



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Fact Sheet: UAV Command

25 May 2007

### Introduction

The UAV Command (UC) is the second RSAF Command to be inaugurated as part of the restructured 3rd Generation Air Force. The UC is also the first operational SAF Command raised in the RSAF that will be staffed by personnel from all three Services and the Joint Staff.

The UC will have the following roles:

- a) It will be responsible for the development of unmanned systems for the SAF, including expertise and capability development, vocational development for its operators and ensuring the operational readiness and safety of UAV employment.
- b) It will be the dedicated authority to provide specialist guidance on UAV operations and flight safety considerations for the SAF, including the daily management of routine UAV flight operations, and the provision of UAV support for the execution of peacetime operations.

### STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION

The UC comprises a Headquarters (HQ UC), four squadrons (three UAV and one Air Logistics Squadron) and a UAV Training School. HQ UC is led by its Commander and his Deputy Commander, with the traditional Principal Staff Group (S1 to S4) set-up, an Operations & System Development Group (OSDG), as well as a Standards Office and a Simulator Centre. Figure 1 depicts the broad structure of UC.

The main structures within UC are highlighted below:

- a) Operations & System Development Group (OSDG). The OSDG, headed by the Deputy Commander of UC, is the central agency to oversee the employment of UAVs for SAF mission requirements. To support these functions, OSDG will have three entities: the Governance branch, the Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) branch, and an Operations Centre.
- (1) Governance Branch. This branch manages the adherence of all UAV operators in the SAF to the approved UAV employment requirements.
- (2) ISTAR Branch. ISTAR Branch develops the UAV surveillance capability for the SAF. This branch will also be responsible for the development of future UAV capabilities.
- (3) Operations Centre. The Operations

Centre oversees all aspects of daily UAV flying activities and also executes peacetime operations. b) Standards Office / Simulator Centre. The Standards Office will manage the skills training for the Weapon System Officer (WSO) (UAV) vocation, track competency standards and audit the squadrons' standards. As the bulk of UAV flying will be conducted in simulators, the new Simulator Centre will be a key tool that the Standards Office will employ in its role of raising flying standards.

c) Squadrons and UAV Training School (UTS). There are three UAV Squadrons (Sqn) and an Air Logistics Squadron (ALS). The UAV Squadrons are the 119 and 128 Sqns which both operate the Searcher UAV, and the 116 Sqn which operates the H-450 UAV. The UAV Training School (UTS) conducts basic and conversion training on UAV operations for active and NS personnel. The ALS provides the maintenance and logistics support to the UAV operating establishments within UC.

#### **News Release**

- Inauguration of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Command (MINDEF\_20070525001.pdf)

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