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OBITUARY

G.S. de Silva

ABSTRACT

George Lefroy Garson was born on February 4, 1914 in Port Moresby, Papua, New Guinea and died on 8th December 1998 in Jersey, Channels Islands where he had retired in 1970. He was educated at Victoria College and later at Edinburgh where he obtained his BSc in Forestry. Appointed to the Colonial Service in 1937, his first posting was to Malaya where he served in Selangor, Perak and Johor prior to the Japanese invasion in 1941. As a subaltern in the Federated Malay States volunteer force he saw active service (despatches) on the retreat from Perak to Singapore. When the city capitulated he was fortunate to escape to Australia whence he was posted to Nigeria. He returned as a Major with the re-occupation forces until civilian government was restored in 1946. There followed a series of postings in Malaya during the communist terrorist emergency years. He was commended in 1952 by the Officer Administering the Government for exceptional work done during the emergency. In December 1954 he was appointed Conservator, British North Borneo (Sabah) where he served until retirement in 1967 when he became the first Park Warden of the Kinabalu National Park. He finally retired in 1969 having been awarded the CBE in 1965.