

SPEECH BY THE CHIEF MINISTER, MR. LIM YEW
HOCK, AT THE MALAYAN AUXILIARY AIR FORCE
SQUADRON, SELETAR, THIS MORNING

Members of the Malayan Auxiliary Air Force, this is a notable occasion in more ways than one. I am very glad of the opportunity to visit the M.A.A.F. Squadrons at their annual camp, and doubly glad that I am able to do so in the distinguished company of the Chief Minister of the Federation and the Commander-in-Chief, Far East Air Force. I am grateful, too, to the R.A.F. authorities for playing host to the M.A.A.F. Squadrons on this occasion, and for all that they have done and are doing to help with their training and administration.

It is a pity that I am not able to present "Wings" to any members of the Singapore section this morning. It does not mean that we are any less "airminded" in Singapore than they are in the Federation! But I understand that the Singapore pilots under training need a month or two more before qualifying. I wish them the best of luck and happy landings. I also should like to offer my congratulations to the Federation pilots who received their "Wings" today.

I am sorry in a way that we are seeing only a part of the M.A.A.F. this morning - no doubt an important part, but still a small part numerically compared with the fighter control units. The F.C.U.s, I understand, are in camp this year at their town headquarters. I hope, however, that I may have an opportunity on a subsequent occasion to see something of the work of the F.C.U. of the Singapore section.

I am very happy to learn that the Shell trophy has been won this year by the Singapore Squadron, after having spent the last two years in Penang.

Finally, I wish to say how impressed I am with the appearance of the Squadrons on parade this morning. (It would be invidious of me to attempt to single out any one Squadron in particular!) I hope you all are enjoying your camp here in the R.A.F. station at Seletar, and are profiting by the experience, so that you can all play your parts in Singapore and the Federation of the future.

AUGUST 23, 1957.

(Time issued 1330 hours).