

EMBARGOED UNTIL AND SUBJECT TO DELIVERY

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Speech of Mr. Lin Guan Hoo, Political Secretary,
Ministry of Home Affairs at the 7th Intake Passing
Out Parade of Districts 1, 2, 6 and 7, Vigilante
Corps at 5.00 p.m. at 12 PDF Camp, Waig Road,
Saturday, 26th June, 1971

It is an honour and privilege for me to be present here this evening to inspect the Passing Out Parade of the 7th intake of Vigilante Corps National Servicemen. I must say I am very impressed by your smart turn out and the touch of ruggedness pervading the parade. It shows that the six months of basic training which you have undergone have not been put to waste.

The aim of the training programme is to make you mentally alert and physically fit so that you are equipped to deal with any given situation effectively. As members of a disciplined organisation, you are expected to display a high standard of discipline and efficiency at all times.

You come from all walks of life, different races and culture and religion. But you are all engaged in the same role - the role of nation building. In the task of nation building, every human effort counts. Ask not what the organisation and people can do for you; but what you can do with, and more important, for the organisation and people. In order to fulfil this role, it is imperative that you have a common outlook and a common intention.

It is an accepted fact that ours is a multi-racial, multi-religious and multi-cultural society. We cannot afford to have diversity within diversity. We must have unity within diversity. And this is what we are proud of. Although Singapore is like a mirror reflecting multi-racialism, multi-religion and multi-culture, the rays of such reflection all converge into a single united energetic force which has generated peace, progress and prosperity. We must ensure that such force is continuously given fuel and accelerates in momentum to drive the Republic towards greater progress and prosperity.

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It is therefore your duty to see that the good that has been done is not undone and the evils which have been annihilated are not resuscitated.

Very soon you will be going for your post basic training; and this time, the emphasis will be on leadership. The training may appear tough but judging from the determination and diligence which you have displayed over the last six months, I am confident that you will just sail through this post basic phase successfully.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all prize winners for their superb performance. Last but not least I wish to give credit to all officers and men for planning, and all National Servicemen for putting up such an impressive parade.

26th June, 1971
