



SPEECH

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Remarks by CNV at the Press Conference After the Submarine Training Agreement Signing

27 Feb 1998

I am very pleased today to have signed the submarine training agreement with VADM Nordbeck. This is an important agreement for the RSN as it will contribute greatly to the professional expertise and proficiency of the RSN. It also reflects the close partnership between the RSwn and the RSN, and is another symbol of the excellent defence relationship between Singapore and Sweden.

The submarine training agreement covers the provision of RSwn facilities and personnel to support the RSN's submarine training in Sweden, in areas such as operational crew and technical training of RSN personnel, exercises, submarine safety, and maintenance of the RSN's submarines in Sweden. We currently have about 40 RSN officers and men undergoing submarine training in Sweden, and expect to have about 60 personnel training in Sweden in the longer term. The RSN values the opportunity to learn from and train with the more experienced RSwn. The training that the RSN receives will increase the knowledge of the RSN in submarine operations. The RSN is keen to increase its interactions with the RSwn and we look forward to developing the close navy-to-navy relationship even further.

VADM Nordbeck's leadership, support and guidance have contributed to the significant development of the close and strong friendship and cooperation between the RSN and the RSwn. VADM Nordbeck has been instrumental in facilitating the RSN's submarine training programme in Sweden. He has also promoted professional interactions between the two navies in the Mine Counter-Measures. I would like to congratulate VADM Nordbeck on his being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (Military), one of Singapore's most prestigious awards, and being the first Swedish officer to receive it. I am confident that, with the signing

of the submarine training agreement, the relationship between the RSN and RSwN will grow from strength to strength.

News Release:

- Royal Swedish Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy Sign Submarine Training Agreement (Swedish Navy Chief Conferred One of Singapore's Prestigious Awards) (Document No: MINDEF_19980227001.pdf)

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