

**POLICE
LIFE**

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Exercise Northstar 10

Embracing Challenges, Conquering Adversities
The Crime-Fighting Eye



Note from the Team

In this issue of *Police Life*, see how the Singapore Police Force (SPF) led a multi-agency counter-terrorism exercise, codenamed Exercise Northstar 10, to validate Singapore's multi-agency emergency response to possible terror attacks.

The year-long celebrations to commemorate 50 years of National Service (NS) concluded with a Home Team (HT) NS50 Reception on 3 November 2017. Held at the Istana, the event also saw the launch of "Everyday Guardians", a commemorative book that not only tells the HT NS story but also honours our HT NS officers for their commitment and dedication in safeguarding our every day.

For fans of hit TV series – Crime Scene Investigation, dive into the realm of forensic work through the eyes of our Crime Scene Specialist.

Enjoy!

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Embracing Challenges, Conquering Adversities

By Syam Roslan
(Photographer: Chee Yong Tat)

Although Singapore is a small island city-state, it is one of the world's most densely populated countries. Coupled with a multi-cultural and multi-racial population in an ever-changing environment where criminals are using various creative methods to commit crime, the challenges of maintaining Singapore's security and harmony for any police officer is certainly no easy feat. So when Assistant Commissioner of Police (AC) Tan Chia Han took over as Commander of Tanglin Division in the beginning of 2016, he was mentally prepared to take on the demands and challenges of his new job, which requires him to oversee and ensure the safety and security of his jurisdiction that comprises a high concentration of retail, commercial and leisure outlets, where the various social circles congregate. Apart from this aspect, Tanglin Division is also responsible for the safety and security of major annual events that attract thousands such as the Christmas and New Year countdowns. Undaunted by the demands of his job, AC Tan, instead, emphasises the need to focus on the sense of fulfilment that the job brings. Thankful for the opportunities that the Singapore Police Force (SPF) scholarship gave him, AC Tan has never once looked back on his decision to join the Force.

Stepping Up Operational Capabilities

The devastating impacts of terror attacks around the world has made AC Tan keenly aware of the weight of his responsibilities, not only to the members of the public within his jurisdiction but also to his officers. To ensure that Tanglin Division continues to upkeep the safety and security of their jurisdiction, AC Tan is constantly working on enhancing the operational competencies of his officers as well as ensuring that his officers are well-equipped to respond effectively to any terror-related incidents. One of the ways to achieve such competencies is through continuous training and operational exercises. AC Tan emphasised that knowing what to do is not good enough. Officers must be drilled constantly to internalise the various response protocols and tested on their readiness and abilities to adapt and react to varying scenarios. He further emphasised that there is no room for error as the speed of response and the actions taken could mean a matter of life and death, not only for the members of the public but also for his officers.

Apart from operational competencies, AC Tan has also implemented measures in its jurisdiction to mitigate potential risks that he has learnt from the various terror attacks reported in the media. One example is the introduction of security-hardening measures to mitigate car-ramming risks when the streets are congested with people.

To augment operational effectiveness, AC Tan also focused on improving operational efficiency. Through the implementation of an electronic maintenance system across the various Neighbourhood Police Centres (NPCs) in its jurisdiction, the NPCs have removed the need for manual registers and significantly reduced the time taken for officers to draw and return equipment.

While the SPF works hard to enhance its operational capabilities to fulfil its mission of safeguarding Singapore, the SPF also recognises the importance of roping in the community as partners to support its mission. In the area of community engagement, AC Tan has been busy in getting his officers to drive awareness on SGSecure through engaging the members of the public at the various Emergency Preparedness (EP) Day events. In addition to the EP Day events, Tanglin Division also organised the Retail Industry Safety and Security Watch Group



Seminar for the retailers in their jurisdiction to better prepare them in the event of a terror attack. As there are several high-profile establishments such as embassies and high commissions within Tanglin Division's jurisdiction, AC Tan's responsibilities are further accentuated as any incident to these establishments could potentially damage Singapore's diplomatic relations with the various countries.

"We have been working with various embassies to develop joint response plans in case of an armed attack against these establishments," AC Tan shared.

Care For His Officers

The demands on SPF officers will not get any lesser. Hence, AC Tan emphasised that his officers' welfare is one of his top priorities and it is important that the division stays united and motivated. Organising family days, appreciation nights and department retreats are amongst the activities that are put in place to allow his officers to recharge and bond with one another. **"Just as how officers work hard to achieve the SPF's mission, it is equally important that their efforts are appreciated and recognised,"** added AC Tan.

Apart from the officers' welfare, AC Tan also focuses on his officers' safety and wellbeing in their workplace. Through his regular dialogue sessions

with his officers, AC Tan is able to understand the sentiments on the ground better and implement the improvements to the workplace environment. **"We put in place work safety measures to protect our officers from injuries, such as having anti-slip floors, or ensuring heavy equipment are placed in safe manners,"** said AC Tan.

Unleash Your Potential

Despite the heavy responsibilities shouldered by AC Tan as the commander of one of the most challenging land divisions, he strives to ensure that his family responsibilities are not neglected from the hustle and bustle of his job. **"When the situation allows, I will always make it a point to fetch my daughter from childcare and spend quality time with her,"** AC Tan quipped.

As the interview comes to a close, AC Tan credits the SPF as an organisation with one of the most diverse career options available. He urges fellow officers to take advantage of this system and not hesitate to try out new vocations when given the opportunity. **"Try new portfolios without overthinking on what might or might not be the outcome. It is these unknown challenges that will mould us to be a tougher person and unleash our hidden potential,"** said AC Tan with conviction.

The Crime-Fighting Eye

By Hadi Hafidz
(Photographer: Hasif Mohd Ismail)

Since the roll-out of Police Cameras (PolCam) in 2012, the Singapore Police Force (SPF) has solved more than 1,100 cases with the PolCam footages. Building on its success, another 11,000 cameras were added in 2016 to complement the existing 65,000 PolCams installed islandwide. As the SPF continues to leverage technology to fight crime, *Police Life* shares with you two cases that saw PolCam playing a critical role in solving the crime.



The first case took place on 20 June 2017 at Ping Yi Secondary School. The school's Operations Support Officer (OSO) was making his morning rounds when he discovered that the staff room's window panel was broken. The wooden door also seemed to have been forced open.

After investigating further, the OSO discovered that four laptops have been stolen. A police report was made and Investigation Officers (IO) from the Bedok Division immediately began working on the case. After trawling through the footage from the Closed-Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) and PolCams in the vicinity, the officers finally ascertained the suspect's identity and swiftly disseminated the suspect's image to their Ground Response Force and Crime Strike Force (CSF) colleagues from the Bedok South Neighbourhood Police Centre.



Rewinding the Episode

Upon receiving the suspect's image, the CSF officers realised that the same suspect could possibly have been involved in a separate case. They then began trawling through their CCTV and PolCam footage from the previous incidents and confirmed that the suspect was indeed the same person. The officers traced the suspect's particulars and obtained his address.

CSF officers raided the suspect's residence and found the suspect at home. He initially denied his involvement in the school break-in, but finally admitted to the crime after the officers found three laptops in his home. To locate the fourth missing laptop, the officers further traced his earlier movements through the PolCam and CCTV footage and discovered that the suspect had hidden the laptop at a separate location. Within five hours since the case was reported, the officers managed to identify and arrest the suspect and recovered the stolen items.

The 41-year-old suspect was charged in Court on 27 September 2017 with the offence of Housebreaking and Theft by Night under Section 457 of the Penal Code, Chapter 224. He was sentenced to 42 months' imprisonment and three strokes of the cane.

Tracking down a Serial CashCard Thief

On Christmas Day in 2016, the police received a report about a victim whose car had been broken into along Butterfly Avenue. His CashCard had been stolen.

Using the CashCard details provided by the victim, IOs from Tanglin Division began working on the case. Further investigations revealed that the funds from the CashCard had been transferred into a specific bank account. Officers extracted the bank account owner's details and proceeded to locate the suspect at his home. However, they failed to locate him even after several attempts.

The breakthrough came in March 2017 when another CashCard was reported stolen. Further investigations showed that it had been used to enter an open-spaced carpark along Neil Road. After reviewing the CCTV and PolCam footage, officers ascertained that the suspect was working as a delivery driver. Foreseeing that the suspect may return to the location to deliver goods again, officers staked out the location.

On 29 March 2017, the suspect was eventually spotted in the vicinity and placed under arrest. Upon further questioning, the suspect admitted to his involvement in the earlier case. He also admitted that he had stolen more than 300 CashCards with balances amounting to about \$10,800.

The suspect was charged in Court on 31 March 2017 with the offence of Theft under Section 379 of the Penal Code, Chapter 224 and was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment.

As seen in these two cases, the PolCam played a critical role in aiding officers in their investigations. It highlights the importance of enhancing the SPF's technological capabilities in the fight against crime.



Happenings

Raising Awareness at the 2017 Sports@SPF Event

On 7 October 2017, the Singapore Police Force (SPF) held the inaugural Sports@SPF event in conjunction with the Police Sea Sports Competition and Inter-Forces Games at the Singapore Sports Hub. The event served as a platform for SPF to engage the youths. More than 350 students from the universities, polytechnics and the Institute of Technical Education signed up for the event and participated in sporting activities such as dragon-boating and beach volleyball. In addition to the sporting activities, informative display panels were also available at the event site to allow the students to find out more about the roles and responsibilities of police officers from the different units. SPF career advisors were also present to further engage them on the various career options available.



SGSecure's First Anniversary

Launched in 2016, SGSecure is a national movement to sensitise, train and mobilise Singaporeans to play a part to prevent and deal with a terror attack. To mark SGSecure's first anniversary, a workshop was held on 11 October 2017 at the Police Headquarters in New Phoenix Park. At the event, Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law, Mr K Shanmugam, highlighted that SGSecure has raised the level of preparedness among individuals and organisations. He also emphasised the need to continue strengthening trust and cohesion in the community and for the community to continue working with the Home Team agencies to stay alert, stay united and stay strong.



8th ASEANAPOL Training Cooperation Meeting 2017

The Singapore Police Force is honoured to host the 8th ASEANAPOL Training Cooperation Meeting (APTCM). Held between 6 to 9 November 2017, the APTCM is a platform for member countries to discuss comprehensive and robust training strategies, exchange best practices, and learn from one another's experiences to better combat transnational crime and terrorism in the region. Delegates and attendees were also taken on a tour around the SPF's specialised training facilities at the Home Team Academy and Home Team Tactical Centre.

Exercise Northstar 10

By **Hadi Hafidz**
(Photos: Public Affairs Department)

With increasing terror attacks around the world, the Singapore Police Force (SPF) has been stepping up on its efforts to prepare for such incidents. On 17 October 2017, the SPF led a multi-agency counter-terrorism exercise, codenamed Exercise Northstar 10, which simulated multiple scenarios of terrorist attacks to test and validate the response of the personnel involved.



Held at Changi Airport during the wee hours, over 650 personnel from the SPF, Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF), Immigrations and Checkpoint Authority, Changi Airport Group (CAG), the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF), Singapore Mass Rapid Transit (SMRT) and the Ministry of Health were involved in the exercise.

Throughout the exercise, several gunmen were seen opening fire at commuters at the Changi MRT station platform, Changi Airport Terminal 3 check-in area and Changi Airport Terminal 3 Transit Area. Officers from the various SPF units such as the Public Transport Security Command (TransCom), Airport Police Division, Special Operations Command and officers from the SAF responded to these simulated attacks. After the attackers were neutralised, personnel from the SAF Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Explosives Defence Group disarmed an 'Improvised Explosive Device'. The SCDF's emergency responders then swooped in to rescue the 'casualties'.

Other than the efforts of officers involved, the exercise also strengthened the resolve of the community to stay alert, stay united and stay strong. SMRT and CAG staff were tested on their ability to disseminate information to the public based on the SGSecure advisory – 'Run, Hide, Tell'. They also improvised first aid using the 'Press, Tie, Tell' approach. This not only helps the first-aiders to save the lives of others by mitigating serious injuries; but could also make a difference in their own survival.







I am Police Tactical Unit Response Motorcycle

By Darwisyah Daud
(Photographer: Chee Yong Tat)



At the turn of a key, I roar to life. I see clearly now, my brothers-in-blue, the Rapid Deployment Troops (RDT) officers from the Special Operations Command. They are decked out from head to toe in their ballistic protection gear, which can only mean that trouble is near.

There had been a group of gunmen, I hear them say, scruffily dressed and armed with dangerous weapons. A terror attack! Without hesitation, my rider mounts over me. With a twist of the throttle, we rush to the scene.

We race through the traffic gridlocks. Bumper to bumper, exhaust fumes of vehicles draft over the asphalt road. The cacophony of continuous honking fills the air as impatient motorists struggle to comprehend the severity of the situation.

My rider and his fellow RDT officers are now at the scene, supporting the Emergency Response Team (ERT) officers. They have identified and established the profile of the gunmen.

From my vantage point, I see a scene of chaos – bullets piercing in pillars and strong fumes induced by the explosions. Blasts continue to ring out as the attackers trigger their explosives. Now at their tactical stances, my comrades and their ERT counterparts stand ready to neutralise the threat.

Who am I? I am Police Tactical Unit Response Motorcycle, ready to support the RDT officers in responding to terror-related incidents.

I am a specialised vehicle for transporting RDT officers in to response to both public order and public security incidents. Besides manoeuvring through traffic gridlocks and uneven terrain, my trusted companion – Public Order Shield Holder, supports my mission of swiftly carrying Public Order Shields for my fellow RDT officers to protect themselves against the impact of projectiles and even heat.

I do not work alone in my quest to enhance the RDT officer's mobility. My partner, Siren, has a blaring personality and his bright light tells motorists to give way.

Piecing the Puzzles Together

By Darwisyah Daud
(Photographer: Hasif Mohd Ismail)

When one thinks of a Crime Scene Specialist (CSS), Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) scenes from Hollywood spring to mind – fingerprints, specks of blood, perhaps even a dead body or two. While the silver screen may be fictitious, there are certain elements in the scenes that accurately portray the qualities and roles of real-life CSS officers. From uncovering clues to solving crimes, every attention to detail counts. The difference between a conviction and an acquittal could very well lie in a single strand of fibre that is only visible through the microscopic eye.

For more insights into the job of a CSS officer, *Police Life* caught up with Mr Chong Hong Lester, who serves in the Investigation Branch (IB) of the Crime Scene Squad at Bedok Division Headquarters.

Behind the Police Cordon Tapes

The demands of being a CSS are complex and multi-faceted, with several subspecialties within the job. When a crime occurs, CSS officers are called to the scene of crime. There, they ensure that all physical evidence is properly documented, preserved and collected, according to strict standards and protocols. CSS officers also ensure that all physical evidence can be recognised, processed, packaged and transported back to the laboratory for analysis.

To delve deeper, CSS officers like Mr Chong first identify the physical evidence that needs to be collected. This is crucial to ensure that the evidence is not compromised in any way. Mr Chong then proceeds to document and process the physical evidence. He does this through writing notes, taking photographs and even sketching. All the facts and evidence that are collated need to be accurate, as they may be used by forensics scientists, investigation officers and lawyers subsequently.

Once Mr Chong has properly assessed the crime scene and recorded all the information, he must recover the physical evidence carefully, which could take various forms such as bodily fluids, strands of hair and fibres.

What it Takes

To Mr Chong, the demands of the job are not for the faint-hearted. It takes an individual with not just strong passion for CSI work, but also a 'strong stomach', especially when they attend to grisly crime scenes.

An eye for detail is another trait that Mr Chong emphasised as one of the key qualities for this job. As a CSS, one needs to be incredibly meticulous because crucial bits of evidence could be hidden away in nooks and crannies.

Beyond the science, the job also provided Mr Chong with valuable lessons in life. Some of the scenes he has encountered are shocking reminders of how easily humans can fall from grace. **"I see brutality and violence that one can inflict on themselves and to others. We should really treasure our loved ones at every opportunity,"** shared Mr Chong.



Regardless, Mr Chong is committed to working with his counterparts – investigation officers – to solve each case. He strongly believes that justice must be served and the victims' families deserve closure. **"They are my motivation when I first started this career – to be part of SPF and to make Singapore a safer place for all,"** added Mr Chong.

For officers like Mr Chong, crime scene investigations play a vital role in our quest to preserve law and order in Singapore. To Mr Chong, the work that he does is more than just a job. It is a commitment to uphold justice by relentlessly searching for the truth.

No matter how challenging the work may be, CSS officers are driven by a passion to serve justice, not just to the criminals, but to the victims as well. With dedicated CSS officers like Mr Chong, the Force stands ready to safeguard Singapore every day.



Home Team Marks NS50 with Istana Reception

By John Leong
(Photos: Public Affairs Department)



For nine months, Inspector (NS) Billy Lian roughed it out with his colleagues in the Operations Branch of the Central Division. As part of his national service stint as an event security officer, Insp Lian handled large-scale events, including the funeral of former President S R Nathan and the 2016 Formula One Singapore Grand Prix.

"I went through thick and thin with my colleagues, planned numerous events and even slept over in the office," said the 22-year old, who reached his Operationally Ready Date in June.

For that, Insp Lian was recognised at the Home Team's NS50 Dinner Reception at the Istana Lawn on 3 November 2017. Along with nine others, they received the Full-time National Serviceman (NSF) of the Year 2017 awards. Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, who was the Guest-of-Honour at the event, presented the awards to the recipients. Other VIPs included Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law, K Shanmugam, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Home Affairs, Josephine Teo, as well as the Commissioners of both the Singapore Police Force (SPF) and Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF).

The reception was attended by some 900 Home Team National Servicemen (NSmen) and their families, who also witnessed the launch of a commemorative book called "Everyday Guardians: 50 Years of National Service in Singapore's Home

Team" by Prime Minister Lee. The book chronicles 50 years of NS within the SPF and SCDF from 1967, and features interviews and quotes from prominent NSmen. Copies of Everyday Guardians were distributed to the guests at the reception, and will be disseminated to NSFs, all units, schools and strategic partners.

Guests were also treated to a snippet from the highly-acclaimed web series Frontliners. Each of the eight episodes depicts the challenges and triumphs of Home Team NSmen when duty calls. The web series was released in July and wrapped in September, gaining five million views along the way. Two episodes will be released on Mediacorp TV channels at the end of 2017.

Sergeant (NS) Leong Wai Kit, who was the emcee at the reception, said watching the video was an emotional experience. **"I recall the camaraderie I formed with my peers from Charlie Squad 16 of 107 intake - some of whom, I am still in close touch with today - and the time when we excitedly updated one another on our very first active policing duties on the ground after passing out,"** said the PNSman from Jurong Division. **"The stories and emotions shared by NSmen as told by Frontliners can only come from the heart - it is definitely something all of us can relate to."**



Enhancing Frontline Capabilities With Virtual Reality Training

By Syam Roslan
(Photos: Training Command)

To keep Singapore safe and secure, the Singapore Police Force (SPF) runs its operations 24/7 at a high tempo. The heightened security climate has also placed increasing demands on the SPF and its officers to maintain its law enforcement efforts.

In order to meet the increasing operational demands, it is often challenging for officers to take extended time out for training. To address this challenge, the Singapore Police Force (SPF), Home Team Academy (HTA) and the Ministry of Home Affairs' Office of the Chief Science and Technology Officer (OCSTO) have jointly developed a compact Mobile Classroom (MobiC) facility based on Virtual Reality (VR) technologies to bring training to the frontline officers at the various SPF's Neighbourhood Police Centres (NPCs).

Features of MobiC

The MobiC is a customised vehicle platform that has the flexibility to be deployed at various locations as an onsite training facility. The platform is built with the user experience in mind, focusing on ergonomics, automation, safety and efficiency. Deployment of this facility can be done by a single operator within ten minutes. The design and ease of set-up also reduces the time, space and resources required for training as compared to conventional training methods.

Notable features of the MobiC include locally produced simulated scenarios that make use of state-of-the-art VR technology and 360-degree cameras, coupled with Computer Generated Imagery and Advanced Videography. These simulated scenarios can also be updated and customised to the local context so that it is relevant, realistic and highly dynamic to keep pace with evolving threats.

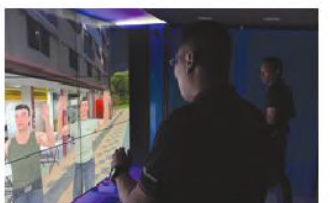
Apart from its deployment flexibility, the MobiC is designed to be configured for three types of training sessions, namely the semi-immersive use of force simulation system, fully immersive use of force simulation system and the fully immersive interactive environment simulator (also known as the Clandestine Laboratory system). The semi-immersive use of force simulation system, which can accommodate up to four officers, is within the MobiC vehicle platform. The VR scenarios mirror actual policing operations where officers work in pairs to respond to various situations screened on a video wall.

The fully immersive use of force simulation system is a classroom-based training system which allows up to four officers to be trained on omni-directional treadmills with head-mounted displays. This training concept adopts the same VR scenarios as the semi-immersive systems, with an additional feature that enables the officers to move around in the virtual world, in-situ.

In addition, up to another eight officers can concurrently use the head-mounted displays for the VR Clandestine Laboratory training which is designed to train officers to (i) identify tell-tale signs and features of a clandestine laboratory for making



Photo: MHA



explosives and Improvised Explosive Device (IEDs), (ii) identify components and items used in the concoction of explosives and construction of IEDs and, thus be better able to recognise imminent threats and, (iii) learn about the appropriate safety measures to protect themselves and others as well as the appropriate follow-up actions to facilitate investigation.

Efficiency, Effectiveness and Safety in a Single Package

Each MobiC training session will take about 15 minutes and up to 16 officers can be trained at the same time. With the use of VR technology, officers will be able to practise and hone their judgement and response to different scenarios in realistic but safe VR operating environments, such as coffee shops or even within a HDB flat, while at the same time, enabling our officers to train and learn at their workplace with minimal disruptions and downtime to their everyday operations.

In addition, after each training session, the trainers will conduct an After-Action Review (AAR) with the participants on specific learning points. The AAR sessions also aim to provide multi-faceted training information for the trainers to follow-up.

Results

Officers who have experienced the MobiC training were highly appreciative of the efficiency and effectiveness of this state-of-the-art training facility. The officers also highlighted the safe training environment as one of the key benefits. "In the past, officers might suffer minor injuries such as bruises

"MobiC allows me to conduct training for my officers in a simulated environment with realistic and highly dynamic scenarios through the use of VR technology. This allows us as trainers to effectively utilise our efforts by using less resources to achieve the same outcome that you can get from conventional training method".

- Station Inspector Amos Jupri
Division Training Unit
Tanglin Division

as there were physical contact with the role players. Through MobiC, not only is the platform effective in testing officers' reaction to different scenarios, it is also much safer as there is no need for any physical contact between officers and the role players," said one of the participants, Station Inspector Eugene Goh from Kampong Java NPC

As the SPF continues to innovate, the public can be assured that the SPF will continue to leverage the latest technologies to augment its crime fighting capabilities and is well-poised to keep Singapore safe and secure.

High-Tech Facility for Joint Operational Training

Reproduction from *Police Life*
Volume 39 – Issue 5 (May 2013)

The Singapore Police Force and the Singapore Civil Defence Force will jointly develop the Home Team Tactical Centre (HTTC) to house realistic and high-tech training facilities to maintain operational readiness and harness closer collaboration during joint operations.

At the ground breaking ceremony for the Home Team Tactical Centre (HTTC) on 31 January 2013, Guest-of-Honour Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean unveiled plans to bring together the Singapore Police Force's and the Singapore Civil Defence Force's (SCDF) training facilities under one roof.

Set for completion in 2018, this new centre will house a wide range of facilities which simulate complex security, fire and rescue scenarios to allow various Home Team departments to carry out joint operational scenario-based training realistically.

"The new HTTC marks another step forward in strengthening the Home Team. By providing realistic training to our officers, we can enhance their capabilities and operational readiness to keep us all safe and secure in an increasingly challenging security landscape," said DPM Teo who is also the Home Affairs Minister.

Technological features will be used to replicate actual operational environments.

For example, the drive-in range with an inbuilt smoke and sound simulator will allow the Police specialist units to drive and shoot from vehicles.

A chemical hub training facility will simulate chemical gas leak incidents and replicate chemical plant facilities.

"By injecting realism and deploying technology, our officers can train in a safe and controlled environment, to build up mental resilience and hone their judgement," said DPM Teo.

"This will better prepare our officers to deal effectively with potentially life-threatening situations."

To train more cost-effectively, this single integrated complex will house training facilities in the Police Tactical Training Centre, Special Operations Command Base, Key Installations (KINS) Unit and the SCDF.

This joint development will allow officers from the SPF and SCDF to share expertise in training and bring about greater operational synergy between the two Home Team agencies.



Joint operations between the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority, The Central Narcotics Bureau and the SPF have successfully foiled smuggling attempts at Singapore borders.

The evacuation of personnel from the 2011 Pulau Bukom fire was successful because of the support the SCDF received from the Police Coast Guard.

As joint operational synergy is integral, joint exercises such as Exercise Northstar have helped enhance operational effectiveness across the Home Team.

"The HTTC also reflects our Home Team Department's continuing efforts to work as one strong and cohesive Home Team to deal with a full spectrum of incidents and crises effectively," said DPM Teo.

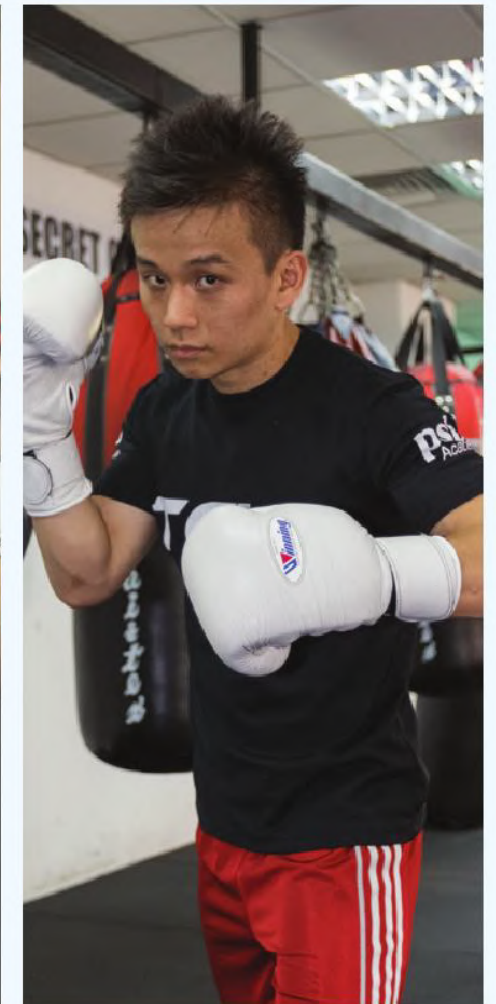
"Indeed, close collaboration among the Home Team Departments has been and will continue to be critical to our efforts to ensure that Singapore remains a safe and secure home for all Singaporeans."



Passion that Packs a Punch

By Md Falliq
(Photographer: Hasif Mohd Ismail and Regina Tan Wei Ting)

Apart from the skillsets of an effective law enforcer, many of our officers also possess other skillsets that help them keep up to the demands of their job. In this issue of our lifestyle segment, *Police Life* met up with Sergeant (Sgt) Sim Zhi Wen who shared with us his passion for boxing.



Since young, Sgt Sim has been an avid fan of boxing movies such as "Rocky" and cites former professional boxer Floyd Mayweather as his idol. So when Sgt Sim was looking for a sport to replace his mundane gym routine two years ago, boxing was a natural choice.

"The benefits of boxing are plenty. Apart from the skills that I learnt which help as a form of self-defence, it also enhances cardiovascular health, improves total body strength and boosts hand-eye coordination," he shared.

All Brawn No Brain?

To the untrained eye, boxing may seem like a rough sport, one in which men with large muscles and equally large egos thrash it out in the ring. However, it appears that there is more than meets the eye.

"Boxing is a beautiful form of art. To master it well, one needs to have a high level of adaptability, an open mindset and discipline," explained Sgt Sim.

Spending at least one and a half hours per session, he trains six days a week at a local boxing gym under Singapore's first professional boxing world champion, Muhammad Ridhwan.

"Discipline is key. I will always make an effort to squeeze time for my training, even to the extent of sacrificing my other social activities," he elaborated.

Sgt Sim also believes that he can scale greater heights in his boxing skills through constant exchanges with other boxers. To validate his hard work and to seek further improvements, Sgt Sim has also participated in various unpaid amateur competitions and emerged victorious in his debut bout.

"I wanted a platform to test the outcome of my training. Nothing can be more real than a resisting human being rather than a punching bag that does not retaliate," he shared.

Sgt Sim has also found parallels between boxing and his policing work. As a Crime Strike Force officer, he is constantly challenged with the demands of solving various types of crime reported under his jurisdiction. He shares that boxing has certainly toughened him up and sharpened his mind; both qualities are in his line of work.

"Similar to police officers, boxers are required to think on our feet and make split-second decisions. We need to keep calm, try to see the bigger picture and not let our emotions get the better of us. These are important to make the best possible step to counter the situation in both the ring and policing," he said.

One of Us



Hi, I am...

Special Constable Corporal Daim Bin Hishammudin from Bedok Division. I serve as a Staff Assistant with the Police Operationally-ready National Servicemen (PNSmen) and Full-time Police National Servicemen Branch. I assist in the facilitation of shooting sessions for over 1,000 PNSmen in my division.

An interesting part of my job...

As part of my job requires me to go to the shooting range from time to time, I get to learn more about the various types of firearms that our officers use in their operational duties. I also enjoyed the conversations with the range instructors as they shared about their working experience and how they helped officers hone their shooting skills, which is critical as it could be a matter of life and death when the situation arises.

When I am not in uniform you can find me...

Racing go-karts professionally. Growing up in Malaysia, I was a frequent spectator at the Sepang Circuit. At seven years old, I drove my first go-kart. I loved the thrill of it and began racing leisurely on weekends. From those races, I was talent-spotted and at eight years old, I raced professionally for the first time. I won a major Malaysian go-karting championship and in my second year, I won the Asian go-karting championships.

When I am not at work or training, I enjoy...

Strumming the guitar. I find it therapeutic to strum the guitar when I need to relieve stress from my intense racing and training sessions.

I cannot live without...

Not having gadgets, cars or machinery around me. I am intrigued by how all the various moving parts work together in harmony to produce the effects.

I believe...

We can achieve our dreams if we are determined, driven and put in lots of hard work. My dream is to be the first Formula One racer from Singapore!