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FOOT-FLAGGING DISPLAY IN BORNEAN FROGS

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Trading patterns of coastal states in maritime Southeast Asia

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The frog *Staurois latopalatus* (Boulenger) was the commonest amphibian at this site. Its call, a short rising trill, was heard throughout each night and during the early morning. Three collected while calling were all males. They emerged on to rocks projecting from the water soon after dusk, and remained active throughout the night. Frogs of similar size clustered together: one rock in slower water consistently hosted small juveniles, but most adults at night were solitary. Several individuals were seen almost every morning, for the first hour or two of daylight, and a few sightings were made at all hours of the day, even in brightsun.

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A foot-flagging display was seen several times, always in the early morning period (0630 – 0800) and similar to that described by Harding (1982). In *S. latopalmatus* the hind foot webbing was whitish to pale grey in males, dark grey in one female collected, and always paler towards the short inner digits. This provided a lesser contrast with the dark olive body colour than that illustrated for *S. parvus* by Harding, unless illuminated by bright sun, when it was striking.

The most active display bout occurred on 13 January about 0630 to 0715. Up to seven individuals were present at a time on the most commonly used rock, a sandstone boulder projecting 90 cm above water level. Six of these appeared to be males, there being one pair in amplexus and five others, all foot-flagging, scattered around them. The displaying frogs sat 20 to 30 cm apart, occasionally extended one leg, and held it out sideways from the body for a few seconds. Sometimes one jumped close to another, causing it