

TEXT OF A SPEECH BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER,
ROYAL MALAYAN NAVY, CAPT. E.L. NORMAN, AT
THE TRANSFER CEREMONY ON SATURDAY, JULY 12,
1958.

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We, the Royal Malayan Navy, would like to express with all due humility, our pride and gratitude today.

Pride, because we have been chosen for the honour of forming the first Navy of the Federation of Malaya, and grateful, not only to the island of Singapore which brought us into being and has supported us during the first ten years of our life, but also to the Royal Navy which has provided us with the tools, taught us how to use them and has brought us to the standard of efficiency we have reached today.

Although it is now our first duty to protect the long coastline of the Federation of Malaya, the Government of the Federation has agreed to arrangements being made to enable us to assist the Government of Singapore in the protection of her territorial waters and we would like to assure Singapore that, in this respect, we shall always do our best to give them every possible satisfaction.

In the past our ties with the Royal Navy could not have been stronger. As the Navy of an independent, sovereign State within the Commonwealth of Nations, those ties will no longer be of complete dependence, but the less obvious but nonetheless strong ties of complete co-operation, and this we look forward to with happy anticipation.

** Kehadapan duli yang maha mulia seri peduka Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tentera Laut di-Rajah persekutuan mempersembahkan ta'at setia-nya, dan kepada Singapura terima kasih, selamat tinggal.

I now have the honour to ask His Excellency, the Governor of Singapore, and our late Commander-in-Chief, to address you.

** (Translation of second-last paragraph above: To His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, the Royal Malayan Navy sends loyal greetings and pledges its allegiance, and to Singapore, 'Thank you, stay in peace.')

JULY 12, 1958.

(Time issued 0900 hours)