

SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT

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TEXT OF SPEECH BY H.E. THE YANG DI-PERTUAN
NEGARA, TUN YUSOF BIN ISHAK, ON THE OCCASION
OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE ST.
JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE AT THE JALAN BESAR
STADIUM ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, AT 5 P.M.

It gives me great pleasure to come here this evening to take the annual general inspection of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. We are all well aware of the great service St. John is rendering in Singapore and its record of service is a most impressive one. Faithful to its motto: "For the Service of Mankind" the way in which it tries to live up to its humanitarian ideals is well known. The familiar khaki uniforms of the ambulance men and the neat white uniforms of the nurses are to be seen in all emergencies and at public functions. All its members are voluntary workers and the people of Singapore should be very grateful to these volunteers whose selfless devotion to duty is worthy of the highest praise and deserving of the utmost support. The Brigade consists of men and women of all races and creeds and from all walks of life, yet we see them mingling together in complete harmony, bound by one common ideal - the desire to be of service to mankind. Here is proof positive that people of different races and tongues can respect one another and work happily together and become one compact unit in order to serve Singapore.

I congratulate the recipients of the Insignia of the Venerable Order of St. John and those who received the Bar to the Service Medal and the Service Medal. Here is loyal, faithful and meritorious service recognised and rewarded and this should encourage the others to emulate their good example. It is regrettable that your former Commissioner, Dr. McIntyre, has had to retire after serving the Brigade untiringly for six years. His work is greatly appreciated. We are fortunate in having as his successor, Dr. K.L. Loh, who is also a devoted worker of St. John. I hope all of you - both members of the Brigade and the public will give him your full support as you did to the former Commissioner - to make his work in St. John a success.

Before closing, I should like to say how impressed I was by this inspection and I congratulate all of you on a very excellent turn out.

AUGUST 8, 1964.

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National Archives of Singapore