

# NAVY news

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ISSUE 05 2008

## Reaching Out with A Helping Hand

**RSN and TNI-AL in OPS SBJ**

*"Thank you... for bringing medical services to this village."*

**Safe and Secure Seas for All @ WMSIES!**

*"Everybody is on the same page."*







## Republic of Singapore Navy



**RADM Chew Men Leong**

Chief of Navy

## A Word from CNV

Ensuring the security of our island state's vital Sea Lines of Communication has been and will continue to be a key focus for the 3rd Generation RSN. As we continue to transform our approach to meet the growing demands for maritime security, active partnership engagement at sea to shoulder the spectrum of maritime challenges will be a key success factor. It is therefore timely that Thailand has joined Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore under the ambit of the Malacca Straits Patrols to collectively safeguard this important international waterway.

The importance of maritime security has come into sharp international focus with the recent upsurge of piracy in the Gulf of Aden. Capacity building to collaborate in dealing with maritime security threats continue to feature strongly in our naval exercises. In the range of inter-agency, bilateral and multilateral exercises, such as Ex APEX, Ex SEACAT, Ex LIONZEAL and Ex MARU, realistic threat scenarios were played out to validate operational contingency plans and boost collaborative capacity to deal with them. Beyond naval cooperation at sea, international co-operation in growing maritime info-sharing networks ashore is also a key enabler to ensure safe and secure seas for all. This important focus was the masthead of the 4th WPNS Maritime Security Information Exchange Seminar hosted by the RSN recently. Over time, a strong Community of Practice will develop in new areas of maritime security information sense-making to benefit all seafarers.

Another important global benefit by way of the sea which enjoins us all, is the humanitarian missions that navies increasingly undertake. At the invitation of TNI-AL, we recently joined the Indonesian Navy at Padang, Sumatra in providing community and medical services to the people living there. Indeed, extending a helping hand to our friends makes our navy a partner for peace in serving the common good. It has also been an wonderfully enriching experience for our people as well.

As we sail ahead with our key responsibilities, as guardians at sea, we continue to take significant effort to draw out the meaning and relevance of each and everyone's contribution to the Navy and to the wider objective maintaining peace and security for Singapore. And as we continue to achieve our mission objectives and punch well above our weight as a strong and capable Navy, the leadership has spared no effort in working towards building a better work-life balance amongst our people - routines are innovatively readjusted, new efficiencies are being harnessed, activities are carefully rationalised while operational goals continue to be sharpened. These initiatives represent part of the ongoing efforts taken to keep this Navy family of ours committed, strong and ready.



**Rear Admiral Scott Van Buskirk**  
Strike Group Commander  
Carrier Strike Group Nine  
United States Navy



**First Admiral Sugeng Darmawan**  
Commander  
West Fleet Sea Security Group  
Indonesian Navy



**Captain Panlop Tamisanon**  
Defence and Naval Attache  
Royal Thai Embassy



**Captain G Ashok Kumar**  
Defence Advisor  
High Commission of India

## Courtesy Calls

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## Thailand Joins Malacca Straits Patrols

Thailand has become the fourth country to join the Malacca Straits Patrols (MSP). Thailand's participation in the MSP was formalised in a signing ceremony held in Bangkok for the revised Standard Operating Procedures and Terms of Reference for the MSP Joint Coordinating Committee on 18 Sep.

Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore have been working together to enhance maritime security in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore since the launch of the MSP in Jul 2004. Additionally, the three littoral states also implemented the Eyes in the Sky combined maritime air patrols in Sep 2005 and the MSP Intelligence Exchange Group in 2006.

The MSP initiative demonstrates the commitment of Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand in enhancing security in the Straits of Malacca.

Thai Supreme Commander Gen. Boonsang Niempradit mentioned after signing the agreements that MSP would ensure safety for international shipping in and around the Straits, a vital conduit of much of the world trade. He added that Thailand would begin its air patrols in Jan 09 while sea surveillance would start in Oct 09. ~LL

## Safe And Secure Seas For All @ 4th WMSIES



The 4th Western Pacific Naval Symposium Maritime Security Information Exchange Seminar (WMSIES) was hosted by the RSN from 27 to 29 Aug. Held every year since 2004, this year's seminar was attended by representatives from 17 navies who met to discuss the sharing of information on maritime security. Representatives from seven maritime agencies and think-tanks were also invited to participate, which featured the theme 'Safe and Secure Seas for All'.

Chief of Navy RADM Chew Men Leong said in his opening address: "WPNS has been instrumental in bringing regional navies together to discuss operational matters and develop operational solutions for a range of issues. We have seen more in-depth discussion... My sensing is that there will be significant return-on-investments if we continue to focus on putting the cornerstone of information sharing and sense making in place. This will provide a strong foundation for inter-operability ashore and at sea."

Apart from several presentations, the participants were also updated on changes in the Regional Maritime Information

Exchange (ReMIX), a secured website which facilitate information sharing among the WPNS community. ReMIX incorporate real-time shipping databases and sense-making tools, enhancing the maritime situational awareness of the WPNS countries. To end off the three-day seminar, participants were given a tour of the Information Fusion Centre in Tuas Naval Base where information sharing on the environment in the Malacca Strait is put into action to help the enforcement of maritime security.

CAPT Maritime Yusof Ali from the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency said: "Information sharing is relevant especially with timely information. Echoing his sentiments, MAJ Jalila from the Royal Brunei Navy shared: "Each agency presented a very informative information sharing. Whether we come from a military or civilian organisation, our target is one for a safe and secure seas for all. The important point is that everybody is on the same page – one that is for the benefit of our country and region." ~JW



# EX MARU 08

*Picture a merchant vessel carrying an illegal cargo to produce Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). It passes quietly and innocently through the waters of Hauraki Gulf, Auckland. It is suddenly interdicted by a multi-national coalition boarding team. Once onboard, the team conducts security checks on the ship, and subsequently escorts it to the Port of Auckland for inspections.*

*Exciting? This scenario actually took place during Ex MARU 08 conducted in Auckland, New Zealand (NZ) from 12 to 19 Sep 08. Ex MARU is a Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) exercise involving participants from the PSI Operational Experts Group (OEG) like Australia, Canada, France, Japan, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States. A number of non-PSI participating countries from the Asia-Pacific region also took part in the exercise as observers.*

PSI is an international effort to counter the proliferation of WMD and WMD-related materials and Singapore has been actively supporting PSI efforts since its inception in 2003. For this exercise, the RSN participation included a 10-men NDU boarding team. CPT Dominic Teo, who led the boarding team, has this to say about the whole exercise, "It was a great experience working with our foreign counterparts and together, we can make a difference. Ultimately, an international effort is required for the battle against the proliferation of WMDs." ~LL



## RSN AND RNZN RUB NOSES AT EX LION ZEAL 08



COL Tan Wee Beng (left) performing the hongi with a RNZN specialist

Personnel from the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) literally 'rubbed noses' with their counterparts from the Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN) when they conducted Exercise Lion Zeal from 25 to 29 Aug. At the opening ceremony jointly officiated by Commander COSCOM, COL Tan Wee Beng, and the RNZN's Maritime Component Commander, Commodore Tony Parr on 25 Aug, they were greeted with *hongi* – the traditional Maori greeting by rubbing each others' noses at the powhiri or welcoming ceremony.

The week-long exercise was held at Devonport Naval Base, Auckland. The shore phase of the exercise saw professional exchanges between the two navies. Numerous topics were discussed which ranged from approaches to maritime security, naval warfare fighting concepts to specialised subjects like naval helicopter operations.

Understanding between the two navies was also enhanced through a combined tactical planning exercise that culminated in the sea phase. While on board the ANZAC-class frigate HMNZS TE KAHA, the RSN participants had the opportunity to engage their New Zealand counterparts in numerous

ship operations, including the use of naval helicopters during anti-submarine warfare.

"I believe both navies benefited from the exercise in terms of the contacts made and friendships formed," said CPT Lai Ronghe, Gunnery Officer, RSS FEARLESS. "It was great observing how personnel from both navies shared experiences, not only through briefings, but also through the meal times on board TE KAHA, and the close professional and personal interactions during the exercise."

*Article contributed by CPT Kam Chuan Liang*



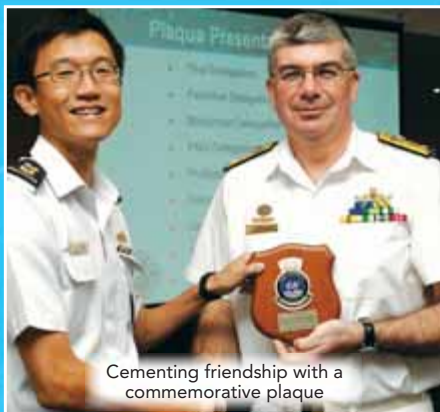
Ship tour on board TE KAHA



MAJ Leon Chua (2nd from right) and CPT Chai Chian Jong (2nd from left) together with RNZN Super Seasprite crew



# MCVs STRETCH OPERATIONAL LEGS DOWN UNDER with EX KAKADU 2008



Cementing friendship with a commemorative plaque

Truant naval forces have put up an economic blockade around oil fields discovered off Northern Australia and a multi-national naval peacekeeping force are on their way to protect "Darwinia's" sovereignty. Some 40 nautical miles from "Darwinia", both RSS VIGOUR and RSS VENGEANCE are locked in a stand-off, together with an Australian frigate and two mine-counter measure vessels.

This was the simulated war scenario for Ex KAKADU, a multilateral exercise that saw the participation of 16 warships and more than 30 aircrafts

from eight different countries, including Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Pakistan, Japan and Papua New Guinea. It was conducted along the northern coast of Australia.

The exercise started with a seven-day shore phase in Darwin, Australia, where the different navies shared on operations planning procedures and topics like fire-fighting, damage control and boarding. "Every navy offered a different perspective in doing things," said MAJ Lim Han Wei, the Executive Officer of RSS VENGEANCE, "We learnt a lot through deconflicting and arriving at a common baseline of doing things." This was followed by a 11-day sea phase, which included serials like manoeuvring exercises and live firings.

For both RSS VIGOUR and RSS VENGEANCE, the challenging demands faced during the exercise extended beyond working with the other navies. As LTC Lim Khia Teck, Commanding Officer of RSS VIGOUR shared: "Besides stretching the operational legs of the ships with the long deployment, it was important to me to ensure that my crew got enough rest, good quality food, and also took time off work to de-stress."

**Article contributed by CPT Jonathan Liu**



## Ex SINGSIAM 08: Stand-by for Boarding!



Maritime Security has taken on increased importance over the years. For the first time this year, Ex SINGSIAM included a boarding serial by both RSN and RTN teams on a Thai fishing vessel. The 15th in the series, Ex SINGSIAM was held at Sattahip and the Gulf of Thailand from 18 to 25 Aug. This year's exercise saw the participation of RSS TENACIOUS, RSS VICTORY, RSS INDEPENDENCE, HMTS PATTANI, an offshore patrol vessel, HTMS RATCHARIT, a fast attack missile gunboat and HTMS PHUKET, a fast attack gunboat.



The ships from the two navies also conducted various serials to enhance their warfare capabilities, including surface gunnery shoots and over-the-horizon targeting of RTN's Super Lynx. In addition, professional exchanges and friendly sports

competition were also held. All these helped to enhance the interoperability and mutual understanding between the personnel from the two navies.

It was not all work during the exercise. Many new friendships were made and existing ones were strengthened. LTA Andy Siow, an Officer-under-Training from RSS VICTORY remarked: "Coming for Ex SINGSIAM was indeed an eye opener for me. I made many new friends from the RTN, and had the opportunity to experience a different professional and social culture."

**Article contributed by CPT Aaron Li**







## EX APEX 08

Inter-agency readiness is crucial in the ever-changing maritime security landscape. "The ability to react to security threats stems from the existence of a continual exchange of support among the maritime security agencies," said ASP Leong Wai Yin from the Police Coast Guard at the recent Ex APEX held at COSCOM HQ Building on 19 to 21 Aug.

Conceived in 1993, this annual multi-agency exercise has been validating the linkages between the various agencies, ensuring that they are able to operate seamlessly together. It involves Coastal Command, its partner agencies from

the Police Coast Guard, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, and Immigration and Checkpoints Authority, and elements from Army and Air Force.

This year's exercise was conducted as a shore table-top exercise program with the broad aim to exercise and explore potential issues arising in the maritime security domain as COSCOM embarks on a new era of transformation. Much valuable inputs and insights were provided by senior commanders from SAF units and from external maritime agencies throughout the three days of scenario planning exercises.

*Article contributed by CPT Oh Weng Ping*

## Singapore participates in Naval Ex SEACAT 2008

With the rising importance of maritime security, it is apt that the annual Exercise South East Asia Cooperation Against Terrorism (Ex SEACAT) with the US was conducted to put into action multi-agency cooperation. This year's exercise was held in the Malacca Straits, Singapore Strait and South China Sea from 15 to 21 Aug. Coastal Command led a team comprising several national maritime agencies such as Police Coast Guard, Maritime Port Authority of Singapore and Immigration and Checkpoints Authority in the bilateral exercise.

The scenario saw the locating and tracking of Critical Contacts Of Interests (CCOIs) – merchant ships suspected of aiding terrorist activities. Subsequent boarding operations were carried out on these ships by the Accompanying Sea Security Teams (ASSeTs) and Anti-Smuggling Teams. The participating agencies also shared information with regard to the CCOIs and their actions taken via the Coalition Enterprise for Regional Information Exchange (CENTRIX) system – a US information-sharing system.



The well-drilled boarding teams conducted the boarding exercises on the CCOIs smoothly. Observers from US and ASEAN navies saw RSN's capability to continuously connect with the various agencies while maintaining an updated picture of the maritime situation through the Information Fusion Centre.

*Article contributed by MAJ Dickson Kuak*



## Joint MINEX 11/08

Joint MINEX 11/08, a bilateral joint mine-clearance exercise was successfully conducted between the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and Indonesian Navy (TNI-AL) from 11 to 19 Aug. Inaugurated in 1997 and conducted annually, this year's exercise saw the participation of the RSN's mine counter-measure vessels RSS BEDOK and RSS PUNGGOL, TNI-AL's minesweeper KRI PULAU RUPAT and dive teams from both navies.

A joint minecounter-measure operation against a simulated terrorist threat was carried out and culminated with the successful Mine Disposal Charge firing by RSS BEDOK and KRI PULAU RUPAT. In addition, a table-top exercise, topical presentations, cross-deck visits, a senior commanders programme in the shore phase and mine clearance operations off the waters east of Pulau Bintan were carried out.

During the closing ceremony, CO 194 SQN LTC Tan Yong Kee highlighted that each year, both navies aim to bring the exercise to a higher level. He also hoped that the relationship between the two navies will continue to move on to greater heights.

The successful completion of Joint MINEX not only enhanced closer professional ties but also once again reaffirmed the co-operation in the promotion of regional peace and security.

**Article contributed by CPT Jessie Liew**



## STEADFAST RETURN... after 99 days away

There was no need for any elaborate fanfare or any fancy welcome party. Just the chance to see loved ones again was good enough. The RSN welcomed RSS STEADFAST back to Singapore on 5 Sep after it had completed a three-month long deployment which saw the ship participate in a series of exercises in Brunei, Hawaii, Japan and China. As RSS STEADFAST pulled alongside at Changi Naval Base, there were many eager faces, both on the crew smartly turned out on deck and their loved ones waiting eagerly pier-side. Tears of joy erupted as parents hugged their children, and wives embraced their husbands.

"It is definitely good to be home after so long at sea. The crew have done very well, and all of them have worked hard, stayed focused and were very cohesive. We encountered problems along the way, but the crew worked hard to overcome all of them, truly living up to the ship's motto of "Will Above All". They have carried out flag high and done the RSN and ship proud!" said CO RSS STEADFAST LTC Seah Poh Yeen.



RSS STEADFAST participated in Ex RIMPAC, which saw the warship put through its paces with an eventful 22-day sea phase, included a Harpoon missile firing. On the return leg, RSS STEADFAST made port calls at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan and at Shanghai, China – the first time for any RSN frigate. Sea training exercises which included tactical manoeuvring drills were also undertaken with the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force and the People's Liberation Army (Navy) respectively during the port calls.

Numerous professional interactions with the various foreign navies during the long deployment served to enhance mutual understanding and defence relations. ~JW



Warm hugs and happy faces that greet our STEADFAST crew







MAJ Wong Ngian Tong (right) receiving the distinguished top award from Minister for Defence Mr Teo Chee Hean



## 39TH CSC GRADUATION CEREMONY

"You have reached a significant milestone in your military careers and will soon assume appointments with heavier duties and greater responsibilities. The Command and Staff Course that you have just completed has prepared you with the strategic perspective, the professional knowledge and the warfighting skills for this role," said Minister for Defence Mr Teo Chee Hean at the 39th Command and Staff Course (CSC) graduation ceremony held at the Istana on 10 Sep.

The nine-month long CSC is a key milestone course for military officers to prepare them for their next command and staff post. "The most important takeaway would be the opportunity to work with counterparts from foreign countries and the other services. They have enriched my knowledge beyond military aspects and provided me with a different perspective of things political, historical, cultural and traditional," reflected MAJ Wong Ngian Tong, the top Navy graduate from the latest CSC cohort. "My wife gave me a lot of help and support in holding the fort at home throughout the whole course as I had spent many late nights burning the midnight oil preparing for presentations and assignments. This allowed me to do my best during the course."

A total of 125 officers graduated from the 39th CSC which included 14 international officers from Australia, Brunei, China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Thailand and the United States. The participation of foreign officers at the CSC allows SAF officers to forge and strengthen professional as well as personal ties with their counterparts from the other armed forces. ~LL

## Long Service Awards 08

This year, the presentation ceremony of the Certificate of Appreciation and Long Service & SAF Tour Awards were given out to 112 recipients at Victory Hall, Changi Naval Training Base on 2 Sep to recognise the contributions made to the RSN over their years of dedicated service.

CNV RADM Chew Men Leong and members of the Naval Staff were at hand to congratulate the award winners and thank them for their fine contributions and efforts. There were Certificates of Appreciation given out this year as well, presented to NS Key Appointment Holders and Volunteers to acknowledge their contribution to national defence and the RSN. After the presentation ceremony, recipients and their spouses were treated to a reception at the RSN Central Mess Wardroom.

LTC Ong Eng Kok, who received the 20-year Long Service Award, had this to say, "Although it was a simple ceremony, the good turn out of senior commanders and naval staff members registered a strong message that RSN recognises our loyalty and contributions. I certainly felt proud in receiving the award, so I brought my family to witness the ceremony and share my joy." ~LL



LTC Ong Eng Kok receiving the 20-year Long Service Award from CNV





# TTC Closing Down Ceremony

The Tactical Training Centre (TTC) Tuas officially closed its doors on 29 Aug. The closing ceremony was held at the Institute of Maritime Warfare in Tuas and was graced by Chief of Navy RADM Chew Men Leong.

TTC Tuas had been on high gears since its formation in 1997, providing tactical simulation to the RSN. It has conducted exercises at all levels and shaped generations of Principal Warfare Officers. Since its formation, every batch of Naval Warfare Officers Course (NWOC) officers have passed through TTC Tuas. CNV said in his speech: "I have a strong attachment to TTC Tuas given that some of my toughest and most memorable time were spent here during my tour as an operational commander. My sense of nostalgia is not alone as I noticed among the audience officers and staff of TTC Tuas and present." MSG Kenneth Koh echoed CNV's sentiments: "I spent four fulfilling years here. It definitely left some sentimental feelings for me after the centre closed officially."

However, as the RSN took on expanded maritime roles and acquired new combat systems and platforms, the limitations of the system began to show and more so upon the operationalisation of the frigate. The simulation model could not cater to the frigate's multi-function radar. But NWOC officers will not be left stranded. A brand new Naval Wargaming and Simulation

Centre will be constructed which will allow the RSN to exercise the full horizontal and vertical integration of her various fighting systems. The new centre will have a bigger simulation capacity and provide enhanced operational realism in weapon and sensor simulations.

Former CO TTC Tuas LTC Tan Wei Min best summed up the ceremony: "It may be time to say goodbye as the TTC Tuas will cease operations today, but it is necessary so that we can move on to formulate and perfect the next phase of transformation in simulation training so that the RSN will continue to triumph at sea!" ~JW



Handing over of TTC logo to Navy Museum



Warm handshakes as TTC Tuas doors close officially

## NS Appreciation Dinner 2008

A special NS Appreciation Dinner for Key Appointment Holders, ROVERS and volunteers was held at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront on 30 Oct, in recognition of their service upon relinquishing of their appointments. The occasion was graced by Chief of Army MG Neo Kian Hong. In total, 60 personnel were invited, with nine from the navy.

COA honoured the NSmen present and acknowledged the support shown from their spouses and employers. "You have been outstanding role models for our younger servicemen and your exemplary leadership, unwavering commitment and strong professionalism. Despite competing demands from your personal lives and civilian careers, you have excelled in improving your units' training, enhancing their operational readiness and in forging unit esprit de corps. I hope you can continue to imbue this passion and spirit of volunteerism in your sons, relatives and friends."

MAJ(VOL) Ho You Onn from 192/193 SQN said: "I was and still am passionate and committed to serve the Navy. The

call to serve the nation is of utmost importance as all of us have a stake in this little red dot called Singapore. Now that I am retired from service, I really miss sailing with my men. But I have told the Chief of Army, Chief of Navy and my Commanding Officer that I am always available if at any time my service is required." ~JW



MAJ(VOL) Ho You Onn (left) with his wife and CNV





Happy 37th Anniversary FLEET!

## FLEET Marks Anniversary with Discovery

*As the Principal Fighting Arm of the RSN, it is important that we continue our transformational efforts to realise the 3rd Generation Fleet, and at the same time maintain our high state of Operational Readiness, with the continued emphasis on our People and on Safety – Fleet Commander RADM Ng Chee Peng made the exhortation in his opening address, as Fleet celebrated its 37th anniversary at the Singapore Discovery Centre (SDC) on 1 Sep.*

RADM Ng also thanked everyone for their hard work and sacrifices. He said: "The Fleet has indeed accomplished much in the months that have transpired. The schedule for Fleet in the months to come is no less daunting and demanding. Nevertheless, I am confident that we will rise

to the occasion and meet all challenges with courage, fortitude and determination. Through it all, we will continue to grow professionally as a Fleet and closer as a family."

Following a cake cutting and awards presentation ceremony, a fully guided tour of SDC was given. The personnel were introduced to many exhibits and given a chance to play the role of reporters at the mock-up scenes of Singapore's various historic moments. By revisiting the past, they were able to see the tremendous progress Singapore had made as a nation. One interactive exhibit that was particularly memorable was the Crisis Simulation Theatre, which showed a simulated terrorist bombing at City Hall MRT station. It simulated the aftermath of a terrorist attack to hit home the messages of preparedness, vigilance and resilience.

1SG Jodesh recounts: "It was indeed an opportunity to "Hear the Past, See the Present and Touch the Future" of Singapore. We were able to renew the relevancy of our role as the "Defenders of Our Seas" (Fleet Motto) as well as to foster cohesion and commitment to the RSN/SAF. This experience was a timely reminder of how, as the Fleet, we can only continue to surge forward to realise the 3rd Generation Fleet if we continue to remain cohesive and perform our individual roles well."

**Article contributed by 2WO Vincent Aw**



## Children at Heart

"To me, seeing the smiles worn on the kids' faces while they are enjoying themselves, had made all efforts worthwhile," said 1WO Tan Ah Hee from TMB. Both NLD and TMB separately went out of their way to bring on the smiles for some underprivileged children in Sep.

The NLD family played host to a dozen bubbly children from Melrose Home! at the Botanic Gardens Function Hal on 3 Sep. Although held as a unit cohesion event, NLD chose to share this year's NLD Day with the children from the home located near their unit, Maju Camp. "Are we coming again?" quipped 7 year old Jerome from the Melrose Home!, tugging on the T-shirt of his nanny-for-a-day.

It was TMB's turn on 13 Sep. Shortly after arriving at Sunbeam Place, LTC Loke Yong, CO TMB, and 1WO Tan led the children in singing our "Navy Song". The children were then brought to Snow City. Despite the sub-zero temperatures, the spirit was instead one of warmth and joy. By the end of the session, everyone came out with a pair of rosy cheeks, freezing ears and one big smile from cheek to cheek. ~LL





# A Season of Change of Commands

The Naval Diving Unit (NDU) witnessed a Change of Command of their Formation Commander on 14 Oct. COL Sean Lee Huan Han handed over the appointment of Commander NDU to LTC Tan Tai Tiong. The event was graced by Chief of Navy RADM Chew Men Leong, members of the naval staff, senior commanders and members of the NDU family. Both outgoing and incoming Commanders arrived in an inflatable seaboat paddled by dive trainees across the NDU pool. A dramatic display was also put up, showcasing the full spectrum of capabilities of NDU. After receiving the NDU symbol of command, nicknamed the "Frogman Trident", LTC Tan spoke of his desired future reality of NDU to be a place full of vibrancy and his focus on building NDU as a Competent Force comprising Cohesive Teams with Connected Divers.

The RSN also witnessed a historic event on 2 Oct with the appointment of the first Female Naval Officer (FNO) as Squadron Commanding Officer. LTC Serene Chua Pui Hong took over the helm of 194 SQN from LTC Tan Yong Kee at the 194 SQN Change of Command Ceremony held at Tuas Naval Base. No stranger to 194 SQN, LTC Chua looks

forward to the challenge of seeing the MCMVs through their mid-life upgrade program in the next few years as well as the integration of several new underwater technologies. As LTC Serene Chua put it: "I am ready and committed to serve".

In change within COSCOM, a well-respected avuncular figure well known for his passion in driving and motivating the COSCOM family, MWO Neo Hock Hee handed over the appointment of Chief Warrant Officer COSCOM to MWO Richard Goh at the Change of Appointment ceremony at Tuas Auditorium on 8 Aug. Witnessed by Commander COSCOM COL Tan Wee Beng, the ceremony paid tribute to MWO Neo's invaluable contributions to COSCOM and the RSN in his 36 years of sterling service. In his handing-



LTC Tan Tai Tiong (left) receives the Frogman Trident from COL Sean Lee Huan Han



COL Tan Wee Beng presents the Letter of Appointment to MWO Richard Goh



COL Tan Wei Ming presents the Letter of Appointment to LTC Lee Kien Tian



LTC Serene Chua Pui Hong swearing in as 194 Squadron Commanding Officer

over speech, MWO Neo exhorted the COSCOM Family to continue to strive for operational excellence and he also expressed his deepest gratitude to those who helped him in his many contributions and achievements over the years. "I can see further because I stand on shoulders of giants. I thank Commander and Dy Commander COSCOM and all in COSCOM for the support through the years, being relentless in the pursuit of excellence and your tremendous energy towards being Frontline 24/7. I am proud to have stood side by side with you and I pay tribute for your energy and stamina in keeping our straits safe."

The Institute of Maritime Operations and System (IMOS) entered another phase of its voyage when LTC Tan Kai Cheong handed over the appointment of Commander IMOS to LTC Lee Kien Tian. Officiated by Commander TRACOM COL Tan Wei Ming, LTC Tan paid special tribute to the staff and instructors of IMOS who were able to advise and support him along the way. He moves on to assume the appointment of CO 191 SQN. ~JW



# LENDING A HELPING HAND

## - RSN Ship Participates in Socio-Civic Activities with TNI-AL

The TNI-AL and RSN were engaged in a four-day socio-civic effort, from 26 to 29 Aug, reaching out to the local community of Padang, located on the western coast of Sumatra, Indonesia. The socio-civic effort was part of Operasi Surya Bhaskara Jaya (Ops SBJ) humanitarian assistance programme regularly conducted by the TNI-AL throughout the Indonesian archipelago.

Throughout the four days, the crew of RSS Persistence 46 Midshipman and two RSN medical teams along with the crew of KRI DR Soeharso and the TNI-AL medical teams, visited three villages. They provided general health care and dental services, supplied sports and educational materials to schools, conducted minor repairs of community building/infrastructure and distributed food commodities (sembako) to the local population. In addition, general surgeries were also performed on board both the RSN and TNI-AL ships berthed at Teluk Bayur port.

Mdm Rosmamiar, a grateful Padang resident, who received general medical services said: "I want to say thank you to the TNI-AL and RSN for bringing medical services to this village. We are very happy and delighted for all the medical help given."

MID Marc Oliver van Huizen, had this to say about his experience: "Being involved in this Ops SBJ gives me this

renewed sense of purpose because you are able to give back to the community at large and through the interactions with the TNI-AL, we are able to achieve this purpose."

LTC Choon Soon Onn, Deputy Commander of the Midshipman Wing shared: " This socio-civic effort is a significant co-operative effort between TNI-AL and RSN and it reflects close and warm relationships between our two navies. At the end of the day, it is very heartening to know that this co-operation has brought many local communities in Padang to come together for a common cause to benefit the needy and to foster closer community relations."

The 57th Ops SBJ at Padang is the 7th time that the RSN has participated at TNI-AL's invitation and the 2nd time that RSN was involved in an Ops SBJ programme at Padang. The first was in year 2000.

As FADM Syarif Husin, the Naval Base Commander at Padang warmly put it: "The contribution from the Republic of Singapore Navy has been very positive. SBJ, as a humanitarian assistance project, does not have any boundaries and personally I would like to give many thanks to the RSN for the contribution." ~LL







Photos courtesy of PIONEER



Painting to greater relations



All smiles from the kids who welcomed our crew

## Ops SBJ - Backpaddle

The RSN was first invited to take part in Operasi Surya Bhaskara Jaya (SBJ) back in 1997 by the Indonesian Navy. RSS GALLANT and RSS DARING were the first two RSN ships to take part, jointly providing assistance to the inhabitants of Pulau Serasan. Since then, the RSN has regularly sent a LST to the various islands in the Indonesian archipelago to participate in Ops SBJ together with the Indonesian Navy. Medical assistance is rendered to the villagers; repair works and some simple construction of facilities is also carried out to help improve the living conditions of the villagers.

During the 50th SBJ in 2001, then CNV RADM Lui Tuck Yew said: "We are able to bring a small team here to not only provide medical support and food aid, but also to help repair schools and bridges. While we may not be very skilful in repairing bridges, I think that the work that we do here can certainly help to build bridges – bridges of friendship between the two navies." ~JW



# Global Maritime Senior Enlisted Symposium 2008

Chief Warrant Officer Navy, SWO Aloysius Cheong recently led a RSN delegation of four Warrant Officers – SWO Leong Chee Wah, MWO Stealth Kho and 2WO Koh Lillian – to attend the Global Maritime Senior Enlisted Symposium held in Honolulu, Hawaii USA between 22 to 24 Sep. The symposium provided chief warrant officers from Navies and Coast Guards around the world to exchange ideas, share best practices and strengthen professional relations.

Focusing on “Maritime Security Strategy”, many presentations and discussions took place on various approaches taken to ensure maritime security. The RSN also took the opportunity to present our experiences, initiatives and ongoing operational collaboration with regional partners. Said Admiral Robert F. Willard, US Pacific Fleet Commander: “Singapore is a highly accomplished and highly technological defence force that we can learn from.”

“The symposium allowed us to engage and benchmark ourselves with many established navies in the world. It also provided us a global platform to showcase our warrant officers and training systems,” said 2WO Koh after the trip.

*Article contributed by MWO Kho Yong Wah*



## SAF SERGEANT MAJOR Visits FLEET and TRACOM

SAF Sergeant Major (SAF-SM), SWO Jeffrey Chung, together with the chief warrant officers of Army and Air Force, paid an introductory visit to Fleet and TRACOM on 8 Sep.

CWO-FLEET, MWO Wong Fook Lam and CWO-TRACOM, SWO Leong Chee Wah took turns to play host to the delegation. Besides briefs provided by the two formations, SAF-SM was also brought on a tour of CNB and CNTB. Some of the highlights of the visit included the bird's eye view of CNB, lunch prepared by our naval chefs on board RSS ENDURANCE, and visits to RSN simulators such as the Platform Systems Emulation Centre (PSEC) and Full Mission Simulation System (FMSS).



The visit provided the chief warrant officers a better understanding of the RSN and its operations and training. It also allowed the RSN to share insights on the new training approaches integrated into our learning environment, through the set up of the Learning Lab and the Connexion.

*Article contributed by  
1WO Leong Yew Kay and MSG Yan Kiang Seng*



SAF-SM and delegation having a dialogue at FLEET Conference Room



# Touching Base Anytime, Anywhere

Imagine attending to an engine problem at sea some 1000nm from Singapore that requires responsive two-way consultation with home base expertise. Now, help is up-close and professional with web-cam based 'video-conferencing' at sea. With the deployment of RSN's Landing Ships Tank (LSTs) to the Gulf in support of reconstruction efforts in Iraq and the frigates' involvement in overseas exercises, the need for greater technical self-sufficiency has never been more critical.

"When our ships are on long deployments they have to depend on the ships' Combat Technicians (CTs). However, CTs are usually not able to solve all the defects and they may have to refer back to the base technicians for help. In the past, CTs could only depend on faceless voice communication. And if that is not possible, then we would have to deploy people over. This resulted in a loss of man-hours and extra cost incurred," said Ms Su Shiyan, a member of the Subject Matter Experts (SME) Reachback Team. "Thus, we came out with this project that enables CTs to reach out to our base technicians through video communications that allow them to see and hear at the same time what is happening on the ship."

The SME Reachback Team, made up of NLD and DSTA engineers, aims to provide shipboard operators access to engineering experts back in the maintenance bases. "Everybody's efforts paid off. It is really a useful project for the Navy. This project brings backend technical support to

the frontline anytime, anywhere! Whenever there is a defect anywhere in the ocean, this project can be used to rectify the defect through our SME back in the base," said MSG Alex Lim, team leader of the SME Reachback Team.

Through this new capability, shipboard operators will have the added.



The communication channel between ship and shore is via satellite communications (SATCOM), which is installed on board all our frigates and LSTs. The SATCOM leverages on existing infrastructure, and avoids the need for extensive modifications and costly installation works,

while meeting the bandwidth requirements for good-quality video communications.

The SME Reachback project has not only been able to reduce turn around time, but has also enabled shipboard operators to resolve more defects on their own while out-at-sea. Also, SME Reachback project has enabled cost savings through reducing the need to fly in SMEs to solve all defects and the need to bring in extra and possibly unnecessary spares. This WITs project has greatly improved the RSN ships' operational availability. ~HK



SME Reachback Team



# Anyone for Another Bowl of Prawn Noodle Soup?

Prawn Noodle Soup Recipe (Ingredients vary)

## Ingredients needed

1. Prawns, shelled
2. Pork Collar
3. Fish cakes, sliced thinly
4. Bean sprouts
5. Fresh yellow noodles
6. Dark soya sauce\*
7. Fish sauce\*
8. Rock sugar\*
9. Salt\*
10. Oil

\*Add to taste

## Directions

1. Add suitable amount of garlic and stir fry with oil till fragrant.
2. Add prawn and stir fry till cooked, then set it aside.
3. Bring water to boil in a pot
4. Add cooked prawns and pork collar.
5. Simmer in low heat for two hours.
6. Strain soup into clean pot.
7. Add dark sauce, fish sauce, rock sugar and salt.
8. Bring water to boil in a separate pot.
9. Add noodles, bean sprouts and fish cake.
10. Drain the noodles, bean sprouts and fish cake when cooked.
11. Serve with fried shallots, pepper and Chinese celery.



2SG Joe Lim, Leading Chef on board RSS Victory, started work as a bartender for a year, then as a chef at the Suntec Convention Hall (ballroom) prior to his National Service based in 5 SIR. He signed-on as a regular during a recruitment talk during that time. SSG Peter Francis, Chief Chef RSS Victory and Joe's superior, describes him as a person who is "willing to learn", "comes up with creative ideas of his own" and "someone who will be an outstanding Chief Chef someday."

## What is your Signature Dish?

Actually every chef has a lot of signature dishes, but there should be one that always stands out. For me, it's my Prawn Noodle Soup. Everyone who has tasted it agrees that it is one of the best they've ever tasted. On board ship, some people don't take spicy while others do, so this allows people to 'customise' the noodles to their liking. Some have even commented that I can set-up my own stall in a hawker centre!



## Why did you choose to become a chef?

Since I was 12, I learnt how to cook from my father, who was a chef running his own business. From there, I learnt to cook for my family, which sparked my interest in cooking. I decided to sign on with the Navy because I love to cook, see the world and try out new things, all of which I can do here in the RSN.

## What is your favourite food?

To me, as long as the food tastes good and is to my liking, it is good food. Even if it is just roasted chicken or roasted pork rice, I love it.

## Do you cook at home?

I seldom do, only when my wife has special requests, or when we have guests coming over. I'll normally eat out with my wife.

## What advice would you give aspiring chefs?

Actually if the person really likes to cook, he or she must put in the hard work and effort, not to mention, heart and soul into cooking. They must be willing to cook and try anything. They must be able to take advice and be able to accept criticism and not be overly stubborn. From there, he or she will be able to cook a dish which everyone will love. ~LL



# Naval Jargon Part 1: Nauti-Expressions



*Did You know that the rich tradition of the navy has not only given us many unique customs, it has also contributed to a number of phrases we use today. Many of these landlubbing idioms are borrowed from nautical expressions used in the past. The genesis of many commonly used naval terms can also be traced to the days of sail. Below are some whose linguistic origins and evolution go hand-in-hand with that of the navy.*

**Knock off work** – Used today to mean the cessation of work. Its nautical origin comes from the days of sail when galleys used to be rowed to the rhythm of a mallet striking a wooden block. The stopping of the knocking was a signal to stop rowing.

**Between the Devil and the Deep** – In wooden ships, the 'devil' was the longest seam of the ship running from the bow to the stern. When the 'devil' had to be painted, the sailor was suspended between the 'devil' and the sea (the deep). This precarious position is used figuratively today as an expression of being caught in a difficult situation.

**Make and Mend / Sunday Routine** – During the time of sailing ships, it referred to time-out given to sailors to "make and mend" their uniforms, while their mates continued to sail the ship 'on watch'. Sunday afternoon was often set aside for "make and mend". These days, for the RSN, "make and mend" is routinely given to ship crews as time-off work, when ships come back from sailing tasking, normally half-days during weekdays. "Sunday Routine" is another associated term that is given for the entire day-off work for the ship crew during a weekday.

**Tonnage** – Today it refers to a ship's displacement in water or the amount of cargo it is capable of carrying. Originally, it was spelled 'tunnage' being derived from the word 'tun'. A 'tun' was a barrel normally used for transporting wine and tunnage specified the number of barrels that could fit into the ship's hold.

**Captain** – Taken from the Latin word 'Caput' meaning head, the salutation 'Captain' is still used to refer to the commanding officer of a ship.

**Boatswain** – As required by 17th Century Law, British ships-of-war carried three smaller boats – the boat, cock-boat and skiff. The boat was usually used by the Captain to go ashore and was the larger of the three. The cock-boat was a very small rowboat used as the ship's tender. The skiff was a lightweight all-purpose vessel. The suffix "swain" means keeper, thus the keepers of the boat, cock and skiff were called boatswain and cockswain (or coxswain).

**Sea Dog** – Usually used as a term of jocular admiration when referring to an experienced sailor who can be relied on. Other affectionate variations which bother on the hyperbole include: Old Sea Dog and Salty Old Sea Dog!

*Article contributed by CPT Kelvin Koh*





# Nip and Tuck, Doc!



MAJ (Dr) Chong (left) performing a surgery

What is a plastic surgeon, or more accurately a burns and reconstructive surgeon, doing in the Navy? For MAJ (DR) Chong it was the very simple desire to help patients in their time of need. "I chose to be a doctor in the military as it offered a good balance between operational work and practising medicine." He added: "The practice of burns and reconstructive surgery is highly relevant to the military, particularly the Navy."

MAJ (DR) Chong completed his studies and returned to serve in 2000. Since then, he has helped to treat numerous RSN personnel who suffered burns in the course of their work. One grateful patient of his is 2WO Ramasamy s/o Chinnaraju, Coxswain of MV AVATAR. He had been referred to MAJ (DR) Chong for a skin grafting, from his thigh, to treat a lump on his ankle. 2WO Ramasamy remarked: "He stepped in as a doctor and as a friend reassuring me that everything would go well. The hospital said I would take two to three weeks at least to be on medical leave but MAJ (DR) Chong assured me that I'll be on medical leave for a week and will get back to my routine. He was absolutely right!"

One incident that left a very strong impression in the doctor's mind was his participation with the SGH team, which treated the two burnt Army personnel when a Taiwan F5 crashed into the storeroom that they were in. Recalling, MAJ (DR) Chong said: "The patients were badly injured and required frequent dressing change and monitoring throughout the day to prepare for evacuation."

MAJ (DR) Chong also took part in the recent Operasi Surya Bhaskara Jaya. He fondly remembers the time in Padang, as the medical team managed to carry out hernia repair surgeries and helped two men regain their mobility. "The gratitude and smiles from the patients were truly heart warming," said MAJ Chong.

The reward for MAJ (DR) Chong in his choice of career with the Navy is not only the job of seeing his patients recover, but also in being able to engage in a wide range of activities. As he concludes: "Being in the Navy Medical Service also allows me to practice hyperbaric medicine, operational medicine, and even conduct research – the best of both worlds for giving my best!" ~HK

MAJ (Dr) Chong (2nd from left) with NMS personnel on board USNS Mercy



Roger Sir!



MAJ (Dr) Chong (2nd from right) with NMS crew returning to Singapore from Ex CARAT 08



# SOVEREIGN BULWARK @ SEA

"84, 84..." the ship's pennant number echoed the Bridge as the operations centre deftly coordinated the operation. "Four illegal immigrants have been recovered, intention for you to assist Police Coast Guard (PCG) in searching for remaining person, last known position as follows..." RSS SOVEREIGNTY immediately fired up her cylinders to speed towards the scene where she was joined by two other PCG crafts.

On 1 Sep, RSS SOVEREIGNTY was conducting her routine Night Security Sweep along the Singapore Strait when she was tasked by CSC to assist the PCG in the capture of five illegal immigrants. The illegal immigrants had abandoned their speedboat after their attempt to sneak into Singapore waters were thwarted by patrolling PCG crafts.

Arriving at the scene at around midnight, the various vessels managed to quickly pick up three of the illegal immigrants, but the busy traffic in the Singapore Straits and the absence of moonlight made detecting the remaining man a challenge. Using the patrol vessel's infra-red Electronic



Optical Device (EOD), the crew of RSS SOVEREIGNTY repeatedly slewed across the waters as searchlights from all the on-scene vessels shone brilliantly. Suddenly, a waving hand and a bobbing on the crest of a wave. "We found him!" exclamations were heard through the ship.

'We were all trained to do what was necessary, and it was great seeing everyone put our efforts together,' remarked 2SG Goh Kok Peng from RSS SOVEREIGNTY. "The closed inter-agency coordination was excellent, and I am personally very proud of my crew's readiness and competency," added MAJ Eugene Goh, CO of RSS SOVEREIGNTY..

On behalf of the ship and her crew, MAJ Eugene Goh will be receiving a plaque from PCG in recognition of RSS SOVEREIGNTY's contribution to the successful apprehension of the illegal immigrants.

*Article contributed by  
CPT Tan Jun Siong and CPT Koh Zhi Guo*

## Nauti Knot

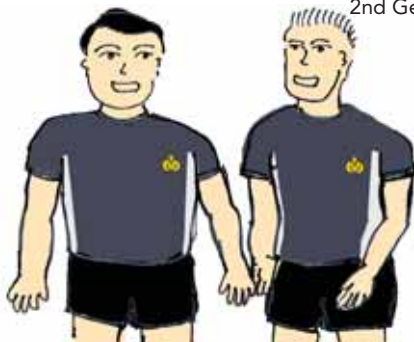
by Kool Krab



## kNowing when to Add Value Yourself

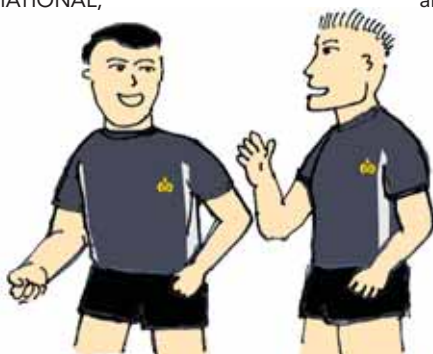
Alec, you know what NAVY stands for?

Well, it depends whether you are talking about 1st Gen, 2nd Gen or 3rd Gen?



Wow! that sounds truly TRANSFORMATIONAL, man!

Yeah! this is the 3rd Gen NAVY, alright !!!



Interesting! Please enlighten me!

1st Gen is Never Always Volunteer Yourself  
2nd Gen is Never Anyhow Volunteer Yourself  
3rd Gen is Need to Add Value Yourself!



So, when are you going to add value by volunteering to sail for me, your good buddy?

Wah! I think I will stick with 1st Gen and 2nd Gen on that one...





# I IN MELBOURNE!

4 Oct saw a gathering of numerous faces in Sidney Myer Music Bowl, Melbourne. Under the cool, sunny sky, more than 11,000 Singaporeans based in Melbourne came together to interact and learn about the various changes that have taken place in Singapore.

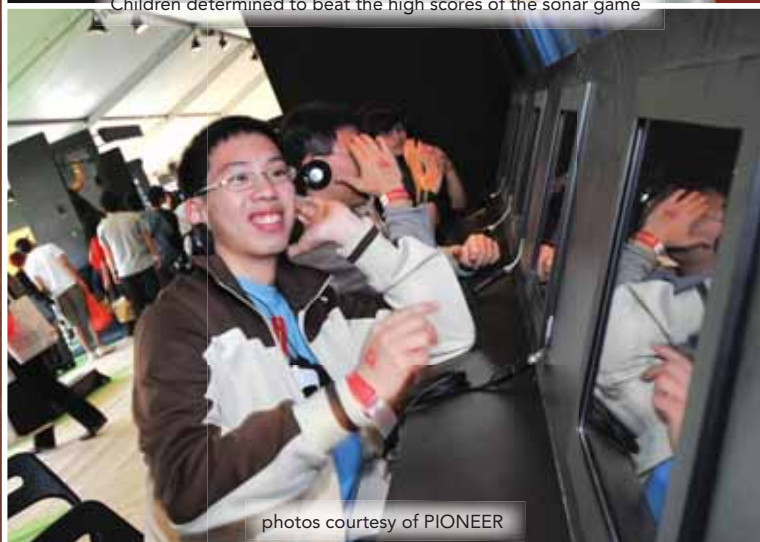
Following the success of the inaugural Singapore Day in New York, the Overseas Singaporean Unit of the Prime Minister Office turned their attention to another city with a high concentration of Singaporeans – Melbourne. The event saw various private and public agencies such as Singtel, NUS, MOE and URA setting up booths in the various marques at the fairground. MINDEF also participated for the first time this year; exhibits within the MINDEF marque depicted the National Service transformation over the years and some of the SAF's peacetime operations. It also provided a good opportunity for the overseas Singaporeans to address their concerns regarding NS with CMPB and NSAD officers.

Two of our RSN personnel were part of the MINDEF delegation. "The children were entertained by the sonar game we brought down and it generated some public buzz over the operation of sonars," said 2WO Jeff Yeo from NOD. "Though mostly, I think they were trying to beat the high scores we set earlier!"

*Article contributed by LTA Tony Tan*



Children determined to beat the high scores of the sonar game



photos courtesy of PIONEER

## ANCHORAGE GLOWS WITH FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

It's that time of the year when Indian houses sparkle even more than usual celebrating Deepavali, the festival of lights. Bringing in that spirit within our Navy family, Anchorage organised and celebrated Deepavali with all WOs members and guests at TNB on 10 Oct. Officiating the event was RADM Chew Men Leong, who upon his arrival, was given a garland as per Hindu custom, before he proceeded to light up the traditional lamp to begin the night of the celebration of the festival of lights.

Glitz and glamour dazzled as dancers from Jeffrey Chung Model Agency entertained all with some peppy Bollywood numbers. During the night, CNV also presented commemorative plaques to retired WOs in recognition of their service to RSN.

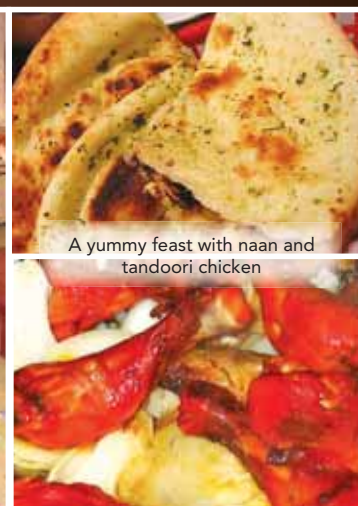
Topping off the day was the special Indian dishes that have been catered. As Ms D.S Kumari, Asst Chief Clerk from HQ NALCOM shared: "Everyone enjoyed the memorable evening of good company amongst friends and fabulous Indian food like briyani, naan, tandoori chicken, pappadam and pakora!" ~HK



CNV lights up the traditional Indian lamp



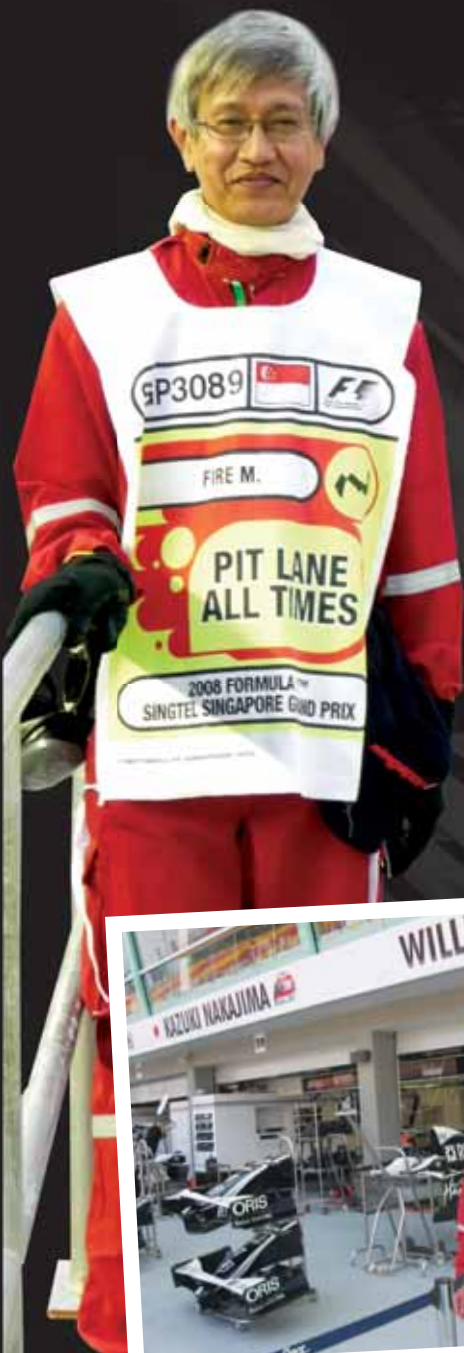
Dancing to the beats of Bollywood



A yummy feast with naan and tandoori chicken



# FIRE MARSHAL FEELS HEAT OF THE ACTION!



Most of us would have watched the recent F1 racers like Alonso, Hamilton and Massa zipping through the streets of Singapore in front of our television sets, but, one man from the Navy was able to see the action happening right in front of him.

Mr Loong Hin, the Group IC of Marine Engineering Workshop in TMB, was among the 900 volunteers selected as race officials, from 2,900 applicants. He was picked to be one of the race fire marshals by the F1 committee for his experience and knowledge in fire fighting – something he had honed as a senior Naval Technician in his 37 years with the Navy.

"It's a dream come true to see F1 race in Singapore. I have a passion for all sports. After reading so much about F1 race, I decided to volunteer and be part of the team in organising the first-ever F1 race in Singapore."

When the F1 Night Race was proposed last year, there was much discussions on how to ensure proper lighting for the race to be held. With issues like low visibility and light reflection to be addressed, safety on the tracks was one of the main concerns for both the drivers and the race organisers, Singapore Grand Prix.

A number of lectures and practical sessions were organised for the volunteer fire marshals before race day. Mr Loong said, "The practical sessions proved to be really meaningful as the simulated scenarios gave us a feel on what could happen in the race." Apart from attending the training sessions, Mr Loong also kept himself updated about F1 through F1 bulletins, the marshal handbook, as well as physical and mental training. "Motor sport is dangerous but with right preparation and knowledge, officials can take all reasonable steps to avoid causing injury to those whom they are responsible for," explained Mr Loong.

After a small test of the excitement this year, Mr Loong is raring to get his next taste of it again. "Being a Singaporean, I'm proud that we are able to host such a big event. I will definitely be there again next year." ~HK



Mr Loong Hin with volunteer fire marshals



Mr Loong Hin strikes a pose with the SingTel Grid Gals



# NAVY IRON!

11 members of the Navy family took up the challenge and competed in the recent Aviva Ironman 70.3 at East Coast Park on 7 Sep, as part of the SAFSA team. Involving a 1.9km swim, 90.1km gruelling bike route and an arduous 21.1km run, these men and women from across the ranks overcame all odds and completed the race. Ironman veterans MAJ Esther Tan, LTA Grace Chan and SSG Freddy Har also competed, completing the race in the top few positions of their category.

CPT Tan Yong Chye from RSS STALWART was one of the competitors. "Throughout the half-Ironman race, there were times when I wanted to slow down and give up, but the Navy imbued in me to have the will to overcome all odds and be determined to succeed. This reminded me to persevere right to the end. Seeing many of my team mates pressing on also helped to keep spirits high so that we could complete the race as a team."

SSG Freddy Har is another shining example of fighting spirit. He could hardly pass his IPPT back in his BMT days, but he persisted and picked up biathlon and triathlon training. "During the race, I kept telling myself that I am already half way through and I must not give up. I saw some competitors pushing their bicycles up the slope and I was tempted to follow suit. But I didn't want to waste my training effort."

The sight of participants sweating out as they pushed themselves hard for physical and human excellence definitely spurred MAJ Esther Tan on. "It's the sense of personal achievement of enduring and persevering a long and demanding race that keeps me going."

Iron on! Bravo Zulu! ~JW



MAJ Esther rides to success



## Passion Power @ SAFSA Cross Country

The RSN runners did everyone proud during the SAFSA Cross Country 08 at Bedok Reservoir Park on 26 Sep by winning two out of the four Individual Categories. SSG Lim Jian Peng from NDU and MSG Kumaravel from RSS STEADFAST won the Men's Open and Men's Masters Category decisively.

MSG Kumaravel's performance proved to be inspirational. He had only returned to base from his sea duties on in the wee hours of the race morning itself. Despite the lack of sleep, he still put in his best and came in first for the Men's Masters. He said: "As they say – No pain, no gain! Honestly I must say it all boils down to the passion for running. Races long or short have always been enjoyable. I was really honoured to be able to represent my formation, and victory was twice as sweet."

Manager for the RSN Cross Country Team CPT Lim Jin Teck said: "I am generally satisfied with the team's performance. Due to overseas exercises, some of our good runners



were not able to participate, but those that could gave us their full support. With our pool of available runners, I think finishing 4th out of 13 formations is a reasonably good result. I hope we can carry on to win both the Men's Open and Men's Masters and finish within the top three formations next year."

With their latest effort, Team Navy finished in fourth position, a significant improvement from the seventh placing achieved last year! ~JW



# HQ RSN/NDU On Target! – Air Weapons Competition 2008



HQ RSN/NDU emerged overall top shooters for 2008 at the Inter RSN Air Weapons Shooting Competition 2008 held at SAFRA Yishun – Air Weapons Range on 30 Sep. The shoot-out served as a qualifying round for the 2008 SAFSA Inter Formation Air Weapons Competition.

HQ RSN/NDU won the championship with a total score of 3558, followed

by NALCOM, who was a close four points behind the Champion.

The HQ RSN/NDU team manager MWO Ong Siang Thai said: "We were overwhelmed by the win. Even though we won the trophy this year, I still think that the RSN

as a whole has reached a very high standard in Air Weapons shooting. Our main focus will still be on the inter-formation games and we will continue to give our support to the RSN team manager."

Team manager for the RSN shooting team 2WO Yang Choon Soang said: "I hope for a "Turkey" in the SAFSA Air Weapons Competition coming up. After winning two times in a row, it gives us more motivation to train harder this year. Although other (SAF) Formations have SAFSA shooters and we don't, I believe it is the Team effort that counts."



BZ to all shooters that participated! ~JW

## Team RSN Runners-up for Basketball

After defeating numerous teams like RSAF Group 1, Signal, CSSCOM Group 1, Artillery and Guards in the qualifying rounds, the RSN basketball team met 6 DIV in the finals at the Mandai Hill Camp Multi-purpose Hall on 30 Sep.

The hall was filled with screeches from players' shoes and moans from supporters. Tough tackles also saw some sprained ankles. Despite trailing behind 6 DIV, Team RSN remained unfazed and displayed strong teamwork throughout the game.

6 DIV eventually won the battle with a score of 70-63. "Our team have tried their best, they have displayed teamwork and a never-give-up attitude. We have done our best and its been more than 15 years since our RSN Team last made it to the finals. I'm certainly happy that we came this far." said 2WO Goi Boon Leng, team coach of the RSN Basketball team. ~HK





Overhead traffic  
Hits green deck @ sea,  
Red Hot and thirsty  
Ready to unwind with another  
Sundowner...fill it up!

