

**POLICE
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WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS

Safeguarding Our Waters

Meet The Chief of Home Team Academy



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FOREWORD



Tham Yee Lin
Editor
Police Life

Stop. Take a moment now to listen closely – what sounds do you hear?

I hear strains of Hoobastank’s “The Reason” coming from the cubicle to my left, overpowering my other teammate’s Japanese electro music remix from the game Touhou. Chances are, you also heard some music or songs when you paused to listen to the sounds around you.

Music is rather prevalent in people’s lives. I believe that even when we don’t hear music from external sources, we hear music from within ourselves, and we then catch ourselves humming these tunes from within.

I used to play the trumpet in my secondary school’s band, and even after all these years, I’ll occasionally find myself humming melodies like “Centuria”. The piece was composed in 1986, supposedly in honour of C.L. Barnhouse Co.’s 100 years of service to music educators.

Twenty-one years before that, the Police March was composed to create a personal march for officers of the Police Force to relate to. It is played as the last musical piece during any major Police event or parade, right before the National Anthem. Having a unique police song that is as old as our country is indeed significant. Explore this song with us in this issue of *Police Life*.

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WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS

By SC/Cpl Muhammad Alif Bin Sapuan & Ms Amanda Chung Xiao Fang
Public Affairs Department

Two outstanding leaders were recently awarded top honours for promoting international policing cooperation and fostering close relations between police forces.

The Secretary General of INTERPOL, Mr Ronald Noble, was conferred the Darjah Utama Bakti Cemerlang (Distinguished Service Order) by President Tony Tan Keng Yam on 1 October 2014. Mr Noble had promoted international policing cooperation and fostered excellent relations between Singapore and INTERPOL and its member countries, enhancing the safety and security of the region and the world.

Singapore hosting the INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI) is one of the significant outcomes of the close strategic ties between Singapore and INTERPOL. Looking at enhancing INTERPOL's global outreach, Mr Noble conceptualised the IGCI. It will be a new platform for public-private partnerships in international policing to develop new and innovative security solutions against emerging global threats such as cyber-crime. During the IGCI Handover Ceremony held the day before the conferment ceremony, Mr Noble affirmed the importance of international police forces to work together and stay a step ahead, "Let history remember the IGCI as testimony to INTERPOL's ability to adapt to change while protecting citizens worldwide from crime even as crime itself continues to evolve and remain invisible to us all."

Later that night, a Dining-In was held for Mr Noble at the Senior Police Officers' Mess. The mood was relaxed and smiles were seen all round. Commissioner of the Singapore Police Force, Mr Ng Joo Hee, was observed to have had a lively conversation with Mr Noble before the dinner, when they were viewing photos from a Dining-In held for Mr Lee Kuan Yew in 2011.



— TOP HONOUR FOR —
SPF'S CHIEF

Mr Ng Joo Hee, Commissioner of the Singapore Police Force (SPF), was conferred the award of Panglima Gagah Pasukan Polis (Order of Police Heroism – Knight Grand Commander) by His Majesty, Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah on 15 September 2014 at the Istana Negara, Kuala Lumpur. The award is the highest award that can be bestowed by the Royal Malaysia Police (RMP) on an individual.

Commissioner Ng has actively fostered close and strong relations between the SPF and the RMP. He was recognised for his commitment and contribution in enhancing cooperation and fostering close ties between the two police forces in combating crime.

"I am honoured to receive this award on behalf of the men and women of the Singapore Police Force," said Commissioner Ng. "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 RMP in our joint fight against crime and wrong-doing."

Both the SPF and the RMP enjoyed an excellent relationship with close cooperation in the areas of investigations, maritime security operations, information sharing, as well as training exchanges. These collaborations have yielded significant operational benefits for both forces in combating terrorism and transnational crime.



NO MORE PLAYING WITH FIRE

By SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue



The Citizens on Patrol (COP) is a joint police-resident initiative by the Singapore Police Force (SPF) and Residents' Committees (RC) to have RC members and other residents trained to observe, detect, and report on suspicious behaviours in their neighbourhoods. Their role in keeping their neighbourhoods safe has greatly enhanced policing efforts, as highlighted in the following incident.

On 22 June 2014, Madam Neo Sew Yook discovered that a poster outside the Punggol Oasis RC centre in her block had been partially burnt. The COP member, who is also an RC member, immediately phoned her RC Chairman, Mr William Tan. Mr Tan retrieved CCTV footage that revealed a man had lit up the poster with a lighter and walked off.

Footage from another CCTV also showed that the suspect was earlier seated at the void deck with two other men and one lady. With the information gathered, Mr Tan immediately contacted the police.

Station Inspector (SI) Mark Koh and Special Constabulary Sergeant (SC/Sgt) Ivin Ong from Punggol Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) were on patrol nearby and arrived quickly at the scene to investigate. After viewing the footage, SC/Sgt Ong, who is also a resident of the affected block, was quick to identify the lady in the CCTV footage as a resident of the block. This jolted Madam Neo's memory and she recognised the lady and even knew exactly where she stayed.

Madam Neo led the officers to the lady's unit. SI Koh and SC/Sgt Ong found out from

the lady that the culprit is her boyfriend's friend and provided the suspect's contact number. Armed with the information, the two officers collaborated with the Crime Strike Force from Punggol NPC to establish the suspect's whereabouts. The suspect was soon arrested; the case was solved within six hours.

In this case, being embedded in the community provided our officers with a good knowledge of the area they work in. This resulted in a crucial lead, as did the tip off from Madam Neo.

"COP complements and amplifies policing work, and acts like the extended arms of law. We are seeing the synergy it creates because the community continues to be a very important stakeholder in our efforts to combat the criminals," said SI Koh.

ALL GROWN UP

Interestingly, Madam Neo happens to be SC/Sgt Ong's mother as well! When asked about how he felt during his collaboration with his mother in solving this crime, he responded bashfully, "It was an awkward episode, especially working with my mother, who has watched me grow all these years from a playful boy to see me at this transformational stage, as a mature and professional man. We both have to be professional and not allow family ties to intervene with our work, even as my mother told me how proud she was of me."

By Ms Chew Si Lei Jinnie and Cpl (NS) Tan Cheong Hui Albert
Public Affairs Department

BATON AND DRUM STICKS

When he's not conducting footbeat patrols in Sembawang, Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Mohamed Yuzaimi Bin Zainal is probably beating a drum.

Sgt Yuzaimi is a talented drummer from the band *Rancour*. Those who are familiar with the local indie music scene may find that the name rings a bell, because the band was the champion of MediaCorp *Suria* channel's *Anugerah Band* competition in 2008.

When did you discover your flair in drumming?

My father was also a performer and he would take me along to performances when I was younger. He was a singer but what captured my interest were the drums. It seemed like so much cooler than playing the guitar. I used to get reprimanded by my mom for stealing chopsticks from the kitchen and pretending that they were drum sticks.

Have you ever performed at Singapore Police Force events?

I was part of a band called "Bits and Pieces" formed with a few of my Ang Mo Kio Police Division colleagues. We decided to audition to perform at the Senior Police Officers' Mess Dinner a few years back. I was quite hesitant at the start as I was not sure if the event guests such as Commissioner (of Police) and other senior officers would enjoy my band's music – our songs were considered "loud". Thankfully enough, our female vocalist, Juliana, offered a mellower element from her voice to

"butter" up the "aggression" from our music. Other than that, I also played a few acoustic sets for my Neighbourhood Police Centre's Family Day and at Division festival gatherings.

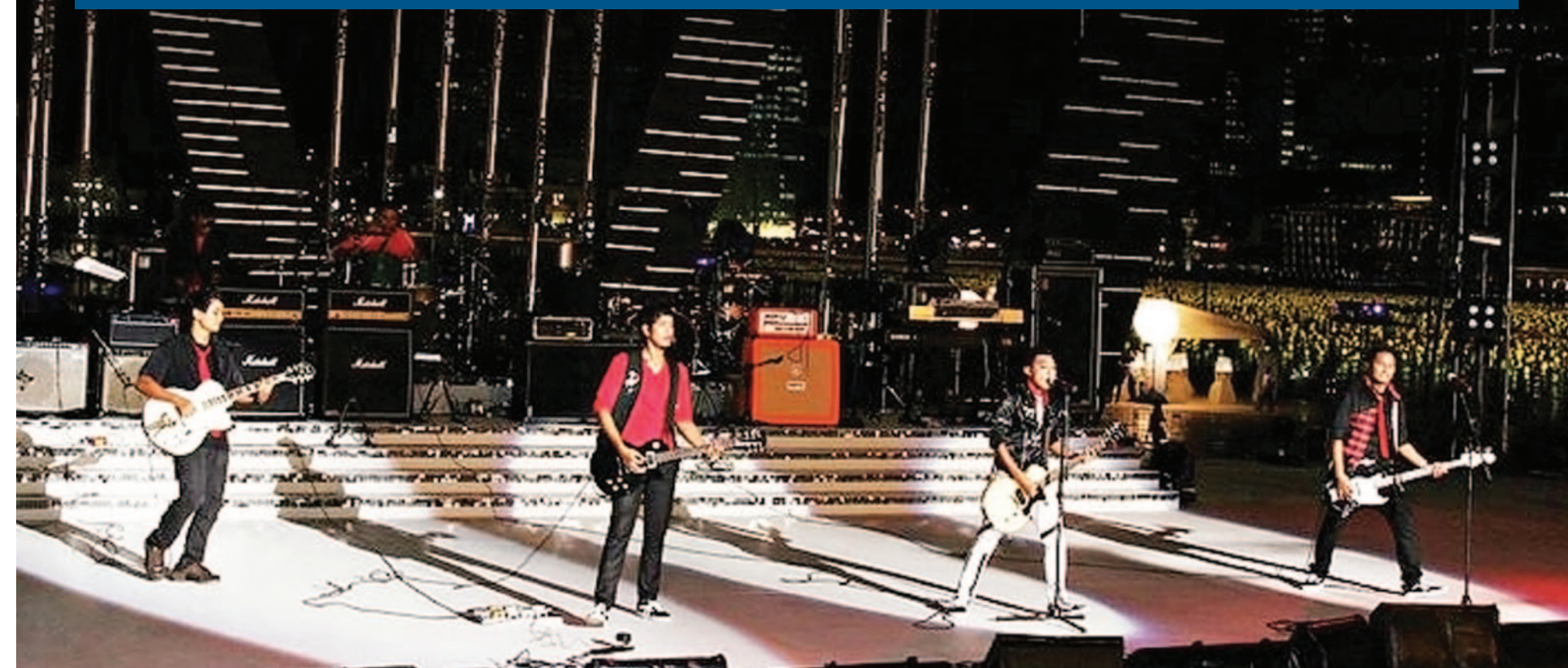
Can you tell us more about your band *Rancour*?

We are actually a fun bunch. We got together in 1994 and while we were at the adolescent stage, our choice of music genre was 'punk-rock', which is somewhat aggressive. As time passed, we added 'pop' elements into our music to make it more palatable. We played several indie gigs around Singapore and in 2008, we won *Anugerah Band*. Since then, we performed on several shows telecasted on television. Some notable ones were *Sinar Lebaran* (Mediacorp's Hari Raya show), President's Star Charity, New Year's Eve countdown and a few more charity programmes.

Why didn't you pursue a career in the entertainment industry instead?

Making a living by producing your own music is tough in Singapore. You'd have to be really good to distinguish yourself. All bands that I know of locally have their own day jobs. It's the harsh truth that most listeners prefer music from other countries which are more mainstream. You could play in a live band and only do song covers. But I am not really in favour of that, because it's my music that I want them to hear.

“Being a police officer is more than just a job. My daily duties have taught me numerous life values and lessons. And at the end of the day, I'm always thankful to return home safe to my family.”



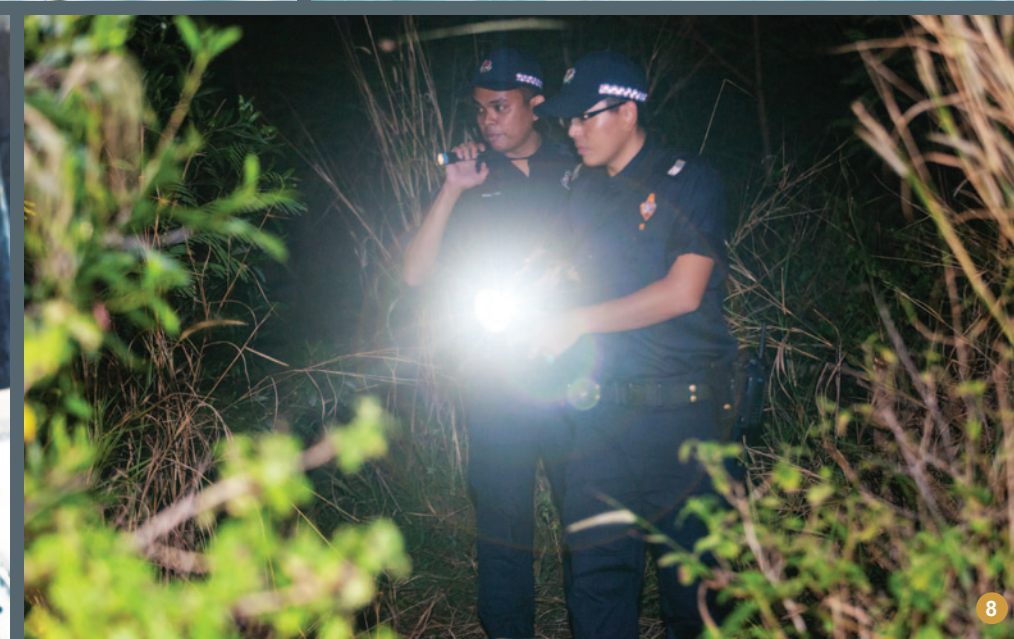
SAFEGUARDING OUR WATERS

By SC Mok Wen Jie

Singapore's coastline may be considered tiny compared to many other countries, but that does not make the job of the Police Coast Guard (PCG) any easier. The close proximity of Malaysia's coast makes small and fast vessels difficult to detect quickly, and the high volume of ship traffic along the southern coast means officers must always be vigilant for illegal activities and possible accidents. *Police Life* follows our PCG officers for a day as they work round the clock to keep Singapore's waters secure.



- 1 PCG officers briefing media reporters before boarding a command craft
- 2 The craft is remotely steered out of the dock from a vantage point outside, rather than the cabin where visibility is limited
- 3 A PC class patrol craft patrolling along the northern coast of Singapore, where the distance from shore to shore is shortest
- 4 A PC class patrol craft patrolling close to some offshore platforms, or 'kelongs'
- 5 Station Inspector Reyaz Ahamed keeps a sharp eye out for ships while navigating past the ever-busy Tanjong Pagar Terminal
- 6 A PCG officer preparing to dock the craft
- 7 PCG officers securing the craft after coming to a rest at PCG Brani Base
- 8 Coastal Security Patrol Force (CSPF) officers patrolling remote coastal areas around Changi
- 9 CSPF officers checking the fencing along the coasts to ensure that no one has cut them to gain illegal entry
- 10 CSPF officers taking a final look around the area before moving on to the next area



HERITAGE

THE POLICE MARCH

By Probationary Inspector Azfer Ali Khan
Public Affairs Department

The Police March is played as the last musical piece during any major Police event or parade, right before the National Anthem. It was composed by Inspector Ridzwan Salmi bin Mulok in 1965, to create a personal march for officers of the Singapore Police Force (SPF) to relate to.

The Prelude

The first musical piece was actually composed by Mr R. F. House, and was entitled 'Police March'. After the merger with Malaysia in 1963, the Police March became the Royal Malaysian Police March. Right after Singapore gained independence, Inspector Ridzwan was commissioned to write the March as we know it today.

Mr Ridzwan was the first local Director of the SPF Band, taking over from Mr J. E. Boyle in December 1960. From enlisting in the Special Constabulary in 1949, Mr Ridzwan rose to the rank of Corporal, where he led the Combined/Military Orchestra that was regularly broadcast over Radio Singapore. He attended the Royal Military School of Music in England and was appointed as Resident Conductor of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra in 1960. His return to the SPF Band marked the beginning of a new era for the band.

The Soul of the Song

The lyrics of the March are in Malay, drawing inspiration from the National Anthem. This is also because a lot of the officers at the time were Malay, and the Police March related to their values and ethics. "The March is important for me, because every regiment needs its own anthem, to keep in touch with our traditions and to keep our spirits high," says Superintendent of Police Amri bin Amin, the current Director of Music.

The lyrics used in the March serves to remind all officers to work hard to serve the nation, for we are responsible for the safety and security of our homeland.

PRS MARCH LYRICS

(Malay)

Polis Republik Singapura yang
Sedia berkhidmat setiap masa
Dan mengawal keamanan negara,
Dari kota sampai ke desa.

Kami anggota Polis Negara,
Berikrar setia kepada rakyat,
Dan pemimpin yang adil saksama,
Sampai kepada akhir khidmat.

*Mari kita giat bekerja,
Menyengsang lengan baju,
Menjaga tanah air kita,
Yang Makmur serta maju.

Polis Republik Singapura yang
Sedia berkhidmat setiap masa
Dan mengawal keamanan negara,
Dari kota sampai ke desa.

(* Repeat)

(English)

Republic of Singapore Police
Readily available at all times
And controlling the country's security,
From the city to the countryside.

We are members of the National Police,
Pledging allegiance to the people,
Equitable and fair leaders,
Up to the end of our service.

* Let's work harder,
Fold up our sleeves,
In keeping our motherland,
Peaceful and successful.

Republic of Singapore Police
Readily available at all times
And controlling the country's security,
From the city to the countryside.

(* Repeat)



By SSgt Chee Yong Tat

FROM SAN FRANCISCO BAY TO MARINA BAY

A visit to the Singapore Police Force (SPF) was definitely on the to-do list of the President of the San Francisco Asian Peace Officers' Association.

Since 2013, Sergeant (Sgt) Barrett Chan has been leading the association in improving public safety for the Asian American communities. Through the association, the 19 year veteran in the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) aims to establish a collaborative effort with the SFPD and the City's citizens to ensure that all communities continue to receive the best police service in the United States.

During his visit to Singapore in September 2014, Sgt Chan was hosted for a day by SPF. Besides meeting Deputy Commissioner of Police (Policy) T. Raja Kumar, Police Technology Department Director Mr Tay Yeow Koon and Operations Department 3 Deputy Director Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Police Teo Chor Leng, Sgt Chan toured the Police Heritage Centre, Junior Officers' Mess (JOM), Traffic Police Department and Geylang Neighbourhood Police Centre.

What stood out

Sgt Chan found that the equipment used by the Traffic Police Department (TP) are more sophisticated than those used in San Francisco (SF).

For example, the 3G live feed from the TP motorcycles impressed Sgt Chan as it provides a real-time feedback and is effective. Sgt Chan shared that due to privacy concerns, such a tool is not used in SF.

Lastly, he felt that JOM is a place with great facilities and has a sense of camaraderie that allows officers to bond with their families and colleagues. As law enforcement is a stressful job, Sgt Chan believes that JOM supports officers in key areas such as physical and mental health.



Perception versus Impression

Before arriving in Singapore, Sgt Chan felt that we are a very strict country, with strict penalties imposed for crimes committed.

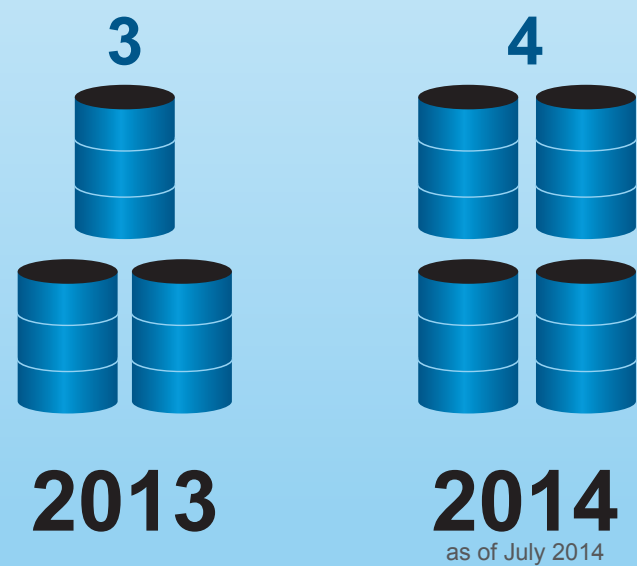
After this trip, Sgt Chan had this to say about his impression of Singapore: "I find that Singapore has educated Singaporeans well on law matters and SPF has earned the respect of Singaporeans. I would like to bring back to SF and share this with my fellow colleagues."

PLUGGING THE HOLE

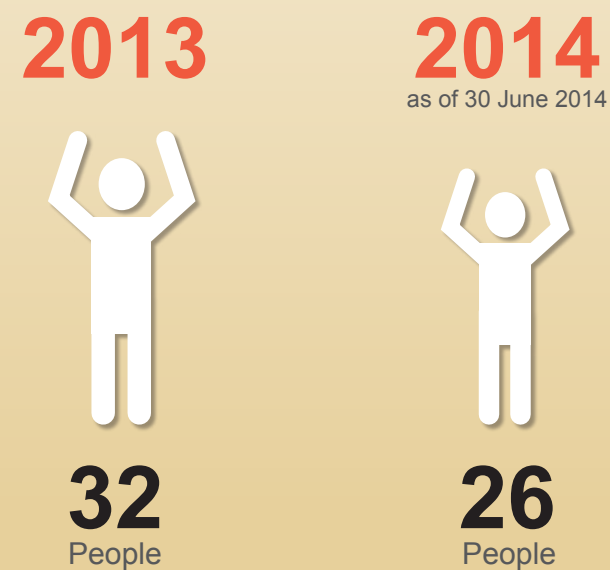
By SC/Cpl Gabriel Chan Duen Yue

Since 2013, the Police Coast Guard (PCG) busted seven groups involved in the illegal sales of marine gas oil (MGO).

Number of cases of illegal sales of oil commodities in Singapore



Total number of people arrested for illegal MGO sales in



Since last year, the PCG, with the assistance of other authorities such as the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA), arrested several suspects for their involvement in the illegal sales of MGO. These suspects comprised 55 crew members and three Singaporean financiers, who were caught in a series of arrests. During the course of investigations, the PCG seized cash amounting to over \$22000 and six vessels which were used in the commission of these crimes.

Their "underground" method

The suspects worked illicitly employing the following modus operandi: Singapore-based oil sellers would finance a group of foreign crew members in the transportation and sales of their smuggled oil commodities to potential buyers at sea, in return for a greater payout from such transactions. The MGO would be bought at a lower price than that on the market and resold again by the foreign buyers at sea to their local counterparts for larger profits. As such, this 'underground' scheme becomes a lucrative economic activity but it costs legitimate oil companies millions of dollars per year.

The crew members used foreign-registered tugboats, which were modified with additional fuel tanks, to transport and sell these MGO. However, such modifications were impermissible due to safety

concerns. The Jurong Waters Safety & Security Network (JSSN) and Pandan Waters Safety & Security Network (PSSN), which enforce safety regulations among vessel owners, discovered the vessel owners' ploy while conducting a routine vessel-check on selected tugboats. Their suspicions were raised upon noticing the fuel usage meters in each of these tugboats were unexpectedly high, exceeding three to four times the average usage by other similar tugboats.

The PCG were tipped off, and they immediately tracked down the tugboats and apprehended the suspects. The suspects were subsequently convicted for offences including Criminal Breach of Trust by a Servant and Dishonestly Receiving Stolen Property.

Need to stem the outflow

PCG Deputy Commander (Special Duties), Assistant Commissioner of Police Lim Kim Tak, explained the need to stop these illegal activities. "In these cases, tugboats have been modified with additional fuel tanks to facilitate the illegal sales of MGO. These tugboats are a fire hazard and pose a danger to other vessels in the area. PCG will continue to conduct enforcement operations and checks, as well as engage relevant stakeholders to clamp down on the illegal sales of MGO."



The close collaboration between PCG, ICA and the maritime communities such as PSSN and JSSN in these high-profile cases has shown remarkable results. With the continuous exchange of intelligence, coupled with the use of cutting-edge technology such as the Live Tracking Global Positioning System, provides our police officers a significant capability in tracking the vessels. The arrest is indeed a commendable accomplishment and it is a testament to the efficacy and steadfastness of the Police Coast Guard.

DID YOU KNOW

Singapore is the world's largest and most important bunkering hub. Bunkering is the process of supplying fuels to ships or vessels for their own use.

The illegal sales of MGO are part of what is widely-known amongst the seafarers and marine companies as a 'bunker theft'. The Southeast Asia region has a number of reported 'bunker theft' cases. Usually, most of these cases involved the siphoning of marine gas oil or fuel, without the owner's awareness, from a vessel while a fuel transfer is being conducted, and the falsification of the vessel's fuel records by a crew member or syndicate in attempt to deceive the owner and perhaps the fuel supplier. The aim was to gain easy profit from reselling these tonnes of fuel.

WHAT IS MGO?

Marine gas oil (MGO) is a distillate diesel fuel similar to the diesel that road vehicles consume. It is designed for use in all diesel-fuelled engines in mobile, portable and stationary applications. There are also other classifications (non-distillate) of diesel fuel for marine uses such as intermediate fuel oil and residual fuel oil.





“The noble mission of the SPF resonated with me and I wanted to do something that was more action-packed and would impact people directly.”

MEET THE CHIEF OF HOME TEAM ACADEMY

By Ms Shirlene Tan
The Academy Times

The Chief Executive (CE) of the Home Team Academy, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Policy) (DC(P)) T. Raja Kumar is no stranger to the Home Team having held several key appointments such as Director of the Police Intelligence Department (PID) and the first Chief Executive of the Casino Regulatory Authority (CRA). DC(P) T. Raja Kumar oversaw the conceptualisation, development and implementation of the casino regulatory framework and the setting up and full operationalisation of a new statutory board, the CRA. Being there for the birth and growth of a new statutory board and industry marks a significant milestone in Singapore's history and a

defining moment in DC(P) T. Raja Kumar's career. "We (CRA) had to learn everything from scratch and put in place a world-class regulatory framework. It was a high order challenge – having to manage a trilemma: finding the appropriate balance between the interests of law enforcement, business and social safeguards. It was an immensely satisfying moment to see years of hard work all coming together. And I am delighted that the core team I built has stayed the course and continues to anchor the CRA even today."

Having had a long and outstanding career in the Home Team, DC(P) Raja shares his inspiration behind his

decision to pursue a career in the Singapore Police Force. "My father was a senior police officer and I grew up in the police inspectors' quarters at Chua Chu Kang Road...I was exposed to the work of the Home Team and the Singapore Police Force at a young age". When DC(P) Raja graduated from the National University of Singapore with a Bachelor of Law (Honours), he was given the choice of joining the Legal Service or the Singapore Police Force (SPF). "The noble mission of the SPF resonated with me and I wanted to do something that was more action-packed and would impact people directly."

When asked what some of the memorable experiences he had in his 28 years of service with MHA were, he shared "I had the privilege to deliver a presentation to former Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew at the Istana. We had to present a very thorough analysis of an issue and it was daunting because you had to be very precise with everything you said. It was nerve-wrecking but thankfully the presentation went off well."

Asked what he is most proud of as a career accomplishment and he shares, "It would be the immense satisfaction of identifying talent and grooming it. It means so much to me to see officers whom I identified when they were Sergeants now doing so well as Senior Officers, with some holding Superintendent rank".

Despite his tough and no-nonsense exterior, DC(P) Raja is a doting family man. "The most memorable moments in my life were the birth of my three kids. All three of them."

Holding two concurrent appointments – as CE HTA and DC(P) SPF - while juggling his secondary roles as President of the Mess Committee of the Senior Police Officers' Mess, and as a Past President of a

Rotary Club with family commitments is no mean feat. So, how does DC(P) Raja manage it? "It is about effectiveness, not balance. The challenge is to be effective in the things that you do and to prioritise well. Do things that count and that are important." The father of three tries his best to attend major family events despite his hectic schedule. "I make it a priority to be there for the things that are important to my family, like milestone events involving my children." Travelling, DC(P) Raja says, is good family bonding time, which he cherishes. However, since he seldom has the luxury of time to go on long holidays, DC (P) Raja takes his family on local staycations once in a while.

DC(P) Raja also shared his love of sports. "I used to be an avid footballer. Now my footballing days are over and to keep fit I make it a point to work out in the gym at least three times a week." DC(P) Raja also goes for jogs at the Botanic Gardens or other scenic spots on weekends where he would be seen enjoying the fresh air as well as listening to music from the likes of the Black Eyed Peas and Gotye. He shares "I'm up to date with the latest sounds because of my teenage kids". But that is not all. He reveals that he has an eclectic taste in music and enjoys listening to all kinds of music from English hits from the 50s to the

latest chart toppers. He also listens to Malay songs, Cantopop and songs by Teresa Teng, who was his mother's favourite non-English singer. He loves singing, which he finds very relaxing, and sings in his church choir as a bassist.

DC(P) Raja also has a sweet tooth. "I love chocolates. I am a confirmed chocoholic!" he muses. "My favourites are the truffles from Sprungli. I always get my fellow chocoholics to get me a box when they go to Switzerland."

Coffee is another of DC(P)'s penchants and he says that he enjoys checking out the new coffee joints in town. So, mocha must be a match made in heaven for him? "I am okay with mocha but I prefer them separate." He laughs.

Chocolates and coffee aside, he tells us of his philosophy in life "Every day is a learning opportunity. It is important to have a thirst for knowledge and the will to improve oneself. This passion and hunger for knowledge is something that I live my life by." And this, is something that all of us could reflect on and practise, whether at work or in our personal lives.



**“I HAVE YOUR SON,
TRANSFER THE RANSOM AND
YOU WILL HAVE HIM BACK.”**

DON'T FALL FOR HIS KIDNAP SCAM

- Call '999' immediately when you receive such calls
- Remain calm and contact your loved one to confirm his or her safety
- Do not remit any money

DON'T BE SCAMMED

Find out more about scams at www.scamalert.sg



PENALTIES FOR CHEATING
JAIL TERM OF UP TO 10 YEARS AND
LIABLE TO A FINE



Giving Hope. Improving Lives.

