



**CENTRAL  
MUSEUM  
of the  
ARMED FORCES  
SATRIAMANDALA**

Jakarta, Indonesia.



**CENTRAL  
MUSEUM  
of the  
ARMED FORCES  
SATRIAMANDALA**

GUIDE BOOK



dan menyatakan dengan ini menyatakan berdasarkan

Undang-Undang yang mengatur perlindungan hak-hak orang-orang yang  
beragama Islam dengan tujuan untuk melindungi dan dalam tempo yang  
singkat di Jakarta.

Djakarta, hari 17 bulan 8 tahun 05

keselamatan bangsa Indonesia.

Sekeloa/Hatta.

*Wick*

*Wick*



## DEPARTEMEN PERTAHANAN KEAMANAN

### PREFACE

On August 17, 1945, in the name of the Indonesian nation, Sukarno and Hatta proclaimed Indonesia's Independence. Almost immediately the newly attained Independence was threatened with elimination by external forces which initially consisted of the Japanese occupation troops which had to maintain the *status quo* for the victorious Allies. Later on the British forces came with the Dutch on their heels who wanted to restore colonial rule in Indonesia. In other words, they wanted to suppress our Independence, to invalidate the Proclamation of August 17, 1945.

In order to defend the threatened Independence, Indonesian Youth spontaneously arose, part of them organised themselves into the People's Security Body (Badan Keamanan Rakyat - BKR) while others formed "struggle organisations". They considered themselves freedom-fighters, defenders of Independence, guardians of the Proclamation and upholders of the sovereignty of the Republic of Indonesia based on the Pancasila and the Constitution of 1945.

On October 5, 1945, the Government formed the People's Security Army which became the military force of the Republic and which two years later developed into the Indonesian National Army (Tentara Nasional Indonesia - TNI), comprising also the ex-members of the struggle organisations. Still later on, the TNI together with the Police became the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia (Angkatan Bersenjata Republik Indonesia - ABRI).

The Central Museum of the Armed Forces *Satriamandala* attempts to present visually the struggle of the armed freedom-fighters from the time of the People's Security Body (BKR) and the struggle organizations up till the present time when they can use the Indonesian Armed Forces as a modern force as their vehicle for that struggle. The story will show why soldiers of the Indonesian Armed Forces still consider themselves freedom-fighters in the first place and only as professional military and police in the second place.



Ever since 1945 up to the present time the freedom fighters consider themselves to be continuing the struggle which started with the War of Independence through internal security operations and counter-insurgency campaigns. The only difference is that in those early periods the struggle was directed towards the effort of defending and safeguarding Independence, while now and in the future their struggle will be directed towards giving substance to Independence by promoting national development.

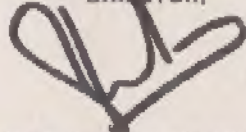
The mission of giving substance to Independence will be transferred by the Generation of 1945 to the younger generation. We hope that through visual presentation in the Central Museum of the Armed Forces, the younger generation will perceive the continuity of the struggle between the period of defending and safeguarding Independence and the struggle to give substance to Independence at the present time and in the future.

If the younger generation accepts the values which have grown since 1945, then the future of our people, nation and country will be safe. Because then, national stability can be maintained and national resilience strengthened permanently, and consequently national development can be carried out without obstruction.

The Central Museum of the Armed Forces has been arranged on the basis of that vision. Its contents shows the self-image of the Indonesian Armed Forces with its dual function. The Hall of Standards presents symbolically the preparedness of the Armed Forces since 1945 up till the present time and forever in the future always to guard and defend the Proclamation with they themselves as its guarantee.

Jakarta, 5 October 1972

CENTRE FOR ARMED FORCES HISTORY  
DIRECTOR,



NUGROHO NOTOKUSANTO  
BRIGADIER GENERAL

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Hours of opening

|           |          |                       |
|-----------|----------|-----------------------|
| Sunday    | Thursday |                       |
| Tuesday   | Friday   | 9.00 A.M. — 5.00 P.M. |
| Wednesday | Saturday |                       |

(For groups Saturday only).

### Entrance fee

|          |                       |
|----------|-----------------------|
| Adults   | : Rp. 50,-/per person |
| Children | : Rp. 25,-/per person |

### Guided tours

Lectures and guided tours are organized on Saturdays only; requests for these can be made 3 days in advance for groups of at least 50 people. For more detailed information apply to the Information Section.

### Restaurant

The Museum restaurant is located on the right hand side of the buildings.

### Parking

Parking space is available in the front lawn of the building. The parking fee is Rp. 50,-

### Public transport

Bus : Cililitan — Grogol line

Taxicabs

### Security

Visitors are requested to comply with the directions given by the museum guards.

**FIRST  
BUILDING**

## THE HALL OF STANDARDS

The Hall of Standards is considered the heart of the Museum. This hall presents symbolically the central mission of the Armed Forces since its formation in 1945 up till the present time. In front of us is an enlarged marble replica of the *Proklamasi*, our Declaration of Independence. The *Proklamasi* represents the supreme value of our nation, namely National Independence.

The central mission of the Armed Forces is to defend our National Independence. The Armed Forces are represented by replicas of the standards of the Armed Forces and that of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Police. And also the four Area Defence Commands: the National Strategic Command and the National Air Defence Command. On the other side you can see the national coat of arms, and the emblems of the services, the Army, Navy, Air Force and Police.

## THE FIRST DIORAMA HALL

The independence proclamation (17th of August 1945)

At 10.30 o'clock Japanese occupation time in Java (or at 10:00 o'clock West Indonesia Time), at the premises of 56 Jalan Pegangsaan Timur (at present Jalan Proklamasi), Mr. Sukarno with Mr. Mohammad Hatta at his side, read the text of the Independence Proclamation. There after followed the hoisting of the Red and White flag of Indonesia accompanied by the National Anthem *Indonesia Raya*. Present at this Independence Proclamation ceremony were (among others) part of the members of the Preparatory Committee for the Independence of Indonesia, the Mayor of Jakarta, the youth and the citizens of Jakarta in general.

The formation of the People's Security Body (*Badan Keamanan Rakyat*)

On the 22nd of August 1945 the Preparatory Committee for the Independence of Indonesia decided that a People's Security Body would be established instead of a National Army. On the evening of 23rd of August President Sukarno announced the decision to the people of Indonesia through a national radio broadcast. Immediately the youth of Indonesia utilized the People's Security Body as a vehicle for its struggle, so that in actual fact the People's Security Body became an armed fighting corps of the youth. They were fighting to wrest power from the Japanese in various parts of Indonesia.

### **The various struggle organizations**

The Government's decision not to form a National Army did not satisfy a certain section of the youth. They did not join the People's Security Body, instead they formed various struggle organizations. At 10th-11th of November 1945 representatives of the various struggle organizations met at a youth congress held in Mataram Hall, Yogyakarta. This drama shows the moment when the delegation of Surabaya took leave to return to the battlefield.



**The Independence Proclamation**

**The Formation of the People's Security Body (BKR)**



## **The police youth in action**

At the beginning of the Indonesia's Independence, the *Keisatsutai* (Police Force) and the *Tokubetsu Keisatsutai* (The Special Police Force), founded by the Japanese Occupation Force were the only armed units that were not disarmed by the Japanese. The former members of the *Keisatsutai* and *Tokubetsu Keisatsutai* declared to stand behind the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and together with the *BAR* and the people began to fight against the Japanese to take over weapons and vital objectives in Jakarta, Sukabumi, Magelang, Yogyakarta, Surakarta, Surabaya and other places. The attack on the *Kempetai* (Japanese Military Police) headquarters in Surabaya exemplifies the courage and spirit of the police youth.

## **The establishment of the People's Security Army (TKR) (5th of October 1945)**

After 1½ months of Independence, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia felt that a national army was urgently needed, for the Allied Forces, including the Dutch troops, were undermining the sovereignty of the Republic of Indonesia. On October the 5th, 1945, the President announced the establishment of the National Army with the name of People's Security Army, *Tentara Keamanan Rakyat (TKR)*. From that moment, the People's Security Army was established throughout Indonesia. One of the inauguration ceremonies is shown here.

## **The battle of Surabaya (10th of November 1945)**

On October 1945 the Allied forces landed in Surabaya. They promised not to interfere with the internal affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. As the British did not keep their promise, incidents broke out that deteriorated into a battle. In one of those armed clashes Brig. Gen. Mallaby was killed. The Commander of the Allied forces for East Java, Maj. Gen. Mansergh issued an ultimatum that the population of Surabaya including its authorities should hand over all weapons in their possession before 6 a.m. on 10 November 1945. This ultimatum was ignored by the people of Surabaya. On the 10th November 1945 the British opened their attack on land, at sea and in the air. This diorama shows engagements in Surabaya that occurred in the vicinity of the "Red Bridge".



## THE GENERAL SOEDIRMAN ROOM

The General Soedirman Room, dedicated to the memory of the late General Soedirman, our first Commander-in-Chief of the Military Forces. Soedirman was an elementary-school teacher during the Dutch colonial period and he was also active in the boy scout movement. When the Japanese conquered Indonesia in the midst of World War II, they formed an Indonesian auxiliary army in which Soedirman received his commission with the rank of major. He was soon known for his cool, balanced leadership. When the Indonesian Revolution broke out in 1945, Soedirman formed the local regiment with himself as commander. He was soon entrusted with the leadership of the newly formed 5th Division with the rank of Colonel. Colonel Soedirman achieved fame as a tactical commander at the Battle of Ambarawa (about which you will see a diorama). When shortly thereafter a conference was held to establish the central leadership of the Military Forces, Colonel Soedirman was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Military Forces by all local commanders present.

General Soedirman's memory is particularly cherished because of his leadership during the second Dutch military action, when Yogyakarta, the revolutionary capital, was occupied by enemy forces, and the President and Vice President of the Republic were captured. Although Soedirman was gravely ill (he was being treated for consumption for some months and was recuperating at his home at that time) he joined his troops who were pushed out of the city by the superiorly equipped Dutch forces. His presence among his troops gave them the necessary inspiration to carry on the seemingly hopeless struggle. The endurance of the Military Forces and Police under the overall command of General Soedirman finally created a military stalemate and forced the Dutch to admit that they were unable to destroy the Indonesian Military Forces and break the resistance of the Indonesian people.

In the room you can see General Soedirman's carrying chair in which he was transported by his guards when Dutch patrols came near his mobile headquarters during the guerilla. In that chair he had travelled for miles and miles through heat and rain and danger to lead his soldiers.

When the government of the Republic was restored to Yogyakarta in the middle of the year 1949, General Soedirman returned to the city. But his health had deteriorated rapidly during the guerilla, and he soon broke down completely. Only six months later he died, mourned by the whole nation.



The all - Indonesia youth Congress in Yogyakarta 1945

This photo-display shows several glimpses of his career as Commander-in-Chief. Perhaps you can recognise here President Soeharto who was then Lieutenant Colonel and commander of the 10th Brigade operating around Yogyakarta.

In this vitrine, you can see his sword, his badges of rank and badge of office and his bag. And here are also his decorations and medals, all awarded posthumously.



## THE GENERAL OERIP ROOM

The next room is the General Oerip Room. General Oerip Soemohardjo was our first Chief of Staff of the Military Forces, appointed a couple of weeks after the official formation of the Military Forces. Oerip was a career officer in the colonial Dutch army and was retired as Major shortly before the outbreak of the Pacific war. The government of the Republic appointed him Chief of Staff and entrusted him with the task of organizing the Armed Forces. Although he was almost twenty years older than General Soedirman and had a better military training, he did not show any embarrassment in serving as Soedirman's Chief of Staff when the latter was elected Commander-in-Chief. Although he suffered from ill health, he worked day and night to overcome the initial disarray within the newly formed Military Forces. He died in the midst of the war of Independence.

The Battle of Surabaya



In this photo-display you can see several scenes from his career as Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces. And in this vitrine you can see a pair of oil lamps which he frequently used when working very late at his home during blackout. And here also are his watch and distance-meter as well as an old road map. His decorations and medals were also awarded posthumously. General Oerip's personal motto was: "Purity and Courage."

## THE INSIGNIA ROOM

In this room you can see :

- corps insignia
- badges

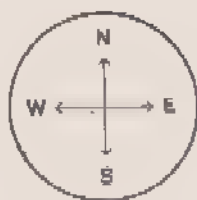
from the Republic of Indonesia as well as from foreign countries.

## THE DECORATIONS ROOM

The decorations in this room are from the Republic of Indonesia and from foreign countries. The Indonesian decorations are real, while the foreign ones are presented in the form of pictures. There are three kinds of Indonesian decorations, namely, medals, campaign medals and unit pennants.

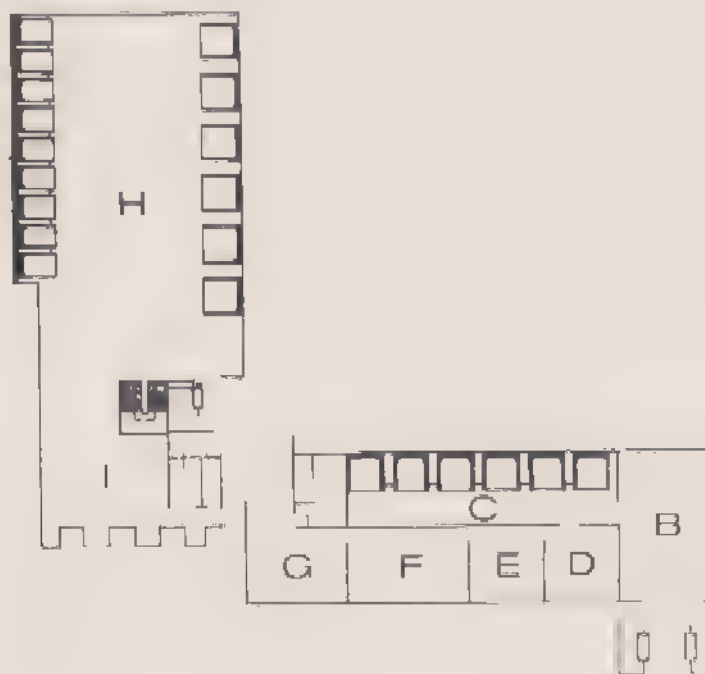


**SECOND  
BUILDING**

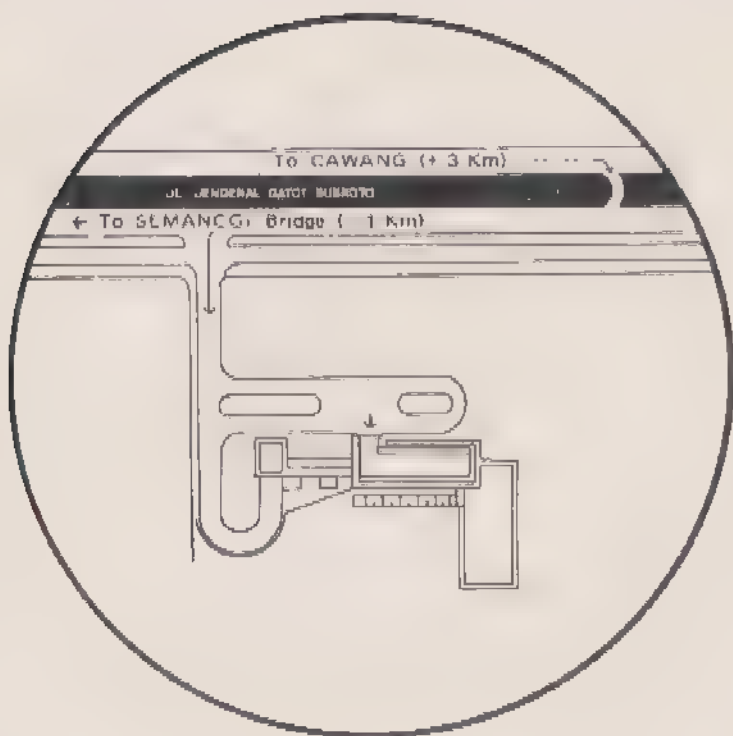


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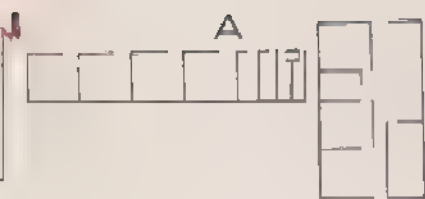
- A. Museum Office Rooms**
- B. Hall of Standards**
- C. First Diorama Hall**
- D. General Soedirman Room**
- E. General Oerip Soemohardjo Room**
- F. Insignia Room**
- G. Decorations Room**
- H. Second Diorama Hall**
- I. Lobby**







## Ground plan and map of the Museum.



## THE SECOND DIORAMA HALL

### The 5 Days' Battle at Semarang (15th–20th October 1945)

On October 14th, 1945, the youth of Semarang moved to take over the public buildings that were still occupied by the Japanese, especially in the borough of Candi Baru. The next day, Maj. Gen. Nakamura, the Japanese commander, left his stronghold at Jatingaleh to attack the city of Semarang from three directions. Many Indonesian were arrested. This incident incited the resistance of the Youth organised in the *TKR*, the Special Police, the struggle organizations, etc so that fierce fighting broke out in various parts of the city. The Japanese succeeded in reconquering the city but suffered heavy losses. Several kampungs were burnt, the Governor of Central Java was abducted and was forced to announce a ceasefire. During this battle about 2 000 young men were killed on the Indonesian side. This diorama shows the efforts of the Japanese to recapture Hotel du Pavillon which was defended to the death by our freedom fighters.

### The camp – kitchen

The struggle to defend our Independence was supported by all strata of the society, and the struggle was not only done on the fronts. The women who were on the home front actively erected camp kitchens for the benefit of the troops on the front lines. The camp kitchens were expressions of the integration between the Armed Forces and the People.

### The Battle of Ambarawa (12th–15th December 1945).

As a result of negotiations between President Sukarno and Brigadier General Bethel at Magelang, the British forces were to be withdrawn to the Ambarawa fortress. During that scheduled withdrawal, the British tried to occupy two villages around Ambarawa. Under the command of regimental commander Lieutenant Colonel Isdunan, the Indonesian forces tried to recapture those two villages and Lieut-Colonel Isdiman was killed in the battle. Col. Sudirman, the Commander of the 5th Division of which Isdiman's regiment was a part, took command and led the struggle to free Ambarawa. Additional troops came from Magelang, Yogyakarta, Purwokerto, Semarang, Solo, Salatiga and other cities. For 4 days and nights the battle raged until, with heavy losses, the enemy's troops withdrew to Semarang and Ambarawa was regained. This diorama shows one of the battle scenes around Margoagung street in Ambarawa.

## **The establishment of the provincial government of the Republic of Indonesia in Sumatra**

When T.M. Hasan, who was appointed governor of Sumatra, arrived in Medan from Jakarta carrying the news about the Proclamation of Independence, a detachment of Dutch troops was already in the city, creating an unfavourable situation for the establishment of the provincial government of the Republic of Indonesia in Sumatra.

On September the 30th, 1945 a meeting was held at the Taman Siswa school building which succeeded in persuading the governor of Sumatra T.M. Hasan to make public the information about Independence already proclaimed by Sukarno and Hatta. On the 6th of October 1945 the long awaited announcement was made at the Fukuraido Square (now Lapangan Merdeka) as seen in this diorama

**Inauguration Ceremony of  
the Provincial Government of Sumatra, 1945**



### **Bandung a sea of fire (24th March, 1946)**

The ultimatum issued by the British on March the 23rd 1946, that the Army of the Republic of Indonesia and other armed freedom fighters must be evacuated from the city of Bandung to a radius of 11 kilometers, was not heeded by the Indonesian side. Based on mutual agreement the city of Bandung was at first occupied jointly, the northern part was occupied by the British, while the southern part was occupied by the Indonesian forces. The above ultimatum was clearly a violation of the agreement. The Indonesian troops refused to withdraw, but later on the government in Jakarta ordered them to leave Bandung. Then the Indonesian troops had to comply, although with a heavy heart. On March 23rd, 1946 at midnight, the troops applied the scorched earth tactics to deny the enemy the use of public buildings and installations and then left the city. This diorama shows the troops on a hilltop looking back to the "sea of fire" which was south Bandung.

### **The sea-borne expedition from Banyuwangi to Bali (4th April 1946)**

One of the first sea-borne operations was the expedition conducted by the 10th Naval Base from Banyuwangi to Bali, which purpose was to establish a beach head for the Navy in Dutch-occupied Bali. The expedition consisted of 3 groups: the first group was led by the commander of the Sunda Kecil Regiment, Lieut. Col. I Gusti Ngurah Rai, the second group consisted of marines under Capt. Markadi, and the third group were troops from the 10th Naval Base, under Naval Lieutenant (s.g.) Waroka. The expedition which only used fishing boats, met a patrol of the Dutch Navy consisting of motor-boats. After an exchange of fire the group succeeded in landing safely in Bali. After the landing Lieutenant Waroka was killed in one of the engagements with the Dutch.

### **The lowering of the Dutch flag from the top of the "Yamato" Hotel Surabaya (18th of September 1945)**

In the month of September 1945 the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in Surabaya announced a prohibition to hoist any other flag except the Red and White flag of Indonesia. When on September the 18th, 1945, a couple of Dutch people, who were former Japanese war prisoners flew the Dutch flag over the Yamato Hotel, it caused a furore among the Indonesian youth. A crowd began to gather in front of the hotel and two young men climbed the roof of the hotel to lower the Dutch flag. The Dutchmen tried to

prevent it and a fight ensued. Finally the Dutch flag was lowered, its blue colour torn off and hoisted again as a Red and White flag.

#### **The seizure of Bugis airbase near Malang (18th of September 1945)**

After the *BKR* managed to take over the city of Malang, their attention turned to the Bugis airbase. The airbase was attacked by the *BKR* and others, and finally occupied. A number of air planes of several types were seized. Those planes later on became the first assets of the Air Wing of the National Army. This event is representative of similar events in various parts of the Republican territory.

#### **The Battle of Bogor (18th of December 1945)**

When the Indonesian authorities refused the British demand to surrender the presidential palace in Bogor, the British reacted by seizing the palace by force and lowering the Red and White flag of Indonesia which flew over it. Our troops retaliated by attacking the positions of the enemy around Kota Paris, Pabaton, the Botanical Garden and the Palace. The next day the enemy brought in reinforcements from Jakarta. Their arrival was resisted violently by our side. This diorama shows the engagement around the Banten street (now Captain Muslihat street).

The Battle of Bogor



### **The Battle of Cibadak (8th of December 1945)**

On December the 8th, 1945, a British military convoy escorted by several tanks moved in the direction of Bandung. At the village of Bayong-kokosan, of the district of Parungkuda (Cibadak), this convoy was attacked by our troops and fighting broke out. At one stage of the fighting our troops succeeded in paralysing several tanks and destroying several trucks with enemy troops. The Royal Air Force there upon flattened several villages near Cibadak with rockets and napalm and broke our resistance. At that time our troops had only small-arms and no air cover. That event became a subject for debate in the British Parliament.

### **Suppressing the local coup at Pekalongan ("Three Regions Affair") (15th of December 1945)**

The so-called "Three Regions Affair" was instigated by a communist group under one Sarjio who usurped the power of the legal local government. The act disturbed the delicate structure of the four months old Republic, and therefore swift action was taken to restore the legitimate government. The diorama shows Sarjio being arrested by a task force consisting of army and police units.

### **The battle of Kruëng Panjoë, Aceh (24 November 1945)**

This battle happened when the Japanese troops moved into Aceh to restore the *status quo* in the name of the Allies. Freedom fighters were mobilised at the village of Kruëng Panjoë near the town of Bireuen to intercept the invaders. The Japanese, who travelled by train, were stopped by breaking up the rails in front and behind the train. When fired upon by the Indonesians, the Japanese troops were compelled to descend from the train and to hide in the ditches of the rice-fields. But our troops inundated the ditches with water from an irrigation reservoir. Realising the hopelessness of the situation, the Japanese surrendered.

### **The Expedition to the Molucca's**

In carrying out the programme of spreading the message of Independence to the farthest corners of Indonesia, on 3rd March 1946, sixty members of the naval branch of the Army undertook an expedition to the Molucca's, most of them being natives of the Molucca's. They departed from Tegal (Central Java) with two wooden vessels of the Kiri Maru type (60 tons, 155 HP engine). These vessels named *Sindoro* and *Semeru*,

were commanded respectively by Ibrahim Saleh, Jos Sudarso, and Muljadi, all naval officers. The aim of the *Semeru* was the North Moluccas, while that of the *Sindoro* was the South Moluccas. During the voyage many difficulties had to be faced, among others engine trouble, food shortage and the necessity of avoiding Dutch patrols. The mission was reasonably accomplished, the *Sindoro* succeeded to land its crew on Namlea (Buru), and the *Semeru* on the island of Ambalau. But during its further voyage in the direction of Pru (on the island of Ceram) the *Sindoro* was captured by the Dutch. The *Semeru* however returned safely to Java. The diorama shows the landing at Namlea.

#### The Seaborne expedition to the Moluccas



#### The 5 Days and 5 Nights battle at Palembang (1st January 1947)

When the Indonesian troops were not prepared to comply with the Dutch demand to leave the city of Palembang, the Dutch tried to use force to push them out. This resulted in a fierce battle lasting for 5 days and nights, after which the Indonesians were forced to withdraw, owing to the Dutch superiority in arms. This diorama shows the battle around Palembang fortress and the great mosque.

#### The village alarm system

This diorama is a tribute to the village youth with their early warning system using the wooden "tong-tong". A chain of *tong tongs* can warn the army units of the movement of an enemy patrol many miles away. This village alarm system proved to be very helpful to the guerilla troops during the War of Independence.



## THE SMALL ARMS ROOM

This room is located below the second diorama hall. In this hall you will find small arms which were ever used during and after the Indonesian War of Independence.

## OTHER OFFICE ROOMS

Next to the small arms room are a documentation centre and a storeroom. The documents are about the history of the Indonesian armed struggle for Independence and the part the Armed Forces played in that struggle.



## EXPLANATION FOR THE RELIEFS AT THE ENTRANCE

### Relief on the wall of the main entrance hall

1. The relief on the right hand side of the door (looking from inside) The relief portrays *Jabekan Astina* or the reclamation of Astina. Carved in Balinese style. Figures from left to right : Danghyang Drona, 2. Patih Sangkum, 3. Adipati Karna, 4. Rest Blusma, 5. Prabu Drestarata and 6. Prabu Duryudana.

Story A royal meeting was held at the court of Astina in anticipation of the arrival of envoys sent by the Pandawa to negotiate the reclamation of the said Kingdom. There were two factions which held different views on the matter. Danghyang Drona, Rest Blusma and Prabu Drestarata believed that half of the Kingdom of Astina should be transferred back to the Pandawas to preserve peace in the country. However this view was rejected by Patih Sangkum and Adipati Karna who even accused the elders of being traitors and cowards who hid behind the pretext of peace.

2. Relief on the left hand side of the door (looking from inside) The relief depicts *Karna Landing* or Karna in contest, carved in Balinese style. Figures from left to right : 1. Adipati Karna, 2. Prabu Salya, 3. Hanoman, 4. Prabu Kresna and 5. Arjuna.

Story The contest was between Adipati Karna and Arjuna who met in the war of Bharatayuda. Karna is shown releasing his arrow standing on a chariot driven by Prabu Salya. The arrow almost beheaded Arjuna but he was saved at the last moment by Prabu Kresna, the driver of Arjuna's chariot, who instantly sank the wheels of the carriage by his supernatural power, so that the arrow only grazed Arjuna's diadem. At the same time Hanoman reached "Moksha" a state whereby someone enters a perfect death because his duty had been fulfilled.





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