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President Confers Top Military Award on Commander-in-Chief of the Indonesian National Defence Forces

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ACM Djoko Suyanto receiving the Distinguished Service Order (Military) award from President S.R. Nathan.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Indonesian National Defence Forces, Air Chief Marshal Djoko Suyanto, was conferred Singapore's highest military award, the Darjah Utama Bakti Cemerlang (Tentera) or Distinguished Service Order (Military), by President S.R. Nathan at the Istana this afternoon.

The Distinguished Service Order (Military) was awarded to Air Chief Marshal Djoko Suyanto in recognition of his significant contributions towards enhancing the strong and longstanding ties between the Indonesian National Defence Forces and the Singapore Armed Forces. Air Chief Marshal Djoko Suyanto has shown great personal commitment in building up a robust and enduring relationship between the Indonesian National Defence Forces and the Singapore Armed Forces.

Under Air Chief Marshal Djoko Suyanto's leadership and guidance, professional interactions between the Indonesian National Defence Forces and the Singapore Armed Forces have grown both in scope and depth. The Indonesian National Defence Forces and the Singapore Armed Forces engage each other in a wide range of regular bilateral exercises and professional exchanges, which serve to enhance the mutual understanding and camaraderie between the two armed forces, and enable them to work closely together in times of need. These include landmark bilateral exercises such as the biennial air force exercise, Elang Indopura, the annual army exercise, Safkar Indopura and the biennial navy exercise, Eagle.

The guests at the investiture included Minister for Defence Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Manpower and Second Minister for Defence Dr Ng Eng Hen, Minister of State for Defence Associate Professor Koo Tsai Kee, Chief of Defence Force Lieutenant-General Desmond Kuek, as well as senior government officials from Singapore and Indonesia.

Air Chief Marshal Djoko Suyanto called on Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong this morning, prior to the investiture. He also called on Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong, Minister Teo and LG Kuek.

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