

Singaporean jailed 15 months for bid to cheat bank

By George Wong

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed

A Singapore business man who pleaded guilty to trying to cheat the Malaysian-French Bank of \$87,500 was jailed 15 months today and placed under police supervision for a year.

Magistrate Aslina Joned also jailed Lim Kah Soon, 33, for 10 months for having a forged identity card at the city police headquarters here on Aug 13. The sentences are to run concurrently.

Counsel Jerald Gomez said in mitigation that Lim was a pawn and that he had been pressured by a man called Ah Keong to go to the bank to withdraw the money.

He said Lim had owed Ah Keong some money.

He also urged the court to consider the fact that Lim did not resist arrest but gave the police "his

fullest co-operation.

Lim had gone to the bank at the UBN Tower in Jalan P Ramlee, on July 21 and tried to mislead bank officer Razali Mohamed Yusuff into believing that he was authorised to withdraw \$87,500 from an account of the Sungai Besi Mines (M) Bhd via a telegraphic transfer.

The money was to be remitted to the bank's Alor Star branch from where Lim would withdraw money under the name of Ngu Cheng Leng.

Encik Mohamed checked with Sungai Besi Mines and was informed that no such transaction was made out on the material day and no money was due to a Ngu Cheng Leng.

Encik Mohamed then lodged a police report.

Lim travelled to Alor Star the same day to collect the money and was arrested the next day.

Messrs Jerald Gomez & Associates handled the mitigation for our client here who was a businessman from Singapore.