

SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS RELEASE

PUBLICITY DIVISION · MINISTRY OF CULTURE · CITY HALL SINGAPORE 6

National Archives and
Records Centre, Singapore.

21 OCT 1978

RSAF/SIA RESERVE PILOT SCHEME

The following joint statement was issued by
Ministry of Defence and Singapore Airlines today:

ACC.		INC
78	0050	50

37

The Republic of Singapore Air Force and Singapore Airlines have recently launched a RSAF/SIA Reserve Pilot Scheme under which selected qualified RSAF pilots are to be released at regular intervals to take up pilot appointment with SIA. The number of pilots to be released each year will depend on the operational requirements of the RSAF and the pilot vacancies in SIA. The Scheme is the result of extensive studies undertaken by RSAF, SIA and the Department of Civil Aviation of similar schemes in other countries.

The Scheme will have the dual benefit of reducing the operational costs of RSAF while, at the same time, helping to meet the pilot requirements of SIA. The released pilots would be recalled every year by RSAF to fly a minimum of 80 hours in military aircraft in order to maintain their currency as military pilots. With this pool of reserve military pilots, RSAF would not to maintain a large group of full-time pilots. The Scheme will cover both fighter pilots as well as non-fighter pilots.

Before flying commercial aircraft, these pilots will undergo an exhaustive conversion training programme with SIA. The training programme is basically the same as that which other SIA pilots will have to go through. During the training period, the released pilots will receive a total of \$2,200 per month from SIA and RSAF.

The first five RSAF pilots were released to SIA in early October.

17 OCTOBER 1978