TRANSCRIPT OF SPEECH MADE BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. LEE KUAN YEW, AT THE NATIONAL DAY DINNER AND VARIETY SHOW, HELD AT THE PONGGOL COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 21ST AUGUST, 1966.

In other words, my friends, if we want to survive never take these things for granted. You know, you just take these children and put them in the next island, three, four miles out, seven miles out in Indonesia and they won't come tonight. Can you find a thousand people under canvas, microphones, lights, fairy lights, food and a secure, prosperous future. You believe all this comes naturally? Well, if you do, then I say we don't deserve to survive.

These things come because we are always preparing, thinking, preparing and moving one step ahead whether it is our currency, whether it is our trade, whether it is our international relations, whether it is our economic development, whether it is the education and the future of our children. Nothing comes without planning and hard work. Remember that.

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Fifty per cent of the people here tonight are under 16, and their future really rests on about 30 per cent of us who are here tonight who are over 25. You know, 30 per cent carry the future of this country on their shoulders. They don't know the misery, the bitterness which comes out of a society which has got no organisation, which has no sense of its role, of its future, of its capacity.

If you take them and bring them out to the barter boats and they see the Indonesian traders coming in, rowing with their hands, bleeding, bringing in some rubber, some pepper to exchange for biscuits and rice and salt and sugar, then they will understand what we offer them in a tightly-organised, hard-working dynamic society.

When there is no organisation, when the State collapses, when every man fends for himself and every man rows for himself and exchanges what he can grow in coconut and rubber and pepper for rice and sugar and salt, then their life is an utter misery, and there are no dinners such as this, because behind the dinner lies an organisation of a society that can provide the infrastructure for people to hire cooks, to have tables, to have chairs, to have the food, to have the waitresses to lay on these things for you.

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And my message very simply is: if we take these things for granted, then we will die. These things cannot be taken for granted. These things are there because you and I, your father and my father worked for this and we will fight and keep this and build on it; no other way.

And your future depends upon your ability to discern your collective interest and your ability to organise yourself to effectively further your national security.

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