

# SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS RELEASE

PUBLICITY DIVISION · MINISTRY OF CULTURE · CITY HALL SINGAPORE 6

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SPEECH BY MR PHUA BAH LEE, SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY,  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, AT THE PASSING-OUT PARADE OF THE  
FIRST BATCH OF TRAINEES AT THE SAF BOYS' SCHOOL AT  
CHANGI AIR BASE HELD ON FRIDAY, 9 DECEMBER '77 AT 5.00 PM.

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We are here to-day to witness the passing-out of the first batch of trainees from the SAF Boys' School comprising 42 trainees from the Combat Wing and 90 from the Technical Wing.

The SAF Boys' School was established in January '76 for the object of providing the opportunity for adventurous, active and healthy youngsters between the age of 14 and 17 years to get an early start in life as a regular serviceman in the SAF. The successful students will enter the SAF as trained soldiers and after a brief stint of on-the-job training or advanced training will assume important appointments in the various units.

The School curriculum provides military and technical training. All students undergo basic military training. Those, who opt for combat NCO vocation, are trained as section leaders. Those, who wish to take up technical vocations in the SAF, are provided with technical training. In addition, they are given secondary school level education to give them an opportunity to work for the 'O' level examinations.

The main objective of the School, however, is to inculcate positive attitudes, provide a balanced disciplined way of life and develop skills so that the students will become loyal, dedicated and respected senior NCOs.

Those of you who are passing out to-day can be proud of your performance. However, this is not the end of your training. Special Continuation Training Schemes have been drawn up for each of the vocation streams, to prepare you for better and faster promotion. Your career development will be closely monitored.

Your future ..... /2

Your future is a very promising one, but it will largely be up to you to make the best use of the opportunities. I must commend you for doing well so far. Keep this up and you can be assured of a successful and rewarding career.

It remains for me now to congratulate you for your successful graduation from the school and to wish you all the best in your future career.

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