

PRIME MINISTER'S ADDRESS AT THE OPENING OF THE SAF
RESERVISTS' ASSOCIATION CLUBHOUSE, TOA PAYOH,
WEDNESDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY, 1975

It gives me pleasure to open the first centre of the SAF Reservists' Association (SAFRA). SAFRA membership is nearing 10,000. Up to recently, it has been operating in temporary premises belonging formerly to the Norwegian Seamen's Mission in Prince Edward Lane. So the response is encouraging.

National Service has become part of a Singaporean's way of life. SAFRA will have more centres in other areas of high population. These centres will provide convenient meeting places for reservists and their families. They will all have sporting, social, cultural and educational facilities for men and their wives and children.

Membership fees are \$2 per annum for other ranks and \$5 for officers.

For this centre in Toa Payoh, 2½ acres of land have been provided. The clubhouse costs nearly \$2 million. But the capital expenditure and annual grants to pay for the costs of running the centre is money well spent if it maintains camaraderie amongst SAF reservists and provides facilities to help our city

dwellers keep fit and healthy, with exercises and recreation. However, just as important are the facilities which will be available for their wives and children. The well-being of the SAF reservist includes the well-being of his family.

From the experience of this Toa Payoh centre, we hope subsequent SAFRA centres will be better designed to meet the needs of our reservists and their families.

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