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Opening of Basic Military Training Centre in Pulau Tekong

17 Aug 1999

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Dr Tony Tan officially opened the new SAF Basic Military Training Centre (BMTC) at Pulau Tekong on Tue, 17 Aug 99 at 7.00 p.m.

The SAF BMTC at Pulau Tekong signifies a milestone in the history of National Service. The SAF BMTC, with its two BMTC Schools will be the focal point of all Singapore men embarking on their National Service. It is a key training institution where the basic foundation of combat skills are taught to soldiers to enable them to undertake tough and demanding training later in their NS life. Through their training, soldiers will better understand and appreciate their responsibilities towards the security and defence of Singapore.

The centrally located SAF BMTC, with its modern infrastructure and training facilities provide for a conducive training environment for the recruits. The proximity to the training areas such as the Grenade Range and Battle Innoculation Course Range within Pulau Tekong allows for the timely and effective training of recruits in basic soldiering skills.

During the ceremony, Dr Tony Tan unveiled the National Service (NS) Landmark, a life-sized infantry soldier with the SAF Flag. The NS landmark portrays the defence of Singapore as a national effort with the SAF playing a key role. Dr Tan visited the Infantry Heritage Centre and Total Defence Museum located in the SAF BMTC. Before the Opening Ceremony, he also toured the training areas in Pulau Tekong and the facilities in the SAF BMTC complex.

Factsheet:

- Factsheet - Basic Military Training Centre (Document No: MINDEF_19990817003.pdf)
- Factsheet - National Service Landmark (Document No: MINDEF_19990817003_1.pdf)

Speech:

- Speech by Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, at the Unveiling of the National Service Landmark and the SAF BMTC Opening Ceremony (Document No: MINDEF_19990817002.pdf)

National Archives of Singapore