



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Opening Remarks by Australian Defence Minister, Mr Ian Mclachlan, at the Agreement Signing Ceremony**

21 Oct 1996

First of all, I'd like to welcome Dr Tan to this country and to say that we have some short but very fruitful discussion this afternoon which we hope to progress and all those discussions really did was to verify the very excellent arrangement we have between the two countries not only commercial but also in the defence sense. We talked about the Five Power Defence Arrangements and how we will need to make sure that they go on pace as strongly as they have been in the past and also I have to say we are in fact now epitomising this relationship by signing yet another arrangement whereby helicopter training facilities, when helicopters will be at Oakey in Queensland, which is another arrangement on top of the very good jet training arrangements which we had in Pearce, Western Australia and Shoalwater Bay facilities which I have seen and I hope that one day you get the chance to see. All of those facilities are offered to the Singaporeans absolutely delighted to do so. And I hope that these sorts of arrangements can be continued and enhanced into the future.

National Archives of Singapore