

SPEECH BY THE MINISTER FOR CULTURE,  
MR JEK YEUN THONG, AT THE FIFTH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION  
ADVENTURE CLUB - SUNDAY 18 MAY 75 AT 2.00 PM

Ladies & Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to be with the  
People's Association Adventure Club on the occasion  
of the celebration of its 5th Anniversary.

The success of the Club particularly since its  
affiliation to the People's Association last year, is  
impressive. Starting with less than 100 members, the  
Club today has over 500 members. The fleet of canoes  
have increased from 8 to the present 59. And I  
understand that the Club is trying to acquire more  
canoes and other equipment to cope with ever-increasing  
demand by youth in sea activities.

The Club has actively promoted sea activities  
especially canoeing among our youth in the Republic.  
It has so far conducted over 50 courses for 1,063  
participants from various youth organisations and  
community centres' youth groups. It is indeed commendable  
that all these are carried out by youths for youths.

.../It is evident

It is evident that given the opportunity, our youth have the enthusiasm and capacity for community service and youth work. The activities of the Adventure Club is one case in point. Hard work and excellent leadership have turned this one-time community centre into a bustling canoe centre.

Its active encouragement of young people, in particular, PA youth group members to take to the sea is in line with the government policy of encouraging citizens to take up careers at sea as ours is a maritime nation.

Through the Club, youths from all over Singapore are being brought together, giving them the opportunity to meet each other and to carry out various adventurous activities. In fact, I would encourage more joint and combined activities among members from the youth groups. Youths of today should be brave and adventurous. They should not be afraid to seek new knowledge and adventures over the horizon. The world is theirs if only they have the courage to take it.

Today's effort, I believe, is the culmination of months of planning and training. It is worthwhile effort and I congratulate the Chairman and members of the Organising Committee further success. I now have the pleasure of declaring this carnival open.