

**POLICE
LIFE**

THE SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE MAGAZINE
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Safeguarding Every Day Charting the Way Ahead



**Leading the Specialised
Security Command**

An Experience to Remember

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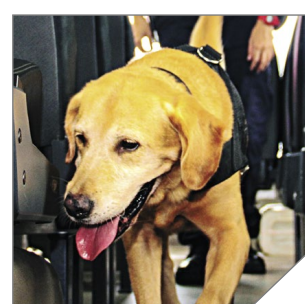
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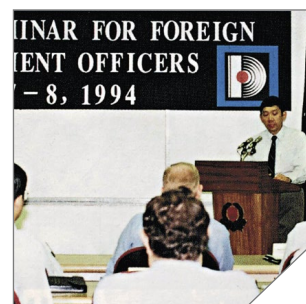
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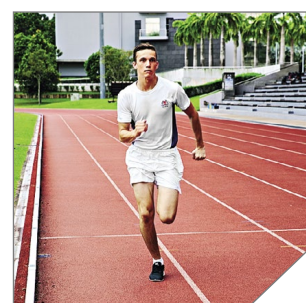
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Note from the Team

There is always room for improvement. The role that the Singapore Police Force (SPF) plays in the public space is crucial in maintaining the security of our nation. It is a must then, that the Force is always pushing itself in every possible aspect. In this issue of *Police Life*, we bring you different ways in which the SPF is pushing to improve its capabilities; whether it is the Work Plan Seminar 2016 - where SPF showcased its latest technological advances - or our feature on a Company Commander who has pushed the limits of fitness. Hear from one of the leaders of the Force on his relentless efforts for improvements with our feature on Commander of Security Command, Assistant Commissioner of Police (AC) Lim Chee Pheng or read about the emotional experiences of our graduating officers from the most recent passing out parade. If you are looking for a little light hearted humour why not see things from the view of our very own K9 Dogs.

We sincerely hope you find this issue of *Police Life* an interesting and engaging read that will inspire you to push yourself to be the best you can be.

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Leading the Specialised Security Command

By: CPL (NS) Mok Wen Jie
Photographer: SSgt Chee Yong Tat

As a National Police Cadet Corp in his secondary school days, Assistant Commissioner of Police (AC) Lim Chee Pheng felt that his decision to join the Singapore Police Force (SPF) after graduating from the National University of Singapore was a natural choice. Appointed Commander Security Command (SecCom) in 2010, AC Lim shared more about the duties and challenges faced by the officers of SecCom in an ever changing security environment.

With 26 years of experience under his belt, AC Lim has held numerous key appointments before being appointed Commander SecCom, including Deputy Commander (Special Duties) of the Special Operations Command, and his most memorable posting as Aide-De-Camp to President Ong Teng Cheong. AC Lim recounted that it was an enriching experience, learning about protocol and decorum, coordinating State events and visits to foreign countries where the President was in attendance. He even had the opportunity to play a round of golf at the Istana 9-hole course with President Ong before breakfast! "It was a great honour to have served the first Elected President of Singapore," he shared.

Well-equipped with a strong set of both 'hard' operational as well as 'soft' interpersonal skills, he has successfully led the SecCom for six years now. "It has been a good and enriching experience leading a Specialist Unit with officers who are highly trained and competent in specialised skills, and are very committed and dedicated to their roles as Personal Security Officers (PSOs)", he said.

Ever Vigilant

AC Lim's vision for the SecCom is to be the Centre of Excellence in Very Important Person (VIP) Protection. As part of that vision, one of the on - going key plans includes the restructuring of the division. This would ensure that the division would have sufficient capacity to meet any possible surge in demand for close protection in the future, as well as to enhance the close protection of protectees in the event of multiple lone-wolf terrorist attacks that could happen in Singapore.

A key plan is to use the facilities at the Home Team Tactical Centre (HTTC) to conduct scenario-based training and exercises for PSOs, allowing officers to validate the various contingency plans and uplift the capabilities of PSOs to enable them to deal with contingencies effectively and efficiently. The SecCom is also collaborating with the SPF Future Ops Division and Office of the Chief Science & Technology Officer (OCSTO) to develop counter-drone capabilities for the Istana Security Unit.

Challenges

One of the key challenges SecCom faces is as AC Lim puts it, "how to prevent PSOs from becoming complacent as they go about their daily work routine, as there has never been any attack on our protectees thus far." To counter this, some of the activities conducted to keep PSOs vigilant include regular trainings which are constantly tweaked to prevent repetition and to sustain effectiveness, as well as sharing and conducting reviews on incidents of attack on VIPs that have occurred in other countries.

A second challenge is to allocate a common interval for training. Due to the nature of shift work in the various units within the SecCom as well as the heavy workload of PSOs, efforts have been made to fine-tune the shift system, allowing units to pre-empt the training day of their respective PSOs to enable them to attend training activities.

Overcoming jet lag during overseas deployment is another challenge for PSOs. To prevent the vigilance and alertness of the PSOs from being compromised, an advance PSO now travels at least one day in advance to the foreign country of their assignment. With this tweak, the advance PSO on overseas assignment is now able to liaise with our Mission in that country and with the local police on security arrangement and yet, have sufficient rest before the arrival of the protectee. "The PSO would be fresh and alert when our protectee arrives and he would take over the escorting duty from the PSO who had travelled with our protectee," AC Lim explained.

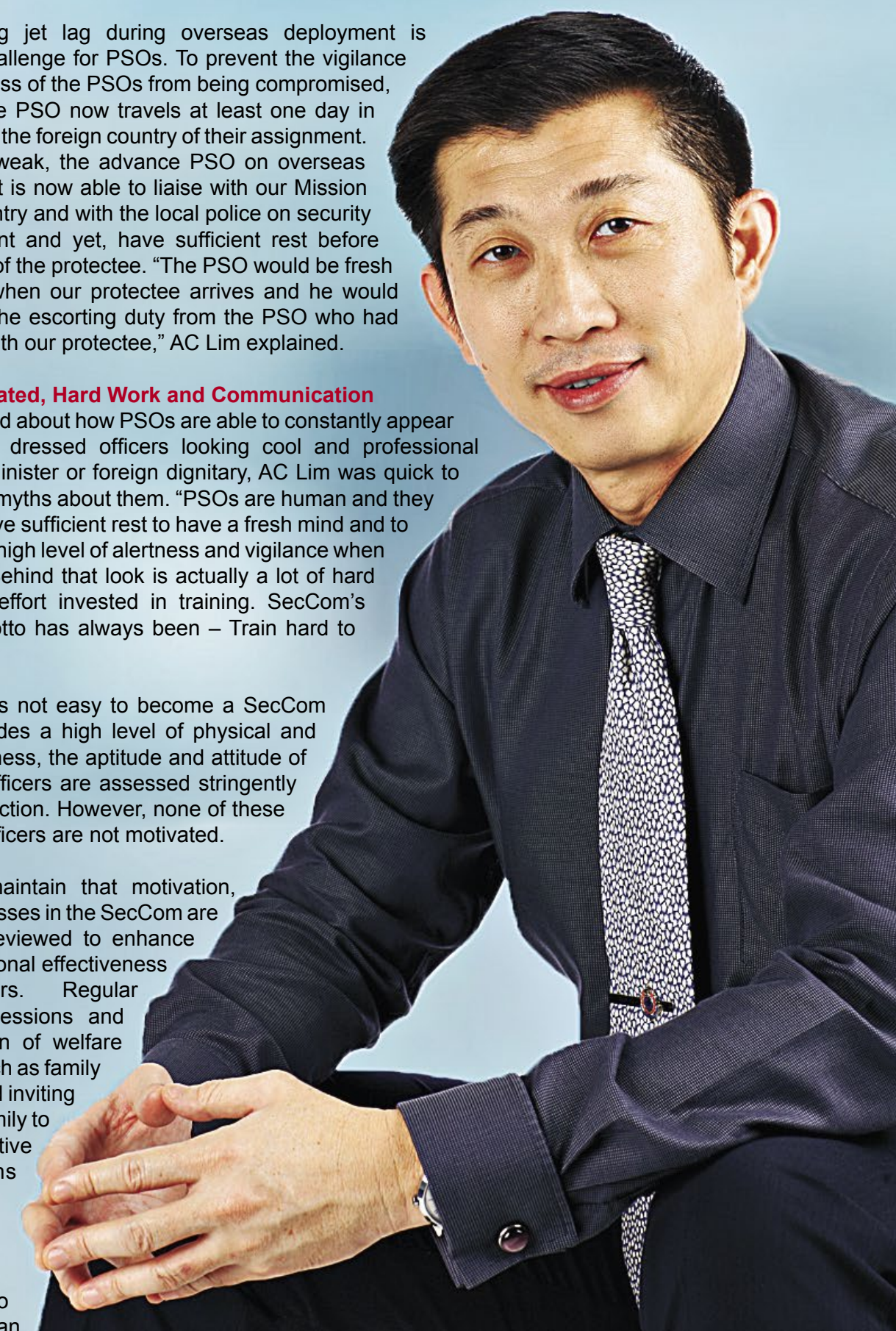
Self-Motivated, Hard Work and Communication

When asked about how PSOs are able to constantly appear as smartly dressed officers looking cool and professional beside a Minister or foreign dignitary, AC Lim was quick to dispel any myths about them. "PSOs are human and they need to have sufficient rest to have a fresh mind and to maintain a high level of alertness and vigilance when on duty...Behind that look is actually a lot of hard work and effort invested in training. SecCom's training motto has always been - Train hard to fight easy."

Indeed, it is not easy to become a SecCom PSO. Besides a high level of physical and medical fitness, the aptitude and attitude of potential officers are assessed stringently during selection. However, none of these matter if officers are not motivated.

To help maintain that motivation, work processes in the SecCom are regularly reviewed to enhance the operational effectiveness of officers. Regular dialogue sessions and organisation of welfare events, such as family outings and inviting officers' family to attend festive celebrations together with the PSOs are also held. AC Lim also maintains an open-door policy where any officers could walk into his office whenever they wished to speak with him on work or personal matters.

Ultimately, true to his vision of the SecCom, AC Lim believes that PSOs require self-motivation. "An outstanding SecCom Officer is one who is competent in all the close protection skills, is motivated, disciplined, displays high level of commitment and dedication and most importantly places the interest of his protectee above self."



Safeguarding Every Day

– Charting the Way Ahead

By: SC Darwisyah Daud

Photographer: SSgt Chee Yong Tat, SC Darwisyah Daud



The Police Workplan Seminar (WPS) is an annual event where the Singapore Police Force (SPF) showcases its successes and proposed plans for the year.

Safeguarding Every Day

The Annual Police Workplan Seminar 2016 was held on 29 April 2016, with the theme 'Safeguarding Every Day' to reiterate SPF's continuous efforts, contributions and dedications towards making Singapore one of the safest countries in the world. In this seminar, innovative security initiatives, counter terrorist teams, programmes and the new Police Scheme Review were unveiled.

The guests that visited the exhibition included the Guest-of-Honour, Minister for Home Affairs and Law Mr K Shanmugam, Police Officers together with their family members, students and uniformed groups from various schools. They had the first glimpse of the Emergency Response Teams (ERTs), and the I-Witness Application at the exhibition.

Mr K Shanmugam also interacted with many Police Officers, including officers clad in the ERT full-geared uniform who were 'counter assault skill-trained', and armed with HK-MP 5 submachine guns. The ERT comprises of Police land division officers, and each team will operate in groups of four or five.

During his speech at the SPF's annual WPS at the Home Team Academy, Mr K Shanmugam said that the ERTs will be the first responders to any terrorist attacks, and they would be backed up by the second wave of



response from the Special Operations Command (SOC). Mr K Shanmugam also shed more light on the Home Team Transformation 2025 which would leverage more on technology. He said *"the Police will start trial unmanned vehicles to assist manned patrols. The Police Coast Guard (PCG) is exploring the use of Unmanned Surface Vessels (USVs), and these are expected to carry out localised surveillance patrols, project presence and intercept intruding vessels."*

THE NEW AGE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

The SPF unveiled I-Witness as the new one-stop online platform at the Workplan Seminar. I-Witness is a mobile phone application for members of public to provide the Police with information on crimes, traffic offences and ultimately, security crises.

The I-Witness will facilitate the submission of text and multimedia files directly to the Police through users' smartphones. It is designed to have simple and intuitive 'Point, Shoot & Send' submission of data through leveraging the in-built camera features of mobile devices. Furthermore, it also has the ability to submit up to two multimedia files of unlimited size.

According to Sergeant Ong, he is awe-inspired by the technological advancements that SPF has made towards combating terrorism. "It is a great opportunity to be in this event and I believe that it is a significant digital footprint for SPF as this will enhance the rapport between the Force and the public towards counter-terrorism."

"The world is very small and information is readily available for people to retrieve. Thus, we need to recognise the current trends so that we are quick enough to spot threats before it is too late."

The Force will push for more efforts to educate and encourage the public to download the mobile Police@SG app, enhancing community vigilance against terrorism.

"It's not the matter of if; it's a matter of when. We must take another look at our capabilities and understand that the threat that is happening globally must be neutralised. Otherwise, it will undermine Singapore's economy. All in all, I believe that we need to educate the public to understand its importance," said Assistant Inspector Sofian Abdullah from the Police Coast Guard.

A 16-year old student from Anderson Secondary School, Xander Chong, found the displays informative and interactive. Apart from the weaponries and new devices, he was fascinated by the ERTs and innovatively designed security technologies that were exhibited in the seminar. He felt that the WPS serves as a platform to help the members of the public understand SPF's contributions towards securing Singapore. *"Worldwide, there have been numerous recent cases of terrorist attacks such as in Paris, Brussels and even Bangkok. There is no reason why Singapore cannot be the next target of these acts of terror. Also, Singapore has a high population density. With terrorists' modus operandi of causing mass destruction, Singapore's fatality rate would be massive."*



Unveiling Ceremony of the Artillery Shell Casings

By: SC2 Tan Yick Wei, Jonas
Photographer: SSgt Chee Yong Tat



“[Our recruitment] must be fundamentally based on a sense of mission and a common ethos - our people are striving for the national good. That is what the sacrifices are for - not for personal power or for glory, but for the pride of the mission – keeping Singapore safe, secure and working; protecting the public.” – Excerpt from Lee Kuan Yew’s speech at a dining-in at Senior Police Officer’s Mess (SPOM) on 17 November 2011.

Held at the very place the above words were spoken, exactly one year after the State Funeral Procession, the two gunpowder-residue stained artillery shells from the 21 gun salute were unveiled on 29 March 2016 to thank the Singapore Police Force (SPF). One was addressed to Commissioner of Police (CP) Hoong Wee Teck for keeping the peace during the State Funeral, the other addressed to the Commander of Police Security Command (SecCom), Assistant Commissioner Lim Chee Pheng for the commitment and dedication of SecCom’s PSOs who kept Mr Lee Kuan Yew safe.

Present at the unveiling ceremony were CP, former OCs of the then Security Branch and many ex-Personal Security Officers who had served Singapore’s founding father, Mr Lee Kuan Yew. Mr Lee played a big part in developing the Singapore Police Force to what it is today, instilling the Force with the values of incorruptibility and justice, and in the sacred mission that all Police officers swore to uphold. It was therefore with great reverence that the SPF honoured Mr Lee’s memory, observing a minute of silence and holding a police salute led by CP following the unveiling ceremony.

“The Singapore Police Force is deeply honoured to receive the two artillery shell casings.... My officers and I will keep Mr Lee’s words in mind, as we continue the never-ending work of making Singapore the safest place in the world.” – CP Hoong Wee Teck

“SecCom is deeply honoured to be one of the 21 recipients of the artillery shell casing and it will be a symbol of SecCom’s unwavering commitment to provide the highest standard of close protection for our founding Prime Minister and for many more after him.” – AC Lim Chee Pheng



The two artillery shell casings fired from the 25 pounders howitzers will be displayed at the Police Heritage Centre located at the Police Headquarters for three months. Thereafter, the artillery shell casing that was presented to SecCom will be moved to the SecCom’s Heritage Centre.

April Happenings



Senior Police Officers Mess (SPOM) Annual Dinner 2016

On 11 March 2016 the Singapore Police Force laid out the red carpet at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel for the Senior Police Officer’s Mess Annual Dinner. The night began with pre-dinner activities and speeches by Commissioner of Police Mr Hoong Wee Teck and Deputy Commissioner of Police Mr Lau Peet Meng to thank all the attending police officers for their service to the nation. Former Commissioners of Police, Mr Ng Joo Hee, Mr Khoo Boon Hui and Mr Tee Tua Ba joined the duo to propose a toast to all Police officers. The guests were dazzled with spectacular performances by Taufik Batisah, the SPF Band and prize presentations to lucky winners. The night ended with Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Police Yap Shao Peng winning the ‘Best Dressed’ competition for walking the red carpet with style! It was truly a joyful and glamorous experience for all!

C.L.I.F. 4 Lensing Ceremony

On 14 March 2016, the Singapore Police Force in collaboration with MediaCorp held the Lensing Ceremony for the latest season of C.L.I.F. The event was attended by celebrities Rui En, Elvin Ng, Ya Hui and other members of the cast of C.L.I.F. 4. The ceremony was to promote the upcoming season of C.L.I.F. which is expected to air from 6 September 2016 to 3 October 2016. C.L.I.F. 4 will span over 20 episodes and is based on real crime files. There will also be more twists to the plot, promising more excitement than the first 3 seasons. While the past three seasons focused on the work of investigators from the Criminal Investigation Department and frontline police officers, C.L.I.F. 4 will give viewers a glimpse into the work of officers from other departments such as the Commercial Affairs Department, and the Community Policing units in the Police Divisions. Viewers can expect to see how officers use their wit and intellect to work with the various departments and external agencies as they race against time tracking valuable leads to solve crime cases.



Crimewatch Awarded Longest Running Public Service Docu-Drama Series

At the Star Award 2016, the Singapore Police Force and National Crime Prevention Council’s hit television show “Crimewatch” received the Longest Running Public Service Docu - Drama series (30 years) Award. Produced in four languages, “Crimewatch” remains one of the most popular programmes in Singapore and is an effective medium in promoting and increasing crime prevention awareness amongst Singaporeans.

Integrity Begins from Within

By: Cpl Muhd Shahrunnizam bin Abdul Rashid
Photographer: Cpl Muhd Shahrunnizam Bin Abdul Rashid



involving a grey Honda car which had skidded and crashed into the centre divider of Jalan Anak Bukit Road.

The driver claimed that he had been travelling on the fast lane along Jalan Anak Bukit towards Upper Bukit Timah Road and had intended to make a U-Turn when he lost control of his car and crashed into the centre divider.

The TP officers conducted a thorough check and found no injuries sustained on the Malaysian driver. While they were establishing his particulars and licence registration, they noticed that the driver reeked of alcohol. Failing a breathalyser test conducted on him, the driver admitted drinking three glasses of beer at Alexandra market before he drove the car.

Covering his crimes

After failing the breathalyser test, the driver pulled SSgt Fadli to one side of the road and told him that he wanted to “settle” the matter without the presence of his partner. Nevertheless, SSgt Fadli called his partner for further assistance.

Speaking in Malay, the driver then tried to bribe the TP officers by offering them 150 Singapore dollars (SGD) - to overlook the offence. The officers rejected his offer and gave him a stern warning. But the driver persisted and even offered to provide them with better jobs in Malaysia.

SSgt Fadli again firmly rejected the bribes and subsequently placed the driver under arrest for the offences of “Driving Without a Valid Driving Licence”, “Driving Without a Valid Insurance”, “Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol” and “Attempting to Bribe a Public Servant”.

Case Two: Careless Driving Along Serangoon Road

On 4 March 2014 at around 8.40pm, SSgt Abdul Hakim S/O Abdul Rahim was patrolling along Serangoon Road when he observed a blue Comfort taxi making a sudden lane change which nearly caused a collision. SSgt Hakim observed the driver to be driving in a careless manner and eventually stopped the taxi along Rangoon Road.

He told the male Chinese taxi driver that he had just committed an offence of Careless Driving and explained the penalty of the offence which comprised of a hefty fine and demerit points.

The taxi driver told him that he did not want to accumulate any demerit points and pleaded leniency. He then offered SSgt Hakim 100 SGD in the hopes of waiving the offence committed.

SSgt Hakim rejected the bribe and placed the taxi driver under arrest for attempting to bribe a public servant. The taxi driver was also charged for the offence of Careless Driving.

“Money cannot cover mistakes”

It is not easy being a Traffic Police officer. We face dangers on the road every day. Offences such as reckless driving and drink driving could cost the lives of innocent road users. If you are flagged down for any offence, just admit and accept it. Do not try to bend the law. Money cannot cover mistakes.

Staff Sergeant Abdul Hakim S/O Abdul Rahim
Patrol unit, Team One
Traffic Police

Case One: Bribery At Jalan Anak Bukit

On 28 November 2014 at around 11pm, SSgt Fadli Shaifuddin, together with his partner SSgt Ashley Lau, were despatched to a road traffic accident

An Experience to Remember

By: SC/Sgt Harsha Ramachandran

Photographers: SC/Sgt Harsha Ramachandran and Siti Hawa



Anticipation and excitement filled the Home Team Academy (HTA) on 20 April 2016. 601 Police officers from Senior Officers Basic Course Squads C6/2015 and C7/2015, the 63rd Batch of Police National Service Officer Cadets and the 162nd Intake of Police National Service full-time trainees stood under the drill shed awaiting the sound of the drum to signal them to march onto the parade square. It was the moment that all of their training at HTA had led up to.

Two hours before the parade under Block One, the Senior Officers Basic Course Squads and the 63rd Batch of Police National Service Officer Cadets were presented with their Inspector ranks. With pride in their eyes, the families of the soon to be Inspectors affixed their sons' epaulettes onto their shoulders. Many of the parents shed tears of love and pride when they saw their sons in their full uniform. As they were standing in squad, the officers controlled their emotions and maintained their discipline until – the command was given to throw their peak caps up. The officers jumped with joy in celebration of how far they had come. However, they were not done yet.



Two hours after the rank fixing ceremony, NSPI Craig Lim Yew Wei from OCT 4 waits in suspense under the drill shed for the drum roll – the signal for him and the rest of the Guards of Honour to march out onto the parade square and begin the Passing Out Parade (POP). In that moment, he was reflecting on his training experience – about how fast it had gone by and the good and tough times he had shared with his squad mates. But more than that, he was looking forward to marching out in front of his parents, making them proud, and continuing on to serve his duty. What he experienced under the drill shed is unique to every Police officer. Only they can understand the excitement and suspense from a POP. Only they can understand what it means to march forward knowing that this is the beginning of their journey in serving their country in the Singapore Police Force. At the strike of the drum,

NSPI Lim and the rest of the Guards of Honour began their march out onto the parade square.

With the conclusion of the POP, the graduating officers retired to the drill shed to spend time with their families and friends, marking an end to their training. Watching the officers under the shed, I came to understand that there was a bond that united them all. I was witnessing a special moment that they were sharing – a unifying experience of finishing something great together. The shared experience of knowing that despite the fact that everyone will take a different path from this point on – they will always be connected to each other by ties forged in the crucible of training, culminating in their Passing Out Parade.





My View: I am a K9-Unit Dog

By: SC Darwisyah Daud

Photographer: SC/Sgt Harsha Ramachandran

My ears and nostrils twitch as I trot closer towards the unattended article, sensing something potentially hazardous. Unlike the bulky x-ray scanners that rely on technology to detect any firearms or narcotics, I rely on my natural strong sense of smell. I was bred and trained to be the elite of bodyguards; perpetrators are my sworn enemy. I am always ready to assist officers in their duties.

My menacing sharp teeth and stout furry physique instils fear in any potential criminals, while also giving officers my sharp vision and senses they need to spot suspects. So, perpetrators beware!

Unlike my domesticated counterparts at home, I am trained to assist officers in crowd control.

As terrorism is a major threat to society, I am deployed with my buddy when there are major events taking place. I am taught to smell and identify bombs and incendiary substances. When there is a report of an unattended suspicious item, I will be there to help my colleagues in determining the contents. Should I sense any explosive substances, I would alert my handler by sitting next to it.



The 11th Singapore Police Force and Royal Brunei Police Force Bilateral Meeting

By: Cpl Muhd Shahrnizam Bin Abdul Rashid

Photographer: Cpl Muhd Shahrnizam Bin Abdul Rashid



The 11th Singapore Police Force (SPF) and Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF) Bilateral Meeting was held on 6 April 2016 at the Police New Phoenix Park Headquarters (NPPK). The RBPF delegation was led by Commissioner Of Police (CP), Yang Mulia Dato Paduka Seri Haji Bahrin Bin Mohd Noor, who was accorded the Guard-of-Honour at NPPK's Ceremonial Plaza.



"The recently-concluded annual bilateral meeting with the RBPF is a testament to RBPF and SPF's commitment to maintain and further our bilateral relationship – to continually build trust and partnership, promote friendship and strengthen ties between the two Police Forces. This is in tandem to our vision to make friends with members of the international law enforcement community, build and strengthen relationships to prevent and fight transnational crimes."

*Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Police Chua Chee Wai,
Director
International Cooperation Department*

Promoting Safer Road Use at Ang Mo Kio

By: Home Team News

Photographer: Lee Zhen Huan

Standfirst: On 24 April 2016, more than 1,000 residents joined Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong for 'Safer Roads @ AMK Begin With Me!' held at Ang Mo Kio Avenue 5. The event aims to raise road safety awareness amongst vulnerable road users through educational games and activities.

The rainy weather failed to dampen the spirits of over 1,000 Ang Mo Kio (AMK) residents who joined Guest-of-Honour, Prime Minister (PM) Lee Hsien Loong, at the Cheng San-Seletar 'Safer Roads @ AMK Begin With Me!' event on 24 April 2016.

Held at Ang Mo Kio Avenue 5, the event aims to raise road safety awareness amongst vulnerable groups of road users through educational road safety games and activities. The event also provides a platform to promote social cohesion between Ang Mo Kio residents.

"This is the second year that we have been running this event. Today, the Traffic Police, Singapore Road Safety Council (SRSC) and other agencies participate in this effort to enable children and seniors to understand and appreciate the value of road safety," said Member of Parliament for Ang Mo Kio GRC, Mr Ang Hin Kee.

Highlights of the event include 'Road Circuit Game' set up by the Traffic Police, Art Activities and a Road Safety Talk for the children of PAP Community Foundation (PCF) Sparkletots Preschool. Residents were also able to view exhibition panels set up by the SRSC on the topic of safer roads.

Mr Ang noted that the 'Road Circuit Game' has already been running for over four years. The programme was set-up for PCF Sparkletots Preschool to simulate actual roads.

"We run this programme for kindergarten kids on a regular basis so that they learn how to cross roads safely. Hopefully, the children can even bring these messages to adults who have forgotten how to drive safe, ride safe and walk safe," said Mr Ang.

The event also marked the launch of the National Crime Prevention Council's (NCPC) Anti-Scams Lift Decal. A joint effort by the Singapore Police Force (SPF) and the NCPC, this initiative aims to provide a daily reminder for residents to be vigilant against online scams.

Commander for Ang Mo Kio Police Division, Deputy Assistant Commissioner (DAC) Lian Ghim Hua, noted that there has been a rise in cybercrime since 2013.

Last year, more than \$17 million was lost through a variety of scams, including credit-for-sex scams, internet love scams and cheating involving e-commerce.



"Members of the public need to take precautions to guard against becoming victims of scams. When it comes to online transactions, only do so with people you trust. If a deal appears to be too good to be true, then it probably is," DAC Lian warned.

Besides education, DAC Lian noted that the police has also stepped up its enforcement efforts against scams.

Last week, the police conducted a three-day operation and arrested 72 persons for suspected involvement in online scams.

"The police will continue with our twin strategy of education and enforcement to tackle the rising threat of scams," DAC Lian stressed.



Intelligence Sharing is Vital in Global War Against Crime

Reproduction from: *Police Life* April 1994

The globalisation of national economies in the world today has spawned a parallel growth in international cooperation among criminals. To combat this trend it is crucial for police forces of the world to exchange intelligence for mutual benefit.

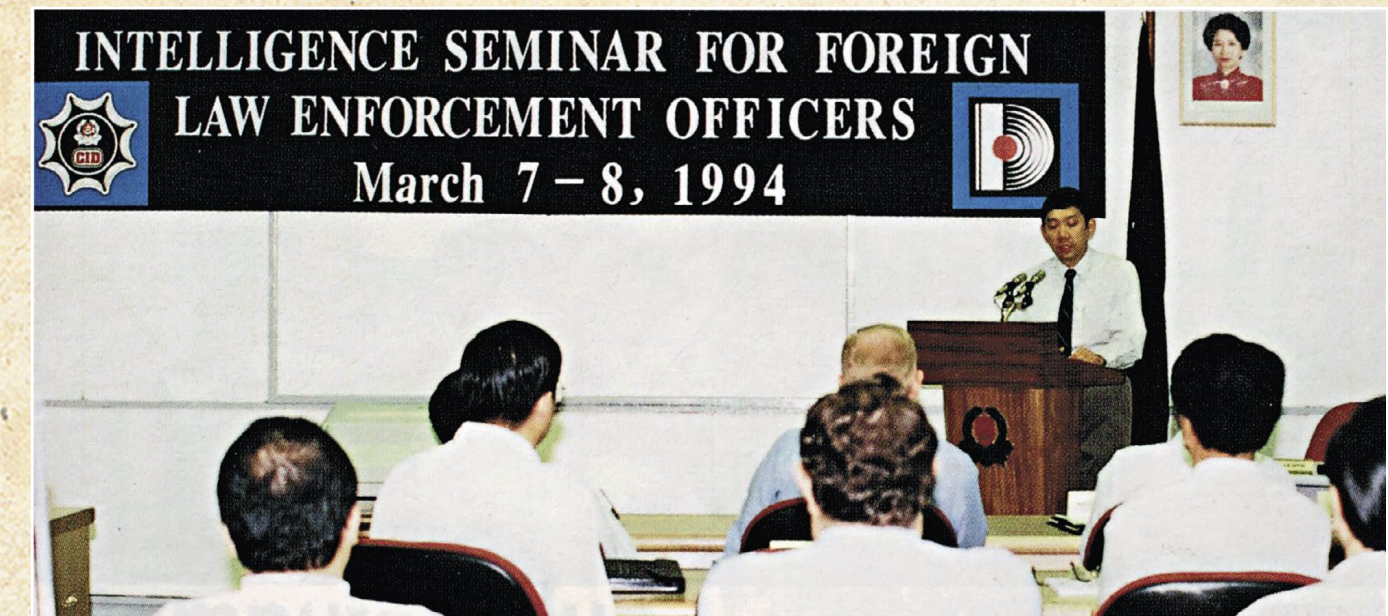
This was stressed by Mr Khoo Boon Hui, Director of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), at the opening of the two-day *Intelligence Seminar* on Alien Smuggling and Organised Crime Activities held on 7 and 8 March (1994). He spoke at the opening of the seminar which was organized by the Intelligence Division to encourage and facilitate such inter-force cooperation in future. Participants included intelligence officers from abroad including Australia, Canada, France and the United States.

Many factors have caused global crime to surge. Liberalisation of travel and the development of free market of economies in former and current communist countries continue while racial and religious conflicts rage in other parts of the world. This has resulted in a greater movement of peoples in search of better opportunities.

Those who want to travel abroad but do not have bona fide documents make easy target for crime syndicates. To perpetrate their unlawful business, these syndicates work closely with local groups in many areas of crime.

Mr Khoo said: "This is most clearly seen in alien smuggling activities where syndicates arranging for travel from one country to another have found it necessary to have support mechanisms to help them in countries of transit as well as the final destination."

On the first day of the seminar, participants learned about the crime situation in Singapore and the specific concerns of the Singapore Police Force. After analyzing crime trends in recent years, our Intelligence Division has determined that crimes committed by juveniles and foreigners along with white-collar crimes will be the main areas of concern for the next few years.



Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Wong Choong Mann, Officer Commanding, Secret Society Branch, captivated his audience with a presentation on the origins of the triad society in China in the 1700s and its relation to secret society activities that were rampant during the 1950s and 1960s.

Originally, the society aimed to topple the Qing Dynasty and restore the Ming Dynasty to power. The fall of Qing Dynasty in 1911 led to the degeneration of the society into gangs engaged to various crimes like collecting protection fees, smuggling contraband and firearms and drug trafficking. Singapore contained the threat by enacting and enforcing tough legislation such as the *Criminal Law Temporary Provisions Acts*.

Presentations by the foreign participants gave insights into the state of crime in their respective countries. Mr Serge Leteur, Police Attaché of the French Embassy, spoke on how organized crime in Europe in the form of Mafia and other such group began. Buoyed by the opening of the Russian economy in the recent years, underground networks have flourished and linked up with mainstream groups. International cooperation in the fight against crime is now even more imperative.

For many, the seminar proved to be quite an eye-opener. With this encouraging feedback, there are plans to invite more countries to attend in the future.





ICA Coastal Command Hands Over Anti-Smuggling Team to Police Coast Guard

By: Home Team News

Photographer: SC/Sgt Harsha Ramachandran

A ceremony was held at the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) Coastal Command Headquarters on 1 April 2016 to commemorate the handing over of the Anti-Smuggling Team (AST) to the Police Coast Guard (PCG) to enhance the security of Singapore's borders.

With effect from 1 April 2016, the Police Coast Guard (PCG) will take over the functions of the Anti-Smuggling Team (AST) from the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA).

The AST was the enforcement arm of the ICA Coastal Command. It plays an integral role in the prevention, deterrence and detection of smuggling activities at sea. Through this handover, the PCG hopes to achieve a more effective command and control in keeping Singapore's waters safe and secure.

The transfer of AST functions to the PCG is a major milestone in furthering the goals of the Integrated Checkpoints Command (ICC) Sea Domain. The ICC was established under the Ministry of Home Affairs to streamline processes and achieve greater synergy across border security operations through clearer lines of authority.

Operationalised on 1 April 2015, the ICC Sea Domain sees various Home Team agencies perform operations at 18 land-based sea checkpoints. Under this, the ICA Coastal Command works closely with the PCG to tighten Singapore's borders and enhance maritime security.

To commemorate the transfer of functions of the AST, a handing over ceremony was held at the ICA Coastal Command Headquarters on the morning of 1 April 2016. The event was attended by ICA Coastal Commander, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Ernest Soo, and PCG Commander, Senior Assistant Commissioner Hsu Sin Yun.



Also present were Guests-of-Honour (GOHs) SPF Deputy Commissioner (Policy) Mr Lim Kok Thai and ICA Deputy Commissioner (Ops) Mr Aw Kum Cheong. Members from other maritime security agencies such as the Singapore Civil Defence Force Marine Command, Central Narcotics Bureau, Maritime Security Task Force (MSTF) and Singapore Customs also attended the ceremony.

As a symbolic gesture, AC Soo presented SAC Hsu with a model AST boat and a framed collection of the tools of trade. Commissioned in 2014, the AST boats are specifically designed by the ICA for use in Singapore's waters. It is operated by six crew members and can achieve a top speed in excess of 35 knots (64.8 kilometres per hour).

The day's ceremony saw the return of an AST boat after it had finished its routine night patrols. Upon its arrival at the jetty, the outgoing six-member ICA Coastal Command crew handed the boat over to the PCG, hence officially transferring its AST duties.

The transition was also marked by the presentation of the boat's ensign to SAC Hsu, who passed it on to a PCG AST officer to hoist on the AST boat. The ceremony ended with a sail pass.

"Today marks a significant milestone for PCG in taking over the AST function from ICA Coastal Command, together with 5 AST boats. This will result in clearer lines of authority at the sea domain, and will bring about more effective and coordinated response towards seaward threats. All in all, it will strengthen PCG's capabilities to keep our waters safe and secure," SAC Hsu said.

Commanding with Fitness

By: SC/Sgt Harsha Ramachandran

Photographer: SC/Sgt Harsha Ramachandran

As part of our new healthy lifestyle initiative, Police Life has been on the lookout for officers who have excelled in their operational fitness. There is no better candidate than Company Commander Echo Coy, National Service Probationary Inspector (NSPI) Angus Buttar Williams who achieved a stunning 100 points on all of his Individual Physical Proficiency Test (IPPT). We caught up with him to understand what pushes him to maintain such high standards.



Angus's IPPT score

2.4km: 8 Minutes 22 Seconds

Push-ups : 60

Sit-ups : 60



Fitness as a driving force

Fitness has played a huge role in NSPI Buttar's National Service (NS) experience, all the way from his Police Officers Basic training course where he was awarded the prestigious Best Trainee Award to his current vocation as Company Commander where he maintains a high standard of fitness to inspire his trainees. It is the thread that has united his NS experiences so far. This is no accident. Angus shared with us that he made a deliberate effort to make fitness an important part of NS. He often spent his rest time during his training racking up mileage at the Home Team Academy track. Now, he runs four times a week and spends an hour every day in the gym honing his skills. Consistently pushing his limits is what brought him to where he is today.

Rising to the challenge

NSPI Buttar shared that his biggest motivation was and is National Service Inspector (NSI) Samuel Lee, his company commander during training. NSI Lee set the 158th Police National Service intake a challenge to beat his IPPT score of 99 points. "He was a huge source of inspiration for me throughout my Basic Training period so quite naturally I took on his challenge" NSPI Buttar explained. His motivation was complemented by the competitive edge he developed from regularly playing football and his ambition to get the most out of NS.

"I made a decision early in my National Service that I was going to take every opportunity I could to improve myself and reach my maximum potential. The challenge that fitness presented just helped me to stay true to that decision."

Leading by Example

As a Company Commander, it is NSPI Buttar's duty to maintain the discipline of 577 trainees. Although he is not directly responsible for their fitness, he still does his best to be involved. He shared with us that whenever possible, he often runs with his trainees during their Physical Training sessions. "I feel it is very important to lead by example... When I was a trainee, one of the things that motivated me the most was seeing my own Company Commander maintaining such a high standard of fitness," he shared. When asked about how he would advise other officers looking to improve their IPPT scores, NSPI Buttar's main piece of advice was "there is no better time than now".



One of Us

Photographer: Cpl Muhd Shahrunnizam Bin Abdul Rashid

Hi, I am...

Staff Sergeant Md Hakim Bin Ariffin. I have been in the Force for the past six years and am currently attached to the Community Policing Unit (CPU) in Tampines Neighbourhood Police Centre.

Where do you go for your breaks during off days?

Since I enrolled in a fight club gymnasium late last year, I spent most of my time working-out and learning self-defence techniques. I punch and kick “punching bags” on weekdays and hang out with friends and families during the weekends.

Advice for other CPU officers?

As a CPU officer, we work closely with members of public, families and neighbours who require our assistance. Our cases tend to be more personal. Thus, when assisting families that are falling apart, we need to be conscious and sensitive of our approach so as not to worsen the situation.

Item that motivates you at work?

The bag of sweets that my team leader stores in the bottom drawer of his desk. Though it is amusing when he thinks that we are oblivious to the fact that he replenishes the sweets, I am grateful to have a team leader who makes the effort to motivate us!

Weirdest misconception on police?

All Police officers love eating doughnuts!

I believe that...

Fairy tales are more than true, not because they tell us that dragons exist but because they tell us that dragons can be defeated. Although fairy tales are perceived to be unrealistic, they do teach us valuable life lessons.

