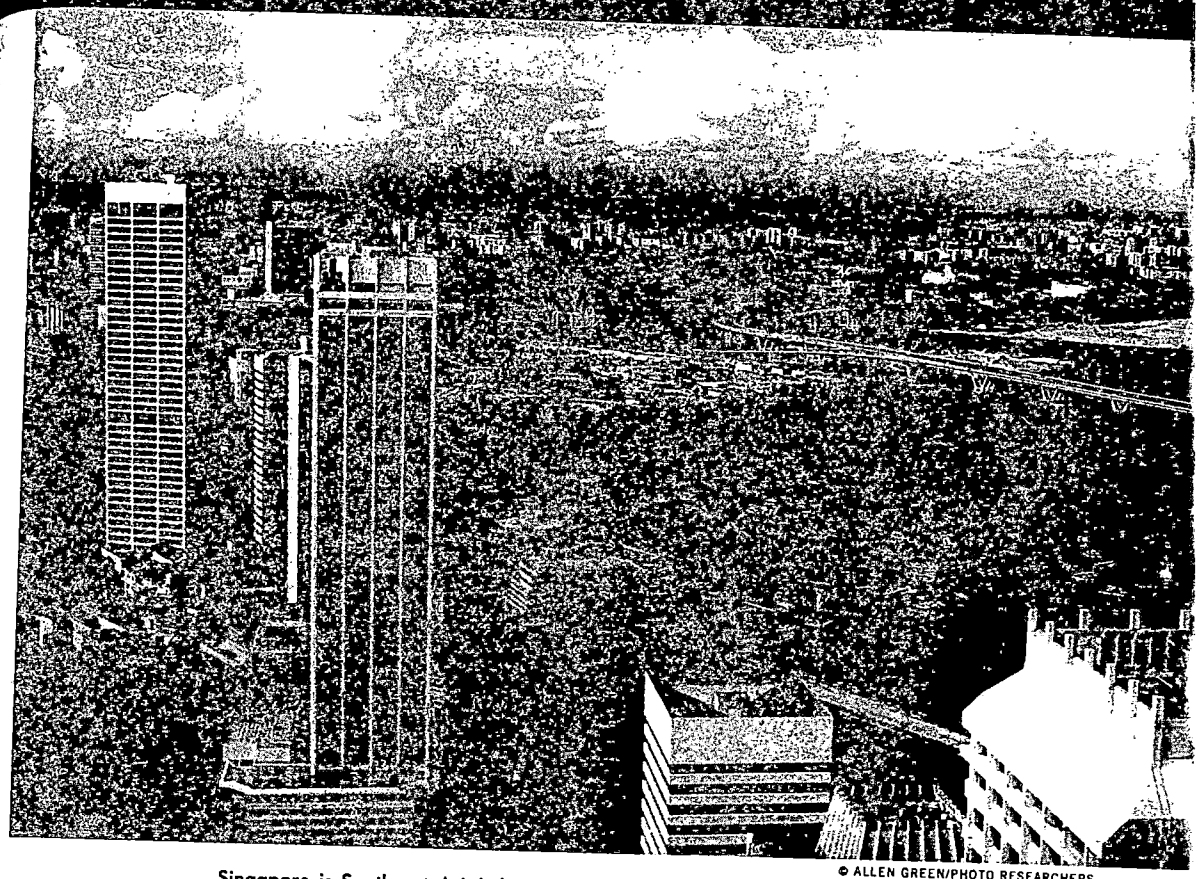
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© ALLEN GREEN/PHOTO RESEARCHERS

Singapore is Southeast Asia's busiest commercial and industrial center.

SINGAPORE, sing'ə-pôr, the smallest nation in Southeast Asia. Essentially an island city-state, it is situated off the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula athwart the northern, preferred passageway between the Indian and Pacific oceans. Thus it commands a strategic threshold of international commerce that for centuries has been coveted by regional and, especially, nonregional powers.

Founded in 1819 by a British trading company, Singapore came under direct British rule in 1867. Free trade and (until 1930) unrestricted immigration made it a prosperous colony with a largely Chinese population. Singapore was also Britain's most strongly fortified naval base in Asia, but it fell helplessly to a rearward attack by the Japanese army during World War II.

In the mid-1960's, Singapore became one of history's rare examples of involuntary nationhood. Internally self-governing since 1959, it had been a founding member of the federation of Malaysia, created in 1963 by former British dependencies in Southeast Asia. On Aug. 9, 1965, the prime minister of Singapore wept as he reluctantly proclaimed independence in the wake of his state's eviction from the federal union. Malaya, the other major partner, had from the outset felt uneasy in association with its southern neighbor because of the island's predominantly Chinese population and formally socialist government. Now rejected by the federation and soon all but abandoned by Britain in matters of defense, Singapore began a new era of lonely self-reliance.

INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTS

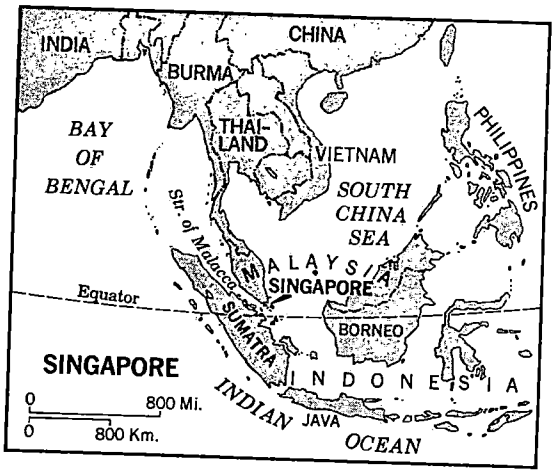
Area: 239.5 square miles (620 sq km).
Elevations: *Highest point*—Bukit Timah (581 feet, or 177 meters); *lowest point*—sea level.
Population: (1980 census) 2,074,507.
Capital and Largest City: Singapore.
Name of Nationals: Singaporeans.
Major Languages: Malay, Mandarin Chinese, Tamil, English (all official).
Major Religious Groups: Buddhist, Taoist, Muslim, Christian, Hindu.
Monetary Unit: Singapore dollar.

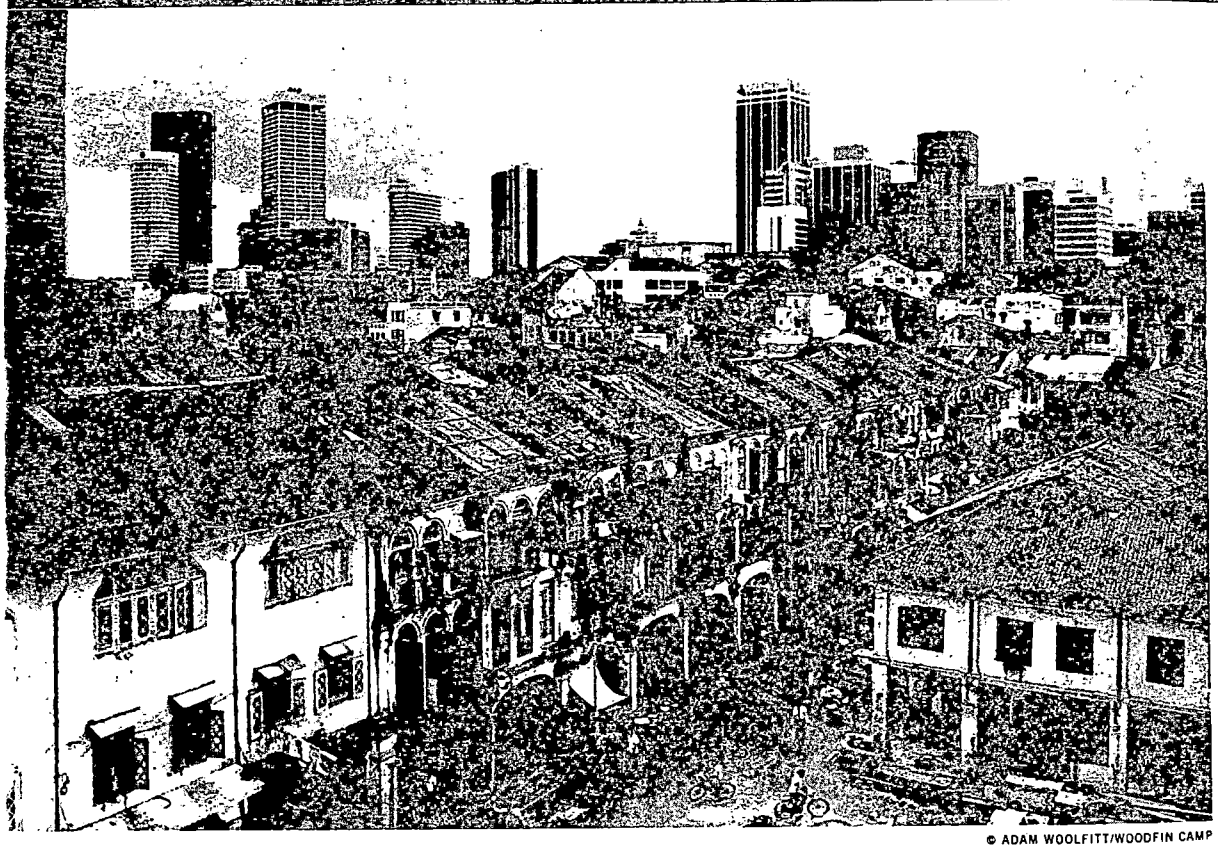
For Singapore's flag, see under FLAG, both illustration and text.

1. The Land

Singapore consists of the main island and 54 nearby islets. Its only natural resources are its people, its favorable location, and its sheltered deepwater harbor.

Physical Features and Climate. Singapore Island is situated at the mouth of the funnel-shaped Strait of Malacca (Melaka), the interocean water-





© ADAM WOOLFITT/WOODFIN CAMP

An older shopping street preserves the atmosphere of Singapore's bygone colonial days.

way between the Indonesian island of Sumatra and Peninsular Malaysia. The strait provides the shortest connection between the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea of the Pacific Ocean. Separating the island from the Malay Peninsula is Johor Strait, which is narrow enough to be spanned by a road, rail, and water-pipeline causeway.

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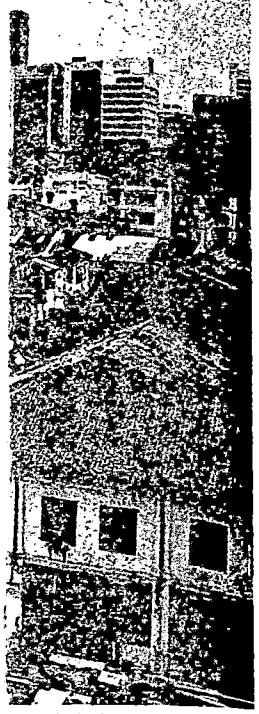
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When the British returned at the war's end, Singapore was made a separate crown colony. It was granted internal self-government in 1959. The socialist People's Action Party (PAP) won 43 of the 51 legislative seats in the first general elections in 1959, thereby capturing decisive control of the government. Lee Kuan Yew became Singapore's first prime minister.

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SINGER, Isaac Bashevis (1904–), American author, who was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1978. Most of his fiction is rooted in the Jewish villages (*shtetls*) of Poland, although several works concern the Jewish experience in America. He composed in Yiddish and supervised translation into English.

Singer was born in Leoncin, Poland, on Nov. 21, 1904, of a rabbinical family. His traditional education was influenced by Hasidic mysticism and the Jewish Enlightenment (Haskalah). In 1923 he abandoned his religious studies to become a proofreader and translator for a Yiddish newspaper in Warsaw. He moved to the United States in 1935 and became a citizen in 1943. He worked as a journalist for the *Jewish Daily Forward*, which serialized his fiction.

Singer's works typically explore the tensions between orthodox and secular values, the sacred and the profane, the emotions and the intellect, and alienation. His first novel, *Satan in Goray* (1935), tells of Cossack depredations against a Polish *shtetl* but is essentially about the loss of faith of its residents. Other novels include *The Family Moskat* (1950), *The Manor* (1967), and *The Estate* (1969), all on the theme of generational conflict; *The Magician of Lublin* (1960); *Enemies: A Love Story* (1972); and *The Penitent* (1983). Singer's numerous short stories appear in such collections as *Gimpel the Fool* (1957), *Short Friday* (1964), *The Seance* (1968), *A Crown of Feathers* (1973), *Old Love* (1979), *The Image* (1985), and *The Death of Methuselah* (1988).

Singer also wrote a series of memoirs: *In My Father's Court* (1966), *A Little Boy in Search of God* (1976), *A Young Man in Search of Love* (1978), and *Lost in America* (1981).

ISRAEL JOSHUA SINGER (1893–1944), his brother, was also a Yiddish writer. His best-known novel is *The Brothers Ashkenazi* (1936).

Further Reading: Alexander, Edward, *Isaac Bashevis Singer* (G. K. Hall 1980); Allentuck, Marcia, ed., *The Achievement of Isaac Bashevis Singer* (So. Ill. Univ. Press 1969); Miller, David N., *Fear of Fiction: Narrative Strategies in the Works of Isaac Bashevis Singer* (State Univ. of N.Y. Press 1985); Sinclair, Clive, *The Brothers Singer* (Schocken 1983).

SINGER, Isaac Merrit (1811–1875), American inventor who developed the first practical home sewing machine. Singer was born in Pittstown, N.Y., on Oct. 27, 1811. He left home at the age of 12 and for many years was an itinerant mechanic. In 1851, Singer patented a sewing machine capable of producing continuous stitching both straight and curved. With Edward Clark he formed I. M. Singer & Company and began to produce the machine.

Between 1851 and 1863, Singer received 20 patents for improvements on his machine, and the firm, now known as the Singer Manufacturing Company, became the world's leading manufacturer of sewing machines. To encourage sales among the working classes, Singer and Clark devised a system of installment payments, and the company was the first to take trade-ins of old machines toward the purchase of new ones.

Singer retired from active direction of the business in 1863 and spent his remaining years in Europe. He died in Torquay, England, on July 23, 1875. See also SEWING MACHINE.

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© ALLEN GREEN/PHOTO RESEARCHERS

Singapore is Southeast Asia's busiest commercial and industrial center.

SINGAPORE, sing'ə-pôr, the smallest nation in Southeast Asia. Essentially an island city-state, it is situated off the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula athwart the northern, preferred passageway between the Indian and Pacific oceans. Thus it commands a strategic threshold of international commerce that for centuries has been coveted by regional and, especially, nonregional powers.

Founded in 1819 by a British trading company, Singapore came under direct British rule in 1867. Free trade and (until 1930) unrestricted immigration made it a prosperous colony with a largely Chinese population. Singapore was also Britain's most strongly fortified naval base in Asia, but it fell helplessly to a rearward attack by the Japanese army during World War II.

In the mid-1960's, Singapore became one of history's rare examples of involuntary nationhood. Internally self-governing since 1959, it had been a founding member of the federation of Malaysia, created in 1963 by former British dependencies in Southeast Asia. On Aug. 9, 1965, the prime minister of Singapore wept as he reluctantly proclaimed independence in the wake of his state's eviction from the federal union. Malaya, the other major partner, had from the outset felt uneasy in association with its southern neighbor because of the island's predominantly Chinese population and formally socialist government. Now rejected by the federation and soon all but abandoned by Britain in matters of defense, Singapore began a new era of lonely self-reliance.

INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTS

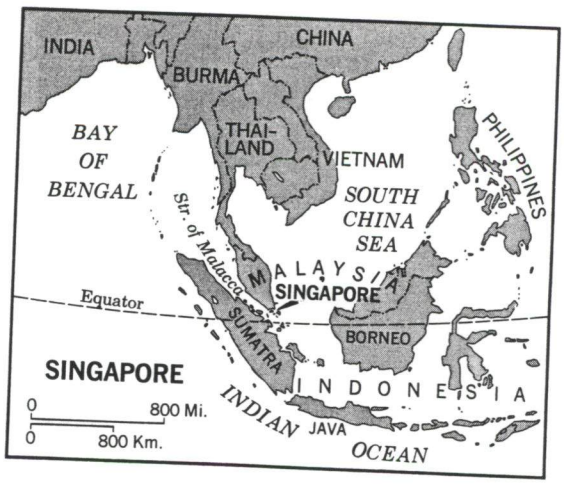
Area: 239.5 square miles (620 sq km).
Elevations: *Highest point*—Bukit Timah (581 feet, or 177 meters); *lowest point*—sea level.
Population: (1980 census) 2,074,507.
Capital and Largest City: Singapore.
Name of Nationals: Singaporeans.
Major Languages: Malay, Mandarin Chinese, Tamil, English (all official).
Major Religious Groups: Buddhist, Taoist, Muslim, Christian, Hindu.
Monetary Unit: Singapore dollar.

For Singapore's flag, see under FLAG, both illustration and text.

1. The Land

Singapore consists of the main island and 54 nearby islets. Its only natural resources are its people, its favorable location, and its sheltered deepwater harbor.

Physical Features and Climate. Singapore Island is situated at the mouth of the funnel-shaped Strait of Malacca (Melaka), the interocean water-





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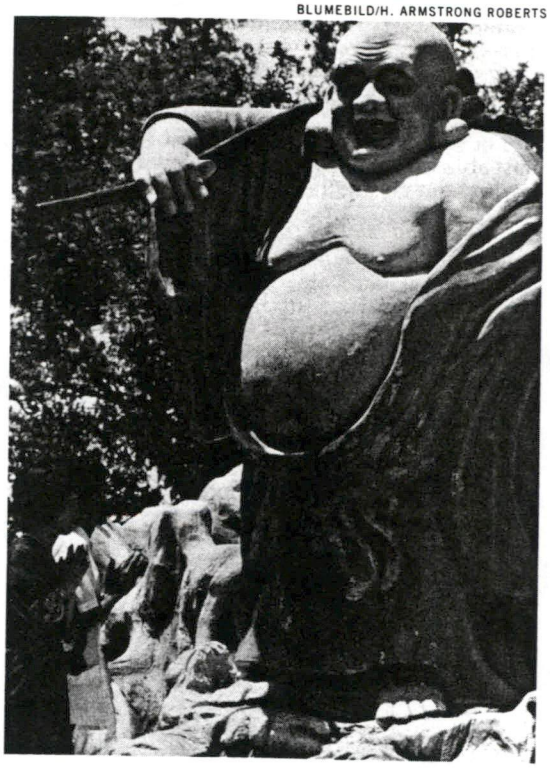
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FELIX V. GAGLIANO, *Ohio University*

Further Reading: Drysdale, John, *Singapore: Struggle for Success* (Times Books Intl. 1984); Hassan, Riaz, ed., *Singapore: Society in Transition* (Oxford 1976); Nair, C. V. Devan, *Socialism that Works: The Singapore Way* (Federal Publications 1977); Quah, Jon S. T., *Government and Politics of Singapore* (Oxford 1985); Turnbull, C. M., *A History of Singapore, 1819–1975*, 5th ed. (Oxford 1984).

SINGER, Isaac Bashevis (1904–), American author, who was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1978. Most of his fiction is rooted in the Jewish villages (*shtetls*) of Poland, although several works concern the Jewish experience in America. He composed in Yiddish and supervised translation into English.

Singer was born in Leoncin, Poland, on Nov. 21, 1904, of a rabbinical family. His traditional education was influenced by Hasidic mysticism and the Jewish Enlightenment (Haskalah). In 1923 he abandoned his religious studies to become a proofreader and translator for a Yiddish newspaper in Warsaw. He moved to the United States in 1935 and became a citizen in 1943. He worked as a journalist for the *Jewish Daily Forward*, which serialized his fiction.

Singer's works typically explore the tensions between orthodox and secular values, the sacred and the profane, the emotions and the intellect, and alienation. His first novel, *Satan in Goray* (1935), tells of Cossack depredations against a Polish *shtetl* but is essentially about the loss of faith of its residents. Other novels include *The Family Moskat* (1950), *The Manor* (1967), and *The Estate* (1969), all on the theme of generational conflict; *The Magician of Lublin* (1960); *Enemies: A Love Story* (1972); and *The Penitent* (1983). Singer's numerous short stories appear in such collections as *Gimpel the Fool* (1957), *Short Friday* (1964), *The Seance* (1968), *A Crown of Feathers* (1973), *Old Love* (1979), *The Image* (1985), and *The Death of Methuselah* (1988).

Singer also wrote a series of memoirs: *In My Father's Court* (1966), *A Little Boy in Search of God* (1976), *A Young Man in Search of Love* (1978), and *Lost in America* (1981).

ISRAEL JOSHUA SINGER (1893–1944), his brother, was also a Yiddish writer. His best-known novel is *The Brothers Ashkenazi* (1936).

Further Reading: Alexander, Edward, *Isaac Bashevis Singer* (G. K. Hall 1980); Allentuck, Marcia, ed., *The Achievement of Isaac Bashevis Singer* (So. Ill. Univ. Press 1969); Miller, David N., *Fear of Fiction: Narrative Strategies in the Works of Isaac Bashevis Singer* (State Univ. of N.Y. Press 1985); Sinclair, Clive, *The Brothers Singer* (Schocken 1983).

SINGER, Isaac Merrit (1811–1875), American inventor who developed the first practical home sewing machine. Singer was born in Pittstown, N.Y., on Oct. 27, 1811. He left home at the age of 12 and for many years was an itinerant mechanic. In 1851, Singer patented a sewing machine capable of producing continuous stitching both straight and curved. With Edward Clark he formed I. M. Singer & Company and began to produce the machine.

Between 1851 and 1863, Singer received 20 patents for improvements on his machine, and the firm, now known as the Singer Manufacturing Company, became the world's leading manufacturer of sewing machines. To encourage sales among the working classes, Singer and Clark devised a system of installment payments, and the company was the first to take trade-ins of old machines toward the purchase of new ones.

Singer retired from active direction of the business in 1863 and spent his remaining years in Europe. He died in Torquay, England, on July 23, 1875. See also SEWING MACHINE.

SINGH, Govind. See GOVIND SINGH.

SINGING. See VOICE.

US + Asia Statistical Handbook, 1990

SINGAPORE

LAND

Area: 239 square miles
Cultivated: 9.5% **Forest:** 4.6% **Pasture:** 0%
Resources: none

POPULATION

1989 Estimate: 2,674,000 **Annual Growth:** 1.1%
Life Expectancy: 74 **Literacy:** 87%
Infant Mortality: 9 **Fertility:** 1.6
Ethnic Divisions: Chinese: 76.4%, Malay: 14.9%, Indian: 6.4%

Workforce: 1,280,000 **Unemployment:** 2.0%
Commerce and Services: 60.0% **Manufacturing:** 28.5%
Agriculture and Fishing: 0.4% **Construction:** 5.0%
Government and Public Authorities: 5.5%
Students: Primary and Secondary: 464,250 **University:** 46,900

POLITICAL

Official Name: REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
Capital: Singapore
Type of Government: One-Party Dominant Republic
Chief of State: President WEE Kim Wee
Head of Government: Prime Minister LEE Kwan Yew
Foreign Minister: WONG Kan Seng

1990 Freedom House Index (1 is highest, 7 is lowest)
Political Freedom: 4 **Civil Liberties:** 4
1989 Voting with U.S. at U.N.: 14.61%

FY 1989 U.S. Foreign Assistance (Actual Obligations)
Economic: none **Military:** US$ 50,000

ECONOMY

Currency: Singapore Dollar, 1 US$ = 1.904 S$
Major Industries: petroleum refining, rubber processing, electronics, food processing, ship repair, garments
Major Agricultural Products: hogs, poultry, orchids, vegetables
Major Imports: capital equipment, manufactured goods, crude oil, transport equipment, consumer goods
Major Exports: machinery, manufactured goods, transport equipment, refined petroleum, rubber, electronics
Per Capita GNP: US$ 9,000 (1989)

E
(Billions of US$

	1983	198
GDP	17.30	19.1
Growth	8.2%	8.3%
CPI Rise	1.2%	2.6%
Exports	21.832	24.07
to U.S.	2.969	4.12
Imports	28.158	28.66
from U.S.	3.759	3.67
CurAccount	-0.610	-0.38

Singapore is the

MILITARY

1989/90 Military Budget: US$ 1,50
Increase over 1988/89: 13.6%
Outlay as a share of GNP: 4.8%
As a share of Government Spendin
Total Regular Forces: 55,500
Army: 45,000 R
Navy: 4,500 A

Combat Aircraft: 188
Naval Vessels: 1 Corvette, 6 Fast-A Minesweepers

Security Alliance with U.S.: none, excercise together
U.S. Military Installations: U.S. w agreement
U.S. Military Personnel: none
Foreign Military Personnel: Austr advisers; New Zealand: 20
Armed Opposition Groups: none

INVESTMENT

1989 U.S. Direct Investment: US$
1989 Singaporean Direct Investm

E

Pasture: 0%

%

dian: 6.4%

0%
Manufacturing: 28.5%
Construction: 5.0%

University: 46,900

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goods, crude oil, transport equipment,

ansport equipment, refined petroleum,

Economic Statistics
(Billions of US$, percentages where appropriate)

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
GDP	17.30	19.13	18.33	19.26	20.72	22.31	24.0
Growth	8.2%	8.3%	-1.6%	1.7%	8.8%	11.0%	9.2%
CPI Rise	1.2%	2.6%	0.5%	-1.4%	0.5%	1.5%	3.0%
Exports	21.832	24.070	22.812	22.501	28.696	39.318	44.769
to U.S.	2.969	4.121	4.412	4.884	6.395	8.223	9.178
Imports	28.158	28.667	26.237	25.513	32.626	43.869	49.694
from U.S.	3.759	3.675	3.476	3.380	4.053	5.739	7.353
CurAccount	-0.610	-0.385	-0.004	0.542	0.539	1.660	2.1

Singapore is the **11th** largest U.S. trading partner

MILITARY

1989/90 Military Budget: US$ 1,500,000,000
Increase over 1988/89: 13.6%
Outlay as a share of GNP:4.8%
As a share of Government Spending: 27%
Total Regular Forces: 55,500
Army: 45,000 **Reserves:** 212,000
Navy: 4,500 **Airforce:** 6,000

Combat Aircraft: 188
Naval Vessels: 1 Corvette, 6 Fast-Attack Craft (missile), 20 Inshore Patrol Craft, 2 Minesweepers

Security Alliance with U.S.: none, although U.S. and Singaporean forces periodically excercise together
U.S. Military Installations: U.S. will station aircraft in Singapore under a recently signed agreement
U.S. Military Personnel: none
Foreign Military Personnel: Australian: 50 Army, some RAAF, small number of advisers; New Zealand: 20
Armed Opposition Groups: none

INVESTMENT

1989 U.S. Direct Investment: US$ 2,213,000,000
1989 Singaporean Direct Investment in the U.S.: US$ 1,216,000,000

Singapore

IRC, ITU, Mano River Union, NAM, OAU, OIC, UN, UNESCO, UPU, WHO, WMO, WTO
Diplomatic representation: Ambassador George CAREW; Chancery at 1701 19th Street NW, Washington DC 20009; telephone (202) 939-9261; *US*—Ambassador Johnny YOUNG; Embassy at the corner of Walpole and Siaka Stevens Street, Freetown; telephone 26481
Flag: three equal horizontal bands of light green (top), white, and light blue

Economy

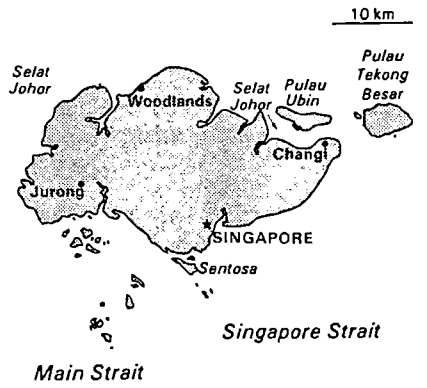
Overview: The economic and social infrastructure is not well developed. Subsistence agriculture dominates the economy, generating about one-third of GDP and employing about two-thirds of the working population. Manufacturing accounts for less than 10% of GDP, consisting mainly of the processing of raw materials and of light manufacturing for the domestic market. Diamond mining provides an important source of hard currency. The economy suffers from high unemployment, rising inflation, large trade deficits, and a growing dependency on foreign assistance.
GDP: $965 million, per capita $250; real growth rate 1.8% (FY87)
Inflation rate (consumer prices): 42% (September 1988)
Unemployment rate: NA%
Budget: revenues $86 million; expenditures $128 million, including capital expenditures of $NA (FY90 est.)
Exports: $106 million (f.o.b., 1988); *commodities*—rutile 50%, bauxite 17%, cocoa 11%, diamonds 3%, coffee 3%; *partners*—US, UK, Belgium, FRG, other Western Europe
Imports: $167 million (c.i.f., 1988); *commodities*—capital goods 40%, food 32%, petroleum 12%, consumer goods 7%, light industrial goods; *partners*—US, EC, Japan, China, Nigeria
External debt: $805 million (1989 est.)
Industrial production: growth rate −19% (FY88 est.)
Electricity: 83,000 kW capacity; 180 million kWh produced, 45 kWh per capita (1989)
Industries: mining (diamonds, bauxite, rutile), small-scale manufacturing (beverages, textiles, cigarettes, footwear), petroleum refinery
Agriculture: accounts for over 30% of GDP and two-thirds of the labor force; largely subsistence farming; cash crops—coffee, cocoa, palm kernels; harvests of food staple rice meets 80% of domestic needs; annual fish catch averages 53,000 metric tons
Aid: US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-88), $149 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-87), $698 million; OPEC bilateral aid (1979-89), $18 million; Communist countries (1970-88), $101 million
Currency: leone (plural—leones); 1 leone (Le) = 100 cents
Exchange rates: leones per US$1—87.7193 (January 1990), 58.1395 (1989), 31.2500 (1988), 30.7692 (1987), 8.3963 (1986), 4.7304 (1985)
Fiscal year: 1 July-30 June

Communications

Railroads: 84 km 1.067-meter narrow-gauge mineral line is used on a limited basis because the mine at Marampa is closed
Highways: 7,400 km total; 1,150 km bituminous, 490 km laterite (some gravel), remainder improved earth
Inland waterways: 800 km; 600 km navigable year round
Ports: Freetown, Pepel
Civil air: no major transport aircraft
Airports: 12 total, 8 usable; 5 with permanent-surface runways; none with runways over 3,659 m; 1 with runways 2,440-3,659 m; 3 with runways 1,220-2,439 m
Telecommunications: marginal telephone and telegraph service; national microwave radio relay system unserviceable at present; 23,650 telephones; stations—1 AM, 1 FM, 1 TV; 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT earth station

Defense Forces

Branches: Army, Navy
Military manpower: males 15-49, 918,078; 433,350 fit for military service; no conscription
Defense expenditures: 1% of GDP (1986)



See regional map IX

Geography

Total area: 632.6 km^2; land area: 622.6 km^2
Comparative area: slightly less than 3.5 times the size of Washington, DC
Land boundaries: none
Coastline: 193 km
Maritime claims:
Exclusive fishing zone: not specific
Territorial sea: 3 nm
Climate: tropical; hot, humid, rainy; no pronounced rainy or dry seasons; thunderstorms occur on 40% of all days (67% of days in April)
Terrain: lowland; gently undulating central plateau contains water catchment area and nature preserve
Natural resources: fish, deepwater ports
Land use: 4% arable land; 7% permanent crops; 0% meadows and pastures; 5% forest and woodland; 84% other
Environment: mostly urban and industrialized
Note: focal point for Southeast Asian sea routes

People

Population: 2,720,915 (July 1990), growth rate 1.3% (1990)
Birth rate: 18 births/1,000 population (1990)
Death rate: 5 deaths/1,000 population (1990)
Net migration rate: 0 migrants/1,000 population (1990)
Infant mortality rate: 8 deaths/1,000 live births (1990)
Life expectancy at birth: 72 years male, 77 years female (1990)
Total fertility rate: 2.0 children born/woman (1990)
Nationality: noun—Singaporean(s), adjective—Singapore
Ethnic divisions: 76.4% Chinese, 14.9% Malay, 6.4% Indian, 2.3% other

Singapore *(continued)*

Religion: majority of Chinese are Buddhists or atheists; Malays nearly all Muslim (minorities include Christians, Hindus, Sikhs, Taoists, Confucianists)
Language: Chinese, Malay, Tamil, and English (official); Malay (national)
Literacy: 86.8% (1987)
Labor force: 1,280,000; 34.4% industry, 1.2% agriculture, 61.7% services (1988)
Organized labor: 211,200; 16.5% of labor force (1988)

Government

Long-form name: Republic of Singapore
Type: republic within Commonwealth
Capital: Singapore
Administrative divisions: none
Independence: 9 August 1965 (from Malaysia)
Constitution: 3 June 1959, amended 1965; based on preindependence State of Singapore Constitution
Legal system: based on English common law; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction
National holiday: National Day, 9 August (1965)
Executive branch: president, prime minister, two deputy prime ministers, Cabinet
Legislative branch: unicameral Parliament
Judicial branch: Supreme Court
Leaders: *Chief of State*—President WEE Kim Wee (since 3 September 1985); *Head of Government*—Prime Minister LEE Kuan Yew (since 5 June 1959); First Deputy Prime Minister GOH Chok Tong (since 2 January 1985); Second Deputy Prime Minister ONG Teng Cheong (since 2 January 1985)
Political parties and leaders: government—People's Action Party (PAP), Lee Kuan Yew; opposition—Workers' Party (WP), J. B. Jeyaretnam; Singapore Democratic Party (SDP), Chiam See Tong; National Solidarity Party (NSP), Soon Kia Seng; United People's Front (UPF), Harbans Singh; Barisan Sosialis (BS); Communist party illegal
Suffrage: universal and compulsory at age 20
Elections: *President*—last held 31 August 1989 (next to be held NA August 1993); results—President Wee Kim Wee was reelected by Parliament without opposition;
Parliament—last held 3 September 1988 (next to be held NA September 1993); results—PAP 61.8%, WP 18.4%, SDP 11.5%, NSP 3.7%, UPF 1.3%, others 3.3%; seats—(81 total) PAP 80, SDP 1; note—BS has 1 nonvoting seat
Communists: 200-500; Barisan Sosialis infiltrated by Communists
Member of: ADB, ANRPC, ASEAN, CCC, Colombo Plan, Commonwealth, ESCAP, G-77, GATT, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, IFC, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IPU, ISO, ITU, NAM, UN, UNESCO, UPU, WHO, WMO, WTO
Diplomatic representation: Ambassador Tommy KOH Tong Bee; Chancery at 1824 R Street NW, Washington DC 20009; telephone (202) 667-7555; *US*—Ambassador Robert D. ORR; Embassy at 30 Hill Street, Singapore 0617 (mailing address is FPO San Francisco 96699); telephone [65] 338-0251
Flag: two equal horizontal bands of red (top) and white; near the hoist side of the red band, there is a vertical, white crescent (closed portion is toward the hoist side) partially enclosing five white five-pointed stars arranged in a circle

Economy

Overview: Singapore has an open entrepreneurial economy with strong service and manufacturing sectors and excellent international trading links derived from its entrepôt history. During the 1970s and early 1980s, the economy expanded rapidly, achieving an average annual growth rate of 9%. Per capita GDP is among the highest in Asia. In 1985 the economy registered its first drop in 20 years and achieved less than a 2% increase in 1986. Recovery was strong. Estimates for 1989 suggest a 9.2% growth rate based on rising demand for Singapore's products in OECD countries, a strong Japanese yen, and improved competitiveness of domestic manufactures.
GDP: $27.5 billion, per capita $10,300; real growth rate 9.2% (1989 est.)
Inflation rate (consumer prices): 3.5% (1989 est.)
Unemployment rate: 2% (1989 est.)
Budget: revenues $6.6 billion; expenditures $5.9 billion, including capital expenditures of $2.2 billion (FY88)
Exports: $46 billion (f.o.b., 1989 est.); *commodities*—includes transshipments to Malaysia—petroleum products, rubber, electronics, manufactured goods; *partners*—US 24%, Malaysia 14%, Japan 9%, Thailand 6%, Hong Kong 5%, Australia 3%, FRG 3%
Imports: $53 billion (c.i.f., 1989 est.); *commodities*—includes transshipments from Malaysia—capital equipment, petroleum, chemicals, manufactured goods, foodstuffs; *partners*—Japan 22%, US 16%, Malaysia 15%, EC 12%, Kuwait 1%
External debt: $5.2 billion (December 1988)
Industrial production: growth rate 9% (1989 est.)
Electricity: 4,000,000 kW capacity; 12,000 million kWh produced, 4,490 kWh per capita (1989)
Industries: petroleum refining, electronics, oil drilling equipment, rubber processing and rubber products, processed food and beverages, ship repair, entrepôt trade, financial services, biotechnology
Agriculture: occupies a position of minor importance in the economy; self-sufficient in poultry and eggs; must import much of other food; major crops—rubber, copra, fruit, vegetables
Aid: US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-83), $590 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-87), $882 million
Currency: Singapore dollar (plural—dollars); 1 Singapore dollar (S$) = 100 cents
Exchange rates: Singapore dollars per US$1—1.8895 (January 1990), 1.9503 (1989), 2.0124 (1988), 2.1060 (1987), 2.1774 (1986), 2.2002 (1985)
Fiscal year: 1 April-31 March

Communications

Railroads: 38 km of 1.000-meter gauge
Highways: 2,597 km total (1984)
Ports: Singapore
Merchant marine: 407 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 7,286,824 GRT/11,921,610 DWT; includes 126 cargo, 52 container, 5 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 11 refrigerated cargo, 13 vehicle carrier, 1 livestock carrier, 103 petroleum, oils, and lubricants (POL) tanker, 5 chemical tanker, 4 combination ore/oil, 1 specialized tanker, 15 liquefied gas, 68 bulk, 3 combination bulk; note—many Singapore flag ships are foreign owned
Civil air: 38 major transport aircraft (est.)
Airports: 6 total, 6 usable; 6 with permanent-surface runways; 2 with runways over 3,659 m; 2 with runways 2,440-3,659 m; 1 with runways 1,220-2,439 m
Telecommunications: good domestic facilities; good international service; good radio and television broadcast coverage; 1,110,000 telephones; stations—13 AM, 4 FM, 2 TV; submarine cables extend to Malaysia (Sabah and peninsular Malaysia), Indonesia, and the Philippines; satellite earth stations—1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT and 1 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT

Defense Forces

Branches: Army, Navy, Air Force, Army Reserve
Military manpower: males 15-49, 834,720; 621,497 fit for military service
Defense expenditures: 5% of GDP, or $1.4 billion (1989 est.)

EUROPA WORLD HANDBOOK

SINGAPORE

Introductory Survey

Location, Climate, Language, Religion, Flag, Capital

The Republic of Singapore lies in South-East Asia. The country comprises one main island and several offshore islands, situated approximately 124 km (77 miles) north of the Equator, off the southernmost tip of the Malay Peninsula, to which it is linked by a causeway. The climate is equatorial, with a uniformly high daily and annual temperature varying between 24°C and 27°C (75°F–80°F). Relative humidity is high, and the average annual rainfall is 244 cm (96 in). There are no well-defined wet and dry seasons. There are four official languages—Malay (the national language), Chinese (Mandarin), Tamil and English. The language of administration is English. The principal religions are Daoism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity and Hinduism. The national flag (proportions 3 by 2) has two equal horizontal stripes, of red and white, with a white crescent moon and five white stars in the upper hoist. The capital is Singapore City.

Recent History

In 1826 the East India Company formed the Straits Settlements by the union of Singapore and the dependencies of Penang and Malacca on the Malay Peninsula. They came under British rule in 1867 as a Crown Colony. Singapore was occupied by Japan for three years during the Second World War. At the end of the war, following Japan's defeat, Singapore was governed by a British Military Administration. When civil rule was restored in 1946, Singapore was detached from the other Straits Settlements and became a separate Crown Colony. A new constitution, adopted in February 1955, introduced some measure of self-government, and in June 1959 the state achieved complete internal self-government, with Lee Kuan Yew as Prime Minister. The Federation of Malaysia came into being in September 1963, with Singapore as a constituent state. On 9 August 1965, following irreconcilable differences with the central Government in Malaysia, Singapore seceded from the federation and became an independent country. In September 1965 it joined the UN, and in October it became a member of the Commonwealth. In December Singapore was proclaimed a republic, with a President as constitutional Head of State. In May 1973 the last major ties with Malaysia, concerning currency and finance, were broken. In September 1972 Lee Kuan Yew's ruling People's Action Party (PAP) won all 65 parliamentary seats in a general election that was also contested by five opposition parties.

After independence the Government supported a strong US military presence in South-East Asia. However, with the collapse of US influence in the area during 1974 and 1975, Singapore adopted a conciliatory attitude towards the People's Republic of China and its communist neighbours. The Government called for the removal of foreign bases from member-states of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), and advocated a policy of neutrality. From 1976 onwards Singapore aimed to consolidate its trade links with China, although diplomatic relations were not established until 1982. After the Vietnamese-backed seizure of power in Kampuchea (now Cambodia) in 1979, Singapore supported the UN decision to continue to recognize the Khmer Rouge Government-in-exile, and in 1982, with the other members of ASEAN, Singapore recognized the anti-Vietnamese tripartite coalition Government-in-exile of Democratic Kampuchea. In December 1986 New Zealand announced that it would withdraw its defence force, stationed in Singapore since 1955, over the next three years, following assurances from the Government of Singapore that it had developed an adequate defence structure to fulfil Singapore's needs.

At general elections in December 1976 and December 1980, the PAP won all 69 seats in the enlarged Parliament. The PAP's monopoly ended in October 1981, however, when a candidate of the opposition Workers' Party won a by-election. This posed no direct threat but, in order to reassert its authority, the Government increased its control over trade unions and restructured the ownership of major newspapers. In November 1982 the PAP approved amendments to the party constitution, redefining the PAP as a 'National Movement', and in October 1984, at the party conference, 11 of the 12 seats on the main policy-making body, the Central Executive Committee, were won by younger members, expected to appeal to the new young generation of Singaporean voters.

At the general election in December 1984 the PAP was again returned to power with a large majority in Parliament (which was now enlarged to 79 seats), but the party lost two seats to opposition parties, and its share of the total votes was reduced to 62.9% from 75% in 1980. A constitutional amendment, approved in July 1984, provided for up to three 'non-constituency' parliamentary seats for the opposition (with restricted voting rights) if none were won in the election. One extra seat was subsequently offered to the losing opposition candidate with the highest percentage of votes. This seat was refused, however, in January 1985 by the Workers' Party. President Devan Nair resigned in March. A new President, Wee Kim Wee (hitherto the Chairman of the Singapore Broadcasting Corporation), was elected in August.

During 1986 the Government exhibited signs of increasing intolerance towards its critics. In August 1986 amendments to the Parliament (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act were hurriedly adopted, enabling Parliament to fine, expel or imprison members who were deemed to have abused their parliamentary privileges. In the same month Parliament also approved a Newspaper and Printing Presses (Amendment) Act, which empowered the Government to restrict the distribution of foreign publications that were deemed to be interfering in domestic political affairs; the circulation of several foreign periodicals was subsequently restricted, and in 1987 Lee Kuan Yew sued two foreign publications for libel in courts in Malaysia and Hong Kong.

In November 1986 one of the Government's principal opponents, J. B. Jeyaretnam (who was secretary-general of the Workers' Party and one of the two opposition members of Parliament), was sentenced to one month's imprisonment and fined S $5,000 (enough, according to the Constitution, to deprive him of his parliamentary seat and prevent him from standing for election for five years), when the Supreme Court upheld a conviction for perjury in connection with bankruptcy proceedings brought against the Workers' Party four years previously. In February 1987 Jeyaretnam was also fined by a parliamentary committee for abuse of privilege, having made allegations of government interference in the judiciary, and further fines were imposed on him for publishing 'distorted' accounts of an earlier hearing of the committee and (in May) for alleged contempt of Parliament and abuse of parliamentary privilege. In October Jeyaretnam's removal from the Law Society register was ordered by a three-judge court. An appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the United Kingdom (the highest court of appeal for Singapore) resulted, in October 1988, in his reinstatement as a practising lawyer. During the course of the appeal, investigations into Jeyaretnam's previous convictions revealed that they had been 'fatally flawed'. However, since the criminal case had been considered in the District Court, where there was no right of appeal to the Privy Council, the original convictions prevented Jeyaretnam from re-entering Parliament without a presidential pardon. In May 1989 Wee Kim Wee refused to grant a pardon to Jeyaretnam. In November 1990 Jeyaretnam was found guilty of slandering Lee during his election campaign in 1988, and was obliged to pay damages of S $260,000 to the Prime Minister.

In May and June 1987 the Government detained 22 persons (including 10 Roman Catholic church workers and four members of Jeyaretnam's Workers' Party) without trial, under the Internal Security Act, for alleged involvement in a 'Marxist conspiracy' to subvert state organizations. The arrests were denounced by Jeyaretnam, who claimed that the Government wished to intimidate Singaporeans so that they would not support opposition parties. In November the Government was also criticized by international human rights groups, including Amnesty International, for its refusal to present evidence

such a conspiracy in court; they requested an inquiry into the alleged torture of detainees, and urged Singapore to sign and observe the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. By December most of the alleged conspirators had been released, but eight of them were rearrested in April 1988 after complaining that they had been tortured while in detention. Four prisoners were released by June 1988, and in December a further four detainees were released in accordance with a ruling by the Court of Appeal, based on a fault in their detention orders. They were immediately rearrested. The trial had, however, established a precedent for the judicial review of cases brought under the Internal Security Act, including the acceptability to the courts of evidence used in warrants for the arrest of suspects. In January 1989 Parliament approved legislation ensuring that the judiciary could examine such detentions only on technical grounds, and abolishing the right of appeal to the Privy Council in cases brought under the Internal Security Act. In March 1989 three detainees were released. The two remaining prisoners (of the original 22) remained in detention until June 1990.

A general election was held in September 1988. The electoral system was altered so that 39 of the existing 79 constituencies were replaced by 13 'group representation constituencies', which had to be contested by teams of three representatives for each party, at least one of whom was to be a member of an ethnic minority (i.e. non-Chinese). The declared aim was to ensure the presence of racial minorities in Parliament; in practice, however, opposition parties with few resources were handicapped by the difficulty of presenting three candidates. The PAP won 80 of the elective seats (which now totalled 81); one was gained by the leader of the Singapore Democratic Party, Chiam See Tong. Two 'non-constituency' seats were offered to Francis Seow (Workers' Party) and Lee Siew Choh (Socialist Front). In December, however, while Seow (who had already been detained in May under the Internal Security Act for organizing a meeting between a US diplomat and lawyers critical of the Government) was in the USA, undergoing medical treatment, he was convicted *in absentia* for tax evasion and fined S $19,000, which meant that he was legally prevented from taking his seat in Parliament. In January 1989 Lee began his eighth term as Prime Minister, and announced that he would retire from the premiership before the expiry of the term. This announcement was followed by a statement from Goh Chok Tong (the First Deputy Prime Minister and Lee's chosen successor) that Lee was adopting a secondary and more advisory role in the government of the country. In August Parliament unanimously re-elected Wee Kim Wee for a further four-year term as President.

In November 1989 Lee was awarded damages in the High Court against a magazine which had published an article concerning the Government's attitude towards the Roman Catholic Church. This followed the detention of 10 Catholic workers in 1987 (see above). In December, however, a Maintenance of Religious Harmony Bill was introduced in Parliament. It proposed the prohibition of 'religious subversives' from addressing congregations or holding office in religious publications, on penalty of imprisonment. The Roman Catholic Church expressed the fear that the legislation, if enacted, might be used to stifle legitimate criticism of the Government. Nevertheless, the law was approved by Parliament in November 1990.

In early 1990 Parliament had approved legislation enabling the Government to nominate as many as six unelected MPs. This provoked limited opposition from PAP MPs. The politically neutral nominated MPs would be appointed for two years and would be able to vote on all legislative proposals except those concerning financial and constitutional affairs.

On 28 November 1990 Lee was duly replaced as Prime Minister by Goh Chok Tong. Lee remained in the Cabinet as Senior Minister to the Prime Minister's Office and retained the position of Secretary-General of the PAP. The other major changes to Lee's former Cabinet were the promotion of his son, Brig.-Gen. Lee Hsien Loong, to be a Deputy Prime Minister and the creation of a new Ministry for Information and the Arts, under Brig.-Gen. George Yeo, previously the Minister of State for Finance and Foreign Affairs.

In January 1991 the Constitution was amended to provide for a popularly-elected presidency with extensive powers of veto on proposed financial legislation, a role as final arbiter in cases of detention for reasons of national security, and influence in civil and military appointments. The changes to the functions of the President, formerly elected by Parliament to a largely ceremonial position, were initially proposed by Lee in 1984, and were criticized by members of opposition parties as being intended to accommodate Lee, following his resignation as Prime Minister. However, Lee stated, during the 1988 election campaign, that he would not be a candidate in the first presidential election under the new system. Parliament approved the legislation to amend the Constitution by 75 votes to one (the single dissenting vote was cast by the only opposition MP with full voting rights, Chiam See Tong). Under the amendment, Wee Kim Wee was to continue in office until October 1993. Candidates for the presidency were limited to those who had held the post of a minister, chief justice or senior civil servant or were at the head of a large company. The candidates were to be scrutinized by a new presidential election committee, which was to comprise the head of the Society of Accountants, the Chairman of the Public Service Commission and a member of the Presidential Council of Human Rights. The latter two officials were appointed by the Government, prompting fears that the selected candidates would be those favoured by the PAP. The constitutional amendment also included a clause increasing the number of candidates required to contest a 'group representation constituency' in a general election to a minimum of three and a maximum of four, one of whom was to be a member of an ethnic minority.

In early 1991 the Government promoted the acceptance of five 'shared values', based on Confucian philosophy, as the basis of a national ideology, first discussed in January 1989. Critics alleged that the ideology would be used to reinforce support for the PAP and to obviate opposition challenges.

Relations with the USA were adversely affected in 1988 by allegations of official abuses of human rights in Singapore, by the US decision (in February) to withdraw preferential tariff treatment for imports from Singapore, and by the expulsion from Singapore (in May) of the First Secretary at the US Embassy for alleged involvement in domestic politics, through meeting lawyers critical of the Government. The USA denied these allegations and responded by expelling a Singaporean diplomat from Washington.

As a member of ASEAN (see p. 103), Singapore was active during the 1980s, in encouraging a peaceful settlement in Cambodia, favouring the establishment of a neutral government in that country. Relations with Indonesia improved in the late 1980s: the process of establishing joint military training facilities with Indonesia, which had begun in 1986, was accomplished in February and March 1989 by the signing of two agreements. Relations with other members of ASEAN deteriorated when Singapore offered to accommodate some of the US military facilities which had hitherto been stationed in the Philippines. The Governments of Malaysia and Indonesia, in particular, felt that such a development would undermine ASEAN proposals to establish a 'Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality' in South-East Asia. In November 1990, however, representatives of the Governments of the USA and Singapore signed an agreement providing the US navy and air force with increased access to existing bases in Singapore.

Despite the establishment of important economic links during the 1980s, Singapore's relations with the People's Republic of China were adversely affected by the perceived threat of Chinese domination, owing to the preponderance of ethnic Chinese in Singapore (76% at mid-1989). Relations were also strained by Singapore's close military and economic ties with Taiwan. In October 1990, however, Singapore and the People's Republic of China established diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level. This development was prompted mainly by the resumption of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and Indonesia, and followed a visit by the Chinese Premier, Li Peng, to Singapore in August. Singapore's relations with Taiwan were apparently unaffected by these events.

Government

Legislative power is vested in the unicameral Parliament, with 81 members who are elected by universal adult suffrage for five years (subject to dissolution) in single-member and multi-member constituencies. From 1993 the President (currently elected by Parliament to perform mainly ceremonial functions) is to be directly elected by universal adult suffrage for a four-year term as a constitutional Head of State, vested with certain powers of veto in financial matters, public appointments and

detentions for reasons of national security. Effective executive authority rests with the Cabinet, led by the Prime Minister, which is appointed by the President and responsible to Parliament.

Defence

In June 1990 the Singapore armed forces had an estimated 55,500 troops: 45,000 in the army, 4,500 in the navy and 6,000 in the air force. Military service is compulsory for 30 months (24 months for officers). Paramilitary forces comprised 11,600 police and a civil defence force numbering an estimated 100,000. Singapore is a participant in the Five-Power Defence Arrangements (with Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom). Government expenditure on defence for the financial year 1990/91 was projected at S $3,486m. (24.5% of total expenditure).

Economic Affairs

In 1989, according to estimates by the World Bank, Singapore's gross national product (GNP), measured at average 1987–89 prices, was US $28,058m., equivalent to US $10,450 per head. During 1980–89, it was estimated, GNP increased, in real terms, at an average annual rate of 6.9%, while real GNP per head increased by 5.7% per year. Over the same period, the population increased by an annual average of 1.2%. Singapore's gross domestic product (GDP) increased, in real terms, by an annual average of 5.7% in 1980–88 and by 9.2% in 1989.

Agriculture (including hunting, forestry and fishing) contributed an estimated 0.3% of GDP, and employed 0.3% of the working population, in 1990. Fruit and vegetables are the principal crops. During 1980–87 agricultural production declined at an average annual rate of 5.1%.

Industry (including mining, manufacturing, construction and power) contributed about 33.4% of GDP, and employed 35.7% of the working population, in 1990. During 1980–88 industrial production increased by an annual average of 4.5%.

Mining (chiefly the quarrying of granite) accounted for only about 0.1% of GDP and 0.03% of employment in 1990.

Manufacturing contributed an estimated 26.4% of GDP, and employed 28.9% of the working population, in 1990. In 1988 the principal branches of manufacturing (measured in terms of the value of output) were electrical machinery (42%); petroleum-refining and related products; chemicals; machinery; transport equipment (especially shipbuilding); food products; and clothing. During 1980–88 manufacturing production increased by an annual average of 4.8%.

Singapore relies on imports of hydrocarbons to fuel its three thermal power stations. In 1989 imports of mineral fuels accounted for 14% of merchandise imports.

Finance and business services provided 29.7% of GDP in 1990. By 1988 Singapore had replaced Hong Kong as the second most active foreign exchange dealing centre in Asia and the Pacific (after Tokyo), with a daily turnover of US $45,000m. Banking is also a significant sector, with a total of 137 commercial banks in operation in 1991. Tourism is an important source of foreign exchange. In 1989 tourist arrivals totalled 4.8m. (5.3m. in 1990) and receipts from tourism reached S $5,669.1m.

In 1989 Singapore recorded a visible trade deficit of US $2,474m., but there was a surplus of US $2,338m. on the current account of the balance of payments. In 1989 the principal source of imports (21.4%) was Japan. The principal market for exports (23.3%) was the USA. Other major trading partners include Malaysia, Hong Kong, Thailand and Germany. Principal imports in 1989 included electronic components, electrical circuit apparatus, chemicals, paper products and rubber. Principal exports included petrochemical products, integrated circuits, data-processing machines, printed circuits, cassette recorders and radio and television receivers. Singapore is an important entrepôt, and re-exports accounted for 37.3% of total exports in 1988.

In the financial year ending 31 March 1991 there was an estimated budgetary surplus of S $6,079m. The annual rate of inflation averaged 1.2% in 1980–88, rising to 2.4% in 1989 and to 3.4% in 1990. Only 1.7% of the labour force were unemployed in 1990. However, owing to the labour shortage (mainly in the industrial and construction sectors), there were about 200,000 foreign workers in Singapore in 1990.

Singapore is a member of the Asian Development Bank (see p. 100), of ASEAN (see p. 103), and of the Colombo Plan (see p. 112).

In 1985 Singapore experienced a short recession, caused mainly by high domestic labour costs and by an increase in direct trading by Malaysia and Indonesia, which reduced Singapore's traditional entrepôt trade. Several measures were subsequently implemented to reduce labour costs, including a successful policy of wage restraint. In the late 1980s and early 1990s many state-owned corporations were transferred to the private sector. Foreign and local companies were encouraged to invest overseas and particularly to transfer labour-intensive operations to neighbouring countries. In 1990 Singapore intensified activity in the 'triangle of growth', which encompassed Johore, in southern Malaysia, and the Riau Islands in Indonesia. The aim was to combine the inexpensive labour and unexploited space of these developing countries with Singapore's sophisticated infrastructure. Growth in productivity, which had been rapid in the late 1980s, was expected to decelerate in the early 1990s, owing to recessionary conditions in the economies of principal trading partners. Singapore aimed to attract higher value-added research and development industries, to compensate for its labour shortage and for the resultant upward pressure on wages and inflation.

Social Welfare

The Ministry of Community Development, aided by 159 voluntary bodies which are co-ordinated by the Singapore Council of Social Service, provides a wide range of welfare services to individuals and families in need. Singapore has no state pensions or sickness benefit, but there is a Central Provident Fund into which contributions must be paid by employers and employees. In 1986 Singapore had 10 government hospitals, with a total of 8,085 beds. There were also 12 private hospitals, with a total of 2,082 beds. In 1987 a total of 2,939 physicians were registered to practise in Singapore. Of total expenditure by the central Government in the financial year 1987/88, S $548m. (3.6%) was for health services, and a further S $196m. (1.3%) for social security and welfare.

Education

Primary and secondary education is available in the four official languages of Malay, Chinese, Tamil and English. In 1978, as part of a policy of bilingualism, examinations in English and Mandarin Chinese became compulsory for pupils seeking to enter secondary education. In 1987 English became the medium of instruction in all schools. The New Education System (primary and secondary levels) allows less able pupils to complete their education over a longer period of time, if they choose. After three years' primary education, pupils are streamed into a bilingual course (six years), an extended bilingual course (eight years) or a monolingual course (eight years). Secondary school streaming depends on the result of the Primary School Leaving Examinations. In June 1989 there were 401 primary and secondary schools, with a total enrolment of 456,909 pupils. Outside the school system there are several higher education centres and vocational institutes, providing craft and industrial training, and technical institutes providing advanced craft training. Total enrolment in the six universities and colleges was 50,756 in 1989. Adult education courses are conducted by a statutory board. Education is not compulsory but in 1988 the number of children attending primary and secondary schools was equivalent to 87% of both boys and girls in the relevant age-group. The rate of literacy, among persons aged 10 years and above, was 87.2% in 1988. Expenditure on education by the central Government in the financial year 1987/88 was S $2,204m. (14.4% of total spending).

Public Holidays

1991: 1 January (New Year's Day), 15–16 February (Chinese New Year), 29 March (Good Friday), 16 April (Hari Raya Puasa, end of Ramadan), 1 May (Labour Day), 28 May (Vesak Day), 23 June (Hari Raya Haji, feast of the Sacrifice), 9 August (National Day), 5 November (Deepavali), 25 December (Christmas Day).

1992: 1 January (New Year's Day), 4–5 February (Chinese New Year), 4 April (Hari Raya Puasa, end of Ramadan), 17 April (Good Friday), 1 May (Labour Day), May/June (Vesak Day), 11 June (Hari Raya Haji, feast of the Sacrifice), 9 August

Directory

The Constitution

A new constitution came into force on 3 June 1959, with the establishment of the self-governing State of Singapore. This was subsequently amended as a consequence of Singapore's affiliation to Malaysia (September 1963 to August 1965) and as a result of its adoption of republican status on 22 December 1965. The Constitution was also amended in January 1991 to provide for the election of a President by universal adult suffrage, and to extend the responsibilities of the presidency, which had previously been largely ceremonial office. The main provisions of the Constitution are summarized below:

HEAD OF STATE

The Head of State is the President, elected by universal adult suffrage for a four-year term. He normally acts on the advice of the Cabinet, but is vested with certain functions and powers for the purpose of safeguarding the financial reserves of Singapore and the integrity of the Public Services.

THE CABINET

The Cabinet, headed by the Prime Minister, is appointed by the President and is responsible to Parliament.

THE LEGISLATURE

The Legislature consists of a Parliament of 81 members, presided over by a Speaker who may be elected from the members of Parliament themselves or appointed by Parliament although he may not be a member of Parliament. Members of Parliament are elected by universal adult suffrage for five years (subject to dissolution) in single-member and multi-member constituencies.*

A 21-member Presidential Council, chaired by the Chief Justice, examines material of racial or religious significance, including legislation, to see whether it differentiates between racial or religious communities or contains provisions inconsistent with the fundamental liberties of Singapore citizens.

CITIZENSHIP

Under the Constitution, Singapore citizenship may be acquired either by birth, descent or registration. Persons born when Singapore was a constituent State of Malaysia could also acquire Singapore citizenship by enrolment or naturalization under the Constitution of Malaysia.

* A constitutional amendment was introduced in May 1988, whereby 39 constituencies were merged to form 13 'group representation constituencies' which would return 'teams' of three Members of Parliament. At least one member of each team was to be of minority (non-Chinese) racial origin. In January 1991 the Constitution was further amended, stipulating that the number of candidates contesting 'group representation constituencies' should be a minimum of three and a maximum of four.

The Government

HEAD OF STATE

President: WEE KIM WEE (elected 30 August 1985; re-elected 31 August 1989).

THE CABINET
(May 1991)

Prime Minister and Minister of Defence: GOH CHOK TONG.

Deputy Prime Minister: ONG TENG CHEONG.

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Trade and Industry and Second Minister of Defence (Services): Brig.-Gen. (retd) LEE HSIEN LOONG.

Senior Minister to the Prime Minister's Office: LEE KUAN YEW.

Minister of National Development: SUPPIAH DHANABALAN.

Minister of Education: Dr TONY TAN KENG YAM.

Minister of the Environment: Dr AHMAD MATTAR.

Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Law: S. JAYAKUMAR.

Minister of Finance: Dr RICHARD HU TSU TAU.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and of Community Development: WONG KAN SENG.

Minister of Labour: LEE YOCK SUAN.

Minister of Health and Senior Minister of State (Foreign Affairs): YEO CHEOW TONG.

Minister of Communications and Second Minister of Defence (Policy): Dr YEO NING HONG.

Minister of Information and the Arts: Brig.-Gen. GEORGE YEO (acting).

MINISTRIES

Office of the Prime Minister: Istana Annexe, Istana, Singapore 0923; tel. 7375133; fax 7345244.

Ministry of Communications: 460 Alexandra Rd, PSA Bldg 39-00, Singapore 0511; tel. 2707988; telex 25500; fax 2799734.

Ministry of Community Development: 512 Thomson Rd, MCD Bldg, Singapore 1129; tel. 2589595; telex 34361.

Ministry of Defence: Tanglin Rd, Singapore 1024; tel. 4741155; telex 21373.

Ministry of Education: Kay Siang Rd, Singapore 1024; tel. 4739111; telex 34366.

Ministry of the Environment: 40 Scotts Rd, Environment Bldg, Singapore 0922; tel. 7327733.

Ministry of Finance: 8 Shenton Way, 43rd, 45th, 46th and 50th Storey, Treasury Bldg, Singapore 0106; tel. 2259911; telex 34371.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs: 250 North Bridge Rd, 07-00 Raffles City Tower, Singapore 0617; tel. 3361177; telex 21242.

Ministry of Health: 16 College Rd, College of Medicine Bldg, Singapore 0316; tel. 2237777; telex 34360; fax 2241677.

Ministry of Home Affairs: Phoenix Park, Tanglin Rd, Singapore 1024; tel. 2359111; telex 34360.

Ministry of Information and the Arts: Singapore.

Ministry of Labour: 18 Havelock Rd, Singapore 0105; tel. 5341511; telex 34364.

Ministry of Law: 250 North Bridge Rd, Raffles City Tower 21-00, Singapore 0617; tel. 3378191; telex 34374.

Ministry of National Development: Telok Ayer St, 5th Storey, MND Bldg Annexe B, Singapore 0106; tel. 2221211; telex 34369.

Ministry of Trade and Industry: 8 Shenton Way, Treasury Bldg 48-01, Singapore 0106; tel. 2259911; telex 24702.

Legislature

PARLIAMENT

Speaker: TAN SOO KHOON.

General Election, 3 September 1988

	Votes	%	Seats
People's Action Party	848,029	61.8	80*
Workers' Party	224,473	18.4	—
Singapore Democratic Party	158,341	11.5	1
National Solidarity Party	50,452	3.7	—
United People's Front	17,282	1.3	—
Singapore Justice Party	14,660	1.1	—
PKMS	13,526	1.0	—
Angkatan Islam	280	0.0	—
Independents	15,412	1.1	—
Total	1,342,455	100.0	81

* 11 seats were unopposed.

Political Organizations

Angkatan Islam (Singapore Muslim Movement): Singapore; f. 1958; Pres. MOHAMED BIN OMAR; Sec.-Gen. IBRAHIM BIN ABDUL GHANI.

Barisan Bersatu Singapura (Singapore United Front): 67A Lorong 8 Geylang, Singapore 1439; f. 1973; Chair. TAN CHEE KIAN; Sec.-Gen. SEOW KHEE LENG.

National Solidarity Party: Singapore; f. 1986; Pres. KUM TENG HOCK; Sec.-Gen. RASIAH THIAGARAJAH.

People's Action Party (PAP): SLF Bldg, 07-02, 510 Thomson Rd, Singapore 1129; tel. 2589898; fax 2599222; f. 1954; governing party

since 1959; 12-member Cen. Exec. Cttee; Chair. ONG TENG CHEONG; Sec.-Gen. LEE KUAN YEW.

Pertubuhan Kebangsaan Melayu Singapura (PKMS) (Singapore Malay National Organization): 218F, Changi Rd, PKM Bldg, 4th Floor, Singapore 1440; tel. 3455275; fax 3458924; f. in 1950 as the United Malay National Organization (UMNO) of Malaysia; renamed as UMNO Singapore in 1954 and as PKMS in 1967; seeks to advance the implementation of the special rights of Malays in Singapore, as stated in the Constitution, to safeguard and promote the advancement of Islam, to encourage racial harmony and goodwill in Singapore and to promote the welfare and advancement of Singaporean citizens; Pres. SAHID SAHOOMAN; Sec.-Gen. MOHAMMED AZIZ IBRAHIM.

Singapore Democratic Party: 1 North Bridge Rd, 17-08 High Street Centre, Singapore 0617; f. 1980; Chair. LING HOW DOONG; Sec.-Gen. CHIAM SEE TONG.

Singapore Justice Party: Singapore; f. 1972; Pres. A. R. SUIB; Sec.-Gen. MUTHUSAMY RAMASAMY.

United People's Front (UPF): 715 Colombo Court, 7th Floor, Singapore 0617; f. 1975; a coalition of several small parties; Chair. ANG BEE LIAN; Gen. Sec. HARBANS SINGH.

Workers' Party: Block 145, Jalan Bukit Merah, 01-1112, Singapore 0316; tel. 2738109; f. 1957, merged with Barisan Sosialis party in 1988; seeks to establish a democratic socialist govt with a constitution guaranteeing fundamental citizens' rights; Chair. WONG HONG TOY; Sec.-Gen. J. B. JEYARETNAM.

Other parties are the Alliance Party Singapura, the Barisan Sosialis (Socialist Front), the National Party of Singapore, Partai Rakyat, the People's Front, Parti Kesatuan Ra'ayat (United Democratic Party), People's Republican Party, Persatuan Melayu Singapura, Singapore Chinese Party, Singapore Indian Congress, United National Front and United People's Party.

Diplomatic Representation

EMBASSIES AND HIGH COMMISSIONS IN SINGAPORE

Argentina: 302 Orchard Rd, 10-04 Tong Bldg, Singapore 0923; tel. 2354231; telex 23714; Ambassador: CARLOS LUCAS BLANCO.

Australia: 25 Napier Rd, Singapore 1025; tel. 7379311; telex 21238; fax 7337134; High Commissioner: ROSALEEN MCGOVERN.

Bangladesh: 101 Thomson Rd, 06-07, United Sq., Singapore 1130; tel. 2550075; telex 23312; High Commissioner: Maj.-Gen. MOIN UL HUSSAIN CHOUDHURY.

Belgium: 10 Anson Rd, 09-24 International Plaza, Singapore 0207; tel. 2207677; telex 23301; fax 2226976; Ambassador: CLAIRE KIRSCHEN.

Brazil: 302 Orchard Rd, 1503/4 Tong Bldg, Singapore 0923; tel. 7346777; telex 36204; Ambassador: A. B. PORTO DE OLIVEIRA.

Brunei: 7A Tanglin Hill, Singapore 1024; tel. 4743393; telex 24097; High Commissioner: Dato PADUKA AWANG Haji MOHAMMED YUNOS BIN Haji MOHAMMED HUSSEIN.

Bulgaria: 15 Scotts Rd, 09-09 Thong Teck Bldg, Singapore 0922; tel. 7371111; telex 21204; Ambassador: (vacant).

Canada: 80 Anson Rd, 14-00 and 15-01 IBM Towers, Singapore 0207; tel. 225-6363; telex 21277; fax 2252450; High Commissioner: SEAN BRADY.

Chile: 105 Cecil St, The Octagon 14-01/02, Singapore 0106; tel. 2238577; telex 34187; fax 2250677; Ambassador: CARLOS NEGRI CHIORRINI.

China, People's Republic: 70–76 Dalvey Rd, Singapore 1025; tel. 7343360; telex 36878; fax 7338590; Ambassador: ZHANG QING.

Denmark: 101 Thomson Rd, 13-01/02 United Sq., Singapore 1130; tel. 2503383; telex 24576; Chargé d'affaires: HANS JAKUP KASS.

Egypt: 75 Grange Rd, Singapore 1024; tel. 7371811; telex 23293; Ambassador: ABBAS ZAKI.

Finland: 101 Thomson Rd, 21-02/03 United Sq., Singapore 1130; tel. 2544042; telex 21489; fax 2534101; Ambassador: ERIK HEINRICHS.

France: 5 Gallop Rd, Singapore 1025; tel. 4664866; telex 21351; Ambassador: BERNARD FAUBOURNET DE MONTFERRAND.

Germany: 545 Orchard Rd, 14-01 Far East Shopping Centre, Singapore 0923; tel. 7371355; telex 21312; fax 7372653; Ambassador: Dr JOACHIM KAMPMANN.

Holy See: 55 Waterloo St 6, Singapore 0718 (Apostolic Nunciature); tel. 3372466; Apostolic Pro-Nuncio: Most Rev. ALBERTO TRICARIO, Titular Archbishop of Sistroniana (resident in Bangkok, Thailand).

India: 31 Grange Rd, India House, Singapore 0923; tel. 7376777; telex 25526; fax 7326909; High Commissioner: Y. M. TIWARI.

Indonesia: 7 Chatsworth Rd, Singapore 1024; tel. 7377422; telex 21464; Ambassador: TUK SETYOHADI.

Israel: 230 Orchard Rd, 11-230 Faber House, Singapore 0923; tel. 2350966; telex 21975; fax 7337008; Ambassador: Dr ISRAEL ELIASHIV.

Italy: 101 Thomson Rd, 27-02 United Sq., Singapore 1130; tel. 2506022; telex 21177; fax 2533301; Ambassador: Dr ROMUALDO BETTINI.

Japan: 16 Nassim Rd, Singapore 1025; tel. 2358855; telex 21353; Ambassador: WASUKE MIYAKE.

Korea, Democratic People's Republic: 19 Fort Rd, Singapore 1543; tel. 3453044; telex 23455; Ambassador: YUN CHONG-KYU.

Korea, Republic: 101 Thomson Rd, United Sq., 10-02/04, Goldhill Sq, Singapore 1130; tel. 2561188; Ambassador: LEE CHANG-CHOON.

Malaysia: 301 Jervois Rd, Singapore 1024; tel. 2350111; telex 21406; High Commissioner: Dato' K. THARMARATNAM.

Myanmar: 15 St Martin's Drive, Singapore 1025; tel. 7342637; telex 21467; fax 2355963; Ambassador: U NYUNT SWE.

Netherlands: 541 Orchard Rd, 13-01/04 Liat Towers, Singapore 0923; tel. 7371155; telex 33815; fax 7371940; Ambassador: D. H. M. VAN WOERDEN.

New Zealand: 13 Nassim Rd, Singapore 1025; tel. 2359966; telex 21244; fax 7339924; High Commissioner: COLIN BELL.

Norway: 44-01 Hong Leong Bldg, 16 Raffles Quay, Singapore 0104; tel. 2207122; telex 21225; Ambassador: JENS OTTERBECH.

Pakistan: 20A Nassim Rd, Singapore 1025; tel. 7376621; telex 36777; High Commissioner: SALIM NAWAZ GANDABUR (acting).

Panama: 16 Raffles Quay, 41-06 Hong Leong Bldg, Singapore 0104; tel. 2218677; Ambassador: JORGE LUIS ALEMÁN.

Philippines: 20 Nassim Rd, Singapore 1025; tel. 7373977; telex 34445; fax 7339544; Ambassador: FRANCISCO L. BENEDICTO.

Poland: 100 Beach Rd, 33-10PT/12 Shaw Towers, Singapore 0718; tel. 2942513/4; telex 26355; fax 2950016; Ambassador: PAWEŁ CEISLAR.

Romania: 48 Jalan Harom Setangkai, Singapore 1025; tel. 4683424; telex 22184; fax 4683425; Chargé d'affaires a.i.: IOAN BAN.

Saudi Arabia: 541 Orchard Rd, 13-03/04 Liat Towers, Singapore 0923; tel. 7345878; telex 25318; fax 7374657; Chargé d'affaires: MOHAMMAD A. AL-HAMDAN.

Sri Lanka: Newton Rd, 1307-1312 Goldhill Plaza, Singapore 1130; tel. 2544595; telex 26869; fax 2507201; High Commissioner: W. M. JANAKA B. NAKKAWITA.

Sweden: Devonshire Wing, 111 Somerset Rd, 05-08 PUB Bldg, Singapore 0923; tel. 7342771; telex 23450; fax 7322958; Ambassador: FINN BERGSTRAND.

Switzerland: 1 Swiss Club Link, Singapore 1128; tel. 4685355; telex 21501; fax 4668245; Ambassador: KURT O. WYSS.

Thailand: 370 Orchard Rd, Singapore 0923; tel. 7373372; telex 35891; fax 7320778; Ambassador: ASDA JAYANAMA.

Turkey: 20B Nassim Rd, Singapore 1025; tel. 7329211; telex 34388; Ambassador: Dr RIZA TÜRMEN.

USSR: 51 Nassim Rd, Singapore 1025; tel. 2351834; telex 21673; fax 7334780; Ambassador: ANATOLY MATFEYEVICH DRYUKOV.

United Kingdom: Tanglin Rd, Singapore 1024; tel. 4739333; telex 21218; fax 4752320; High Commissioner: GORDON DUGGAN.

USA: 30 Hill St, Singapore 0617; tel. 3380251; telex 42285; fax 3388472; Ambassador: D. ORR.

Judicial System

The judicial power of Singapore is vested in the Supreme Court and in the Subordinate Courts. The Supreme Court consists of the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Court of Criminal Appeal. The Chief Justice is appointed by the President, acting on the advice of the Prime Minister. The other judges of the Supreme Court are appointed in the same way, in consultation with the Chief Justice. There are 10 judges, including the Chief Justice, of the Supreme Court. Under a 1979 constitutional amendment, the position of judicial commissioner of the Supreme Court was created 'to facilitate the disposal of business in the Supreme Court'. A judicial commissioner has the powers and functions of a judge, and is appointed for such period as the President thinks fit. There were two judicial commissioners in 1991.

The Subordinate Courts consist of District Courts, Magistrates' Courts, Juvenile Courts, Coroners' Courts and the Small Claims Tribunal. District Judges, Magistrates and Coroners are appointed on the recommendation of the Chief Justice. There are 30 District and Magistrates' Courts, one Juvenile Court and one Coroner's Court. A Referee, appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Chief Justice, presides over the Small Claims Tribunal.

...ction of the Chief Justice, presides over the Small Claims ...ribunal.

...District Courts and Magistrates' Courts have original criminal ...and civil jurisdiction. District Courts try offences for which the ...maximum penalty does not exceed 10 years of imprisonment and ...civil cases where the amount claimed does not exceed S $50,000. ...Magistrates' Courts try offences for which the maximum term of ...imprisonment does not exceed three years. The jurisdiction of ...Magistrates' Courts in civil cases is limited to claims of under ...$30,000. The Coroners' Court conducts inquests. The Small ...Claims Tribunal has jurisdiction over claims relating to a dispute ...arising from any contract for the sale of goods or the provision of ...services involving an amount less than S $2,000. The Juvenile ...Court deals with offences committed by young persons aged under ...16 years.

The High Court has unlimited original jurisdiction in criminal ...and civil cases. In its appellate jurisdiction it hears criminal and ...civil appeals from the District Courts and Magistrates' Courts. ...The Court of Appeal hears appeals from any judgment or order ...of the High Court in any civil matter, either in original or appellate ...jurisdiction. The Court of Criminal Appeal hears appeals against ...decisions made by the High Court in the exercise of its original ...criminal jurisdiction.

Appeals from the Court of Appeal lie to the Judicial Committee ...of the Privy Council, the final appellate court of Singapore, only ...where parties to the proceedings had consented in writing, prior ...to the hearing before the appellate court, to be bound by an Appeal ...to the Privy Council. Appeals from the Court of Criminal Appeal ...lie to the Privy Council only in cases involving crimes punishable ...by the death penalty or life imprisonment, and then only in the ...event that the decision of the appellate court was not unanimous. ...Appeals to the Privy Council are conducted in the United Kingdom.

Attorney-General: TAN BOON TEIK.

Chief Justice: YONG PUNG HOW.

Senior Judge: T. S. SINNATHURAY.

Supreme Judges: LAI KEW CHAI, L. P. THEAN, CHAN SEK KEONG, GOH JOON SENG, CHAO HICK TIN, F. A. CHUA, P. COOMARASWAMY, E. KARTHIGESU.

Judicial Commissioners: TAN TEOW YEOW, S. RAJENDRAN, LAI KEW CHIU.

Religion

In 1988 Buddhists constituted 28.3% of the total population, Christians 18.7% and Daoists (including followers of Confucius, Mencius and Lao Zi) 13.4%. Most of the Chinese community adhere to these religions. The Muslims, predominantly Malays, comprised an estimated 16% of the population, and the Hindus, mainly Indians, nearly 5%. There are also small communities of Zoroastrians, Jains and Jews. Freedom of worship is guaranteed by the Constitution.

BAHÁ'Í FAITH

National Spiritual Assembly: 68 Lorong 16, Geylang, Assen Bldg, 04-00 Singapore 1439; tel. 7476192; fax 7475521.

BUDDHISM

The Buddhist Union: 28 Jalan Senyum, Singapore 1441; tel. 4435859; Chief Abbot YEN PEI.

The Singapore Buddhist Federation: 50 Lorong 34 Geylang, Singapore 1439; tel. 7444635.

The Singapore Buddhist Sangha Organization: 50 Lorong 34 Geylang, Singapore 1439.

World Buddhist Society: Singapore 0409; tel. 2725306.

CHRISTIANITY

National Council of Churches: 1 Sophia Rd, 04-34 Peace Centre, Singapore 0922; tel. 3372150; f. 1975; seven mem. churches, four assoc. mems; Pres. G. ABISHEGANADEN; Gen. Sec. P. S. GEORGE.

The Anglican Communion

The Anglican diocese of Singapore (also including Indonesia, Laos, Thailand and Cambodia) is extra-provincial and is directly subordinate to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Primate of All England.

Bishop of Singapore: The Rt Rev. Dr MOSES LENG KONG TAY, Bishopsbourne, 4 Bishopsgate, Singapore 1024; tel. 4741661.

Orthodox Churches

The Orthodox Syrian Church and the Mar Thoma Syrian Church are both active in Singapore.

The Roman Catholic Church

Singapore comprises a single archdiocese, directly responsible to the Holy See. At 31 December 1989 there were an estimated 108,601 adherents in the country, representing about 4% of the total population.

Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei: Archbishop's House, 31 Victoria St, Singapore 0718; tel. 3378818; f. 1980; Pres. Most Rev. GREGORY YONG SOOI NGEAN, Archbishop of Singapore.

Archbishop of Singapore: Most Rev. GREGORY YONG SOOI NGEAN, Archbishop's House, 31 Victoria St, Singapore 0718; tel. 3378818.

Other Christian Churches

Brethren Assemblies: Bethesda Hall, 601 Ang Mo Kio Ave 4, Singapore 2056; tel. 4587474; f. 1864; Hon. Sec. LIM TIAN LEONG; Bethesda (Katong) Church, 19 Pennefather Rd, Singapore 1542; Hon. Sec. T. C. KOH.

Methodist Church in Singapore: 10 Mount Sophia, Singapore 0922; tel. 3375155; fax 3389575; f. 1885; 22,499 mems (July 1990); Bishop HO CHEE SIN, 50 Barker Rd, Singapore 1130.

Presbyterian Church: Moderator Rev. DEREK J. KINGSTON; 3 Orchard Rd, cnr Penang Rd, Singapore 0923; tel. 3376681; f. 1856; services in English, Chinese (Mandarin), Dutch, Indonesian and German; 1,500 mems.

Singapore Baptist Convention: c/o Baptist Book Store, 25 Goldhill Plaza, Singapore 1130; tel. 2506404; fax 2545488; Chair. Rev. M. S. SONG; Sec. NG HENG FATT.

Other denominations active in Singapore include the Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

HINDUISM

Hindu Advisory Board: c/o Ministry of Community Development, Pearl's Hill Terrace, Singapore 0316; tel. 914111; f. 1917; Chair. P. SELVADURAI.

ISLAM

Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (MUIS) (Islamic Religious Council): c/o Ministry of Community Development, Islamic Centre of Singapore, 273 Braddell Road, Singapore 2057; tel. 2568188; fax 2537572; f. 1968; Pres. SHAFAWI AHMAD.

Muslim Missionary Society Singapore (Jamiyah): 31 Lorong 12 Geylang, Singapore 1439; tel. 7431211; telex 34725; fax 7450160; Pres. Haji ABU BAKAR MAIDIN; Sec.-Gen. JAAFAR MAJORI.

SIKHISM

Sikh Advisory Board: c/o Ministry of Community Development, Pearl's Hill Terrace, Singapore 0316; Chair. HARBANS SINGH.

The Press

Compulsory government scrutiny of newspaper management has been in operation since 1974. All newspaper enterprises must be public companies. In August 1986 there were more than 3,700 foreign publications circulating in Singapore. The Newspaper and Printing Presses (Amendment) Act 1986 empowers the Government to restrict the circulation of foreign periodicals that are deemed to exert influence over readers on domestic political issues. An amendment to the Newspaper and Printing Presses Act was promulgated in October 1990. Under this amendment, all publications of which the 'contents and editorial policy were determined outside Singapore' and which dealt with politics and current events in South-East Asia would be required to obtain a ministerial licence, renewable annually. The permit would limit the number of copies sold and require a deposit in case of legal proceedings involving the publication. Permits could be refused or revoked without any reason being given. In November, however, a statement was issued exempting 14 of the 17 foreign publications affected by the amendment, which came into effect in December.

DAILIES

English Language

Business Times: Times House, 390 Kim Seng Rd, Singapore 0923; tel. 7370011; telex 21239; fax 7335271; f. 1976; Editor MANO SABNANI; circ. 23,000 (Singapore only).

The New Paper: News Centre, 82 Genting Lane, Singapore 1334; tel. 7438800; telex 55148; fax 7449949; f. 1988; Editor P. N. BALJI; circ. 64,000 (Singapore only).

The Straits Times: News Centre, 82 Genting Lane, Singapore 1334; tel. 7438800; telex 55148; fax 7449949; f. 1845; Editor LESLIE FONG; circ. 314,500 (Singapore only).

Chinese Language

Lianhe Wanbao: News Centre, 82 Genting Lane, Singapore 1334; tel. 7438800; telex 55653; fax 7466878; f. 1983; evening; Editor LOY TECK JUAN; circ. 85,500.

Lianhe ZaoBao: News Centre, 82 Genting Lane, Singapore 1334; tel. 7438800; telex 55653; fax 7466878; f. 1983; Chief Editor LOY TECK JUAN; circ. 183,000.

Shin Min Daily News (S) Ltd: News Centre, 82 Genting Lane, Singapore 1334; tel. 7438800; telex 55148; fax 7449949; f. 1967; Editor SENG HAN THONG; circ. 90,000.

Malay Language

Berita Harian: News Centre, 82 Genting Lane, Singapore 1334; tel. 7438800; telex 55148; fax 7449949; f. 1957; morning; Editor MOHAMED GUNTOR SADALI; circ. 46,000 (Singapore only).

Malayalam Language

Malaysia Malayali: Toa Payoh Central, Singapore 9131; tel. 7450451; f. 1938; Publr L. F. LLOYD GEORGE; Man. Editor V. P. ABDULLAH; circ. 2,500 (Singapore and Malaysia).

Tamil Language

Tamil Murasu: 139-141 Lavender St, Singapore 1233; tel. 2923116; fax 2932941; f. 1936; Editor V. T. ARASU; circ. 8,500 (daily), 10,000 (Sunday).

WEEKLIES

English Language

Sunday Times: News Centre, 82 Genting Lane, Singapore 1334; tel. 7438800; telex 55148; fax 7449949; f. 1845; Editor LESLIE FONG; circ. 352,000 (Singapore only).

Malay Language

Berita Minggu: News Centre, 82 Genting Lane, Singapore 1334; tel. 7438800; telex 55148; fax 7449949; f. 1957; Sunday; Editor MOHAMED GUNTOR SADALI; circ. 58,000 (Singapore only).

SELECTED PERIODICALS

English Language

Beauty Incorporating Health and Leisure: 05-01/06 Eng Cheong Tower, 5611 North Bridge Road, Singapore 0719; tel. 2966558; telex 26646; fax 2966275; f. 1988; bimonthly; Editor-in-Chief CHIN MEI NGO; circ. 20,000.

Cherie Magazine: 12 Everton Rd, Singapore 0208; tel. 2229733; fax 2843859; f. 1983; bimonthly; women's; Editor JOSEPHINE NG; circ. 20,000.

Go: Times Periodicals Pte Ltd, 422 Thomson Rd, Singapore 1129; tel. 2550011; fax 2568016; f. 1980; monthly; women's; Editor TAN WANG JOO; circ. 34,000.

Her World: Times Periodicals Pte Ltd, 422 Thomson Rd, Singapore 1129; tel. 2550011; fax 2568016; f. 1956; monthly; women's; Editor TAN WANG JOO; circ. 34,000.

Home and Decor: Times Periodicals Pte Ltd, 422 Thomson Rd, Singapore 1129; tel. 2550011; fax 2568016; 6 a year; home-owners; Editor SOPHIE KHO; circ. 20,000.

Man—Life & Style: 322A Jalan Besar, SLS Bldg, Singapore 0820; tel. 2968178; telex 24200; fax 2968319; f. 1986; bimonthly; men's; Editor MICHAEL CHIANG; circ. 20,000.

Motoring: 190 Middle Rd, 14-07 Fortune Centre, Singapore 0718; tel. 337055; telex 51088; fax 3394857; f. 1982; bimonthly; Editor GUY COH; circ. 20,000.

Radio & TV Times (English): Caldecott Hill, Thomson Rd, Singapore 1129; tel. 2560401; telex 39265; fax 2538808; f. 1980; weekly; Editor ONG LAY TEEN; circ. 46,000.

Republic of Singapore Government Gazette: Singapore National Printers Ltd, 303 Upper Serangoon Rd, POB 485, Singapore 1334; tel. 2820611; telex 24462; fax 2854894; weekly; Friday.

Reservist: 5200 Jalan Bukit Merah, Singapore 0315; tel. 2786011; telex 28837; fax 2737441; f. 1973; bimonthly; men's; Editor PAUL JANSEN; circ. 95,000.

Singapore Business: Times Periodicals Pte Ltd, 390 Kim Seng Rd, Singapore 0923; tel. 7370011; telex 21239; fax 7335271; f. 1977; monthly; Editor MANO SABNANI; circ. 10,000.

Singapore Business Yearbook: Times Periodical Pte Ltd, 390 Kim Seng Rd, Singapore 0923; tel. 7370011; telex 21239; f. 1972; yearly; Editor MANO SABNANI; circ. 12,000.

Singapore Medical Journal: Singapore Medical Association, Level 2, Alumni Medical Centre, 2 College Rd, Singapore 0316; tel. 2231264; fax 2247827; 6 a year; Editor Dr CHEE YAM CHENG.

Times Guide to Computers: 1 New Industrial Rd, Times Centre, Singapore 1953; tel. 2848844; telex 25713; fax 2881186; f. 1986; annually; computing and communications; Sales and Marketing Man. LESLIE LIM; circ. 22,000.

Woman's Affair: 305 UBI Ave, 02-169 Singapore 1648; tel. 7472822; telex 35361; fax 7472811; f. 1988; 10 a year; Editor GLORIA FU; circ. 22,000.

Young Parents: Times Periodicals Pte Ltd, 422 Thomson Rd, Singapore 1129; tel. 2550011; fax 2568016; quarterly; family; Editor TAN WANG JOO; circ. 20,000.

Chinese Language

Characters—Singapore Edition: 42 MacTaggart Rd, 06-02 MacTaggart Bldg, Singapore 1336; tel. 2866733; fax 2895413; f. 1987; monthly; television and entertainment; Editor JESSICA LI; circ. 45,000.

The Citizen: People's Association, Kallang, Singapore 1439; tel. 3448222; telex 38891; monthly; English and Chinese.

NTUC Lifestyle: 1 New Industrial Rd, Times Centre, Singapore 1953; tel. 2848844; telex 25713; fax 2881186; f. 1987; bimonthly; English and Chinese; travel and leisure; Editor MICHAEL CHEAH; circ. 150,000.

Punters' Way—Singapore Edition: 42 MacTaggart Rd, 06-02 MacTaggart Bldg, Singapore 1336; tel. 2866733; fax 2895413; f. 1977; biweekly; English and Chinese; sport; Editor T. S. PHAN; circ. 90,000.

Racing Guide: 1 New Industrial Rd, Times Centre, Singapore 1953; tel. 2848844; telex 25713; fax 2881186; f. 1987; 2 a week; English and Chinese; sport; Editorial Consultant BENNY ORTEGA; Chinese Editor KUEK CHIEW TEONG; circ. 20,000.

Radio & TV Times (Chinese): Caldecott Hill, Thomson Rd, Singapore 1129; tel. 2560401; telex 39265; fax 2538808; f. 1981; weekly; Editors WONG KHUIK PHIN, WONG OI KUAN; circ. 150,000.

Singapore Literature: Singapore Literature Society, 122B Stirling Ave, Singapore 1438; quarterly; Pres. YAP KOON CHAN; Editor LUO-MING.

Tune Monthly Magazine: Block 203A Henderson Industrial Park, Henderson Rd 06-04; Singapore 0315; tel. 2733000; fax 2749538; f. 1988; monthly; women's and fashion; Editor CHAN ENG; circ. 25,000.

Video Magazine: Block 293A Henderson Industrial Park, Henderson Rd 06-04; Singapore 0315; tel. 2733000; fax 2749538; f. 1992; monthly; Editor CHAN ENG; circ. 30,000.

Young Generation: EPB Publishers Pte Ltd, Block 162, Bukit Merah Central, 04-3545, Singapore 0315; tel. 2780881; telex 56228; monthly; Editors WINSTON LAM, KOH SWEE YANG; circ. 80,000.

NEWS AGENCIES

Foreign Bureaux

Agence France-Presse (AFP): Maxwell Rd, POB 1847, Singapore 9036; tel. 2228581; telex 21255; Bureau Chief MICHELE COOPER.

Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata (ANSA) (Italy): 37 Grange Lane, Singapore 1027; tel. 4690265; telex 38629; fax 4671955; Correspondent ALFONSO MAFFETTONE.

Associated Press (AP) (USA): 6 Battery Rd, 23-02 Standard Chartered Bank Bldg, Singapore 0104; tel. 2201849; telex 21505; Bureau Chief KENNETH L. WHITING.

Informatsionnoye Agentstvo Novosti (IAN) (USSR): 8 Nassim Grove, Singapore 1026; tel. 4667998; telex 21703; fax 4693552; Correspondent MIKHAIL I. IDAMKIN.

Jiji Press Ltd (Jiji Tsushin-sha) (Japan): 10 Anson Rd, 34-08 International Plaza, Singapore 0207; tel. 2244212; telex 28532; fax 2240711; Correspondent TAKASHI YAGI.

Kyodo News Service (Japan): Singapore; tel. 2233371; telex 30; Chief MIKIO KOBAYASHI.

Pan-Asia Newspaper Alliance (PANANEWS): 1 Finlayson Green, 14-12 Asia Insurance Bldg, Singapore 0207; tel. 2244837; Correspondent CHIN KAH CHONG.

Press Trust of India (PTI): Singapore; tel. 2225964; Correspondent E. M. RASHEED.

Reuters Singapore Pte Ltd: 50 Raffles Place, 17-01 Shell Tower, Singapore 0104; tel. 2253848; telex 21290; fax 2259317; Man. P. MELCHIOR.

Telegrafnoye Agentstvo Sovetskovo Soyuza (TASS) (USSR): 3 Cairnhill Rd, 04-09 Elizabeth Height, Singapore 0922; tel. 7341; telex 28231; Correspondent VLADIMIR KOVALENKO.

United Press International (UPI) (USA): Shaw Towers, Suite 10, 100 Beach Rd, Singapore 0718; tel. 2946289; telex 20253; fax 2985946; Man. RUTH YOUNGBLOOD.

Bernama (Malaysia) and Xinhua (People's Republic of China) also represented.

Publishers

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Addison-Wesley (S) Pte Ltd: 15 Beach Rd, 05-09/10 Beach Centre, Singapore 0718; tel. 3397503; telex 20904; fax 3399709; educational, computing and professional books; Man. Dir PAUL GOULDING.

...APORE

...Publishers: 865 Mountbatten Rd, 05-28/29 Katong Shopping Centre, Singapore 1543; tel. 3441495; fax 3440180; f. 1963; children's and general; Man. Dir N. T. S. CHOPRA.

...Publishers Pte Ltd: Block 162, 04-3545 Bukit Merah Central, ...pore 0315; tel. 2780881; telex 56289; fax 2782456; fmrly Educational Publications Bureau Pte Ltd; textbooks, general, reference ...zines; English and Chinese; Gen. Man. AU PUI CHUAN.

...Publications (S) Pte Ltd: 1 New Industrial Rd, Singapore ... 2848844; telex 25713; fax 2889254; f. 1957; educational, ...'s and general reference books; Gen. Man. Y. H. MEW.

...International Pte Ltd: 348 Jalan Boon Lay, Jurong, Singa... tel. 2650311; telex 25601; fax 2655103; f. 1960; textbooks, ..., children's and dictionaries; Gen. Man. RICHARD TOH.

...Brash (Pte) Ltd: 36-C Prinsep St, Singapore 0718; tel. ... telex 23718; fax 3384583; f. 1956; general, academic, ...; English, Chinese and Malay; Man. Dir Mrs K. C. ...

...& Row Publishers, Asia Pte Ltd: 37 Jalan Pemimpin, 02-... Industrial Bldg, Block A, Singapore 2057; tel. 2583577; ...; fax 2594286; f. 1983; educational, children's, professional reference, medical and general; Sales Man. BERNARD TANG.

...Communications (Pte) Ltd: 38 Joo Koon Rd, Singapore ... 8612755; telex 36201; fax 8616438; f. 1971; travel guides, ... photography; Publr HANS HOEFER.

...of Southeast Asian Studies: Heng Mui Keng Terrace, ...Panjang Rd, Singapore 0511; tel. 7780955; telex 37068; fax ...; f. 1968; scholarly works on contemporary South-East Asia ... Pacific; Dir Prof. KERNIAL S. SANDHU.

...ectual Publishing Co: 113 Eunos Ave 3, 04-08 Gordon ...trial Bldg, Singapore 1440; tel. 7466025; telex 55708; fax ...; f. 1971; Propr POH BE LECK.

...an Singapore Publishers (Pte) Ltd: 25 First Lok Yang ... Jurong Town, Singapore 2262; tel. 2682666; telex 24268; fax ...; textbooks, medicine, science, technology; Man. Dir WEE ... KING.

...-Hill Book Co: 21 Neythal Rd, Jurong, Singapore 2262; ... 2654633; telex 36791; fax 2652972; f. 1969; general educational; ... Dir STEVEN GOH.

...illan Southeast Asia Pte Ltd: 41 Jalan Pemimpin, 03-04, ...pore 2057; tel. 2581337; telex 23196; fax 2588270; educational ... general; Marketing Dir JACOB KANG.

...ayan Law Journal Pte Ltd: 3 Shenton Way, 14-03 Shenton ..., Singapore 0106; tel. 2203684; telex 42890; fax 2255026; ... law texts and journals; Man. Dir STEPHEN STOUT.

...pus Publishing Asia Pte Ltd: 37 Jalan Pemimpin, 07-04, ... B, Union Industrial Bldg, Singapore 2057; tel. 2583255; telex ...; fax 2588279; educational and general; Man. Dir CHARLES ...

...ford University Press Pte Ltd: Unit 221, Ubi Ave 4, Singapore ...; tel. 7431066; telex 37960; fax 7425915; f. 1955; educational, ...demic and general; Man. GOH TEOW HUAT.

...G Publishing Pte Ltd: 304 Orchard Rd, 04-20/22 Lucky Plaza, ...pore 0923; tel. 2357700; telex 39967; fax 2357934; medical; ...keting Man. LEW KOK LIAT.

...s Ptd Ltd: 621 Aljunied Rd, 06-01 Lipo Bldg, Singapore 1438; ... 7474725; f. 1975; law texts, magazines; Dir NIRMAI SINGH.

...on & Schuster Asia Pte Ltd: 24 Pasir Panjang Rd, 04-31 PSA ...ti Storey Complex, Singapore 0511; tel. 2789611; telex 37270; ... 2734400; f. 1975; educational; Man. Dir STEPHEN M. SMITH.

...apore Book Emporium: 120 Hillview Ave, 05-0607 Kewalram ...view, Singapore 2366; tel. 7601388; telex 39255; f. 1961; ...tbooks, children's, reference, dictionaries, cookery, general; ... Dir PEH CHIN HUA.

...apore University Press Pte Ltd: National University of ...apore, Yusof Ishak House, Kent Ridge, Singapore 0511; tel. ...1148; telex 51112; f. 1971; scholarly; Editor and Man. PATRICIA ...

...ford College Publishers: 218 Queen St, Singapore 0718; tel. ...; telex 25596; fax 3395825; f. 1970; general, educational and ...als; Man. L. P. NICHOL.

...es Editions Pte Ltd: Times Centre, 1 New Industrial Rd, ...apore 1953; tel. 2848844; telex 37908; fax 2854871; f. 1978; ...ical, social and cultural books, general works on Asia; Asst ... Man. SHIRLEY HEW.

...ld Scientific Publishing Co Pte Ltd: Farrer Road, POB 128, ...apore 9128; tel. 3825663; telex 28561; fax 3825919; f. 1980; ...demic texts and science journals; Man. Dir DOREEN LIU.

MALAY LANGUAGE

...aysia Press Sdn Bhd (Pustaka Melayu): 745-747 North Bridge ..., Singapore 0719; tel. 2933454; f. 1962; textbooks and educational; Man. Dir ABU TALIB BIN ALLY.

Pustaka Nasional Pte Ltd: 100 Beach Rd, 13-11 Shaw Towers, Singapore 0718; tel. 2941917; telex 26746; Malay and Islamic religious books; Man. Dir SYED AHMAD BIN MUHAMAD.

CHINESE LANGUAGE

Shanghai Book Co (Pte) Ltd: 81 Victoria St, Singapore 0718; tel. 3360144; telex 29297; fax 2243270; f. 1925; educational and general; Man. Dir Mrs CHEN MONG HOCK.

Shing Lee Publishers Pte Ltd: 120 Hillview Ave, 05-06/07 Kewalram Hillview, Singapore 2366; tel. 7601388; telex 39255; fax 7625684; f. 1935; educational and general; Man. PEH CHIN HUA.

Union Book Co (Pte) Ltd: 231 Bain St 03-01, Bras Basah Complex, Singapore 0718; tel. 3380696; fax 3386306; general and reference; Gen. Man. CHOW LI-LIANG.

TAMIL LANGUAGE

EVS Enterprises: 629 Upper Serangoon Rd, Singapore 1953; tel. 2830002; f. 1967; children's books, religion and general; Man. E. V. SINGHAN.

Government Publishing House

Singapore National Printers (Pte) Ltd: 303 Upper Serangoon Rd, Singapore 1334; tel. 22308340; fax 2887246.

PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION

Singapore Book Publishers' Association: c/o Chopmen Publrs, 865 Mountbatten Rd, 05-28 Katong Shopping Centre, Singapore 1543; tel. 3441495; fax 3440180; Hon. Sec. N. T. S. CHOPRA.

Radio and Television

In 1990 there were 649,848 radio and 560,153 television licences.

Singapore Broadcasting Corpn (SBC): Caldecott Hill, Andrew Rd, Singapore 1129; tel. 2560401; telex 39265; f. 1980, taking over the functions of Radio-Television Singapore and the collection of radio and television licence fees; nine radio services and three TV channels; Chair. Dr CHEONG CHOONG KONG; Gen. Man. MOSES LEE.

RADIO

Far East Broadcasting (FEBA Ltd): POB 751, Robinson Rd, Singapore 9015; tel. 2225418; telex 25281; fax 2221805; f. 1960; Chair. GOH EWE KHENG; Exec. Dir DAVID L. CHEN.

Rediffusion (Singapore) Pte Ltd: 1 Jalan Selanting, Singapore 2159; tel. 4671144; telex 24114; fax 4663888; f. 1949; commercial wired broadcasting service; broadcasts two programmes in Mandarin (18 hours daily) and English (24 hours daily) to over 102,000 listeners (1990); Man. Dir WONG BAN KUAN.

SBC—Radio Singapore: Farrer Rd, POB 60, Singapore 9128; tel. 2560401; telex 39265; f. 1936; operates nine services, in English (four), Chinese (Mandarin) (two), Malay (two) and Tamil, including a 24-hour popular music service in English; broadcasts 1,213 hours per week; Gen. Man. MOSES LEE; Dir Mrs CHUA FOO YONG.

TELEVISION

SBC—Television Singapore: Farrer Rd, POB 60, Singapore 9128; tel. 2560401; telex 39265; f. 1963; three channels; colour transmissions since 1974; total weekly average of 178 hours; education service of 6 hours weekly; programmes in Malay, Chinese (Mandarin), Tamil and English; teletext service on two channels; Gen. Man. MOSES LEE.

Finance

(cap. = capital; p.u. = paid up; dep. = deposits; m. = million; brs = branches; amounts in Singapore dollars)

BANKING

The Singapore monetary system is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) and the Ministry of Finance. The MAS performs all the functions of a central bank, except the issuing of currency, a function which is carried out by the Board of Commissioners of Currency. The Government of Singapore Investment Corporation was founded in 1981 under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. In February 1991 there were 137 commercial banks (13 local, 124 foreign) and 49 representative offices in Singapore. Of the banks, 35 were fully licensed, 14 had restricted licences and 88 foreign banks had 'offshore' banking licences.

Lee Insurance Ltd: 63 Market St, 11-07/10 Tat Lee Bank Singapore 0104; tel. 5333355; telex 55300; fax 5339390; Chair. ENG CHEW; Prin. Officer FONG SIEW HONG.

Tokio Marine & Fire Insurance Co (Singapore) Pte Ltd: 6 Shenton Way, 41-01 DBS Bldg, Singapore 0106; tel. 2216111; telex fax 2240895; Man. Dir RYOZO YAWATA.

Overseas Insurance Ltd: 156 Cecil St, 09-01 Far Eastern Bldg, Singapore 0106; tel. 2227733; telex 25094; fax 2242718; Dir HWANG SOO JIN.

Composite Insurance

Great Eastern Life Assurance Co Ltd: 65 Chulia St, 18-01 OCBC Centre, Singapore 0104; tel. 5324331; telex 34421; fax 2f. 1908; Gen. Man. ALLEN J. PATHMARAJAH.

Insurance Corpn of Singapore Ltd: 137 Cecil St, 08-00 ICS Bldg, Singapore 0106; tel. 3458555; telex 37770; fax 2247242; f. 1969; Dir LOCK SAI HUNG.

Overseas Assurance Corpn Ltd: 138 Cecil St, 05-00 Cecil Court, Singapore 0106; tel. 2251122; telex 21443; fax 2240672; f. 1920; Gen. and Sec. KOH BEE CHYE.

Associations

General Insurance Association of Singapore: 150 Cecil St, 07-01 Wing on Life Bldg, Singapore 0106; tel. 2218788; Pres. HWANG SOO JIN.

Life Insurance Association: 1 Selegie Rd, 06-17A Paradiz Centre, Singapore 0718; tel. 3383340; fax 3360654; Pres. TAN KIN LIAN; Exec. Pres. ALLEN J. PATHMARAJAH.

Trade and Industry

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Singapore Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry: 47 Hill St, 03-01 Chinese Chamber of Commerce Bldg, Singapore 0617; tel. 3389761; telex 26228; fax 3395630; f. 1978 by the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce, the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce, the Singapore Int. Chamber of Commerce and the Singapore Mfrs' Assen; Pres. G. RAMACHANDHRAN; Hon. Gen. Sec. GEORGE ABRAHAM.

DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Economic Development Board: 250 North Bridge Rd, 24-00 Raffles City Tower, Singapore 0617; tel. 3362288; telex 26233; fax 3396077; f. 1961; statutory body planning and implementing the govt's industrialization programme; Chair. PHILIP YEO; Alt. Chair. CHAN CHIN BOCK; Gen. Man. TAN CHIN NAM.

Housing and Development Board: 3541 Bukit Merah Rd, HDB Centre, Singapore 0315; tel. 2739090; telex 22020; fax 2796097; f. 1960; public housing authority; Chair. HSUAN OWYANG.

Jurong Town Corpn: 5 Pulau Samulun, Jurong Town, Singapore 2260; tel. 5600056; telex 35733; fax 5655301; f. 1968; statutory body responsible for developing and maintaining industrial estates; Chair. YEO SENG TECK; Gen. Man. FRANCIS MAK.

Trade Development Board: 1 Maritime Sq., Telok Blangah Rd, 09-40 World Trade Centre, Singapore 0409; tel. 2719388; telex 29617; fax 2740770; statutory body; Chair. ALAN YEO; CEO YEO SENG TECK; Dir-Gen. RIDZWAN DZAFIR.

INDUSTRIAL AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

Association of Singapore Marine Industries (ASMI): 1 Maritime Sq., 09-50 World Trade Centre, Singapore 0409; tel. 2707883; telex 37706; fax 2731867; f. 1968; 33 full mems, 9 hon. mems, 84 assoc. mems; Pres. CHOO CHIAU BENG; Exec. Sec. ONG CHEW LIANG.

Malayan Pineapple Industry Board: 10 Collyer Quay, 19-06 Ocean Bldg, Singapore 0104; tel. 5338827; f. 1957; controls pineapple cultivation, canning and marketing; Chair. AHMAD BIN OMAR.

Rubber Association of Singapore: Godown P7, West Coast Highway, Pasir Panyang Wharves, Singapore 0511; tel. 5353333; telex 23654; fax 4755690; f. 1968 to regulate, promote, develop and supervise the rubber market in Singapore, including the establishment and dissemination of official prices for all grades and types of rubber; provides clearing facilities; endorses certificates of origin and licences for packers, shippers and mfrs; Chair. LING LEE HUA; Exec. Sec. GNOH CHONG HOCK.

Singapore Manufacturers' Association: 20 Orchard Rd, The SMA House, Singapore 0923; tel. 3388787; telex 24992; fax 3383358; f. 1932; Pres. ROBERT CHUA TECK CHEW; Exec. Dir CHIN TECK HUAT.

CO-OPERATIVES

As at 31 December 1981, Singapore had 78 co-operative societies classified into 12 types, comprising 40 thrift and credit societies, eight consumer societies, 17 multi-purpose societies, three housing/land-purchase societies, one transport society, two producer societies, one insurance society, one medical society, two service societies, two school co-operative societies and one co-operative union. These societies, with paid-up share capital of S $53m. and statutory reserve funds of S $10.7m., had a combined membership of 273 institutional mems and 180,229 personal mems.

EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATION

Singapore National Employers' Federation: 19 Tanglin Rd, 10-01/04 Tanglin Shopping Centre, Singapore 1024; tel. 2358911; fax 2353904; f. 1948; Pres. STEPHEN LEE; Exec. Dir TAN PENG BOO.

TRADE UNIONS

In December 1989 there were 87 trade unions, of which 74 were affiliated to the Singapore National Trades Union Congress. Non-affiliated unions were mostly small, occupational or in-house unions.

In December 1989 the largest private-sector union, the United Workers of Electronics and Electrical Industries, had 30,233 members, while the largest public-sector union, the Amalgamated Union of Public Employees, had 22,796 members.

Singapore National Trades Union Congress (SNTUC): Trade Union House, Shenton Way, Singapore 0106; tel. 2226555; telex 24543; f. 1961; 74 affiliated unions, 209,193 mems (Dec. 1989); Pres. OSCAR OLIVIERO; Sec.-Gen. ONG TENG CHEONG.

Transport

RAILWAYS

In 1989 there was 26 km of 1-m gauge railway, linked with the Malaysian railway system and owned by the Malayan Railway (KTM). The main line crosses the Johore causeway (1.2 km) and terminates near Keppel Harbour. Branch lines link it with the industrial estate at Jurong.

Construction began in 1984 on the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) system. The first section was completed in 1987, and the remaining section by 1990. The network consists of three lines with 42 stations. The system extended for 67 km, most of which was either elevated or under ground.

Mass Rapid Transit Corpn: 25K Paterson Rd, Singapore 0923; tel. (72) 7324433; telex 39954; fax 7327758; Chair. M. FAM.

ROADS

In 1986 Singapore had a total of 2,686 km of roads, of which 77 km were motorway and 458 km were main roads.

SHIPPING

Singapore is the world's busiest port in terms of the total displacement of vessels handled, and is used by about 500 shipping lines.

The Port of Singapore Authority operates five gateways: Tanjong Pagar Terminal, Keppel Wharves, Pasir Panjang Wharves, Sembawang Wharves and Jurong Port. Tanjong Pagar Terminal (3.3 km) is the main gateway for containerized cargo and has the capacity to accommodate 58,500 20-foot equivalent units (TEU). Keppel Wharves (4.8 km), the principal conventional gateway, can berth up to 24 vessels and handles mainly loose cargo. Pasir Panjang Wharves (2.7 km) is a conventional gateway and a major centre for warehousing. It can accommodate three deep-water vessels, 10 coastal vessels and 46 lighters. Sembawang Wharves (0.8 km) is a conventional gateway with five berths and handles mainly low-value, high-volume cargo. Jurong Port (2.4 km) is mainly a dry bulk cargo port and can accommodate nine deep-water and three coastal vessels. In 1988 a sixth container terminal was being constructed: it was estimated to cost about S $1,500m. over five years. In 1988 the Port of Singapore handled 142m. metric tons of cargo. As at 31 December 1986, Singapore's merchant shipping fleet comprised 1,265 vessels, totalling 7.26m. grt.

Port of Singapore Authority: 460 Alexandra Rd, PSA Bldg, Singapore 0511; tel. 2747111; telex 21507; fax 2744677; f. 1964; statutory board under the Ministry of Communications; responsible for the provision and maintenance of port facilities and services; Chair. LIM KIM SAN; Exec. Dir NG KIAT CHONG.

Major Shipping Lines

American President Lines Ltd: 19 Keppel Rd, 02-01 Jit Poh Bldg, Singapore 0208; tel. 2259966; telex 21337; fax 2214922; container services to North and South Asia, the USA, the Middle East, India and Pakistan; Man. Dir JORDAN TRUCHAN.

Barwil Agencies Pte Ltd: 200 Cantonment Rd, 07-02 Southport, Singapore 0208; tel. 2252577; telex 23057; fax 2252538; services to the USA, Canada and the Persian Gulf; Man. Dir HANS DYRLIE.

Everett Steamship Corpn SA: 24 Raffles Place, 17-03 Clifford Centre, Singapore 0104; tel. 5325481; telex 21306; fax 5325486; cargo services; shipping agents; Gen. Man. P. M. PANDOLFO.

Guan Guan Shipping Pte Ltd: 23 Telok Ayer St, Singapore 0104; tel. 2219790; telex 21395; fax 5343504; f. 1955; shipowners and agents; cargo services to East and West Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bengal Bay ports, Persian Gulf ports, Hong Kong and China; 5 vessels; Man. Dir T. E. Go.

Hin Leong Marine International (Pte) Ltd: 1 Playfair Rd, Singapore 1336; tel. 2835694; telex 38835; 45 vessels; Marine Supt V. LIM.

Nedlloyd EAC Agencies Pte Ltd: 138 Robinson Rd, 01-00 Hong Leong Centre, Singapore 0106; tel. 2218989; telex 21261; fax 2249106; f. 1963; agency for Nedlloyd Lines and Scandutch I/S partnership; Gen. Man. VAN RAPPARD.

Neptune Orient Lines Ltd: 456 Alexandra Rd, PDS 06-00 NOL Bldg, Singapore 0511; tel. 2789000; telex 51168; fax 2784900; f. 1968; liner containerized services on the Far East/Europe, Far East/North America, Straits/Australia, South Asia/Europe and South-East Asia, Far East/Mediterranean routes; tankers, bulk carriers and dry cargo vessels on charter; 44 vessels; Chair. H. R. HOCHSTADT; Man. Dir LUA CHENG ENG.

New Straits Shipping Co Pte Ltd: 51 Anson Rd, 09-53 Anson Centre, Singapore 0207; tel. 2201007; telex 23150; fax 2240785; 3 vessels.

Pacific International Lines Pte Ltd: 140 Cecil St, 03-00 PIL Bldg, Singapore 0106; tel. 2218133; telex 24190; fax 2258741; shipowners, agents and managers; liner services to the Far East, India, the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf, West and East Africa; container services to South-East Asia; world-wide chartering, freight forwarding; 51 vessels; Chair. and Man. Dir Y. C. CHANG.

Pacific Navigation Co Pte Ltd: 3 Shenton Way, 21-08 Shenton House, Singapore 0106; tel. 2225688; telex 26003; fax 2259897; six vessels; Man. Dir B. FORSELL.

Syabas Tankers Pte Ltd: 10 Anson Rd, 34-10 International Plaza, Singapore 0207; tel. 2259522; telex 26049; 3 vessels.

CIVIL AVIATION

Singapore's international airport at Changi was opened in 1981. In late 1990 a second passenger terminal came into operation, which more than doubled the airport's capacity, to 24m. passengers per year.

Singapore Airlines Ltd (SIA): Airline House, 25 Airline Rd, Singapore 1781; tel. 5423333; telex 21241; fax 5424155; f. 1972; passenger services to 59 cities in 34 countries, including Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei, Canada, the People's Republic of China, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the USA; Chair. J. Y. PILLAY; Man. Dir CHEONG CHOONG KONG; fleet of 8 B747-400, 11 B747-300, 3 B747-300 Combi, 5 B747-200, 8 A310-300, 6 A310-200, 1 747-200F.

Tourism

Singapore's tourist attractions include a blend of cultures and excellent shopping facilities. The Centre for Tourism-Related Studies was established in 1987 to train about 1,000 members of the tourism industry per year in tour operations, ticketing, sales and marketing. Tourist arrivals reached 4,829,950 in 1989, increasing by 10%, to an estimated 5,313,223, in 1990.

Singapore Convention Bureau: Raffles City Tower 37-00, 250 North Bridge Road, Singapore 0617; tel. 3396622; telex 33375; f. 1974; a division of the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board; Dir. Dir KEVIN LEONG.

Singapore Tourist Promotion Board: Raffles City Tower 36-00, 250 North Bridge Rd, Singapore 0617; tel. 3396622; telex 33375; fax 3399423; f. 1964; Chair. LEONG CHEE WHYE.

Teacher training at non-university level is provided at six teacher colleges which include five primary teacher-colleges and one secondary teacher-college-Milton Margai Teachers College. The primary teacher-training colleges offer a 3-year teacher certificate course for students with four years secondary education and those who pass the entrance examination. The Milton Margai Teachers Certificate (H.T.C.) Course is for students with 4 G.C.E. 'O' Level subjects.

Holders of the Higher Teachers Certificate are qualified to teach in the lower classes of secondary schools. The Department of Education at Fourah Day College and Njala University College provide teacher education at graduate level.

A year's Post Graduate Teacher Programme leading to Diploma in Education is pursued at Fourah Bay College. The Degree Programme at Njala University College leads to Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Education.

In 1975-76 Bunumbu Teachers College was granted permission to conduct the HTC (Primary Programme). This course has strong rural community bias. Moreover, in teacher education, the Bunumbu Project has a purpose of educating and training primary school teachers for rural areas.

Fourah Bay College and Njala University College are the constituent Colleges of the University of Sierra Leone. Enrolment at Fourah Bay College and Njala University College in 1975-76 was 1,016 and 596 respectively. The Institute of Education exists as part of the University of Sierra Leone.

Early in 1970, a commission set up with the approval of Government completed its report on Higher Education in Sierra Leone and submitted it to the government. The report formed the basis of a National Education policy for Sierra Leone.

The University of Sierra Leone in collaboration with the Ministry of Education carried out the Sierra Leone Education Review which is in substance completed. The Ministry of Education coordinates Adult Education Programmes through the National Literacy Committee on which all the principal participating organisations in Adult Education are represented.

RELIGION

Sierra Leone is Muslim and Christian.

SINGAPORE

(MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH)

President - Mr. Wee Kim Wee.

National Flag - Red over white, halved horizontally in ratio 2 : 3, at the top of the hoist a crescent moon sided by five stars in a circle, all in white.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT

Singapore was founded by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1819. In 1826, Singapore together with Malacca and Penang formed the Straits Settlements, with the Governor of Penang in overall responsibility of the administration. In 1832, Singapore became the administrative centre of the Straits Settlements which remained under the control of the British East Indian Company until 1867, when Singapore became a British colony. After the Japanese occupation from 1942-45, Singapore moved gradually to self-government, which it achieved in 1959. In 1963, it became a state within the Federation of Malaysia. On 9 August 1965, Singapore ceased to be a part of Malaysia and became an independent nation; and a member of the Commonwealth on 15 October, 1965.

Head of State is the President, elected by parliament for a term of five years. The Cabinet is responsible to a parliament of 79 members.

Mr Lee Kuan Yew has submitted, on 26 November 1990, his letter of resignation as Prime Minister to the President. He was succeeded by Mr Goh Chok Tong.

Government (November 1990):

Prime Minister and Minister of Defence: Goh Chok Tong.
Senior Minister (Prime Minister's Office): Lee Kuan Yew.
Deputy Prime Minister: Ong Teng Cheong.
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade & Industry: BG Lee Hsien Loong.
Minister for National Development: S Dhanabalan.
Minister for Education: Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam.
Minister for the Environment (also Minister-in-Charge of Muslim Affairs): Dr Ahmad Mattar.
Minister for Communications and Second Minister for Defence: Dr Yeo Ning Hong.
Minister for Law and Minister for Home Affairs: Prof S Jayakumar.
Minister for Finance: Dr Richard Hu Tsu Tau.
Minister for Labour: Lee Yock Suan.
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Community Development: Wong Kan Seng.
Minister for Health: Yeo Cheow Tong.

The other appointments are as follows:

Senior Ministers of State:
Ministry of Foreign Affairs: BG George Yeo*Ministry of Education:* Dr Tay Eng Soon.
Ministry of Defence: Dr Lee Boon Yang.

Ministers of State:
Ministry of Community Development: Ch'ng Jit Koon.
Ministry of Communications and Ministry of Trde & Industry: Mah Bow Tan.
Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Home Affairs: Peter Sung.
Ministry of Community Development and Ministry of Education: Dr Seet Ai Mee.
Ministry of Health: Dr Aline K Wong.

AREA AND POPULATION

The main island of Singapore and the numerous outlying small islands together cover an area of 620.2 square kilometres. The highest hill (Bukit Timah) is 165 metres above sea level and the longest river (Sungei Seletar) is about 15.0 kilometres long. The population as at 30 June 1984 was 2,529,100 persons with a density of 4,078 persons per square kilometer. The population growth rate has decreased from an average of 2.8% per annum during 1957-1970 to 1.5% during 1970-1980 and further to 1.2 per cent per annum during 1980-84. The population growth rate is among the lowest in the region.

The population in 1984 comprised 1,935,800 Chinese, 374,400 Malays, 162,600 Indians and 57,800 persons of other ethnic groups. The Chinese constituted 76.5 per cent, the Malays 14.8 per cent, the Indians 6.4 per cent and persons of other ethnic groups the remaining 2.3 per cent of the total population.

There were 1,288,700 males and 1,240,400 females in 1983, giving a sex ratio of 1,039 males per thousand females. Of the main ethnic groups, the Chinese and the Malays had fairly even sex distribution of 1,015 and 1,067 males per thousand females respectively. The Indians, however, still have an uneven sex distribution of 1,274 males per thousand females.

About 24.7 per cent of the population were below 15 years of age and 7.7 per cent were aged 60 years and over. The dependency ratio, defined as the ratio of youths below 15 years and elderly persons aged 60 years and over to the adult population aged 15-59 years, was 48 per hundred adult population in 1984.

Singapore is one of the healthiest countries in the world. The crude death rate which was 20.8 per thousand population in 1921 declined to 13.3 per thousand in 1947 and to 5.2 per thousand in 1984. Infant mortality rate in 1984 was 8.8 per thousand live births, a marked decline as compared with 87.3 per thousand in 1947. The expectation of life at birth in 1980 was 68.7 years for males and 74.0 years for females.

FINANCE

Government Revenue:

Economic Classification

	Total
Transfer Receipts	
Taxes on income	
Taxes on production & expenditure	
Other transfer receipts	
Disposal of Goods & Services	
Sales of goods & services from current operations	
Reimbursements for services & sales of lands	
Income from Property &	
Financial Claims	
Interest & dividends received	
Financial claims	
Overpayments, refunds & others	

Note: Government revenue r
* Exclude land sales to HD
Source: Ministry of Financ

Government Current Expendi

Functional Classification

	Total
General Services	
Defence, Justice & Police	
Social & Community Services	
Education	
Health	
Community, environment, social welfare & other social services	
Economic Services	
Agricultural, non-mineral resources, industrial & commercial development	
Transport & communication	
Other economic services	
Public Debt	
Unallocable	
Transfer to Development Fund	

Note: Government current e
Source: Department of Stat

BANKS

DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SINGAPO
BANK) Singapore
OVERSEA-CHINESE BANKING CO
UNITED OVERSEAS BANK LIMIT
OVERSEAS UNION BANK LIMITE
OVERSEAS (SOUTH EAST ASIA)
COPPERZBANK (SOUTH EAST AS
KHIAW BANK LIMITED

The various tables below s

External Trade:

Regional/Country of Origin or Destination

	Total
South East Asia	
Malaysia	
Thailand	
Brunei	
Philippines	
North East Asia	

FINANCE

Government Revenue:

Million Dollars

Economic Classification	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Total	*5,491.4*	*7,146.2*	*9,008.5*	*10,510.6*	*10,267.6*	*9,397.0*	*8,333.1*
Transfer Receipts	4,125.1	5,263.7	6,237.9	7,148.7	7,671.0	6,932.3	5,276.7
Taxes on income	1,898.4	2,634.3	3,248.0	3,523.3	3,568.3	3,006.7	2,231.8
Taxes on production & expenditure	2,035.7	2,368.7	2,698.9	3,076.8	3,525.2	3,430.7	2,776.1
Other transfer receipts	191.0	260.7	291.0	548.6	577.5	494.9	268.8
Disposal of Goods & Services	833.0	1,403.2	2,037.3	1,953.4	1,306.7	922.0	1,178.6
Sales of goods & services from current operations	568.0	845.2	924.9	927.9	874.0	688.5	702.1
Reimbursements for services & sales of lands*	265.0	558.0	1,112.4	1,025.5	432.7	233.5	476.5
Income from Property & Financial Claims	533.3	479.3	733.3	1,408.5	1,289.9	1,542.7	1,877.8
Interest & dividends received	434.7	469.0	724.9	1,398.4	1,242.3	1,529.5	1,851.5
Financial claims							
Overpayments, refunds & others	98.6	10.3	8.4	10.1	47.6	13.2	26.3

Note: Government revenue refers to receipts credited to Consolidated Revenue Account.
* Exclude land sales to HDB amounting to $6,503.1 million in 1986.
Source: Ministry of Finance.

Government Current Expenditure:

Million Dollars

Functional Classification	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Total	*5,170.7*	*5,798.2*	*8,428.9*	*10,150.5*	*10,625.1*	*10,575.8*	*12,241.5*
General Services	211.5	181.9	278.6	468.8	522.3	606.5	411.1
Defence, Justice & Police	1,321.7	1,350.2	1,618.0	1,724.0	1,972.2	2,574.7	2,364.9
Social & Community Services	1,029.8	1,147.7	1,442.3	1,804.9	2,111.5	2,160.8	2,059.1
Education	564.4	631.6	866.7	1,115.1	1,282.1	1,362.0	1,349.0
Health	223.0	257.3	313.3	342.0	376.2	419.0	400.6
Community, environment, social welfare & other social services	242.4	258.8	262.3	347.8	453.2	379.8	309.5
Economic Services	228.1	288.0	383.9	346.5	300.1	249.5	230.4
Agricultural, non-mineral resources, industrial & commercial development	65.8	77.0	133.6	85.5	71.6	83.3	61.0
Transport & communication	121.8	159.7	168.7	163.9	141.1	88.0	75.6
Other economic services	40.5	51.3	81.6	97.1	87.4	78.2	93.8
Public Debt	1,794.3	2,677.3	2,922.9	3,722.0	3,634.2	2,449.4	4,753.6
Unallocable	74.1	59.1	79.4	89.2	100.4	141.8	160.6
Transfer to Development Fund	511.3	94.0	1,703.8	1,995.1	1,984.4	2,393.1	2,261.8

Note: Government current expenditure refers to payments from Consolidated Revenue Account.
Source: Department of Statistics.

BANKS

	Assets U.S.$ 000,000
DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SINGAPORE LIMITED (DBS BANK) Singapore	15,141
OVERSEA-CHINESE BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED Singapore	9,888*
UNITED OVERSEAS BANK LIMITED Singapore	5,401
OVERSEAS UNION BANK LIMITED Singapore	5,328*
DRESDNER (SOUTH EAST ASIA) LIMITED Singapore	2,236
COMMERZBANK (SOUTH EAST ASIA) LIMITED Singapore	1,645
CHUNG KHIAW BANK LIMITED Singapore	1,548
TAT LEE BANK LIMITED Singapore	1,254
BANK OF MONTREAL ASIA LIMITED Singapore	754
UNION BANK OF FINLAND (SINGAPORE) LIMITED Singapore	852
SINGAPORE NOMURA MERCHANT BANKING LIMITED Singapore	668
NORDBAKEN SOUTH EAST ASIA LTD Singapore	433
INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL BANK LIMITED Singapore	714
ASIA COMMERCIAL BANK LIMITED Singapore	454
LEE WAH BANK LIMITED Singapore	594

* FIGURES ARE CONSOLIDATED

PRODUCTION, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

The various tables below show some aspects of Singapore's Commercial Life

External Trade:

Million Dollars

Region/Country of Origin or Destination	Imports 1984	Imports 1985	Imports 1986	Exports 1984	Exports 1985	Exports 1986
Total	61,133.6	57,817.5	55,545.4	51,340.0	50,178.8	48,985.5
South East Asia	11,593.4	10,764.4	9,709.1	12,181.2	11,458.0	10,255.3
Malaysia	9,179.7	8,301.0	7,402.6	8,324.2	7,786.8	7,244.6
Thailand	1,350.9	1,196.3	1,606.8	2,458.1	2,092.5	1,787.7
Brunei	415.4	536.6	298.1	627.1	638.1	683.6
Philippines	395.0	437.4	401.6	441.0	478.6	539.3
North East Asia	*18,175.9*	*18,794.7*	*19,029.9*	*10,199.4*	*10,192.8*	*10,499.8*

SINGAPORE

continued

Region/Country of Origin or Destination	Imports 1984	Imports 1985	Imports 1986	Exports 1984	Exports 1985	Exports 1986
Japan	11,217.9	9,869.7	11,052.2	4,806.4	4,722.2	4,204.4
Hong Kong	1,281.3	1,082.5	1,310.1	3,176.2	3,197.4	3,182.9
China, People's Rep.	2,881.1	4,971.7	3,109.6	519.3	730.2	1,243.8
Taiwan	1,997.8	1,992.1	2,224.1	829.6	855.2	1,097.2
South Asia	*612.3*	*704.4*	*497.7*	*2,993.5*	*2,911.4*	*2,382.4*
India	470.4	488.8	348.5	1,413.3	1,069.0	1,027.8
Bangladesh	43.1	52.1	29.3	573.9	664.6	506.3
Pakistan	60.9	60.3	78.1	455.3	533.0	230.1
Sri Lanka	28.9	94.8	35.8	376.2	424.8	378.6
Others	9.0	8.4	6.0	174.8	220.0	239.6
West Asia	*11,179.3*	*7,925.2*	*7,027.3*	*3,422.5*	*7,746.9*	*2,184.5*
Saudi Arabia	5,687.5	2,034.2	1,369.0	1,363.5	588.5	483.5
Iran	733.0	2,474.5	2,062.6	724.8	873.7	763.8
Kuwait	1,882.7	983.7	2,098.1	309.8	268.4	84.9
EC 12	*6,336.1*	*6,545.9*	*6,468.2*	*5,173.9*	*5,312.3*	*5,455.3*
Germany, Fed.Rep.	1,667.2	1,574.4	1,829.0	1,227.0	1,126.0	1,538.8
United Kingdom	1,596.0	1,691.8	1,886.4	1,372.9	1,375.6	1,283.9
France	1,022.7	1,327.7	971.6	637.6	764.0	713.6
Netherlands	492.7	550.9	499.8	628.6	638.5	747.8
Italy	905.5	832.9	740.3	531.5	545.8	498.9
EFTA	*1,139.7*	*1,178.2*	*1,443.0*	*424.6*	*459.6*	*453.4*
Other Western Europe	*191.1*	*206.0*	*25.7*	*272.4*	*301.2*	*95.3*
Socialist Countries of Eastern Europe	*297.3*	*158.8*	*189.6*	*875.1*	*655.7*	*477.7*
USSR	86.4	28.9	78.4	760.2	531.7	283.7
North America	*9,241.1*	*8,970.8*	*8,542.3*	*10,677.2*	*10,976.9*	*11,813.2*
USA	8,922.9	8,775.4	8,314.4	10,291.7	10,619.9	11,436.3
Oceania	*1,784.8*	*1,838.2*	*1,226.6*	*2,916.4*	*3,046.0*	*2,230.7*
Australia	1,501.6	1,532.4	986.4	1,751.4	1,636.2	1,515.2
Africa	*414.3*	*544.7*	*610.2*	*1,500.3*	*1,266.0*	*1,516.9*
Central & South America	*364.8*	*318.7*	*383.1*	*897.6*	*1,029.0*	*959.6*

Note: 1984 & 1985 - USA incl Puerto Rico
1986 - Australia incl Christmas Island

Source: Department of Stastistics up to 1985
Trade Development Board for 1986

Principal Statistics of Manufacturing, 1976-1986

Year	Establishments	Workers	Materials	Output	Census Value Added	Sales Total	Sales Direct Exports	Employees' Remuneration	Capital Expenditure
	Number				Million Dollars				
1976	2,505	207,234	10,629.4	15,317.4	3,961.8	15,556.5	9,575.9	1,309.8	618.7
1977	2,638	219,112	12,224.6	17,518.2	4,475.5	17,390.5	10,969.4	1,471.7	751.6
1978	2,946	243,724	13,562.0	19,666.7	5,162.9	19,555.5	12,632.7	1,724.2	821.8
1979	3,122	269,334	17,513.4	25,133.7	6,412.9	25,172.9	16,203.0	2,085.9	1,424.5
1980[1]	3,355	285,250	21,415.2	31,657.9	8,521.9	30,946.7	19,172.9	2,526.9	1,861.9
1981	3,439	281,675	24,891.5	36,787.1	9,720.5	36,543.5	22,375.3	2,938.1	1,966.8
1982	3,586	275,450	24,854.4	36,467.4	9,355.9	36,437.0	21,858.7	3,270.6	2,222.7
1983	3,616	271,106	25,116.3	37,221.5	9,822.1	37,411.1	22,640.8	3,571.9	2,113.4
1984	3,648	274,391	27,474.4	41,077.9	11,106.3	40,910.7	25,057.8	4,045.0	2,168.1
1985	3,504	253,510	25,541.9	38,505.5	10,687.3	38,384.6	24,276.3	4,035.3	1,977.2
1986*	3,495	240,914	22,894.3	36,325.5	11,195.3	36,506.6	23,471.8	3,550.7	na

* Preliminary.
[1] Prior to 1980, data on output and sales of petroleum refining industry included the value of products processed for third party overseas.

Note: Rubber processing and granite quarrying are excluded.
Refers to establishments engaging 10 or more persons.

Source: Department of Statistics.

Imports by Commodity: Million Dollars

Commodity	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Total	22,404.5	25,521.9	29,601.3	38,344.4	51,344.8	58,248.0	60,244.6	59,504.2	61,133.6	57,817.5	55,545.4
Food	1,853.3	2,211.0	2,183.0	2,552.6	2,915.5	3,270.5	3,601.9	3,503.9	4,157.6	3,535.4	3,865.7
Cereals & Cereal Preparations	374.5	436.8	438.3	573.2	694.3	754.0	823.4	636.7	980.5	428.1	384.5
Fruits & Vegetables	445.7	487.8	547.2	599.3	674.1	792.2	805.0	857.8	913.9	899.1	827.8
Coffee & Spices	312.1	439.6	384.5	439.8	388.7	464.8	592.4	660.2	808.7	882.6	1,047.7
Beverages & Tobacco	139.4	150.0	176.0	207.3	276.0	282.2	339.5	416.2	460.6	501.0	541.5
Crude Materials	2,023.5	2,278.7	2,470.0	3,108.2	3,416.9	2,775.5	2.306.1	2,624.8	2,510.2	1,988.0	1,905.0
Rubber	1,302.1	1,485.4	1,577.6	2,017.7	2,163.5	1,659.7	1,269.9	1,622.2	1,454.0	1,003.1	903.3
Wood	270.1	291.5	328.3	461.4	423.6	388.0	360.4	353.1	296.1	249.4	272.1
Mineral Fuels	6,140.9	6,524.2	7,081.5	9,672.7	14,889.2	19,831.1	20,479.6	18,611.7	16,961.3	17,031.0	10,994.5
Petroleum & Petroleum Products	6,136.6	6,519.5	7,074.5	9,668.0	14,879.5	19,819.2	20,471.4	18,601.4	16,949.4	17,019.9	10,986.1
Animal & Vegetable Oils	257.8	478.9	491.1	829.4	1,001.0	721.8	671.5	632.1	1,435.9	1,380.5	720.3
Unprocessed Vegetable Oils	186.6	272.7	190.0	414.0	239.6	226.9	114.2	202.0	440.9	293.9	166.9
Chemicals	1,116.2	1,319.3	1,597.6	2,178.5	2,756.1	2,790.7	2,981.6	3,096.2	2,890.4	3,245.6	
Chemical Compounds	305.1	311.0	355.1	571.4	715.7	753.0	723.5	821.2	859.1	859.1	772.0879.7
Plastic Materials	247.6	307.6	400.1	591.3	648.2	643.3	687.0	808.1	829.3	721.3	846.0
Medicinal Products	119.2	160.9	161.4	173.2	206.8	203.6	210.7	207.0	222.2	239.0	284.6
Manufactured Goods by Materials	3,277.4	3,630.7	4,566.5	5,736.7	7,237.2	8,079.7	8,407.4	8,089.5	8,045.3	7,082.4	7,613.5
Textile Manufacturers	1,062.5	1,124.7	1,401.4	1,666.1	1,835.6	1,905.0	1,923.7	2,052.4	2,018.3	1,871.5	2,241.6
Non-metal Mineral Manufactures	356.6	406.1	532.7	633.8	904.2	955.7	1,025.7	1,198.4	1,280.6	1,013.7	894.0
Iron & Steel	767.7	870.1	1,138.8	1,461.0	1,854.6	2,360.6	2,596.0	1,890.0	1,730.7	1,425.1	1,463.5
Metal Manufactures	458.1	524.8	621.6	800.5	1,072.2	1,301.6	1,344.2	1,255.4	1,268.1	1,253.6	1,133.4
Paper & Paperboard & Related Articles	221.4	242.0	310.7	377.1	502.9	532.8	501.7	566.4	647.7	575.4	684.9
Machinery & Transport Equipment	5,794.7	6,738.5	8,607.8	11,343.9	15,303.8	16,474.9	17,219.3	18,046.1	19,419.6	18,317.2	20,780.7
Non-electric Manchinery	2,205.5	2,406.6	3,050.2	4,002.4	5,720.7	6,685.2	7,142.7	6,629.1	7,128.8	6,624.6	7,000.7
Electric Machinery	2,385.7	2,815.7	3,595.2	4,675.5	6,051.7	6,665.7	6,871.3	7,597.1	8,687.0	8,238.1	10,786.8
Transport Equipment	1,203.5	1,516.3	1,962.4	2,666.0	3,531.3	3,123.9	3,205.3	3,819.8	3,603.8	3,454.6	2,993.2
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	1,534.0	1,764.9	2,071.4	2,194.3	2,951.1	3,413.0	3,852.3	3,947.2	4,196.7	4,193.6	4,887.4
Scientific & Optical Instruments	289.0	335.5	439.0	596.0	797.1	938.0	1,034.4	998.2	1,070.6	1,129.4	1,255.9
Watches & Clocks	291.7	321.4	385.9	377.7	567.3	541.9	550.4	537.6	475.6	424.7	475.7
Miscellaneous Transactions nes	267.3	425.7	356.4	510.9	667.4	643.2	567.3	651.1	850.2	898.0	991.2

Source: Department of Statistics up to 1985.
Trade Developmetn Board for 1986.

Exports by Commodity:

Million Dollars

Commodity	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Total	16,265.9	20,090.3	22,985.5	30,940.0	1,452.3	44,290.8	44,472.8	46,154.9	51,340.0	50,178.8	48,985.5
Food	947.8	1,389.4	1,488.0	1,674.0	2,008.2	2,124.8	2,388.0	2,025.1	2,895.4	2,193.1	2,625.5
Cereals & Cereal Preparations	77.9	150.5	169.4	224.0	357.5	449.5	609.7	274.7	839.1	186.5	142.7
Fruits & Vegetables	165.3	191.9	205.1	223.0	252.8	303.2	320.9	342.9	375.9	366.2	340.8
Coffee & Spices	380.2	570.3	594.0	597.0	627.4	659.2	745.5	720.3	960.7	988.2	1,350.1
Beverages & Tobacco	48.9	65.2	99.9	131.0	157.2	174.3	217.0	210.0	209.8	240.8	332.1
Crude Materials	2,664.7	3,160.0	3,483.1	4,412.0	4,700.0	3,665.3	2,781.1	3,388.5	3,410.4	2,699.7	2,458.8
Rubber	1,995.2	2,255.7	2,480.6	3,070.0	3,294.1	2,455.4	1,744.7	2,108.3	2,138.2	1,496.1	1,340.8
Wood	307.0	330.0	408.0	657.0	585.0	426.4	378.4	398.8	365.0	327.9	380.4
Mineral Fuels	3,783.8	4,874.1	5,329.0	7,414.0	14,175.6	14,175.6	14,616.6	12,965.5	13,185.0	13,594.2	10,147.1
Petroleum & Petroleum Products	3,743.7	4,834.6	5,279.1	7,337.0	1,828.0	13,980.6	14,437.3	12,761.9	12,992.3	13,456.1	10,038.9
Animal & Vegetable Oils	249.3	474.7	513.5	858.0	1,095.5	820.0	780.3	628.2	1,540.5	1,535.2	880.4
Unprocessed Vegetable Oils	217.3	386.5	347.8	684.0	840.6	581.7	560.9	451.5	1,115.7	1,128.1	336.2
Chemicals	609.8	716.1	870.5	1,124	1,124.0	1,556.3	1,722.4	1,956.3	2,463.7	2,716.9	2,839.9
Chemical Compounds	105.7	117.8	152.2	231.0	282.6	346.0	380.5	547.2	882.4	917.6	985.5
Medicinal Products	194.0	213.7	233.5	267.0	323.3	319.2	342.8	329.8	259.8	298.1	294.1
Plastic Materials	93.2	121.4	155.7	205.0	220.6	220.5	243.4	263.2	486.3	680.1	732.5
Manufactured Goods by Materials	1,328.8	1,602.2	2,259.7	2,841.0	3,441.7	3,669.8	3,838.7	3,683.1	3,624.6	3,597.8	3,632.7
Wood Manufactures	279.6	297.5	351.4	482.0	549.2	539.3	495.5	536.4	481.0	484.3	447.3
Textile Manufactures	443.5	467.3	606.3	787.0	793.2	737.0	745.6	810.2	781.1	776.9	929.4
Iron & Steel	187.1	263.3	400.4	362.0	454.3	586.3	707.5	411.2	461.5	457.8	433.1
Metal Manufactures	175.7	228.5	287.1	389.0	450.7	578.5	516.9	509.6	530.3	570.6	561.2
Machinery & Transport Equipment	4,106.7	4,917.0	5,715.1	8,216.0	1,089.4	11,779.4	11,546.2	14,677.9	16,865.0	16,567.4	18,900.5
Non-electric Machinery	983.5	1,163.8	1,299.5	1,958.0	2,662.8	3,119.8	3,597.1	4,536.4	5,764.4	6,011.5	7,420.3
Electric Machinery	2,186.4	2,868.0	3,557.4	4,045.0	6,656.6	6,724.7	6,479.4	7,816.8	9,252.1	8,855.0	10,157.7
Transport Equipment	936.8	885.2	858.3	1,212.0	1,770.0	1,934.9	1,469.6	2,324.8	1,848.5	1,701.0	1,322.5
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	1,232.5	1,402.3	1,725.0	2,121.0	2,572.4	2,919.1	2,831.5	3,083.7	3,408.0	3,378.2	4,042.3
Clothing	448.7	514.1	672.2	811.0	912.0	990.1	979.7	1,002.1	1,170.9	1,176.5	1,469.7
Scientific & Optical Instruments	167.0	192.7	200.0	344.0	410.0	481.7	414.6	510.0	594.1	660.4	754.6
Watches & Clocks	235.1	184.9	223.6	189.0	221.8	250.9	232.8	246.2	230.2	200.9	206.8
Miscellaneous Transactions nes	1,293.6	1,489.3	1,501.7	2,144.0	3,003.7	3,406.2	3,751.0	3,532.6	3,737.6	3,655.5	3,126.2

Source: Department of Statistics up to 1985.
Trade Developmetn Board for 1986.

Principal Statistics of

Industry

Food & Beverage	
Textiles	
Wearing Apparel	
Wood Products	
Furniture	
Paper Products & Printir	
Chemical Products	
Petroleum	
Rubber & Plastic Product	
Non-metallic Minerals	
Basic Metals	
Fabricated Metal Product	
Machinery & Appliances	
Transport Equipment	
Precision Equipment	
Other Products	
Total excl Rubber Proce	
Rubber Processing	
Total incl Rubber Proce	

• Preliminary.
1 Refers to establishmen
Source: Department of St

Industrial Production,
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of the GNP.

Compared with 1983, g
range of industries
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printing and publishing
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increase in industrial c
The Republic remained
investment commitments
higher than in 1983.
commitments were for prc

COMMUNICATIONS

Roads. Singapore has 2,
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The Port of Singapore.
the world in terms of
shipping tonnage of ve
port was 527.5 million g
Singapore's reputatic
shipping centre is at
location and the well c
The efficient communic
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stable climate have all
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Pasir Panjang Wharves

Principal Statistics of Manufacturing by Major Industry Group (Preliminary Figures, 1986):

Industry	Establishments[1]	Workers	Employees' Remuneration	Census Value Added	Sales Total	Sales Direct Exports
	Number		Million Dollars			
Food & Beverage	304	12,609	203.1	678.2	2,716.9	1,497.7
Textiles	60	2,528	30.0	66.0	218.1	80.8
Wearing Apparel	446	26,020	222.2	401.6	1,239.2	906.2
Wood Products	108	3,057	34.6	70.2	273.1	127.3
Furniture	147	7,450	71.5	137.8	374.0	111.3
Paper Products & Printing	391	15,856	242.1	744.6	1,445.1	313.6
Chemical Products	144	7,535	179.6	900.5	2,691.6	1,743.5
Petroleum	13	3,411	137.4	515.2	6,018.0	3,842.3
Rubber & Plastic Products	250	8,600	102.4	232.3	703.3	147.6
Non-metallic Minerals	103	5,503	87.8	285.1	839.6	66.4
Basic Metals	32	1,944	42.8	134.1	470.2	168.0
Fabricated Metal Products	433	18,284	270.3	718.4	1,955.2	493.1
Machinery & Appliances	670	100,671	1,468.7	4,856.3	14,620.1	12,137.4
Transport Equipment	214	17,216	335.6	1,094.1	2,013.3	1,208.8
Precision Equipment	40	5,077	62.9	200.5	381.3	358.7
Other Products	140	5,153	59.8	160.6	547.6	287.1
Total excl Rubber Processing	*3,495*	*240,914*	*3,550.8*	*11,195.5*	*36,506.6*	*23,471.8*
Rubber Processing	6	450	6.9	7.4	166.1	114.5
Total incl Rubber Processing	*3,501*	*241,364*	*3,557.7*	*11,202.0*	*36,672.7*	*23,586.3*

[p] Preliminary.
[1] Refers to establishments engaging 10 or more persons.
Source: Department of Statistics.

Industrial Production. The manufacturing sector grew by 9 per cent in 1984 and manufacturing output accounted for 25 per cent of the GNP.

Compared with 1983, growth was more broad-based, spread over a range of industries including the petroleum, electronics, electrical, transport equipment, metal fabrication, garment, and printing and publishing industries. The electronics industry was the main growth component. Output from the petrochemical complex, which was opened during the year, added 2 per cent to the overall increase in industrial output.

The Republic remained an attractive investment location. Total investment commitments in 1984 topped $1.8 billion, a shade higher than in 1983. A significant portion of investment commitments were for projects in computer-related areas.

COMMUNICATIONS

Roads. Singapore has 2,614.9 km of public roads, 2,461.1 km are paved roads and the remaining 146.8 km are unpaved roads.

The Port of Singapore. Singapore is one of the busiest ports in the world in terms of shipping tonnage. In 1984, the total shipping tonnage of vessels arriving at and departing from the port was 527.5 million gross registered tons.

Singapore's reputation as an important port and a leading shipping centre is attributed to her strategic geographical location and the well developed infrastructure in the Republic. The efficient communications systems, excellent banking and financial services, a disciplined workforce and a politically stable climate have all contributed to this growth.

About 30,000 vessels call at Singapore yearly. Some 600 ships flying the flags almost all the world's maritime nations are in port at any one time. About 500 shipping lines serve Singapore and link it to nearly all parts of the world. The port works round-the-clock every day of the year.

Endowed with a natural deep-water harbour, Singapore's port facilities have been developed continually, over the last 166 years to keep pace with the changing pattern in sea transportation and cargo handling methods.

The port is administered by the Port of Singapore Authority (PSA), a statutory board under the Ministry of Communications and Information. It is responsible for the provision and maintenance of port facilities and services and for the control of traffic and navigation in the port.

The PSA operates 5 gateways (Tanjong Pagar Container Terminal, Keppel Wharves, Pasir Panjang Wharves, Sembawang Wharves and Jurong Port), with over 15 km of wharves.

The Tanjong Pagar Container Termainal is the main gateway for handling containerised cargo, with about 5 km of wharves. The terminal has the capacity to accommodate 42,000 TEUs and to berth eight container vessels and one feeder vessel.

Keppel Wharves is the oldest and the main conventional gateway of the Port of Singapore. With about 4.6 km of wharves, it is able to berth 32 vessels at any one time. Keppel wharves handles mainly loose general cargo, and some bulk cargo.

Pasir Panjang Wharves is a conventional gateway as well as a major centre for warehousing, offering more than 150,000 sq metres of open and covered space. It has about 2.6 km of wharves to accommodate three deep-water, 13 coastal and four lash (lighter aboard ship) vessels as well as 46 lighters.

Sembawang Wharves is also a conventional gateway. It handles mainly low-value, high-volume homogeneous cargo such as timber and rubber. It has five berths with a total length of 0.8 km.

Jurong Port is mainly a dry bulk cargo port which is equipped with high-speed cranes and a system of conveyor belts. With a total wharf length of 2.4 km, it can accommodate nine deep-water and three coastal vessels.

The Port of Singapore handled 111.9 m tonnes of cargo in 1984. This included 63.2 m tonnes of mineral oil-in-bulk. Containerised cargo which accounted for about 22 m tonnes or about 60 of total general cargo moved in some 1.5 m twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs).

Besides cargo handling, the Port of Singapore offers a host of services such as ship repairing, ship building, ship chandlering and victualling and bunkering services. Supporting services include pilotage and tug, supply of fresh water, gas-free inspection and fumigation, garbage removal and slop reception for oil tankers. The port also provides round-the-clock security, environmental control services such as cleaning oil and debris from the sea, and fire-fighting services. Such services are continually upgraded and facilities developed to meet the needs of shippers and traders.

Pacific International Lines (PTE), Ltd., PIL Building, 140 Cecil St., Postbox 3206, Singapore 0106; 45 Vessels.

Neptune Orient Lines Ltd., Neptune Building, 456 Alexandra Rd., Singapore 0511; 39 Vessels.

Guan Guan Shipping (PTE.), Ltd. 2nd Floor, Kwangtung Provincial Bank Building, 60 Cecil St., Singapore 0104; 23 Vessels.

Straits Steamship Co., Ltd., 16th Floor, Ocean Building, Collyer Quay, Postbox 596, Singapore 0104; 11 Vessels.

AIR

Singapore Changi Airport is located at the eastern corner of Singapore, and about 20 km from the city centre.

Access to the Airport is via two high-speed expressways, East Coast Parkway and Pan Island Expressway.

The Airport is served by two runways. Runway I is 4,000 m long and Runway II 3,355 m long. There are 56 parking positions for passenger aircraft, and of which 22 are with passenger loading bridges. In addition, there are six parking positions for cargo planes, in the vicinity of the cargo complex. There are also three aircraft maintenance bays, near to the Singapore Airline's Hanger.

Two major projects have been approved for implementation and work to construct them will commence in early 1985. The projects are the $700 million second passenger terminal, with two multi-storey carparks, and the $27 million third cargo agents building.

The second passenger terminal, to be operational by July 1989,

Gross Domestic Product by Industry:

Industry	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	Million Dollars 1986*
						At Current Market Prices					
Total	14,650.9	16,039.0	17,830.4	20,523.0	25,090.7	29,399.4	32,669.9	36,732.8	40,047.9	38,521.1	37,773.6
Agriculture & Fishing	256.8	283.1	273.7	295.2	322.0	356.2	349.1	349.7	358.5	309.1	258.4
Quarrying	56.2	49.1	38.4	42.9	82.7	106.2	128.9	143.0	132.9	111.8	83.6
Manufacturing	3,687.2	4,090.8	4,700.7	5,837.4	7,476.0	8,571.5	8,396.2	9,182.5	10,190.2	9,485.1	10,132.9
Utilities	273.7	291.9	351.5	424.7	557.8	484.9	601.4	703.2	773.5	798.6	845.4
Construction	1,205.1	1,200.3	1,122.2	1,242.6	1,624.4	2,178.8	3,164.8	4,224.8	4,966.0	3,123.8	
Commerce	3,815.2	4,232.1	4,631.0	5,135.9	5,717.9	6,289.4	6,921.6	7,286.2	7,500.4	7,113.3	6,901.7
Transport & Communications	1,795.5	2,123.6	2,616.8	2,920.3	3,595.6	4,139.9	4,570.9	5,058.2	5,410.7	5,429.1	5,813.8
Financial & Business Services	2,233.0	2,349.9	2,581.6	3,144.4	4,296.0	5,755.9	6,653.9	7,579.8	8,541.8	8,905.6	8,806.1
Other Services	1,679.4	1,746.8	1,911.9	2,149.1	2,402.4	2,808.3	3,511.5	4,001.2	4,487.2	4,848.6	4,744.4
Less: Imputed Bank Service Charge	611.6	632.7	737.6	1,039.2	1,410.9	1,778.6	2,109.1	2,306.8	2,827.4	3,196.5	3,329.1
Add: Import Duties	260.4	304.1	340.2	369.7	426.8	427.9	481.5	511.0	514.1	468.1	393.6
						At 1968 Market Prices					
Total	9,447.4	10,193.2	11,074.0	12,114.1	13,366.5	14,695.2	15,627.5	16,869.8	18,261.5	17,924.9	18,256.8
Agriculture & Fishing	154.9	156.5	155.4	160.7	164.5	165.8	155.6	158.3	164.3	143.9	127.3
Quarrying	43.1	42.0	36.4	41.5	44.9	58.4	73.8	89.1	87.6	80.9	68.4
Manufacturing	2,084.6	2,261.4	2,507.1	2,873.3	3,183.4	3,486.4	3,322.4	3,416.8	3,750.3	3,498.8	3,745.8
Utilities	244.4	276.1	326.1	355.8	381.1	407.6	423.0	457.5	491.7	516.4	565.4
Construction	591.3	578.4	536.1	575.0	630.3	741.4	1,036.2	1,340.8	1,554.7	1,370.9	1,009.6
Commerce	2,450.8	2,642.9	2,827.5	3,035.6	3,263.1	3,452.4	3,661.9	3,836.3	4,054.1	3,970.2	3,930.3
Transport & Communications	1,399.3	1,629.9	1,885.3	2,149.3	2,440.7	2,781.6	3,070.0	3,308.6	3,626.1	3,739.3	4,163.1
Financial & Business Services	1,573.2	1,651.9	1,769.7	1,988.7	2,472.2	2,941.9	3,222.0	3,626.4	4,118.8	4,503.1	4,692.8
Other Services	1,171.7	1,208.2	1,305.6	1,384.2	1,441.7	1,533.2	1,693.4	1,849.8	1,941.9	2,006.0	2,094.3
Less: Imputed Bank Service Charge	429.5	435.7	471.3	660.9	893.6	1,102.2	1,283.2	1,460.7	1,777.2	2,130.4	2,320.0
Add: Import Duties	163.6	181.6	196.1	210.9	238.2	228.7	252.4	246.9	249.2	225.8	179.8

* Preliminary.
Source: Department of Statistics.

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Capital - Honiara.

Governor-General - H.E

National Flag - Pe
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CONSTITUTION ANI

Prime Minister: Rt. Ho

British High Commissio

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will have a floor area of about 280,000 sq m. It will be able to handle about 10 million passengers per annum and 5,000 passengers during peak hour. It will be able to cater for our traffic upto the year 2,000.

The third cargo agents building, which will be completed by mid-1987, will have 10,500 sq m of warehouse space and 11,500 sq m of office space.

In 1984, 39 international airlines, including the national carrier, operated at Changi Airport to 47 countries and 75 cities. A total of 63,808 (commercial) aircraft movements were recorded. For the same period, under review some 9.4 million passengers passed through the Airport, and 295,000 tonnes of cargo were handled.

Selector Airport in 1984, continued to serve as a general aviation and regional airport. 31,107 passengers used the Airport and 2,260.3 tonnes of freight were handled.

EDUCATION

Education in Singapore is not compulsory. All children are entitled to free primary education and a place is ensured for every child.

A number of schools work on a shift system, one functioning in the morning and another in the afternoon. In June 1985 there were 445 schools, comprising 60 kindergartens, 236 primary schools, 122 secondary schools, 16 full schools (ie schools with primary and secondary classes) and 11 junior colleges. The total enrolment was 471,051 of which 4,887 were in pre-primary classes, 277,875 in primary schools, 163,590 in secondary schools and 24,699 in pre-university centres and junior colleges.

The policy of bilingualism ensures that children are taught two languages; English and one of the other official languages; Chinese, Malay or Tamil. The option to study French, German or Japanese is offered to secondary school pupils with linguistic ability and who are academically bright, as a third language.

The first three years of primary education emphasize the learning of languages. Pupils are then streamed into the Normal Bilingual course (a six-year course), Extended Bilingual course (an eight-year course) or the Monolingual course (an eight-year course). Pupils of the bilingual courses sit for the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) and go on to the seondary level if they pass. The Monolingual course pupils sit for the Primary School Proficiency Examination (PSPE) and are awarded a certificiate. They may then join the Vocational and Industrial Training Board (VITB) for pre-vociational training.

At the secondary level, based on the PSLE results, pupils will be streamed into the Special course (a 4-year course), Express course (a 4-year course) or Normal course (4/5-year course). Pupils of the Special and Express courses sit for the Singapore-Cambridge General Certificate of Education (GCE) 'Ordinary' Level Examination. Normal course pupils sit for the GCE 'Normal' Level Examination at the end of the 4th year. Those who do well can proceed to the 5th year and take the GCE 'O' Level Examination. Based on the GCE 'O' Level results the pupils can apply for two-year or three-year pre-university course leading to the GCE 'Advanced' Level Examination.

Higher Education

There are five tertiary institutions: the National University of Singapore, the Nanyang Technological Institute, the Ngee Ann Polytechnic, the Singapore Polytechnic and the Institute of Education. In June 1984, the total enrolment in the tertiary institutions was 35,783.

Vocational and Industrial Training Board

The Vocational and Industrial Training Board (VITB) promotes, provides and regulates vocational training in Singapore. It conducts institutional training for school-leavers, offers part-time continuing education and training programmes and registers apprentices. The VITB is also responsible for setting national skills standards, the conduct of public trade testing and certification of skills.

NEWSPAPERS

		Cir. Fig.
Straits Times.	Times House,	260,000
Berita Harian.	390, Kim Seng Road,	39,000
Business Times.	Singapore 0923	16,000
Lian He Zao Bao.	News Centre	189,000
Lian He Wan Bao.	82, Genting Lane, Maxwell P.O. Box 27	76,000
Shin Min Daily News.	577, MacPherson Road Singapore 1336	94,000
Tamil Murasu.	139-41, Lavender Street Singapore 1233	6,000

* Circulation figures based on average per issue for the quarter April-June 1985.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Capital - Honiara.

Governor-General - H.E. Sir Baddeley Devesi, GCMG, GCVO.

National Flag - Per bend sinister Azure and Vert a bendlet sinister Or in Dexter chief five Mullets in Saltire Argent.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT

Prime Minister: Rt. Hon. Sir Peter Kenilorea KBE.

British High Commissioner: Mr. G. N. Stansfield.

The Solomon Islands consist of a double row of mountainous islands extending from Bougainville Straits to Mitre Island in the Santa Cruz Group for a distance of 900 miles, and north and south from the Ontong Java group to Rennell Island for a distance of 430 miles. The total land area of the territory is about 11,500 square miles.

A British Protectorate was proclaimed over the Southern Solomon Islands (Guadalcanal, Savo, Malaita, San Cristobal, the New Georgia Group and its dependencies) in 1893. In 1898 and 1899 the islands of the Santa Cruz group, including Utupua, Tikopia, Vanikora, the remote islands of Cherry and Mitre, Sikaiana, and the islands of Rennel and Bellona were added to the protectorate, and in 1900 the northern islands, namely Santa Isabel, Choiseul, the islands of the Shortlands Group, south and south-east of the main island of Bougainville, and the atoll group of Ontong Java, were transferred under convention from Germany to Great Britain.

A full census was taken in the Solomon Islands in February 1976, and the provisional figure for the population was 196,823 mainly Melanesians. At the beginning of 1981 it was estimated at 233,000 with an annual growth rate of approximately 3.4 per cent.

Until 1960 the High Commissioner, who administered the Protectorate, was assisted by an Advisory Council. In that year nominated Executive and Legislative Councils were established and elected members were introduced in 1964. A revised constitution was introduced in 1967 and from then until its dissolution in March 1970 the Legislative Council consisted of three *ex-officio* members, 14 elected members and not more than 12 public service members.

In 1970, the Executive and Legislative Councils were replaced by a single Governing Council, with an elected majority for the first time, which combined both executive and legislative functions and exercises executive control through a series of functional committees.

In 1974 a new Constitution was introduced, and a new office of Governor of the Protectorate, replacing the High Commissioner was introduced. The Governing Council was replaced in its legislative capacity by the new Legislative Assembly whose 24 elected members chose a Chief Minister. He selected the Ministers who, together with ex-officio members, formed the Council of Ministers, which replaced the Governing Council in its executive capacity. Originally the Council of Ministers was composed of six Ministers and three *ex-officio* members, but in June 1975 the number of Ministers was increased to eight, to include a Minister of Finance, and the number of *ex-officio* members dropped to two.

Internal self-government was conferred on 2 January 1976. Under the revised Constitution, the Governor had to act in accordance with the advice of the Council of Ministers except in his reserved subjects of defence, external affairs, and internal security. The Public Service was executivized. The Council of 10 Ministers presided over by the Chief Minister and collectively responsible to the Legislative Assembly has increased from 24 to

Nat'l. Anthems of the World

SINGAPORE
Majulah Singapura

Words and music by
ZUBIR SAID (*b.* 1907)
Arr. by HENRY COLEMAN



For Royal Salute play from * to *

First performed September, 1958. It became very popular and when the country became self-governing on 3 June, 1959, it was decided to make it the National Anthem. It was officially adopted as such by the Legislative Assembly on 30 November, 1959.



Free Translation

Let us, the people of Singapore, together march forward towards happiness. Our noble aspiration is to see Singapore achieve success.
Let us unite in a new spirit. We all pray:
"May Singapore Progress", "May Singapore Progress".

Fodor's Southeast Asia

Introduction

by Nigel Fisher

Nigel Fisher is the editor of the monthly travel publication Voyager International. *He has traveled extensively throughout Asia and the world.*

As you are efficiently processed through Changi International Airport, then whisked away in a taxi or air-conditioned coach along a park-lined expressway to your high-rise hotel, don't let first impressions lead you to write Singapore off as just another modern international city. Though it may no longer be the richly exotic and romantic city so vividly documented by Conrad and Kipling, Singapore is yet a unique city where the flavor, spirituality, and gentle manners of the East peacefully co-exist with the comforts, conveniences, and efficiency of the West.

Here you'll find some of the world's most luxurious hotels, offering incomparable service and all the amenities, from fitness centers with computer-monitored exercise equipment to thick terry-cloth bathrobes. On Orchard Road, smartly dressed shoppers browse among glittering shop windows before heading into the dozens of huge side-by-side shopping complexes, jam-packed with boutiques carrying the latest Paris fashions or Japanese electronics at irresistible prices. And in elegant French restaurants, with gleaming silver and crystal and elaborate displays of orchids and roses, tuxedoed waiters serve some of the best cuisine this side of the Seine.

Here you'll also find ethnic neighborhoods, built up around mosques and temples, where Chinese or Indian or Malay merchants dressed in traditional garb hawk the herbal medicines or spices or batiks that spill out of their small shops onto the narrow streets. At the many food centers that dot the city, Teochew and Hokkien, Tamil and Malay cooks in adjacent open-front stalls whip up authentic and delicious dishes whose recipes have been handed down in their families for generations.

To arrive in Singapore is to step into a world where the muezzin call to prayer competes with the bustle of capitalism; where old men play mah-jongg in the streets and white-clad bowlers send the ball flying down well-tended cricket pitches; where Chinese fortune tellers and high-priced management consultants advise the same entrepreneur.

This great diversity of lifestyles, cultures, and religions thrives within the framework of a well-ordered society. Singapore is a spotlessly clean—some say sterile—modern metropolis, surrounded by green, groomed parks and populated by 2.7 million extremely polite, well-mannered people.

Malays, who have the oldest historical claim to Singapore, today account for 14.9% of its population. Their faith in Allah and their orientation to family and service to the community provide a more relaxed, peaceful, and communal flavor and act as a counterpoint to the entrepreneurial vigor of the Chinese.

Though the Chinese make up approximately 76% of the population, their ranks comprise at least half a dozen different ethnic groups—Hokkien, Teochew, Cantonese, Hakka, Fukien, Hainanese—each with its own language, mythology, and especially cuisine. They came as impoverished immigrants in the 19th century and now hold the economic and political strings of the island nation.

Singapore's Indian population, who also descend from 19th-century immigrants, are almost as ethnically diverse as the Chinese. While the majority are Hindu Tamils from South India, there are also Muslims from South India and, in smaller numbers, Bengalis, Biharis, Gujeratis, Marathis, Kashmiris, and Punjabis. From Sri Lanka come other Hindu Tamils and the Sinhalese (often mistaken for Indians), who are neither Hindu nor Muslim but follow the teachings of Hinayana Buddhism.

Today, Indians, who account for 7% of Singapore's population, remain deeply tied to their community and traditional customs. Hinduism remains a powerful force—Singapore has more than 20 major temples devoted to Hindu gods—and some of the Tamil Hindu festivals, such as Thaipusam, are expressed with more feverish ritualism than in India. Indian food, too, remains true to its roots; it has been said that one can eat better curries in Singapore than in India.

While the Malays, Chinese, and Indians account for 97% of Singapore's population, other ethnic groups—from Eurasians to Filipinos, from Armenians to Thais—contribute significantly to the nation's cultural mix. Understandably, the British and the heritage of their colonial stay is profoundly felt even though Singapore became an independent nation in 1967.

In a part of the world where histories tend to be ancient and rich, Singapore is unique in having almost no history at all. Modern Singapore tends to date its history from the early morning of January 29, 1819, when a representative of the British East India Company, Thomas Stamford Raffles, stepped ashore at Singa Pura (Sanskrit for "lion city"), as the island was then called, hoping to establish a British trading settlement on the southern part of the Malay Peninsula. The two sons of the previous sultan, who had died six years earlier, were in dispute over who would inherit the throne. Raffles backed the claim of the elder brother, Tunku Hussein Mohamed Shah, and proclaimed him sultan. Offering to support the new sultanate with British military strength, Raffles persuaded him to grant the British a lease allowing them to establish a trading post on the island in return for an annual rent; within a week the negotiations were concluded. (A later treaty ceded the island outright to the British.)

Thus began the continual rapid changing and adapting that characterizes Singapore to this day: Within three years, the small fishing village, surrounded by swamps and jungle and populated by only tigers and 200 or so Malays, had become a boomtown of 10,000 immigrants, administered by 74 British employees of the East India Company.

As Singapore grew, the British erected splendid public buildings, churches, and hotels, often using Indian convicts for labor. The Muslim, Hindu, Taoist, and Buddhist communities—swelling rapidly from the influx of fortune-seeking settlers from Malaya, India, and South China—built mosques, temples, and shrines. Magnificent houses for wealthy merchants sprang up, and the harbor became lined with *godowns* (warehouses) to hold all the goods passing through the port.

It was certainly an exotic trade that poured through Singapore. Chinese junks came loaded with tea, porcelain, silks, and artworks; Bugis (Indonesian) schooners carried in cargos of precious spices, rare tropical hardwoods, camphor, and produce from all parts of Indonesia. These goods, and more like

them from Siam, the Philippines, and elsewhere in the region, were traded in Singapore for manufactured textiles, coal, iron, cement, weapons, and machinery and other fruits of Europe's industrial revolution. Another major product traded here by the British was opium, grown in India and sold to mainland China.

By the turn of the century, Singapore had become the entrepôt of the East, a mixture of adventurers and "respectable middle classes." World War I hardly touched the island, although its defenses were strengthened to support the needs of the British navy, for which Singapore was an important base. When World War II broke out, the British were complacent about the impregnability of Singapore, expecting that any attack would come from the sea and that they were well prepared to meet such an attack. But the Japanese landed to the north, in Malaya. The two British battleships that had been posted to Singapore were sunk, and the Japanese land forces raced down the peninsula on bicycles.

In February 1942 the Japanese captured Singapore. Huge numbers of Allied civilians and military were sent to Changi Prison; others were marched off to prison camps in Malaya or to work on the notorious "Death Railway" in Thailand. The 3½ years of occupation was a time of privation and fear for the civilian population; up to 100,000 deaths are estimated during this period. The Japanese surrendered on August 21, 1945, and the Allied military forces returned to Singapore. However, the security of the British Empire was never again to be felt, and independence for British Southeast Asia was only a matter of time.

In 1957 the British government agreed to the establishment of an elected 51-member legislative assembly in Singapore. General elections in 1959 gave an overwhelming majority—43 of 51 seats—to the People's Action Party (PAP), and a young Chinese lawyer named Lee Kuan Yew became Singapore's first prime minister. In 1963 Singapore became part of the Federation of Malaysia, along with the newly independent state of Malaysia.

Mainly due to Malays' anxiety over a possible takeover by the ethnic Chinese, the federation broke up two years later and Singapore became an independent sovereign state. The electorate has remained faithful to Lee Kuan Yew and the PAP. Today there is only one opposition member in Parliament, though, at the last election, the PAP's popular majority was the lowest it has ever been. Singaporeans don't necessarily like the fact that Lee Kuan Yew's will substantially decides their future, but they recognize that it is largely as a result of his firm control and acumen that Singapore is a safe, clean, comfortable, prosperous nation. Lee Kuan Yew promises to resign at the end of 1990, after 31 years in office. Because his son is unable to immediately step into his shoes, however, Yew will remain influential in government as a senior minister.

Staying in Singapore

Getting Around Singapore

By Subway The most recent addition to Singapore's public transport system is a superb subway, known as the MRT, consisting of two lines that run north–south and east–west and cross at the City Hall and Raffles Place interchanges. The System includes a total of 42 stations along 67 km (42 mi). All cars and underground stations are air-conditioned, and the trains operate between 5:45 AM and midnight daily.

Tickets may be purchased in the stations from vending machines (which give change) or at a booth. There's a S$2 fine for underpaying, so make sure you buy the right ticket for your destination. Fares start at S$.50 for about two stations; the maximum fare is S$1.10. The fare between Orchard Road Station and Raffles Place Station (in the business district) is S$.60. For information, call 732–4411.

By Bus Buses are much cheaper than taxis and—with a little practice—easy to use. During rush hours, they can be quicker than cabs, since there are special bus lanes along the main roads. Some buses are air-conditioned, and service is frequent—usually every five to 10 minutes on most routes. Even without the excellent ***Bus Guide,*** available for S$.75 at any bookstore, finding your way around is relatively easy. Bus stops close to sightseeing attractions have signs pointing out the attractions.

The minimum fare is S$.40, the maximum S$.80. Exact change is necessary (conductors cannot give change) and should be deposited in the box as you enter the bus. Remember to collect your ticket. Bus numbers are clearly marked, and most stops have a list of destinations with the numbers of the buses that service them. Buses run from 5:30 or 6 AM until around 11:30 PM.

The **Singapore Explorer Bus Ticket,** which may be purchased at most major hotels, lets you travel anywhere on the island on any bus operated by Singapore Bus Service (SBS—the red-and-white buses) or Trans Island Bus Service (TIBS—the orange-and-yellow buses). You may embark and disembark as frequently as you like, flashing your pass as you board. A one-day pass costs S$5 and a three-day pass costs S$12. With this ticket you also receive an **Explorer Bus Map** with color-coded routes showing bus stops and all major points of interest. For further details, call the Singapore Bus Service Passenger Relations Center (tel. 287–2727).

Coming from Malaysia, you can board a public bus at the Johore bus station or after the Malaysia checkpoint, at the causeway. You get off the bus on the other side of the causeway at the Singapore checkpoint, then reboard the bus for the ride into the city's center. Since you may not be reboarding the same bus—depending on the line at Immigration—do not leave your belongings behind when you get off.

By Taxi There are more than 10,000 taxis in Singapore, strictly regulated and metered. Many are air-conditioned. The starting fare is S$1.90 for the first 1.5 km (0.9 mi) and S$.10 for each subsequent 275 meters (900 feet). After 10 km (6 mi) the rate in-

lic transportation system that provides easy, low-cost access around the city of Singapore and the island.

Taxes There is no sales tax in Singapore. A 4% government tax is added to restaurant and hotel bills; sometimes a 10% service charge is added as well. There is a S$12 airport departure tax (for travelers to Malaysia, the tax is S$5). It is payable at the airport. To save time and avoid standing in line, you can buy a tax voucher at your hotel or any airline office.

Sample Prices Cup of coffee, 50¢; large bottle of beer, $2; lunch at a hawker stand, $5; dinner at an elegant restaurant, $25; full breakfast at a luxury hotel, $9. The cost of a standard double room: moderate, $75–$115; very expensive, over $150.

Language

Singapore is a multiracial society with four official languages: Malay, Mandarin, Tamil, and English. The national language is Malay; the lingua franca is English. English, also the language of administration, is a required course for every schoolchild, and is used in the entrance examinations for universities. Hence, virtually all Singaporeans speak English with varying degrees of fluency. Mandarin is increasingly replacing the other Chinese dialects. However, many Chinese will use SinEnglish, a Singaporean version of English, to converse with other ethnic groups, including other Chinese.

Opening and Closing Times

Businesses are generally open weekdays 9 or 9:30 to 5 or 5:30; some, not many, are also open on Saturday mornings.

Banks Banking hours are weekdays 10–3, Saturday 9:30–11:30 AM. Branches of the Development Bank of Singapore stay open until 3 PM on Saturday. The bank at Changi airport is open whenever there are flights. Money-changers operate whenever there are customers in the shopping centers they serve.

Museums Many museums close on Monday; otherwise, they are generally open 9–5.

Shops Shop opening times vary. Department stores and many shops in big shopping centers are generally open seven days a week from about 10 to 8 (later some evenings). Smaller shops tend to close on Sundays, although there is no firm rule now that competition is so intense.

National Holidays

The following are national holidays: Jan. 1 (New Year's Day); Jan. 27, 28 (Chinese New Year); Good Friday (Apr. 13); Hani Raya Puasa (Apr. 26); Labor Day (May 1); Vesak Day (May 9); Hari Raya Haji (July 3); National Day (Aug. 9); Dee'pavali (Oct. 7); Dec. 24.

Festivals and Seasonal Events

Singapore is a city of festivals, from the truly exotic to the strictly-for-tourists. The exact dates vary from year to year according to the lunar or Islamic calendar.

Mid-Jan. During **Ponggal**, the four-day harvest festival, Tamil Indians from South India offer rice, curries, vegetables, sugarcane, and spices in thanksgiving to the Hindu gods. In the evening, the celebration takes place at the temples, where rice is cooked while prayers are chanted to the music of bells, drums, clarinets, and conch shells. The Perumal Temple of Serangoon Road is the best place to view these rites.

Mid-Jan.–Feb. **Thaipusam**, probably the most spectacular—and certainly the most gruesome—festival in Asia, celebrates the victory of the Hindu god Subramaniam over the demon Idumban. After night-long ritual purification and chanting, penitents enter a trance and pierce their flesh with knives, steel rods, and fish hooks, which they wear during the procession. The 8.1-km (5-mi) procession begins at the Perumal Temple on Serangoon Road, passes the Sri Mariamman Temple on South Bridge Road, and ends at the Chettiar Temple.

Chinese New Year is the only time the Chinese stop working. The lunar New Year celebration lasts for 15 days, and most shops and businesses close for about a week.

Feb. The end of the Chinese New Year is marked by the **Chingay Procession.** Chinese, Malays, and Indians all get into the act for this event. Clashing gongs and beating drums, lion dancers lead a procession of Chinese stilt-walkers, swordsmen, warriors, acrobats, and characters from Chinese myth and legend.

Feb. or Mar. The **Birthday of the Monkey God** celebrates this character greatly loved by the Chinese. His birth is marked with a festival twice a year in Chinese temples—once in the spring and again around September. Mediums, with skewers piercing their cheeks and tongues, go into trances. Chinese street operas and puppet shows are usually performed in temple courtyards, and processions are held at the temples along Eng Hoon and Cumming streets.

Apr.–May **Ramadan** is the month of daytime fasting among the city's Muslim population. Food stalls in Bussorah Street and around the Sultan Mosque sell a variety of dishes at the end of the day's fast.

May or June The **Birthday of the Third Prince** celebrates this child god. The Chinese worship him as a hero and a miracle-worker. A temple in his honor is located at the junction of Clarke Street and North Boat Quay, near Chinatown; on his birthday, it is crowded with noisy worshipers who come to watch the flashy Chinese operas, which begin around noon.

Vesak Day commemorates the Buddha's birth, Enlightenment, and death. It is the most sacred annual festival in the Buddhist calendar. Throughout the day, starting before dawn, saffron-robed monks chant holy sutras in all the major Buddhist temples. Captive birds are set free. Candlelight processions are held around some of the temples in the evening.

June The **Dragon Boat Festival** commemorates the martyrdom of Qu Yuan, a Chinese poet and minister of state during the Chou dynasty (4th century BC), who was exiled for speaking out against court corruption and finally threw himself into the river. On seeing Qu Yuan's final and desperate act, local fishermen thrashed the water with their oars and beat drums to prevent fish from devouring their drowning hero. The anniversary of his death is cele-

brated with a regatta of boats decorated with dragon heads and painted in brilliant colors.

July During the **Birdsong Festival,** owners of tuneful birds hold competitions to see whose chirps best.

Aug. 9 **National Day,** the anniversary of the nation's independence, is a day of processions, fireworks, folk and dragon dances, and national pride. The finest view is from the Padang, where the main participants put on their best show. Tickets for special seating areas are available through the STPB.

Aug.–Sept. For a month each year, during the Chinese **Festival of the Hungry Ghosts,** the Gates of Hell are opened and ghosts are free to wander the Earth. The unhappy ghosts, those who died without descendants, may cause trouble and must therefore be placated with offerings. Imitation money ("Hell money") and joss sticks are burned, and prayers are said at all Chinese temples and in front of Chinese shops and homes. Chinese-opera *(wayang)* performances are held on open-air stages set up in the streets.

Sept. The **Mooncake Festival,** a traditional Chinese celebration, is held on the night of the year when the full moon is thought to be at its brightest. The Chinese have nighttime picnics and carry lanterns through the streets. Mooncakes—sweet pastries filled with red-bean paste, lotus seeds, nuts, and egg yolks—are eaten in abundance.

Sept.–Oct. During the nine-day **Navarathri Festival,** Hindus pay homage to three goddesses: Parvati, consort of Shiva the Destroyer; Lakshmi, goddess of wealth and consort of Vishnu the Protector; and Sarawathi, goddess of education and consort of Brahma the Creator. On all nights, at the Chettiar Temple on Tank Road, there are performances of classical Indian music, drama, and dancing from 7 to 10. On the last evening, the image of a silver horse is taken from its home in the Chettiar Temple and paraded around the streets.

Oct. The Chinese believe that the deities celebrated in the **Festival of the Nine Emperor Gods** can cure illness, bring good luck and wealth, and encourage longevity. They are honored in most Chinese temples on the ninth day of the ninth lunar month; the celebrations are at their most spectacular in the temples on Upper Serangoon Road and at Lorong Tai Seng.

Oct.–Nov. In the **Thimithi Festival,** Indian Hindus honor the goddess Duropadai by walking on fire. According to myth, Duropadai proved her chastity by walking over flaming coals. Today worshipers repeat her feat by walking barefoot over a bed of red-hot embers. See the spectacle at the Sri Mariamman Temple on South Bridge Road.

Deepavali celebrates the triumph of Krishna over the demon king Nasakasura. All Indian homes and temples are decorated with oil lamps and garlands. In Little India the streets are brilliantly illuminated.

Nov. **Merlion Week** is Singapore's version of Carnival, with food fairs, fashion shows, masquerade balls, and fireworks displays. Brochures of the activities are available in every hotel.

Nov.–Dec. Being a multiracial society, Singapore has taken **Christmas** to its commercial heart. All the shops are deep in artificial snow,

and a Chinese Santa Claus appears every so often to encourage everyone to buy and give presents.

Tipping

Tipping is not customary in Singapore, and the government actively discourages it. It is prohibited at the airport and not encouraged in hotels that levy a 10% service charge or in restaurants. Hotel **bellboys** are usually tipped S$1 per bag for handling luggage. **Taxi drivers** are not tipped by Singaporeans.

Guided Tours

A wide range of sightseeing tours cover the highlights of Singapore. They are especially convenient for business travelers or others on a tight schedule and can be easily arranged through the tour desks in hotels. The following are a few of the tour operators providing services through major hotels, but there are many others as well. **RMG Tours** (5001 Beach Rd., #08–12 Golden Mile Complex, tel. 298–3944) organizes nightlife and food tours. **Siakson Coach Tours** (3 Miller St., Siakson Bldg., tel. 336–0268) has daily tours to the zoo and Mandai Gardens, plus excursions to Malaysia. **Tour East International** (163 Tanglin Rd., tel. 235–5205) offers a variety of tours in Singapore and excursions to Malaysia and Indonesia. **Elpin Tours and Limousine Services** (317 Outram Rd., #02–23 Glass Hotel, tel. 235–3111) arranges tours of Sentosa Island.

The itineraries offered by the different tour operators are very similar. Tours can take two hours or the whole day, and prices range from S$16 to S$70. Most are operated in comfortable, air-conditioned coaches with guides and include pickup and return at your hotel. Tour agencies can also arrange private-car tours with guides; these are considerably more expensive.

Orientation *City Highlights* These are 3½-hour tours, given in the morning or the afternoon. Itineraries vary slightly, but generally you will be shown some of the major sightseeing and shopping areas, including Orchard Road, the high-rise business district along Shenton Way, and the historic buildings along the Padang. You will also see Chinatown and probably the Thian Hock Keng Temple. A visit to the Sri Mariamman Temple, a stroll through the beautiful Botanical Gardens, a drive up Mount Faber for a panoramic view of the city, and a visit to a handicraft factory are also likely to be included. A morning city tour usually features the "Instant Asia" cultural show.

City and East or West Coast If the tour covers the east coast, you'll see the city highlights and visit some rural sights, such as a Malay village and/or the Kuan Yin Temple. You may also visit the infamous Changi Prison and drive through the green coastal area. This tour takes 4½ hours. The west-coast tour includes the Chinese and Japanese gardens and the Jurong Bird Park.

Boat Trips **Water Tours** (3-A, 1st floor, Clifford Pier, tel. 914–4519) operates motorized junks for cruises in the harbor and to Kusu Island. **J & N Cruise** (24 Raffles Pl., #26–02 Clifford Centre, tel. 533–2733) operates the *Equator Dream,* a catamaran that offers lunch, high tea, and dinner cruises (with disco) around the harbor and to the islands. **Island Cruises** (50 Collyer Quay, #01–27 Overseas Union House, tel. 221–8333) offers breakfast,

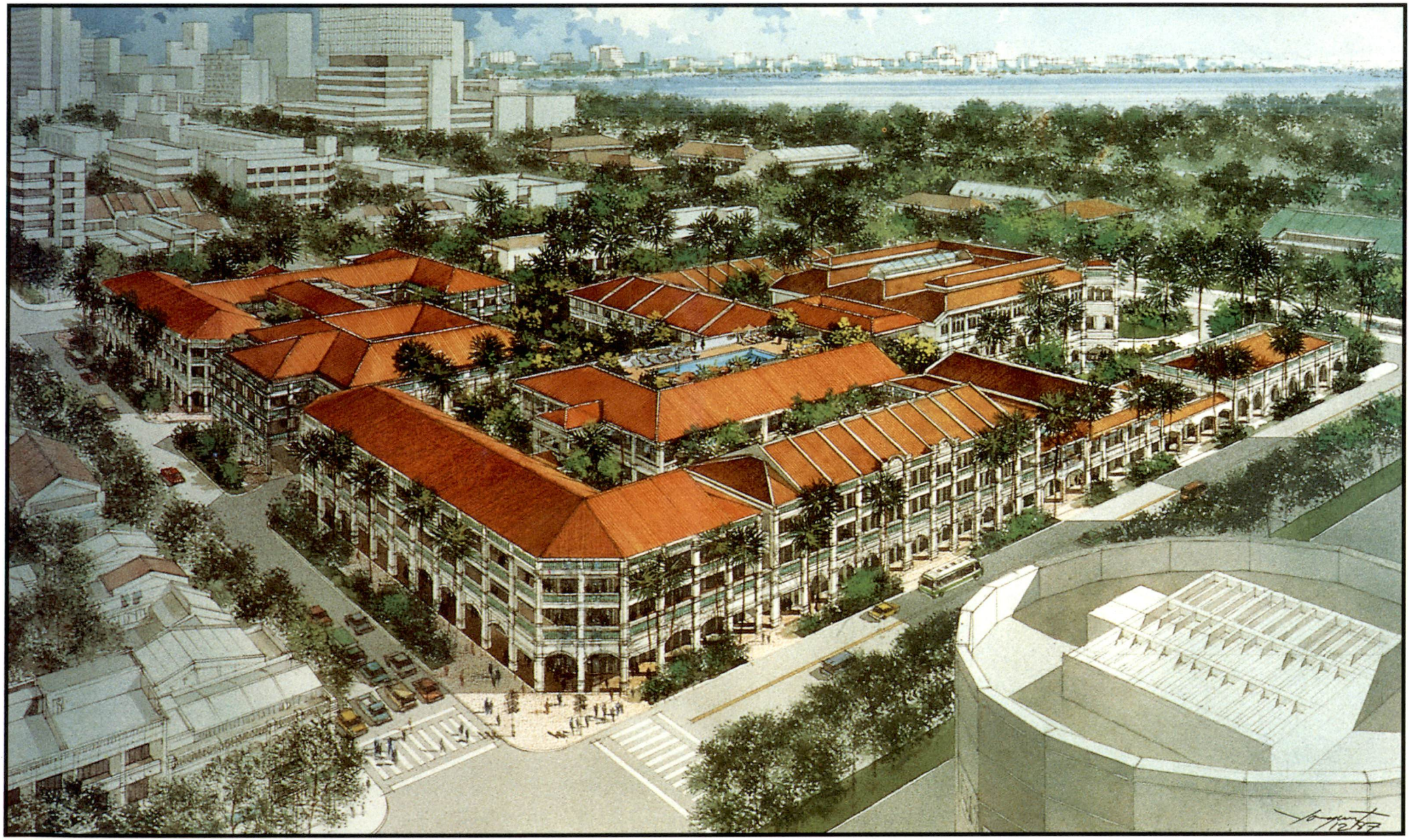
CONTROL/SITE OFFICERS FOR VISIT TO SINGAPORE
BY PRESIDENT BUSH, DECEMBER 3-4

Control Officer: DCM - AKobler
Deputy Control Officer: E/P - LGreenwood
President's Program/Schedules: E/P - LGreenwood/ISO - ALong
Mrs. Bush's Program/Schedule: CONS - CCourtney
Admin Control: ADMIN - RCourtney
Public Affairs: PAO - DDonahue
Press: USIS TDY
Press center: USIS TDY
Hotel/Room Assignments: TDY - Paul Dwayne (KL-BMO)
Security: RSO - DQuiram
Communications: CPU - FPressley
Medical Liaison: MED - AKoh
Transportation: TDY with GAlexander
Motorcade officers: AG - SSnitzler
Baggage: GSO - GKorkowski
Protocol/gifts/Thank you: CONS - JSamuelson
Military liaison: DAO - Capt. Cooper
AF-1: DAO - BWilhight
Visitors control room: PER - BJustesen
Control room set-up/supplies: GSO - FMatthews

Event/site officers
Arrival (aircraft): DAO - BWilhight
Arrival/departure (airport): AID/RIG/I: JMcGunn
Arrival/residence: E/P - MWallack
ASEAN Ambassadors Briefing: E/P - MAuschenbach
Singapore lecture: E/P - RPollard
Groundbreaking/American community address: GSO - FMatthews
(with help for CLO - DSnitzler for Am Community liaison)
Welcome ceremony Istana: E/P - KJarrett
Meetings with President Wee, PM and SM: E/P - KJarrett
Banquet at Istana: E/P - RArmstrong
Military facility: DAllen, JCasper

Other Control Officers

Secretary Baker: E/P - RPollard
Chief of Staff Sununu: E/P - MWallack
NSC Adviser Scowcroft: CONS - DHeian
ASEAN Ambassadors: E/P - MAuschenbach



VIEW FROM CORNER OF BRAS BASAH/NORTH BRIDGE ROAD



VIEW FROM BEACH ROAD

FOR INFORMATION

A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF HISTORIC RAFFLES HOTEL

1887 In September a short article in the local press announces the intention of the Sarkies Brothers, proprietors of the Eastern and Oriental in Penang, to open a hotel in Singapore and name it after Singapore's founder Sir Stamford Raffles. The location: the old bungalow at the corner of Beach and Bras Basah Roads belonging to the Arab trader Mohamed Alsagoff. On December 1st Raffles Hotel opens to the public as a 10-room Hotel. Over the next few years a pair of wings flanking the bungalow are added.

1888 Author Joseph Conrad, then a seaman plying the eastern seas, is believed to be one of Raffles' earliest guests. Not long after, the young Rudyard Kipling who is on an around the world trip dines at the hotel and writes "Feed at Raffles". These men of letters inaugurate the Hotel's legendary literary tradition which continues today.

1892 The Sarkies expand their business, opening Raffles Tiffin Rooms in May at Raffles Place. Martin Sarkies, the eldest brother, retires from the business. Tigrin is placed in charge of the Singapore operations; Aviet is stationed in Rangoon where he guides the opening of the Strand Hotel; and Arshak looks after the E&O in Penang, the oldest of the family's hotels.

1894 In December the Palm Court wing is opened.

1899 Raffles' familiar Main Building is completed and opens with great fanfare on November 18th. This marks the beginning of the hotels' heyday. The elegant neo-Renaissance architecture and grand spaces bespeak comfort and style. The Hotel also boasts Singapore's first electric lights and fans and a French chef. Raffles Hotel rapidly becomes a magnet for travellers and Singapore residents.

1902 In August the last tiger to be killed in Singapore is pursued at Raffles Hotel and is finally shot while cowering under the Bar & Billiard Room, then an elevated building.

1904 The Bras Basah wing opens, making Raffles Hotel "the most magnificent establishment of its kind East of Suez", according to a newspaper report of the day. The Hotel is the venue for numerous social events, from dinner dances to skating dinners and billiard competitions, and plays host to travellers from all over the globe.

1907 The two-table Bar & Billiard Room is enlarged and remodelled to hold six tables. The building, which is transformed into guest rooms a decade later, becomes a landmark in the city.

1910 The Raffles Hotel Post Office opens, serving Hotel guests and the surrounding area up to the late 1920s.

1913 A cast iron verandah, complete with stained glass, is added to the front of the Main Building. Here travellers imbibe the Hotel's offerings while enjoying cool sea breezes.

1915 Bartender Ngiam Tong Boon creates the Million Dollar Cocktail and Singapore Sling. A. Dietz composes 'The Raffles March' and dedicates it to Tigrin Sarkies.

1920 The verandah is replaced by an airy ballroom which quickly earns the reputation of the "finest ballroom in the East".

1921 Somerset Maugham makes the first of his visits to Raffles Hotel; he returns again in 1926 and in 1959. Legend has it that he works all mornings under a frangipani tree in the Palm Court, turning the bits of gossip and scandal overheard at dinner parties into his famous stories.

This is the decade that sees the beginnings of the "tourism industry" in Singapore and Malaya. In recognition of this trend the Hotel publishes its own guidebooks. The Hotel continues to play host to the rich and famous, including Charlie Chaplin, Maurice Chevalier, Frank Buck and Jean Harlow.

1930 Noel Coward, the British playwright, novelist and actor, arrives at Raffles Hotel in the company of Lord Amherst. While here he plays the part of Captain Stanhope in the play 'Journey's End' which is being presented by a visiting dramatic troupe at Victoria Theatre.

1931 The Great Depression and slump in the Malayan rubber trade take their toll on the colony's economy. Raffles Hotel is not spared. Not long after the death of Arshak Sarkies, the last of the four brothers, the business of Sarkies Brothers, Proprietors, which includes both Raffles Hotel and the E&O in Penang, goes into receivership.

1933 The Hotel's financial matters are sorted out and a new public company called Raffles Hotel Ltd is formed. A Swiss, Teddy Troller, takes up the position of General Manager. Raffles' main rival, the Hotel de L'Europe, closes its doors for good.

1941 World War II engulfs Singapore. Japan bombs Singapore and sinks the Royal Navy's Prince of Wales and Repulse off the coast of Malaya. British families who make their way down the Malaya Peninsula with the Japanese in pursuit congregate at Raffles Hotel.

1942 Singapore surrenders to Japan as British colonials gather at Raffles Hotel to dance and sing "There Will Always Be An England".

1945 Japan surrenders to Allied Forces and Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten accepts the return of Singapore to British control. Raffles Hotel becomes a temporary transit camp for war prisoners released under the military administration - and is a shadow of its former self.

1953 The Elizabethan Grill opens to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The 1950s sees Ava Gardener and Elizabeth Taylor among the famous visiting the Hotel.

1963 Singapore, Malaya, Sabah and Sarawak form the Federation of Malaysia.

1965 Singapore leaves the federation to become a sovereign and independent nation.

1967 Pretty Polly, starring Trevor Howard and Hayley Mills, is filmed at Raffles Hotel.

1986 Raffles Hotel celebrates its centenary a year early to coincide with the Year of the Tiger. A live tiger is photographed on the first day of the year - on top of the Hotel's billiard table.

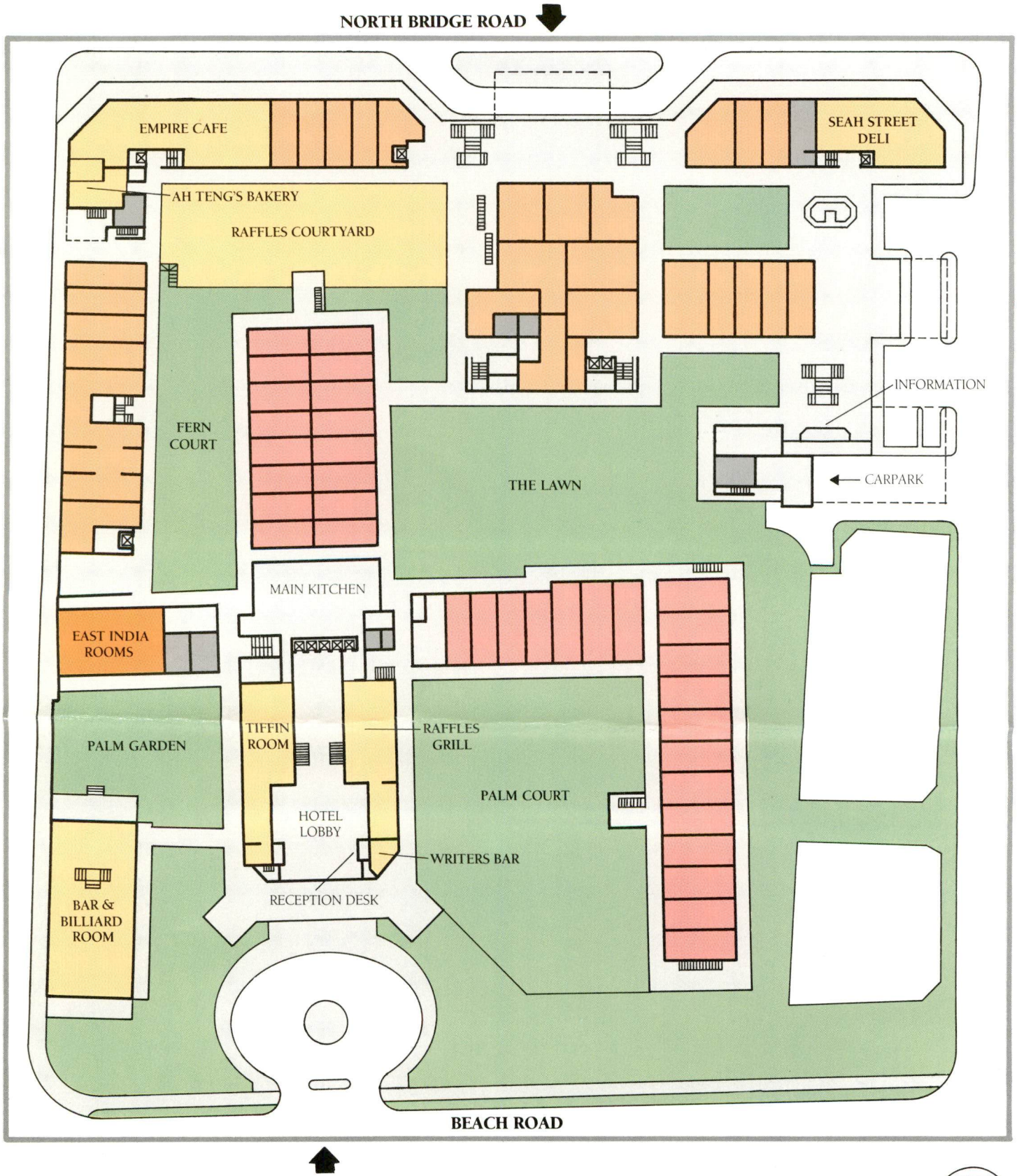
1987 The Singapore government designates Raffles Hotel a National Monument.

1989 In March, the Hotel closes to enable a complete restoration. The multi-million dollar project will return Raffles to its elegant look of the 1920s and ensure its status as one of the world's Grand Hotels.

1991 On September 16th the restored Hotel reopens its doors to the public, looking much as it did in 1915 when in its elegant heyday.



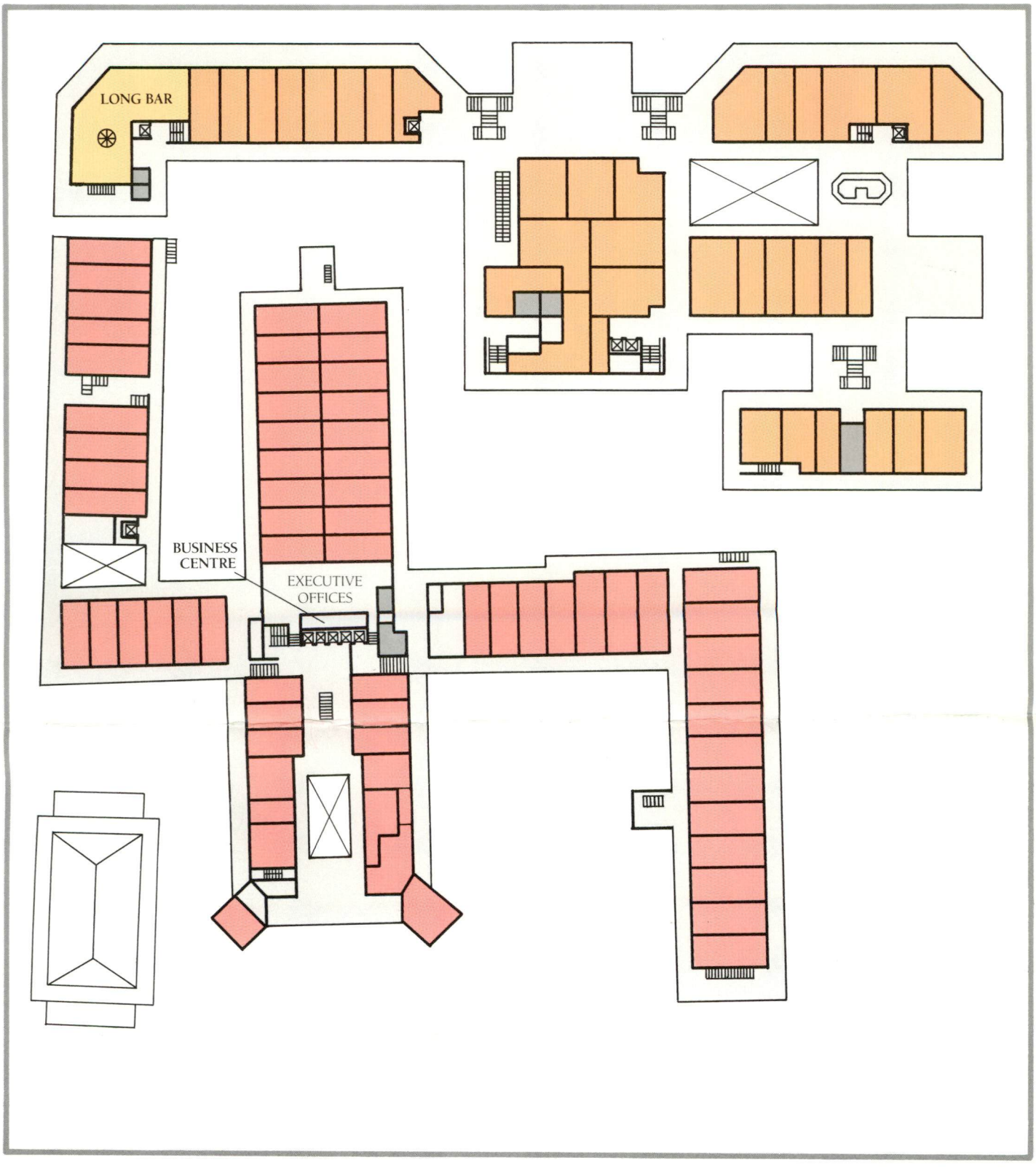
RAFFLES HOTEL RESTORATION & REDEVELOPMENT



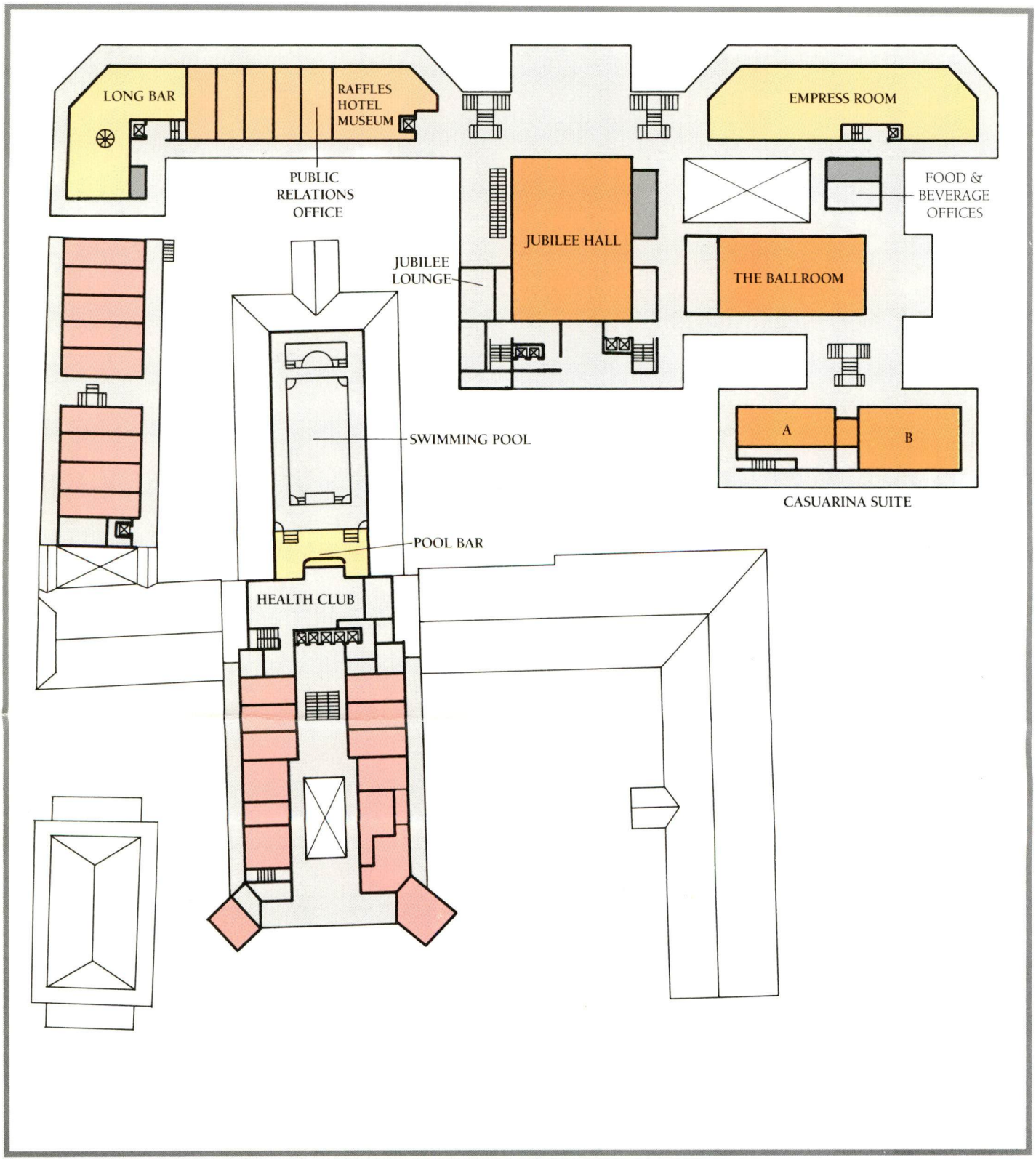
LEGEND

- SUITES
- FOOD & BEVERAGE OUTLETS
- FUNCTION/BANQUET AREAS
- SHOPS
- LANDSCAPED AREAS
- REST ROOMS

STOREY 1



STOREY 2



STOREY 3

RAFFLES HOTEL, 1 BEACH ROAD, SINGAPORE 0718, TEL: 337-1886, TLX: RS 39028 RHSIN, FAX: 339-7650

RH9-91/3000

background notes

Singapore

United States Department of State
Bureau of Public Affairs

May 1990

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
JUN 14 1990
LIBRARY DEPOSITORY #1015



Official Name: Republic of Singapore

PROFILE

Geography

Area: 620 sq. km. (239 sq. mi.). **Cities:** *Capital*—Singapore (country is a city-state). **Terrain:** Lowland. **Climate:** Tropical.

People

Nationality: *Noun and adjective*—Singaporean(s). **Population** (1988): 2.6 million. **Annual growth rate:** 1.3%. **Ethnic groups:** Chinese 76%, Malays 15%, Indians 7%, others 2%. **Religions:** Buddhist, Taoist, Muslim, Hindu, Christian. **Languages:** English, Mandarin and other Chinese dialects, Malay, Tamil. **Education:** *Years compulsory*—none. *Attendance*—94%. *Literacy*—87.1%. **Health:** *Infant mortality rate*—7.4/1,000. *Life expectancy*—71 yrs. male, 76 yrs. female. **Work force** (1.3 million): *Agriculture*—1.1%. *Industry and commerce*—58.1%. *Services*—33%. *Government*—8.1%.

Government

Type: Parliamentary democracy. **Constitution:** 1965. **Independence:** August 9, 1965.

Branches: *Executive*—president (chief of state, 4-yr. term); prime minister (head of government). *Legislative*—unicameral 81-member parliament (maximum 5-yr. term). *Judicial*—High Court, Court of Appeal, Court of Criminal Appeal.

Political parties: People's Action Party (PAP), various opposition parties. **Suffrage:** Universal and compulsory.

Central government budget (1986): $10 billion.

Defense (1988): 5% of gross domestic product.

National holiday: August 9.

Flag: Two equal horizontal sections, red over white, with a white crescent and five stars in the upper left corner.

Economy

GDP (1988): $23.9 billion. **Annual growth rate** (1988-in real terms): 11%. **Per capita income:** $8,782. **Avg. inflation rate** (1988): 1.5%.

Natural resources: None.

Agriculture (0.4% of real GDP): *Products*—poultry, orchids, vegetables, fruits.

Industry (17% of real GNP): *Types*—petroleum products, electrical and electronic products, shipbuilding and ship repair, food and beverages, textiles and garments, chemical products.

Trade (1988, excluding Indonesian trade, which is not reported by Singaporean authorities): *Exports*—$39 billion: petroleum products, electronics equipment, electrical and nonelectrical machinery, telecommunications apparatus, garments. *Major markets*—US, Malaysia, Japan, European Community (EC). *Imports*—$44 billion: crude oil, machinery, manufactured goods, foodstuffs. *Major suppliers*—US, EC, Malaysia, Japan.

Official exchange rate (avg. 1988): Singapore $2.01=US$1.

Fiscal year: April 1-March 31.

Membership in International Organizations

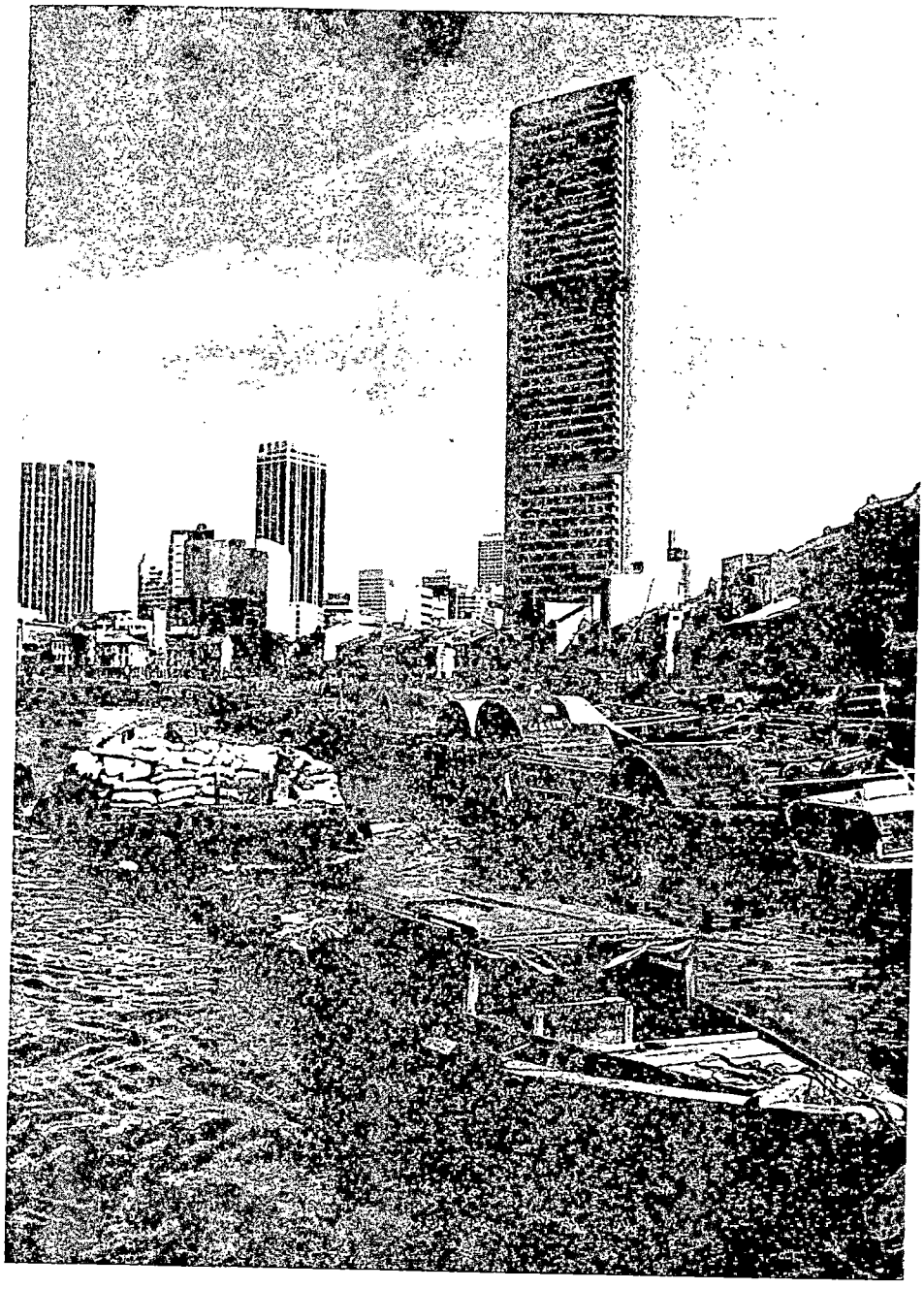
UN and some of its specialized and related agencies, Commonwealth, Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Five Power Defense Arrangement, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Colombo Plan, INTELSAT, Nonaligned Movement, Group of 77.

GEOGRAPHY

Singapore is located in Southeast Asia at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula and is separated from Malaysia by the Strait of Johore, which is traversed by a 1.2-kilometer (3/4-mi.) causeway carrying a road and a railway. The Singapore Strait separates the country from Indonesia. Singapore is a focal point for Southeast Asian sea routes. Its total land area includes one large island and about 55 nearby islets. The diamond-shaped main island is 41 kilometers (26 mi.) at its broadest from east to west, and 22 kilometers (14 mi.) from north to south.

Much of Singapore is lowland and originally consisted of swamp and jungle. Now mainly urban and industrialized, its geographical features are small in scale—the highest point on the main island, Bukit Timah (Hill of Tin), is only 177 meters (581 ft.) above sea level; the longest river is 14 kilometers (9 mi.) long. A central plateau of about 31 square kilometers (12 sq. mi.) contains a water catchment area and nature preserve. The main urban area lies on the southern part of the island, primarily on land reclaimed from swamp and sea.

Singapore's climate is characterized by warm temperatures, high humidity, and copious rainfall. Virtually no seasonal temperature variation exists. The average maximum temperature is 31 °C (88 °F); the average rainfall is 158 centimeters (62 in.). Singapore has no pronounced wet or dry seasons.



Singapore's modern skyline.

PEOPLE

With a population density of 4,231 persons per square kilometer (10,961 per sq. mi.), Singapore is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. The annual growth rate has fallen, however, from 2.5% in 1965 to 1.3% in 1988. Health standards are high for the region, with about 1 physician for every 837 people (US has about 1 to 700).

Singapore has a varied linguistic, cultural, and religious heritage. Malay is the national language, but Chinese, English, and Tamil also are official languages. English is widely used in professions, businesses, and schools.

The government mandated that English would be the primary language used at all levels of the school systems by 1987, and aims to provide at least 10 years of education for every child. Primary and secondary school students total almost 470,000, or nearly 18% of the entire population. Enrollment at the National University of Singapore is 14,972 and 13,753 at Singapore Polytechnic. The practical engineering-oriented Nanyang Technological Institute, founded in 1981, now has 3,940 students. The overall literacy rate is 87% and is more than 90% for Singaporeans under 35.

Singapore has religious freedom. Almost all Malays are Muslim; other Singaporeans are Hindus, Sikhs, Taoists, Buddhists, Confucianists, and Christians.



A blacksmith for 45 years.

HISTORY

Although Singapore's history dates from the 11th century, little was known about the island until the 19th century, when in 1819, Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles arrived as an agent of the British East India Company. In 1824, the British purchased Singapore Island, and by 1825, the city of Singapore had become a major port, with trade exceeding that of Malaya's Malacca and Penang combined. In 1830, Singapore, Penang, and Malacca were combined as the Straits Settlements to form an outlying residency of the British East India Company; in 1867, the Straits Settlements were made a British Crown Colony, an arrangement that continued until 1946.

The opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 and the advent of steamships launched an era of prosperity for Singapore as transit trade expanded throughout Southeast Asia. In the 20th century, the automobile industry's demand for rubber from Southeast Asia and the packaging industry's need for tin helped make Singapore one of the world's major ports. It is now second largest in the world in terms of annual tonnage.

In 1921, the British constructed a naval base, which was soon supplemented by an air base. The Japanese captured the island in February 1942, however, and it remained under their control until September 1945, when it was recaptured by the British.

In 1946, Penang and Malacca were united in a single British Crown Colony called the Federation of Malaya; Singapore remained a separate colony. In 1959, Singapore became self-governing, and, in 1963, it joined the now-independent Federation of Malaya, Sabah, and Sarawak (the latter two former British Borneo territories) to form Malaysia.

Indonesia adopted a policy of "confrontation" against the new federation, charging that it was a "British colonial creation," and severed trade with Malaysia. The move particularly affected Singapore, since Indonesia had been the island's second largest trading partner. The political dispute was resolved in 1966, and Indonesia resumed trade with Singapore.

After a period of friction between Singapore and the central government in Kuala Lumpur, Singapore separated from Malaysia on August 9, 1965, and became an independent republic.

GOVERNMENT

According to the constitution, as amended in 1965, Singapore is a republic with a parliamentary system of government. The president, the ceremonial chief of state, is elected every 4 years by parliament. Political authority rests with the prime minister and the cabinet. The prime minister is the leader of the political party or coalition of parties having the majority of seats in parliament.

The unicameral parliament consists of 81 members (80 of whom are from the governing People's Action Party-PAP) elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage. Up to 3 opposition candidates are invited to become nonconstituent members of parliament after any general election in which less than three opposition candidates are elected. Nonconstituent members may debate but may not vote on constitutional amendments or on bills requiring the expenditure of funds. After the last general election (September 1988), two members were named, one of whom subsequently was disqualified. The maximum term of any one parliament is 5 years. Voting has been compulsory since 1959.

Judicial power is vested in the High Court and Court of Appeal. The High Court exercises original criminal and civil jurisdiction in serious cases as well as appellate jurisdiction from subordinate courts. Its chief justice, senior judge, and six judges are appointed by the president. Appeals from the High Court are heard by the Court of Appeal. Further appeal can be made in certain cases to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council at London.

Principal Government Officials

President—WEE Kim Wee
Prime Minister—LEE Kuan Yew
First Deputy Prime Minister—GOH Chok Tong
Second Deputy Prime Minister—ONG Teng Cheong

Ministers
Communications and Information—YEO Ning Hong
Community Development—WONG Kan Seng
Defense—GOH Chok Tong
Education—Tony TAN
Environment—Ahmad MATTAR
Finance—Richard HU Tsu Tau
Foreign Affairs—WONG Kan Seng
Health (Acting)—YEO Cheow Tong
Home Affairs—S. JAYAKUMAR
Labor—LEEYock San
Law—S. JAYAKUMAR
National Development—S. DHANABALAN
Trade and Industry—LEE Hsien Loong

Ambassador to the United Nations—CHAN Heng Chee
Ambassador to the United States—Tommy KOH Thong Bee

Singapore maintains an embassy in the United States at 1824 R Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20009 (tel. 202–667–7555).

POLITICAL CONDITIONS

The ruling political party in Singapore (in power since 1959) is the People's Action Party (PAP), headed by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. In the 1963 general elections, the PAP won 37 of the 51 seats in parliament. In October 1966, the opposition Barisan Sosialis Party (Socialist Front), a left-wing group that split off from the PAP in 1961, resigned from parliament, leaving the PAP as the sole representative party. In the April 1968 general elections, the PAP won all 58 seats—51 without opposition.

In the general elections of 1972, 1976, and 1980, the PAP won all of the seats in an expanding parliament. In an October 1981 by-election, the PAP lost a seat to the Workers' Party Secretary General J.B. Jeyaretnam, the first time an oppositon party had won a seat since 1963.

In the 1984 elections, the PAP polled 62.9% of the popular vote, a 12% drop from 1980 returns, and lost a second seat. In 1988, the PAP polled 61.9% of the popular vote to win 80 of 81 seats.

Following the 1988 elections, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew indicated that in 1990 he would retire as head of government but not from politics. First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong has been designated to assume the office of prime minister as part of a transition process to a new generation of political leaders.

ECONOMY

Singapore's strategic location and industrious population have given the country an economic importance in Southeast Asia out of proportion to its small size. Following independence, its economy expanded rapidly. Average annual growth in gross domestic product (GDP) during the 1970s was close to 10%, and for 1980–84 it was 8.5%. Following a recession in 1985–86, the economy steadily recovered and registered an impressive 11% GDP growth rate in 1988. The 1988 per capita income, $8,782, is the third highest in Asia after Japan and Brunei. At the end of 1988, official foreign exchange reserves stood at $16.6 billion.

Singapore began as an entrepot (warehousing and transshipment) center for the region but began to industrialize and modernize its infrastructure after independence. The marine and oil services and processing industries were among the leaders in the important manufacturing sector. The late 1970s and early 1980s brought an increasing emphasis on high technology high-value-added goods and services, which made Singapore an electronics and regional banking center. Government policy, aimed at providing modern housing for most of the population by 1990, spurred public and private building, creating a construction and property boom in the early 1980s.

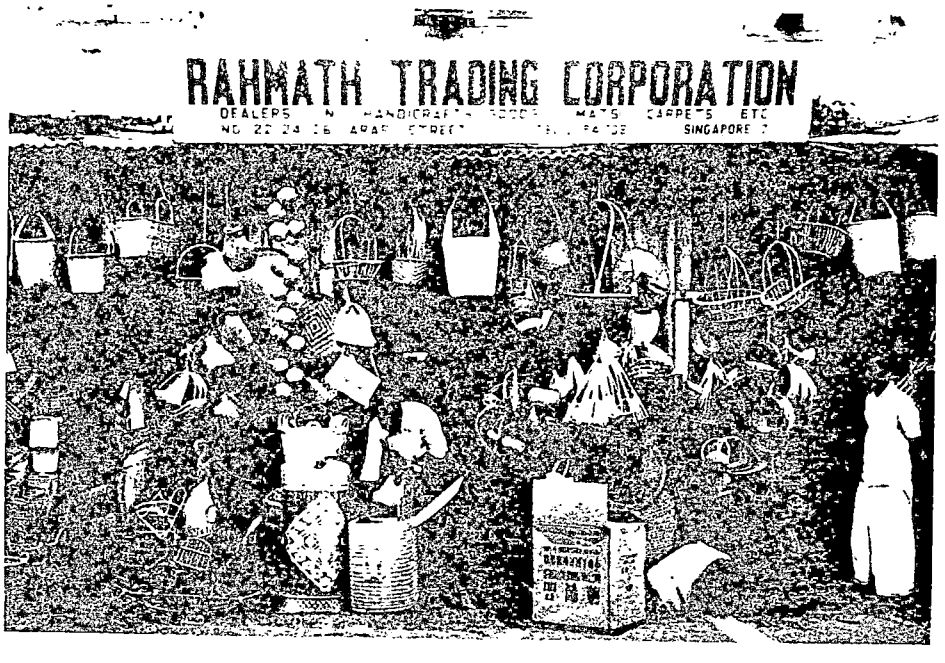
However, by 1984, the government's accelerated construction program was nearly concluded, and there was a massive oversupply of new buildings. Property values tumbled. At the same time, there was a near-collapse of marine and petroleum-related industries worldwide, a shakeout in the US electronics market, and worsening economic conditions in Malaysia and Indonesia. The net result was Singapore's first recession after 21 years of sustained growth. Real GDP growth plummeted to -1.6% in 1985, began to show the first signs of recovery in mid-1986, and has been remarkably buoyant since.

Singapore continues to upgrade worker skills and to search for new products and markets to drive its export-led economy. One major effort is to become a complete business center, offering multinationals a manufacturing base, a developed financial infrastructure, and excellent communications to service regional and world markets.

Trade

In the past, about two-thirds of Singapore's imports and exports consisted of entrepot trade. With rapid industrialization, however, the relative importance of this sector has declined. The trade pattern reflects a shift toward importing capital goods and raw materials for industry and exporting locally manufactured products.

In 1988, the United States was Singapore's largest trading partner.



Major exports to the United States consisted of crude rubber, electronic equipment, electrical machinery, and textile products; major imports from the United States were machinery and other manufactured products.

US Investment and Assistance

The United States is the largest source of foreign investment in Singapore, with more than one-third of all private foreign investment and a quarter of total investment. US private investment played a leading role in Singapore's rapid economic expansion, particularly in general manufacturing, electronics, and in modernizing regional distribution facilities. US activities also include oil refining, shipping, banking, hotels, insurance, and importing and exporting. The resident US business community, including dependents, was estimated at about 5,000 in late 1988. Total US investment in Singapore at the end of 1988 stood at $3 billion, with investment flows continuing at a brisk pace.

The United States has a small military training assistance program with Singapore but provides no other bilateral aid.

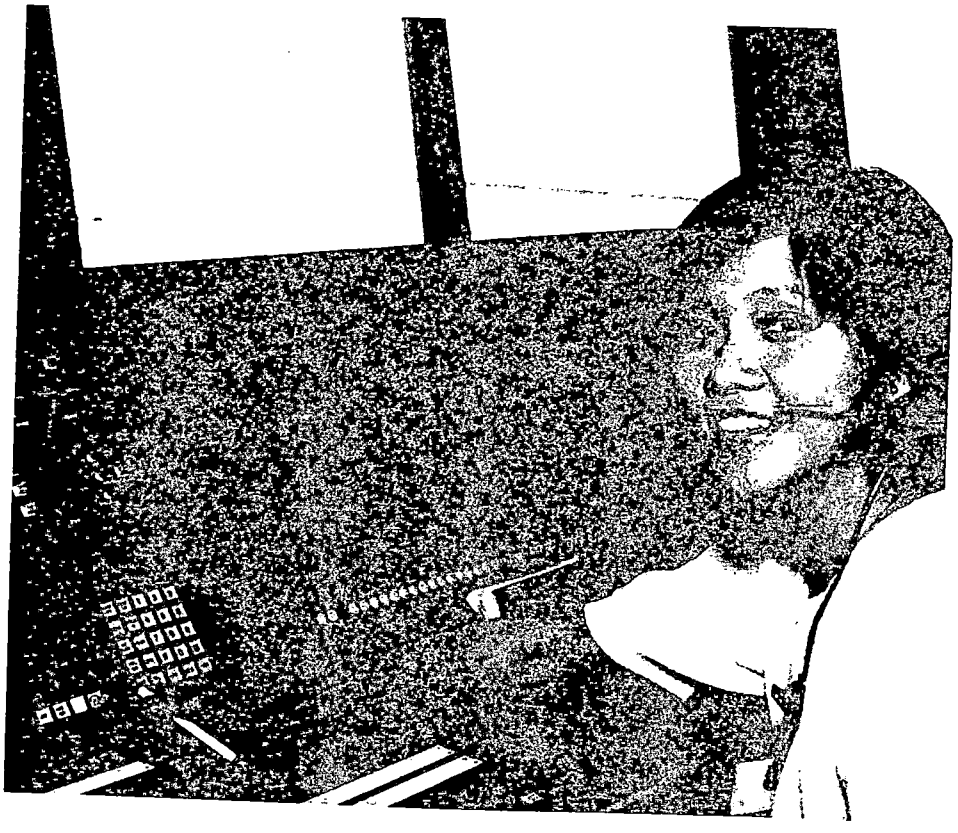
Industry

The government's development policy from independence has emphasized industrialization. Separation from Malaysia removed any semblance of a large domestic market, leading naturally to emphasis on manufacturing for export. To support this policy, the government introduced new and remarkably successful financial incentives for export-oriented industry and provided efficient infrastructure for manufacturing. Singapore opened its economy and has pursued a vigorous free-trade policy ever since. Labor legislation enacted in 1968 reduced labor unrest and gave employers more flexibility in hiring and firing. By the early 1980s, Singapore had become a relatively high wage locale by Asian standards, but the government moved in 1985 to restrain wage increases and reduce other costs with a view to making Singapore more competitive.

Several institutions played a key role in carrying out the industrialization policy. The Development Bank of Singapore was responsible for industrial financing. The Jurong Town Corporation was charged with developing industrial estates. Its major achievement, the Jurong Industrial Estate, is a government-planned satellite community devoted to manufacturing, which had more than 1,400 factories in production in the early 1980s and many others in various stages of completion. The government's Economic Development Board has organized a massive program to promote foreign investment in Singapore and has set up a network of offices in Europe, Japan, and the United States (in New York, Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago, and Houston).

These efforts resulted in a dramatic increase in the level of foreign and local investment. From 1962 to 1974, the manufacturing sector grew an average of 20% per year and registered an annual average increase of more than 10% through 1981. After a pause in 1982, growth resumed in 1983. Manufacturing increased as a percentage of total economic activity from 17% in 1960 to 29% in 1988. Extensive petroleum refining operations make that industry—in terms of total value of production—the largest in Singapore. It is closely followed by electronics, transportation equipment and marine services—including ship repair—textiles, electrical machinery, and food industries. The manufacturing sector contracted because of the recession, but the prospects for high-tech manufacturing are still bright.

Construction was the cutting edge of the economy in the early 1980s, providing as much as 30% of total growth. Although the frenzied pace of construction in that period left a massive surplus of offices, hotels, and warehouses, the program also resulted in modern housing for most Singaporeans and an up-to-date system of ports, airports, and roads. Construction of a 66.8-kilometer (41.5-mi.) rapid transit system is underway. The first stage was completed in December 1987.



Agriculture

Singapore's limited agrarian land is devoted primarily to intensive cultivation of vegetables, some poultry and pork, and other food crops. Although rice is a dietary staple, it is not grown domestically. All the island's other food requirements are imported. Singapore is a major exporter of orchids and tropical fish.

Labor

Singapore has a work force of about 1.3 million. The National Trades Union Congress, the sole trade union federation, has 209,000 members or about 98% of total organized labor. Extensive legislation covers general labor and trade union matters. The Industrial Arbitration Court handles labor-management disputes. In recent years, few incidents have occurred to ruffle the generally harmonious state of labor-management relations.

Singapore enjoyed virtually full employment in the early 1980s with an unemployment rate of only 3%. The 1985 recession drove the jobless figure to more than 6% in mid-1986, but with the recovery, it dropped back to 3.3% in mid-1988. Spot labor shortages persist, however, in some growth areas, such as electronics and in industries, such as construction, where foreign workers predominate.

Transportation and Communications

Situated at the crossroads of international shipping and air routes, Singapore is a center for transportation and communication in Southeast Asia. The world's second most active port (after Rotterdam), Singapore handled 153 million tons of cargo in 1988. Singapore is a regional aviation hub served by 50 international airlines. Changi International Airport, opened in 1980, is being expanded. The country also is linked by road and rail to Malaysia and Thailand.

Telecommunications and telephone facilities are modern and comprehensive, providing high-quality communications with the rest of the world. Radio and television stations are government-owned and operated. Privately owned daily newspapers are published in English, Chinese, and Malay.

Further Information

These titles are provided as a general indication of material published on this country. The Department of State does not endorse unofficial publications.

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FOREIGN RELATIONS

Singapore is nonaligned and seeks cordial relations with all nations. As a small country heavily dependent on world trade, it has a special interest in maintaining wide international contacts. It is a member of the Commonwealth and also the United Nations and several of its specialized and related agencies. Singapore supports the concept of Southeast Asian regionalism and plays an active role in the Association of South East Asian Nations, founded in 1967.

DEFENSE

Singapore relies primarily on its own defense forces, which are continuously being modernized. The Singapore armed forces comprises 50,000 army, 3,500 navy, and 6,000 air force personnel. Reserve forces total about 200,000. Singapore is a member of the Five Power Defense Arrangement—United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and Malaysia. Designed to replace the former defense role of the British in the Singapore-Malaysia area, the arrangement obligates members to consult in the event of external threat and provides for stationing Commonwealth forces in Singapore.

US-SINGAPORE RELATIONS

The United States has maintained formal diplomatic relations with Singapore since that country became independent in 1965. Singapore's efforts to maintain economic growth and political stability and its support for regional cooperation harmonize with US policy in the region and form a solid basis for amicable relations between the two countries. The growth of US investment in Singapore and the large number of Americans living there enhance opportunities for contact between Singapore and the

Singapore and the United States. Many Singaporeans visit and study in the United States.

The US Government sponsors visitors from Singapore each year under the International Visitor Program. The US Government provides Fulbright awards to enable selected American professors to teach or conduct research at the National University of Singapore and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. It awards scholarships to outstanding Singaporean students for graduate studies at American universities and to American students to study in Singapore. The US Government also sponsors occasional cultural presentations in Singapore.

The East-West Center and private American organizations, such as the Asia and Ford Foundations, also sponsor exchanges involving Singaporeans.

Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew has visited the United States several times. He last official visit was in April 1988.

Principal U.S. Officials

Ambassador—Robert Orr
Deputy Chief of Mission—Arthur Kobler
Economic/Political Counselor—Thomas H. Martin
Political Officer—Edward Dong
Economic Officer—J. Anthony Holmes
Public Affairs Counselor—Richard Gong
Commercial Counselor—George Ruffner
Administrative Counselor—Robert B. Courtney
Defense Attache—Capt. Patrick Cooper, USN

The US Embassy in Singapore is located at 30 Hill Street, Singapore 0617 (tel. 338–0251). ■

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SINGAPORE

From Malay Proverbs, by Sir Richard Winstedt and Dr. Tan Chin Kwang:

* Malay: "Kalau sepohon kayu banyak akarnya lagi teghu, apa ditakutkan ribut?"

  English translation: If a tree has roots many and firm, there is no need to fear the tempest.

  Meaning: He who has many friends ready to help need not fear threats.

Confucian Sayings:

The master said,... 'Have no friends not equal to yourself.'

The master said,... 'To be fond of learning is to be near to knowledge. To practice with vigor is to be near to magnanimity. To possess the feeling of shame is to be near to energy. He who knows these three things, knows how to cultivate his own character. Knowing how to cultivate his own character, he knows how to govern other men. Knowing how to govern other men, he knows how to govern the kingdom the kingdom with all its states and families.'

"Wisdom, compassion and courage -- these are the three universally recognized moral qualities of men.

Encyclopedia Americana

Singapore is the smallest nation in Southeast Asia (an island city-state).

Singapore was founded in 1819 by a British trading company, and came under direct British rule in 1867. Free trade and, until 1930, unrestricted immigration made it a prosperous colony with a largely Chinese population. Singapore was also Britain's most strongly fortified naval base in Asia, but it fell helplessly to a rearward attack by the Japanese army in WWII.

Trade, together with services such as shipping, storage, banking, insurance, and telecommunications have given Singaporeans the reputation of being the most highly skilled middlemen of Asia.

When Singapore became self-governing in 1959, its leaders recognized that the commercial sector alone could not sustain the island's economic growth in the face of rapid population increase and accelerated competition from neighboring countries.

The main production categories are oil refining, shipbuilding and repair, electrical and electronic equipment, non-electrical machinery, chemicals, foods and beverages, and printing and publishing.

Singapore ranks among the world's busiest seaports.

Singapore's chief trading partners are the US, Japan, Malaysia, the European Economic Community, and (for oil) the Middle East.

Singapore's modern history begins with an Englishman, Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles. In 1819, Raffles acquired the island from the Malay Sultan of Johor on behalf of the British East India Company. With extraordinary foresight, he laid the foundations for a great modern city, envisaging the transformation of a tiny fishing village into a free-trade emporium that would have global importance.

National Anthem

Let us, the people of Singapore, together march forward towards happiness. Our noble aspiration is to see Singapore achieve success. Let us unite in a new spirit. We all pray: "May Singapore Progress", "May Singapore Progress."

US and Asia Statistical Handbook, 1990

Unemployment rate 2.0%
Land Area: 239 square miles
Cultivated Land Area: 9%
Resources: none
Major agricultural product: hogs, poultry, orchids, vegetables
Major imports: capital equipment, manufactured goods, transport equipment, consumer goods.
Major exports: machinery, manufactured goods, transport equipment, refined petroleum, rubber, electronics.

GDP: 1989 -- 24 billion US dollars
1989 Singaporean Direct Investment in the US: US$ 1,216,000,000

Cable re: trip

-- The first American Consul in Singapore came to this area in 1834. He was Joseph Balestier. He was accompanied by his spouse Maria Revere Balestier, daughter of Paul Revere. He officially became consul in 1837.

-- The Balestiers are remembered here by a bell cast in the Revere works in Boston, which was presented to the original church of St. Andrew by Maria revere Balestier. As you know, that bell is now in Singapore's National Museum.

Raffles Hotel



The illustrations contained in this brochure are reproduced from an original Raffles Hotel booklet printed in 1905. They show the turn-of-the-century grandeur and ambience of the Hotel which is recaptured in the restored Hotel. The booklet is part of the Raffles Hotel Collection of historical memorabilia which is displayed in the Raffles Hotel Museum.



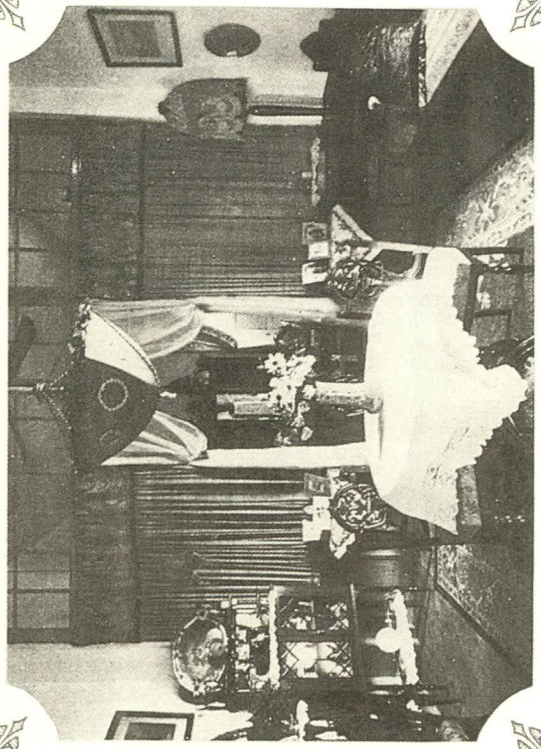
RAFFLES REVISITED



The visionary founders of Raffles Hotel: (clockwise from left) Arshak Sarkies, Aviet Sarkies and Tigran Sarkies.

Raffles, a traditional colonial garden featuring Frangipani trees, Bougainvillea and a Lily pond.

Raffles, the legendary personality of the most exotic hotel in the East is reborn, supported by the qualities expected of the finest establishments to be found anywhere in the world today.



The original Raffles Hotel rooms each consisted of a sittingroom and a bed and dressingroom with attached bathroom.

Raffles Hotel has stood as a legendary symbol of Singapore and 'for all the fables of the exotic East', since its establishment in 1887.

The Hotel is named after Sir Stamford Raffles, who founded modern Singapore in 1819.

In multi-cultural Singapore, it seems hardly surprising that the visionary founders of Raffles Hotel were neither British nor Chinese, but Armenians from the Middle East: the Sarkies brothers.

From humble begin-

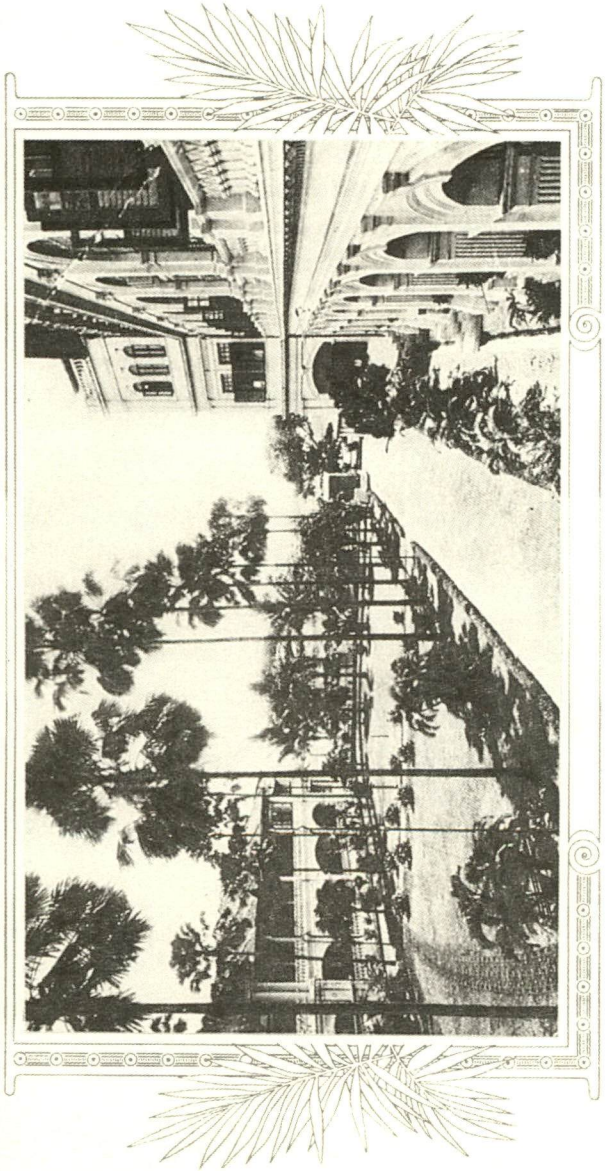


Raffles March was the hotel's signature tune, commissioned by Tigran Sarkies in 1903.

bars, the Raffles Hotel Museum and 70 specialty shops and exclusive boutiques.

Extended landscaped gardens surround the Hotel, preserving the lush tropical feel which has always typified Raffles.

The world-famous Palm Court recaptures a simple and serene atmosphere for Hotel guests and provides a perfect visual contrast to Raffles Grill. There is also the Palm Garden, adjacent to the Bar & Billiard Room, and The Lawn at

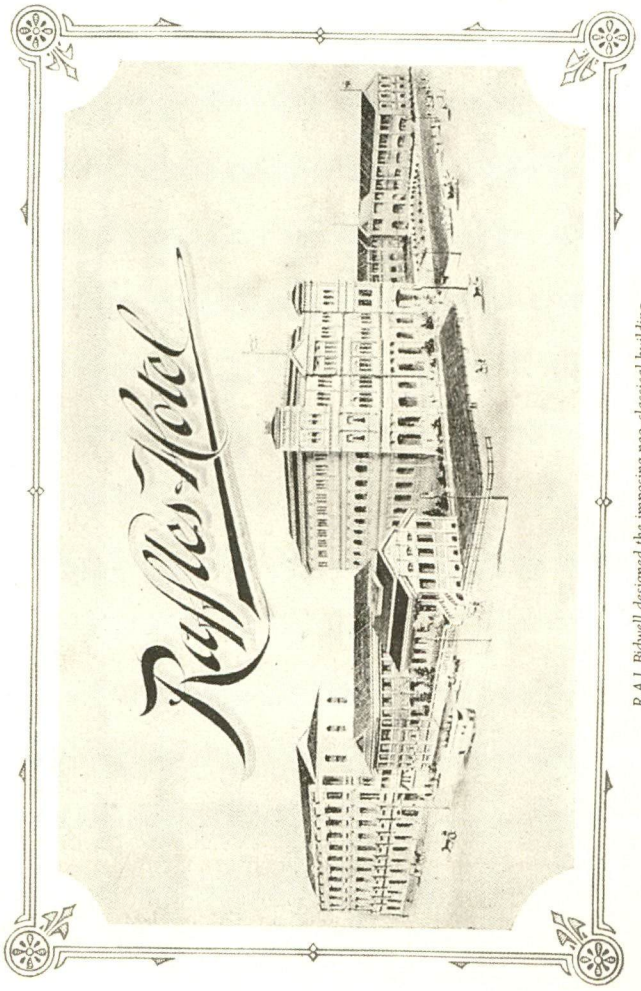


The idyllic Palm Court where world-renowned writers penned their books.

nings in an old bungalow, the Hotel grew to become one of the world's most renowned grand hotels.

In the 1920s and '30s, the Hotel was a mecca for celebrities such as Charlie Chaplin and Douglas Fairbanks, for writers like Somerset Maugham and Noel Coward, and for kings, sultans and politicians.

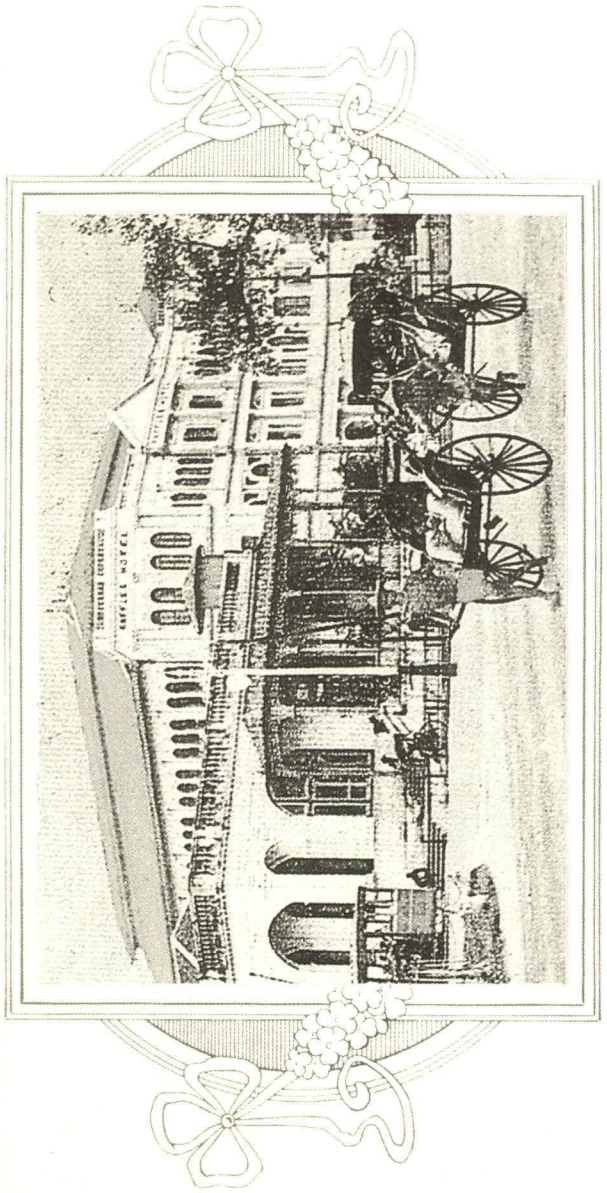
It was also the centre of Singapore's colonial high-life — tea-dances, the high-stepping Charleston, and jazz bands.



R.A.J. Bidwell designed the imposing neo-classical building which was completed in 1899.

to seadogs, adventurers and travellers from all over the world. Raffles' 1890s billiard table takes pride of place, along with many other original furnishings.

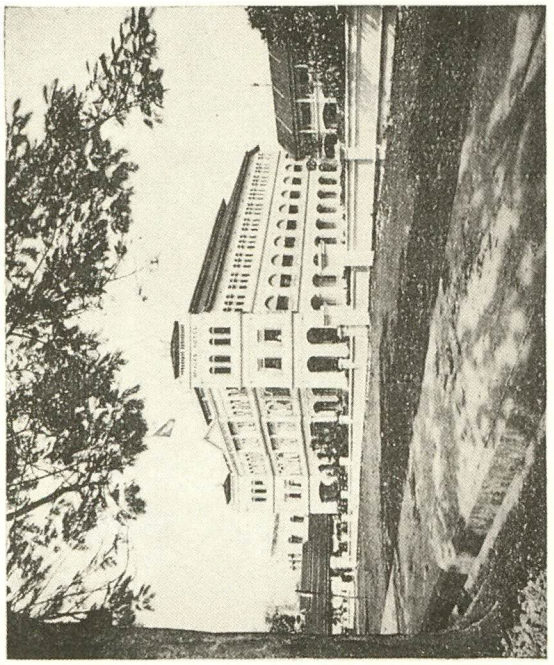
The adjoining land parcel developed in architectural harmony with the Grand Old Lady, is known simply as "Raffles" and provides a broader range of facilities for visitors to enjoy its atmosphere. The Jubilee Hall Theatre Playhouse is the venue for historical presentations and multimedia shows. Raffles also houses six distinctive restaurants and



Rickshaw men competed for the right to operate the lucrative Raffles pitch.

Through a century and more, Raffles has shared in the fortunes — and misfortunes — of the nation. It was the last rallying point for colonial Singapore in the face of the Japanese occupation of 1942; and the first place of refuge in 1945 for the prisoners of war released from concentration camps.

From independence, in 1965, Singapore put all its forces behind building a nation that is today respected as one of the great economic miracles of the twentieth

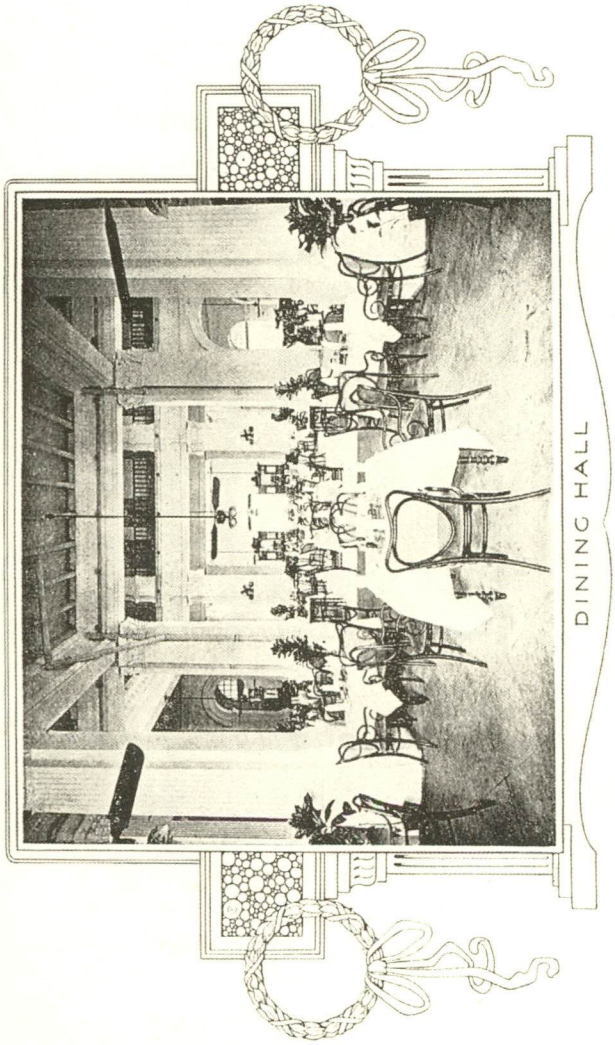


MAIN BUILDING.

The neo-classical main building faces Beach Road and the South China Sea.

The Tiffin Room, adjacent to the lobby, continues to be the traditional main dining area. The formal dining room, Raffles Grill, the Hotel's premier restaurant, provides a clear view through to the Palm Court garden, while the Writers' Bar continues to celebrate the special place writers have always held in Raffles' heart.

The Bar & Billiard Room which dates back to the mid-1890s recalls the rollicking late nineteenth century era when the Singapore port played host



DINING HALL

No other hotel in the East could boast finer dining, from a simple midday tiffin, to elegant continental fare after dark.

century.

It was not until the early eighties, however, that the newly affluent Republic turned its thoughts to heritage conservation, declaring Raffles a protected monument in 1987.

Now restored to the full glory of her pre-World War II past, Raffles Hotel is ready to meet its second century.

Featuring the style to which it was once accustomed, Raffles Hotel reopens with 104 suites revealing the original 14-foot moulded ceilings, grand arches, tiled, teak and marble



Richly decorated verandahs caught cooling breezes on all four sides of the hotel.

floorings. Ceiling fans, oriental carpets and period furnishings are skilfully combined with all the amenities of a grand hotel.

The guiding principle for the architects and designers was to restore the Hotel as it was in the period from 1910 to 1930.

The facade of the Main Building is fully restored, complete with the elegant cast-iron portico that graced the Hotel from 1910 to 1920. The splendid verandah which encircled the entire Hotel facade on the upper storeys has also been restored.