

# ARMY NEWS

## PULSE OF OUR ARMY

### MOTHERS IN OUR ARMY

*Meet the young ladies  
who became parents in the Army*

### HOW FAR WILL YOU GO?

*Find out just how important  
our overseas training really is*

### FIREPOWER!

*We start our new series  
on the retired weapons of Our Army*

## EXERCISE MAJU BERSAMA

Training in the Jungle with the  
Royal Brunei Land Forces

**1200** BRUNEI  
kilometres away

**720** men on the ground

Malaysian Defence  
Minister pays a visit  
to 3 DIV

Remembering  
our fallen from  
Konfrontasi

Racing together at  
the Armour Road  
Relay

38 SCE Milestone  
Parade



#OurSgArmy







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**12 A nation comes together**



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# MAY

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# the Editor Speaks

**Iready** the first part of 2015 is over!

In this issue, we join mothers in service, and they share their thoughts and inspirations for concurrently serving in two challenging roles.

Training is a core requirement for any military force. Read how Our Army prepares Our men and women and the lengths that we go to for safe and realistic training.

We are also pleased to present the first weapon in our new series - FIREPOWER.

Read on, and have a great month ahead.

*Mel Ferdinands*  
Editor of Army News

# PASSING ON THE BATON

April

Appointment	Incoming	Outgoing
CO / 48 SAR	MAJ CAI DEXIAN	LTC KOH KIAN WEE
CO / SPECIALIST CADET SCHOOL 3 SCS & SWAS	MAJ LIM CHEE MENG	LTC FOO SIANG YEAN
CO / 907 SIR	MAJ (NS) LAY CHUN MING	-
CO / 734 GDS	MAJ (NS) SIEW ZHI XIANG, KEVIN	LTC (NS) WAN SZU CHING
CO / 286 SA	MAJ (NS) TEO CHIN WEI ALVIN	LTC (NS) ABE JACOB
CO / 228 SA	MAJ (NS) KWAN JIA-HOU	LTC TAN HENG SOON TIMOTHY
RSM / 786 SIR	3WO (NS) NG YONG KWANG	-
RSM / 918 SIR	3WO (NS) SIN GIM CHUAH	-
RSM(CAH) / 63 CSSB	2WO GOH WEE BENG	1WO AHMAD BIN ALI
FSM / HQ Army INT	MWO NG SOY SOY	MWO RICHARD QUEK
RSM / 9 SIR	2WO WILLIAM S/O NADAN	1WO ANG CHEE WEE

\*Amendments from the last issue: For the article, "We Are One: The Wolf Pack", LTC Lennon Tan Kok Eng's name was misspelled, CPT Saranjit Singh was the Parade Commander, 3WO Kavin Wong was Parade RSM and SLTC Yeo Soo Bin was the Reviewing Officer. We apologise for the errors.

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## Giving Back To the Society- Blood Donation Drive

STORY | ALASTAIR LOE  
PHOTOGRAPHY | AMOS POH

In order to assist in maintaining an adequate supply of blood in Singapore's blood banks, G1 Army and General Staff Persnode initiated a Blood Donation Drive at the MINDEF Auditorium Foyer.

The event saw 123 enthusiastic service personnel come forward to donate their blood, resulting in a total of 84 units of blood for the blood banks.

"It is not difficult to donate blood. It's a form of contribution to whoever needs the blood," ME2 Zeng Xiaojun (Right), the very first donor of the day, explained why she felt that it was important to contribute back to the society. "I am looking forward to my next donation."

One blood donation can save up to three lives; thank you all donors for your contributions!



## The Rite Of Passage: 01/15 Guards Conversion Course

STORY | ASHWIN LEE  
PHOTOGRAPHY | JEREMY HONG

*"To our newly-minted Guardsmen, indeed each and every one of you have stood up to the challenge. It is important to remember that you have successfully passed out of this course not just as individuals, but collectively as a team and a brotherhood of arms."*

*Commander 7 SIB, COL Tan Cheng Kwee proudly welcoming the new Guardsmen*



## 9 AMB SSPP with Boon Lay Secondary

STORY | BRANDON LEOW  
PHOTOGRAPHY | LOW KAI HENG AND AMOS POH

9th Army Maintenance Base (9 AMB) held a SAF-School Partnership Programme (SSPP) with Boon Lay Secondary School on 10 March. Jointly organised with the Singapore Discovery Centre, the students were hosted by the servicemen at the Army Museum of Singapore. The students were conducted through a series of stations where they were able to learn more about the Army and the importance of a strong national defence. They were also given a look into the basic workings of a support company.

CPL Muhammad Afandi, a Vehicle Technician said, "Today is a good day not only for the students, but for us as well. I personally feel more confident in being able to show the skills which I picked up in the Army. I hope that they have managed to learn something meaningful from today's experience."



Students from the Singapore Sports School visited an open house of Mandai Camp February 9 as part of the SAF-Schools Partnership Program hosted by 16th Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence Battalion (16C4I)

In his welcome address, LTC Tien Li Chih, CO of 16C4I Bn, said, "What you will be experiencing during the open house is a glimpse of the military pillar of Total Defence. We hope to give all of you a better understanding of the Army and National Service."

During the session, students learnt about the various weapons, equipment, vehicles and technology used by the soldiers of 16C4I Bn.

## 16C4I Battalion meets Singapore Sports School

STORY | ASHWIN LEE  
PHOTOGRAPHY | KEITA SIN





## 2M Visits 285 SA

STORY | SARAVANAN MUNUSAMY  
PHOTOGRAPHY | AMOS POH

Second Minister for Defence Mr Chan Chun Sing visited soldiers from the 285th Battalion Singapore Artillery (285 SA) on 17 March during their In Camp Training. During the visit, Mr Chan engaged the NSmen while also addressing their queries.



***"The SAF continues to play a primary role in defending our homes, families and lifestyles as Singaporeans. Many of us are living the Singapore dream envisioned by our founding father. And we've lived it together as a battalion. Our children and families will also be able to grow up in a country where they will enjoy the same benefits of a prosperous and strong country, as we did. And they will be safe because of us."***

***LTC (NS) Melvin Kwek, Commanding Officer 702 Guards***

## 702 Guards Stands Down

STORY | BRANDON LEOW  
PHOTOGRAPHY | LIM WEI JIAN

NSmen from 702 Guards held their MR parade on 28 March at Bedok Camp. The NSmen observed a minute of silence as a mark of respect to former Prime Minister Mr. Lee Kuan Yew.

The witnessing officer for the parade was COL Lee Kuan Chung and the reviewing officer was LTC (NS) Melvin Kwek, Commanding Officer 702 Guards.

# 38 SCE Milestone Parade

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY | CONTRIBUTED BY 3SG GOH CHENG HAN, CPL REUBEN WANG XIANWEI AND PTE SHAWN CHUA YI RONG

On 28 February, 38th Battalion Singapore Combat Engineers (SCE) held its inaugural Milestone Parade to mark 95 of its servicemen's transition to Operationally Ready National Service. Chief Engineer Officer, COL Tan Pek Tong, was the Witnessing Officer for the parade. Around 300 parents, friends and guests attended the parade in a strong show of support.

In addition, 29 students and staff from Innova Junior College observed the parade as part of 38 SCE's first SAF School Partnership Programme initiative. Commanders of 38 SCE hosted a dialogue with the students and shared their experiences in the Army.



*Chief Engineer Officer, COL Tan Pek Tong, and Formation Sergeant Major, SWO Tan Chun Kiat, graced the occasion.*



*Innova Junior College students had a tour on the vehicles of the 38 SCE.*



*Innova Junior College students at an interaction session with commanders of 38 SCE.*



*The unit's Principal Staff Officers, Officers Commanding and Company Sergeant Majors standing in line to acknowledge the servicemen's contributions with a salute.*



*The parade executing the Advance in Review Order, the highest compliment that a parade can accord.*



# STRENGTHENING OUR RELATIONS WITH MALAYSIA



STORY | **KEITA SIN**  
PHOTOGRAPHY | **LEONG KHEE SHUEN**

The Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) and Malaysian Armed Forces share a long history of mutually beneficial cooperation, as well as cooperation at multilateral fora like the Five Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA), ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and ADMM-plus.

The warm and long-standing defence relation was demonstrated by an introductory visit of Malaysia Minister for Defence, Dato' Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, to Singapore from 1 to 2 March. As part of the visit, Dato' Seri Hishammuddin visited Headquarters 3rd Singapore Division (HQ 3 DIV) at Jurong Camp on 2 March. Welcomed by Chief of Army, MG Perry Lim, Commander 3 DIV, BG Ong Tze-Ch'in and other SAF representatives, he was then introduced to the various defence capabilities and equipment of the SAF.



Equipment such as the Forward Sensor System was put on display and its functions explained. Capabilities of our SAF platforms such as the Primus, M3G Amphibious Rig, Leopard 2SG and Light Strike Vehicle Mark 2 were also showcased. Dato' Seri Hishammuddin also operated our Terrex Infantry Carrier Vehicle and was awarded the Honorary Terrex ICV Driving Permit by MG Perry Lim.

This visit accentuates the importance of maintaining our good relationship with Malaysia and ensures that our countries will be close.



# HOW FAR WILL YOU GO?

STORY | BRANDON LEOW  
PHOTOGRAPHY | KEITA SIN

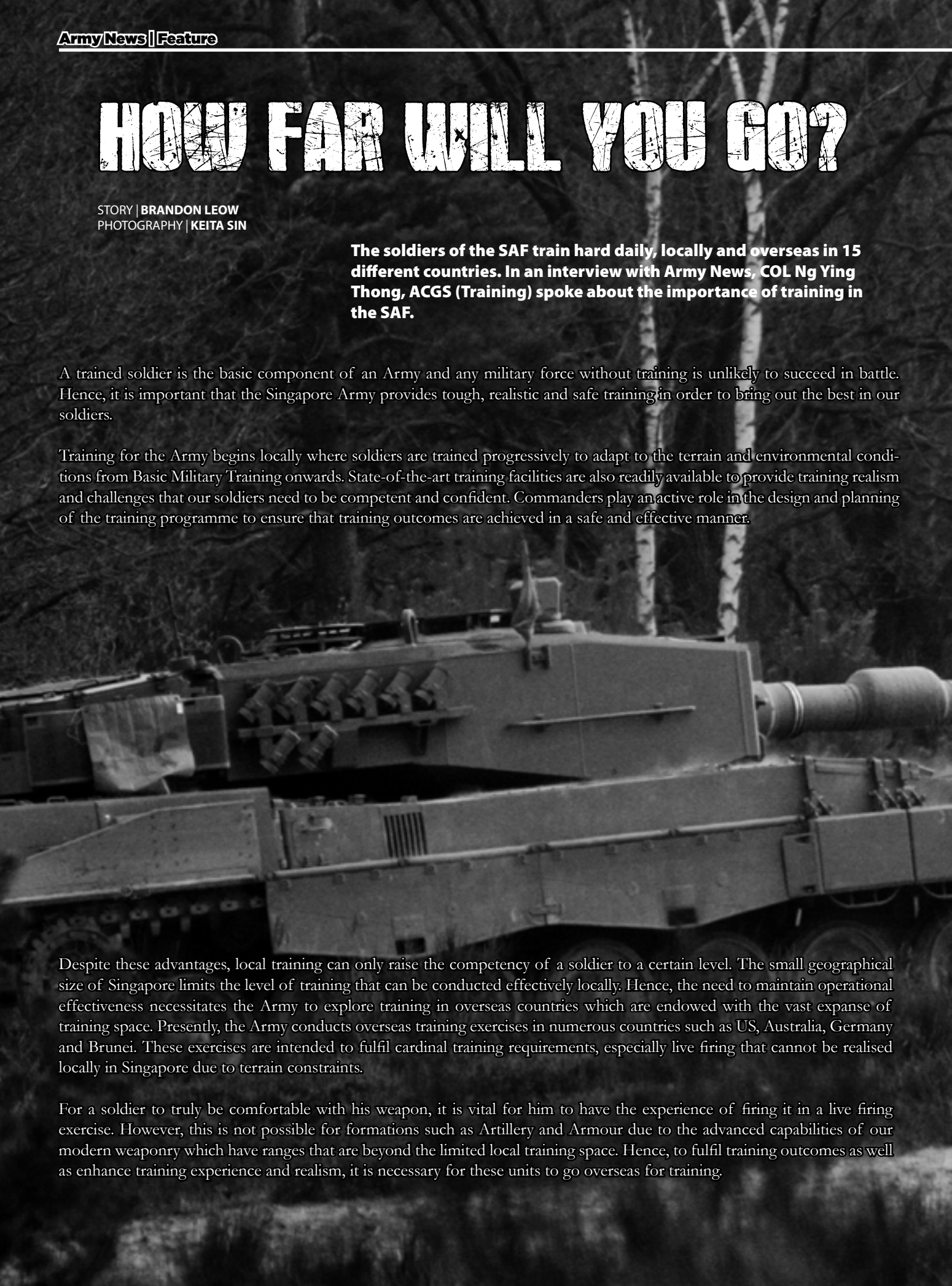
**The soldiers of the SAF train hard daily, locally and overseas in 15 different countries. In an interview with Army News, COL Ng Ying Thong, ACGS (Training) spoke about the importance of training in the SAF.**

A trained soldier is the basic component of an Army and any military force without training is unlikely to succeed in battle. Hence, it is important that the Singapore Army provides tough, realistic and safe training in order to bring out the best in our soldiers.

Training for the Army begins locally where soldiers are trained progressively to adapt to the terrain and environmental conditions from Basic Military Training onwards. State-of-the-art training facilities are also readily available to provide training realism and challenges that our soldiers need to be competent and confident. Commanders play an active role in the design and planning of the training programme to ensure that training outcomes are achieved in a safe and effective manner.

Despite these advantages, local training can only raise the competency of a soldier to a certain level. The small geographical size of Singapore limits the level of training that can be conducted effectively locally. Hence, the need to maintain operational effectiveness necessitates the Army to explore training in overseas countries which are endowed with the vast expanse of training space. Presently, the Army conducts overseas training exercises in numerous countries such as US, Australia, Germany and Brunei. These exercises are intended to fulfil cardinal training requirements, especially live firing that cannot be realised locally in Singapore due to terrain constraints.

For a soldier to truly be comfortable with his weapon, it is vital for him to have the experience of firing it in a live firing exercise. However, this is not possible for formations such as Artillery and Armour due to the advanced capabilities of our modern weaponry which have ranges that are beyond the limited local training space. Hence, to fulfil training outcomes as well as enhance training experience and realism, it is necessary for these units to go overseas for training.





Training is meant to not only build the competency of a soldier, but also his character. While most field training is conducted locally in assigned training areas, NSF's may also have the opportunity to go overseas for training exercises where they are challenged with training conditions that they are unaccustomed to. This will allow them to develop their physical and mental resilience, creating greater self-awareness for personal growth.

Besides unilateral training, the Army also conducts bilateral exercises with many foreign militaries. We started exercising with neighbouring countries in the region during the 1980s, to countries spanning the five continents during the 1990s to the 2000s. This allows soldiers to both share and acquire new skills from other militaries. Training with other militaries also helps to build defence relations as mutual trust and respect are being established. While overseas training has undoubtedly expanded opportunities for bilateral exchanges with foreign militaries, the primary consideration for training overseas remains the need to maintain the Army's operational effectiveness and to build resilience and confidence in our soldiers.

The Army takes additional safety precautions to prepare soldiers for the unfamiliar overseas terrain and environment which they will be operating in. For instance, soldiers will undergo acclimatisation training to prepare them physically and mentally prior to their overseas training stint. The Army also ensures that all troops are well-equipped for the overseas training and this includes equipping soldiers appropriately for the overseas climate. These measures are crucial to ensure that our soldiers complete their overseas training stint safely.



COL Ng Ying Thong, Assistant Chief of General Staff (Training) shared "The Army carefully considers and plans each and every exercise to ensure that our soldiers have safe and effective training. We have been constantly trying to reinforce the training system with measures such as recruiting more regular trainers so that our soldiers get the best training that they deserve, whether it is local or overseas."

## The Singapore Armed Forces paid their last respects to Mr Lee Kuan Yew during the 7 days of mourning upon his passing.

**T**he passing of our late founding Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew on 23 March concerned all of Singapore. Seven days of national mourning was announced. Flags were flown at half-mast; schools and organisations observed a minute of silence as a mark of respect.

Many from overseas also paid their respects to Mr Lee and during the Lying-In-State, about 170 foreign dignitaries from 27 countries made their way to the Parliament House. Not only did many world leaders attend the State Funeral on 29 March, India, New Zealand and Bhutan were countries that flew their flags at half-mast that day. Organising the farewell to Mr Lee required a lot of effort in the background.

The late Mr Lee was thereafter accorded the nation's highest form of respect by the traditional mounting of the Vigil Guards – vigil guards consist four uniformed officers each standing at a corner of the casket with head bowed, back turned away and ceremonial sword inverted. The guards changed shift every 30 minutes, and there were a total of 60 Vigil Guards.



STORY | KEITA SIN  
PHOTOGRAPHY | ALOYSIUS LUM, LOW KAI HENG WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MCI

# Nation comes Together

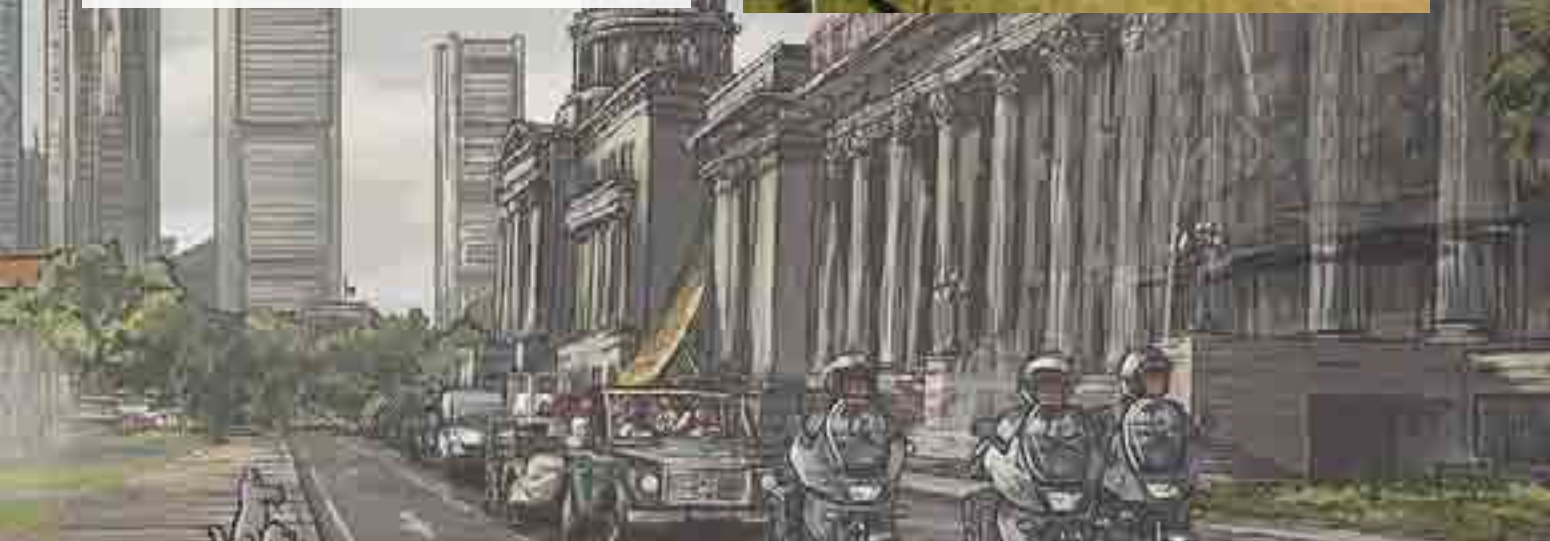




Members of the public soon started thronging at the Parliament House. The initial opening hours of the Parliament House was from 10 am to 8 pm daily. However, due to the overwhelming response, the decision was made to keep Parliament House open for 24 hours. The queue continued to grow, and the waiting time, at some point, was up to 8 hours. Personnel from the SAF and Police Force worked tirelessly ushering members of the public and maintaining order. The Singapore Civil Defence Force also played a part by assisting those who were unwell due to the intense queuing hours. As a matter of fact, the estimated time to enter the Parliament House was more than 10 hours on the night of 27 March and queues had to be temporarily suspended. During the closure, members from the Police Force worked hard to ease the situation, ensuring that the dispersion was calmly handled. Queues were only re-initiated the next morning.

Over 350 tents and 2000 barricades were set up at the Padang by soldiers from the SAF during preparations for the lying-in-state. All these equipment were then cleared by the men immediately after the Lying-In-State to prepare for the state funeral procession the following day. The SAF Band and MP Command also rehearsed throughout the week in preparation for the State Funeral Procession, ensuring that utmost respect was paid to the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew.

The effort of personnel from the SAF, Singapore Police Force and Singapore Civil Defence Force is truly commendable – they ensured that everyone was able to pay their respects to Mr Lee.





# EXERCISE MAJU BERSAMA







## 20 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP: EXERCISE MAJU BERSAMA

STORY | MELVIN LOO  
PHOTOGRAPHY | ALOYSIUS LUM & 3 GUARDS MEDIA TEAM

**At a time where security threats are becoming transnational, the significance of cooperation and partnership between neighbouring countries cannot be emphasised enough. This is especially important when it comes to Singapore and Brunei. Members of ASEAN, both countries share common national interests and have crossed paths on many instances.**



The Singapore Army and the Royal Brunei Land forces (RBLF) have bilateral exercises to foster mutual understanding and enhance the interoperability between the two armies, one of which, has been ongoing for 20 years: Exercise Maju Bersama.

Since its inception in 1995, each country alternates hosting the exercise. Held in Brunei this year, a company of Guardsmen from the 3rd Battalion, Singapore Guards (3 Guards) were hosted by the 2nd Battalion, RBLF for Maju Bersama 2015.

The exercise commenced with an opening ceremony co-officiated by the Singapore Army Chief of Staff - General Staff, BG Lim Hock Yu, and Deputy Commander RBLF, COL Hj Muhammad Haszaimi Bin Hj Bol Hassan. Embarking on a series of missions together, the soldiers from both armies had the opportunity to share and learn from each other.



**“We were able to understand from the Bruneians how they execute a company ambush and how the battalion as a whole gives their orders to the companies. The troopers on the ground experienced how they do their assaults and benefitted from the sharing of SOPs.”**

**CPT Nadzri Hussain**  
Officer Commanding for  
Alpha Company



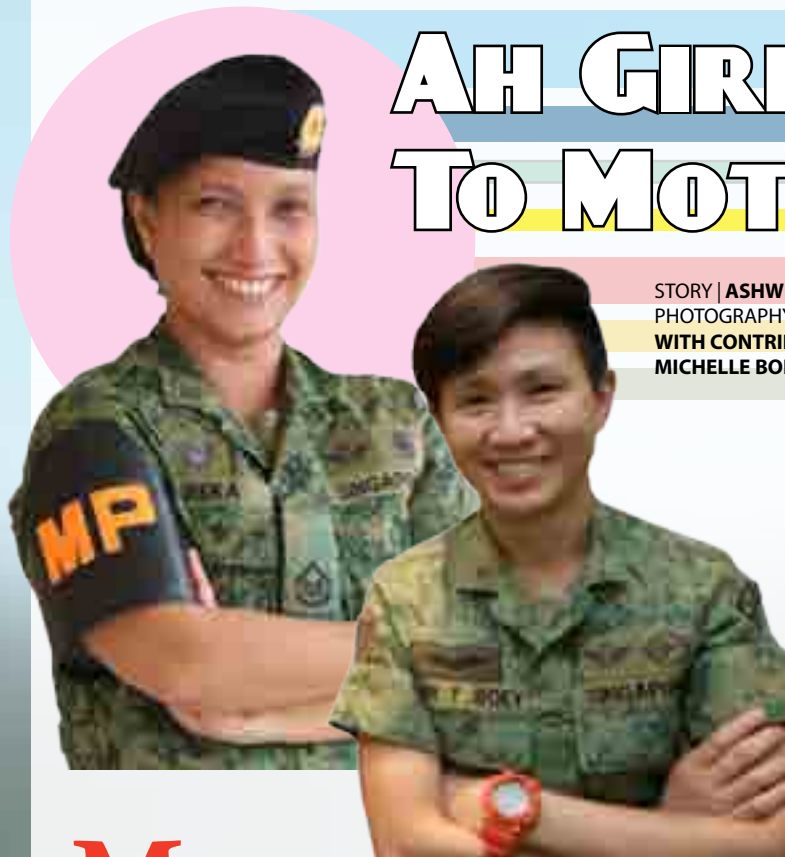
**The exercise culminated in a joint battalion assault on an objective. The military knowledge gained by the soldiers from both countries was put to the test as soldiers from both countries worked together with speed and aggression to achieve their mission together.**

# AH GIRLS TO MOTHERS

STORY | ASHWIN LEE

PHOTOGRAPHY | AMOS POH

WITH CONTRIBUTIONS BY 2WO SAREKA, ME5 PAULINE TEO AND MAJ MICHELLE BOEY



**Meet the ladies who joined the SAF as young girls and are now Army moms. We present this unique feature: Ah Girls to Mothers.**

**M**any see the Army as a male centric organisation, given the physical nature of its work. However, the SAF has always opened its doors to women, and I had the chance to meet up with three such servicewomen who have not only stayed in the Army for a considerable period, but have made careers of it and had children while working in the SAF. All three have one thing in common: They enlisted as girls, young and gutsy, and have now matured into “Army-moms”. They had plenty to share with me about life in the military and how they cope with balancing their national duties and family matters.

Let me introduce our three soldiers. They are 2WO Sareka, a Course Commander in the Legislation and Enforcement Training Wing, MP Command, who has had a fruitful 23-year career in the Army. ME5 Pauline Teo, Head SAF Medical Operations Centre, HQMC, whose amiable demeanour left a lasting impression on me, and MAJ Michelle Boey, a Staff Officer in the NS Operations and Training Branch and Singapore’s first ever Guardswoman. Each had something different to share.

All of them enlisted in the Army for one simple reason: They wanted to try something different. They ended up staying. “I had harboured aspirations to join since I was in secondary school. I knew where I wanted my life to head,” said ME5 Teo. MAJ Boey added, “I walked into the recruitment centre and stated my intent to join the Army. I had no inclination towards any vocation. I was posted to Guards and just went through with it.”





The initial stages of training, which include Basic Military Training (BMT), have often presented a massive culture shock to male enlistees. It was no different for the ladies. “This line of work requires a high level of physical fitness and women have to work harder at it as we aren’t as naturally built as the males. I was struggling to carry all the equipment due to my smaller size, but I gradually raised my fitness level while training with the SAF and exercising on my own outside camp,” recalled 2WO Sareka. Times were tough, but there were plenty of positives to draw from BMT still, as ME5 Teo recalled, “A friend reminded me that no matter how tough the journey, remember that you’re not going through it alone.” I always had my platoon mates and colleagues by my side and that thought kept me going, with them as my pillars.” “After going through BMT, I realised that there is nothing you cannot do,” she concluded. 2WO Sareka exemplified this when she made a shocking discovery that she was 2 months pregnant halfway through her training in the jungles of Pulau Tekong during the Infantry Company Sergeant Major course. She had the option to go out of course (OOC) but pushed on. “OOC was the last thing on my mind,” explained 2WO Sareka. “I liked my coursemates and was enjoying the course. We survived live firing, block missions, river crossing and force preparations! I was the only female trainee, but the camaraderie we forged there was unforgettable.”

Our three servicewomen might have gone down different paths as soldiers, but the path of a mother draws many parallels. Among them is possibly the biggest aspect of parenting: personal sacrifice. During busy work periods, ME5 Teo would leave work to run house errands, fetch the kids to tuition and then return home to tuck them into bed. Afterwards, she would drive back to camp to complete her work, returning home way past midnight. MAJ Boey too, had to cut short her first maternity leave to come back to work as she had important duties to fulfil the S1 Battalion Officer of 3 Guards. “I returned on my own accord as I felt a strong need to contribute to my team. It’s a balancing act and I believe you should never stop giving your best to your job and family,” says MAJ Boey. ME5 Teo concurred, “Despite the hectic lifestyle, I was happy because of my passion for my work and colleagues.” A passion for work and colleagues is what 2WO Sareka maintains. She has a close relationship with her men owing to her “motherly” nature. “When I look at my men, sometimes I view them as my own kids. Playing a huge role in National Service, I want my men to enjoy their NS and have some fun while they are here.”

Work is work, and family is family. When at home, our three ladies quickly transform from soldiers to mothers. No longer yelling at men to march properly but nagging at their kids to finish their homework. “I’m the disciplinarian at home,” MAJ Boey said, “I tend to enforce certain little things on my children such as having the correct posture when I speak with

them. I feel it’s necessary to inculcate discipline and courtesy. My home is not regimented like an Army camp, but I’d expect a basic showing of values from my kids.”

2WO Sareka continued, “Same here! I’ll be the one checking their homework while my husband takes them out to play. Sometimes I have to put my foot down and be strict with them, just like most other mothers I’m sure. But of course, I just can’t stop kissing and hugging them as well!” “For me, I won’t spoil my children too much as I want my kids to be independent, most of all. I want to see them grow and develop into whole-hearted, kind and resourceful people,” ME5 Teo ended off.

You don’t have to be a superwoman to join the Army. ME5 Teo, MAJ Boey and 2WO Sareka juggle similar parental and work obligations. They work hard, quietly in the background to defend Singapore, like any soldier would.



# CARL GUSTAF M3 84MM RECOILLESS RIFLE

STORY | ASHWIN LEE

"The backblast when fired is something you can never forget. It's like getting slapped hard on the back and leaving a lingering sting!"

-2WO Sareka, Course Commander, LETW, MP Command





The Carl-Gustaf M3 84mm Recoilless Rifle (84mm RR) has been the top-choice anti-tank weapon over the past 50 years in more than 40 countries, including Singapore. Its main strength lies in its versatility, with a broad range of interchangeable sights and ammunition, making it a truly multi-purpose, multi-mission weapon system capable of responding to many different threats.

The M3 model was released in 1991 and used plastic and alloy for its internal components instead of steel, reducing the weight of the weapon and enhancing its portability in combat. A distinct rifled barrel provides stabilisation for the ammunition to occur through the barrel, hence extending its range and firepower. Ammunition is easily reloaded through a hinged breach on the side of the tube.

Due to its ease of use, only two men are required to operate the weapon, a shooter and a loader, making this weapon ideal for infantry small unit tactics. The SAF deploys 4 weapons in a nine-man section organic to an Infantry company. Each section has a section commander and four teams - each with a gunner and ammo carrier bearing four rounds and a single 84mm RR. The two-man teams would work together in pairs such that one team can cover the other while they are reloading the weapon. The weapon was in use in the SAF until 2013 when it was replaced by the MATADOR.

The 84mm RR has been used to blast armoured vehicles, destroy bunkers, shoot breach holes through brick and concrete walls and also neutralise concealed troops.



## WEAPON SPECIFICATIONS

Name	Carl-Gustaf M3 84mm Recoilless Rifle
Caliber	84mm
Type	Recoilless (with rocket booster on some ammunition types)
Overall Length	1130mm
Weight (Empty)	8.50kg
Effective Range (in metres)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 150m against tanks</li> <li>• 700m against stationary targets</li> <li>• 1000m against stationary targets with rocket-boosted ammunition</li> </ul>
Armour Penetration	More than 500mm
Country of Origin	Sweden
Manufacturer	Bofors Anti-Armour AB, Saab Bofors Dynamics – Sweden
Action	Hinged Breach; Percussion Firing Mechanism
Muzzle velocity	240m/sec
Rate of fire	6 rounds per minute
Feed	1
Initial year of service	1948

# SYMBOLS OF OUR ARMY

STORY | LEONG KHEE SHUEN

***'SAFTI' has become a household name among Singaporeans since its inception. Formally known as the Singapore Armed Forces Training Institute (SAFTI), the facility housed several schools, amongst them the Officer Cadet School (OCS) that trained cadets into officers in the early years.***

SAFTI

1966

The Singapore Armed Forces Training Institute was established on 14 February 1966 in Pasir Laba Camp.

Then Minister for Defence Dr Goh Keng Swee formulated the SAFTI crest with his advisors.

1968

SAFTI was presented its colours by the then Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew.

1975

First suggested by Dr Goh, the motto "Towards Excellence" was made official on SAFTI's 9th anniversary .

1980

Chief-of-General-Staff, COL Winston Choo initiated the reorganisation of Pasir Laba Camp into OCS and the Infantry schools. OCS-SAFTI continued the proud and distinct tradition of training future leaders of the SAF as the only school training Infantry officers.

1990

As the SAF came of age, there was a growing recognition of the need for greater integration in the training of officers from the three services. No longer sufficient to cope with the increasing demands of officer training in the 1980s, there was a need for a new facility - SAFTI Military Institute.

The SAFTI Development Committee formulated the motto "To Lead, To Excel, To Overcome" for the new SAFTI Military Institute and a creed for the SAF Officer.

1995

Inaugurated on 25 August 1995, SAFTI Military Institute became an ideal environment for moulding cadets into officers.

***Today, the SAFTI Military Institute conducts courses for the education and training of officers from the Army, Navy and Air Force. It occupies an 88 hectare site along Upper Jurong Road, in-between Pasir Laba Camp and Jurong Camp.***

***The SAFTI Military Institute builds upon SAFTI's tradition of providing professional, rigorous and disciplined training for Army, Navy and Air Force officers. Through its tri-service training, the SAFTI Military Institute aims to forge common bonds and commitment among fellow officers, and build an integrated SAF.***



# PREVIOUS LOGO



## SWORD

The Scimitar, a short curved sword with one sharp edge, was adopted to denote military training. It was selected by Dr Goh to replace the British sword initially chosen by his advisers.

## TORCH

The torch is a universal emblem depicting education, training Singapore's best in the art of warfare.

## MOTTO

The SAFTI crest was formulated by then Minister for Defence Dr Goh Keng Swee with the motto "Towards Excellence" to remind all Officers and men of SAFTI of the need to set up the highest standards in everything done. The crest reflected our Asian heritage and it quickly became a household name associated with excellence, ruggedness and tough training.

# CURRENT LOGO



## SWORD

The sword signifies SAFTI MI's role in training Singapore's best young men and women in the art of warfare, symbolising military skills and aggressiveness.

## TORCH

The yellow torch symbolises learning, signifying the pivotal role played by SAFTI MI in moulding and educating our officers.

## LAUREL

The laurel signifies the school's determination to strive for excellence in the teaching of military skills.

In each of the laurel, there are 66 leaves, representing the year 1966 in which SAFTI was first established.

# CONTINUOUS LEARNING

STORY | KEITA SIN WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 1WO CHANG WEE LEONG  
PHOTOGRAPHY | 1WO CHANG WEE LEONG

***Learning is a life-long process that is not only about quantity, but also quality. 1WO Chang Wee Leong is one who is constantly keen to learn and realise his potential.***

With only N levels in 1988, 1WO Chang Wee Leong joined the SAF. He was given the opportunity to do a part-time diploma under the SAF sponsorship in 1998, which most of his friends were not supportive of initially – they knew him as one with not much academic potential. He decided to commit to the challenge after much consideration. Despite the challenging task of finding a balance between family commitments, studies and work – especially with the new arrival of his first child – he persevered and successfully graduated as a more mature and wiser person.

**“Learning is not a process of accumulative information; learning is about integrating the new knowledge that we have acquired with the existing schemata of prior knowledge.”**



His first overseas operational deployment in the SAF was to Afghanistan as part of the global fight against terrorism. It served as a massive eye-opener for him. “I have gained valuable operational experience,” he shared about his valuable time there.

During his tour in Specialist Cadet School as a Platoon Commander, he encountered several trainees who were unable to cope with the training and faced personal issues. This prompted him to embark on the SAF Para-Counsellor Course which equipped him with the right skills to assist trainees to focus and self-generate solutions to the issues that they faced.

Learning that understanding his men’s emotions is crucial in bonding and training, he applied for a Part-Time Degree in Counselling and realised

its effectiveness. Committed to help people, 1WO Chang even volunteered to serve in the Family Service Centre after office hours and on weekends to further extend his outreach to the community. He is also a volunteer counsellor for the upcoming 28th SEA Games and National Day Parade 2015. “Helping someone is to empathise with them with a selfless desire,” he said.

Currently a Research Warrant Officer in G2 Army, his journey offers him a wealth of experience – both local and overseas. “I want to continue to acquire knowledge, skills, theory and practical experiences to serve the Army and the community better. Learning is not a process of accumulative information; learning is about integrating the new knowledge that we have acquired with the existing schemata of prior knowledge.”







STORY | BRANDON LEOW  
PHOTOGRAPHY | LEE XIANG RONG

# Running as One Formation

## ARMOUR ROAD RELAY 2015



**T**he Armour formation held its signature Armour Road Relay (ARR) at Sungei Gedong Camp. The theme of the race was “4th Singapore Armoured Brigade Homecoming” and it was hosted by the 12th Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence Battalion (12 C4I Battalion). The various participants also included former Armour officers and NSmen who trained hard for the competition. The race was divided into two segments, the WOSpec and Officer runs. The Guest-of-Honour was Chief Armour Officer, COL Kenneth Liow, who also participated in the race.

LTA (NS) Nicholas Seah, 56th Singapore Armour Brigade shared his thoughts, “This race allows us to stay in touch with the unit. It is a pleasure to be back in Sungei Gedong where our journey as NSF’s began and it is good to see all my old friends again. I am also having a new experience as this is my first time back as an NSman rather than an NSF and it is rather refreshing. I look forward to coming to more road

relays and strive to run more often.”

Conducted as a night race, the participants competed in an intense race that was tightly fought, with 48th Battalion, Singapore Armour Regiment emerging as the overall champion. Despite the level of competition, the participants were able to bond over their shared camaraderie in training for the ARR and as a formation, making it a fun filled occasion for all involved.

MSG Rajini, a soldier from the 42nd Battalion, Singapore Armour Regiment was a participant in the race “Today is an important day, one that I always look forward to each year. It is always important for us to compete and challenge others; this allows us to learn our limits. At the same time, we can form a greater bond through the competition and the tough times in training,” he said.



A moment of silence for our nation's founding father.



Soldiers setting up tentage for the public.





# FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



**The Singapore Army**  
April 4

The High Mobility Artillery Rocket System; Nothing Comes Close



**The Singapore Army**  
1 month ago

No more snaking and broken queues around the CBD all thanks to our soldiers who worked through the night to set up queuing lines at the Padang!

#RememberingLKY



Instagram



**oursingaporeArmy**



453 likes

**oursingaporeArmy** Around The Clock; Behind-The-Scenes For Our Founding Prime Minister #OurSgArmy



## IN YOUR WORDS

**22 March 2015**

*Fighting Fires at Thailand, Chiang Mai!*

**Warar Tongbunsing**

Thank you for helping us

**23 March 2015**

*Goodbye Mr Lee Kuan Yew. Thank you Sir.*

**Lee Wei Cheng**

Thank you Mr Lee , for making me a proud Singaporean.

**27 March 2015**

*An Old Soldier at the Lying-In-State.*

**Dennis Khew**

This is what I call "Keeping Watch". Uniform still Kilat bros!

**29 March 2015**

*A Minute of Silence - The Nation Mourns*

**Sean Goh**

Thank you Singapore Armed Forces for giving our late prime minister Lee Kuan Yew the best funeral in Singapore



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