SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT INFS.JN. 22/59 ckl

TEXT OF BROADCAST OVER RADIO SINGAPORE
BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. LEE KUAN YEW,
ON FRIDAY, JUNE 5,1959.

At 4 p.m. this afternoon my Ministers and I formally took Office. The control of Singapore's internal affairs was formally transferred to the elected representatives of the people.

Each and everyone of my Ministers is acutely conscious of the heavy responsibility and great burdens with which we have been entrusted. We have taken office because we believe that the P.A.P. is the party most capable of discharging the duties and responsibilities of the Government. We are the best organised and the most coherent political leadership in Singapore. Everyone of my Ministers has gone through years of political struggle before we reached this position. If we were weak or insincere we would not have survived the stresses and strains of the political struggle that we underwent. The business of a government is to govern and to make firm decisions, so that there shall be certainty and stability in the affairs of our people. We shall do our best to give

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you, not only a firm and stable government, but one which will carry with it the support and co-operation of the majority of the people.

During the elections our opponents tried to frighten you against a P.A.P. Government. They spread vicious rumours that polling day would be accompanied by unrest and civil commotion. That there would be a curfew; that buses would stop running. None of these things have happened. The events of the last six days have proved the falseness of these lies. The people of Singapore went to the polls in a peaceful and orderly manner and voted in the Government they wanted, a P.A.P. Government. They celebrated their victory in the constituencies and on the Padang in a joyous, sometimes boisterous but always orderly and peaceful manner.

In the same way their other predictions about the terrible consequences of a P.A.P victory will be proved equally false.

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In the next five years there may come times when we shall face difficulties and tribulations. The tasks ahead of us are not easy to accomplish. We have never pretended they would be easy. But we shall not deviate from our declared objective of bringing about a social revolution by peaceful means. We appeal to all of you to come forward and contribute your share in bringing about this social

revolution, so that the change can come about in as peaceful and orderly a manner as the change over from the Rendel Constitution to the new self-governing State of Singapore.

With your help and co-operation we shall discharge our duties to you, in bringing about a happier and better Singapore.

June 5, 1959. (Time issued 1910 hours)

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