

VIGILANTE CORPS

Over 200 Leaders from Community Centres in Singapore were given a briefing on the organisation of the Vigilante Corps by the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr. A.T. Rajah and Officers Commanding, Police Divisions, at the Conference Room of the People's Association this morning.

Mr. Rajah told all those present that the good response of people registering for the Vigilante Corps was most heartening and will be making available tremendous man-power in assisting the Police in not only combatting sabotage but also in maintaining law and order. He praised the civic consciousness of those who had volunteered and stressed the importance of the Police and Community Centre Leaders doing everything possible to maintain efficiency and enthusiasm in the Vigilante Corps.

Mr. Rajah stated that the Police force is particularly grateful to all those who have registered and added that the Police will do their best to help train and assist members of the Corps. He hoped that they would serve as an additional link in establishing good relationship between the Police and the people.

After Mr. Rajah had addressed the meeting, Officers Commanding, Police Divisions held separate discussions with groups of Community Centre Leaders to ascertain their particular positions and requirements and to finalise training arrangements for the Vigilante Corps members in their respective areas. Letters will be sent out to those who have registered, asking them to report at fixed times at Centres as near as possible to their homes. They will be subsequently given courses of lectures on their powers and functions and also some lessons in elementary drill before they are actually deployed in patrol duties in their neighbourhoods.

NOTE:

At the close of registration for the Vigilante Corps on Saturday, May 16th, 14,822 persons had registered for voluntary service.

MAY 18th, 1964.

(Time issued: 1430 hours)