

POLICE
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Enhancing Protective Security Capabilities



Behind the Frontlines

A Rite of Passage: Passing Out Parade

CONTENT



03
Safeguarding Our Public Transport System



04
Enhancing Protective Security Capabilities



06
Behind the Frontlines



07
Crackdown on Loanshark Runners



08
A Rite of Passage: Passing Out Parade



10
My View — I am Bomb Suppression Blanket



11
Building Bonds and Bridging Ties



12
Instilling Resilience in Today's Youth



13
A Blue Vacation



14
The Lay of the Land: TransCom Terrain Mapper



15
Swooping Past the Trails



16
One of Us

Note from the Team

With the ever changing security climate, there is a need to enhance our security measures around the country. In this issue of *Police Life*, discover how the Protective Security Command (ProCom) officers play an integral part in safeguarding Singapore's every day in our cover story. Just as how our ProCom officers patrol to protect strategic locations, take a peek at how Public Transport Security Command's Terrain Mappers contribute to the safety and security of our public transport system.

On a lighter note, savour the fruits of labour of the Media Production and Liaison Team, as we bring you insights into their daily grind that won them the Commissioner of Police Commendation.

We wish you a pleasant read!

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Safeguarding Our Public Transport System

By: John Leong (Photo from TransCom)

Stepping into Assistant Commissioner of Police (AC) Lee Su Peng's office for the first time is almost like going to see the principal. The Commander of the Public Transport Security Command (TransCom) exudes gravitas and authority, befitting a man tasked with overseeing the security of Singapore's entire public transport network. His office bears the mark of a Police officer par excellence, yet there is a kindly quality to him, one appropriate for the chief of a specialist unit that employs almost exclusively, Full-time Police National Servicemen (PNSF). He is both affable and austere, and is not afraid to show both sides during the interview.

Starting (Not So) Bright and Early

Uniformed Police officers typically start a morning shift at 7 am. At TransCom, the morning shift begins at 5:15 am and the afternoon shift ends past midnight. "Last time there were blindspots — two hours at the start, and two hours at the end," AC Lee pointed out. "We now have the network covered from the first train to the last train at midnight." He pioneered the move upon getting into the hot seat at TransCom in June 2014.

AC Lee admits he is direct and demanding as a leader, but is also reasonable if his PNSFs encounter problems along the way. "We gave them taxi vouchers to share cab to and from home during those unearthly hours. And they actually like it, especially those who live far away," AC Lee said. Officers are also allowed to accumulate their extra hours, and exchange them for days off. "When I announced it, I did not say, 'You just do this.' I explained to them the rationale that the mission of TransCom is to protect the public transport network. And we had a glaring gap, especially during the morning bit," he expounded. "By 7:30 am, the trains are already very crowded. And we are not there!" His officers, he said, firmly believe they are there doing their part to protect Singapore's public land transport system from terror attacks.

Rallying the Troops

TransCom represents AC Lee's eighth posting since joining the Singapore Police Force (SPF), but it is his first as commander. The engineering graduate had previously served in staff departments in Police Headquarters, Commanding Officer (CO) Neighbourhood Police Centre and two stints at the Police Coast Guard first as Head of Operations and then as Deputy Commander. "It is quite different being a commander, because you are not focused on just one area of work," he shared. One aspect he is particularly concerned about is the largely PNSF force in TransCom. He admits achieving both discipline and motivation sometimes keeps him awake at night as he believes both need to go hand-in-hand for every officer to perform their best in the unit.

While TransCom's primary mission is counter-terrorism, a large part of its duties involves weeding out bad guys from the public transport network. Using a technique called the Behavioural Assessment Screening System, officers identify suspicious persons through powers of observation. AC Lee noted that persons with something

to hide tend to panic when they unexpectedly see uniformed Police officers. And when confronted, they will tremble, ramble or are incoherent.

AC Lee said 80 per cent of TransCom's arrests are proactive, translating to more than 400 a year, or slightly more than one a day. He said this gives his PNSFs job satisfaction, and in turn keeps them motivated. "It is about the tangible results that they get. We collate all the proactive arrests made at the individual officer level and at the end of their National Service stint, those with high numbers get extra rewards and recognition," AC Lee explained.

Changing Landscapes

However, he acknowledged that the novelty factor can wear off quickly. "When they start doing it, they learn and they see results, and it is very interesting. But after two or three years, officers could get jaded from doing almost the same stuff everyday." That is why he believes, having PNSFs perform the role "keeps things fresh".

Also keeping things fresh is the continual evolution of TransCom's work, which has had to evolve to keep pace with a changing terrorism landscape. Bomb threats have given way to active shooter situations, as seen in recent attacks across Europe and Southeast Asia. AC Lee shared that officers' patrols are now less predictable, although he did not explain how this is achieved, citing the sensitivity of the work. "We are assuming that terrorists do not want to meet us, they want to avoid us," he elaborated. "By making our patrols less predictable, we are defeating the terrorists' casing ability."

TransCom officers also regularly interact with the public, who sometimes ask for directions or other forms of help. AC Lee said this will not detract from his officers' core mission. "We are glad to help because such interaction can be seen as intervening in the activities of commuters. And such intervention, when seen by potential perpetrators, is actually a good form of deterrence," he clarified.

A Perfect Storm

TransCom officers also perform crowd control duties in the event of train breakdowns, complementing the work by transport operators. It was a breakdown unlike any other, that AC Lee considers his most memorable experience since joining TransCom. "It was the day the East-West and North-South lines broke down," he recounted, referring to the massive disruption involving both lines during the evening peak hours on 7 July 2015. "I was on afternoon leave, and was having dinner with my wife. When I received the message from my Operations (Ops) Room, I knew it was big trouble. Through experience, we know that MRT train failure is usually resolved in 15 minutes. Some involved slowing down the trains, but in this case, it was a complete stop, because it was a total power failure." AC Lee rushed back to TransCom's Ops Room,

and issued instructions to his officers along the way. "I activated the officers from Ops Branch to set up the Command Post and activated one Special Operations Command troop as well as sent CO Patrol straight to Bishan MRT station, as I predicted this station to be the most problematic among the 59 stations of the North-South and East-West lines. I also set up a communications group with Deputy Commissioner of Police (Operations) and the six Land Division Commanders to coordinate the response of the Ground Response Force officers as TransCom's resources had been immobilised by the breakdown," recalled AC Lee. By the time he arrived at the base, the wheels were already in motion.

The teams involved in the islandwide operation eventually stood down at around midnight, some five hours after the breakdown. "I think we managed it very well," he declared. "People were very anxious, and that is where we came in as both independent parties and as a Police authority. When people see us, they calm down. That is part of the value that we bring to our stakeholders such as the Land Transport Authority, SMRT and SBS Transit."

Career Advice

As an officer in the Police Force for about 20 years, AC Lee is well-placed to offer career guidance. "I tell the PNSFs that SPF is a good organisation to join and forge a career because SPF takes care of its people. There is a lot of room for progression, instead of stagnancy," he said resolutely. "But the key thing is they must work hard and show that they have the potential to take on more responsibilities. Of course, one must have intelligence. Even if you work hard, you must be able to produce quality work."

There are also times when officers may have to put service before self. "My wife understands that I sometimes have to be away to get the job done. But when I have the time and opportunity, I will take leave and spend time with her. I make it up to her throughout the year!" he quipped.



Enhancing Protective Security Capabilities

By: Md Falliq and Eric Foo (Photographer: Md Shahrurnizam)



Against the backdrop of the heightened and evolving security landscape, the Protective Security Command (ProCom) was formed through the expansion of the Key Installations Command to undertake a range of protective security operations. Commissioned on 8 July 2016, ProCom's mission is to protect strategic events and locations during peacetime and national emergency. Its main function is to enhance the Singapore Police Force's (SPF) protective security capabilities and increase Police presence at security-sensitive locations.

Do You Know?



There are about **400** officers since the commissioning of **ProCom** on **8 July 2016**



ProCom is the **newest** specialist unit



85% of PSU troopers are **PNSFs**



By end of **2017**, more than **500** trained troopers would be performing **SLP** islandwide



ProCom will have the **largest pool** of **NS officers** in SPF



ProCom provides **SPF's strategic depth** and can **recall-mobilise** PNSmen in **heightened tension / national emergency**

Since ProCom's commissioning, 260 officers have been trained as Protective Security Unit (PSU) troopers. The PSU troopers are trained to perform three core functions: Protection of Installations, Strategic Location Protection (SLP) and Event Security. Apart from conducting SLP patrols at "soft targets" (starting with Central, Tanglin and Clementi Divisions), and key installations, these trained PSU troopers also support the land divisions for event security operations with a view to progressively take on the planning for such operation in 2017 and take command and control starting in 2018.

New Unit, New Opportunities

Being SPF's newest specialist unit, ProCom has a force that is made up of officers from SPF staff departments, frontline policing units as well as specialist units such as the Special Operations Command. The swift integration and training of newly posted officers from diverse backgrounds have been instrumental in ProCom's capability build up in the current security climate. One such officer is Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Andy Tan, a former staff officer from the Police Technology Department (PTD). SSgt Tan is now a Column Leader with the PSU, supervising a team of six Full-time Police National Servicemen (PNSF). It was a leap of faith for both ProCom and SSgt Tan when he was selected to join the Command in September 2016.

Notwithstanding being away from the frontline operations for a substantial period of time, the six weeks training that culminated with a final assessment that comprises a Unit-level route-march and an exercise has prepared SSgt Tan well for his new role. As a former PTD officer, he also supports the Officer-in-Charge (OC) Computer and Communication as the main point of contact for his unit with regard to Infocomm Technology (ICT) issues, providing much needed bandwidth for the lean Support and Technical Branch. It is a win-win situation for the Command and SSgt Tan.

"Knowing that you have the opportunity to keep our own country safe and secure, our people can go about their work during the day and sleep peacefully at night are reasons I joined ProCom. With the evolving threat environment, the protective security skillsets that I have acquired can also serve me well in other policing roles in future," shared SSgt Tan.

Enhanced NS Experience

In addition to the enhancement of SPF's protective security capabilities, ProCom has also improved the National Service (NS) experience by providing NS officers with opportunities to take on more frontline and specialist roles, maximising their full potential. NS officers can now take on leadership positions in ProCom, including being trained to lead a full ProCom Unit as the OC Unit, OC Troop and Column Commander during their PNSmen phase if they have what it takes.

"With the trust upon us to take up greater responsibilities, we should not see it as an added pressure but rather as an opportunity to contribute to the safety and security of our country and our people. I strive to give my best as I find my role meaningful," shared National Service Inspector (NSI) Safafisalam Bohari Jaon.



As part of its motto "Protect and Prevail", ProCom will continue to nurture NS personnel and strengthen SPF's policing capability in protective security. Given the platform to acquire new skills and hone their leadership capabilities, ProCom officers are well poised to assume the shared responsibility of safeguarding Singapore's every day.



Message to future ProCom officers

"Since ProCom is a new unit, we need officers who have the motivation to take on the challenge. For those who do not have ground experience like myself, the training will equip you with the necessary skillsets to operate confidently in the current security environment."

— SSgt Tan

"ProCom provides one of the most challenging and meaningful experiences. As a ProCom officer, you can contribute directly towards the safety and security of Singapore. If you want to make a difference, come join us!"

— NSI Safafisalam

Behind the Frontlines

By: Jonas Tan (Photographer: Melvina Niroshini)

On 6 February 2017, the Commissioner of Police (CP) Commendation ceremony was held at the Home Team Academy, celebrating the excellent work done and outstanding service rendered by individual officers and teams from various departments and units. Among the awardees, one team stood out in particular. It was the Media Production and Liaison (MPL) team from the Public Affairs Department (PAD). This is not your typical team of crime busters. This is a team that works behind the frontlines to contribute to the building of public trust in the Singapore Police Force (SPF) by bringing out the best of SPF through multimedia content.



Toiling at the Back-End

"This award is good motivation for my team, to spur us on to continue improving. To my team, thank you and keep up the good work!"

— Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Jimmy Law, Head MPL, PAD

Apart from producing the popular docu-drama Crimewatch, which has been ongoing for 30 years and remains one of the most popular TV programmes, the MPL team is also responsible for the in-house production of various videos that cover Police operations, exercises and major events that were featured on SPF's website and social media platforms. Behind each video lies countless hours of hard work contributed by a very dedicated team who shares a common goal of upholding the public trust in the SPF.

DSP Law recounted a particular Police Exercise where his team members had to stay up for 36 hours to produce a video clip that showcased SPF's counter-terrorism capabilities in one of the largest multi-agency exercises to date. The video was eventually screened on SPF's social media

platform and garnered a high viewership with many positive comments from the members of the public. *"I could see that everyone was tired but they continued to press on. There will surely be someone who will crack some jokes to keep up the spirits. That is how we keep ourselves motivated!"* said DSP Law.

Camaraderie

Meticulously handpicked for their specialised knowledge and enthusiasm in videography, the award-winning MPL team consists of four regulars and four Full-time Police National Servicemen. When asked about the team's formula for success, DSP Law replied: *"Camaraderie."* And it is precisely because of the strong camaraderie among its team members that enables the team to remain focused and always strive tirelessly towards achieving the objectives of every video project entrusted to them. DSP Law further shared that although his team is not involved in the typical police work, they function with the same mindset as the rest of the policing units.

"Despite our hectic and irregular working hours, my team is always ready to respond to any request that requires our expertise." elaborated DSP Law.

Other Winners

"Our officers are our most valued asset and such recognition will inspire them and fellow officers to continually do their best to serve our community and safeguard the nation."

— CP Hoong Wee Teck

In total, there were 52 team awards, 58 individual awards and seven high commendations presented at the ceremony. Regardless of the award category, every award is an acknowledgement of the contribution by the officers in their quest to safeguard Singapore's every day, espousing the core values of Courage, Loyalty, Integrity and Fairness in their tasks, and displaying the highest level of discipline and diligence. Let us congratulate the awardees and thank them for a job well done!

Crackdown on Loanshark Runners

By: Md Shahrinnizam (Photographer: Md Shahrinnizam)

On 13 June 2016, a resident staying in one of the housing estates of Marsiling Drive was harassed by unlicensed moneylenders when his unit's door was splashed with blue and red paint.



Police officers from Woodlands West Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) conducted further investigations by viewing the footages from the Police Camera and identified two male perpetrators who were responsible for the act. Follow-up investigations were conducted and revealed that the two perpetrators were involved in similar cases of unlicensed moneylending.

The Breakthrough

A joint operation involving officers from Woodlands West NPC and Choa Chu Kang NPC was carried out to apprehend the two perpetrators. Through extensive investigative work, the officers soon established the particulars of the perpetrators and detained them at their residence.

In the course of the interview, the perpetrators admitted that they had committed over 10 counts of harassment acts islandwide. A third accomplice who was involved in the abetment of the case was also subsequently arrested through the skillful interview conducted by the officers.

The perpetrators were eventually charged in Court in November 2016 for the offence of unlicensed moneylending harassments and were sentenced to 27 months' probation.

Happenings

Johore Shield 2016

The Police Coast Guard emerged victorious at this year's Johore Shield Shooting Competition, coming in top in a field of various divisions. Held on 9 February 2017 at the Home Team Academy, the Johore Shield is an annual event that encourages officers to handle firearms efficiently and accurately. Commissioner of Police Hoong Wee Teck hosted Chief Police Officer of Johor Dato' Seri Wan Ahmad Najmuddin bin Mohd at the competition. Ang Mo Kio Division finished the competition in second place, while Tanglin Division finished third.



Security Industry and Fire Safety Managers' Safety and Security Watch Group Counter-Terrorism Seminar

About 300 representatives of the security and fire safety industries were involved in a counter-terrorism seminar on 24 January 2017, held at the Devan Nair Institute for Employment and Employability. Jointly organised by the Singapore Police Force and the Singapore Civil Defence Force, the Industry Safety and Security Watch Group seminar gave participants an update on the national security situation as the security industry personnel and fire safety managers play a leading role in protecting Singapore during a terrorist attack, and complement the work of security forces and intelligence agencies. In addition, the participants also learnt critical emergency response skills and measures to enhance the safety and security of their premises.



The Launch of the Tampines HomeTeamNS Clubhouse

Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law, Mr K Shanmugam officiated the opening of HomeTeamNS' fifth clubhouse at Tampines Hub on 13 February 2017. To recognise and appreciate the contributions of Home Team National Servicemen, Mr K Shanmugam, also unveiled plans to build three new HomeTeamNS Clubhouses over the next 10 to 15 years. Situated in the northern, eastern and western parts of Singapore, these new clubhouses will be equipped with well-appointed modern facilities and will be housed near public transport facilities.

A Rite of Passage: Passing Out Parade

By: Jonas Tan (Photographers: Hasif Mohd Ismail and Ridhwan Ismail)

On 20 January 2017, more than 630 trainees celebrated the completion of their first chapter of National Service (NS) with the Graduation Parade of the 165th Intake Police National Service, also more commonly and colloquially known as the Passing Out Parade. Graced by Senior Minister of State for Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of National Development Mr Desmond Lee as the Reviewing Officer, this parade signifies the start of the next phase of their NS lives.

Here is an exclusive look at the Parade!





My View — I am Bomb Suppression Blanket

By: Darwisyah Daud (Photographer: Hasif Mohd Ismail)



I have just awakened from what seemed like a long sleep. Blurred faces are looking down at me. I hear voices murmuring. They help me recall what has just happened.

There had been a man, I hear them say, shabbily dressed and suspicious-looking. He had placed an oddly-shaped piece of luggage at the front of a bank before speeding away in a car. Closed-Circuit Television footage showed that he had an accomplice, although both men have yet to be identified.

According to them, a vigilant passer-by spotted the luggage and alerted the security personnel. They quickly called the Police and cordoned off the area. Ground Response Force officers soon arrived, with me in tow. Quick tests were conducted and suspicions were proven correct — the bag did contain traces of explosives. Removing me from the boot of their vehicle, the officers draped me over the luggage. Thank goodness I was there they said, because the bag had exploded mere moments later. How many lives had I saved?

Who am I? I am Bomb Suppression Blanket, ready to protect against destructive bomb detonations!



I am deployed to cover articles that might be explosive in nature. Similar to the Ballistic Helmet and Ballistic Resistant Vest, I am constructed from para-aramid material, known for its strength and resistance to fire and ballistics. I am engineered to effectively absorb blast impact and minimise the fragmentation radius of explosive devices.



I am always prepared to execute my duty to protect and shield innocent lives from projectiles or flying shrapnel caused by a bomb explosion. I know the important role I play as terrorism remains a clear and present danger not just overseas, but in Singapore as well.

Building Bonds and Bridging Ties

By: Md Shahrinnizam (Photographer: Chee Yong Tat)

On 2 February 2017, Malaysia's highest-ranking Police officer, Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Dato' Sri Khalid Bin Abu Bakar (Tan Sri Khalid) was awarded the Darjah Utama Bakti Cemerlang (Distinguished Service Order) by President Tony Tan Keng Yam at the Istana for his outstanding contribution in fostering excellent ties and cooperation between the Royal Malaysia Police (RMP) and Singapore Police Force (SPF).

Under the leadership of Tan Sri Khalid, both Police Forces strengthened cooperation in fighting transnational crime, counter terrorism and training exchanges, which enhanced the safety and security of both countries. Tan Sri Khalid was also lauded for his contribution in the establishment of extensive networks with his regional and international counterparts to combat transnational crime and terrorism.

Prior to the conferment ceremony, Tan Sri Khalid paid a courtesy call on Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law Mr K Shanmugam and Commissioner of Police Hoong Wee Teck separately. Following his conferment, he also paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong.

Acknowledging Tan Sri Khalid's contributions, CP Hoong Wee Teck said the SPF enjoys "a strong working relationship" with the RMP, which has been forged over many years of bilateral cooperation. "The SPF will continue to work closely with the RMP in the fight against transnational crime and terrorism, to keep our countries safe and secure," he said.



Instilling Resilience in Today's Youth

By: John Leong (Photographer: Ridhwan Ismail)

The National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC) was formed in 1959, as Singapore struggled with law and order. Now, the context has changed, yet NPCC continues to be relevant and forward looking as a co-curricular activity (CCA), said its current Council Chairman, Associate Professor Stephen Phua.

From the way Associate Professor Stephen Phua speaks, it appears there is no better man for the job. The National University of Singapore (NUS) law professor began his love affair with the uniformed group when he was a Secondary 1 student at the now defunct Balestier Hill Technical School. *"I love drills. I love the discipline, I love the precision that came with it, and I love the uniform, somehow it looks smarter than the rest,"* he recalled. There was also the prestige of being selected as a cadet. *"There were 120 people vying for 30 places, so it was an honour to make it,"* he said with more than a hint of gratification.

Imparting the Right Values

When Prof Phua first earned his stripes in the 1970s, NPCC gave him *"a greater sense of community"*, a virtue during the earlier days of nation building. Fast forward some 40 years, and he believes another big challenge has emerged. *"As a result of affluence, we are beginning to see, not struggles of survival, but the lack of resilience,"* he said. *"We are now a victim of our economic success. We are seeing a whole generation of youth exposed to influences of culture that are not entirely compatible with ours, but nevertheless are seductive to them."* Prof Phua shared that he had students who have no qualms deferring their studies for more self-indulgent pursuits. *"The economic siege of survival has been impaired, eroded over time."*

Prof Phua emphasised that one of NPCC's objectives is to create an environment that provides students with experiential learning, and imparts fresh perspective and values. In addition to NPCC's outdoor learning opportunities, such as the Adventure and Survival Training Camps, he also cited NPCC's collaboration with the Singapore Police Force on the Community Safety and Security Programme (CSSP), where cadets promote crime prevention by serving the community as Police Youth Ambassadors, thus upholding NPCC's mission as active citizens and community leaders. *"How do we put it into their minds that mentally they can cope, and experientially they can empathise, because they have gone through hunger, they have gone through difficulties, dirt, stuff like that? I think in that sense, it is important to evolve."*



Maintaining NPCC's Relevance

NPCC also draws its relevance from how it can continue to attract teenagers to its cadet ranks, which numbered slightly more than 13,000 as of 2016. Prof Phua furrowed his eyebrows. *"It is very easy for us to determine at the top, what ought to be done. But I think there is perhaps a case to be made for convergence and maybe some overlap."*

Prof Phua commissioned a survey in 2015 to gather feedback on current and new NPCC programmes. Police Knowledge turned out to be the least popular. *"Unless you have a very engaging instructor for such instructional modules, it is very easy to hog the bottom of the ranking,"* Prof Phua recounted. And so, he mobilised members of the NUS Criminal Justice Club to help develop a criminal law module for NPCC cadets. *"I took the top guys and made it an honour to be selected as an instructor. If you put law content together with people who have what I consider frontline experience, I think you have got something interesting going."*

Crafting a Legacy

While his approach is considered novel, Prof Phua does not consider it his defining moment as NPCC Council Chairman. Rather, it is the way the law programme came to be, that he hopes will stand the test of time. *"I have put into the consciousness of management that there is a need first to find out before we decide. And having decided, we need to get feedback to see if what we have implemented actually attains and achieves what the people really want."*

For now, Prof Phua has his work cut out on other priorities, like enacting other changes inspired by the 2015 survey. These include enhancing activities that were voted to be the most attractive, such as crime scene investigation. He is also working to streamline administrative processes for his largely teacher-led workforce. *"To empower teachers to be effective 'translators' of programmes into reality, we need to free them from avoidable administrative workload. My mission is to maximise differentiation to minimise duplication of activities,"* said Prof Phua.

A Blue Vacation

Reproduction from Police Life June 1983



At a time when many of their colleagues were either vacationing or working, 19 undergraduates (10 men and nine ladies) from the National University of Singapore (NUS) chose to pursue their love for Police Life.

They signed up for an "National Police Cadet Corps Officer's Basic Course" and slogged their way through two exhausting weeks of footdrill, armsdrill, live shooting and lectures.

Many would be surprised that an NPCC unit exists at the NUS. After all, it only had its humble beginnings early this year. The course is meant as an induction for interested persons and as Professor Lawrence Chia of the NPCC Council pointed out, *"It will be treated as an Extra Curricular Activity."*

Deputy Superintendent of Police John Lim, the Officer-in-Charge of the course, outlined the main objectives. *"Our intentions were to inculcate a sense of togetherness and co-operation and to foster closer ties amongst the undergraduates. Simultaneously, this fundamental course introduced participants to the various aspects of the Police Force."*

The participants were taught defence tactics (unarmed combat), campcraft and the basic skills and know-how of handling arms such as an air rifle and a .38 Smith & Wesson revolver.

They were also exposed to adventure training and went on a land expedition. To round it off, they went on an attachment with the Marine Police, Criminal Investigations Department and Traffic Police.

The undergrads welcomed the challenge of the course and hoped to be appointed Honorary Inspectors so they could assist in the training of cadets in the school units or volunteer their service with the Special Constabulary.

With such enthusiasm and vigour, *Police Life* is confident that they will eventually realise their goals.



The Lay of the Land: TransCom Terrain Mapper

By: Jonas Tan (Photographer: Hasif Mohd Ismail)

Singapore has one of the busiest public transport systems in the world, with approximately 685 million commuters taking the Mass Rapid Transport (MRT) in 2016 alone. With such a huge ridership, it is imperative for every station to be closely monitored in order to protect our public transport system against crime and terrorist-related incidents. Undertaking this task is the 'Terrain Mapper' from the Singapore Police Force's (SPF) Public Transport Security Command (TransCom). In this edition, *Police Life* caught up with Special Constable Sergeant (SC/Sgt) Raziv Reshad Fauzi, a Terrain Mapper for TransCom, to bring you more insights on the job.

A Meticulous Touch

"Terrain Mappers need to be meticulous when producing the terrain maps. Any level of changes to the layout of a MRT station must be captured in detail as it could impact our Police operations in the event of any incidents."

— SC/Sgt Raziv Reshad Fauzi

There are few who know the lay of the land better than the TransCom Terrain Mappers. They are the ones who are responsible for drafting and updating all the terrain maps of Singapore's MRT stations and bus interchanges as well as the Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras' field of view. This requires a keen eye for detail and an extremely

meticulous touch. With the rapid expansion of the MRT lines as well as the constant upgrading of existing MRT stations, another key challenge faced on the job is to ensure that all the terrain maps are produced and updated on a timely and effective basis.

Heavily involved during major deployments, the Terrain Mappers are responsible for supporting the operations plan by mapping out pre-identified static points, ensuring that officers are stationed at key areas during the event. By doing so, the officers are primed to detect and respond promptly to any situation that might occur in crowded areas. In addition, they also work closely with the CCTV

Operators, providing them with a prioritised CCTV folder which, according to SC/Sgt Raziv, *"enables them to monitor exact locations such as the fare-gates and entry points of a station efficiently."*

A Fulfilling Job

"I am thankful for the exposure and knowledge gained from my involvement in the planning of various deployments. The skills and experience gained will definitely be helpful not only in my life but also for my future career after completing my National Service in the Police Force."

— SC/Sgt Raziv Reshad Fauzi

Although a Terrain Mapper does not perform frontline policing duties, but their work is equally important as the information produced by them are often used by Investigation officers and the CCTV Operators to facilitate their tasks.

To SC/Sgt Raziv, the Terrain Mapper job is a great opportunity for Full-time Police National Servicemen to participate in operations planning and offering them an insight into the various processes behind a successful ground operation. The sense of accomplishment comes when he goes to the ground for an operation he has assisted in planning. By being on the ground, he gets to witness how the Operations Plan translated to reality, and how he has helped by being part of the planning. Owing to these Terrain Mappers, the SPF is better poised to safeguard Singapore's every day.



Swooping Past the Trails

By: Darwisyah Daud (Photographer: Hasif Mohd Ismail)

In this healthy lifestyle series, *Police Life* shares with you the inside story of our very own former National Mountain Biker Senior Staff Sergeant (SSSgt) Mohd Herman and his beliefs on how mountain biking has shaped him as an officer, throughout his 21 years of service in the Force.

At first glance, his demeanour and confidence in manoeuvring through the jagged and rocky trails are unmistakable for a professional rider. SSSgt Herman's passion for mountain biking has endured for over 25 years and it started way back in his Polytechnic days, when he and his friends would often go for rides during the weekends to local mountain biking trails in Mandai and Bukit Timah. He has never stopped riding since.

Rough Roads

Back in 2003, he was selected to represent Singapore as a national athlete for the 'Downhill Mountain Biking (MTB)' team. His hard work and diligence eventually paid off when he clinched his first medal and secured the fifth place in 2005 for the 23rd Southeast Asian Games MTB Downhill. Aside from that, his continuous participation in tournaments such as Asian Cycling Confederation MTB Championships and other overseas competitions also earned him numerous outstanding achievements. Till today, his unwavering willpower to better himself for mountain biking remains strongly unshaken.

Hidden Benefits of Mountain Biking

Similar to its counterparts, mountain biking aids to boost the extra level of cardiovascular activity through the use of gear variety, bike frames and riding terrain. Apart from shaping up your muscles, it is also a good way to improve your stamina and body coordination as it requires the use of numerous parts of your body while riding. For SSSgt Herman, his busy schedule does not deter him from training for his mountain biking tournaments. When possible, he would seize any opportunity to train during his days off with an average of three hours per session, after which, he would conduct a sharing session with the biking community within the organisation. His strong commitment and dedication is truly an exemplary role model to officers in the Force.

Valuable Lessons

SSSgt Herman has benefitted greatly from his mountain biking passion. He believes that mountain biking is a way of life that helps one to connect with nature's flora and fauna. Mountain biking not only improves his overall fitness but also prepares him for his duties. As a Course Manager at the Home Team Academy, SSSgt Herman is responsible for nurturing his trainees, which often requires patience and perseverance to mould them into our future Police officers. Prior to this post, SSSgt Herman has had ground experience as a Security Command officer.

"My years as a Police officer has taught me to be observant, vigilant and ever ready... the way you train and prepare yourself will affect how you react to a situation," shared SSSgt Herman.



"I truly believe that a champion is never born. He is made and trained to be a champion. No matter how good you are, there is always someone better and even more determined to do better."

— SSSgt Herman's message to our young officers who aspire to be national athletes

By: Md Falliq (Photographer: Kenneth Tan)

Hi, I am...

Special Constable Syed Muzhafar Bin Jaffar, currently serving my National Service in the Singapore Police Force (SPF) as a Protective Security Unit Trooper (PSU) in Protective Security Command (ProCom).

An interesting part of my career...

The para-military aspect of ProCom's training is what makes it interesting. Unlike other SPF units or divisions, during our training phase we do things that you would not really expect a Police officer to do, such as leopard crawling and fighting in build-up areas. We also had to do a route march before passing out from the PSU Basic Course.

What keeps you going during training?

Knowing that there is a window of opportunity to improve myself, be it physically or in terms of character, keeps me going.

When I am not training, I enjoy...

Singing and song-writing. I enjoy the process of creating something from nothing and the de-stressing effects that my hobbies have. Regardless of how the day went, I am able to go home and let out whatever I feel and turn that into a song.

I cannot live without...

My recording devices which I use to record my song inspirations. Whenever I get inspirations for a song, I always tell myself that I will definitely remember this and will work on it later. However, when the time comes, I usually forget about it and a potentially good song would have been lost.

I believe...

It is important to be someone who is adaptable as there are bound to be setbacks in life. By being adaptable, you would be able to overcome whatever life throws at you.

