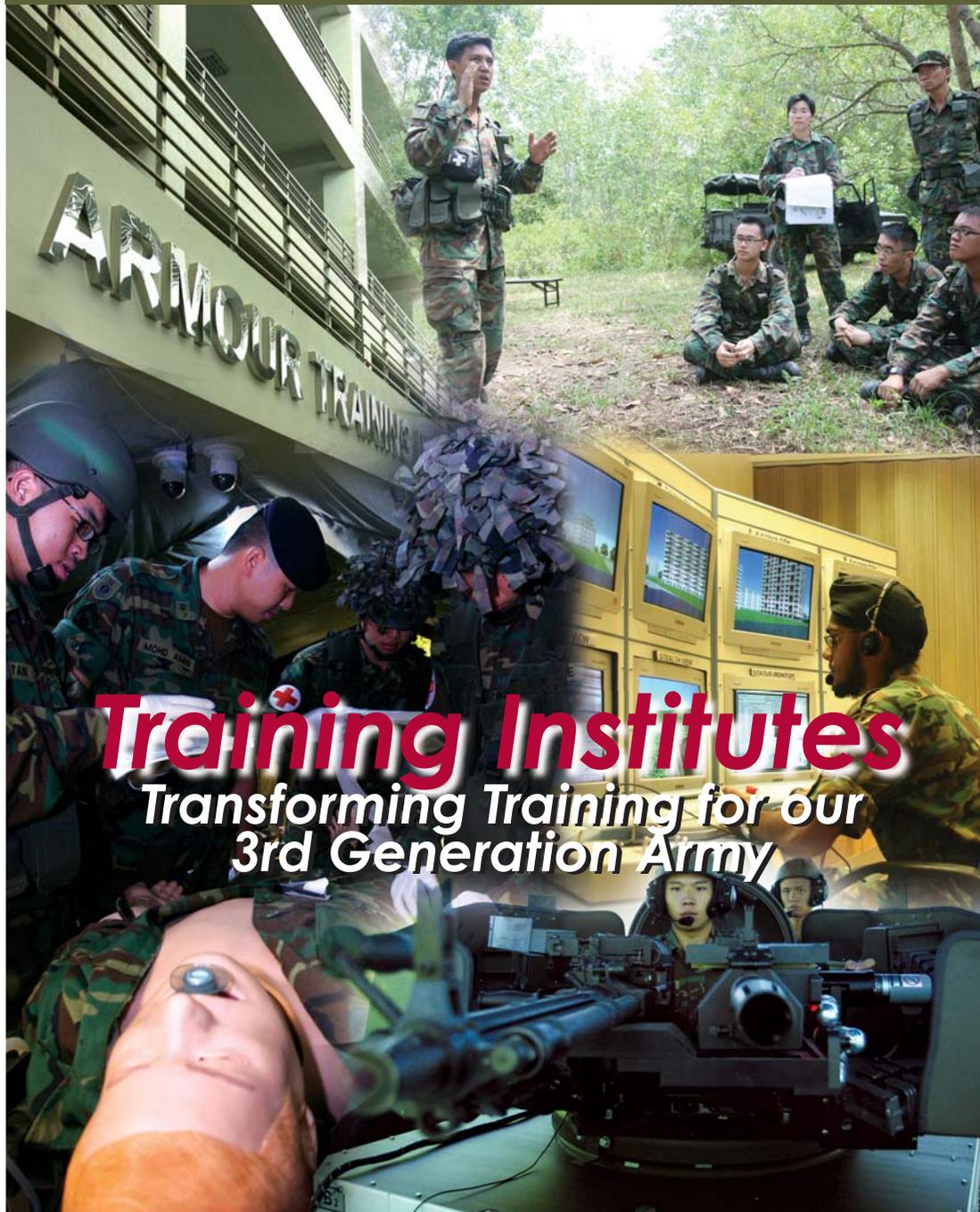


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Issue No. 142 MAY / JUNE 2007

pulse of the army



## Training Institutes

Transforming Training for our  
3rd Generation Army

## More Bite for 2 PDF

On 28 April, Commander 2nd People's Defence Force (2 PDF), BG Lawrence Chua, officially opened the new K9 facility at Clementi Camp. The compound has ample training grounds including three fields where obstacle courses can be set up. It also boasts 86 kennels, which will allow 2 PDF's current force of trained dogs to be further expanded. This expansion will strengthen its capabilities in fighting Low-Intensity Conflicts (LICs), an important part of 2 PDF's Protection of Installation (POI) duties.



BG Chua opening the new K9 facility, which will provide for a bigger force of more dogs and their effective training

The dogs of 2 PDF K9 are highly valuable for POI duties, serving various roles such as patrolling installation perimeters and providing continuous point protection of specific vital facilities. As part of a reaction force, they are highly effective in locating intruders. As dogs can easily



PTE Chua guiding his dog through an obstacle course at the new training area.

outrun and subdue a human target, they provide the POI unit with non-lethal neutralisation capabilities. PTE Ang You Long, a trainer, said, "They deliver a less lethal attack, as compared to firearms. This makes them more suitable in combating LIC threats such as in the apprehension of intruders." Lastly, the K9 dogs enhance deterrence when deployed with high visibility.

To attain a high level of operational readiness, the trainers and their dogs undergo rigorous training. The dogs are trained to receive and execute commands, which include manoeuvring past obstacles, detecting and subduing intruders. Besides caring for their dogs, handlers must learn how to operate with their dogs as an effective team. PTE Jonathan Chua, also a trainer, explained that the dogs' animal instincts make them reliable partners for detecting intruders. He said, "Dogs can smell in the dark and thus warn us of unseen threats. Also, training with them is personally rewarding as one forges a bond with the dog."

## COA Engages NS KAHs



COA (second from left) urging the NS KAHs to make NS a value-added experience for our servicemen

In a dialogue session at Temasek Club on 18 May, Chief of Army (COA), BG Neo Kian Hong touched base with over 100 NS Key Appointment Holders (KAHs). It was an opportunity to share on recent developments in our Army and gather concerns and suggestions as part of our leadership's efforts to engage our people. In fact, engagement was one of the key points in COA's speech. He said, "Engaging our people means telling them the big picture, what is going on and what their task is. We want to package NS to be a value-added experience, such that NSFs feel they gain something out of it. NSmen have many skill sets and we should leverage on their expertise, so that they can help to make NS more professional and meaningful."



MAJ(NS) Tan believes that NSmen are fully committed to their roles regarding the nation's security

To harness such expertise, our Army will be creating more opportunities for NSmen to contribute. COA revealed a plan to appoint more NSmen as coaches to share and impart their military experience, and the possibility of NSmen being invited to sit on boards of governors in the Training Institutes. The latter would allow our Army to tap on their civilian expertise in the management of the Training Institutes.

The NSmen also had a chance to voice their opinions on a wide range of issues, from NS administrative touch-points to training.

MAJ(NS) Derek Tan found the dialogue a good opportunity for NS commanders to share their concerns. He said, "NSmen are committed people and we feel for our role in the nation. We are willing to share and want to have open communication." He also commended COA for his openness to ideas and ability to engage NSmen on ground issues. "This shows COA's personal commitment, giving us confidence in his leadership and abilities," he said.

## New Commander for 9 Div



As he takes over command from BG Toh (left), COL Chan believes that the future of 9 Div/Inf lies in its people

On 15 May, COL Chan Ching Sing took over as Commander 9th Singapore Division/Chief Infantry Officer (Comd 9 Div/CIO) from BG Winston Toh at a Change of Command Parade held at Selarang Camp. Under BG Toh's leadership in the past few years, 9th Singapore Division/Infantry (9 Div/Inf) has made major strides in the area of urban operations and WOSPEC transformation. Other major events organised under BG Toh's leadership include MINDEF PRIDE Day 05, SAF Day 06 and the recently concluded NS40 Exhibition. Speaking on 9 Div/Inf's role in our Army's transformation towards a 3rd Generation Fighting Force, BG Toh said, "Infantry is a significant part of the combined arms

fighting divisions. As such, we undertake capability development in systems, weapons, platforms and other hardware. Furthermore, we have developed a total concept for training - from conceptualisation to doctrine development and to delivery of training."

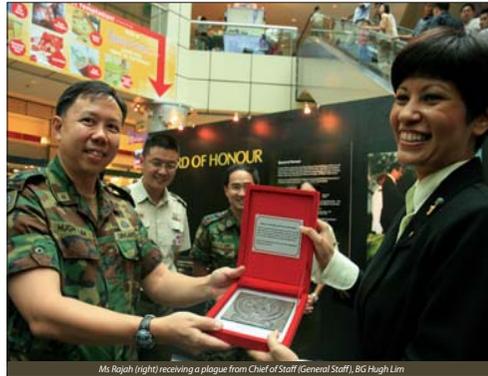
BG Toh cited the merger of 9th Singapore Division and HQ Infantry as his most memorable experience. He commented, "It was a tough and challenging journey to bring two formations with great culture and history together and harness their strengths. To do so, we had to change our people's mindset so that they could share a common vision and journey towards the future." His successor shares the same belief in the need for a shared vision. At the recent 9 Div/Inf Workplan, COL Chan said, "It's not what your commander wants to achieve, it's what the Division wants to achieve."

Moving ahead, COL Chan firmly believes that the future of 9 Div/Inf lies in its people. He elaborated, "It is a very simple philosophy - we have to value-add so that everyone who passes through our division will turn out a better person." He also said, "If 10 to 20 years down the road, we can look back and say that we have together put in place a system to groom the next generation of leaders to be better than what we are today, I think that would be the best indicator of success."

## Acknowledging our Women in the SAF

Even as we commemorate 40 years of National Service, the SAF took time to commemorate the contributions of our servicewomen. From providing clerical support to various instructional, staff and combat roles today, the SAF servicewomen's contributions have evolved alongside with changes in our organisation.

To acknowledge our women's contributions, the Women in the Armed Forces Exhibition was launched at Suntec City on 4 June by Ms Indraneel Rajah, Chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Defence and Foreign Affairs. In her speech, Ms Rajah said, "The SAF women's ability to perform at the highest levels and contribute positively to these international efforts has meant that they have been put through the same exacting training regimen as their male counterparts, so that they are



Ms Rajah (right) receiving a plaque from Chief of Staff (General Staff), BG Hugh Lim



LTA Fadilah believes that women have an integral role to play in our 3rd Generation Transformation

## A NDP of Infinite Possibilities



The sea segment of the show portrays the discovery of Singaporean identity as we grow from an early settlement to a cosmopolitan city

"Will you scale new heights? Will you make it happen, Will you let your dreams take flight?" These are the lyrics of "Will You", one of two NDP celebration songs this year as NDP 2007 shapes up to be refreshingly different from past NDPs. NDP 2007 promises to scale new heights with a brand new show concept, named PossiCity. The show will be accompanied by a 240-strong orchestra, the biggest orchestra assembled for any NDP.

able to handle the rigours of operationally demanding work in land operations, at sea or in safeguarding our air-defences."

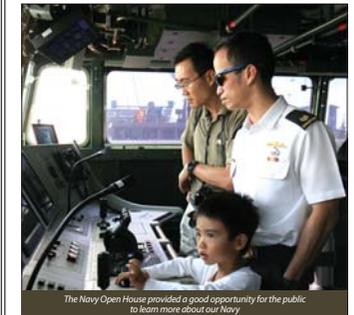
She also spoke on the importance of having quality personnel for the 3rd Generation SAF. "In the 3rd Generation SAF, the quality and commitment of our people will continue to be the most important determinant for advancement. Our young women today want challenging and fulfilling careers. MINDEF and the SAF can offer such women the opportunity to excel and aspire to the highest positions." LTA Fadilah, currently the Officer Commanding Viper Company in Basic Military Training School 2, commented, "The SAF is a big, reputable organisation and it allows me to learn and grow alongside my male counterparts. I look forward to being part of the 3rd Generation Transformation, where we have to pace ourselves with the demands of the organisation."

Some of the exhibits will eventually be incorporated into the new Army Museum of Singapore, due to open in September this year.

Chairman of NDP 2007 Show Committee, COL Alvin Kek, explained, "We wanted to re-conceptualise the show into a large-scale visual and musical performance that would be truly refreshing, visually stunning and emotionally engaging. We decided to do away with the usual three segmented acts, and have five shorter segments to keep the spectators constantly engaged." The show comprises five segments, namely, Sea, Earth, Sky, People and Fire. They will be weaved together by a central character, SING, who is played by four in-line skaters aged 15 to 16.

One of those who is looking forward to this year's NDP is Kit Chan, who sings the other NDP celebration song, "There's No Place I'd Rather Be". She commented, "The fact that it's going to be on a new stage, with water all around, it's going to be very exciting. It'll have a different mood - a lot more romantic and not to mention cooler for the audience."

## If You Enjoyed the Navy Open House...



The Navy Open House provided a good opportunity for the public to learn more about our Navy

In the recent Pirates of the Caribbean movie, Chow Yun-Fat stars as the notorious Singaporean pirate Sao Feng, who plunders ships in the South China Sea. However, if the scoundrel had visited this year's Navy Open House, he would have surrendered without a fight. The Open House at Changi Naval Base on 26 May showcased our Navy's state-of-the-art technology and platforms, including a line-up of warships like the new RSS Formidable Stealth Frigate. It was a good opportunity for the public to come aboard the ships and find out more about their equipment and weaponry. The exhibits also explained the growth of our Navy and its development through 40 years of NS.



The Chong family enjoyed the Navy Open House and are looking forward to the Army Open House in September

Roy Chong, a visitor, believes that the event is an excellent chance to see the Navy up close. He said, "It is an eye-opening experience, especially for children. It also shows that Singapore's money has been well spent on national defence."

## ...Look Forward to the Army Open House 30 August - 3 September

Mr Chong is also a regular face at military open houses and he added, "I'm looking forward to bringing my son and nephew to the Army Open House later this year!" The Army Open House will feature hardware such as the Apache Attack Helicopter, and acknowledge the contributions of our people since our Army's humble beginnings. This year's Open House will be held at Pasir Laba Camp, bringing back fond memories for many servicemen who had been trained there over 40 years of NS.

# Training Institutes

## Transforming Training for our 3rd Generation Army

In today's fast-changing world, our Army continues to grow and develop into a full spectrum force to meet the challenges in our strategic environment. To support this effort, our Army must transform its training to support its core business of raising, training and sustaining the force. Besides acquiring the knowledge and skills to operate sophisticated weapons and systems, we also need to be a 'Learning Army' with 'Thinking Soldiers'. This is because the operating environment that we are preparing for is expected to be even more fluid, and the soldier is anticipated to be even more influential in this environment. Our soldiers need the knowledge and thinking skills so that they are operationally effective and able to make critical decisions on the battlefield. How good they are will depend on how well they are trained.

Our Army must also transform its training to harness the quality of our people. The next generation of soldiers will be even more highly educated and IT-savvy. The challenge in our training transformation is to introduce new methods and pedagogies that will not only equip our servicemen with the best fighting and thinking skills, but also strengthen their core values and professionalism.

### Training Transformation – Starting with the Top

The training transformation must first begin with its main engine drivers. The former G6 Army has evolved into the Training Policy and Development Office, while HQ Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) today plays the role of an 'Training Hub' to integrate training and exercise workplans across our Army. This allows the coordination of exercises involving multiple formations. Training schools and centres have also been revamped and transformed into 11 Training Institutes (TIs) for greater effectiveness and synergy. They anchor the training responsibilities of each Formation and serve as repositories of knowledge in their respective fields of expertise. Commander TRADOC, BG Goh Kee Nguan, elaborated, "The reorganisation of our training schools into TIs allows us to provide more resources and give greater emphasis to training, such as in the appointment of experienced personnel to lead the TIs. We also strive to use the best technology and training pedagogy."



As Comd TRADOC, BG Goh ensures that our training transformation produces soldiers able to effectively face future challenges.

One evidence of this thrust towards more effective training at the TI-level is their re-organisation into the Front, Middle and Back Offices. The Front Office consists of trainers and Subject Matter Experts, and focuses on the conduct of actual training. The Middle Office is responsible for curriculum development, and works closely with TRADOC in the areas of learning systems, knowledge management and leadership development. At the Back Office, administrative and logistic personnel from different training schools are centralised to ensure that resources are optimally utilised.

TIs are more than a physical concentration of schools and training centres. Their organisational structures allow the sharing of resources and services to improve the efficiency of various training processes. They also network with each other and TRADOC to facilitate the sharing of knowledge across our Army. TIs spearhead new learning initiatives that will revolutionise the way our soldiers learn, train, operate and integrate with the rest of the SAF. Chief of Staff (General Staff), BG Hugh Lim summed this up, "I see the TIs adding value in being able to connect and orchestrate training between arms and services. They should be good not just in their own specialisations, but good as part of a team both within our Army and across services."



BG Lim believes that the value of TIs transcends the Army and impacts the whole SAF.

### Building for Tomorrow's Training

The most visible signs of the training transformation are the training facilities and resources within the TIs. These facilities house highly sophisticated equipment and reflect the commitment of our Army to pursue the highest standard of training possible. One example is the Armour Training Institute (ATI) at Sungei Gedong Camp. It includes the Armour Skills Training and Evaluation Park (A-STEP), which has a series of integrated facilities designed to systematically hone, sustain and benchmark the skills of commanders and soldiers. It serves to augment the existing highly advanced equipment, such as the Armour Gunnery Tactical Simulator for comprehensive and holistic training. Commander ATI, LTC Tan Kay Chuan commented, "The facilities being gradually brought in will further raise training effectiveness and will be ready to support new hardware like the Leopard 2A4 Main Battle Tank and Bionix II as part of the development of the 3rd Generation fighting force. These new training facilities will allow us to better focus on the evaluation of the soldiers' and command team's performance outcomes."

### Leveraging on Technology for Greater Realism

Today's highly advanced technologies have enabled our Army to raise its training realism to new heights. An example is the Battalion Casualty Station Simulation Laboratory at SAF Medical Training Institute (SMTI). Opened in January 2007, it simulates an outfield environment complete with chirping cicadas or a combat zone with sounds of nearby explosions. In the simulation, medics and medical officers have to work as a team to assess the criticality of the injuries and manage the casualty flow. What makes this lab outstanding is the use of highly sophisticated dummies. These dummies, with dilating pupils, breathing and heart sounds and palpable pulses, can even 'respond' to treatment with sound effects such as groans and coughs.



Inside the Instructor Operating Station, up to 12 trainees can observe and learn from the action of those undergoing the simulator training.



The Armour Gunnery Tactical Simulator enables the commander and gunner to be effectively trained in different operational scenarios.

Another important advantage is that the dummies allow more invasive procedures such as chest tube insertions and intravenous infusions to be safely practised. Controlled by experienced instructors, the dummies can be programmed to meet any training scenario. Cameras and microphones are also used to facilitate After-Action Reviews.

Having implemented these first steps of the transformation, SMTI is already planning for the not-too-distant future. Commander SMTI, LTC (DR) Tan Peng Hui revealed, "Our next focus will be on a networked simulation system that is specifically developed to our design. There will be multiple terminals to allow for up to 12 trainees to be engaged in a highly programmable scenario-based simulation training. This simultaneous involvement of the doctors and medics in the simulation will enable them to be effectively trained as one single medical force. The future medical simulation system will be limited only by our imagination."



The use of high-tech dummies allows a high degree of training realism never before possible.

However, our training transformation is not always about the latest technologies or sophisticated equipment. Even the humble video can be effectively used with great impact. This was demonstrated by the Army Logistics Training Institute (ALTI) when live video feeds are used to improve the Basic Technical Training courses at Ordnance Engineering Training Centre. Previously, due to the space constraint, only two trainees could be inside the vehicle to learn repairing skills from the instructor. This was not productive as the instructor had to repeat his lesson many times. With the use of video to project the lesson inside the vehicle to other trainees outside, the learning zone is no longer confined to just inside the vehicle. This enables the entire group of ten trainees to be meaningfully engaged at all times.



The use of video allows the actions of this trainee inside this Bionix AFV to be shared and reviewed.

### Leadership and Values

While hard skills and competencies are critical, our training transformation is also about nurturing leadership, changing mindsets and injecting desired values. At the SMTI's Medical Simulation Laboratory, medic trainees do not just learn how to diagnose and treat their patients. In learning how to interpret the situation, apply problem-solving skills and act decisively, the training actually takes them beyond technical expertise. Commander SMTI, LTC (DR) Tan explained, "As we are moulding 'Thinking Soldiers', we have now embedded values training in our lesson plans. In the course of learning how to treat and care for their patients, our medics will acquire important values, such as care for soldiers. In this way, the values are real and relevant to them as they are assimilated and not transmitted in a vacuum."

### Getting the Best Out of Our People

Our training transformation must also recognise trainees as individuals who usually have different starting levels of knowledge and skills. This is especially important given that today's soldiers are better educated and more technologically-savvy. Some flexibility must be given to enable different learners to get the best out of their training, and realise their full potential. Take for example the Flexible Learning System pioneered by ALTI's Ordnance Engineering Training Centre in 2005. The system uses tests to distinguish between fast and slow learners, such that instructors are able to devote their attention appropriately. Slow learners will receive additional lessons, while the fast ones are rewarded with time-off. Fast learners may also begin the next topic, or help their slower buddies. The system also provides Multiple Learning Stations which allow trainees to study multiple weapons or platforms at each station.



Close-circuit televisions allow instructors to monitor the training from a non-intrusive position and control the dummies.

Commander ALTI, COL Loganathan, believes that today's training methodology has to understand the needs of the learners to cater to a new generation of students. He said, "We should not just regurgitate knowledge in lectures, but must give opportunities for students to confront new information and experiences through a process of self discovery. Instructors also need to adapt to different learning styles and pace of learning."



The Flexible Learning System allows trainees with different learning abilities to fully develop themselves.

### The Way Ahead

By serving as centres of vocational expertise, TIs form an important link in the overall Army training framework that oversees the development of our servicemen. Enlistees pick up fundamental soldiering skills during Basic Military Training, after which leadership qualities are groomed at the Officer Cadet School and the School of Infantry Specialists. The TIs then equip soldiers with their specific vocational skill sets. Subsequently, in the units, the soldiers hone their skills and fighting spirit through realistic field exercises and training alongside their buddies. To overcome local constraints on training space, our units regularly train overseas where comparatively larger scale manoeuvres and live-firing exercises are possible.

At the brigade-level, a strategic investment has also been made to sharpen our edge. HQ 6th Singapore Division (6 Div) has been tasked as the central agency to hone the brigades' current competencies while at the same time ensuring that the training provided to brigade command teams builds the knowledge and skills needed to be in sync with developments in the Army. HQ 6 Div works in close collaboration with all elements of the training hub, especially the TIs and the school houses of SAFTI Military Institute. Commander 6 Div, COL Lim Teck Yin commented, "The collective expertise brought together to focus on training development would promote the tighter integration of combined arms training curricula, the identification and closing of doctrine gaps and the proliferation of best practice."

Our training transformation is truly on track to support the realisation of our 3rd Generation Army.

## OUR TRAINING INSTITUTES

Armour Training Institute (ATI)	Infantry Training Institute (ITI)
Army Logistics Training Institute (ALTI)	Signal Institute (SI)
Artillery Institute (AI)	School of Military Intelligence (SMI)
Basic Military Training Centre (BMTIC)	SAF Medical Training Institute (SMTI)
Commando Training Institute (CTI)	Specialist and Warrant Officer Institute (SWI)
Engineer Training Institute (ETI)	

## MINDEF PRIDE Day Innovative Thinking: Making the Complex Simple

"Having the best technology, concepts and organisational structures are necessary but not enough to achieve success in our transformation to the 3rd Generation SAF. Critical to our transformation efforts is an innovative SAF fuelled by the ideas of our servicemen, whether they are regulars or NSmen. MINDEF has always recognised that investment in hardware needs to be matched by an emphasis on our people – developing them and engaging their hearts and minds." Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean said this at the 20th MINDEF Productivity and Innovation in Daily Effort (PRIDE) Day on 18 May to explain the rationale for the PRIDE movement.

These solutions were showcased in the MINDEF PRIDE Day exhibition at Toa Payoh HDB Hub. They highlight the creativity and innovation harnessed by our soldiers to overcome daily problems. The exhibition's theme of 'Innovative Thinking: Making the Complex Simple' prompts us to approach complex issues with innovative thinking and look at challenges from different angles. This will make challenges simple and manageable.

Army News looks at two innovative projects from the exhibition.

### IPPT Preparatory Training (IPT)

The project addresses the need for cost-efficient, professional Individual Physical Proficiency Test (IPPT) training beyond the Remedial Training. The proposed solution is a voluntary program with flexible timing and specific training to cater to each participant's weak areas. 3SG Brian Widjaja, one

of the team members, explained how the program's effectiveness lies in its potential to change mindsets. He said, "The voluntary nature of the program lets servicemen choose and take their training into their own hands. This will encourage proactiveness towards achieving fitness." The project will also save an estimated \$4 million yearly due to the reduced need for Remedial Training. Army News issue 136, Nov/Dec 2006 has more information on the IPT.

### Cartridge Retrieval Net

This project makes the traditionally time-consuming task of retrieving expended cartridges at the firing range a breeze. After a firing session, the previous method was to comb the range for cartridges by hand. With the new method, two large nets will be laid on the ground before firing. After firing, eight men can easily lift the nets to pour the cartridges into a container, cutting the time taken from 45 minutes to 10 minutes. The nets, which are also used in the construction and fishing industries, are readily available and usable in muddy conditions.



Team member CPT Han Tong Kim explaining the use of the Cartridge Retrieval Net to Mr Teo



3SG Widjaja (right) and his fellow team members explaining the exhibit to a visitor (second from left)

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### Army PRIDE Day Powering Our People Through PRIDE

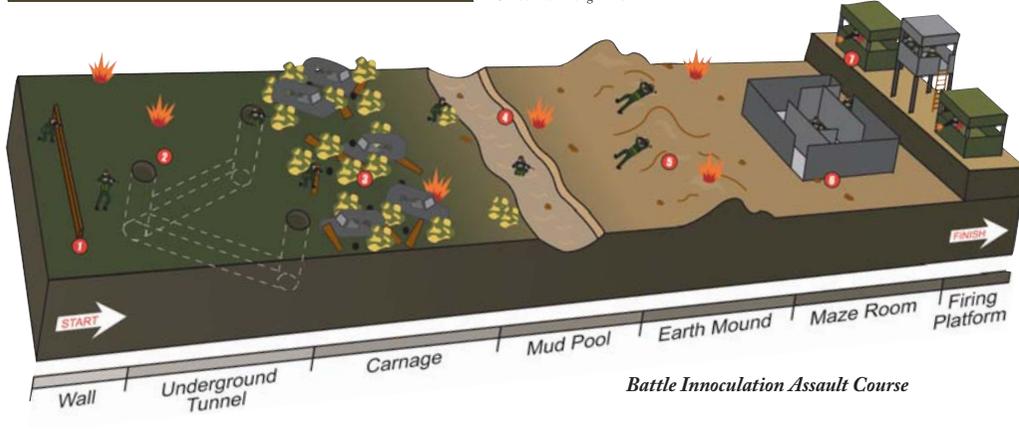
"To move to a 3rd Generation Army, we must embrace new challenges. There is a need to power up our organisation at all echelons to give our people the right skills and tools and energise and engage them towards an innovative and adaptive environment in their daily activities," said Chief of Army (COA), BG Neo Kian Hong in his PRIDE

Day Message. Organised by the 3rd Army Maintenance Base, ARMY PRIDE Day was held at SAFTI MI's Warriors Hall from 2 to 4 May. In the same vein as MINDEF PRIDE Day, the event reflects the importance our Army places on innovation, and recognises those who have done well in the previous year. To illustrate such innovation, BMTC's project to modify the Battle Inoculation Course (BIC) is presented below.

### Battle Inoculation Assault Course

MWO Peter Ang, the project leader, explained that the project aims to revamp the present BIC, enabling recruits to execute their Individual Field Craft and basic urban fighting skills safely in a close assault battlefield environment. It will also accustom recruits to the battlefield atmosphere through close proximity to live-firing from small arms, pyrotechnics and other simulated fires."

At the start of the course, soldiers navigate a wall, while providing cover fire for their buddy. The same fire-and-movement tactics will then be used to move through the 'carnage' area, which features decommissioned vehicles, and a mud pool. After crossing an open area simulating undulating terrain which soldiers may experience on the battlefield, they reach a Built Up Area which tests their ability to fight in an urban environment.



Battle Inoculation Assault Course

## My ORD Can Wait

LTA(NS) Jason Lin dreams of success in the banking industry. However, before he moved on to work in the corporate world, LTA(NS) Lin chose to extend his Operationally Ready Date (ORD) by two weeks, along with a substantial number of NSFs from 1st Commando Battalion (1 CDO). They did so in order to complete an Army Training Evaluation Centre exercise, alongside the rest of the battalion.

At their ORD parade on 16 May, some of the servicemen who extended their service shared their motivations for doing so. LTA(NS) Lin said of the extension, "We did so voluntarily, out of a sense of responsibility to the unit and our buddies. The bonding between us is such that we will always be there for each other and take care of each other."

This was echoed by 3SG(NS) Tan Ping Chuan, who said, "We have suffered together and helped each other through tough times. I know I can count on my buddies." 3SG(NS) Tan also feels that completing the evaluation exercise together was a rewarding experience.

CPL(NS) Jeremy Gee agreed with his fellow commandos on the bonding between the servicemen. He attributed their unit loyalty to the commando value of 'esprit-de-corp', and said, "During training, despite being very tired, my buddies would often offer to help each other carry the loads. It was this solidarity which would enable us to carry on and complete the mission."

While these NSFs from 1 CDO have moved on to other pursuits outside our army, it is certain that they will retain their spirit of unity throughout their operationally ready service.

"This batch of NSFs has shown exceptional commitment and dedication to service, in ex-



The strong sense of unity among the commandos prompted them to join their battalion for the evaluation exercise

tending their ORD to fight alongside their buddies. Their high level of motivation, belief and pride in wanting to contribute to the battalion reflects the essence of being a commando."

—Commanding Officer 1 CDO, MAJ Poh Boon Hock

## Ready For the AHM?

Nervous about running a half marathon for the first time? We bring you a few tips for running this year's Army Half Marathon (AHM) on 26 August.

### Before the Race

The last two or three weeks before the race day, runners typically relax their weekly training and take at least a couple of days of complete rest to allow their bodies to prepare for the race.

### During the Race

Dress appropriately with well-fitting clothes and shoes to minimise abrasions and blisters. While running, maintain a steady pace as possible. Many novices try to start with a quicker pace and over-tire themselves. Also, hydrate yourself regularly.

### After the Race

It is normal to experience sore muscles. Most runners take about three weeks to recover to pre-race condition. Increase the intake of Vitamin C to decrease the chance of sinus infection.

### Passing On The Baton

APPOINTMENT	INCOMING	OUTGOING
HD NSAD	COL NELSON YAU	COL TUNG YUI FAI
COMD 7 SB	COL TAY BOON KHAI	COL NELSON YAU
COMD BMTC	COL CHAN WEI GAN	COL ISHAK BIN ISMAIL
COMD 3RD DIV ARTILLERY	COL SIOW MENG MENG TERRY	COL NG WAI KIT
CO 2 SIG BN	LTC ONG KIAN WOI ANDY	LTC TEO CHENG HAI
COMDT NCC	LTC KHOO THIAM HUAT	LTC WONG SIEW WYE
CO 46 SAR	LTC FOX ALFRED GEORGE	LTC KOH KENG SWEE GERARD
CO SOA / ARMOUR LDR SCH ATI	MAJ TAN CHEE KIONG	LTC CHUA DAVID
CO 6 SIG BN	LTC NADARAJAH LOGANATHAN	---
CO 10 CDO BN	LTC LIM SAY OON	LTC LIM TAN HENG
BDE SM 12 SB	MWO CHRISTOPHER NOEL	MWO PUNNIYA MOORTHY S/O/AD/VELLU
RSM 32 LOG SP GP	TWO TAN CHRISTOPHER DOMINIC	---
SSM BMTC SCH 2	TWO MOHAMED ISMAIL BIN MUSTAN SMITHA MARIK	MWO CHAN CHEE SENG
RSM 2 PDF TRG CENTRE	TWO XBS HAN S/O VEERASAMY	MWO WONG TEONG MAN
RSM 9 SIG BN	TWO NEO CHENG MENG	TWO LOY HING WEE MICHAEL
RSM 20 SA	TWO NEDINEZHAN	TWO TAN HAI SENG
RSM 1 SR	S/O SUBRAWALI	---
	TWO WONG MUN KONG	TWO SOH CHEOW WOON FREDDIE

### SINGAPORE BAY RUN

### ROUTE MAP



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- COL Ishak Bin Ismail
- COL Lai Chin Kwang
- LTC Ong Kah Kuang
- LTC Tan Peng Kuan
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### News Crew

- Editor: Tan Wee Meng
- Staff Writers: Tan Shuo Yan, Lim Wei Zhong
- Photographers: Gabriel Tan Yew Kim, Sean Seah
- Graphic Designer: Ray Koh
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### Have something you wish to share with us?

If you have any articles to contribute or suggestions about our newsletter, contact us at: armynews@starmel.gov.sg

### ARMY NEWS (Suggestions and Feedback)

303 Serangoon Drive #03-01  
MINDEF Building, Singapore 699645  
Tel: 6427 0462 Fax: 6768 4442



### Quiz Of The Month - MAY / JUN

Send us the correct answer and win a \$20 Takashimaya Gift Voucher. There will be 2 winners!

### Q: How many Training Institutes are there in our Army?

Closing Date: 15 August 2007

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
NIC: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact No: \_\_\_\_\_

- This contest is open to all Army personnel except the executive staff of Army News Section.
- Each person is allowed one entry.
- Winners will be notified by Email. Prizes are not exchangeable for cash.
- The judges' decision is final. Please send us your entries via mail or Email (see bottom right corner of page).
- Prizes not collected within a month of notification will be forfeited.

### APR / MAY Quiz

Q: Name the 3 Buddies whom are the main engines driving the Army's concept of capability cycle?  
A: Capability Development, Training and Operations Units

### APR / MAY Winners

1) CPT INS CHIN KENG HOONG NIC: SX00024E  
2) 3SG CHAN GUO WEI NIC: SX00018D

# Lights, Camera, Action!

## It's Our Army on TV!

After months of filming and production work, the Army Drama is due to be aired from 24 July. The 20-episode drama, titled 'Defending Our Home' depicts the trials and tribulations that the Poh family has to overcome. With a strong military background, the Poh family is a fine example of how the defence of our country must begin with each individual and family. While the drama depicts the lives and times of an ordinary family within an Army setting, it also gave the Mediacorp artistes a realistic insights into the Army experience. Tay Ping Hui commented, "Compared to the previous army-related drama that I did, there was a lot of support from the Army for this one. There was a lot of emphasis on being authentic, being positive and being realistic. So if you're talking about army dramas, this is the first real one that we're doing."



Our Army personnel were also full of praises for the professionalism of these artistes. CPT Alvin Tjioe from HQ Commandos felt that working with Tay Ping Hui was great. He said, "He had no airs, and was very eager to learn how he could play his role better. In a sense, he made both our jobs easier." SSG Lai Jun Han from Artillery Institute was similarly impressed with Felicia Chin's work attitude, "It's not easy being a Mediacorp artiste, there's a lot of hard work that goes into it, yet she manages to remain extremely positive."

Army News visited the filming sets to find out what the Mediacorp artistes think about our Army. One thing that all the Mediacorp artistes agreed on was that our Army has progressed a long way. Huang Wenyong and Hong Huifang commented, "While the welfare for soldiers is much better today, the discipline standard has not been relaxed. Training methodologies and facilities have also been improved tremendously." Tay Ping Hui believes that training today is a lot more goal-oriented rather than blind tekan (slang for punishment). He said, "Nowadays there's an objective - as long as the training objectives are met, they don't tekan you. This is very important as the Army develops 'Thinking Soldiers.'" Bryan Wong summed it up best, "People going into the Army now are much more fortunate. This is because the Army has progressed very rapidly from my time, and things are moving in the right direction."

### Huang Wenyong

Drama Character: MWO Poh Penggu is an Operations Warrant at 9th Singapore Division/ HQ Infantry (9 Div/Inf), and also holds the concurrent appointment of Brigade Regimental Sergeant Major of 57th Singapore Infantry Brigade. He has four children - Poh Wenjing (Tay Ping Hui), Poh Wenzhong (Bryan Wong), Poh Wenwei (Rui En) and Poh Wenguo (Nat Ho). A widower, his love interest is played by Hong Huifang, who as Liu Yamei, is a Chief Administrative Supervisor.

What he says: *Filming this show was quite different from the many others that I have done, as I had to pay attention to my bearing and actions when I was in uniform. Even when taking photographs with my fans, I had to keep my hands by my side!*

### Tay Ping Hui

Drama Character: Tay Ping Hui plays a Commando Detachment Commander, CPT Poh Wenjing, who is 'second to none in operations, leadership and physical fitness'.

What he says: *I've always believed that we have one of the best armies in this region, and this drama showcases our Commandos' capabilities, including water survival and res-*



CPT Tjioe (left) and CPT Poh (Tay Ping Hui) in a liaison position, from which the Commandos can link up with the Air Force to call in air strikes on enemy positions.

*cue missions. We have a very advanced army, and with the 3rd Generation Army, it'll take us another step further - I have a lot of faith in Our Army. The Commandos in particular are a very special lot, they have a lot of pride in themselves and their red berets - the esprit de corps in the Commandos is very impressive indeed.*

### Felicia Chin

Drama Character: CPT Ouyang Peipei serves as a Gunnery Instructor in the Artillery Institute before she is transferred to Army Recruitment Centre to assume the role of Officer in Command (OIC) for Recruitment Publicity. To get into the character, Felicia observed the mannerisms and tones of the female officers whom she interacted with and modeled her character after them.

What she says: *This was quite different from my previous drama roles as I have never been exposed to such an environment. I found the whole experience very wonderful, and it was a real eye-opener for me, because most of the time, girls don't have a complete idea of what serving in the Army is about. After I have*



SSG Lai (right) felt that Felicia Chin's work attitude was extremely admirable.

*been exposed to the Army through this show, I feel that females serving in the Army isn't a bad idea after all, seeing how they really enjoy their jobs.*

### Bryan Wong

Drama Character: In stark contrast to his wacky and comedic on-screen persona, Bryan Wong describes himself as an introvert, a perfectionist and a romantic at heart. This description is fairly apt for the character he plays - Poh Wenzhong, who is a NSman Section Commander working in the IT industry.

What he says: *The training facilities are very much improved - we used to run on the driveways for our IPPT as compared to today's modern running track. At the same time, some things have not changed. The sights, sounds and smells of the range certainly evoked many memories for me.*

### Dawn Yeoh

Drama Character: Dawn Yeoh's character, Yao Yishan, plays a critical part in her boyfriend's death in a traffic accident.

What she says: *My largest regret in this drama was that I didn't get the chance to wear the Army uniform, which looks very smart. If I had another chance, I would definitely want to try it on.*

### Rui En

Drama Character: Rui En readily admits that it was very easy for her to play Poh Wenwei, as they had very similar upbringings. Wenwei grew up with three brothers, and is quite the tomboy. Similarly, Rui En is an only child and spent a lot of her childhood with her younger male cousin, which meant playing video games, watching wrestling on television and cycling around the neighborhood.

What she says: *I admire the discipline I see in all the Army personnel. I was particularly impressed by the females in the Army - their reasons for choosing this line of work intrigued me very much.*

### Pierre Png

Drama Character: Su Jianwei, who is an Explosive Ordnance Disposal ex-regular, puts his training to good use and forges a strong bond with his best friend and Army buddy, played by Vincent Ng.

What he says: *Through this show, I've learnt a lot about what our EOD and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Explosive (CBRE) people do, and I feel very fortunate to have been offered this role. I've always loved the Army because it taught me things that could last me a lifetime - it taught me how to think out of the box and push myself to the limits. It's a really good place to be, knowing that the country is counting on you to protect it from anyone who tries to harm us. Now that it has come full circle for me, I'm having a field day playing this character.*

### Ix Shen

Drama Character: Ix Shen plays Wu Chengyi, a graphic designer.

What he says: *I am impressed by how much the Army has changed since my NSF days in terms of its equipment and training.*

### Nat Ho

Drama Character: Poh Wenguo is a polytechnic graduate who goes through Basic Military Training (BMT) on Pulau Tekong. Before he enters the Army, he is resentful of how his father, Poh Penggu (Huang Wenyong), runs the home like an Army camp. However, in BMT, he realises the importance of being prepared physically and mentally for the Army.



Nat Ho believes that having one's hair cut is part of the shared NS experience which bonds people together.

What he says: *The hair-cutting is a very important stage in a Full-time National Servicemen's life, because the whole idea of cutting hair and wearing uniform is to bring everyone to the same status. Everyone is equal - you don't have hair to look cool. By starting from ground zero and training together, I believe that is what bonds people together during National Service - it's a shared experience.*