

Singapore Government **PRESS RELEASE**

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SPEECH BY PRESIDENT SHEARES AT THE ROTARY 50TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION DINNER AT THE MANDARIN COURT ON FRIDAY,
6 JUNE 1980 AT 7.30 PM

I do appreciate your kind invitation to be present this evening on the occasion of the celebration of your golden jubilee. Anniversaries are appropriate occasions to review the past and anticipate the future. What better anniversary to do this than the 50th, with half a century of service behind you. Resolve therefore to redouble your endeavours stressed in your motto - "Service Above Self".

I have taken an interest in Rotary activities for many years now and I am happy to be connected with the movement as an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Singapore. I appreciate your service to the poor and the needy; the sick and the aged; in education, youth, vocational guidance and other charities. Not only have you given service by your donations to such projects as the installation of the first traffic lights in Singapore, the establishment of the Anti-Tuberculosis Clinic in Tan Tock Seng and the purchase of a mobile blood bank van but also your personal attendance to the comforts of the poor, the sick and the needy.

However, I am convinced that there are other avenues of service the Rotary movement can provide. The selection of your members through the standard classification system assures that your membership is composed of the leaders in the professions, businesses and industry. Thus you are eminently fitted to provoke and generate thought and ideas for the betterment of our community. Disseminate your qualities among the young and help them to evolve into thinkers and leaders so that they may later step into your places and work towards a better Singapore to ensure that it maintains its rightful place in the region and the world.

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It would be remiss of me if I did not mention your service to countries where disasters have taken place. Your service, the oldest service organisation in the world, has done much to alleviate suffering at international level, thus bringing understanding between the free nations of the world.

In conclusion, I congratulate you on your golden anniversary and wish you continued success in the future - let service continue to light thy way.
