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*Admiralty-Office, September 25, 1810.*

**D**ISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies and Extracts, have been received at this Office from Vice-Admiral Drury, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the East Indies, addressed to John Wilson Croker, Esq.

*His Majesty's Ship Caroline, Madras Roads, April 22, 1810.*

**S**IR, YOU will be pleased to acquaint the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that in consequence of His Majesty's Order in Council, and their Lordships' Directions to put the Island of Java and the Moluccas under the most rigid State of Blockade, I endeavoured to effect it with the few Ships that could be spared from India: but finding it impossible to cover such an Extent of Coast, so as to answer the Purpose of annoying or distressing the Enemy to any Extent, I judged it would best be done, by seizing upon the principal Settlement in the Eastern Islands, securing their Shipping and valuable Crops of the Moluccas, and thereby fulfilling the Intention of the Blockade in a great Degree, and at the least Risk to the commercial and political Interests of India. This Object is materially promoted by the taking and destroying Seven of the Enemy's Corvettes in the Java and Molucca Seas, as well as other Shipping to some Extent within these Six Months.

I selected Captains Tucker, Montagu, and Spencer, commanding the Ships and Vessels named in the Margin \*, to execute this Service. The Squadron being very deficient of Marines, I requested the Supreme Government to lend the Service of Two Companies from one of the Native Regiments, which was immediately attended to, and they embarked on board the Dover and Cornwallis accordingly.

Captain Tucker has executed this Service with Courage and sound Judgment; and as the inclosed Letters upon the Subject convey their own Comment and Commendation, any Praise of mine, upon the Conduct of those distinguished Officers and Men would indeed be gilding refined Gold; their Lordships know well how to appreciate it.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) W. O. DRURY.

*John Wilson Croker, Esq; Admiralty.*

\* Dover, Cornwallis; and Samarang.

*Government-House, Castle New Victoria, Amboyna, Feb. 20, 1810.*

**S**IR, SINCE my Letter of the 8th Instant, acquainting your Excellency with the Capture of the Dutch Brigs of War Rembang and Flope, by His Majesty's Ship Dover under my Command, off the Island of Amboyna, the Services of the Force under my Orders, and the Capture of the said Island, require that I should enter into a Detail thereof.

I have therefore to inform your Excellency, that being joined on the 9th by His Majesty's Ship Cornwallis, and a Dutch Sloop of War (the Mandarin), which she had taken, I proceeded immediately up the Harbour of Amboyna, and anchored in Latitia Bay, from whence we were enabled to examine tolerably well the numerous Batteries erected since the English restored the Island in 1803, on the different Heights commanding the Fort and Anchorage of Victoria, as well as the Anchorage of Portuguese Bay.

These Anchorages are also further protected by the Fort of Victoria, the Sea-Face of which is extremely strong, a Battery close on the Beach, well to the right of the Fort, mounting Four Twelve-Pounders, One Eight-Pounder, Two Six-Pounders, and One Brass Thirty-two-Pounder, and a heavy Battery built upon Piles far out in the Sea, mounting Nine Twelve-Pounders (Iron), and One Brass Thirty-two Pounder.

On the Morning of the 16th the Plan of Attack was determined upon, in Consultation with Captains Montagu and Spencer, of the Royal Navy, Captain Major Henry Court, of the Honourable the East India Company's Coast Artillery, commanding the Troops, and Captains Philips and Forbes, of the Madras European Regiment.

The Arrangements for the Attack were, that Four Hundred Men, selected as per Margin \*, under the Command of Captain Court, should be landed a little to the right of Portuguese Bay, and advance immediately to the Attack of the Batteries on the Heights commanding that Anchorage, as well as the Town and Fort of Victoria, and that at the same Time the Ships should commence their Attack on the Fort and such Batteries as they could be brought to bear upon; about Two P. M. the Boats being all out and every Thing in Readiness for landing the

\* 176 Troops; Seamen and Marines of the Dover, 85; Seamen and Marines of the Cornwallis, 105; Seamen and Marines of the Samarang, 35.—Total 401, including Officers.