



NEWS RELEASE

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Chief of Army Announces Merger to Enhance Training and Capability Development of Infantry Formation

17 Aug 2004



COA handing over the letter of appointment to COL Winston Toh

In line with developments to transform the SAF's fighting force, HQ Infantry will merge with a Combined Arms Division (CAD) to enhance the training and capability development of the Infantry Formation. Officiating at the Infantry Parade held at Selarang Camp this morning, Chief of Army, Major General (MG) Desmond Kuek announced the merger of the 9th Singapore Division and the Infantry Formation to form the new 9th Singapore Division/Infantry Formation (9 Div/Inf). COL Winston Toh, who currently commands the 9th Singapore Division, will concurrently assume the appointment of Chief Infantry Officer.

The Infantry Formation forms the bulk of the Army's manoeuvre forces, performing multiple roles in increasingly diverse operating environments. Through the merger, the 3rd Generation Infantry soldier will leverage on new operational concepts and technologies, coupled with the ability to operate directly in a CAD and systems environment, to enhance his soldiering skills and develop new operational capabilities. A key impetus arising from this merger is the role of the Infantry in urban operations and the development of the Advanced Combat Man System.

A new Infantry Training Institute (ITI) will also be formed by merging three key centres of Infantry training, i.e. Infantry Training Centre, Basic Combat Training Centre and 1 PDF Training Centre. The ITI will strengthen the 3rd Generation Infantry soldier's foundation in soldiering skills and enable more efficient use of training resources while providing consistent and high levels of training standard. The establishment of the ITI will therefore allow soldiering skills to be managed by a single agency throughout the cycle of the Infantryman's service with the SAF, thereby facilitating consistency of standards and practices.

Chief of Army, MG Desmond Kuek noted that the formation of the new 9 Div/HQ Inf is a significant milestone in the Army's transformation roadmap to build a 3rd generation fighting force.



Marchpast at the 9 Div/Infantry merger parade

Speech:

- Speech by Chief of Army, MG Desmond Kuek at the 9th Division/Infantry Merger Parade, Held at Selarang Camp (Document No: MINDEF_20040817002.pdf)

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