

AIR FORCE NEWS

ABOVE ALL

ISSUE 114 • AUGUST 2010



MR LEE HSIEN LOONG
PRIME MINISTER

OUR EAGLES ARE HOME



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Air Force News bids a fond farewell to ME6 Chris Chan and would like to express our appreciation for his invaluable contributions. We wish him well in his future endeavours.

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Send off to Gulf of Aden



221 personnel from the Air Force, Navy and Army preparing to set sail for the Gulf of Aden.

In support of international efforts, the SAF has dispatched a task group to counter piracy in the Gulf of Aden on 18 Jun 10. Participating in the three-month deployment is a Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) Landing Ship Tank (LST), RSS Endurance, with two RSAF Super Puma helicopters on board.

Led by COL Tan Kai Cheong, Commanding Officer (CO) of Navy's 191 SQN, to which the RSS Endurance belongs, the task group consists of 221 personnel from the Air Force, Navy and Army. The task group will operate under the ambit of the multinational

Combined Task Force 151 (CTF 151) to conduct sector patrols to deter pirate attacks in the Gulf of Aden. It will also respond to calls for assistance from ships encountering pirate attacks.

The RSAF's Super Puma helicopter detachment, led by LTC Lim Kok Kheng, CO of 126 SQN, would provide aerial support in the theatre of operations. Officiated by the Chief of Navy, RADM Chew Men Leong, the send-off ceremony was attended by Commander Participation Command, BG Wong Huat Sern, and other senior RSAF officers.

MAJ Willy Lee Chee Whai, Deputy CO of 125 SQN, shared his sentiments, "I am proud to be able to lead a team of professionals from the RSAF for this mission, contributing to the international community in counter-piracy operations. I believe that my family will be well taken care of by the organisation during my deployment. There are family liaison officers assigned to help our families with any issue while we are away on operations."

The SAF first deployed the LST, RSS Persistence, and two Super Puma helicopters to the Gulf of Aden from Apr to Jul 09. The SAF was also in command of CTF 151 from Jan to Apr this year.

Overseas Service Medal for Combined Task Force 151



DPM Teo, CDF, LG (then MG) Neo Kian Hong and CAF, MG (then BG) Ng with the RSAF officers.

On 19 May 10, Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean, presented the Overseas Service Medal to 85 SAF officers, and four of them were from the RSAF. MAJ Frank Yap, MAJ Peter Chiam, MAJ Kelvin Yuen and MAJ Neo Sei Chuan were deployed as members of the Singapore contingent in the Combined Task Force (CTF) 151. They were responsible for the effective coordination of the different air platforms assigned to CTF 151.

The CTF 151 is a multinational task force and its mission is to combat piracy in the Gulf of Aden. It also serves as a centre to coordinate resources from other multinational naval forces as well as independently deployed navies to eliminate the scourge of piracy in this area of operations.

The SAF took command of CTF 151 from Jan to Apr 10. Under the leadership of Rear-Admiral Bernard Miranda, the SAF introduced new initiatives which built on existing procedures to enhance the efficacy of CTF 151 in its counter-piracy efforts. It also improved on the proficiency and interoperability of the Task Force's units.

DPM Teo commended the professionalism of the SAF contingent, "The SAF served with the highest standard of discipline, professionalism and personal commitment, upholding the reputation of the SAF as an operationally ready and competent force.

Air Force News congratulates MAJ Frank Yap, MAJ Peter Chiam, MAJ Kelvin Yuen and MAJ Neo Sei Chuan for their successful tour of duty with CTF 151.

Exercise Garuda 2010

Scorching heat, violent sandstorms, turbulent mistral winds, crossing different time zones and long distance flying are but some of the challenges faced by the personnel while undergoing the RSAF's longest exercise deployment to France for EX Garuda 2010.

This year marked the first time that the RSAF has participated in a trilateral exercise codenamed EX Garuda, involving the French Air Force (FAF) and the Indian Air Force (IAF). The exercise, which was conducted at the Istres and Orange air bases in France, ran from 14 to 25 Jun 10. The exercise involved over 180 RSAF personnel, six F-16D Blk 52+ fighter jets and one KC-135R tanker. The FAF participated with Mirage-2000 and Rafale fighter aircraft and C-135R transport aircraft with the IAF deployed its Sukhoi-30 fighters, Ilyushin IL-78 tanker aircraft and Ilyushin IL-76 transport aircraft. During the exercise the aircraft performed air combat and air support roles in both day and night theatres.

This was the first time that the RSAF's F-16D Blk 52+ performed night flying operations in European air space. It also served as a platform for the RSAF to train its large force employment capabilities as well as interoperate with the FAF and the IAF. During the exercise, a Spotters Day and Distinguished Visitor (DV) Day were conducted to show the public and senior officers from the RSAF, FAF and IAF, the interoperability and capabilities of the aircraft from all three air forces. During the DV Day, each air force performed aerial displays with all their participating aircraft.

The journey from Singapore to France, which lasted five days, was the longest deployment that the RSAF has conducted to participate in an overseas exercise. The over 11,500km route involved two KC-135R tanker aircraft providing air-to-air refueling (AAR) support for the six F-16D Blk 52+ fighter jets. The aircraft and crew staged through India and Qatar before reaching France. The aircraft redeployed the same way back to Singapore.

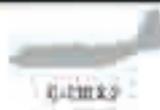
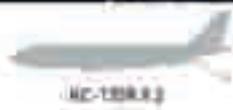
Speaking on the challenges faced during the deployment LTC Nalpon Patrick Selvan, the Detachment Commander said, "The Qatar – France leg of our journey was the longest flight our aircraft have undertaken. Fatigue is a big challenge with long distance flights; moreover, we had to deal with the unique air traffic procedures involved with crossing over air space belonging to several different countries. Despite these challenges, it has been a once in a lifetime experience that a lot of people will cherish for a long time."

LTC Zakir Hamid, Commanding Officer, 112 SQN, noted, "During such long range deployment, it is essential that all our contingencies are in place so that we are able to support and sustain the fighter aircraft, in the case of route diversions. Having an AAR capability is the sign of a mature air force. We are one of the few air forces in the world to possess such a capability. AAR enhances the durability and range of an air force and is one of the key components in any advanced air force."



KEY FACTS

- 1st trilateral exercise between RSAF, FAF and IAF
- Longest RSAF deployment for an exercise
- 11,500km Journey
- Last leg from Qatar to France: longest flight undertaken by RSAF aircraft at a stretch
- Last leg lasted 7+ hours
- 2 KC-135R tanker aircraft performed AAR for the 6 F-16D Blk 52+
- 1st time the RSAF's F-16D Blk 52+ conducted night flying operations over European air space



Exercise Garuda 2010

However, the exercise had just begun with the long range deployment. ME1 Darren Batchelor, a Flight Line Crew from 145 SQN, described the challenges faced during the exercise itself, "The main challenge is the severe weather conditions that we have to overcome over here. We work out in the open, which is the flight line concept, where all the aircraft are parked in a line. This is different from back home, where they are parked under shelter. Here, we only have a small team of people, so we have to work as a team to overcome all obstacles."

Wing Commander Sanjay, from 78th SQN, IAF, which operated the Ilyushin-78 tanker aircraft said, "This is a good opportunity to interact with the RSAF. We are getting to know how they operate and what their standard operating procedures are. We enjoy very warm working relations with one another."

Commenting on the significance of EX Garuda to the RSAF, SLTC (then LTC) Pek Hong Hwa, the RSAF

Exercise Director commented that, "The French and Indian air forces are very advanced and professional. I think this exercise has been very beneficial for personnel at all levels, as all three air forces can learn from one another and enhance our interoperability."

COL Jean-Paul Clapier, the FAF Exercise Director added that, "The main objectives beyond interoperability, is to enhance our people's skills through more and more complex missions and through dealing with large force employment."

Grp Cpt Jeepu Mishra, the IAF Exercise Director said of the RSAF's inclusion in EX Garuda, "EX Garuda 2010 has enabled us to enhance our defence relations and learn from each other's best practices. The inclusion of the RSAF has significantly added to the value of this exercise. We are all very operationally sound air forces and it is our goal to learn as much as possible from one another."



The aircraft of all three air forces on the flight line.



Three RSAF F-16D Blk 52+ preparing for take-off.



RSAF and FAF pilots at the flight-line



COMD ACC, BG Richard Pereira, with the FAF Exercise Director, COL Jean-Paul Clapier, and some of the RSAF personnel.

Exercise Cope Tiger 2010



Pilots from the three Air Forces sharing lighter moments under the blazing sun at the flight-line.

The RSAF, the Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) and the United States Air Force (USAF) participated in EX Cope Tiger '10. The 16th in this series, the exercise was an opportunity for all three air forces to build on the interoperability, professionalism and friendships achieved during previous exercises.

The first phase of the annual EX Cope Tiger consisted of a Command Post Exercise (CPX), held at Paya Lebar Air Base from 21 to 23 Dec 09. The CPX was crucial in establishing greater understanding of the operating procedures across the three air forces. Mission planning exercises and mission commanders' training were conducted during this phase. The CPX ensures the safe and successful execution during the Flying Training Exercise (FTX).

The FTX is the second phase of EX Cope Tiger. A total of 80 aircraft and 36 Ground-Based Air Defence (GBAD) systems, and more than 1000 personnel from the three participating military forces were involved in the FTX. The RSAF's participation included F-16 and F-5 fighter aircraft, Super Puma helicopters, an E-2C Airborne Early Warning aircraft and a KC-135R Stratotanker. RSAF Ground-Based Air Defence (GBAD) systems were also deployed at Chandy Range to provide joint air defence.

The RTAF Exercise Director, Group Captain Chaiyapruk Didyasarin, said of this year's EX Cope Tiger, "This is one of the biggest exercises in South East Asia. The main objective of Cope Tiger is to gain experience from one another through planning and execution of air activities. Through sharing, we are also able to forge strong friendships and professional exchanges at all levels.



This was USAF F-15 Eagle Pilot, Major Scott Rowe's first time participating in EX Cope Tiger. He credited the strong bonds built among the three air forces for the high mission success rate, "Our air forces share a very strong relationships. EX Cope Tiger has been going on for 16 years, so the knowledge of working with the Thais and Singaporeans has been passed down from earlier editions. It is a good and strong foundation to work off on."



EX Cope Tiger also honed the integration among our own troops. As RSAF Exercise Director, COL Lim Tuang Liang pointed out, "We want to be able to integrate our forces much more effectively. The training area over Korat provides an ideal environment not just for the pilots and WSOs, but also for the GBAD forces and C3 community. Being able to come together to operate in a manner that's realistic and integrated is crucial, as we move towards building our 3rd Generation RSAF."



RSAF F-16D+ aircraft on the flight-line.

Deputy Exercise Director, LTC Francis Tan, elaborated, "This year's deployment sees a larger number of systems being deployed in Thailand, as compared to 2009. As such, for the evaluation of the engagements, we have wired Chandy Range to Korat. This facilitates timely evaluation and feedback to the pilots in Korat as well as the Ground Based Air Defence (GBAD) forces in Chandy. Being able to conduct real time evaluation is critical so that both pilots and GBAD forces can learn from the executed missions and improve on subsequent missions."

EX Cope Tiger 10 was more than military exercises and missions. A community relations project was also organised to allow the foreign military forces to contribute to the local community. The participating forces donated books, stationery supplies and sports equipment to the local schools; as well as dispensed medical and dental services to the locals.



An RSAF doctor treating a local patient.

Exercise Cope Tiger 2010



"We are the face of the RSAF that the people of Thailand can connect with," shared CPT(DR) (NS) Timothy Cho, an RSAF doctor on his first socio-civic mission with the military. "The patients who have come to see us, don't just exude warmth, but also this gratitude and thankfulness that I don't always see in patients back home. As a doctor, it really makes my day."

RTAF doctor, Wing Commander Nutpol Sakornyen, added, "We are very thankful to the RSAF and USAF forces for helping out the local community. The locals are very grateful as many received medical and dental care that they might not be able to afford on normal days."

A cultural exchange programme was organised at Nakornrachasima Special Education School as part of the community relations programme. The RSAF set up a photo booth for the students to take photos in traditional Singaporean costumes as mementos.

The exercise concluded on 12 Mar 10 with the official closing ceremony. Officiating at the ceremony were CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng, Commander-in-Chief, RTAF, Air Chief Marshal (ACM) Itthaporn Subhawong; and Commander Pacific Air Forces, Air Component Commander for US Pacific Command (PACAF), GEN Gary L. North.

General North concluded, "The most important thing we gained is the interoperability of the airmen from the three air forces. From the transport aircraft to the fighters to the helicopters, all three Air Forces have tremendous capability. The airmen learn from each other and interoperate well. We are prepared to take our training to the next step in the years to come."



MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng with ACM Itthaporn Subhawong, RTAF, and GEN Gary North, USAF at the closing ceremony of EX Cope Tiger 2010.

Naval Helicopter and Frigate Integrated Exercise



An S-70B Naval Helicopter on the deck of the RSS STALWART.

EX Golden Merlion, the first exercise of its kind, took place from 8 to 15 Mar 10 off the coast of Southern California, USA. This exercise involved the RSAF, the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and the United States Navy (USN), with dedicated Naval Aviation units participating from both countries. With the SAF's own S-70B Seahawks at the centre of the action, this exercise marked the first time that a SAF aircraft had gone "live" on a US submarine.

Training for the first batch of Seahawk crew started as early as Oct 07, when six RSAF pilots began the Aircraft Qualification Course (AQC) in Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego – the largest USN Air Station on the West Coast of USA. Joined shortly thereafter by the RSN Tactical Coordinators, these Seahawk crew completed their AQC training, followed by S-70B-specific training conducted by the Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation.

The RSN deployed RSS STALWART, a Formidable-Class Frigate to San Diego to participate in integration training as part of the Peace Triton Detachment. The men and women of RSS STALWART and personnel from the RSAF worked together to ensure safe and efficient operations and developed basic tactical doctrines in preparation for EX Golden Merlion, which was observed by Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean.

Commander Jon Anderson, Head Weapons School, Foreign Military Training Department, USN, said, "The SAF trainees experienced the same thing that we experienced, and go through the very same qualifications that we did, in order to be ready to go to sea as a detachment." As the head trainer for Peace Triton's aviation capability, he was suitably impressed with the efficiency of the SAF. "The USN shipboard integration took us almost ten years and the SAF is doing it in three, which in itself is incredible."

After observing the exercise, DPM Teo commented, "The capability the frigate and helicopter integration has for the SAF is that it enables the ship and helicopter platform to dominate a much greater area of sea and air space, both above and below the surface, than is possible either with a ship or an aircraft alone. The fact that you can put the ship and the aircraft together and multiply the capabilities of both by operating them together as one system is a major leap forward in the capabilities of the SAF."

Prime Minister's Visit to Peace Carvin V



PM Lee, SECAF, The Honourable Mr Donley, CAF, MG Ng Chee Meng, senior US and Singaporean officials in a discussion.

Prime Minister (PM) Lee Hsien Loong visited the RSAF's Peace Carvin V (PC V) F-15SG fighter detachment at the Mountain Home Air Force Base (MHAFB) in Idaho, United States (US), on 11 Jul 10. The PC V detachment conducts F-15SG familiarisation courses to RSAF aircrews.

During his first visit to the detachment, PM Lee witnessed first-hand the progress and milestone achievements it has undergone since its inauguration on 19 Nov 09. One of which, was winning an annual weapons loading competition held at MHAFB, despite competing against

the more experienced US Air Force (USAF) ground crew. PM Lee also took the time to meet the men and women of PC V and their families.

During his visit, PM Lee met with The Honourable Michael Donley, Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF), US Department of the Air Force to discuss the importance of the partnership between the US and Singapore. Commenting on the close relations that the two air forces share PM Lee said, "We work together with similar strategic perspectives, and that is what underpins the cooperation between the USAF and RSAF."

Commenting on the value of overseas detachments such as PC V, PM Lee stated that, "We have the opportunity to train with friendly forces and learn from them, and exchange our experiences with them and to become a more professional and capable RSAF - a stronger deterrent and defence force."

SECAF, The Honourable Mr Donley, commented that, "Between our two air forces, we've developed very strong and close relationships as evidenced by the presence of the F-15 squadron at Mountain Home. This wonderful partnership has given us the opportunity to train together and to improve our interoperability as we confront security challenges facing both of our countries."

Peace Carvin V Wins Annual Weapons Loading Competition



ME3 Saravanan, ME2 Chua and ME1 Ramnath loading a sidewinder missile onto an F-15SG during the Weapon Loading Competition

On 9 Apr 10, the RSAF's F-15SG detachment, Peace Carvin V (PC V), achieved its first ever win at the Annual Weapons Loading Competition at the Mountain Home Air Force Base (MHAFB) in Idaho, United States. The detachment won top honours in the quarterly competitions on 2 Oct 09 and yet again on 11 Jan 10.

The Weapons Loading Competition is contested by the four F-15 squadrons within MHAFB. The weapons load team underwent a series of challenges comprising of a theory test, a uniform inspection, a timed weapons loading and a composite tool kit inspection. The best team from each squadron subsequently competed for the Annual Weapons Loading Competition.

At the MHAFB annual banquet, the Maintenance Group Commander, COL Timothy J Fowler, announced

that PC V Flight Line Crew (FLC) made up of ME3 Saravanan, ME2 Ben Chua and ME1 Ramnath emerged as winners of the prestigious annual award; with the best scores in all categories and achieving the fastest weapon loading time with zero safety and reliability discrepancies. This was a significant achievement considering that the F-15SG is a very new platform and they had been working with it for only 11 months.

In preparation for the competition, the winning team put in additional hours of self-study and weapons loading training to perfect the execution of the entire task. The win demonstrated the pride, professionalism, passion and fighting spirit of the PC V Detachment.



The PCV ground crew after winning the best weapons load crew award.

SAF Day Parade



President Nathan, DPM Teo, and CDF, LG Neo gracing the occasion.

The SAF Day Parade 2010 was held on 1 Jul 10 at SAFTI Military Institute (SAFTI MI). This year, more than 1,500 Regulars, Operationally Ready National Servicemen (NSmen) and full-time National Servicemen commemorated 43 years of the SAF by attending the SAF Day Parade.

Officiated by President S R Nathan, the parade was attended by Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean; Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence, Dr Ng Eng Hen and Minister of State for Defence, Associate Professor Koo Tsai Kee.

During the parade, Chief of Defence Force (CDF), LG Neo Kian Hong led SAF personnel in reciting the SAF pledge to reaffirm their loyalty and commitment to the nation. In all, the parade featured four Guard-of-Honour contingents, 13 supporting contingents, 35 Regimental Colours and the three State Colours.

During the parade, DPM Teo presented the Best Unit and Best NS Unit awards to 23 SAF units. In addition, 15 NSmen were also presented with the SAF NSman of the Year awards by DPM Teo during the post-parade reception.



Best NSman Award recipient, SSG(NS) Tan Chee Kian Calvin, 18 DA Bn, commented, "I feel very privileged to have been given this prestigious award. We are a small country, and it is every man and woman's duty to



The RSAF Guard-of-Honour contingent marching at the SAF Day Parade.

be operationally ready at all times. Defending our country is not only the duty of the SAF, but also of every Singaporean."

CPL(NS) Tay Hup Chong, 163 SQN, was also awarded the Best NSman Award, concurred, "National Service is an excellent platform the government has created, to groom our men to become better individuals, to understand other races, and to be more tolerant of others. We may never know when our country might require our services, so it is important that we are ready at all times, to deal with a crisis, should one arise."



DPM Teo presenting CPL(NS) Tay Hup Chong with the Best NSman Award.

The RSAF's Best Units 2010

Best Fighter Squadron 140 SQN

Inaugurated in Feb 1970 as Singapore's first Air Defence Fighter Squadron has a long and rich history in the RSAF. The squadron first operated the Hawker Hunter aircraft for 20 years before they were replaced by the F-16 A/B aircraft in 1990.

The induction of the F-16A/B into 140 SQN heralded a new era in the RSAF's air defence capabilities. The squadron now operates the F-16 C/D aircraft. In addition to its primary role as a fighter squadron it also conducts F-16 conversion courses for newly graduated pilots. This year marks the 12th time that 140 SQN has clinched the Best Fighter Squadron award and is an achievement unsurpassed by any other fighter squadron.



3SG Brian Teo, a Dedicated Crew Chief (DCC) shared his feelings on winning this award, "I definitely feel proud as this award serves as recognition for all the hard work we have put in. It inspires me to mentor the new people coming into the squadron to maintain the high standards that we have achieved."

3SG Liu Houcheng, a DCC, echoed his sentiments, "This award shows how much teamwork can improve

Best Transport Squadron 121 SQN

Set up in 1973, when they operated the SH 7 Skyvan, the 121 SQN found a new chapter in their success story with the commissioning of the Fokker F-50 Maritime Patrol Aircraft in 1993.

The F-50's primary role is to provide dedicated wide area maritime air surveillance for search and resource operations, aeromedical evacuations and the transportation of personnel. 121 SQN operates a system that employs both the RSAF and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) assets that are capable of operations in tandem in seeking out and destroying a target. 121 SQN has won the award for the fifth time, a first among the transport SQNs.

1SG Lee Jun Hao, an Air Crew Specialist, commented, "It is heartening to see our efforts being recognised. However, we should not be overconfident but strive to improve our current standards."



CPT Ling Hui, A Tactical Coordinator from the RSN, added that "We work in a high tempo environment, which keeps us on our toes. This prevents complacency from setting in and maintains our currency and competency."

our capabilities. In our squadron there is not much distinction between Full-Time National Servicemen and regulars. Everyone has to work together in order to sustain operations."



LTC Kwan Kum Wah, Commanding Officer (CO) of 140 SQN highlighted the greatest contributing factor to his SQN's success, "The squadron has always maintained the spirit of the Osprey Warrior where we believe in professionalism, discipline and giving our people mutual respect and a sense of belonging. This coupled with lots of hard work and team work paved the way for us to win this title."



LTA Sathiyarajoo, a Pilot, attributed the SQN's win to the tremendous amount of cohesion in the SQN, "We are all bonded like a family. When we work it feels like we are working for our family so it strives us on to greater heights. This award is not the end; it is a milestone in our journey to success."



LTC Song Chun Keet, CO of 121 SQN, echoed LTA Sathiyarajoo's thoughts "The high level of cohesion and camaraderie in the squadron is just amazing. I am very proud of the squadron. We put in long hours and have worked hard. We have been very active locally and overseas and this award is a reflection of that."

The RSAF's Best Units 2010

This year's best unit competition marks the addition of the Best Helicopter Squadron category. The inaugural award was won by 127 SQN, which operates the CH-47 Chinook aircraft. Entering its 11th year of operations, the primary role of 127 SQN is helicopter borne combat search and rescue and troop movement.



LTC Kevin Wee, CO of 127 SQN, commented on the key qualities that his SQN possesses that helped them win this award, "I think there are three qualities that have been essential to our success. Belief, Ownership and Passion. Everyone believes in the squadron's mission, and they take ownership for the



The 3rd Divisional Air Defence Artillery Battalion (3 DA Bn) have outdone themselves again, by winning the Best GBAD Unit award for the 4th time in a row.

The unit's winning streak is testament of its capabilities and the high standards that it has maintained and ameliorated over the years.

Formed in 1980, 3 DA BN's role is to provide air defence to the Combined Arms Division. It also enhances the National Air Defence umbrella by providing point air defence to vital installations in Singapore.

The battalion operates 24/7 to defend Singapore's skies and truly embody their motto of being 'Vigilant and Valiant'.

Best Helicopter Squadron 127 SQN

squadron's success as they have the passion and drive to achieve the squadron's objectives."



ME2 Clement Yacob, a Flight Engineer and DCC spoke of how their training helped them during operations, "Our training in the squadron helps to increase our confidence and proficiency when we go for overseas operations, such as the human aid and disaster relief (HADR) mission to Indonesia after the tragic Boxing Day Tsunami. We had to work long hours, however we knew our mission, to try and help those in need of aid. We were able to succeed in the same way we were able to win this award, as a team. Together Everyone Achieves More."



CPT Rajpal Singh, a pilot, highlighted the importance of this award, "It feels good that headquarters decided to create a separate category for the helicopters. The Chinook has always been at the forefront of HADR operations as well as other high key operations. This award recognises the efforts put in by each and everyone of us in the squadron, winning this award spurs us on to try even harder to win the award again next year."

Best Ground Based Air Defence Unit 3 DA Bn



LTC Garrick New, CO, commented on some of the challenges his SQN has to overcome, "Being a 24/7 unit we have to be ready to work long and odd hours, which can be tiring. However, we take pride in what we do. Our management focuses on adopting the right attitude. With that you also need to be able to 'walk the talk' and be ready to defend the country if necessary."

CPL Lau See Cheong, an Air Defence Weapons Operator for the RBS 70, said of the camaraderie in the unit, "This unit is very small so we all work hand in hand. We are always operationally ready. We will always be ready."

MAJ Tan Kian Seng, a Radar Battery Commander, said of the win, "It is no coincidence that we have won this award consecutively over the past four years. The main ingredient of our success is our people. They are committed to the unit, the organisation and Singapore. You can count on us to defend Singapore.

Air Force News congratulates all the winners on their outstanding achievements.

National Runway Cycling and Skating 2010



Over 7,000 cyclists and skaters on the runway

The annual National Runway Cycling and Skating (NRWCS) was held for the 15th year at Paya Lebar Air Base on 20 Jun 10. Jointly organised by the RSAF and SAFRA National Service Association, the event saw the participation over 7,000 members of the public who relished the chance of cycling or skating down a runway in a military airbase.

The event was flagged off by the Guest-of-Honour, Minister of State for Defence and SAFRA President, Associate Professor Koo Tsai Kee, who himself joined in for a leisure ride, along with many senior MINDEF and SAF personnel.

The NRWCS has the aim of bringing the family together and this year, it achieved this with the Retrotastic Dad Carnival, organised in conjunction with Fathers' Day as part of National Family Celebrations. The Carnival brought participants on a journey through five decades of traditional games, some of them with a twist – such as the life-sized Snakes and Ladders, Kampong Fishing and Kuti-Kuti.



The F-15SG static display.

Said COMD PLAB, SLTC (then LTC) Archie Ong, Chairman of the NRWCS Organising Committee, "We are pleased to open the runway at Paya Lebar Air Base for members of the public to engage in healthy and family-oriented activities together such as cycling and skating. We are glad to note the good response from families and sports enthusiasts of all age groups. Seeing the participants having a great time at the base makes our efforts in organising the event worth it. With the event held on Father's Day, it was certainly a good opportunity for families to spend quality time together and celebrate the occasion."

With a whole host of riveting games, skating and biking stunts, complete with performances by the West Spring Secondary School Display Band, the NRWCS was an event of unbridled fun for all. The F-15SG static display also proved very popular with the participants as they were all eager taking photos with the newest fighter aircraft of the RSAF, which was showcased to the public for the first time.



A happy family enjoying their time at NRWCS '10.

National Runway Cycling and Skating 2010

During the event, Air Force News caught up with some of the participants to see what they had to say.



Mr Fred Barnes, a permanent resident from France (middle).

"We live here but we come from France. It's the first time we've come down and we've enjoyed it so far! It's a very nice thing that the RSAF is doing, opening the runway to the public – it's hard to imagine other air forces doing something like this!"



CPT Vijendran, OC FDS-PLAB, APGC.

"Maintaining security is vital in large events such as the NRWCS. We have made our security arrangements as comprehensive as we can so as to ensure that there will not be any threat that would compromise the safety of the participants."



ME5 Jerediah Ong, OC SF/ASMS, ALG-FW 2.

"I've been working in the RSAF for seven years and this is the first time I'm taking part in NRWCS. I brought my son along and both of us had great fun."



Chloe Lim, 7, student.

"I learned how to skate so that I can come here and try it out on the runway!"



Wee Kia Eng, 64 (left).

"It is a good form of exercise. While the programme is largely the same every year, I still look forward to participating in NRWCS because it is a real treat to be able to cycle on a runway."

Nelson Wee, 30 (right).

"I think NRWCS is a great event as it brings the family together, apart from allowing us to have a good time. I'll definitely come back again next year. In fact, I always make the effort to participate in this event."

Commemorating 30 Years of Divisional Air Defence Operations



CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng signing a plaque commemorating 30 years of Divisional Air Defence.

Divisional Air Defence Group (DAG) marked "30 Years of Divisional Air Defence Operations" this year, since the inception of 3rd Divisional Air Defence Artillery Battalion (DA Bn) in 1980 for the low level air defence of the Army's Combined Armed Divisions (CADs). To commemorate this significant milestone, a celebration was held at Chong Pang Camp on 30 April 2010. The event was graced by Chief of Air Force (CAF), MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng, together with Prof Lui Pao Chuen (former CDS), Commander Participation Command (COMD PC), BG Wong Huat Sern, COMD Air Defence and Operations Command (ADOC), BG Kwek Kok Kwong, former commanders of the former Singapore Air Defence Artillery, Air Defence Systems Division and Divisional Air Defence Artillery Brigade (now DAG), and other senior commanders from Army, Navy and the Defence Science and Technology Agency.

The celebration commenced with an opening dance entitled "Fame" by Music and Drama Company (MDC) and followed with a speech by COMD DAG, COL Loh Kean Wah. A video on 30 years of Divisional Air Defence journey was also screened to recollect how Divisional Air Defence has evolved over the years from 1980 to 2010 and the significant



Commander DAG, COL Loh giving his speech.

achievements towards Operational Readiness and Mission Success, as well as to showcase DAG as an integral part of PC supporting the 3rd Generation RSAF's operations.

During the celebration, COMD DAG also took the opportunity to launch the DAG Alumni NS Portal with CAF, COMD PC and COMD ADOC. The DAG Alumni NS Portal gives NSMen access to up-to-date news regarding changes and events in DAG. This is important in keeping today's NSMen updated on the happenings in their units and aware of changes as they commence their In-Camp-Trainings. Local talents from DAG then took the stage to captivate the hearts of the audience with musical performances. This was followed by a cake cutting ceremony to officially commemorate 30 years of Divisional Air Defence Operations. The Music and Drama Company then proceeded to treat the audience to a song and dance medley to the theme of the 80s.

A long, yet fruitful 30 years journey has proven that Divisional Air Defence Operations will always be an integral part of Singapore's defence. Air Force News congratulates DAG on achieving this significant milestone and wishes DAG many great years ahead.



CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng in a lighter moment with senior DAG personnel.



Participants participating in one of the evening's many games.

122 SQN 30th Anniversary



Personnel from 122 SQN loading up for a HADR mission.

On 22 Jul 10, 122 SQN celebrated its 30th Anniversary at Paya Lebar Air Base (PLAB). The history of 122 SQN dates back to June 1973 when the RSAF's first transport squadron was formed, operating the Shorts SH7, Skyvan. In December 1981, the Lockheed C-130 Hercules aircraft was permanently installed in PLAB and began developing its tactical air-drop and air-land operations.

Over the past three decades, 122 SQN has been involved in numerous humanitarian missions to disaster stricken areas in the region. Some more recent missions include delivering humanitarian aid to Sichuan and Myanmar in the aftermath of an earthquake and typhoon respectively.

Said LG(Ret) Bey Soo Kiang, former Chief of Defence Force (1995-2000), former Chief of Air Force (1992-1995), and a former C-130 Pilot, "Apart from being called upon for HADR missions, 122 SQN have had operational missions that include the post-war

reconstruction of Iraq, which was the first time an RSAF aircraft entered a non-benign area."

With the wealth of operational experience and the continued development of its people and technology, 122 SQN's integration into the next spiral of RSAF's transformation will likely be a smooth one.

"Transport squadrons by definition are very unique because they operate with the other Services. The cohesiveness of the squadron shines through during these joint operations and it epitomises the saying 'the whole is greater than the sum of the parts'" said SLTC Mike Bogaars, COMD Transport Group (TG).

The 30 year milestone that 122 SQN celebrates marks the strength of the squadron, as a whole and as a part of the RSAF. Indeed, 122 SQN's remarkable achievement of 122 000 hours of accident-free flying hours is a hallmark of the high quality performance.



SAF personnel boarding 122 SQN's C-130.



COS (AS), BG Hoo Cher Mou, COMD TG, SLTC Mike Bogaars, and personnel from 122 SQN toasting in celebration of the 30th anniversary.

Grassroots Leaders' Visit to PLAB



Mr Charles Chong trying the air mission trainer.

On 9 May 10, a group of 153 Grassroots Leaders (GRLs) from Pasir Ris - Punggol and Aljunied Group Representation Constituencies (GRC) visited Paya Lebar Air Base (PLAB) to foster greater understanding between the RSAF and the community. Among the GRLs was Mr Charles Chong, a Member of Parliament (MP) from Pasir Ris – Punggol GRC, and Mdm Cynthia Phua, a MP from Aljunied GRC.

The visit began with a brief on the RSAF's 3rd Generation transformation journey by LTC Ramesh Tiwari, CO, Flying Support Squadron (FSS), PLAB. LTC Benny Chan, CO, Flight Simulation Centre (FSC) then briefed the group on the RSAF's flight simulation capabilities.

The use of flight simulation technology is one of the methods the RSAF employs to minimise the noise pollution generated by aircraft. As LTC Ramesh Tiwari, CO, FSS-PLAB, highlighted in his brief to the GRLs, the RSAF has put in place various measures to combat noise pollution. These include the construction of a 'hush house' in PLAB for engine ground runs, to reduce noise during regular aircraft maintenance. During Ministry of Education examination periods more stringent rules are enforced on flight times. Half of the RSAF's flying is conducted overseas. However, local flying in both day and night theatres is still essential to the RSAF's operations in order for it to keep its operational edge and defend Singapore.

"These visits by GRLs showcase the many measures the RSAF has taken to lessen the inconvenience caused by flying over residential areas. I think residents must be made aware that there is a minimal amount of operational flying training that must be done. This is the minimum inconvenience. I think GRLs here will spread the word within the community", said Mr Charles Chong on the importance of such visits.

Mdm Phua spoke of her confidence in the RSAF's capability to defend Singapore, "With the purchase



of the F-15SG we have one of the most formidable weapons in the world. We have also tapped on technology to provide pilots with the expertise and training they need, whilst safeguarding the community from excessive disturbance. The combination of these two things has impressed me greatly and I am confident of the RSAF's ability to keep us safe."



Deputy CO of 149 SQN, LTC Linus Tan, engaging a GRL at the static display.

After the briefs the GRLs were brought to FSC to tour the air mission trainer and the operational flight trainer. Subsequently, the GRLs were shown a static display of the F-15SG aircraft and were briefed on its capabilities by personnel from 149 SQN. After which there was a question and answer session between the GRLs and a panel of Senior MINDEF and RSAF personnel, consisting of Minister of State for Defence, Assoc Prof Koo Tsai Kee; then Director Public Affairs, COL Darius Lim; COMD Air Power Generation Command, COL Sarbjit Singh and COMD Fighter Group COL Ho Foo Sing. The visit concluded with a buffet style lunch with the senior officers and MINDEF personnel engaging the GRLs.



MOS, Assoc Prof Koo, conversing with a GRL.

PACRIM Air Symposium



COMD ADOC, BG Kwek Kok Kwong, with co-host COMD 13AF, LG "Hawk" Carlisle, at the opening address of the PAS.

The RSAF co-hosted the 2010 Pacific Rim (PACRIM) Airpower Symposium (PAS) with the 13th Air Force (13AF) of the Pacific Air Forces (PACAF), from the United States, for the first time from 20 to 24 Jul 10. This year's symposium, themed 'The Role of Airpower in Peace Support Operations', saw the attendance of delegations from 21 countries. The PAS is a forum established by the PACAF to engage the Heads of Operations from the Asia-Pacific region to enhance cooperation amongst the regional air forces.

COMD ADOC, BG Kwek Kok Kwong, co-host of the PAS, said, "The RSAF participates in a wide spectrum of peace support and humanitarian operations around the world. This symposium is an excellent forum for the RSAF to share the HADR [humanitarian assistance and disaster relief] lesson and the peace support operations in Afghanistan and the Gulf of Aden."

Running alongside the symposium is a Senior Enlisted Leaders (SEL) conference, which allows the SEL of the various air forces to network and share experience on the development of the Non-Commissioned Officer corps.

The PAS saw professional exchanges in the areas of practical cooperation amongst the nations, focusing



SEL Delegates posing for a group photo.



MG Kunisuke Nakashima, Japan Air Self Defense Force, giving a brief on Japan's support of the relief operations after the Haiti earthquake in Jan 10.

on cooperation in HADR, an important non-traditional security issue. The symposium provided an avenue for countries to engage constructively and played an important role in encouraging an open security architecture to sustain long-term regional peace and stability.

LG Herbert Carlisle, COMD 13 AF, USAF, co-host of the PAS, said, "The USAF looks forward to these events every year and the 2010 edition is no exception. We thank the government of Singapore for inviting us to their country as co-host, and all the participants for joining in a spirit of partnership.

During the PAS and SEL conference, delegates visited the Flight Simulator Centre and the Air Force Training Command respectively, where they learn about the RSAF's use of technology to enhance conventional training methods. Delegates from both forums also visited the Air Force Museum where they were briefed on the RSAF's history. The successful co-hosting of the multilateral 2010 PAS has strengthened the relations, understanding and cooperation between the RSAF and PACAF as well as the other international and regional participants.



PAS delegates after a tour of the Air Force Museum.

Live Our Dreams, Fly Our Flag



The State Flag flypast.

This year, our nation celebrated its 45th birthday in spectacular fashion. National Day Parade (NDP) 2010 was held at the Padang, the venue of the inaugural NDP in 1966, which happens only once every five years. On 9 Aug, people of all races and creeds came together to celebrate our country's birthday.

The 3,100-strong parade contingent was led by LTC Lek Seng Khoon, the Parade Commander for this year's NDP. The RSAF Guard-of-Honour contingent was made up of men and women from the Air Power Generation Command.

The Padang was painted red and white, as throngs of supporters gathered to watch the sensational performances. One of the main highlights was the Aerial Display where the RSAF showed off its latest hardware for all of Singapore to see. The newly inaugurated F-15SG multirole fighter aircraft wowed the audience with the high precision "Shackle Pass" manoeuvre and "High-G Combat Turn".

NDP 2010 also marks the first time that the F-15SG participated in the aerial Presidential Salute by performing a flypast with full afterburners, which was followed by a "Bomb-Burst" manoeuvre performed by five F-16 fighter jets. The state-of-the-art Gulfstream G550 Airborne Early Warning (AEW) aircraft also



RSAF's Guard-of-Honour during the Feu De Joie.



The F-16s taking part in the Presidential Salute.

appeared for the first time in a public flying display, flanked by four F-5 fighter aircraft.

The Mobile Column was another highlight of this year's NDP. The RSAF's mechanised IGLA, shoulder-launched IGLA, MISTRAL, RBS-70 and I-HAWK ground based air defence (GBAD) weapons systems as well as the PSTAR radar system formed part of the convoy of over two hundred vehicles from the Singapore Armed Forces, Civil Defence Force and the Singapore Police Force.

Air Force News went behind the scenes to catch up with RSAF personnel who contributed to the success of NDP 2010, as well as to hear the views of public on this year's Air Participation:

COL Francis Ngooi, Chairman, Air Participation Committee:

"We are proud to showcase the RSAF's newest acquisitions. The F-15SGs and the G550-AEW are being featured because we feel that the public would want to see the enablers of the 3rd Generation RSAF. This is the first time both aircraft are being featured in NDP and it will peak public interest."

COL Loh Kean Wah, Chairman, Parade and Ceremony Committee:

This is my second time as Chairman of the Parade and Ceremony Committee. There is a strong sense of



The RSAF's mechanised IGLA GBAD system participating in the Mobile Column.

National Day Parade 2010



The G550-AEW with four F-5 fighter aircraft.



Two F-15SGs performing the "Shackle Pass".

meaning, responsibility, personal and collective team fulfilment, even more so as the parade has returned to the historic Padang for NDP 2010. One of our primary tasks was to ensure precise time coordination from the start to the end of the Parade and Ceremony segment. There are many moving parts with the State Flag Flypast, "Bomb Burst" and the transition to our Aerial Display demanded a high level of discipline, robust contingency planning and an effective execution.

SLTC Kelvin Khong, Flight Lead for F-15SG Formation:

"Singapore is a concrete jungle. As such, there are certain considerations that the pilots must take heed when flying over the CBD. The pilots must be aware of the ground track, the path directly below the aircraft and the altitude at which they are flying. It is our duty to ensure that the Aerial Display is safe, while providing the 'wow factor' to the audience."

LTC Leong Chun Siu, Flight Lead for Combined G550-AEW/F-5 formation:

"The opportunity to be a part of the flypast for the NDP 2010 is definitely a very proud moment for the squadron. For me, what makes it special is the thought of my wife and children, who will be at the parade watching me and thinking that their husband and father is doing the fly past up there. I think this reinforces the pride we have in our nation as well as the pride we

have in the SAF for ensuring that Singapore enjoys peace and stability."

ME3 Lim Wing Eu, Warrant-Officer-In-Charge (WOIC) for the Flag Party:

"This is my fifth year as WOIC for the Flag Party. It is an honour for me to lead this team of dedicated regulars and NSmen, in ensuring that the state flag flies high on National Day. Seeing the flag being unfurled and flown off, makes me very proud. It is encouraging to know that I play a small yet very significant role in a national event.

MAJ(NS) Lim Chai Hwee, GBAD Wave Commander, Mobile Column:

"It feels good to be a part of NDP as it affirms me as a Singaporean and as a part of the GBAD community. While my participation did affect my family life, my wife was very understanding and supportive of me, when I needed to go for rehearsals all day long on the weekends. I accepted the role of GBAD Wave Commander for three simple reasons: Duty, Honour, and Country."

Nur Safirah, Secondary School Student:

"This is my second NDP and I am very happy to be here. I liked the part where the two planes were flying so close to each other and crossing each other's paths so narrowly."



The RSAF's I-HAWK GBAD system participating in the Mobile Column.



The crowds being wowed by the RSAF's Aerial Display.

RMAF CAF Introductory Visit



CAF, MG (then BG) Ng presenting GEN Sri Rodzali with a memento of his visit.

The Chief of Air Force, Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF), GEN Dato' Sri Rodzali bin Daud, conducted his

introductory visit to Singapore from 4 to 6 Mar 10. During his visit, GEN Dato' Sri Rodzali paid courtesy calls on Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean, and CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng.

Subsequently, he visited Air Force Training Command (AFTC) and was briefed on the RSAF and AFTC's organisational structure. GEN Dato' Sri Rodzali was also introduced to the Radar and Tower Simulator at AFTC and experienced the Enhanced Learning Space for AFTC trainees.

GEN Dato' Sri Rodzali's visit underscores the warm and friendly ties between Singapore and Malaysia. The RSAF and RMAF interact regularly through visits and professional exchanges. Such interactions strengthen the mutual understanding and friendship between the two air forces.

Swedish Supreme Commander Visit to UAV Command



Then Commander UC COL Lim presenting GEN Göranson, with a memento of his visit.

Swedish Supreme Commander, GEN Sverker Göranson, visited Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Command (UC) on 23 Mar 10. GEN Göranson commenced his visit at HQ UC in Tengah Air Base, where he was hosted by then Commander UC, COL Lim Tuang Liang, and other senior UC personnel. After a short brief at HQ UC, GEN Göranson visited Murai Camp where he had the opportunity to try the UAV Flight Simulator. Subsequently, GEN Göranson was shown static displays of our UAV platforms and was briefed on their capabilities.

GEN Göranson's visit underscores the warm and long-standing defence relations between Singapore and Sweden.

RSAF - TNI AU Junior Officers' Exchange Programme



The delegation from TNI AU posing for a photo with their RSAF hosts.

A delegation of officers from the Indonesian Air Force (TNI AU), led by LTC Awang Kurniawan, visited Singapore from 22 – 25 Mar 10 as part of the RSAF – TNI AU Junior Officers' Exchange Programme.

During their stay, the delegation visited MINDEF and called on Head Air Intelligence, COL Tam Peng Yew. They were briefed on the RSAF and its operations and visited Air Force Museum, as well as HQ Air Defence and Operations Command (ADOC), where they called on Commander ADOC, BG Kwek Kok Kwong. The delegation also visited Sembawang Air Base, where they called on Commander Helicopter Group, COL Sunny Yun Tar Sun. Thereafter, they visited 127 SQN, where they were briefed on the squadron's responsibilities and capabilities. They also viewed a static display of the RSAF's Chinook helicopter.

This exchange programme underscores the close and long-standing relations between the TNI AU and the RSAF. The two air forces collaborate regularly through exercises such as EX Elang Indopura and EX Camar Indopura as well as other professional exchanges.

KASAU Introductory Visit



AM Imam presenting CAF, MG (then BG) Ng with a token of appreciation.

The Chief of Staff of the Indonesian Air Force (TNI AU), Air Chief Marshal (ACM) Imam Sufaat, visited the RSAF from 15 to 18 Apr 10. During his visit ACM Imam called on Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean and CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng.

ACM Imam also visited 145 SQN at CAB(E) and took a familiarisation flight aboard the Super Puma, courtesy of 125 SQN. In recognition of his efforts to strengthen the ties between the RSAF and the TNI AU, ACM Imam was presented with the RSAF Honorary Wings by CAF.

ACM Imam's visit underscores the excellent and long-standing defence relations between Singapore and Indonesia. The RSAF and TNI AU interact regularly through bilateral exercises such as EX Elang Indopura and EX Camar Indopura, professional exchanges and interaction programmes.

MEHNAN visit to FSC



COS(AS), BG Hoo presenting Dr Purnomo with a memento of his visit.

The Indonesian Minister for Defence, Dr Purnomo Yugiantoro, visited the Flight Simulation Centre (FSC) at Paya Lebar Air Base on 6 May 10. Dr Purnomo was hosted by COS (AS) BG Hoo Cher Mou and COMD Fighter Group, COL Ho Foo Sing. Dr Purnomo also called on Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean at the Ministry of Defence during his visit.

Dr Purnomo's visit underscores the excellent and long-standing defence relations between Singapore and Indonesia. The two armed forces interact regularly through bilateral exercises, such as EX Elang Indopura and EX Camar Indopura, and other professional exchanges which have enhanced mutual understanding and camaraderie among their personnel.

RSAF TNI AU Safety Exchange



COL Djamhari presenting COS(AS) with a token of appreciation.

The RSAF and Indonesian Air Force (TNI AU) Safety Exchange visit was held from 12 to 13 May 10 to enhance interactions between the two air forces.

COL Djamhari, Head Air Force Inspectorate, TNI AU, led the delegation. During their visit, COL Djamhari, called on COS(AS) BG Hoo Cher Mou.

The TNI AU delegation visited Sembawang Air Base and the Aeromedical Centre where they were briefed on the base's and centre's operations respectively. At the Aeromedical Centre the delegation was also shown a demonstration of spatial disorientation training, which is one of the tests that helps ascertain whether the individual is physically fit to be a pilot.

The exchange between the RSAF and the TNI AU reflects the warm and long-standing relations between the two air forces. Both air forces interact regularly through professional exchanges and exercises such as EX Camar Indopura and EX Elang Indopura.

French Joint Defence College Visit



CV Nourrit presenting a memento to LTC Ng after the tour of Air Force Museum.

A delegation from the French Joint Defence College visited the Air Force Museum on 17 May 10. The delegates consisted of an international group of military officers who were taking courses in the college, as well as members of the French Embassy.

Leading the delegation was Capitaine de Vaisseau Xavier Nourrit from the French Navy. They were hosted by LTC Ng Wei-Jin, a graduate of the command and staff course at Ecole Militaire, Paris, France.

At the Air Force Museum, delegates viewed a video on the history of the RSAF and were given a tour of the museum where they gained a deeper understanding of the RSAF. The tour concluded with a plaque exchange.

The visit underscores the warm and excellent defence relations between Singapore and France.

RAAF CAF Introductory Visit and Meritorious Service Medal Presentation



CAF, MG (then BG), Ng Chee Meng presenting AM Binskin with a memento of his visit.

The Chief of Air Force of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), Air Marshal (AM) Mark Binskin, was conferred Singapore's prestigious military award, the Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Tentera) or Meritorious Service Medal (Military), by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean, at an investiture held at the Ministry of Defence on 08 Jun 10.

The medal was awarded to AM Binskin in recognition of his significant contributions in strengthening bilateral ties between the RSAF and the RAAF. Under AM Binskin's leadership, the RSAF's Pilatus PC-21

flying training programme was smoothly implemented at the RSAF Flying Training School in the RAAF's Pearce Air Base, Australia. AM Binskin's support was also instrumental in the successful establishment of the Qualified Flying Instructor exchange programme between both air forces.

AM Binskin, who was in Singapore for a visit from 6 to 8 Jun 10, called on Mr Teo as well as Chief of Defence Force, LG (then MG) Neo Kian Hong, and CAF, (MG then BG) Ng Chee Meng, before the investiture. During his visit, AM Binskin was given a brief on the 3rd Generation RSAF and visited a static display of the F-15SG, G550-AEW as well as the Searcher and H450 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles at Tengah Air Base. Subsequently, AM Binskin was treated to a Super Puma familiarisation flight around Singapore. He also visited the Changi Command and Control Centre and Air Force Museum to learn more about the RSAF's role in maritime security and the RSAF's history respectively.

This investiture underscores the warm and long-standing defence relations between the two air forces. The RSAF and the RAAF interact regularly through multilateral exercises such as EX Pitch Black, and a range of other professional exchanges.

GEN Raymond Johns Introductory Visit



CAF, MG (then BG) Ng presenting GEN Johns with a memento of his visit.

GEN Raymond E Johns Jr, Commander of Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base III, United States Air Force (USAF), visited the RSAF on 19 May 10.

During the visit, GEN Johns called on CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng. GEN Johns visited the Air Combat Command at Changi Air Base (East) where he was briefed and given a tour of the air traffic control tower to gain a better understanding of the RSAF's flying activities and airspace constraints.

This visit by GEN Johns reflects the cordial and long-standing defence relations between the USAF and the RSAF. The two air forces interact regularly through professional engagements and inter-operational exercises, such as EX Red Flag.

41st Joint Warrant Officers' Course Graduation Ceremony



CDF, LG (then MG) Neo Kian Hong with the RSAF graduands of the 41st JWOC.

On 15 June 10, 49 RSAF personnel, out of a cohort of 152 graduands, successfully completed the 41st Joint Warrant Officers Course (JWOC). This marks a milestone in the history of the SAF, as they are the first batch of 3rd Warrant Officers (3WO) and Military Expert 2s (ME2) to graduate from the course.

The Graduation Ceremony, which was held at The Chevrons, was graced by Guest-of-Honour, Chief of Defence Force, LG (then MG) Neo Kian Hong, who presented promotion certificates to all the newly promoted personnel.

This year, five RSAF graduands, ME3 (then ME2) Ang Lay Yim, ME3 (then ME2) Tan Thiam Chye Gene, ME3 (then ME2) Tan Chwee Leng, ME3 (then ME2) Ng Hong Guan and ME3 (then ME2) Evan Chan Yang Loong, were also awarded the Distinguished Graduand Award, an honour given to the students who graduated in the top ten percent of their Service.

The two-month course allowed its students to hone their leadership qualities as well as to promote interaction between personnel from the three services.

Air Force Engineer, Airfield Maintenance Squadron, Sembawang Air Base, ME3 Tan Chwee Leng, found the course especially helpful in nurturing the leader in him. "I have learnt so much more about leadership. The programme has evolved over the years and there is now more emphasis on encouraging critical thinking, and communication. The Warrant Officers,

Specialists, Value, Identity and Purpose (WOSVIP) Programme has also rekindled in me a sense of duty to the defence of my nation," said ME3 Tan.

Amidst the rigours of the tests, assignments and projects during the course, the students are also encouraged to interact with their course mates from all three services.

Air Defence Systems Specialist, 163 SQN, 2WO Chew Loo Meng shared, "While I have gained a greater understanding on manpower, military laws, and management skills through the course, the most important thing are the friendships that I have fostered with my other 151 course mates. I treasure the opportunity to learn from the experienced instructors and directing staff, and from the men and women of the other Services. This experience has allowed me to see the big picture, and will definitely help me in engaging the hearts of the men in my unit."

Engineer, Air Defence and Operations Command, ME3 Ang Lay Yim agrees, "Aside from learning about the general military knowledge, the school has rekindled my values, identity and purpose in the RSAF, and has prepared me to be a more dynamic leader. The friendship and understanding that I have forged with the Directing Staff and my peers is my greatest takeaway from the course."

Air Force News congratulates all JWOC graduands on their promotion and wishes them all the best in their future endeavours.

F-15SG Homecoming



The F-15SG landing at Paya Lebar Air Base.

On 5 Apr 10, the F-15SG was inaugurated into 149 SQN by Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean, at Paya Lebar Air Base. During the inauguration ceremony, DPM Teo unveiled the F-15SG squadron plaque and presented air and ground crew from 149 SQN with the SQN badge.

The RSAF started training with the United States (US) Air Force (USAF) in Jul 08 and was able to transit to the F-15SG when the first aircraft arrived at Mountain Home Air Force Base (MHAFB), US, in May 09. A variant of the US F-15E Strike Eagle, the F-15SG is a twin engine, multi-role fighter that is considered one of the most formidable fighter aircraft to date.

The introduction of this combat-proven aircraft into the RSAF's arsenal marks a monumental progression in its advanced fighter capabilities and is a significant milestone in the 3rd Generation RSAF's transformation journey.

Having arrived in Singapore on 29 Mar 10, the F-15SG, equipped with state-of-the-art sensors, avionics and weapons, will enhance the RSAF's combat effectiveness and increase our ability to fend off potential threats.

SLTC (then LTC) Kelvin Khong, Commanding Officer, 149 SQN, said of the fighter's capabilities, "While similar to the F-16, the F-15SG is a bigger aircraft, which is able to carry more payload whilst at the same time maintaining performance due to the extra thrust generated by its twin engines. We can climb faster and higher, thereby enhancing

our ability to defend Singapore. The F-15SG will be one of the key pieces not only for the 3rd Generation RSAF, but for the SAF as a whole."

The F-15SG also marks a new chapter for the 25 year old 149 SQN, also known as the Fighting Shikras, which formerly operated the F-5 fighter aircraft. 149 SQN displayed a high level of operational proficiency and capability in bringing the F-15SGs back from MHAFB. The arduous 8,400 mile journey over the Pacific spanned five days and involved over 20 hours of flying.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, DPM Teo commended the RSAF personnel saying that, "While we may acquire more capable aircraft and systems, they will only be as effective as the people who operate and maintain them. Since



DPM Teo, CAF, MG (then BG) Ng with MOS, Assoc Prof Koo and CDF, LG (then MG) Neo at the Inauguration Ceremony.

F-15SG Homecoming

taking delivery of the first F-15SG in May last year, our pilots, weapons systems officers, engineers and ground crew have undergone rigorous training to acquire competencies to operate and maintain the F-15SGs."

DPM Teo also mentioned the achievement of the Peace Carvin (PC V) detachment at the MHAFB Weapons Loading Competition, where the RSAF weapons loading crew triumphed over their more experienced USAF counterparts and set a new base record for the fastest weapons loading time.

This is testament to the high level of operational readiness and proficiency that the RSAF personnel have achieved in such a short time.

ME2 Sivakumar, a flight line crew from 149 SQN, who was part of the team that won the weapons loading competition, said of his preparation for the competition, "It was very challenging, because for the past ten years I had been working in 140

SQN as a crew chief, where my primary role was one of aircraft maintenance. Since joining 149 SQN, I had to learn how to load the weapons onto the aircraft, as well as aircraft maintenance. In Mountain Home, we went through rigorous training to qualify ourselves. Winning the competition despite only having had a short time to learn the weapons loading procedures was a great achievement for me."

Speaking on the future of the 149 SQN, DPM Teo commented, "Your hard work and high level of operational proficiency have borne fruit in terms of bringing back the first batch of our F-15SGs. But your heavy responsibilities and tasks as pioneers of the RSAF's F-15SG squadron have only just begun. As you build up the RSAF's latest fighter capability, it is important to always strive for higher standards, setting new operational benchmarks that you can share with other squadrons in the RSAF. Do your best, and I know that we can count on each and every man and woman of 149 squadron to always do your duty and do Singapore proud."



CAF, MG (then BG) Ng with SLTC (then LTC) Kelvin Khong inspecting the F-15SG.



The newly inaugurated 149 SQN with CAF and senior Commanders.



The F-15SG taxiing at Paya Lebar Air Base.



DPM Teo in the cockpit of the F-15SG.

SAF Officers' and RSAF Promotion Ceremony



MG (then BG) Ng receiving his certificate of promotion from DPM Teo.

The annual SAF Officers' Promotion Ceremony was held at the MINDEF Auditorium on 24 Jun 10. The SAF Officers' Promotion Ceremony saw 499 Officers, 147 Warrant Officers and 74 Military Experts (MEs) from all Services receiving their certificates of promotion. Of these, the RSAF saw 77 officers promoted to LTC or above, one Warrant Officer and nine MEs promoted to their next higher rank.

During the promotion ceremony, Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean presented the certificates of promotion to officers promoted to the ranks of Senior Warrant Officer, ME7 as well as COL and above. CDF, LG (then MG) Neo Kian Hong, presented certificates to officers promoted to the ranks of Master Warrant Officer, ME6, LTC and Senior Lieutenant Colonel (SLTC).

Held separately at Air Force Training Command (AFTC) on 18 Jun 10, the RSAF Officers' Promotion Ceremony saw 295 officers, both Regulars and Operationally-Ready National Servicemen (NSmen), promoted to their next higher rank. 84 of them were promoted to CPT, while 88 were promoted to MAJ; 29 Warrant Officers and 94 MEs Officers were also promoted to their next higher rank. CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng, presented the certificates of promotion to these officers. All promotions took effect from 1 Jul 10.

This year's SAF Officers' Promotion Ceremony saw the promotion of the Chief of Air Force, MG (then BG) Ng. Said CAF on his promotion, "I am deeply honoured and proud, but I want to emphasise that the rank comes not because of my personal achievements but rather from the collective efforts of each and everyone in the Air Force who has moved the organisation since 1968, which coincidentally happens to be my birth year!"

Being at the helm of the organisation equates to a myriad of responsibilities and duties. Even so, MG Ng encourages RSAF servicemen and women to take good care of their families. "This will equip us with sustained energy. I want the RSAF to operate in a manner that resembles a consistent jog, sustainable and reasonable, rather than a short sprint where we would have to take a long break after that charge."

The first lady Colonel in the RSAF, COL (then LTC) Gan Siow Huang, COMD Air Surveillance and Control Group, received great support from her daughters and

her husband, who quit his job to relocate their family to the United States with COL Gan as she furthered her studies. COL (then LTC) Gan attributed her success to both her family and her decision to be an Air Warfare Officer (C3). She shared, "Being an AWO(C3) is intellectually and mentally demanding. This was where I felt I could put my strengths to good use."

This year saw the introduction of the Senior Lieutenant Colonel ranks. SLTC (then LTC) Kelvin Khong, Commanding Officer, 149 SQN, was among the first few SLTCs. He said, "This is an exciting time both for myself and the RSAF. The F-15SGs are the new kids on the block and I am glad that my efforts in building up this capability have been recognised. I am extremely delighted that I am in the pioneer batch of SLTCs."

Even though the SLTC rank was the newest of the lot, this year also marked the first ME promotions. ME7 (then ME6) Harold Cheng, COMD Air Logistics Group – Rotary Wing, felt that the career advancement opportunities for the ME corps were plentiful. He commented, "The longer career span offers MEs both the opportunities to deepen our expertise and better contribute to the 3rd Generation RSAF. The Military Domain Experts Scheme offers a challenging and rewarding career construct for MEs of different inclinations and abilities."

For SWO (then MWO) Chan Kum Wah, Command Chief Warrant Officer, AFTC, his promotion has a deep impact not just on himself but on thousands of young trainees who are under his charge. "My job is to inculcate in the newly enlisted airmen the core values and identity of the RSAF. This appointment has been an important platform to reach out to these young trainees. We develop their beliefs and deepen their understanding of the RSAF's role in defending Singapore. Being able to further raise the levels of commitment and competency among these young people is the highlight of my promotion," SWO Chan explained.

Looking forward to the challenges ahead, ME5 (then ME4) Balbir Kaur remarked, "As military experts, I do foresee that there will be many expectations for us as ME5, and I think with our years in service, we are experienced enough to take up the challenge, and we should be able to deal with whatever challenges that come our way."



DPM Teo interacting with some of the newly promoted officers.

SAF Officers' and RSAF Promotion Ceremony

The enthusiasm to take on the new roles and responsibilities that the promotions would offer was not limited to regulars. MAJ (then CPT) (NS) Liau Soon Teck was one of the NSmen who were promoted. Shared MAJ Liau, "I intend to improve the In-Camp-Training experience of my Nsmen. This positive experience will encourage NSmen to come back more often and we can get greater dedication

from them while they will learn a lot more from the SAF. I will work towards this goal, and I hope to make it happen."

Air Force News congratulates all Officers, Warrant Officers and MEs who have been promoted and wishes them all the best in their careers and future endeavours.



Promoted RSAF personnel posing for a group photograph at MINDEF.

DXO and Civilian Officers' Promotion Ceremony



PS(D) Mr Chiang Chie Foo with the newly promoted RSAF DXOs and Civilian Officers and senior RSAF officers.

The annual SAF Defence Executive Officers' (DXO) and Civilian Officers' Promotion Ceremony was held at the MINDEF Auditorium on 25 Jun 10. The SAF DXO Promotion Ceremony saw 129 Civilian Officers receiving their certificates of promotion of which 26 are from the RSAF.

During the promotion ceremony, Permanent Secretary of Defence [PS(D)], Mr Chiang Chie Foo presented the certificates of promotion to officers promoted to the ranks of DX10 to DX13, as well as SG6 and above.

When asked about her promotion, DX10 (then DX9) Jill Lim, Information, Operations and Plans staff from the Air Manpower Department, said, "With this promotion, I feel that the organisation appreciates my hard work and effort, and it is really a great motivating factor for me."

DX10 (then DX9) Semaraj s/o Selvaraj, a Logistics Officer from Air Power Generation Command, concurred, "I am greatly humbled to be promoted, which is an added motivation to contribute even more to the RSAF. This is testimony of the belief that the organisation has in me, to shoulder added responsibilities which I will carry out to the best of my abilities."

Many of the civilian officers were keen in learning new skills that their new job scope would require. SG7 (then SG6) Wong Dexian, a DSTA Engineer from Air Logistics Department, added, "As a staff officer, the most interesting part is not just learning about new technology and systems, but we also get to interact with overseas contractors, which has allowed me to develop my negotiation skills."

On the new responsibilities that the newly promoted civilian officers would be facing, SG9 (then SG8) Jacqueline Seah, a DSTA Engineer from Air Power Generation Command, commented, "I think it's important to know how to delegate duties, and to best optimise resources. I guess my new appointment would mean spending more time on managing ground sentiments and resources, and think about long term issues, like reorganisation."

The SAF DXO and Civilian Officer's Promotion Ceremony is part of an ongoing effort to recognise and reward officers who have performed well and exhibited potential and commitment to contribute more to the SAF.

RCGC/RGDI 01/10



The graduands of the RCGC 01/10 with CAF MG (then BG), Ng Chee Meng.

38 graduands received their Certificates, Vocational Badges and Ceremonial Swords from the Guest-of-Honour, Chief of Air Force, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng, at the RSAF Combined Graduation Ceremony (RCGC). The ceremony, held on 24 Feb 10 at Air Force Museum, was followed by the RSAF Graduation Dining-In (RGDI), which was held at the Paya Lebar Officers' Mess. Best Trainees of the respective courses were also recognised at the ceremony with BG Ng presenting the awards to them.

Best Trainee of the 28th Weapon System Officer (C3) Radar Course, OCT Wong Weiming, commented on how Fighting Spirit, one of the RSAF's core values, helped him and his coursemates get through the Officer's Cadet Course (OCS), "At first, we faced a lot of new concepts and had to learn how to multi-task effectively. This posed some challenges to some of my coursemates. Having said that, we persevered and I would say 'Fighting Spirit' helped us overcome this big hurdle."

Best Trainee of the 22nd Mistral Officer Course, LTA Daxson Yap Chin Teck, shared his motivations to sign on with the RSAF, "I signed on as RSAF provides a very diverse set of experiences, which also give rise to a very wide range of leadership challenges, for instance, my core competency was to be an expert in the air campaign, yet my vocation, Ground Based Air Defence, demands that I need to have a very intimate grasp of Army operations, and this is the kind of challenge that I really like." His girlfriend, Oh Chai Yee, was one of his pillars of support during his course, "I understand that sometimes he is busy and I should not disturb him. At times when he felt stressed, I would send him a simple email or message to perk him up."

Best Trainee of the 137th Rotary Wings Course, LTA Edgar Xie, shared his inspiration for joining the RSAF, "As my dad was from the RSAF, I was exposed to the culture and traditions of the Air Force at a young age, and have been to many air shows and aerial displays, and that made want to be a pilot in the RSAF." His father, MAJ (Ret) Chia Chin Key, said, "I was best trainee of my OCS, so I am very happy for him that he achieved that as well. He is a changed man after the course, from a boy to a man, a leader, and an officer, expected to lead by example."

Best Trainee of the 19th Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Course, OCT Alex Koh Wei Long, shared his passion

for his service, "One of the questions posed to us right at the start was why we wanted to sign on. I realised that it is not just about the career or the salary, but more about why do we have the Armed Forces. It is really to protect our country and our home and prevent any aggressors from taking over our land. This motivates me to get the extra mile to see how I can better enhance my ability to defend our country." His mother, Mdm Kelly Lee, shared, "We brought him out for meals during the weekends. We would treat him like a friend, so he could share with us his difficulties, and we would do our best to help him out."

The RGDI ceremony was preceded by a symbolic mixing of the Air Force Spirits, witnessed by Commander Air Force Training Command, COL Yeo Yee Peng. After the mixing, the graduands proceeded to the Paya Lebar Officers' Mess for the RGDI. During the dining-in, the Distinguished Speaker, COL(NS) Goh Yong Kiat, gave a speech to motivate and prepare the graduands for officership in the RSAF.

Air Force News congratulates all graduands and wishes them the best in their future endeavours.



Name (From left to right)	Category
OCT Wong Weiming	28 th C3 Radar Course
LTA Daxson Yap Chin Teck	22 nd Mistral Officer Course
LTA Edgar Xie	137 th Rotary Wings Course
OCT Alex Koh Wei Long	19 th Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Course

RCGC/RGDI 02/10



The best trainees preparing to mix the RSAF spirits.

92 graduands received their Vocational Badges, Swords and Certificates from the Guest-of-Honour, BG Wong Huat Sern, Commander Participation Command, at the RSAF Combined Graduation Ceremony (RCGC) held on 18 May 2010 at the Air Force Museum.

This was followed by the RSAF Graduation Dining-In (RGDI) which was held at the Paya Lebar Officers' Mess for these RSAF officers. The ceremony also served to recognise the Best Trainees of the respective courses.

For many of the Best Trainees, it was determination which enabled them to go the extra mile. Said Best Trainee for the 1st AWO(C3) Radar Course, OCT Glenn Low, "At the start, it seemed daunting as we saw many fellow cadets drop out, but eventually it was our determination and perseverance that saw us through."

His father, Mr Low Kim Loh, was just as exhilarated to see his son emerge as Best Trainee. Said Mr Low, "I feel very proud and honoured. Certainly, he has grown to be a very matured individual. Not only independent, but also responsible, and decisive."

When asked about his course motto and its significance, Best Trainee for the 19th A UAV Wings Course, OCT Samuel Lee said, "Basically, my course motto is "eyes atop" and it represents being on top of all situations, and being able to look far. I learnt to be very meticulous in all that I do, as it is very important for an officer of the RSAF to do his best. This is an important lifeskill which can also apply in our daily lives, and it enables us to perform more effectively and efficiently."

Best Trainee of the 1st AWO(C3) Aerodome/PAR Course, OCT Stanley Chua shared his secret to success, "My advice to future trainees is that, in the RSAF, it is important to work hard as every vocation has its own challenges. It is imperative that you put your heart and soul into it and make sure that you do not give up."

This also marks the final Air Logistics Officer Course, as we transit into the MDES scheme. Best Trainee of the 17th Air Logistics Officer Course, OCT Sebastian Tan added, "I think it's a very exciting and challenging period for us as Air Logistics Officers. With a longer career, we can aspire to do more and learn to see things differently. We can also seek greater career opportunities in our service in the RSAF."

Following the RCGC, the graduands proceeded to the Payer Lebar Officers' Mess, where Distinguished Speaker, COL(RET) David Tan, addressed the graduands.

Air Force News congratulates all graduands and wishes them all the best in their future endeavours.



Name (From left to right)	Category
OCT Stanley Chua	1 st Air Warfare Officer (C3) Aerodome/PAR Course
OCT Low Kun Zhong Glenn	1 st Air Warfare Officer (C3) Course
LTA Tay Run Xuan	137 th Fighter Wings Course
LTA Carmen Lee	136 th Fighter Wings Course
OCT Pan Wei Hao	1 st Air Warfare Officer (GBAD) Course
OCT Sebastian Tan Yong Yap	17 th Air Logistics Officer Course
OCT Chen Kok Kiat Roderrick	20 th UAV Wings Course
OCT Samuel Lee Rong Ju	19 th A UAV Wings Course

Officer Cadet Commissioning 76/09



An OCT receiving the Sword-of-Honour from Minister for Manpower, Mr Gan Kim Yong.

289 officer cadets were commissioned at the SAFTI Military Institute on 20 Mar 10. Minister for Manpower, Mr Gan Kim Yong, reviewed the commissioning parade which included 29 Air Force officer cadets. The parade marks the completion of the 38 weeks of rigorous training, which aimed to inculcate the officer cadet with combat, planning and leadership skills. The newly commissioned SAF Officers will assume operational, instructional or staff appointments. Two of the 29 officer cadets from the RSAF were awarded the Sword-of-Honour.

Minister for Manpower, Mr Gan Kim Yong, who reviewed the commissioning parade, commended the officer cadets saying, "You embody the character, qualities and attributes that the SAF demands from its officers to provide

the forward-looking and vigorous leadership it needs as it embarks on its transformation to the 3rd Generation SAF."

Mr Gan also spoke of the officer cadets' duty, to lead their men and women in defending the nation, "The security challenges we face are new and wide ranging. It is critical that your men are operationally ready at all times. Train them well, push them hard, but look after them and always have their safety at heart. Win over the hearts and minds of your men, and mould them into a cohesive fighting unit with a deep sense of mission and purpose."

At the parade, families and friends shared the cadets' pride and joy as they pinned epaulettes, with their new 2LT rank onto the newly-commissioned officers' uniform.



The newly commissioned officers after the parade.

Officer Cadet Commissioning 77/09



OCT Pan Wei Hao receiving the Sword-of-Honour from Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean.

421 officer cadets were commissioned at the SAFTI Military Institute on 19 Jun 10. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean, reviewed the commissioning parade which included 77 Air Force officer cadets. The parade marked the completion of 38 weeks of rigorous training, through which the officer cadets developed their combat, planning and leadership skills. The newly commissioned SAF officers will assume operational, instructional or staff appointments.

From the RSAF, the Sword-of-Honour (SOH) recipients were OCT Pan Wei Hao of the 1st Air Warfare Officer (AWO) (GBAD) Course, OCT Low Kun Zhong Glenn of the 1st Air Warfare Officer (C3) Course and OCT Sebastian Tan Yong Yap of the 17th Air Logistics Officer Course.

OCT Pan Wei Hao said, "In my teenage years, I was a delinquent, bad tempered and rash. I never thought that I would learn to be responsible, let alone receiving the Sword-of-Honour!"

On his role and responsibilities as the first batch of commissioned AWO officers, OCT Pan shared, "We must not just be task competent but type competent as well. This means that we must have deep knowledge of what our Command, Control, Communications (C3) counterparts learn on top of being proficient with our weapon systems."

During the parade, DPM Teo recommended that commissioned officers live up to the values upheld by the late Dr Goh Keng Swee, the nation's first defence minister. DPM Teo shared, "Only when you show care and conviction, match your words with actions, be self-critical, uphold high personal and unit standards, and have 'steel in your soul' to achieve success in tough conditions – will you earn the trust and respect of your men."



The newly commissioned officers after the parade.

AWO Badge Presentation Ceremony



COMD ADOC, BG Kwek Kok Kwong presenting COS(AS), BG Hoo Cher Mou with the AWO Badge.

The Air Warfare Officer (AWO) endeavour was a necessary step to shift mindsets to create more task-competent officers who have a better understanding of air warfare at the operational level.

On 22 Apr 10, AWO badges were presented to AWOs in Air Defence and Operations Command (ADOC). The AWO Badge Presentation Ceremony was hosted by COMD ADOC, BG Kwek Kok Kwong. The Guest-of-Honour was Chief of Staff (Air Staff), BG Hoo Cher Mou, who was also presented with the AWO Badge by BG Kwek.

LTC Simon Lee, Commanding Officer of 163 SQN, shared his thoughts, "The AWO vocation scheme signifies the RSAF's commitment in developing the Ground Based Air Defence and C3 officers. I am heartened that the RSAF is putting in the emphasis on my personal and professional development."

MAJ Malini Sitaram from 201 SQN said, "Being equipped with good understanding of cross-functional and cross-vocational capabilities, Land and Sea Campaigns, and being nurtured with a mindset that promotes integration across the functional domains and service domains, the individual AWO will be more deployable across Commands and even to HQ or Joint positions."

SYFC Private Pilots' License Wings



MOS, Assoc Prof Koo Tsai Kee, with the SYFC students.

On 24 Apr 10, 39 students received their Private Pilots' License (PPL) Wings from Guest of Honor, Minister of State for Defence, Assoc Prof Koo Tsai Kee. A select few were also presented with Aviation Awards in recognition of their achievements. The role of the Singapore Youth Flying Club (SYFC) is to promote an interest in aviation among Singapore's Youth.

Since its establishment in 1971, the SYFC has trained over 3980 student pilots, with 613 of them receiving the coveted PPL Wings.

The SYFC has long been a source of talent for the RSAF, with about a quarter of RSAF pilots having once been members of SYFC. Members of SYFC have also gone on to join aviation and related companies such as Singapore Airlines and Singapore Technologies.

Damien Ong, a student from Catholic Junior College, now an Officer Cadet Trainee commented on the significance of the award to him, "Receiving my PPL wings is a dream come true for me. I had to overcome my

own fear and be disciplined and manage my own time in order to achieve this. It had always been my dream to join the RSAF. I will do my best no matter what aircraft I fly, although I hope to fly the F-15SG."

Tan Jun Liang from Temasek Junior College, commented "Receiving the PPL is an honour. The most important thing is good decision making. I have decided to sign on to the RSAF as it is a good career path, with many possibilities."

Jacqueline Yeo from St. Andrew's Junior College felt that perseverance is key to obtaining the license, "Halfway through the course, I started to falter as it is not easy going through school and completing this course. I think my passion to fly helped me to persevere and finish the course. I have wanted to fly since young and hope to serve my country by joining the RSAF. I will work hard and try to do my best to contribute no matter what aircraft I fly."



MOS, Assoc Prof Koo Tsai Kee, presenting the PPL to Jacqueline Yeo.

RSAF CO Conference and CARDINAL Accreditation Awards



COs sharing their experiences at SAFRA Yishun during the RSAF CO Conference.

The annual RSAF Commanding Officers (CO) Conference was held at SAFRA Yishun on 6 Apr 10. Organised by Air Force Inspectorate, the conference was hosted by CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng. The event updates RSAF COs on developments in the RSAF's 3rd Generation transformation; and equips them with the knowledge and understanding needed to make them more effective COs.

"The RSAF CO Conference was very beneficial for all participants. It allowed the Commanding Officers to share our experiences and learn from one another in an open environment. It was also a great opportunity for senior Commanders to share their experience and expertise with the junior Commanders. This enabled COs to network and helped us to get to know our fellow COs better," shared CO 18th Divisional Air Defence Artillery Battalion, LTC Teo Ping Siong.

CO 112 SQN, LTC Zakir Hamid shared LTC Teo's sentiments. He added, "The conference was successful as a conduit to inform and share ideas, concepts, experiences as well as tools and methods on how to be effective Commanders."

Like many of the COs present, both LTC Teo and LTC Zakir left the conference with more than just knowledge and information, they both represented their units in receiving the CARDINAL Tier 1 Accreditation Awards from the Chief of Air Force. 55 units from the RSAF received the accolade, of which 21 units received it for the third time and 20 units received it for the second time. The CARDINAL awards are given in recognition of the units' commendable efforts in People Development activities that support the three thrusts of the CARDINAL framework.

"We are very particular in mentoring our people, especially the junior staff and keeping them engaged and aware of what they can expect from

a career in the Air Force. This happens at all levels but particularly among the junior staff because they are the most impressionable and have many concerns about their futures in the organisation," said ME6 Pang on the integral role of the CARDINAL initiative in personnel management.

The RSAF also lays a strong emphasis on National Education (NE). The CAF NE Excellence Awards recognises the efforts of units which have exemplified a strong and vibrant NE culture. CAF, MG (then BG) Ng presented these coveted awards to the top three units who had invested much effort in the inculcation of NE culture.

112 SQN, Air Force Training Command (AFTC) and Air Logistics Group – Fixed Wing 2 (ALG-FW2) received the awards.

COL Thiam Boon Siong, COMD ALG-FW2, is emphatic on the importance of NE in his unit, "We believe that NE is important to each and everyone of us. NE allows our servicemen and women to see and feel the higher purpose and meaning of their day-to-day work. It strengthens our will to fight, builds our confidence, commitment and cohesion in the RSAF and in our nation."

COL Yeo Yee Peng, COMD AFTC, holds National Education in the same high regard. As COMD AFTC, he is committed to fostering the NE culture to a populace that consists mostly of young adults. To this end, COL Yeo has altered his methods such that they are more relevant and interesting to the youngsters under his care.

"This affective domain of learning must be 'taught and caught', we always try to contextualise the NE activities to make it relevant to the Generation 'Y' airmen.

Air Force News congratulates all recipients of the awards.



LTC Nalpon Patrick Selvan, CO 145 SQN, receiving the Annual Safety Award from CAF, MG (then BG) Ng.

Making The Difference

A small gesture made by ME4 John Wong, Chief Warrant Officer, 120 SQN, to visit PTE Alvan Sio, a Flight Line Crew from 120 SQN, who broke his clavicle in an unfortunate accident, left a deep impression on PTE Sio and his family.

In the spirit of 'Care for Soldiers', one of the SAF core values, ME4 Wong sacrificed his own personal time to visit PTE Sio and has done that a total of five times.

While such home visits are known to be conducted by warrant officers and even officers of the various units, the father of PTE Sio, Mr Patrick Sio, felt the concern from ME4 Wong and wrote a letter to Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean.

Said ME4 Wong, "These visits are made as per SAF's policy and it is made to keep Alvan updated on the happenings at the squadron. It also serves as an assurance to the parents that he'll be well taken care of even after his return to squadron as we will tailor his training according to his needs so that he can recover well."

ME4 Wong's visits reinforce the point that people are affected by any and everything one does. Apart from encouraging all in the SAF to follow the example of ME4 Wong and the countless others who have also done the same, to touch other people's lives in dark times, it also serves as a reminder that even small gestures can go a long way.

Air Force News wishes PTE Sio a speedy recovery.



ME4 John Wong at 120 SQN.

"Dear Mr Teo,

I write to commend the SAF for having moved from simply a defence force to one that is also filled with human compassion, while upholding its fighting capabilities and improving all the time.

This can be seen from the personal visits to my house by the Chief Warrant Officer from [120 SQN] Sembawang Air Base, twice following my son's collar bone injury suffered in an accident.

It was unfortunate that I did not get to meet him personally to thank him. Whether that personal touch is part of the SAF standard operating procedure or a localised one that Sembawang Air Base exercise, it takes away the feeling that a normal soldier is not worth another higher in rank in the SAF. My son is PTE Alvan Sio Jia Heng who was recruited into NS late last year."

- Patrick Sio

Gombak Charity Carnival



RSAF personnel participating both by setting up and shopping at the booths.

The Gombak Charity Carnival (GCC) was held at Gombak Recreational Centre on 12 Mar 10. The GCC is an event organised by Joint Services Officers' Mess, Gombak Warrant Officers' Mess, Gombak Specialists' Mess and Gombak Base for personnel working in

Gombak to raise funds for the President's Challenge and the SAF Benevolent Fund, while having fun and fostering cohesion. This year's GCC featured a "Shop, Play, Eat" concept and involved over 60 booths set up by SAF and MINDEF departments.

Air Force departments did their part for charity by setting up 11 booths and stores. Head of Air Manpower, COL Chee Wai Mun, graciously volunteered to be dunked at the highly popular dunking booth in the name of charity.

Then Chief of Defence Force, LG Desmond Kuek, was present to kick start the fund raising efforts for the President's Challenge 2010. The SAF raised \$166,000 for the President's Challenge last year. In his speech, he commended our servicemen for having consistently surpassed the target of \$150,000 each year since the President's Challenge began.

SAFSA Awards Ceremony



CDF, LG Neo Kian Hong with the members of the SAFSA Badminton Team.

Outstanding sportsmen and sportswomen of the SAF were honoured at the annual SAF Sports Association (SAFSA) Awards Ceremony held on 16 Jul 10 at The Chevrons.

The Guest-of-Honour, Chief of Defence Force (CDF) and Chairman of the SAFSA Council, LG Neo Kian Hong and Chief of Air Force, MG Ng Chee Meng presented the various awards to the recipients.

Amongst the RSAF recipients this year was ME3 Sim Hock Guan, Aircraft Senior Technician, Air Logistics Department, who was a member of the SAFSA Badminton Team that was named the Best Team (Mixed) for the year. ME3 Sim, had suffered a snapped Achilles Tendon when playing for the SAFSA Veteran Team's qualification in the Public Service Inter-Ministry Games 2010/2011 grand finals, but continued with the game to bring his team to the finals.

Shared a delighted ME3 Sim, "It is a fantastic feeling for winning this prestigious award as our players have been training and playing together for more than twenty years. All the time spent on training and all our sacrifices are worth it." Added ME3 Sim, "Teamwork and Good Leadership are essential ingredients to us clinching this award."

Other winners from RSAF include the following members of the Best Team (Mixed), Badminton:

1. CPT Toh Tong Dee (PLAB BCP);
2. ME3 Sim Hock Guan (FTC);
3. ME3 Anthony Kong (HQ APGC);
4. ME2 Tan Kok Fang (HQ APGC)

AMD Inaugural NSF Learning Day



AMD NSFs engaged in a teamwork building activity.

The inaugural Air Manpower Department (AMD) Full-time National Servicemen (NSFs) Learning Day was held on 3 Jun 10. The cohesion event featured NSFs from AMD gathering together, to inform and engage them on the department's workplan imperatives. A dialogue session, chaired by COL

Chee Wai Mun, Head Air Manpower, was also conducted to foster an effective two-way communication between NSF and their superiors.

The session began with a brief of the newly developed NSF "REACH" framework by 1WO Kulwant Singh, an Air Defence Systems Specialist, who served as a facilitator for the Learning Day. The framework was aligned with the CARDINAL thrusts and designed to be applicable and practical for all.

With the groundwork in place, café style discussions were then held in groups of AMD NSFs from different branches. They came up with suggestions to improve work flow and foster a sense of belonging to AMD.

The NSFs then shared their suggestions with COL Chee. LCP Evan Goh, an Admin Support Assistant from a branch in Air Manpower Department, commented, "Being able to get our department head's feedback was really useful since he gave his views on our suggestions and proposed improvements. Most of the time, we are always bogged down by our own concerns so understanding how our superiors think will enhance working relations."

The NSF Learning Day was conceptualised to better the NSFs and build cohesion among all members of AMD.

AMPO HR Learning Day



HAM, COL Chee Wai Mun chairing the dialogue session

The Air Manpower Organisation (AMPO) held its inaugural Human Resource Learning Day at Chong Pang Camp Auditorium. The HR Learning Day is a quarterly forum for professional exchanges between HR practitioners in the RSAF; and, to update the community on the changes in policy and structure that affect the community.

The theme for the inaugural session was 'Delivering Excellent HR Services Through Effective and Efficient Structures'. Head Air Manpower (HAM), COL Chee Wai Mun opened the session. Following HAM's opening address, HR practitioners were updated on the numerous changes like the implementation of the Military Domain Experts Scheme (MDES), Enhanced Warrant Officers Scheme and updates in the e-HR system. MAJ Alvin Phua, Head Personnel Management Branch, HQ ADOC, explained, "HR Learning Day gave participants an idea of what AMPO's direction for the coming year was. This will align the Human Resource Management Centres (HRMCs) in meeting the AMPO's objectives."

Admin/Finance Staff Officer, Air Power Generation Command, Ms Mabel Wei cited the information that she received from the HR-Learning Day as her greatest takeaway. She said, "The different schemes within MDES and the e-HR issues would be very relevant to my line of work. Having a deeper understanding of the system is essential to my job scope."

Warrant Officer In Charge, Air Force Training Command, Ms Kalah almost missed out on the Learning Day. However, as she noted, "My head HRMC Ms Heng Ai Buay convinced me that it would be a good experience to learn a lot of new things that would be useful for a HR practitioner. Thankfully, I decided to attend this valuable session."

Inaugural AOSX Learning Day



AOSX personnel in a discussion session.

The inaugural Air Operations System Experts Learning Day was held on 7 Apr 10 at HQ ADOC, Gombak Camp, where men and women of all ME Grades from the AOSX community gathered to learn and share, and to have a better understanding on the current developmental issues and initiatives of the AOSX vocation.

“AOSX – The Way Forward for the 3rd Generation RSAF” was the theme of the event, which aimed to establish the identity of AOSX and define the common vision and purpose of AOSX within the 3rd Generation RSAF.

In his opening address, CCWO ADOC, ME5 Tan Kok Beng, described the AOSX vocation as “one of many possibilities, which provides many avenues for the AOSX to pursue and scale new heights.”

He highlighted two key elements – form and substance. “We have the form, having donned the new ranks on our shoulders and receiving new titles. Now, we must go for the substance. We need to strive forward to achieve and realise the deep domain specialisation on Integrated Knowledge-based Command and Control (IKC2) and Command Post Operations (CPO) – the two niche areas for the AOSX.”

The Learning Day began with the external speakers presenting and sharing on the key impetus for the AOSX vocation and updating on the development of core competencies in IKC2 and CPO as well as the Professional Competencies Roadmap for AOSX.

This was followed by a sharing session by four AOSX on their units’ initiatives and efforts in driving the AOSX transformation and strengthening IKC2 and CPO expertise.

The audience then participated in a group discussion and presentation of topics aimed at developing awareness on how the AOSX community can fulfil the RSAF mission requirements.

At the end of the event, AOSXs also had the opportunity to air their views in an engaging and interactive dialogue session chaired by the Guest of Honour, COMD ADOC, BG Kwek Kok Kwong and senior officers. During the interaction, BG Kwek had this to say about the event, “It is good to see and feel the buzz in the AOSX Community and the excitement in moving forward. The points shared from the group discussions shows how the AOSX are thinking of developing the vocation and supporting the 3rd Generation RSAF. I’m happy to see that we are progressing very well in developing the AOSX in the 2 niche areas of IKC2 and CPO.”



Speaking on the AOSX’s journey ahead to achieving deep specialisation, ME3 Allison Koh from ASCG said, “With the implementation of MDES, it paves the way for us to develop deep specialisation

in our areas of interest. As we journey towards a 3rd Generation RSAF, we will be working with more sophisticated and complex systems. Thus it is important that we develop deep expertise so as to operate and maintain such systems effectively.”

ME2 Austin Leong from FSS PLAB said, “In order to achieve deep specialisation in both IKC2 and CPO, the key thrusts are mindset change, thinking out of the box, finding the niche areas and exploitation of system capabilities. The Learning Day is an event that allows the AOSX to come together to share ideas and good initiatives.”

ME2 Daniel Tay from FSS TAB shared, “I feel that the AOSX vocation is indeed relevant in today’s operational context and something which I am looking forward to. The 2 key domain areas identified are indeed areas in which we can contribute to the RSAF as a whole and where we can claim deep specialisation in. That said, the journey towards achieving deep specialisation will be challenging and the AOSXs today must be realistic in viewing the short term achievements lest we lose the bigger gain over the long run.”

The Junior Experts felt that they had a lot to take away from the day as well. ME1 Ng Sheng Wei Terrence from 203 SQN commented, “The AOSX Learning Day was inspiring. It provided clarity with respect to our various ladders of progression. With this new MDES construct, we will have a stronger sense of identity and belonging while finding yet greater value in carrying out our daily tasks and operations. It was heart-warming as well, to be able to enjoy the presence of senior commanders and officers during the the session.”

AFTC WOSA Learning Day



WOSAs and DXAs actively participating in the discussion.

Air Force Training Command (AFTC) held the AFTC Warrant Officer Specialist Aircrew and Defence Executive Assistant Learning Day at the Army Museum on 5 Mar 10. This Learning Day was designed to inspire Warrant Officers, Specialists and DXA in AFTC to be supervisors with a positive attitude in making a

difference at the workplace by being innovative and creative.

Commander AFTC, COL Yeo Yee Peng, and Command Chief Warrant Officer AFTC, SWO (then MWO) Chan Kum Wah, gave their respective opening addresses to kick start the programme for the day. Commander Ground Based Air Defence (GBAD) School, LTC Fong Kok Wai, then led the morning programme with some activities. Centre for Leadership Development (CLD) then took over in the late morning with part one of the CLD Programme, “Make A Difference through Innovation and Team Excellence”. Participants were given the opportunity to view the exhibits in the Army museum during their lunch break.

SSG Lim Jing Jie Kenneth, Training Coordinator, Air Engineering Training Institute School, spoke about how he can apply what he learnt from this Learning Day to his daily work, “I will be able to train cadets more effectively now that I know how to stimulate their creativity. I will also pass on the techniques I learnt during this Learning Day to my cadets.”

Lim Mui Yee, Examination Administrator and Evaluator, AFTC, shares her main takeaways from this Learning Day, “I have learnt how to be more open-minded and that we must always think from different angles to be more creative and innovative. I also learnt that everyone in the branch or unit must have a common goal, so as to achieve mission success.”

CAF Quarterly Safety Forum



CAF, MG (then BG) Ng, presenting the CARDINAL Award to COMD AFTC, COL Yeo Yee Peng.

The Chief of Air Force (CAF) Quarterly Safety Forum, organised by Air Force Inspectorate (AFI), was held at the Changi Air Base (West) Auditorium on 28 Jun 10. The forum aims to promote awareness and update servicemen on safety matters in the RSAF.

Head AFI, COL Ng Chee Keong, began the forum by presenting updates on the ongoing developments in aviation safety in the RSAF, including RSAF's safety

statistics for the past quarter. He also reminded RSAF personnel at all levels to be vigilant in pursuing an accident-free RSAF while reiterating the theme for the forum; "Doing It Right, Safety In Action With The Right Attitude".

Thereafter, the participants engaged one another in cafe-style discussions, which allowed them to exchange ideas on the safety issues and engage in cross sharing of the problems encountered in the two case studies presented at the forum.

Consisting of participants from different vocations, the groups were able to analyse the issues holistically, promoting a pro-active and holistic approach to safety in the RSAF. The sharing facilitated better understanding of the workings of the RSAF, which would allow servicemen to improve on the productivity while not compromising on safety.

During the event, CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng, also presented 10 units with the Tier 1 CARDINAL Award in recognition of the units' commendable efforts in People Development activities that support the 3 Thrusts of the CARDINAL Framework.

MINDEF System Safety Seminar



BG Ravinder starting off the seminar with his opening address.

Following the success of the inaugural MINDEF System Safety Seminar organised by Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA) in 2009, the MINDEF System Safety Seminar 2010, organised by Air Logistics Department (ALD), was held on 8 Jul 10 at the Air Force Training Command Auditorium.

The aim of this seminar was to provide a forum for MINDEF System Safety practitioners to share significant developments and experiences in safety management within MINDEF and the defence ecosystem.

The participants included combatants, engineers and logisticians across MINDEF, the SAF and ST Engineering. The Guest-of-Honour gracing the event was Deputy Secretary (Technology), BG(NS) Ravinder Singh.

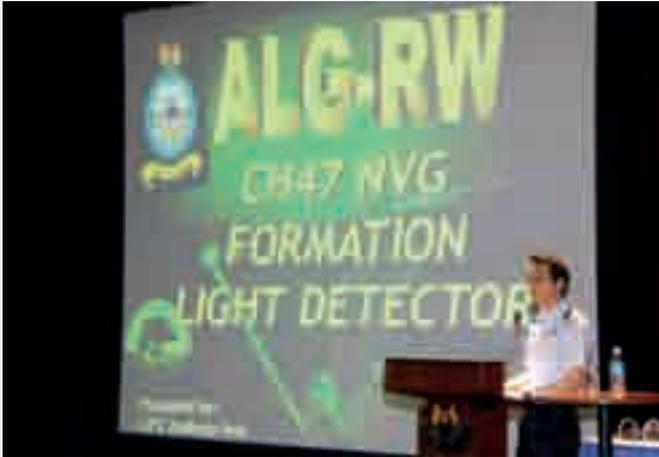
Among the many presentations in the seminar was RSAF's "Overcoming the Challenges for Safe and Effective Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Operations in the SAF", presented by ME6 Low Bah Soon, Head Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Branch, ALD.

His presentation highlighted the progress the RSAF has made in improving the safety of UAV operations and the measures that need to be put in place today to face the challenges of tomorrow.

This was followed by presentations by the Army, Republic of Singapore Navy, ST Engineering, Defence Science Organisation and DSTA.

The event concluded with BG(NS) Ravinder presenting the speakers with tokens of appreciation.

RSAF PRIDE Convention



CPT Anthony Soh presenting on MSG Ong's project.

The RSAF Productivity and Innovation in Daily Effort (PRIDE) Convention was held on 30 Mar 10 at Chong Pang Camp auditorium. This year's convention was organised by Participation Command and was officiated by CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng. The convention highlighted outstanding Unit Suggestions Management System (USMS) and Work Improvement Teams (WITS) projects in the form of presentations and static displays.

Principal and CEO of Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP), Mr Chan Lee Mun was present as a distinguished guest speaker. During his presentation, Mr Chan spoke about the professional working relationship between NYP and the RSAF which saw the birth of numerous innovations.

The event concluded with a presentation of awards which honoured exceptional RSAF projects and commended the efforts of coordinators, facilitators and leaders who have actively promoted productivity and innovation.

Many of these inspiring innovations had very humble beginnings. An example would be MSG Ong Chin Lin, the recipient of the Best USMS Suggestion (Support) award for his project 'CH47 Night Vision Goggles (NVG) formation light detector.'

During a discussion with his father, MSG Ong realised that the bulb at the tip of most remote controls is actually an Infra-Red (IR) Light Emitting Diode (LED). After some research, MSG Ong found that while IR emissions could not be detected by the naked eye, a photo transistor could be used to detect these lights.

MSG Ong linked his findings to his work place and thought of the maintenance procedures of the IR LED formation lights of CH47 helicopters. He commented of his invention, "Whenever maintenance is required on the CH47 formation



CAF, MG (then BG) Ng watching a presentation of one of the USMS projects.

light, we had to loan Night Vision Goggles to detect emission of the IR lights. Therefore we can only perform the maintenance at night. With the Infra-Red Light Detector (IRLD), we are given the flexibility to perform the maintenance throughout the day since the IRLD can detect the IR light emitted by the CH47 NVG formation light any time of the day."

Similarly, MSG Nigel Ng's creative innovation in maintaining the functionality of the I-HAWK ground based air defence system saved about \$170,000 for the organisation. The simple use of friction inspired his project, 'Electric Current Measurement for the High Powered Illuminator (HPI).' Using friction to conduct checks on the HPIs' gear systems ensured that the I-HAWKS were in tip top working condition. This won him the Best WITS Project (Support).

CPT Teo Chee Tat, winner of Outstanding Economy Drive Committee, Unit WITS Management System and USMS Coordinator awards, shared, "PRIDE has been a very good platform for the RSAF, developing our future capabilities as a 3rd Gen Air Force. PRIDE serves as a platform for people to continually generate ideas, cut waste and optimise resources."



COMD PC, BG Wong Huat Sern, at one of the booths.

APGC PRIDE Day



COMD APGC, COL Sarbjit Singh, listening intently as the presenter shares on the details of one of APGC's best WITs suggestions.

The "PRoductivity and Innovation in Daily Effort" (PRIDE) movement started in 1981, and its aim is to promote a culture of innovation and excellence within MINDEF and the SAF.

On 25 Feb 10, Air Power Generation Command (APGC) held its APGC PRIDE Day 2010 at the Air Force Training Command (AFTC) Auditorium. The event supports APGC's

drive for innovation by recognising outstanding PRIDE activists and projects from APGC and promotes innovation through talks and sharing of best projects.

The theme for APGC PRIDE Day 2010 is "Innovation: A Journey of Many Possibilities". It reflects the emphasis APGC puts on innovation and the opportunities that innovation creates in enhancing APGC's operational capability.

With better innovation, the Command would be able to operate at higher efficiency, making the RSAF a more productive organisation as a whole.

The Guest-of-Honour, Commander APGC, COL Sarbjit Singh, gave out prizes to servicemen for their outstanding Unit Suggestion Management System and Work Improvement Team projects.

MAJ Joey Watson, Commanding Officer of Field Defence Squadron, Paya Lebar Air Base, shares his main takeaways from the event, "I realised that innovation is evergreen and that there are many possibilities out there. I am also encouraged by the effort and emphasis the RSAF places on innovation. This will spur our people to constantly strive in becoming a more efficient and effective organisation in achieving our mission."

ALO Innovation Seminar



DHAL, ME7 Francis Cheong, giving his welcome address.

The inaugural Air Logistics Organisation (ALO) Innovation Seminar, organised by the ALO Innovation Committee, was held on 22 Jun 10 at the Air Force Training Command Auditorium.

The seminar aims to strengthen the culture of innovation within ALO, so as to enhance its operational logistics capability through breakthrough ideas and solutions. The Guest of Honour gracing the event was Head Air Logistics (HAL), ME7 Lee Ling Wee.

The seminar started off with ALO Chief Innovation Officer, Deputy HAL (Engineering), ME7 Francis Cheong, giving his welcome address. During the seminar, the ALO INSPIRE Awards were also presented by HAL to the winners to

give recognition to individuals and teams who explore new ideas or ways of doing things.

ME1 Chua Rui Xiang from Air Logistics Group (ALG) Fixed Wing 2 won the Individual Category with his 'Ball Bearing Counter'. The current servicing of the M61A1 Gun or Universal Ammunition Loader System involves manually counting hundreds of ball bearings.

Finding this process tedious and inefficient, ME1 Chua came up with a simpler means to do the task. His idea drew inspiration from one of his childhood toys, which involves rotating a cube to guide all ball bearings into designated holes. A low cost ball bearing counter was created which reduces the time taken to complete the task by 95% with 100% accuracy was thus created.

The Team Category award was presented to ME2 Jasmine Yap Siew May of Team Longbow. The team from ALG Rotary Wing came up with the 'AH-64D Alternative Improved Data Modem (IDM) Maintenance Operational Check'.

Their inspiration came from the SMS function of mobile phones, which allows us to send messages to ourselves. Instead of using two aircraft, the new product allows the aircraft to send messages to itself through the IDM and radios on board. This reduces the resources required by 50% and thus enhances the RSAF's aircraft readiness.

Preparing for Competitive Runs

Gearing Up Mentally and Physically for Sporting Events

Is there really a need to train?

Yes! Training is imperative if you wish to avoid injuries and enjoy the events fully. How you start training for sporting events like long distance running depends largely on your present fitness level, age, and amount of similar sports you have done in the past. Such competitive sports may seem daunting for amateurs. In consultation with avid runners, adhering to the four concepts in this article will ensure athletic success:

Mental



Motivation is maximised when it arises from within yourself (intrinsic motivation) instead of relying on external rewards such as recognition by others (extrinsic motivation). Mental resilience is necessary for both the training phase and the actual race day.

Training Phase – Reaching goals doesn't just happen; it requires planning. Maintaining your motivation is essential to ensure that you complete the training phase well. Set realistic goals for oneself (considering one's personal physical conditioning) while maintaining a degree of difficulty. Strive to have specific, measurable goals during training.

Actual Race Day – Both elite and recreational athletes have used Dissociation and Association strategies to cope with the rigours of competition.

Dissociation involves using mental processes to distract the athlete from sensory cues related to the race (e.g. listening to music, imagining pleasant situations or "active" strategies such as counting trees). Dissociation can reduce the sense of awareness of physical sensation such as pain and fatigue.

Association involves using the mental faculties to focus on bodily sensations such as breathing rates and muscle soreness. Focusing on controlled, rhythmic breathing is the key to relaxation. When you breathe out, try to imagine the tension leaving your body. Pay attention to each group of muscles from your head down to the toes. If you notice that your muscles are tense, try focusing on a cue word, such as 'relax' or 'easy' and let the tension flow out of the muscles.

Training

If you have not taken part in a certain sport for several years, your training regime should start at least two months before the actual event. Mileage should be built up gradually to avoid injury and over-exercise, and to establish a good base fitness on which to build the stamina levels you will need.

Nutrition

Good nutrition optimises exercise performance. A healthy, balanced diet lays the foundation for a healthy

body. It is recommended that 65-70% of food intake be made up of carbohydrates, 15-20% from proteins and the remaining from fats, vitamins and minerals. In addition, adequate hydration is essential for safe long-distance training.

- **Pre-event Diet** – This meal is important to prevent hypoglycemia (low blood sugar), abate hunger and fuel your race. The principles for pre-event meals are as follows:
 - Low in fat and fibre to facilitate stomach emptying and minimise abdominal discomfort during the race.
 - High in carbohydrates to maintain blood glucose levels and maximise glycogen stores. A carbohydrate loading program is generally used three days before the event. You should increase the amount of carbohydrates to at least 70-80% of your diet.
 - Moderate amount of protein.
 - Allow at least 2-3 hours for a meal to be digested. Less time is required for a liquid meal or a small snack.
 - Avoid foods that do not agree with your digestive system.
 - Drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration.

During the Event – Be sure to keep yourself well-hydrated at all times! Isotonic drinks such as 100Plus and Gatorade are useful to replenish glucose and salt lost during the race.



Post-event Diet – This meal is important as it will affect your recovery. As the body's fluid and glycogen stores would be depleted, hydration and energy replenishment are important components of the post-event diet. The best way to replace glycogen stores is through high amount of carbohydrates eaten with a moderate amount of proteins. For example, milk with cereals or some lean meat with spaghetti can offer the winning combination to achieve a restoration of glycogen stores.

Technique and Safety

In competitive marathons and races, it is crucial to never let competitiveness compromise your safety. As a general rule, to minimise injuries to yourself and other athletes, start slowly and cautiously. You may pick up speed during the race once the route has cleared up. During the race, continue to anticipate other athletes' movements to avoid accidents.

- Article contributed by RSAF Medical Service

In Conversation With a Flight Test Engineer

“Being an FTE places me at the front line of operations. The results that I gather and recommendations I make are of great importance to the RSAF...”

-- ME4 Ho Hwee Ling



Every three to four years, a promising Air Force Engineering Officer is selected to attend the year long rotary wing flight test engineer course held at the Royal Air Force's Empire Test Pilots' School at Boscombe Down in the United Kingdom.

The course seeks to teach experienced air force engineers the philosophy, methodologies and skills required to undertake helicopter experimental flight tests. This is done through rigorous ground-school training and airborne application, comprising more than 100 flying hours spread over 20 different aircraft types. ME4 Ho Hwee Ling, the RSAF's first female Flight Test Engineer (FTE), successfully completed the course that was conducted from Jan 09 to Dec 09.

ME4 Ho Hwee Ling's positive and eager attitude displayed during the flight test engineer course earned her the Edwards award. ME4 Ho recalled, "I was very surprised to receive the award, especially when all the other course mates were also putting their best into the course."

When asked about her thoughts on returning to the RSAF as the first female RSAF Flight Test Engineer (FTE), ME4 Ho said that she was eagerly looking forward to the challenges that await her in flight testing, with the newest one being working on the S-70B naval helicopter.

ME4 Ho is confident that she will be able to cope with the pressures of her job. She elaborates, "As my predecessors were all male, it would fall to me to work doubly hard to do us girls proud! As the first female FTE, many eyes are fixed on me and my progress."

ME4 Ho describes that a good FTE is always conscientious, determined and has perseverance. As FTEs, she adds, "Any small error might jeopardise the test team's safety so we are taught to adopt an incremental approach."

Apart from flight testing, another major aspect of the FTE's job scope is to engage in project planning. ME4 Ho reiterates the importance of planning for a project, "If you don't plan before you act, you are preparing yourself to fail. You plan to test, and test out what you've planned." She also assists in papers or write-ups when various units seek her consultation and expertise, especially in the area of testing and fitting of new equipment.

As a FTE, ME4 Ho bridges viewpoints of a pilot and an engineer. Having worked with both groups of personnel, she is trained to see things from both perspectives, which can sometimes be very different.

She further explains, "I am able to understand viewpoints of a pilot and engineer, I must be able to provide the relevant information to the correct party. This is where my expertise contribute to RSAF in helping my team do our flight trials competently."

When asked about her job satisfaction, ME4 Ho declared that she had no regrets on being a FTE. On the contrary, she laments not being one earlier, "Being a FTE and a normal engineer is so different. An engineer does his groundwork and planning, but it takes a long time for him to actually see the results of his hard work. However, as a FTE, I see the results very quickly. It could take maybe one month from planning and execution till the end of the project."

ME4 Ho credits her job success to encouraging colleagues and family members, "They were very supportive. They were also worried about my stint in the UK, as I was the only Singaporean, and Asian there. Thankfully I had great course mates who looked after me."

FTEs like ME4 Ho are our nation's first line of defence. Their knowledge and expertise are vital to the RSAF's operations. As ME4 Ho aptly summarises, "To be an FTE places me at the front line of operations. The results that I gather and recommendations I make are of great importance to the RSAF as they are made aware of the assets' capabilities and limitations."

In Conversation with an Aviation Vehicle Specialist



“It is a challenging job, and things change everyday. There are never two different situations which have the same solution. Thus, it is really satisfying to be able to solve challenges one after another.”

-- ME1 Aston Ng

Less than a week after his return from his deployment to Afghanistan, ME1 Aston Ng will be a married man.

And many might wonder what made this man volunteer for the deployment, when he had so much at stake back home. “I feel proud that the SAF has given me this opportunity to prove my worth, and to represent Singapore in an international field. It is an honour to be able to do my part for the international community in the war against terrorism, no matter how big or small our part may be,” explained the Aviation Vehicle Specialist from 128 SQN, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Command, on his willingness to take up this opportunity to contribute to the nation.

“I very much wanted to go for an overseas deployment, and I took up this opportunity as it presented itself, with much consideration to my fiancé as well,” said ME1 Ng, about his fiancé’s support of his decision. “She is very supportive of this whole deployment, and she just wants me to be back in time for the wedding. She has full faith in the RSAF that my safety will not be compromised, and she is very certain that I’ll be able to accomplish my mission and return home safely,” added ME1 Ng.

This deployment will be an eye opener, and a whole new experience for the participants, not only in terms of working conditions, but also the pace and scale of operations. “This will be the first time our UAVs will be deployed in Afghanistan. It is an opportunity that not everyone has, and I will make good use of this opportunity. Hopefully,

I will learn from the many operations conducted there, and bring back some new experiences to share.” On the challenges that he would expect to face, ME1 Ng elaborated, “I think the operating tempo and system challenges that will be posed to us there will be very different from what we experience locally, or in any detachments to other countries, partly due to the environment that we would be working in, which is rather new to us.”

ME1 Ng’s operational duties will involve servicing and maintaining essential equipment. Commenting on his vocation, ME1 Ng noted, “It is a challenging job, and things change everyday. There are never two different situations which have the same solution. Thus, it is really satisfying to be able to solve challenges one after another.”

The UAV Task Group’s detachment to Afghanistan will signal a increase in the SAF’s participation in overseas missions, be it peacekeeping or disaster relief operations. “As a Singaporean, and as a soldier in the SAF, I feel that it is an honour to be able to contribute to the international community, and to help those in need. My parents are very supportive of my decision, as they understand that is my job to answer the call of duty to my nation. I voluntarily took on this mission, and I feel very proud to serve the country.” Added ME1 Ng, “I’m getting married just a few days upon my return from the deployment, and I have confidence in the RSAF, that my family will be well taken care of while I am away. With this reassurance, I can concentrate on my mission with peace of mind.”

Innovation for Improvement

“It feels great to see our ideas being accepted and evolving into an actual working prototype, which meets the operational demands of Air Power Generation Command and the RSAF.”

-- 3SG(NS) Tan Yao Nan



With the advent of new technology, there is no better way to use it than to let it work for you. As we progress into the 3rd Generation RSAF, the crux of being a cutting edge air force is to be relevant and incisive.

Precision and efficiency comes to mind as we develop the 3rd Generation RSAF. The key focus no longer lies in expanding manpower, but on best optimising the new age technology to aid in our operations.

In this new Robotics project, the brainchild of two of our NSmen, 3SG(NS) Wong, and 3SG(NS) Tan Yao Nan, the innovators of an autonomous runway sweeping device for the removal of foreign object debris (FOD).

The duo came up with the idea of using robots to carry out the regular FOD walk that they conducted each day. Said 3SG(NS) Wong, “We came up with the idea while we were still serving our National Service (NS), and as the project was somewhat related to our diploma studies in electrical and computer control, we thought that it would be an interesting challenge and a good way for us to utilise our two years in NS.”

The removal of FOD from the Active Manoeuvring Area (AMA) is an important practice in the Air Force, especially in terms of safety. Through quality maintenance of the airfield, the Air Maintenance Squadron (AMS) FOD Sweepers keep the runways and airfields in high working

order. “Even as NSF’s in AMS and Changi Air Base (CAB) then, we understood the important role we played and the operational impetus for Robotics in Air Base Operability. Robotics can improve productivity and enhance our ability to operate,” said 3SG(NS) Tan.

For the course of the project, AMS had made available basic Lego robotics sets for the men to explore the use of robotic systems. 3SG(NS) Tan described how he felt upon the actualisation of their innovation. “It feels great to see our ideas being accepted and evolving into an actual working prototype, which meets the operational demands of Air Power Generation Command (APGC) and the RSAF.”

Commented 3SG(NS) Wong on how the innovation would help to improve the current situation in the RSAF, “We believe our innovation would benefit the lives of our soldiers in the RSAF, in terms of both manpower optimisation, and work efficiency.” Added 3SG(NS) Tan, “We believe that whatever innovations, big or small, will contribute to the operational readiness of the SAF. Everyone plays a part in the defence of our nation, and we as NSF’s and NSmen should play our part as well.”

Both NSmen were presented with certificates of appreciation by CAF, MG Ng Chee Meng, for their hard work and outstanding contribution to the RSAF.

NSF of the Year - CPL Marcus Teo



"No Comms, No Rest"

-- CPL Marcus Teo

Hearing about the enriching experience of some NSFs (Full-time National Serviceman) during their two-year stint is a breath of fresh air. With a positive mindset and a constant quest for excellence, it is possible to make one's NS term a meaningful one. In that spirit, 70 NSFs were honoured with the inaugural NSF of the Year Award, an initiative put forward by the Fifth Committee to Recognise the Contribution of Operationally Ready National Serviceman to Total Defence (RECORD V).

Of the 70 recipients of this award, seven were from the RSAF. As NSF of the Year, CPL Marcus Teo, a signaller from 128 SQN, UAV Command, puts it, "This award shows that the SAF recognises good work and serves as an incentive for NSFs to do their best."

Although CPL Teo's medical condition precluded his selection into the Officer Cadet School, he did not regard this as a setback. Rather, it strengthened his resolve to perform his best in his vocation as a signaller. CPL Teo is known for his quote "No Comms, No Rest". It is an impactful phrase that highlights the importance of communications, underscores the hard work that signallers put into ensuring that good communications are not compromised, even in adverse circumstances. He embodies his own quote well. His diligence has also rubbed off on his platoon mates, furnishing a conducive and constructive environment for teamwork.

Complementary to his humility and desire to learn, his ability to capitalise on the opportunities presented to him has made his NS term much more rewarding.

CPL Teo's participation in EX Forging Sabre was one of the highlights of his NSF term, "I was given the chance to put into full use my knowledge on signalling in an actual exercise. Moreover, it was an invaluable learning experience to see how comms plans were integrated into the UAV operations. It broadened my horizon in that it allowed me to see more holistically how operations are carried out and how my job as a signaller is essential to the seamless execution of the exercise as a whole."

"Ultimately enjoyable," was how CPL Teo described his time in service. That sentiment is echoed by his platoon mates and officers on working with him. He attributed his achievements to his platoon mates, who kept him going when work became mundane. Before being nominated as the NSF of the Year, CPL Marcus won the Outstanding Serviceman Award in Nov 09.

The NSF of the Year Award recognises NSFs like CPL Teo and other outstanding servicemen who have made significant contributions beyond their call of duty. It is both an incentive and a tangible encouragement for NSFs to put their very best foot forward in serving their country. To the seven NSFs from the RSAF who received this accolade, it is the crowning jewel to their fruitful NSF term.

CDF Change-of-Command and CDF Visits to RSAF Commands



Outgoing CDF, LG Kuek handing over the symbol of command of the SAF to incoming CDF, LG (then MG) Neo.

On 1 Apr 10, LG (then MG) Neo Kian Hong took over the helm of the SAF as the Chief of Defence Force (CDF). The symbol of command of the SAF was handed over from LG Desmond Kuek to LG (then MG) Neo in a Change-of-Command Parade held at SAFTI Military Institute. The ceremony was witnessed by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence, Dr Ng Eng Hen, distinguished guests and senior officers from all three Services.

LG Neo has held several key appointments since he joined the SAF in 1983. These positions include Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion Singapore Guards; Commander, 7th Singapore Infantry Brigade; Assistant Chief of the General Staff (Personnel); Assistant Chief of the General Staff (Operations); Commander, 9th Singapore Division; Commander, Army Training and Doctrine Command; Director, Joint Operations and Planning Directorate; and Chief of Staff – Joint Staff. LG Neo had previously served as Chief of Army since 20 May 07.

Since assuming the appointment of CDF, LG Neo, has been visiting various SAF Formations and units to gain a better appreciation of their operational capabilities. On 18 Jun 10, LG (then MG) Neo visited Air Combat Command (ACC) at Paya Lebar Air Base (PLAB). During the visit, LG (then MG) Neo was briefed on the Command's operations. He also toured the Flight Simulation Centre and the facilities at 149 SQN, home of the RSAF's new F-15SGs.



Commander ACC, BG Richard Pereira, presenting LG (then MG) Neo with a memento during his visit to ACC.

On 16 Jul 10, LG Neo visited Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Command (UC) at Tengah Air Base (TAB). Commander UC, COL Neo Hong Keat briefed LG Neo on UC's roles and developmental plans. LG Neo was also briefed on the operational capabilities of 116, 119 and 128 SQNs by their respective Commanding Officers.

LG Neo viewed static displays of the Searcher and Hermes 450 (H450) UAVs and the UAV Ground Control Station. He was also given a demonstration of the H450 Mission Trainer. The visit concluded with a dialogue session with UC personnel, which included personnel deploying to Afghanistan as part of the SAF UAV Task Group.



LG Neo interacting with UC personnel during his visit.

On 13 Aug 10, LG Neo, accompanied by Chief of Staff (Air Staff), BG Hoo Cher Mou, visited Participation Command (PC) at Chong Pang Camp. During his visit, LG Neo was hosted by COMD PC, BG Wong Huat Sern, and was briefed on the capabilities and operations of PC. He was also given an update on how the Command works with both the Army and Navy in integrated operations and exercises.

During his visit, LG Neo also toured Sembawang Air Base, and took a familiarisation flight on board the Super Puma helicopter.



LG Neo (second from right), accompanied by BG Hoo (third from right) and BG Wong (first from right) on board the RSAF's Super Puma.

These visits and dialogue sessions allowed LG Neo to better understand RSAF operations and address issues of concern amongst the airmen and women. LG Neo also reiterated the key issues pertaining to the 3rd Generation SAF, the importance of work-life balance and reminded personnel that their efforts are well-recognised.

CAF's Visit to the Squadrons



CAF being briefed on the weapons system of the RSAF's Super Puma helicopter.

CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng, upon his appointment as CAF, visited several RSAF squadrons. He was updated on the squadrons' operations and also had a chance to interact with the squadron personnel. To date, he has



CAF MG (then BG) Ng in a group photo with senior commanders and personnel from ALG - RW.

visited the Air Logistics Group - Rotary Wing (ALG - RW) on 14 May, 126 SQN on 9 Jun, and 140 SQN on 2 Aug.



CAF interacting with personnel from 126 SQN.



LTC Kwan Kum Wah, CO 140 SQN, presenting CAF with a memento of his visit.

Commander Tengah Air Base Change-of-Command



COMD APGC presenting the letter of appointment to COL Tan Ah Kheng.

COL (then LTC) Tan Ah Kheng assumed the command of Tengah Air Base (TAB) on 03 Mar 10 from COL David Wong Choon Kiat. The Change-Of-Command Parade in TAB was witnessed by Commander Air Power Generation Command (APGC), COL Sarbjit Singh.

Outgoing Commander TAB, COL David Wong Choon Kiat joined the RSAF on 12 Oct 1981. He has since clocked more

than 3000 flight hours on the A4 Skyhawk, F-5 and F-16 aircraft. Prior to his appointment as Commander TAB, COL Wong has held several command and staff appointments, including Commanding Officer of 140 SQN; Head Force Plans, Air Plans Department; S3 Tengah Air Base; Deputy Commander, Paya Lebar Air Base; Deputy Head Air Operations (Ops Control), Air Operations Department and, Deputy Commander, Air Defence and Operations Command. As Commander TAB he also held the concurrent appointment as Head of Operations Development Group, APGC.

Incoming Commander TAB, COL Tan Ah Kheng joined the RSAF on 16 June 1986. He has accumulated over 2500 hours on the F-5 and F-16 platforms. COL Tan is also a Pilot Attack Instructor Prior to his appointment as Commander TAB, COL Tan served as Detachment Commander, Peace Carvin II in Luke Air Force Base and Deputy Commander, Fighter Group, Air Combat Command.

Air Force News congratulates COL Tan on his new appointment and wishes him and COL David Wong all the best in their future endeavours.

Inauguration of Air Force Training Command



Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence, Dr Ng, CAF, MG (then BG) Ng, unveiling the inauguration plaque.

The Air Force Training Command (AFTC) was inaugurated on 22 Mar 10, at a ceremony officiated by Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence, Dr Ng Eng Hen. The final Command to be inaugurated, AFTC is an amalgamation of the former Air Force School, Flying Training School and UAV Training School. It will serve as a centralised training Command, that will provide foundational training for manned and unmanned flying; ground-based air defence (GBAD); command, control and communications and engineering vocations.

AFTC employs the latest training pedagogies and state-of-the-art technologies to help enhance the learning experience for trainees. One such technology, is the Virtual Reality Aircraft Recognition (VRAR) system, which helps ground-based air defence trainees to better identify aircraft, which is a crucial part of their training. AFTC provides robust foundational training, which allows air force personnel to be more effective and operationally ready.

LTC Fong Kok Wai, COMD GBAD School, spoke on the importance of AFTC, "AFTC is the first Command that all RSAF airmen will go through. Our curriculum changes to meet the needs of the 3rd Generation RSAF. We work closely with the operational Commands, so that we maintain currency and ensure that our trainees are equipped with the right vocational competencies to maintain the operational capability and readiness of the Commands."

LTA John Samuel, an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Pilot trainee, commented on the teaching methods used in AFTC, "In AFTC, the instructors take a learner centric approach. During this training period, one is able to get in touch with trainees of all different ranks and vocations. When you have interaction across ranks, you truly gain an understanding of different people's backgrounds, training frameworks and manpower policies, which is truly beneficial to all trainees."

Commander UAV Command Change-of-Command



COL Lim handed the symbol of Command over to COL Neo.

The command of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Command (UC) was handed over from COL Lim Tuang Liang to COL Neo Hong Keat, during a Change-of-Command Parade held at Murai Camp on 16 Jun 10. The parade was witnessed by CAF, MG (then BG) Ng Chee Meng.

Since assuming the appointment of COMD UC on 9 Dec 08, COL Lim has led UC with great conviction and foresight. Under his leadership, the SAF's UAV capability had been enhanced through the upgrading of existing systems and the delivery of new ones. Prior to this, COL Lim has held various command and staff appointments, which include Branch Head, Air Plans Department;

Military Private Secretary to the Minister for Defence; Senior Force Transformation Officer (Air), Joint Plans and Transformation Department, and Commanding Officer (CO) of 145 SQN.

Incoming COMD UC, COL Neo is a recipient of the SAF Overseas Training Award (Academic) and the National Day Award – Public Administration Medal (Bronze) (Military). He has also held a variety of command and staff appointments, including Branch Head, Air Operations Department; CO of 140 SQN, and Deputy Head Air Operations (Strategies and Plans Group) in Air Operations Department.

During the parade, COL Lim handed the Symbol of Command to COL Neo. CAF, MG (then BG) Ng also presented the successful Command Plaque and Letter of Appointment to COL Lim and COL Neo respectively.

Expressing his heartfelt gratitude to the efforts and contribution of UC personnel, COL Lim said in his farewell speech, "To the men and women of UAV Command, it has been an incredible journey and I thank each and everyone of you for having walked the path together with me."

Air Force News congratulates COL Neo on his new appointment and wishes both him and COL Lim all the best in their future endeavours.

Commander Air Surveillance and Control Group Change-of-Command



COMD ADOC presenting the Letter of Appointment to Incoming Commander ASCG, COL Gan.

COL (then LTC) Gan Siow Huang assumed command of the Air Surveillance and Control Group (ASCG) from LTC Tan Ying Kiat on 29 Jun 10. The Change-of-Command Parade held at HQ ADOC was witnessed by Commander ADOC, BG Kwek Kok Kwong.

Outgoing Commander ASCG, LTC Tan, joined the RSAF in 1993. He has held a wide range of staff and command appointments in MINDEF and the RSAF. These appointments included flight commander in the former Air Force Systems Brigade, Commanding Officer, 111 SQN and Deputy Director, Defence Policy Office.

Incoming Commander ASCG, COL Gan, is RSAF's first female Colonel. Prior to her appointment as Commander ASCG, she had served as a Branch Head in the former Operating Systems Branch, Air Plans Department; Commanding Officer, 203 SQN and most recently, as Deputy Director, Defence Policy Office.

Air Force News congratulates COL Gan Siow Huang on her new appointment and wishes her and LTC Tan every success in their future endeavours.

Changes in Appointments

Changes in Senior Staff Appointments

Head SAF OPG, Joint Operations Department (JOD), MINDEF
- 16 Jun 10
Incoming: COL Lim Tuang Liang

Head C4 Plans Group, Joint Communication and Information Systems Department, JOD, MINDEF
- 31 May 10
Incoming: COL Yong Yoke Chuang

Head Air Plans Department, HQ RSAF
- 01 Jul 10
Incoming: COL Tan Chee Wee
Outgoing: COL Tan Wei Ming Mervyn

Deputy Head Air Operations Department, HQ RSAF
- 27 May 10
Incoming: SLTC Ang Kheng Leong Benedict
Outgoing: COL Neo Hong Keat

Head ODG, HQ ACC
- 23 Apr 10
Incoming: LTC Ho Yung Peng

Changes in Command Appointments

Commander UC
- 16 Jun 10
Incoming: COL Neo Hong Keat
Outgoing: COL Lim Tuang Liang

Commander Air Surveillance and Control Group, ADOC
- 29 Jun 10
Incoming: COL Gan Siow Huang
Outgoing: LTC Tan Ying Kiat

CO 143 SQN, Fighter Group (FG),
- 23 Apr 10
Incoming: LTC Toh Kok Keen Adrian
Outgoing: LTC Ho Yung Peng

CO Air Support and Maintenance Squadron - Rotary Wing, APGC
- 26 Apr 10
Incoming: ME6 Yit Seek Onn
Outgoing: ME6 Yap Soon Haw Timothy

Detachment Commander, PC II Detachment, HQ FG, ACC
- 21 May 10
Incoming: LTC Low Say Sim
Outgoing: SLTC Leong Khum Keong Vincent

Commanding Officer (CO) 163 SQN, Air Defence Group, ADOC - 09 Jul 10
Incoming: LTC Fan Sui Siong, Kelvin
Outgoing: LTC Lee Wee Chek

CO Field Defence Squadron, CAB, APGC
- 23 Jul 10
Incoming: MAJ Chiong Seow Mun
Outgoing: MAJ Kalaiselvan S/O Poniah Ponrajah

Changes in Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) Appointments

CWO, AWTI-AFTC, AFTC
- 24 May 10
Incoming: 2WO Tan Siow Nam
Outgoing: 1WO Lim Song Guan

SQN CWO, 150 SQN, FTI, AFTC
- 07 Jun 10
Incoming: ME3 Wong Wei Hiong
Outgoing: ME3 Lim Choon Poh Perry

CWO, 201 SQN, TASG, PC
- 02 Jul 10
Incoming: ME3 Rajendran S/O Punniamurthi
Outgoing: ME3 N Tamilmannan

FTC CWO, FTC, AOD
- 08 Jul 10
Incoming: ME3 Teoh Chin Leong William
Outgoing: ME3 Sim Hock Guan

SQN CWO, HQ 8043, ADOC
- 26 Jul 10
Incoming: ME3 Teo Poh Lin
Outgoing: ME4 Sunmugam S/O Murugiya

SQN CWO, 140 SQN, FG, HQ ACC
- 17 Sep 10
Incoming: ME3 Chia Loy Ngee
Outgoing: ME3 Chiang Sung Meng

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