

Wild Men of Borneo Amuck

Massacre 130 Men, Women and Children In British Village

Associated Press

May 12, 1904

Portland, May 12.—A special to the Telegram from Victoria, B. C., says:

Missionary passengers on the liner Empress of India bring advices of an atrocious massacre on the west coast of British North Borneo. On March 31 at 10 o'clock at night a band of 150 rebels from the interior, armed with guns, parangs, spears and blowpipes, swept down upon the little colony at Kawang, a railway station midway between Jesselton and Paparu. The band divided into two parts, one of 100 remaining concealed as a reserve on the top of a hill, while the other 50 rushed down upon the settlement, butchered the inmates of the Chinese shops, attacked the railway station, smashed the telephone station and killed the wife and child of the station master, the latter saving his life by hiding in the bush.

The band of murderers turned their attention to the coolies, most of them Chinese, killing and wounding savagely right and left. The English railway driver was the next victim, a speedy and terrible end coming to him and his wife.

The carnage then became general, males, females and innocent babes being butchered in the lust for blood. The houses and huts in the Kampong were set fire to next in the brutal career of the savages, and when nothing was left but dead bodies and cruelly wounded people, ashes and desolation, the sanguinary wretches went their way.

The survivors, one native fireman and the station master, with a few of the wounded coolies, ran down the line in the direction of Jesselton, for their lives. By putting all steam on the construction engine, stationed there, the terrible news was carried to Jesselton, putting all the inhabitants of that place in a panic. The total number of killed was 130. No record is available of the number of wounded.

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