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Ghost Obliges

KUALA LUMPUR, Saturday — Deserted Jenderam will be a burning township in a few days when the R.A.F. go into action and raze to the ground an area whose inhabitants supported bandit gangs of South Selangor and Negeri Sembilan.

Workers Reject 10% COLA Rise

Standard Staff Correspondent

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — The 10 per cent increase in the cost of living allowance for government employees announced by the Federation Government, following the Singapore Government's action, has been rejected by Government Workers Unions in the Federation.

They charge that the award has been "naive" and "flippanc", and bears no relation to the present level of cost of living.

The aptitude of the Federation Government to be depending always on the Singapore Government for a lead has also been criticised by the workers.

It is understood the Malayan Trade Union Council and the labour group of the Federal Legislative Council will be approached by various government employees unions in the Federation to take up the matter with higher authorities, and also to urge a special urgent meeting of the Federal Legislative Council to consider the report of the Joint Cost of Living Allowance Committee.

In the meantime the Government Services Staff Council will call an urgent meeting next week to hold fresh discussions on the whole question of salaries and COLAs.

The Malayan Trade Union Council office has been inundated with protests and appeals requesting that strong representations be lodged with Government against the inadequate allowance.

Mr. A. Arokiasamy, President of the Government Services Staff Council, said today that Government had completely ignored the hardships being suffered by its employees, especially those in the lower income groups.

Even a minimum of \$100 per month increase in the cost of living allowance for the lower grade employees could not reasonably be regarded as

The action on Jenderam was a "top secret" and instructions to those who were taking part in one of the biggest drives to remove active bandit supporters were not issued till the eleventh hour. This contributed greatly to the success of the operation.

From an early hour yesterday Security Forces and others were busily engaged in moving the belongings of squatters who on the previous day had been sent in two special trains to resettlement camps in Kluang.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The properties of those evicted are all being dumped in a former cinema hall in Kajang for sale by public auction in the next few days.

PWD labourers and those from neighbouring estates helped in the removal of property, expected to be completed today.

The inhabitants of Jenderam who were mainly Malays, were rubber tappers and padi planters and as a result they had large quantities of these commodities when they were surprised at dawn on Thursday by the Security Forces.

While they all docilely complied with the orders given to them, many showed distinct signs of nervousness. They wondered what fate had in store for them and their worried looks only disappeared when they were brought to the railway station at Kajang and put into wagons.

NOTHING LEFT

Not till then did they know that they were Kluang-bound and not being sent to prison for their pro-bandit activities.

Nothing of any value will have been left in Jenderam by tomorrow.

The Veterinary Department has helped to remove all livestock. Food stocks have also been taken away and will be sold later.

The PWD supplied a team of technical assistants and a labour force of about 200 to help in the "wiping out" of Jenderam.

They have salvaged several hundreds of corrugated iron sheets, planks and furniture with a resale value of about \$8,000.



Mr. S. R. Perumal, Joint Secretary of the Government Workers' Union said that the 10 per cent increased grant with a minimum of 49 cents a day was most disappointing to daily paid Government employees.

MISS Elsie Lean, guest artist of Radio Malaya, Penang, who won first prize in the Fancy Dress Social held at Piccadilly Hotel Penang.

The United Planting Association of Malaya will take charge of the disposal of rubber stocks. The whole proceeds from the sale of property salvaged, will be distributed on a pro rata basis to the inhabitants.

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