

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910466930503321
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Titolo	Templer and the road to Malayan independence : the man and his time // Leon Comber
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Singapore : , : Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	981-4620-11-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxvi, 239 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	959.5104
Soggetti	Colonial administrators - Malaysia - Malaya Marshals - Great Britain Electronic books. Malaya History Malayan Emergency, 1948-1960 Malaya Politics and government
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- LIST OF TABLES -- FOREWORD / Shamsul, A.B. -- ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS -- ABBREVIATIONS -- Map of Malaya -- PROLOGUE -- 1. THE BACKGROUND -- 2. THE EARLY DAYS -- 3. THE TEMPLER PLAN -- 4. Victor Purcell and Francis Carnell, Honorary MCA Political Advisers, August-September 1952 -- 5. General Sir Gerald Templer, the MCA, and the Kinta Valley Home Guard (1952-54) -- 6. THE CASE OF LEE MENG - A CAUSE CÉLÈBRE -- 7. THE ROAD TO SELF-GOVERNMENT -- 8. CONCLUSION -- Appendix A. Directive to General Sir Gerald Templer by the British Government -- Appendix B. General Sir Gerald Templer: A Short Bibliographical Note -- BIBLIOGRAPHY -- INDEX -- ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Sommario/riassunto	Dr Comber's account of General Templer's administration in Malaya as High Commissioner and Director of Operations (1952-54) during the Malayan Emergency departs from the usually accepted orthodox assessment of his time in Malaya by focusing on the political and socioeconomic aspects of his governance rather than the military. In doing so, Dr Comber has relied mainly on primary and other first-hand sources, including the confidential reports sent from Malaya by the

Australian Commission to the Australian government in Canberra, and the private papers of some of the leading Malayan politicians of the time with whom Templer had dealings which have been deposited in the ISEAS Library, Singapore, many of which have not been used before. The evidence and facts that Dr Comber marshals in this study reflect well the reservations that were often felt about General Templer's authoritarian form of government. While he was a good general and had an impressive military record, his administration in Malaya was marred by a lack of understanding of the background to Malaya's history and the subtleties that are inherent in its culture and way of life which would have enabled him to come to terms more easily with the aspirations of the Malayan people for self-government and independence.
