

**POLICE
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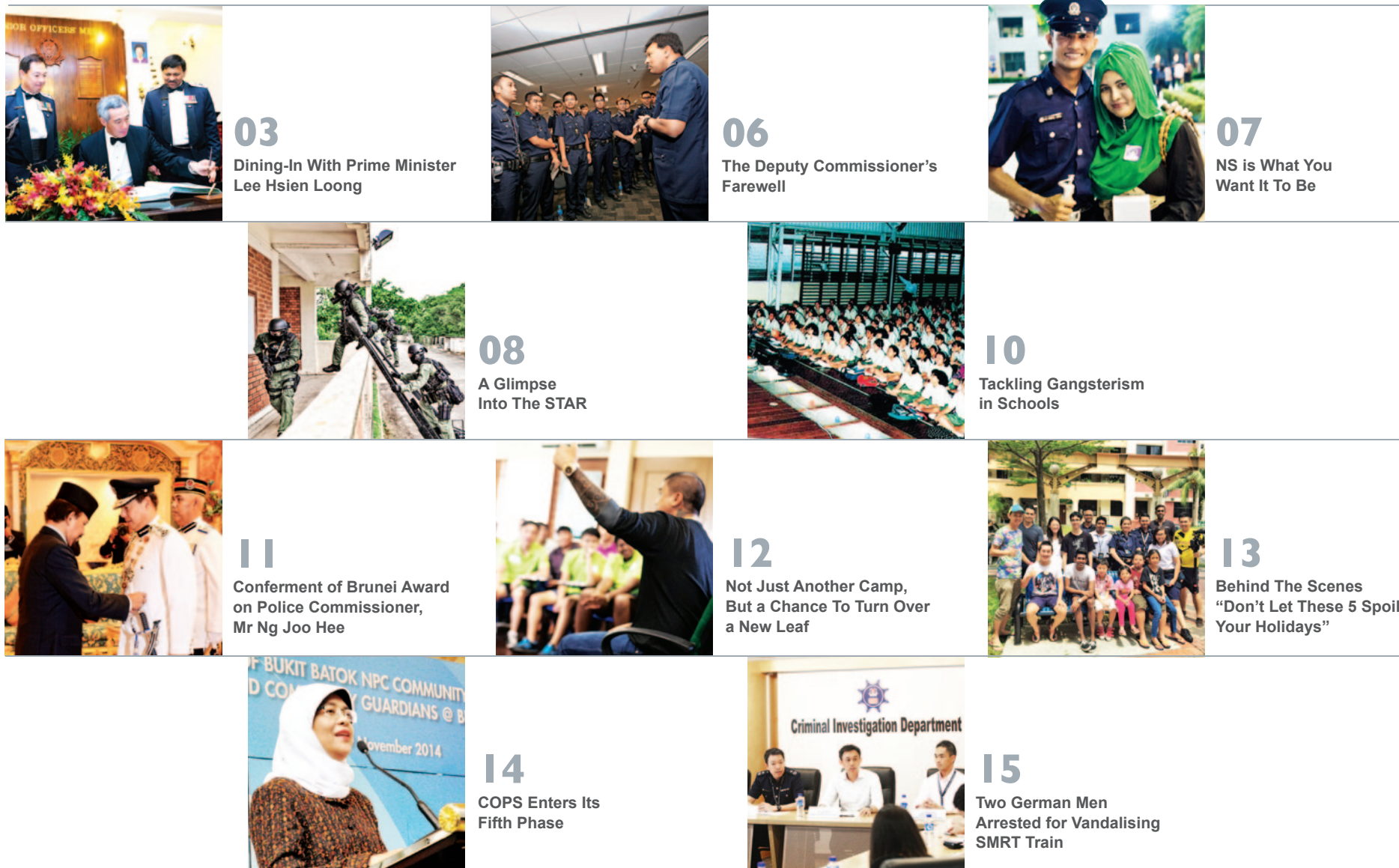
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Happy 2015 to all our *Police Life* readers! How did you usher in the new year? With close friends and family in private celebrations? Loudly with the masses in the various countdowns held all over Singapore? Or were you one of the diligent souls working to ensure everyone crossed safely into 2015?

I hope everyone had time to contemplate the past year. In this issue, we will cover some milestones that were over the year, from the rollout of COPS at eight more Neighbourhood Police Centres, to the farewell message from the ex-Deputy Commissioner of Police (Policy) T. Raja Kumar. 2015 will be an eventful one for the Singapore Police Force (SPF), from the change of leadership for the SPF, to the various security operations amidst the SG50 celebrations. With so many happenings, do stay tuned to *Police Life*, as we bring you the stories from our officers and the Force, as we continue to uphold the SPF's mission to prevent, deter and detect crime.

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DINING-IN WITH PRIME MINISTER LEE HSIEN LOONG

By Supt Tey Siew Choo
Messcall

The Singapore Police Force (SPF) was honoured to host the Prime Minister (PM), Mr Lee Hsien Loong at the Senior Police Officers' Mess (SPOM) for the first time in 2014.

On 25 November 2014, Commissioner of Police (CP) Ng Joo Hee hosted a Dining-In held in honour of PM Lee. Before proceeding to mingle with the guests, PM Lee signed the SPOM Visitors' Book at the Ante Hall. He was also briefed on the redevelopment plan which aims to preserve SPOM's heritage.

Among the 105 guests present were the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs (MHA) Mr Teo Chee Hean, Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs Mr Tan Tee How, Senior Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs Mr Khoo Boon Hui, Heads of Departments from the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority,

Singapore Civil Defence Force, Casino Regulatory Authority and retired officers. The SPF Combined Band wowed the guests with a fabulous performance after dinner.

In PM Lee's speech before the commencement of the dinner, he paid tribute to the police officers for their hard work. He reminded all to treasure and maintain the trust which the police force has built with the population as it has played an important role in Singapore's low crime rate. PM Lee also underlined the government's commitment to invest in technology to increase policing efficiency in this present dynamic environment.



TRANSCRIPT OF PRIME MINISTER LEE HSIEN LOONG'S SPEECH AT

THE POLICE DINING-IN ON 25 NOVEMBER 2014



**Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean
Commissioner of Police Mr Ng Joo Hee
Men and Women in Blue**

I am very honoured to be invited to the Police Dining-in and I am with you here at the dining-in for the first time. I would like to pay tribute to the officers and the men and women in blue for your professionalism, for your dedication, and your achievements, because you play a critical role in keeping our homefront safe and secure.

Your role is different from the SAF. The SAF trains every day to prepare for war but I hope they will never have to go to war. Yours is a 24/7 live operation, where every day, something can happen, every day something does happen.

You are often confronted with situations where you have to make a call, and the call could mean the difference between life and death. One of the things that distinguish Singapore from other countries, whether developing or developed, is our safety and security.

As you heard from the Commissioner, our crime rates are low, our people feel safe, parents allow children to go out at night and come home late by themselves. Tourists and visitors feel safe too, and I have often heard people remark on how they find this is such a safe environment, and with minimal visible policing. They look out the window late at night; they are jet-lagged and go for a jog. Even the ladies are game to go for a jog, they feel safe.

Businesses don't have to pay off protection rackets and can trust the law to be consistently and fairly enforced. Our people, because there is this norm set, are genuinely honest and helpful. In fact some say Singapore is one of the few places in the world where you can leave your bag to "chope" a seat at the hawker centre. I think as professionals in blue, you would not encourage this, but it shows a certain confidence in the environment.

This record of safety depends on having an outstanding Home Team and Police Force, supported by a population that trusts and cooperates with the Home Team. Operating in a system of law and order that is effective, fair and just.

This is a remarkable and precious state of affairs. If you look at the troubles in other countries, in US states – Cleveland, Ohio, a 12 year-old boy gets shot, there is going to be a lot of trouble. Ferguson, Missouri – a young man was shot, grand jury says no case to answer. Today the place is in flames. Black population and white policemen, the jury has nine white and three black members – they said the policemen had nothing to answer. Even in London, especially the non-white parts of London, relations between the police and the residents are fraught.

Never mind the difficulties in the developing world where you cannot always tell whether the police are part of the solution or part of the problem. So we must never take our achievement for granted, but we must continuously strive to maintain and build on what we have achieved.

Overall, it is fair to say that we have an outstanding Home Team and Police Force – well-trained, disciplined, honest and not corrupt. Able to deal with tough situations and crack difficult cases. Whether it is dealing with the Little India riot last December, with courage and collected presence of mind, bringing the riot under control without serious injury or loss of life, and without firing a single bullet.

Solving a kidnap case in January, within 12 hours – safely rescuing the 79-year-old victim, arresting the two kidnappers, and recovering the ransom money. Working across borders and cooperating with the Malaysian police. Or whether it is tracking down vandals – most recently, the two German tourists who vandalised an SMRT train in Bishan Depot and left Singapore, thinking that they had evaded arrest. But the long arm of the law has very long arms, and we brought them back.

One important success factor is that you enjoy the active cooperation and support of our population. People often volunteer information and provide leads, and help to solve crimes. Taxi drivers report suspicious activity, neighbours report suspicious people who loiter around and members of the public are willing to step up to help when they see a crime. Not always, but quite often.

In September, five Ang Mo Kio residents helped chase down a suspected molester – they heard the victim's cries for help, chased the man down, detained him and handed him over to the Police.

More recently, in the Raffles Place armed robbery and stabbing, two bystanders pinned down the attacker before the police came, and others helped the victim to stop his bleeding. So you succeed with the help of the public, but the help from the public does not take away from your achievement in fighting crime. It reflects the public's trust in you, in your uniform, and their confidence that you are on their side.

While you have done well, you cannot afford to be complacent. This year has not been without lapses for the Home Team. We have had several embarrassing cases of border security breaches, we have had some shortcomings exposed in the Little India Riot, e.g. in communications capabilities, sensor networks, force size, even though overall the riot was well handled. We will remedy all these flaws because we – both the government and the public – have high expectations of the Home Team and the Police Force.

High expectations because our safety and security is paramount, so when things don't measure up, we will tighten up, improve and put things right. We have to do what is necessary, however awkward or painful it may be. That is the responsibility of the commanders and the responsibility of the political leaders.

We have to take these lapses seriously, learn from them and resolve to do better. But we will be fair and objective – Protect you from populist agitation and scapegoating. We will do what we judge necessary, no more, no less.

I think Singaporeans know and appreciate that we have a high quality Home Team. It showed two nights ago at the National Day Investiture, where the Home Team first responders who received Commendation Medals for their role in the Little India Riots, when we brought them up with a special citation, they had the loudest cheers from the crowd.

Our security challenges have changed over the years, and will continue to change. Back in the 50s, 60s, 70s, we were dealing with racial riots, labour unrest, strikes, communist insurgency, secret society activities and rampant crime. The young ones in Singapore may not remember or may not even know, but Lorong Tai Seng was well known and Toa Payoh had quite a reputation too. The Police rose up to the challenge, and brought the situation well under control.

Today, new challenges have emerged; crime has become more trans-national and sophisticated. The prevalent types of crime are changing, we have



cyber-crime, white-collar financial crimes, we have very sophisticated multinational money lending, loansharking operations.

Terrorism has become a serious concern, not just because of ISIS in the Middle East; it is a problem in our region in the countries next to us. We also face non-traditional security problems, such as the spread of infectious diseases such as new forms of flu or Ebola, which is a medical problem, and a public health problem, and can become a public order problem very easily.

Within Singapore, you not only have to police among the local population, but also much more demandingly, police and maintain order among a large foreign worker population. And get their cooperation and figure out what is going on and maintain order and prevent any riot or disturbance from breaking out and spreading.

Also, you are often requested to intervene in more ambiguous situations, where it is difficult to determine who is right and who is wrong, such as in online harassment cases, conflicts between neighbours or bad road behaviour. You not only have to be the policemen in enforcing the law, you have to be 'Justice Bao' that is wise and judicious.



These are major challenges and the Home Team has to gear up and be ready for them. Home Team agencies will have to work closely together as One Home Team, and cooperate with other agencies outside the Home Team in order to achieve your mission.

We will support you to do this, we will give you the best training, we will build you up in terms of force size, capabilities, the equipment you need. So for example we are doubling the size of the Special Operations Command.

We will increase the overall size of the force too, although it will not be easy to recruit more officers of the right quality and commitment especially in a tight labour market. We will invest in capabilities, in systems and technology, to make each officer more effective, whether on the ground patrolling, but connected to a network and resources of the force, or in the command echelons making sense of the information gathered, deciding the response and coordinating the action to be taken in order to deal with this situation.

We should be doing much more using technology, whether it be video cameras in public places, wearable cameras for officers on patrol, mobile

devices so you have data at your fingertips, or information networks and C3I (Command Control Communications Intelligence) systems to help commanders allocate resources and make better decisions. We are creating a Smart Nation, and the Home Team must be fully into this too, benefitting from the network which we are building but also contributing to make this a Smart Nation.

We will back you up, but we expect from you the highest standards of integrity, commitment and professionalism. You must uphold the values and traditions that have made the Force into a national institution; you have to imbue these values in all ranks, leading by example.

And when you put on the blue uniform, remember that you are dedicating yourself to keeping Singapore safe and secure, that you are carrying the trust of Singaporeans and creating the conditions for Singapore to flourish and for Singaporeans to live safe and fulfilling lives.

So I thank you once again for your sacrifices and services to the country and long may the Singapore Police Force bring honour and success to Singapore, thank you very much.



THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S FAREWELL



On 1 January 2015, Mr T. Raja Kumar relinquished his post as Deputy Commissioner (Policy). As we bid a fond farewell to him, the following is his message to all officers.

Dear SPF colleagues,

As I write this message, I reflect on my own police career, and on our SPF. It has been 30 years of serving an organisation that I deeply believe in and I have enjoyed an immensely fulfilling career, rich in experiences and opportunities.

I joined the SPF in 1985, having graduated from NUS Law School. When the PSC interviewed me post-graduation, they asked me if I would be prepared to serve in the SPF and I unhesitatingly said 'yes'. Why? I shared that I was keen to see the Law in action, which a career in the police would enable me to, and I wanted to serve in an organisation with a noble purpose. My father had by then retired from the SPF, but I saw how he had made a difference to those around him, and how rich the SPF was in its traditions and camaraderie and I was inspired to join. And the rest is history. I will always be grateful to the SPF and to those leaders I served under who taught and nurtured me, and gave me opportunities along the way. My bosses will tell you that I never said 'no' when assigned any task – though difficult and challenging and daunting. It was because I saw each task as an opportunity to learn and grow, and make a significant difference to the SPF.

Even before I come on board as a regular, I served out the remainder of my NS stint in the SPF with Jurong Police Division, under the able Commandership of then Supt. Jarmal Singh. This is where I cut my teeth as a cop. I have fond memories of joining FRC crews as a third man and taking part in construction site raids and operations. I made it a point to accompany the duty team on Section 3 (11 p.m. to 8 a.m. shift) duties because I wanted to know what challenges our officers experienced. And I grew to deeply respect our ground officers doing a solid job out there on the streets. Till today, I vividly recall my time in an FRC with then-Sergeants Sabaran and Abdul Rani from Team D of J Division. I was also fortunate that

carrying support out of the blue from my eldest son's former primary school teacher! Many came forward to support the SPF and this validation should strengthen us and spur us on to persevere – especially in the face of strong headwinds.

At the end of the day, the SPF is strong because of its people. We have sufficient good leaders and supervisors to lead the organisation forward and get the job done professionally. I have had the privilege of working with some very fine leaders, not just my supervisors, but also my peers and subordinates, who taught me positive leadership lessons – both directly and indirectly through their personal example of walking the talk. Equally powerful have been those police leaders who have been showed up for their gross failings, leading to stellar examples of what not to do.

As I gaze ahead to the future, what is crucial is our willingness to learn in a rapidly changing environment, characterised by volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity. Such an environment requires, even demands, that we keep on learning and evolving, equipping us to succeed.

As your Deputy Commissioner, I have worked with the various staff and operational units to move the Force forward as an organisation – enhancing our capabilities, tightening governance and very importantly in our people management and development. I am delighted to have been a part of the team that drove the COPS conceptualisation and implementation, and in the development of several masterplans that will propel the SPF forward – including the CSI3 Masterplan, the PCG Masterplan, and the Public Order Masterplan. The SPF now has a far more robust planning process looking 5 years ahead. In the area of internal corporate governance, we have made major strides forward to tighten our systems and processes for procurement and contract management, and in risk assessment and management. On the people management and development front, our Manpower Department has worked very hard to see through the salary revision, SPF CARE initiative, and open posting initiative amongst others. And we have to continue to press on to bring on board even more capabilities to enable us to stay at least abreast, if not ahead, of the rapid changes that are taking place around us.

Whilst we can buy hardware and software, new gadgets and capabilities, what is crucial is our people. An organisation is all about its people and as leaders we must do our level best to care for our people and help them on their personal and professional journeys – to be better police officers and individuals. I hope that I have helped my officers along with my guidance and advice. Those who have worked closely with me know that I expect my people to do their best and have a positive learning attitude. And I make it a point to try to learn every single day. We must – to stay relevant and to make the best possible decisions in a volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous world.

Let me conclude by sharing that I am proud to be a policeman and I will always take pride in the Force. This pride will continue to shine bright as I take on my new role as Deputy Secretary/International. I remain a proud police man standing for all the force stands for – strong fundamental values of Courage, Loyalty, Integrity and Fairness, a strong highly resilient team which does amazing work day in day out 24/7, undertaking honest and very meaningful work, and taking pride in keeping our Singapore safe and secure.

I look forward to the SPF forging ahead to even greater heights, for the betterment of Singapore and our own officers!

Best wishes,
DC Raja

VOICES FROM THE BLUE

NS IS WHAT YOU WANT IT TO BE

By Muhammad Farhansyah Bin Musa
Home Team News

Failure might be a hurdle to one's progress but that did not stop Special Constabulary (SC) Muhammad Nabyll Iqbal from wanting to achieve excellence during his National Service (NS). SC Nabyll shared how his past failures have motivated him to change.

“Do not give up and do not stop striving for the things you want in life... (So that) in the future, you could tell people that you lived your life with no regrets,” said 20-year-old Special Constabulary (SC) Muhammad Nabyll Iqbal.

SC Nabyll graduated from the 156th intake of Full-time Police National Service Force, achieving the Statuette Award on 20 November 2014 at the Home Team Academy. The Statuette Award is an award that is presented to the overall Best Trainee during their training period.

Though he faced difficulties at the beginning of his National Service—such as being mentally unprepared and physically unfit—SC Nabyll overcame them all with the help of his peers and trainers.

“They motivated me to do the best of my abilities. I know that I have failed once in my life, which is in academics... I don't want that to happen again,” he said.

When asked how he felt about receiving the Statuette Award, he said that he was proud of his achievement and was happy that his family felt the same way too.

“I wanted to achieve something in (my training) before I pass out,” said the 20-year-old, adding that the trophy was merely a bonus for him as what he truly wanted was to build his character.

His mother, Mdm Radziah Yusoppe was proud and happy to see how much her son has grown in NS.

When asked about how she felt when her son had to go through NS, she said: “I was sad and happy at the same time. I was sad that I would not be able to see my son as frequently as I did before. However, I am happy as my son was finally growing up to be a man (chuckle).”

SC Nabyll's advice to future individuals who are going to enlist into NS is this: “(Do not) waste your time here while in NS. Just know that NS is what you want it to be. If you take it positively, NS would be a fun and great experience.”



A GLIMPSE INTO THE STAR

By SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue



The responsibilities of STAR Unit are to subdue armed and dangerous criminals and rescue hostages in perilous situations.

Deafening explosions ripped through the air. The ground shook. Glass shattered and plumes of smoke began filling the air as the window to a room was blasted open. The surprise assault stunned a group of unsuspecting men who were holding civilians as hostages. In the ensuing chaos, a team of officers in green fatigues and black ballistic vests swooped down from the rooftop into the room through the breached window. Two assault vehicles simultaneously raced to the scene to deploy ladders for a team of officers to storm another room located at the upper level of the building.

Inside the rooms, following a series of rapid flashes and loud bangs, we could see silhouettes of human figures moving swiftly through a thick grey fog. Shots were fired as we heard shouts of "Stay down! Stay down!" In a matter of seconds, the situation was



under control. Innocent civilians were escorted safely out of the building while the perpetrators of the hostage situation were quickly apprehended.

Despite it being just a simulation exercise, the Special Tactics and Rescue (STAR) Unit had demonstrated their capability to resolve a hostage situation. This exercise also marked the graduation of their STAR Main Course trainees, a high point for the trainees after eight months of arduous training that had stretched their physical and mental capacity to the limits.

Stringent Selection

STAR Unit was primarily formed to conduct hostage rescue and high-risk tactical operations. Since then, its roles and capabilities have evolved significantly to deal with the ever-increasing threat and growing sophistication of criminals. However, the requirements to join the unit remain the same: Only individuals with strong physical and mental fortitude should attempt to join the unit. Even then, only

a handful of those who had applied will eventually be qualified to join the elite STAR Unit.

Voices Behind the Glamour

Corporal Min (not his real name) who joined the STAR Unit after serving his National Service in the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) shared briefly, "Every new day was a surprise – we never knew what tests or trainings were scheduled or would be in store for us. We had to mentally prepare ourselves for any possibility each day".

Sergeant Tang (not his real name), who was also recently commissioned as a STAR officer, was asked how he felt after finally becoming a member of the STAR unit. He said, "When we place our finger on the trigger, we are fully aware that we could take someone's life once we pull the trigger. It is definitely a heavy responsibility and not 'Hollywood and games' when we are equipped and entrusted with such deadly arsenal. We take pride in being part of a unit that has been involved in neutralising armed and dangerous criminals since its inception."



HERITAGE

TACKLING GANGSTERISM IN SCHOOLS

Reproduced from
Police Life 1993

The Secret Societies Branch (SSB) of CID is responsible for the control and suppression of secret society activities in Singapore. Gangsterism and the involvement of students in secret society activities although not alarming, is a police concern and must be correctly addressed. The problem-solving approach adopted by SSB in dealing with gangsterism in schools involves the following four stages.



The Secret Societies Branch (SSB) of CID is responsible for the control and suppression of secret society activities in Singapore. Gangsterism and the involvement of students in secret society activities, although not alarming, is a police concern and must be correctly addressed. The problem-solving approach adopted by SSB in dealing with gangsterism in schools involves the following four stages.

Identifying the Problem

SSB deployed teams of detectives to visit schools and gather intelligence through informal discussions with the authorities and students. The aim was to identify where these groups of students displaying characteristics of gangsterism were operating and their involvement in secret society activities.

Analysing the Causes

Next we examined the causes behind gangsterism in schools. We discovered that some students became

gang members due to the influence and recruitment efforts by fellow students who were themselves already involved in gang activities. These students had low self-esteem and were often performing poorly in class. Parents were either too busy at work or displayed little interest in supervising and communicating with their children. These students soon became targets which gang members exploited by providing a false sense of companionship and protection.

Providing Solutions

In early 1988, as a pre-emptive move, SSB began to train a small team of detectives to deliver talks-cum slideshows in schools to educate students on the evils of gangsterism and the serious consequences involved. Between January and September 1993 alone, over 53,000 students from 69 schools have attended these talks which have proved very successful.

Through our efforts to reach out to this group of students, we have found that teachers and parents serve as a useful link between SSB and the students. We encourage parents to accompany their children to attend counselling sessions provided by various agencies affiliated to the National Council of Social Service (NCSS). In addition, these students are encouraged to take an interest in healthy extra-curricular activities to help regain their self-esteem and their interest in studies. SSB officers also arrange for a visit to Changi Prison to highlight the harsh reality of prison life as part of a package to assist them in their rehabilitation.

In the long run, SSB will solicit the help of various social service agencies under the NCSS to serve as intermediaries in schools to assist us by providing professional help to students found to be involved in secret society activities. Useful activities and workshops can also be arranged and co-ordinated by the agencies to enable these active youths to spend their leisure hours engaged in productive work and in so doing, provide them with correct guidance and a renewed sense of belonging.

Assessment

Since the commencement of the prison visits in May 1992, a total of 773 youths participated in the programme of which 600 were students. All but 3 of the 773 youths have since stayed away from secret society activities. SSB will continue working closely with school authorities and social agencies to further suppress gangsterism in schools.



CONFIRMMENT OF BRUNEI AWARD

ON POLICE COMMISSIONER, MR NG JOO HEE

International Cooperation Department



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam conferring the Darjah Pahlawan Negara Brunei Yang Amat Perkasa Darjah Pertama (PSPNB) or The Most Gallant Order of Pahlawan Negara Brunei Darussalam which carries the title of 'Dato Seri Pahlawan' to CP Ng Joo Hee at the Istana Nurul Iman.

Mr Ng Joo Hee, Commissioner of the Singapore Police Force (SPF), was conferred the award of Darjah Pahlawan Negara Brunei Darussalam Yang Amat Perkasa by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam on 4 December 2014 at the Istana Nurul Iman, Negara Brunei Darussalam.

Commissioner Ng was appointed Commissioner of Police on 1 February 2010. Since his appointment, Commissioner Ng had actively fostered closer and stronger relations between the SPF and the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF). In recognition of his continued commitment to enhancing cooperation and fostering close ties between the two police forces in the fight against crime, the Government of Brunei conferred the award of Darjah Pahlawan Negara Brunei Darussalam Yang Amat Perkasa on Commissioner Ng.

The award, translated as "The Most Gallant Order of Pahlawan Negara Brunei Darussalam", comes with the title of 'Dato Seri Pahlawan'.

Both the SPF and the RBPF enjoy an excellent relationship with close cooperation in the areas of investigations, information sharing, capacity building as well as training exchanges. These collaborations have yielded significant operational benefits for both forces in combating transnational crime.

Said Commissioner Ng, "I am honoured to receive this award on behalf of the men and women of the Singapore Police Force. The award is a testimony to the strong working ties and friendship that we enjoy between our two forces, and we will continue to work closely with the RBPF in our joint fight against crime and wrong-doing".

NOT JUST ANOTHER CAMP, BUT A CHANCE TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF

By SC Mok Wen Jie

“(Joining) Gangs and (taking) drugs are like becoming animals... we lose the ability to think freely for ourselves.” This is the grave message that a former gang member shared with the youths participating in Camp Ace.

Organised by the Criminal Investigation Department's Secret Societies Branch (SSB), Camp Ace is aimed at diverting at-risk youths from gangs through outdoor activities and talks by former gang members.

Meant to complement the Streetwise Programme (SWP) run by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Family Development, youths from the SWP are invited to participate in Camp Ace. An average of 35 youths aged between 14 and 19 years old take part annually. Some of the participants are youth gang members, some with criminal records.



SC/Cpl Isaac Chu Weng Yip

Building Positive Bonds, Understanding the danger of Gangs

Held at Pulau Ubin this year, the one and a half day camp saw the participants bonding through outdoor field activities on the first day, while the second half day was spent on group discussions and class sessions with ex-gang members.

One of the discussions held saw the youths splitting into groups to discuss why youths join gangs. The list of reasons the youths described ranged from a desire for money or power, to be seen as more attractive to members of the opposite sex, to peer pressure, for a sense of belonging and even boredom.

Former gang members, who were present during the discussions, shared with the youths their personal experiences about the dangers of gangs. One ex-gang member shared about how he regretted the time he spent as a gang member, his attempts to make up for past errors, as he showed his tattoos to the youths, a permanent reminder of his past.

At the end, he posed a question for the youths: “A gang is just a group of people who come together. So why join a gang? Why not join a club or society to do something productive?”

“The main purpose of this camp is to instill in them discipline and character building; to share with them through role models that they can control their own lives by not being in gangs; and, to reinforce our message of being crime free and stay away from gangs.”

Superintendent of Police (Supt) Bernard Wee
Head Secret Societies Branch,
Criminal Investigation Department

A Positive Change

Since it is a voluntary camp, it is considered a good sign for the youths to come forward. “It means that they have started changing in a positive way, because they know that this camp is meant to complement the SWP and will be beneficial to them. The fact that they have volunteered for this camp signals a positive change in their mindset.” said Supt Wee.

One of the participants shared his thoughts on the camp, saying, “I feel that the camp provides a meaningful experience, rather than wasting time at home. Personally, I am afraid of heights, so the outdoor experience on the first day taught me that you can use your courage for the right things, rather than fighting in a gang.”

Another participant shared, “I feel that to volunteer for the SWP and this camp, is to take the first step, to see and understand more of the real world.”

WHAT IS THE STREETWISE PROGRAMME?

The six month programme consisting of weekly individual, group and parental counselling is meant to draw youth gang members away from gang-related activities, and help them get out of the gangs. Participants come from school referrals, parental referrals, or even from SSB investigations. The programme is voluntary.

“DON’T LET THESE 5 SPOIL YOUR HOLIDAYS”

By Ms Jaswinder Kaur
Public Affairs Department



BEHIND THE SCENES

By Ms Jaswinder Kaur
Public Affairs Department

The holidays bring on the mood for happy shopping and merry gifting. But not all steals are from good bargains and not all break-ins are by Santa either!

A fun and humorous video centred on the above message of keeping the holidays free from crime was initiated by the Public Affairs Department (PAD) of the Singapore Police Force (SPF). Titled “Don’t let these 5 spoil your holidays”, the video sought to provide a light-hearted representation of common crimes committed during the holidays. The intent was to highlight crimes which people can easily avoid becoming victims.

The idea of the video was mooted in November coordinated by New Media officers from PAD, assistance for the video was sought from Nanyang Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC), Sengkang NPC, Punggol NPC, Jurong East NPC and representatives from the Operations Department. A storyboard for the video was decided upon and filming details were established. On 18 November 2014, we started filming the first scene at the TM Lewin store in Vivocity.

“Lights, Camera, Action!” these three words felt surreal to some of us. It was our first real filming

project with some of us even facing the camera for the first time. For SC Shawn Lim Jun Heng, it was an exciting and yet nerve wrecking experience. On hindsight, this was uncalled for as he was a natural in front of the camera! Just as we were getting over our nervousness and enjoying the filming process with the help of our talented in-house director and videographer, Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Denyse Young and Edwin Lim Jia Zhong, we were faced with another hurdle to cross- video editing.

Video editing would not have been possible without the expertise of our very own creative director, Mr Peh Mingcheng, who managed to piece all the shots into a cohesive piece. After days of hard work, the video was exactly how we wanted it to be!

I dare say on behalf of the cast and crew that working on the project was a challenging yet wonderful experience. It’s heartening to know that our efforts translated into a video that was able to reach out to more than 500,000 people.

In case you missed it, watch the video “Don’t let these 5 spoil your holidays” on SPF Facebook & YouTube channel, SPFCommunityOutreach!

FILMING WAS A BLAST

I wasn’t very confident a video could be made within a month at first. However, inspired by the storyline, I was confident that we could make it happen. With the support of the cast and crew, we managed to complete filming within 3 days! Mingcheng and Edwin played a significant role in piecing all the shots together to come up with a wonderful video.

It was an enjoyable experience working with the cast and crew. All of us had a wonderful time working on this video which reached out to more than 500,000 people.

Thank you all for the hard work put into the video!”
Denyse Young, Nanyang NPC

“I felt so happy being part of the video. It was so fun and exciting!”
Ethan Pang, Child actor

“Acting was definitely a first for me after many years of serving in the Force. But I can’t say I didn’t enjoy it!”
Abdul Rahim Kamarudin, PAD

“It was my first time acting so I was naturally very nervous. I realised that acting got easier when I knew my parts well and soon after I enjoyed myself acting. I didn’t want to watch my scenes earlier as I was anxious to see myself when the final video was uploaded. Once I saw it I felt so happy being part of the video!”
Abdul Rahim, Child actor

Ms Loh Shulin, Public Affairs Department

COPS ENTERS ITS FIFTH PHASE

By Jacqueline Ng
Home Team News

The Bukit Batok Neighbourhood Police Centre is among seven others in the fifth phase of implementing the Community Policing System to bring the police and local communities closer together. The rollout event was held at the Bukit Batok Community Sports Hub on 9 November 2014 to raise awareness about the enhanced crime-solving capabilities of the neighbourhood police centre.



It was a light-hearted, fun affair for the Bukit Batok residents at the launch of the Community Policing System (COPS) for Bukit Batok Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) on 09 November 2014.

Held at the Bukit Batok Community Sports Hub, the event sought to raise awareness of the future capabilities of the neighbourhood police centre under the new system.

Bukit Batok NPC is among seven others to roll out the COPS programme to bring the police and local communities closer together.

The seven other NPCs are Queenstown, Bukit Merah West, Kampong Java, Ang Mo Kio North, Yishun North, Bedok South and Bukit Panjang.

The programme is now in its fifth phase of implementation since May 2012 and has been rolled out to 28 out of 35 NPCs across Singapore. The remaining seven centres will transit to the new policing system by next year.

Under the programme, each centre will have a full-fledged Community Policing Unit to share crime alerts and advisories using new modes of digital communication such as the Police Community Alert Service (CAS) and the NPC Facebook page.

Public spaces in Housing Board flats and car parks will also see more surveillance cameras being



installed. To date, the video footages from the cameras have helped solve over 200 cases and provided investigative leads in more than 450 cases.

In conjunction with the launch, a new Community-Police partnership project titled "Community Guardians @ Bukit Batok" was also introduced.

The project will work to forge police-resident bonds through civic-engagement programmes such as Citizens on Patrol (COP), Neighbourhood Watch Group (NWG) and Silver Watch Group (SWG).



A husband and wife pair, Mr Calvin Yeo and Madam Tan Soo San, was one of the COP community guardians honoured at the event.

"I would always follow our advisor (Madam Halimah Yacob) for house visits to obtain feedback from the residents. When they said our patrols have helped made their estate safer, I felt very happy," said Mr Yeo, the chairman of Bukit Batok East Spring View Residents' Committee (RC).

This sense of achievement keeps the father of three and his wife as active members of the Project FORT (Foreign Workers and Residents on Patrol Team) – a COP joint-initiative and partnership formed in 2012 by Spring View RC, Jurong Town Council, Bukit Batok NPC, and Acacia Lodge, a foreign dormitory in Bukit Batok.

The pair conducts monthly patrols with a group of ten including three foreign ambassadors from the Acacia Lodge and two Community Policing Officers (CPOs) in an estate of Bukit Batok to look out for rowdy foreign workers congregating in the area.

In the immediate aftermath of the Little India riot, Mr Yeo and his wife rallied the COP in their estate to step up patrolling efforts. Despite the fatigue of week-long night patrols, Mr Yeo felt it was well worth it when he heard that residents had sent letters of compliments to express their appreciation.

In the welcoming address, Guest-of-Honor, Madam Halimah Yacob, Speaker of Parliament and Member of Parliament for Jurong GRC, highlighted the important role that community support plays in crime detection and prevention.

"In 2013, Singapore recorded its lowest crime rate in 30 years. This achievement was made possible because of a successful community policing strategy," she said, adding that "nearly four out of 10 arrests are made with public assistance".



TWO GERMAN MEN ARRESTED FOR VANDALISING SMRT TRAIN

By Muhammad Farhansyah Bin Musa
Home Team News



Two German men have been arrested for vandalising an SMRT train at Bishan Depot on 8 November.

The suspects, aged 21, were extradited from Malaysia to Singapore in the on early morning on 21 November.

Speaking at the press conference, Director of the Criminal Investigation Department, Senior Assistant Commissioner (SAC) Mr Tan Chye Hee said the two suspects were detained at Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Malaysia on 20 November at about 6pm – after a warrant of arrest was issued by the State Courts in Singapore – as they were about to leave for Australia.

The suspects were charged in court on 22 November for vandalism and trespassing into a protected place.

SAC Tan said the two men are believed to be students and be working in Australia.

Based on preliminary investigations, the two men entered Singapore on 4 November and left on 8 November, shortly after having vandalised the train.

Thereafter, they were found in Bangkok in Thailand by the Royal Thai Police and later in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia by the Royal Malaysia Police.

SAC Tan said, "Trespassing into a protected place and committing an act of vandalism on a SMRT train, in this case, are serious offences. The Singapore Police Force does not tolerate such brazen criminal acts and we will spare no efforts to hunt down those criminals who commit such crimes, be they local or foreigners and bring them to justice."

Officers from the Tanglin Police Division worked closely with officers from the Public Transport Security Command, Criminal Investigation Department and Police Intelligence Department in pursuing all available leads.

Through probes and investigations, the officers seized 12 spray paint cans and one glove from the vicinity around the depot and three spray nozzles and electronic devices from the vandals. The items were sent to police forensics for further investigation.

CID chief, SAC Tan said, "I highly commend our officers for their excellent teamwork and determination in solving this case."

He also added that, "The Singapore Police Force would also like to express our sincere gratitude to our friends from the Royal Malaysia Police as well as the Royal Thai Police for their invaluable efforts to trace and arrest the two men."

If found guilty of vandalism, the two men face up to three years in jail or a fine of up to \$2,000, and between three and eight strokes of the cane.

If they are found guilty of trespassing into a protected place, they face up to two years in jail or a fine of \$1,000 or both.





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