

armynews

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pulse of the army



NEW LOOK ARMY DRESS

Supplying New Jobs



MOU Signing between the SAF and SBS Transit

More than 100 participants attended the Supply and Transport Job Fair held on 19 May at The Chevrans. This event was organised to help facilitate regular vocationalists from Supply and Transport in their Career Transition Scheme. They were short-listed based on their performance during their career with SAF.

This job fair aimed to assist our logisticians in achieving a smoother transition upon leaving the SAF. This is especially useful in helping servicemen to identify new second career paths in which their current skills in the SAF can be put to good use.

The fair also included a talk that provided useful tips on career transition. It encompassed various areas like job search skills, psychological preparation and financial planning. These tips would be useful in helping the participants to face the challenge of transitioning from the SAF to the private sector.

The companies invited to set up career exhibition and interview booths included SBS Transit, Singapore Technologies Logistics, Singapore Technologies Kinetics, and Nippon Express. These booths provided participants with detailed information on the various jobs available, career progression schemes, and salary packages. Interested participants were also able to attend an interview on the spot.

1SG T. Padmanathan, a Transport Supervisor from HQ 6 Div, said, "I brought my spouse along today to let her be aware of the career transition situation that I am currently going through, so as to keep her in the loop. This job fair has really given me a pool of different career paths that I can choose from. It is also a great help because now I am sure that these are the various careers that I can practice my skills in. They are all related to what I have already been doing in the SAF."



1SG T. Padmanathan sharing his views on MOU

Besides the job fair, the SAF also signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) on 24 May with Sembawang Kimtrans and SBS Transit. This MOU will provide a greater range of options for our Supply and Transport vocationalists in the Career Transition Scheme.

2WO Amerjeet Singh, a Regimental Quarter Master Sergeant from 1st SAF Transport Battalion, commented, "It is a win-win situation for both the SAF and these companies. Now SAF personnel have more options to choose from after their time in the SAF, and these companies have experienced and well-trained employees going into their staff."

CSS Command Kicks into Gear!



ACGS (Logs) COL Ngien signing the CSS Command Plaque

"To provide seamless delivery of quality material, efficient transportation, responsive and holistic medical services and innovative engineering solutions over space and time", this mission statement sums up what the Combat Service Support (CSS) Command is all about.

The inaugural Army CSS Workplan Presentation was held on 18 May at the Army Logistics Training Institute. This seminar gathered the key members of the CSS Command (CSCCOM), including the newest addition to the CSS family – HQ Army Medical Command.

The highlight of the Presentation was the official signing of the HQ CSCCOM plaque by Assistant Chief of General Staff (Logistics) [ACGS (Logs)] COL Ngien Hoon Ping and senior officers, to signify the official inauguration of the HQ CSCCOM.

During the Workplan Presentation, LTC Ng Tion Huat, Head Logistics, HQ Armour, shared valuable lessons from the CSS Operations in the recently concluded exercises. LTC Lam Sheau Kai, G5, CSCCOM, reviewed Army CSS's past achievements and elaborated on the future key directions of CSCCOM. That is, better catering to the Combat Service Support requirements of the 3G Army by integrating L.I.V.E. into daily routines, new training programmes and transformation initiatives.

Transforming The HR Community



ACGS (Pers) delivering his opening address

"Operationalising the HR value chain will drive our efforts to achieve organisational excellence in Army HR" This key message from Assistant Chief of General Staff (Personnel) [ACGS (Pers)], COL Lim Jit Chek, at the Army Human Resource (HR) Exchange seminar underlined the importance of transforming the HR community. The seminar held on 17 May at SAFTI Military Institute, aimed to update Army HR practitioners on the reorganisation journey and new initiatives that will be introduced in the next two years.

The restructuring of Army HR, starting with units-level trials and process validation exercises, aims to build new HR capabilities to meet the needs of Our Army. The transformation will see the centralisation of administrative functions for greater effectiveness and improvement in service quality.

During a lively dialogue session with HR practitioners, ACGS (Pers) encouraged fellow HR practitioners to embrace the new HR structure and to adopt new



MWO Chellaiah, CSS Command Division Sergeant Major, spoke about the roles and responsibilities of the CSS WOSPEC in his address

Letters of Commendation were presented to the deserving individuals who have contributed significantly to Training Exercise Support in India, the Aceh Monitoring Mission, and the Launching of the Enterprise System (Army). The Logistics Pillar Award was presented to MAJ Daniel Chia, Chief Instructor of the Medical Training Institute, for his outstanding contribution in sharing his Medical Operations knowledge and experience to Logistics Trainees. The Annual Logistics Excellence Awards were also presented to the 44 Army (Active and National Service) units that have excelled in their Logistics Readiness Inspection.

The Presentation saw the official appointment of the Division and Formation Sergeant Majors. Representing the WOSPECS of the CSS Command was CSS Command Division Sergeant Major, MWO Chellaiah. In his address, MWO Chellaiah stressed their roles and responsibilities, "With our different roles and responsibilities towards mission success, we WOSPECS must now Think Ops, Think CSS, and Think Integration...the WOSPEC is a role of a mentor and a model for the men on the ground. WOSPECS being directly at the forefront teaching, guiding and grooming the junior soldiers, are looked upon to demonstrate the values and abilities expected of all soldiers."



ACGS (Pers) addressing issues raised at the dialogue session

mindsets on HR practices. Sharing his thoughts about ACE and L.I.V.E for Army HR, he said, "What is important now is how we approach this transformation journey and how we could apply the L.I.V.E framework in our daily work and HR routines. Most of us are so used to our usual HR processes and practices. But I feel we need to adopt a positive attitude, a new outlook to get out of our current comfort zone and see how we can effectively work, operate and innovate in the new environment"

He also noted the importance of taking this period of change and the on-going trials as opportunities to learn and relearn. He advised, "We cannot be too caught up with the fear of making mistakes during the trials or else we would move too slowly. Adopting an open culture of learning and embracing best practices, we should reflect on our mistakes, pick up from there and spur us on to greater heights".

CSM Learning Day: Towards a Corps of Excellence



Sergeant Major of the Army delivering his opening address

"WOSPECS are ordinary people doing ordinary things extraordinarily well". That was a key message from Sergeant Major of the Army, Francis Ng, in his opening address to the Warrant Officers and Specialist (WOSPECS) during the Company Sergeant Major (CSM) Learning Day. This annual event was held on 2 May at Clementi Camp. It was particularly special this year as this was the first time Staff Sergeants were invited as participants. The Learning Day also included a HR dialogue with Assistant Chief of General Staff (Personnel), COL Lim Jit Chek, during which participants were able to raise their issues.

The aim of the CSM Learning Day is to promote a culture of learning among the WOSPECS in the Army. It is also to ensure that they will be updated on key initiatives and educated in new technological advancements as we head towards a 3-G SAF.

This year, the key thrust of the seminar was "Transformation In Motion – Living your best." WOSPECS were urged to "LIVE" to their best in their core business and to constantly strive for excellence. They were also encouraged to maintain the standards that they have set for themselves and not to compromise standards for convenience in their daily work.

The WOSPECS were urged to adopt an attitude of self and lifelong learning. They were encouraged to utilise schemes, workshops, and seminars that have been made available as avenues for learning and education. It is important for them to stay relevant so as to excel at their



SSG Lee Wai Meng feels that the seminar is an eye-opener for him

core business. This is in line with this year's vision statement, "To be an exemplary and dynamic professional in a corps of excellence".



2WO Mak Fook Heng believes in the philosophy of self-learning

and adapting because nowadays we live in a knowledge based world and that would be the best way for us to achieve our goals."

Launch of SAF Ammunition Command



The SAFAC logo

The SAF Ammunition Command (SAFAC) was officially launched on 23 May at Rifle Range Camp to centralise ammunition command operations for the three services in the SAF. This is one of the initiatives taken by the SAF to restructure and centralise operations to meet the challenges of supporting a 3rd Generation SAF.

This launch is a key development for the SAF as it transforms towards a network-centric and integrated war-fighting force. The formation of SAFAC will help the SAF achieve better operational synergy and resource optimisation across all three services. This will create a one-stop centre for all ammo-related matters and enable better utilisation of the SAF's supply support resources.

Besides centralising operations, SAFAC will also build on the existing expertise of people, enabling knowledge sharing within the SAF. This will ultimately result in effective utilisation of human resource and allow more resources to be invested into developing new capabilities.



CDF LG Ng Yat Chung (middle) launching SAFAC, assisted by Head Joint Logs BG Phillip Lim Feng

In his opening address, Chief of Defence Force, LG Ng Yat Chung, encouraged SAFAC personnel to rise to the challenges that they may face and overcome them. He said, "We are fully aware of the tensions when people from diverse culture and operational background are put together under one roof. Each group brings with it a culture developed over many years, a rich heritage and a peculiar preference on how things are done. Therefore, I encourage you to adopt an open mind in sharing and understanding the culture and practices of each other, discuss the rationale behind why things are done in a certain way and find ways to level up to the better practice, wherever possible."

COL Tan Nam Seng, who was previously Deputy Chief Maintenance Engineering Officer and now Commander of SAFAC, shared his vision for the new organisation. He said, "My vision is for us to establish a world best safe and effective ammunition command. We want to achieve zero ammo-related accidents both internally and externally."

Trainee Teacher's Great Army Adventure



The trainee teachers marveling at the size of Our Army's weaponry on 6 June, as part of MINDEF's and National Institute of Education's (NIE) National Education (NE) programme. 1200 trainee teachers visited Sungai Gedong Camp. The visit aims to help the trainee teachers understand National Service (NS) and its importance and better engage their students in NE.

The trainee teachers were treated to impressive displays of Our Army's capabilities through static displays by the various formations. They viewed the high-tech hardware on display and interacted with our soldiers, who shared their first-hand accounts of NS.

The visit was not a static affair as the teachers were treated to rides on Our Army's vehicles. For many of the visitors, it was their first time seeing the M113 Armoured Personnel Carriers, BRONCO armoured transport and Light Strike Vehicle. Ms Lilian Cheng, a future biology teacher expressed her delight at this rare opportunity. She gushed, "I had never been this close to these Army vehicles. Getting to ride on them was a great experience. I have to admit they were not very comfortable and I now have deep respect for the soldiers who have to spend hours and even days inside these vehicles."



The Armour Gunner Tactical Simulator impressed this visitor with its realism

The highlight of the visit was the tour of the Armour Gunner Tactical Simulator. There, the trainee teachers saw the advanced training methods of Our Army. The simulator creates virtual environments with an almost limitless range of tactical and environmental conditions, allowing our soldiers to gain exposure to these without having to do it the old-fashioned way – waiting for it to happen out in the field. The teachers even tried their hand at firing the machine guns on the simulator!

The visit had its serious moments as well. Presentations and talks by senior Army officers inspired the visitors and challenged them to think how they can best educate their students on the importance and benefits of NS.

Ms Chien Meelen, from Mauritius, a trainee primary school teacher, agreed with the speakers. She said, "I have lived in England and America as well and these countries have their own professional armies. Singapore is different, its small size means everyone has to play their part in the nation's defence. I have two sons, who are Permanent Residents and I very much intend for them to serve NS here in Singapore. It will teach them discipline and other good values."

She added, "Your soldiers are very polite, gracious and know a lot about their stuff. I'm glad to have spoken to them at the static display. People from the service industry should really follow the Army's example!"

Arms Badge

The Arms Badge reflects the Arms the servicemen are from. The purpose is to instill confidence and pride in the individual Arms and celebrate the tapestry of its culture. It will be worn on the right shirt collar.



Skills Tabs

There can only be a maximum of 2 Skills Tabs worn on the left sleeve. ie. Ranger and Guards Tabs.



Skills Badges

All the Skills Badges will be weaved on olive green base cloth. The design of the badge remains unchanged.



New Look Army Dress

Our Army has introduced a series of initiatives to the Army Dress to instill a greater sense of national identity and service, as well as to forge a stronger sense of pride and commitment amongst our servicemen. The new dress accessories include the Country Tag, Formation/HQ Patch and the Arms Badge. The background colour for all No. 4 dress accessories has also been changed to olive green. In general, badges worn on the right of the uniform reflect identification whereas badges and tabs worn on the left represent our acquired military skills and proficiency.

Country Tag

A Country Tag has been introduced to our No. 4 uniform to manifest the servicemen's pledge to Singapore. The word "SINGAPORE" is embroidered on an olive green base cloth instead of the camouflage pattern background.



Name Tag

To standardise all dress accessories, the background colour of the Name Tag has also been changed to olive green.



Formation / HQ Patch

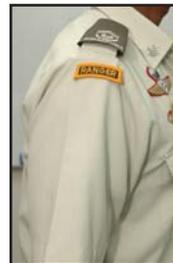
The Formation/HQ patch is a new addition to our Army No. 4 dress. Worn on the right side of the sleeve, it serves to reinforce our servicemen's identity with their own Formation and HQ. The Formation/HQ Patch will also be weaved on olive green background to ensure consistency with the other Badges/Tabs.



 No. 3 Front



Left



Right



 No. 4 Front



Left



Right

Protocol of wearing the SAF Skills Badges

The order of precedence is as such:

A. Exceptional Skills Badges

These Badges have precedence over all Skills Badges and are worn on the left chest above the pocket.



B. Vocation Badges (Air Force & Navy only)

Vocation badges are to be worn on the left chest above the pocket and above other skills badges

C. Skills Badges/Tabs

These are categorised in order of precedence.

(1) Airborne Badges and Warfare Badges



(2) Basic Diving Badge



(3) Jungle Survival Badge



(4) Other Skills Badges (Within each category, if there are more than one badge to be worn, the earlier badge that was awarded would take precedence over subsequent badges awarded)



(5) Taekwondo Badge



Feature Story

L.I.V.E In-flight Experience



There are daily opportunities to demonstrate L.I.V.E in action. LTC (DR) Tan Peng Hui, the HQ Army Medical Command L.I.V.E officer, shared with Army News one recent example. Here is his story.

After two solid weeks of overseas training, home sweet home was on everyone's mind. We boarded a chartered Boeing 747 Jumbo jet for a night flight bound for Singapore.

Before long, the men were settling into their seats. As our soldiers filled the passenger cabin, a worried chief flight stewardess informed us that the plane was short of food. It was a full flight and somehow they were 50 meal sets short.

To order additional meals from the flight kitchen at such short notice was not possible. Transferring meals from other chartered flights leaving that night was considered

but unfortunately they had all departed. All the food outlets in the airport terminal had closed for the night, ruling out buying of takeaway.

"Let's give our food to the men," one officer suggested.

There were nods all round. The officers decided their soldiers would not go hungry. What the officers did didn't go unnoticed by the cabin crew. Words also quickly spread down the aisle.

That night, while some went hungry, many were touched. Deep down, we all felt good. Our hearts were full of pride. It was the right thing to do. Fortunately, the officers did not go completely hungry. The air stewardesses served them cup noodles with red wine!

The training could not have ended with a better L.I.V.E experience. **E**



Feature Story

My Mum Is An RSM!



The 46 SAR family with their new 'mum'

How many in Singapore can say, "My mum is a RSM"? This line is exclusive to 16 year-old twins, Jeffrey and Jason, and their younger brother, Jordan as their mother is none other than the first woman Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM), 1WO Jennifer Tan Siang Lang.

As RSM of the 46th Battalion, Singapore Armoured Regiment (46 SAR), 1WO Jennifer Tan is responsible for maintaining discipline in the battalion as well as a leader the men can turn to for advice and support.

1WO Jennifer Tan is currently busy preparing her men for the SAF Day Parade, where they are receiving the honours for the Best Armour Unit.

In an interview with Army News, 1WO Jennifer Tan shared her thoughts about her new appointment and revealed the inspiration behind her desire to be a soldier.

Being Appointed is a new Challenge
When asked about her thoughts on her new appointment, she said, "It brings excitement and new things to explore. I am glad to have been given this opportunity to grow and excel. The organisation is progressing and it is no longer perceived that

a post cannot be handled by a different gender. I would not want to be pressured by the term '1st Female Combat Unit RSM' but would rather accept this as a different challenge."

Mum of the Unit

She added, "I view my gender as an advantage as I will be perceived as a motherly figure in the battalion. This may allow my commanders and men to feel more comfortable with sharing their problems and concerns with me. But this 'mother' is also the strict discipline master of the Battalion."

Qualities of an RSM

1WO Jennifer Tan believes the role of an RSM requires certain qualities. Now that she has been appointed as one, she will strive to continue embedding these values in her heart and mind. Explaining these values, she said, "The first is professionalism. I believe that professionalism inspires authority and one can only attain professionalism through diligence, dedication and experience. I believe that subordinates will appreciate superiors who are professional."

Next is passion. An RSM must be passionate as it is what moves the heartbeat of the unit. People around you are able to feel whether you are deeply interested in your job. I believe that enthusiasm is contagious and can really be instrumental in driving the individual. "Passion brings joy and meaning to life" - this is a phrase that I will never forget.

Definitely, we cannot set aside the SAF core values. Together with being passionate about the job, I believe having the right values produces excellent commanders."

Her Secret to Success

How does 1WO Jennifer Tan push herself to be an effective soldier and RSM? She explained, "I accept challenges with an open mind and take them as learning processes. A fear of failure and the resulting unwillingness to try will just hold one back from success."

"I'm never afraid to ask questions. I'm fortunate to have good friends around me who are always ready to lend a helping hand. Moreover, I do have a good mentor, my father. He is a former RSM at the SAF Provost Unit."

My dad was a trained drill instructor. I always consult him on the correct pronunciation of the commands and on how to better execute them. He has always guided me well. I also tap on his vast experience and seek his advice on team management. I'm glad that he is the pillar that I can rely upon when I need support especially during my previous overseas attachments."

Following in Dad's Footsteps

Her great respect for her father, former 1WO Tan Hock Hai, influenced her to join the SAF. She added, "Seeing my father commanding hundreds of men at drills was very inspiring for me as a child. Since then, it has been my aspiration to wear the Green of Our Army. After failed attempts in joining the National Cadet Corps during my primary and secondary days, I decided to join the force upon reaching the age of 16."

She's an RSM at Home Too

Off-duty, 1WO Jennifer Tan puts her RSM qualities to good use. Her twins will be enlisting for National Service soon and she has made sure they are prepared to do their best here. She said, "As a military person, I have instilled basic personal discipline in them since young. Now, I am training them to be physically fit to better cope with the physical requirements that they will experience during their military training."

With her increased roles and responsibilities, 1WO Jennifer Tan has to juggle her military life with her family one. Fortunately, as in her own words, "I've a very understanding family who is adaptable to my life style. We always make it a point that Sundays and Public Holidays remain family time."

We wish 1WO Jennifer Tan all the best in her new appointment! **E**

Feature Story

Getting in Shape for AHM



The annual Army Half Marathon (AHM) will be held on 27 August. Although completing the half marathon is no easy feat, it is achievable with the right preparation and training. Here are some tips to get you in shape for the AHM. In any physical preparation for long distance running, there are four phases of training which will build up your endurance, stamina and strength. "Newbies" to the AHM are advised to focus on getting sufficient mileage (ie focus on under Phase One) rather than speed work.

PHASE ONE - ENDURANCE & RESISTANCE TRAINING

Phase One consists of both endurance and resistance training which should be done concurrently. Endurance training is the initial stage of the gradual build-up and increase your stamina. Under this, you should strive to gradually increase your distance covered but still maintaining a low intensity pace. This training is conducted at about 60 to 70% of your Maximal

Heart Rate (MHR). MHR is calculated by running hard a distance of 800 metres then resting for one minute before running hard again for another 800 metres, following which the heart rate is taken immediately. Alternatively you can also use the universal formula of "220 - age" to derive your MHR. Resistance training aims to improve your physical strength and can be done through various means. One common method is running up slopes during which you alternate between strides and speed. Shortening your stride gives you high running frequency and this trains your speed. Conversely, lengthening your stride will give you low running frequency but increase leg strength.

Resistance training should also include weights in the gym. If you are unsure of how to do it, always approach a fitness instructor as improper usage of the weights or equipment can result in injury.

PHASE TWO - INCREASING THRESHOLD

Phase Two aims to increase our anaerobic threshold which is the pace or intensity beyond which blood lactate concentration increases drastically when the body is unable to supply all its oxygen needs. To overcome this, interval training is used as it "teaches" muscle cells to use more oxygen so that less lactate is produced. Interval training is about running a varied distance timing at a self-determined timing with controlled rest time. The intensity of each interval is determined according to your body's condition. For example, in a 200-metre run the interval training time should be about five seconds more than the best time clocked, with a rest of about three minutes before starting another set.

PHASE THREE - HIGH INTENSITY TRAINING

Phase Three is high intensity which is achieved by varying the different training components in the interval training. The usual practices include taking a shorter distance for recovery, putting more effort into the recovery phase (e.g. Jogging for a minute instead of walking), increasing the number of sets of runs, and increasing the speed of the runs. While interval training can be carried out anywhere so long as the ground surfaces are even enough for safe running, doing so on a proper running track will facilitate the tracking of distance covered. It should be conducted at 76 to 88% of Maximal Heart Rate.

PHASE FOUR - RECOVERY

Time to slow down! Our body needs to recuperate and recover from the fatigue built up during the earlier training phases. During this phase, you should just engage in low intensity exercises to maintain your already attained fitness. This will also prevent injury just prior to the big event.

GET THE RIGHT SHOES!

Know your foot types, i.e. normal, high arch or flat foot. There are shoes available to suit your foot type. If you have normal or high arch, choose shoes with mid soles that are arched and narrow in the centre. Those with flat foot would require shoes that have flat soles and are generally wide in the centre. As the stresses on the feet are six to eight times the body weight during a run, it is important that the shoes are properly cushioned at the mid soles. When trying out the shoes prior to purchase, your toes should be able to wiggle freely and the heel should be snug but comfortable. Stand up to get a more accurate feel! **E**

6 SIR the Home of Army Icon 2006!



Power98's search for a singing sensation in the Armed Forces ended with Bhaskaran s/o Balasamy of 6 SIR being crowned the new Army Icon!

Over 9 weeks of intense drama, 12 NSFs and NSmen of various Army units, from Army Fitness Centre to 3 SIR, cast their weapons aside and went to battle on national radio with their vocal chords! Listeners played judge and voted for their favorite Army Icon contestants to stay in the competition!

Support from camp mates definitely played a part as Mohammad Azfar bin Hashim, an

instructor at Army Fitness Center, Kenny Chong Yik Fook, an instructor at Signals Institute and eventual winner Bhaskaran of 6 SIR made in through to the grand finals that was held on 30th May on Power98 in a 2-hour special!

Judges COL Bernard Lim, Head AIC, Tony Kam, Director MDC and Patricia Wong, Senior Assistant Vice President (Sales & Marketing) SAFRA Radio did not have it easy that night but in the end, it was Bhaskaran's rendition of 'My Girl' that won them over. As the new Army Icon, Bhaskaran also took home a \$2000 cash prize! **E**

Feature Story

First NSman Graduates from GCC



LTA (NS) Samuel Chan has always aspired to be a Guardsman. During his Full-Time National Service, he was unable to find the opportunity to realise his dream. A few years later, he became the first NSman to graduate from the Guards Conversion Course (GCC) on 17 April this year. This course equips commanders (officers and specialists) with Guards core skills before they take on their appointments in a Guards unit.

LTA (NS) Samuel volunteered to attend the GCC while pursuing his second degree in Political Islam and Strategy Implementation at Nanyang Technological University. Despite his busy campus schedule, LTA (NS) Samuel made sure he attended all the training sessions during the GCC.

Commenting on the motivation for his achievement, he said, "During my NSF days, I was a Platoon Commander in Basic Military Training Centre. What really inspired me to be a Guardsman were my commanders in Officer Cadet School. They were a

bunch of dedicated and committed soldiers who had also gone through GCC to become Guardsmen. I was really inspired to emulate them. I then decided to volunteer to attend the GCC as an NSman."

He added, "Personally, the hardest challenge that I had to face was the 10-km combat run with Skeletal Battle Order (SBO). Usually I can run 10-km without too much of a problem, but with the SBO on it was a completely different story. I just had to consistently remind myself of my goal and tell myself not to give up. My course mates were also very helpful, and always encouraging me along."

He had the following encouragement for those who are going through National Service. "NS is like an adventure, you really only get one shot at it, so give it your all. You have to put yourself up to the challenge and set goals that you want to achieve. Only then will you find the drive to continue to strive on and do your best." **E**

Passing On The Baton

INCOMING

COL Ngien Hoon Ping	Comd CSS Command	-
COL Tan Nam Seng	Comd SAF Armo Command	-
MWO Hellaiah Puvananthirean	Div SM CSS Command	-
MWO Lim Seng Hin	Frm SM MES Command	-
MWO Lim Swee Hean	Frm SM (CAH) Army Med Command	-
MWO Shamsuddin Bin Isnin	Bde SM (CAH) 61 SIB	-
1WO Devendran	Frm SM Supply Command	-

OUTGOING

-
-
-
-
-
-
MWO Thian Wei Kong

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

How many new additions have been made to the Army No. 4 Dress?
Closing Date - 21 July

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

All entries must reach us by 21 July.

Answer :
Rank / Name :
Unit :
E-mail :
NRIC :
Contact No. :

Have something you want to share with Our Army? Send your articles to us



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President of Indonesia, DR Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, expressing his appreciation to the Singapore Contingent



KASAD TNI, GEN Djoko Santoso, visiting our medical facility



SAF Mission Contingent



Connecting and bringing smiles



SAF medical facility at TNI field hospital in Pleret...



Our Mobile Medical Team reaching out to earthquake victims in the outlying villages



Mission Commander handing over medical supplies to Director of Bantul District Hospital, Dr Endang Purwanti



On 27 May, a major earthquake hit Yogyakarta and brought massive devastation to the ancient capital of Indonesia. Singapore responded immediately by deploying a Humanitarian Assistance (HA) Mission to provide emergency medical aid to the victims. It involved a 35-man medical team from the SAF, and also included a Disaster Assistance and Rescue Team from the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF). The SAF medical team was subsequently joined by an eight-man surgical team to meet the critical demands for expertise in orthopaedics surgery. The SCDF also later sent a medical team which worked closely with the SAF medical team in helping the victims of the earthquake.

The mission involved Army servicemen and servicewomen, comprising medical staff such as doctors, nursing officers and health care assistants (medics), as well as four volunteers from SingHealth. The mission also included members of the Command team which included operations, liaison and logistics.

During the deployment, our medical staff was deployed to reinforce the TNI (Tentara Nasional Indonesia) field hospital in Pleret, Bantul District. The Bantul District General Hospital was also reinforced with a surgical team to perform emergency surgeries for the earthquake victims. Besides these, they also collaborated with TNI to send out Mobile Medical Teams to reach out to the outlying areas of Bantul District to provide on-site medical assistance. The effort of these combined medical teams touched the hearts of the people in Bantul, and forged goodwill among the locals.

During this mission, our men and women have again demonstrated their professionalism and served with pride. Working amidst such scenes of destruction and suffering was a rare experience for many. SAF Mission Commander, LTC Mohd Ramezan said, "This was a memorable experience, involving an emergency operation at short notice and having to work as a team with people whom I have not worked with before. I am proud to be given the opportunity to lead the Singapore contingent that has made a useful contribution to the earthquake victims. This mission has become the highlight of my service in the SAF."



Destruction of homes like this was a common sight in Bantul district



Critical medical supplies from Singapore to treat the earthquake victims



DA Jakarta (COL Keith Rodrigues) [third from left], Mission Commander (LTC Mohd Ramezan) [forth from left], SCDF Contingent Commander (LTC Anwar) [fifth from left] discussing with our TNI counterparts