

# Emergency Government of Lampung Residency during Kraai Operation, 1949-1950

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**Abstract:** During the independence war of Indonesia, particularly, Kraai Operation or in the military base, also known as the Dutch Military Aggression II in the Lampung Residency, made many contributions to maintaining state sovereignty. The revolution in the Lampung region was part of the Sumatra Province, namely the Lampung Residency. This study aimed to find out the impact of the Kraai Operation. The research used historical research methods. We conducted the research in three regions once the Lampung Residency's emergency capital focused on politics, the military, and economics. During the Kraai Operation period or Dutch Military Aggression II 1949-1950, Lampung Residency led by Gele Harun Nasution issued political, military, and economic policies to counteract the Kraai Operation. He moved the Government and Defense, formed the North Front, Central Front, and Southern Front, and coordinated the camps in the Lampung Residency. Moreover, he printed emergency money for the Residency of Lampung to prevent the spread of the Dutch currency, which affected inflation.

**Abstrak:** Selama perang kemerdekaan Indonesia, khususnya Operasi Kraai atau Agresi Militer Belanda II, Karesidenan Lampung banyak memberikan kontribusi untuk menjaga kedaulatan negara. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui dampak dari Operasi Kraai di wilayah Keresidenan Lampung. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian sejarah. Penelitian ini dilakukan di tiga wilayah yang pernah menjadi ibu kota darurat Karesidenan Lampung yang fokus pada bidang politik, militer, dan ekonomi. Pada masa Operasi Kraai atau Agresi Militer Belanda II 1949-1950, Karesidenan Lampung yang dipimpin oleh Gele Harun Nasution mengeluarkan tiga kebijakan yakni politik, militer, dan ekonomi untuk menangkal Operasi Kraai. Ia menggerakkan Pemerintahan dan Pertahanan, membentuk Front Utara, Front Tengah dan Front Selatan serta mengkoordinasikan kamp-kamp di Karesidenan Lampung, dan mencetak uang darurat untuk Karesidenan Lampung untuk mencegah penyebaran mata uang Belanda yang berdampak pada inflasi besar di wilayah republik.

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## INTRODUCTION

Lampung is located on the southernmost tip of Sumatra Island and opposite each other directly opposite the Banten Residency and Sunda Strait in Java. It makes Lampung a promising area, both geographically and economically. It also made the Netherlands make Lampung one of the targets in its actions during the independence revolution, both the Dutch I and II Military Aggression (Haikal et al., 2013).

During the independence, the Lampung region was part of the Sumatra Province, namely the Lampung Residency (Djemen et al., 1972). Based on the Decree of the Governor of Sumatra domiciled in Medan dated May 17, 1946, No. 113, Lampung Residency had three regencies and 11 *kawedanan*. Each *kawedanan* had several sub-districts, each sub-district divided into several clans. However, the Clan sys-



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tem was removed and became a *Negeri* system (Warganegara, 2013).

The administrative division in the Lampung Residency consisted of North Lampung Regency, which included the *Kawedanan* Menggala, *Kawedanan* Kotabumi, *Kawedanan* Way Kanan, and *Kawedanan* Krui. Furthermore, Central Lampung Regency has of *Kawedanan* Sukadana, *Kawedanan* Metro, and *Kawedanan* Way Seputih. Then, South Lampung Regency consists of *Kawedanan* Kalianda, *Kawedanan* Telukbetung, *Kawedanan* Pringsewu, and *Kawedanan* Kota Agung.

During the independence revolution, particularly the Kraai Operation or in the military base, also known as Dutch Military Aggression II in the Lampung Residency, made many contributions to maintain state sovereignty. Kraai Operation, or Dutch Military Aggression II, began on December 19, 1948. Kraai Operation was initiated by attacking several areas in Yogyakarta, the capital city of Indonesia at that time. Soekarno, Mohammad Hatta, Sjahrir, and several other important national figures were arrested (Karabinos, 2013).

The fall of the country's capital caused the formation of the Republic of Indonesia Emergency Government in Sumatra, led by Sjafrudin Prawiranegara (Imran, 2003; Kahin, 2018). Like the previous incident in Dutch Military Aggression I, implementing the agreed-upon Renville Agreement resulted in a deadlock (Ricklefs, 2008). Efforts to resolve the solution the Three Nations Commission offered failed because there needed to be an agreement between Indonesia and the Netherlands.

Indonesia, through Muhammad Hatta, remained firm in defending Indonesian sovereignty while the Dutch continued to seek ways to overtake Indonesia. Indonesia and the Netherlands sent a memorandum to the Three Nations Commission with the same content regarding accusations against both parties that they did not respect the talks in the Renville Agreement. It made relations between the two countries worse (Agung, 1983). Finally, the failure to interpret the results of the Renville Agreement, the end of the same action, needed to be interpreted by the Linggarjati Agreement. Towards midnight on December 18, 1948, the Mayor of the City of the Netherlands, Dr. Beel, announced that the Netherlands would not comply with the results of the Renville Agreement (Nasution, 1979). Early December 19, 1948, a Dutch air force bombarded Maguwo Airport and a few critical buildings in Yogyakarta as the capital. This event began the Dutch Military Aggression II.

The bombing continued with the air force jumping. In a short time, the Dutch military could occupy Yogyakarta, the capital of the Republic of Indonesia (Kusuma & Elson, 2011).

The fall of the country's capital caused the formation of the Republic of Indonesia Emergency Government in Sumatra, led by Sjafrudin Prawiranegara (Zed, 1997). It also happened in other areas of Indonesia, including in the Lampung Residency. When we see the purpose of holding the Dutch Military Aggression II, a sovereign seems to differ from the aim of Dutch Military Aggression I, which wanted to control the economic resources (Kahin, 2018). This time, the objective is to destroy Indonesia's sovereignty and re-control the territory of Indonesia by carrying out military attacks on several vital areas to show the international community that Indonesia no longer exists.

The Dutch deliberately made the condition of the central region of Indonesia insecure. Under these conditions, the Dutch hoped the Indonesian people would surrender and comply with the Dutch's ultimatum. In addition, the Netherlands wants to show the world that the Republic of Indonesia and its military no longer exist.

The Dutch Military II Aggression did not only affect Yogyakarta (Nasution, 1979) but also impacted other regions in almost all corners of Indonesia, especially Java, and Sumatra. Sumatera Province also contributes to maintaining independence at the time of the Dutch Military Aggression II. Dutch Military Aggression II began in southern Sumatra in December 1948. The Dutch attacked the Jambi Residency for the first time on December 28, 1948. A day later, the Dutch attacked the Residency of Palembang on December 29, 1948, and in the Residency of Lampung on January 1, 1949, and the Residency of Bengkulu assaulted on January 5, 1949 (Alian, 2013; Panji & Suriana, 2014).

The government and military in each region made a defense strategy to defend the independence of the Republic of Indonesia. Moving the capital from Yogyakarta to Bukittinggi was not only carried out by the central government. The same happened in several Sumatra Province residential areas (Imran, 2003). We will discuss one of the areas in this paper is the Lampung Residency. All components participated in the efforts ranging from the leader of this revolution. The people and the military defense area take over in an attempt to maintain the independence of Indonesia.

Although there have been several studies regarding Dutch military aggression in the Lampung Residency, research on why Gele Harun Nasution

as an acting resident, chose locations for the emergency capital is still not done. This study attempts to analyze why the area of the emergency capital became the emergency capital during the Dutch military aggression II. This article discusses the economic and military aspects that support the sustainability of the Lampung Residency as part of the Republic of Indonesia.

### Literature Review

Lampung Province establishes on March 18, 1964, based on Government Regulation Number 3 of 1964, which later became Law Number 14 of 1964. The formation of Lampung Province became an integral part of the history of the Lampung Residency. Because before Lampung became a province, Lampung was a resident of the province of South Sumatra. After the proclamation of Indonesian independence on August 17, 1945, the Residency of Lampung merged into the Province of Sumatra based on a letter of determination by the Preparatory Committee for Indonesian Independence (PPKI) on August 19, 1945. The Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia had eight provinces: Sumatra, West Java, Central Java, East Java, Sunda Kecil, Maluku, Sulawesi, and Kalimantan. Each province oversees several residencies, and each residency consists of several districts. As in Java, gradually, in each region of Sumatra, a Regional National Committee was established whose position was regulated by the Governor of Sumatra Decree dated April 12, 1946, No. 2 / MGS, which was following Law No. 1 of 1945.

Lampung was divided from *Onder Afdeling* (Craandijk, 1917), headed by a controller led by the Dutch (Broersma, 1916). The resident of Lampung is domiciled in Tanjungkarang-Telukbetung, the capital of the Lampung Residency (Hidayat & Fogg, 2018). The division of Indonesian territory into residencies has existed since the Dutch colonial era, divided into several residencies in Java. The Lampung Residency has been around since Lampung has not become its province. During the independence revolution, the acting resident of the Lampung Residency had not appropriately explored, so Gele Harun Nasution was still not categorized as a National Hero.

The independence revolution (1945-1950) was the most brilliant era in Indonesian history; extraordinary sacrifices demonstrated Indonesia's right to independence by the Indonesian people. The revolution as a means of attaining independence is a central story in Indonesian history and is a vital element in the perceptions of the Indonesian

nation itself. All the uncertain attempts to find new identities, for unity in the face of foreign powers, and a more just social order finally bore fruit in the post-World War II period.

For the first time in the lives of most Indonesians, everything coercion that originated from foreign powers disappeared suddenly. The national tradition that the Indonesian people fought side by side during the revolution is only a bit of a historical foundation. The independence revolution was an armed and diplomatic conflict between the newly established Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, which the Allies represented by Britain assisted. This series of events occurred from the proclamation of Indonesian independence on August 17, 1945, to the recognition of Indonesian independence by the Kingdom of the Netherlands on December 29, 1949 (Ibrahim, 1983; Ricklefs, 2008).

For about four years, several bloody events occurred sporadically. In addition, there were political clashes and two international interventions. In this incident, the Dutch troops could only control the big cities on the islands of Java and Sumatra but failed to take over control of villages and suburbs (Pratama, 2018). Due to intense armed resistance and diplomatic struggle, the Dutch finally recognized Indonesia's independence.

The independence revolution is the foundation or starting point of the Indonesian revolution. Revolution has an essential meaning in Indonesian history, so it has received the attention of various important figures such as Sukarno, Hatta, and Sjahrir. The word revolution has a unique meaning in Indonesia. Political, socioeconomic, and cultural conditions caused the notion of revolution to be closely related to independence. There is no freedom without revolution and no revolution without independence.

From a state perspective, during the revolution, a war broke out between the independent Indonesian state, namely the Republic of Indonesia, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands as opponents. Whatever the Dutch reasons for saying that Indonesia's independence is illegitimate, the fact is that Indonesia proclaimed its independence to the whole world on August 17, 1945.

After independence, the Dutch came to try to eradicate sovereignty. As a result, there was a war between the two countries. Because of the war, from Indonesia's perspective, it aims to maintain its independence, called the war of independence. At the end of 1949, the Netherlands officially recognized the sovereignty of the Republic of Indonesia. Based

on the agreement results at the round table conference, the Dutch must resolve the problem in Indonesia immediately. In the war of independence, the Netherlands finally lost with the consequences of the Round Table Conference. Based on this view, 1945-1949 is called the "War of Independence" or *Bersiaptijd* or time of danger (Frederick, 2012).

During the period of the physical revolution (1945-1950), Indonesia was in a state of "war emergency" (Pratama & Kamsori, 2015). These conditions directly or indirectly influenced the development of the social and cultural life of the Indonesian people during the period of the physical revolution. The instability of social life appeared in various places in Indonesia. This instability arose due to the shock culture experienced by the Indonesian people after the proclamation of independence.

Sumatra has a population that is not as dense as Java. The census held by the Dutch East Indies government in 1930 stated that the population of Sumatra was 8,238,570, and the population in Lampung itself, based on the 1930 census, was 361,563 (ANRI, 2004) while the population of Java and Madura was 41,719,5244. During colonial times, Sumatra saw all foreign powers trying to claim resources Sumatra. The Dutch government established dominance in the ports of Padang and West Sumatra, and the British controlled Bengkulu. American traders monopolized the export of spices from Aceh and China-controlled tin in Bangka and Belitung. Oil and coffee are also essential commodities in Sumatra.

The Indonesian Independence Revolution occurred in various regions, including Sumatra, as part of Indonesia, rooted in ideas and concepts born during the national movement era. Without it, the revolution and the proclamation of independence would only be the traditional Ratu Adil movement or robbery movements like the one that erupted in March 1942 when the Dutch surrendered to Japan (Yoshimasa, 1996), and the new invaders had not yet arrived.

At the time of the proclamation, Sumatra became one province, and Medan was its capital. Teuku Muhammad Hasan was appointed to hold governor. On April 18, 1946, the Indonesian National Committee for Sumatra convened in Bukittinggi and decided that the Sumatra Province should consist of three sub-provinces: The North Sumatra, Central Sumatra, and South Sumatra Sub Provinces. The Central Sumatra Sub Province includes West Sumatra, Riau, and Jambi Residency.

In Lampung, the first attack began on January 1, 1949, when the Dutch entered the Bay of

Lampung by Kalinda to the *Oosthaven* and Telukbetung-Tanjungkarang (Tent, 2016; Verslag, 1949) or now the Port of Panjang (Bukri et al., 1998). At approximately 05.00, the Dutch warships began shelling the Port of Panjang (Anggraini et al., (2014; Nasution et al., 2015). However, due to resistance efforts from troops in the coastal area, it was only after about 06.00 WIB that the Dutch forces could land at Panjang Harbor and on the coast around Mount Kunyit, Telukbetung. The capital residency of Lampung eventually is occupied by Dutch troops on the same day. For this event, the Government of the residency and his staff retreated outside the city. After establishing the Lampung Emergency Government in Pringsewu, the Emergency Government of Lampung, led by Akhmad Akuan, was reinstated to his previous position as Regent of the Regional Head of North Lampung Regency.

The presence of the Dutch return to Indonesia, including the residency of Lampung, significantly impacted various sectors. For government affairs, the Lampung Government must often form an emergency government and move the capital to continue the government and maintain sovereignty. No less important than the policy taken by Gele Harun is the monetary policy that issued local banknotes (ORIDA) for the Lampung Residency, as discussed in this study.

## METHOD

The method is a crucial way to study because methods can solve research problems (Gottschalk, 1975). This study uses historical research methods, including heuristics, internal and external critics, interpretation, and historiography (Sjamsuddin, 2012).

In heuristics or data collection, the researcher first determines the topic and searches for sources to be discussed, namely about the events of the independence revolution precisely at the time of the Dutch Military Aggression II in 1948-1949. The relevant archives got through tracing in the National Archives of the Republic of Indonesia, Lampung Archives Bureau, the National Library of the Republic of Indonesia, and online searches through KITLV and the Australian National Library. External criticism by the researcher is made by looking at the author's background, the paper used, the font or type, language, spelling, and publisher of the book. Internal criticism aims to see the contents of the book, whether the contents are relevant to historical facts and the topic of the study. The following steps are internal and external criticism to see the authenticity and reliability of the sources obtained.

The next step is interpreting each event based

on the source obtained, the facts, and the data obtained so that it is not just a mere imagination for the researcher to list the data sources used. The comparison is made with other secondary and tertiary sources at the interpretation of the primary sources obtained. In this interpretation stage, the researcher tries to link the fact that one other fact is to get chronology and interrelated events.

The last stage in this method is historiography. Historical writing is arranged chronologically and takes into account aspects of causality. This paper chronologically studied the revolutionary period during the Second Dutch Military Aggression in Lampung Residency. From the arrival of Dutch troops in Lampung Bay, the formation of an emergency government by Gele Harun Nasution, to the return of the Lampung Residency to the Republic of Indonesia after the Round Table Conference was held.

#### **THE DUTCH ENTER THE CENTRE OF THE CAPITAL CITY OF THE RESIDENCY OF LAMPUNG**

On December 31, 1948, in the afternoon, the Indonesian Navy (ALRI) military post in Kalianda saw a convoy of ships carrying Dutch troops moving towards Panjang Port (Bukri et al., 1998). With such events, the Garuda Hitam troops under Syamun Gaharu, including troops deployed in the Navy and other elements, did not miss the existing camps and helped alert.

As mentioned above, the Dutch Military Aggression II in Lampung Residency started on January 1, 1949. On December 31, 1948, a convoy of warships and Dutch troop carriers entered the Lampung Bay area to enter Tanjungkarang through Panjang Port. Following the purpose of the Kraai Operation, the Dutch forces tried to take control of the capital city of the Lampung Residency, namely Telukbetung. Hence, the Lampung Residency suffered and could follow the orders of the Dutch.

On the morning of January 1, 1949, Dutch warships began carrying out bombards on the Port of Panjang. There was resistance from the ALRI forces led by Captain Tobing. Troops Battalion XXVI was prepared in Tanjungkarang led by First Lieutenant and Second Lieutenant KGS Zen Ismail Latif to attack, but the attack was useless because of less weaponry. In the battle situation, which did not finally balance, Telukbetung quickly controlled that day.

In critical condition, the House of Representatives of Lampung Residency issued important decisions for maintaining the Lampung Residency

rule. The Lampung House of Representatives stated that if the capital city of the Lampung Residency was attacked and occupied by the Dutch, the Lampung Resident had to move away to a safe area in Pringsewu. The executor of the government is the vice resident and must stay in Tanjungkarang to run the interim government (Pratama et al., 2013).

Unfortunately, R.A. Basyid Warganegara as a vice resident, has left Tanjungkarang to Kotabumi to meet with Regent Akhmad Akuan. Then, R. M. Rukadi Wiryaharja, a Resident of Lampung, was arrested by the Dutch and could not leave the Tanjungkarang area. The Dutch claimed that Lampung was in whole Dutch territory (Bukri et al., 1998).

Subcommander - Territorial Lampung, Lt. Col. Syamaun Gaharu, with members and several civilian government officials already in Gedong Tataan, the right group of military families and civilians displaced already in Pringsewu. At that time, the commander of the North Front and the battalions, Major Nurdin Panji in the afternoon, was already in Kotabumi by car. On the other hand, some government officials and military leaders of Lampung Residency have retreated outside the city.

The condition of the Lampung Residency did not work effectively because the Dutch arrested the resident. Temporarily acted as executor until the Regent Akhmad Akuan formed an emergency government called the Regent of North Lampung (Nasution, 2015).

On January 3, 1949, several Lampung leaders, namely the Regent of North Lampung, party leaders, military leaders, and the Lampung Residency House of Representatives, held a meeting in Pringsewu to discuss replacing residents who were unable to leave the Dutch attack area in Tanjungkarang. The meeting results formed the Lampung Residency Emergency Government to continue the struggle against the Dutch in a government position that would always move because of the conditions that demanded it.

On January 4, 1949, the Special Military Governor of South Sumatra, Adnan Kapau Gani, issued an official decree to Gele Harun Nasution as an Acting Resident (Mahya, October 10, 2015). The decision was eventually passed in Kawedanan Pringsewu one day later. There was a deadlock related to who would replace R.M. Rukadi Wiryaharja. Finally, Gele Harun Nasution, a former leader of the Indonesian Youth Force (API) and a judge at the Military Court, declared his willingness as Acting Resident and a guerrilla leader to run the Emergency Government Lampung Residency (Hidayat & Fogg, 2018).

Telukbetung, as the capital of the Lampung Residency occupied by the Netherlands, does not mean that the Lampung Residency had lost. Although the Dutch arrested R.M. Rukadi Wiryaharja, the Lampung Residency continued to fight to maintain the independence of the Republic of Indonesia with Gele Harun Nasution as an official acting resident. The Netherlands can no longer assume that if its leadership has controlled an area, the area has surrendered because the people obey or submit to their leaders without reserve.

### THE POLICY OF GELE HARUN NASUTION IN POLITICS

After establishing the Emergency Government of Lampung Residency in Pringsewu, Gele Harun ran the government from Pringsewu. Nevertheless, the transfer of the capital city to Pringsewu did not last until January 18, 1949 (Wardoyo, 2008). The Dutch adopted “The Crab Clamping” strategy, where the Dutch forces urged Lampung’s residency defense from two directions at once from Kota Agung and Gedong Tataan. It is undoubtedly a concern of Gele Harun Nasution, which in the future, feared by the Dutch forces, would soon attack Pringsewu (Pratama et al., 2013). After two weeks in

Pringsewu, the Dutch forces were already trying to enter the territory of Pringsewu. This incident forced Gele Harun Nasution, as an Acting Resident of an emergency government and guerrilla leader, along with staff sub-territorial Lampung, then move the seat of government to the Talang Padang region to avoid the attack of the Dutch troops (Nasution, 2015).

Not long ago, the central government and the defense again moved to the Ulubelu area to avoid attacks by Dutch troops. This area is very strategic because it is between two mountains. Then, Gele Harun Nasution decided to the office long enough in the Way Tenong. The selection of this region is quite understandable because it is under Bukit Barisan mountain (Steck, 1862). This location is safe and strategic because it can connect the areas of North Lampung and West Lampung, where there are ports that the Dutch have not controlled in Krui. The next government center also moved to the Bukit Kemuning area, then to Pulau Panggung, and finally to the Sumber Jaya area before Gele Harun Nasution and military leaders could return to Tanjungkarang (Nasution, 2015).

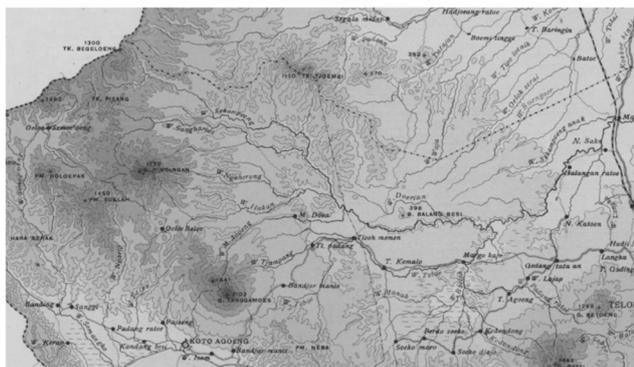
The continuous movement carried out by Gele Harun Nasution was not without reason. Gele Harun intended to avoid the Dutch’s onslaught, run the government, and lead the guerrilla path. After transferring sovereignty from the Netherlands to the Government Republic of Indonesia, Gele Harun Nasution returned to Tanjungkarang. Kota Agung became the place to transfer authority from the Netherlands to Indonesia for the Lampung Residency.

It is interesting to study Gele Harun Nasution in running the emergency government. Gele Harun Nasution chose the site based on several technical and political considerations. If observed regarding the location of the capital city of the government, which continued to move during the Dutch Military Aggression II, all regions were in the North Lampung Regency area in the Bukit Barisan Mountains region.

Technically, Bukit Barisan Mountain territories are forest areas that are unquestionably safe to run government activities in emergencies of war. We know that during the independence revolution, the Indonesian Army did a guerrilla strategy or *hit-and-run*. The suitable forests and many rivers make it difficult for the Dutch movement to enter the center of government and emergency defense. The Dutch troops would undoubtedly recognize the battlefield in the forest area (Nasution, 1984). In addition, another important consideration is also the



Figure 1. Lampung Residency Map (Source: The National Library of Australia)



**Figure 2.** Ulubelu is located between Mount Tanggamus and Mount Rendingan

availability of sufficient natural resources for food while in an emergency.

Politically, North Lampung Regency is the only area quite sterile because the Dutch have already controlled other districts, namely South Lampung and Central Lampung.

That is what made Gele Harun Nasution choose the locations mentioned above as the center of government or the emergency capital of the Lampung Residency, not merely to avoid because enemy forces had controlled other areas, in this case, the Netherlands.

Gele Harun Nasution chose North Lampung Regency as a very brilliant defense base. Because during the Dutch Military Aggression II, the Krui area in North Lampung Regency followed the administrative area on the coast of West Lampung. The Dutch did not control it, even though other regions of Lampung Residency had fallen into the hands of the Dutch.

It was considering its strategic location near Bengkulu, where the headquarters of the Special Military Command South Sumatra leader A. K. Gani (Verslag, 1949). Gele Harun Nasution chose the west coast of Lampung as the base for the military struggle and the basis for the martial law government of the Republic of Indonesia for the Lampung Residency.

Besides moving the government center and the center of defense, Gele Harun Nasution also established the Emergency Court, where he was the court judge (Nasution, 2015). The Dutch always knew the location of the government and emergency defense. The Dutch knew the area of Gele Harun because they had placed spies to infiltrate the Lampung residency's revolutionary forces. The Emergency Court once gave the death sentence for spies caught and tried by Gele Harun Nasution.

## THE POLICY OF GELE HARUN NASUTION IN THE MILITARY

Gele Harun Nasution, in addition to being an *Acting Resident*, also acted as a guerrilla leader in the Lampung Residency to establish defense bases to prevent Dutch troops from entering further into other regions. Therefore, three defense fronts were formed in the territory of the Lampung Residency, while three fronts were as follows (Saputra, 2014): (1) The Northern Front: covers the area of Kemiling and Tanjungpura. Duty to drive the Dutch troops from the north; (2) Central Front: covers the area of Way Lima, Kedondong, Gadingrejo, Jogjakarta, and Tulung Agung; (3) Southern Front: covers the Teluk Betung area. The front has the task of dispelling the Dutch troops entering the Panjang Panjang Harbor area.

Since the Second Dutch Military Aggression disrupted communication between the Lampung Navy and the Headquarters in Yogyakarta, other attempts to contact the Indonesian Navy representative in Bukit Tinggi have also failed. Finally, the Navy leadership in the Lampung Residency took a tactical policy that stated that the command was under the Black Garuda Brigade troops led by Lieutenant Colonel Syamaun Gaharu.

News of the arrival of a Dutch warship carrying troops and weapons was known from the ALRI post in Kalianda on December 31, 1949, at seven in the evening. Then on January 1, 1949, at around 5:00, a Dutch warship approached the Port of Panjang but was later greeted with shots by ALRI forces, so it did not land.

Unfortunately, the Dutch ship responded by firing cannons and mortars. The battle in the sea was the first experience of the ALRI because weapons were unbalanced because they imbalance firing with makeshift weapons. At the same time, the Dutch used machine guns, cannons, and mortars, then finally, the ALRI forces retreated towards Kemiling then. ALRI troops were ordered to retreat while destroying important buildings that the Dutch might use.

According to the command's decision on December 31, 1948, at the house of Lieutenant Warkoskusumo on Gunung Terang, they had decided on a strategy: "Guerrilla warfare and the earth scorched on vital buildings that the enemy could use." On January 1, 1949, Captain Margono reported to the STL chief of staff, Lt. Col. Iwan Supardi, through Suranto that the Gunung Meraksa weapons factory was ready on the scorched earth. Critical *spare parts* had been left silent. So, there is no direct order from the STL, and according to the

strategy, the burning is correct based on the decree letter of STL command No. 527 / B dated December 15, 1948 (Nitipradjo, 2010).

After consolidation, the troops on the southern front began carrying out guerrilla activities. In addition to defending every inch of the homeland, attacks were directed against Dutch positions. Besides fishing for the Dutch to come out of their nests, the attacks reminded them to realize that they could not eat and sleep well.

Gele Harun Nasution, as *Acting Resident*, deals with the problem of civil affairs but rather plunge leads the guerrilla. The experience of being the Leader of the Indonesian Youth Force during the Dutch Military Aggression made Gele Harun Nasution efficiently coordinate the strength of the Indonesian Armed Forces with the troops in Lampung to work together to destroy the Netherlands (Setiawan & Aman, 2018).

The existence of the people's paramilitary forces in the Residency of Lampung, if it is not well coordinated and directed, will lead to excesses in the ongoing struggle. Many irregulars formed from the Dutch Military Aggression I fought in driving out Dutch forces in 1949.

The Laskar gathered by Gele Harun Nasution fought with the Hezbollah Troops who fought a lot in the Tanjungkarang-Telukbetung area (Setiawan & Aman, 2018). The Indonesian Youth Force (API) united young people to form armed forces such as the Tani Army, Barisan Banteng, Pesindo, and Napindo. The People's Security Force (PKR), a former Gyugun trained to help maintain security in the Lampung Residency. The People's Fighters fought in the South Lampung region; GERPI was assigned to establish emergency posts on every battlefield and guerrilla route during the Second Dutch Military Aggression.

The fighters who are members of the paramilitary forces work together with the army (Anggraini et al., 2014). The military police forces under Young Lieutenant Suratno fought the Dutch in Kaliawi and Langkapura, and their efforts proved that our army and army could still disturb the Dutch position. Under the leadership of Slamet's police inspector and the TNI under Lieutenant Supangat experienced a gunfight with Dutch troops patrolling the Pasir Gintung and Vadrang Santibi forces armed with Dutch troops in Natar.

The forces Letnan Asnawi Mangku Alam, Ryacudu, and Nuh Macan were Red Garuda troops under Captain Alamsyah, who was in Tanjungkarang when the Dutch occupied the Tanjungkarang-Telukbetung on January 1, 1949. Then from Ked-

aton retreat in Kemiling, from the headquarters of his position, his troops had attacked Lebakbudi. At Kemiling headquarters, there was a shootout with Dutch troops from Telukbetung to Kemiling. Then because his commands were considered less secure against Dutch attacks from behind, they moved his soldiers to Gadingrejo (Nitipradjo, 2010).

On January 15, 1949, Gedong Tataan was occupied by the Dutch, then the Navy forces and other troops dodged in Way Lingti at the foot of Mount Sukma Ilang. Meanwhile, the activities of the ALRI forces working with the people were to make roadblocks and destroy bridges between the Negeri Sakti village and Km 21.

After a contract with the southern front military coordinator, the ALRI headquarters was led by one village in Way Lima for operational and tactical interests. On one occasion, two members of the ALRI successfully intercepted a convoy of Dutch military vehicles coming from Gedong Tataan to Tanjungkarang. In the brief gunfire (the second time), the ALRI forces killed 3 Dutch soldiers, including an officer.

Lieutenant II Alimuddin led CPM in maintaining the Way Semah outpost, only  $\pm$  1.5 km from the Dutch post at Gedong Tataan. At the time of the position of the ALRI troops in Way Semaya, the Dutch had attacked the ALRI post; this was the third time the ALRI forces were facing the Dutch (Pratama et al., 2013).

To maintain the Way Semah post, the ALRI forces can last up to 2 hours due to the highly favorable terrain. Nevertheless, after being bombarded with mortar fire, the ALRI troops retreated, and the battle, the battle killed 2 of our heroes: Muhidin and Sutaji. In April 1949, Captain C. Souhoka, with three non-commissioned officers of the Navy command staff, seconded to strengthen regional Guerrilla III in Kedondong led by Captain Ismail Husin. So, for a while, the ALRI's main forces in their operations were led by Captain K. L. Tobing.

In the battle for defending independence, in Lampung Residency, the youths gathered in the army were assisted by official military forces preparing to ground up vital government buildings. Among others, at the Panjang Port, resident's house in Telukbetung, Tanjung Karang Resident office, Hotel Juliana, and stations. In buildings that will be grounded, they have been prepared by laying/burning flammable items.

The purpose of the scorching was so the Dutch could not utilize government offices and other essential buildings. The same happened in almost all areas, especially those with important buildings,



**Figure 3.** Lampung Resident Office, which also destroyed (Source: <https://collectie.wereldcultureen.nl>)

including connecting bridges between sub-districts and *kawedanan*, destroyed to hamper the movement of the Dutch troops without any casualties from the civilian side. It proves how the community of Lampung also took part in efforts to maintain independence in the Residency of Lampung.

Lampung Sub-Territorial Command has also planned the division of operations in a Dutch invasion of the Tanjungkarang-Telukbetung city. Based on military strategy and the struggle outlined by the TNI Commander General Sudirman, the tactics for dealing with the Dutch would not hold open resistance but with the *hit-and-run* tactics and cut off opponents' communication channels and fragment the opposing forces against groups. Small groups are easily attacked and destroyed (Ibrahim, 1983). In addition, cooperation and hand in hand with the strength of other struggles must be fostered and maintained in their cohesiveness, especially in logistics. Support was decisive in the guerrilla tactics of local people; it was necessary to encourage and strengthen cooperation between the army and the people.

### THE POLICY IN THE ECONOMIC SECTOR

While launching its action, the Dutch always spread propaganda to the public that the Lampung Residency had been destroyed and no longer existed. It was related to the domination of the capital city in Telukbetung and several other areas in the Lampung Residency. In addition, based on the report of A. Oranje, Resident of Commanding Officer of the Allied Military Administration-Civil Affairs Branch (Verslag, 1949), the Dutch tried to control Lampung's residency from the economic sector by circulating Dutch currency in the community (The Singapore Free Press, March 8, 1948). the aim of that policy is as a medium of exchange with a large amount, resulting in high inflation (Huff & Majima,

2013) because of the many types of currency circulating in the Lampung Residency.

Blockading Indonesian territories, including Lampung Residency, also used the Dutch strategy to destroy the economy. Lampung Residency has become one of the main targets of the NICA strategy because it supports the export of commodities. The central government realizes the difficulty of breaking through the NICA blockade, especially in circulating ORI (Cribb, 1981). They could not obtain and use Indonesian Money or ORI and isolate them from international trade, primarily through the Malacca Strait. During the difficult situation, the central government finally issued a policy that allowed local governments to print and distribute regional currencies, also known as ORIDA.

As recognized at the end of 1947, Governor of Sumatra Teuku Muhamad Hasan issued two policies: the Money of the Republic of Indonesia Sumatra Province (ORIPS) and the Special Region Defense Council of South Sumatra. He also issued a Mandate for Money, increasing the amount of money circulating in the community besides the Money of the Republic of Indonesia (ORI) (Lasmiyati, 2012).

Regarding the circulation of money, many causes of inflation above were further complicated when the people carried out the impact of burning



(1)



(2)

**Figure 4.** Emergency Money in Lampung Residency (1) and Emergency Money in North Lampung (2) (Source: Lampung Archives Bureau)

warehouses and weapons factories early in 1949. Nevertheless, because of the financial conditions experienced inflation due to the act of the Dutch, who spread excess money. When the Dutch troops first entered the Telukbetung, making logistic weapons supply was reduced, making Gele Harun Nasution take the initiative to build warehouses and weapons factories again for logistical supplies. Finally, Gele Harun Nasution, through the North Lampung Regent, issued special money to meet the needs of the struggle with a value of 50 Rupiah, known as The Region Money of the Republic of Indonesia (ORIDA).

Gele Harun Nasution implemented the policy of spending special money for the Lampung Residency in March 1949 (Sujadi et al., 2018). Gele Harun Nasution oversaw the printing of money directly. However, the signatory was not him (Nasution, 2015). After the government printed the money, the money was brought to Kota Bumi to be approved by the Regent of North Lampung, Akhmad Akuan, and distributed directly to the community by bartering the harvest.

The Decision of Gele Harun Nasution to issue emergency currencies became important as a symbol and form of struggle because the emergency money was to show the public. Including the Dutch, the Lampung Residency government still existed, and its existence had been resolved. It is why emergency money is a form of struggle, considering that many people in the field still use the Dutch currency (Lasmiyati, 2012). If this is allowed will threaten the sovereignty of the Republic of Indonesia because the people will assume that the Dutch are in full power in Lampung.

In principle, giving authority to local governments to print and distribute local currencies is an emergency policy that applies temporarily. Therefore, the central government immediately withdrew all money, and the authority returned to the central bank as a circulation bank. The smooth withdrawal of local currencies is clear evidence that local governments and communities have made local currency part of an instrument of struggle to defend the Republic of Indonesia. There is no desire to continue to hold onto this authority.

This policy in the economic field directly impacted the struggle of the people of the Lampung Residency to maintain independence. It has three roles: First, the community's economy must continue to run even in times of war, and its money must use the currency of the non-Dutch government. *Secondly*, the currency of emergency as a form of existence Lampung Residency to the public

and the Netherlands that they struggle and resist the republican and dismiss all Dutch propaganda against the destruction of the Lampung Residency. *Third*, as a form of people's support for the struggle to defend the independence of Lampung, especially in North Lampung, all using the emergency currency of the Lampung Residency.

#### RETURN TO THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

After running the emergency government long enough outside Telukbetung, in the end, Gele Harun Nasution and government staff and military forces were able to get out of the forest area where he was running an emergency government after the ceasefire between Indonesia and the Netherlands on August 15, 1949.

All India radio broadcast news of the ceasefire between the Netherlands and Indonesia, and fighters in the Lampung Residency Emergency Government Staff heard the news. After hearing the news, Gele Harun Nasution in Bukit Kemuning staffed the official government complete for preparation later when accepting the power transfer from the Netherlands to Indonesia. In the determination of this government staff, Gele Harun Nasution has finally declared a definitive resident who would later receive a power transfer from the Netherlands.

Gele Harun Nasution returned to Tanjungkarang and eventually accepted the transfer of power in the area of Lampung Residency from the Dutch house in the Kota Agung. However, even though the ceasefire began in August 1949 after Roem-Royen Agreement, Gele Harun Nasution and his troops could only enter Tanjungkarang after the surrender of sovereignty on December 27, 1949. After the official power transfer, Gele Harun Nasution was appointed chairman of the District Court on January 1, 1950. Later he was reappointed as a definite Resident of Lampung on January 1, 1950, and served until October 7, 1955.

#### CONCLUSION

The struggle was an effort to maintain independence in the territory of the Lampung Residency during Dutch Military Aggression II had its way. Gele Harun Nasution led Lampung Residency as an *Acting Resident* who served as a guerrilla leader of the Emergency Government of Lampung Residency.

During the run of his government, Gele Harun Nasution issued many policies, especially in politics, the military, and economics. In the political sphere, Gele Harun Nasution moved the central government from Pringsewu to Talang Padang -

Ulu Belu - Way Tenong - Pulau Panggung - Bukit Kemuning. At the same time, the military field formed several fronts to prevent Dutch forces from entering deeper into other regions. Finally, he issued emergency money for the Lampung Residency as a symbol and struggled against the Dutch economic field.

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