



NEWS RELEASE

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SAF Humanitarian Assistance Task Force Leaves for Aceh and West Sumatra

31 Dec 2004



Minister Teo sending off the SAF humanitarian assistance task force

An SAF humanitarian assistance task force comprising an LST, RSS Endurance, with a medical team and an engineer team on board sailed for West Sumatra this afternoon to assist the Indonesian Government's relief efforts. The task force was sent off at Tuas Naval Base by Minister for Defence Teo Chee Hean. Two Super Puma helicopters that are part of the task force left separately for Indonesia yesterday. The LST also carried a third consignment of relief and medical supplies that will be handed over to the authorities in Aceh.

This composite humanitarian assistance task force is made up of the LST, the two helicopters, a medical team, an engineer team and a logistics support team. The task force is led by COL Tan Chuan-Jin. His command and liaison team will co-ordinate the various components of the task force and work closely with the Indonesian authorities and relief agencies to assist the relief efforts.

The LST will serve as a helicopter staging area and co-ordination centre for the task force's

operations. The two Super Puma helicopters will assist with disaster relief operations and the transport of supplies and personnel, while the engineer team will assist with the clearing of roads and debris. The engineers will operate heavy equipment such as excavators and bulldozers. The medical team includes five civilian volunteers, and it will be providing healthcare and medical treatment to victims. The logistics support team will perform general duties, such as setting up shelters and assisting the other components of the task force.

There are 63 NSFs and 2 NSmen among the 472 personnel in the humanitarian assistance task force.



SAF humanitarian assistance task force embarks onto RSS Endurance



RSS Endurance leaving for Indonesia with the SAF humanitarian assistance task force

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SAF Personnel and Assets Returns as Singapore's Relief Efforts in Aceh Transition from Emergency Relief to Recovery Phase



The Transition from Emergency Relief to Recovery Phase (20 Jan 05 - Current)



Life slowly returns to normal in Tsunami-hit Meulaboh (17 Jan 05 - 19 Jan 05)

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The SAF Hard at Work (13 Jan 05 - 17 Jan 05)



Singapore's Relief Assistance to Countries Stricken by the Earthquake and Tsunamis
(11 Jan 05 - 13 Jan 05)



Singapore's Relief Assistance to Countries Stricken by the Earthquake and Tsunamis
(07 Jan 05 - 08 Jan 05)

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Singapore's Relief Assistance to Countries Stricken by the Earthquake and Tsunamis
(03 Jan 05 - 06 Jan 05)



Singapore's Relief Assistance to Countries Stricken by the Earthquake and Tsunamis
(30 Dec 04 - 03 Jan 05)



Use of Singapore's air and naval bases as additional staging and logistics points for bringing relief supplies and aid to tsunami-hit areas



Despatch of Relief and Medical Supplies to Countries Stricken by the Earthquake and Tsunamis (28 Dec 04 - 30 Dec 04)

Factsheet:

- Factsheet - Transcript of Minister's Doorstop Interview at Sembawang Air Base (Send-off for SPS & Chinooks to Thailand)
(Document No: MINDEF_20041230003_1.pdf)
- Factsheet - Transcript of Minister's Press Conference at Tuas Naval Base (Send Off for LST)
(Document No: MINDEF_20041230003_2.pdf)

National Archives of Singapore