



PINNACLE CLUB OF ASEAN: NEWSLETTER 03/16

Welcome to the third issue of the Pinnacle Club Newsletter! In this issue, we are happy to share some highlights about our Patrons.

FORMER PRESIDENT FIDEL V RAMOS VISITS TAIWAN

Our patron, Former President of Philippines Fidel V Ramos was recently in Taiwan from 6 April 2016 for a 5-day visit. President Ramos, who turned 88 years old on 18 March 2016, had high expectations about the visit and had arranged to call on outgoing President Ma Ying-jeou, and President-elect Tsai Ing-wen during his visit.



FORMER PRESIDENT OF PHILIPPINES FIDEL V RAMOS

Former President Fidel V Ramos, who served as president in 1992-1998, was accompanied by a trade delegation comprising Taiwanese businessmen based in the

Philippines and Philippine businessmen.

PUBLISHED ARTICLE GEN (RET'D) TAN SRI (DR) MOHAMED HASHIM BIN MOHD ALI

We would like to also share another write up by our patron General (Ret'd) Tan Sri (Dr) Mohamed Hashim Bin Mohd Ali, which was published in the New Straits Times on 22 January 2016.



In his article, he wrote about the nation's defence and security at The Legacy of Leadership Special Commemorative Seminar on Tun Abdul Razak Hussein on Jan 14. The article is re-printed below, while



the original PDF version is also attached separately.

Legacy extends to nation's defence and security

It was a great honour and privilege for me to have been invited to attend The Legacy of Leadership Special Commemorative Seminar on Tun Abdul Razak Hussein on Jan 14.

It was most refreshing to hear Tun Razak's great achievements during his tenure as Malaysia's second prime minister. I do not intend to repeat what was said at the seminar, but suffice for me to add that everyone should know and understand his legacy.

Speakers extolled various aspects of his nation-building strategy that earned him the title Bapa Pembangunan (Father of Development). The Rukun Negara, New Economic Policy, Federal Land Development Authority, Malaysian Investment Development Authority and Federal Land and Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority were among the hallmarks of Tun Razak's nation-building programme.

I, humbly, would like to add another important strategy that was not mentioned enough during the seminar, that is defence and security.

Emeritus Professor of History Tan Sri Khoo Kay Kim reminded us of the enormous challenges the nation and our leaders faced after World War 2, which cut across every spectrum of the geopolitical framework in the region and the world. Military pacts, such as Southeast Asia Treaty Organisation and Anglo-Malayan Defence Agreement (AMDA), to mention a few, were to provide elements of stability to the region's new emerging nations. The communist insurgency was a major threat to the peace and stability of the nation, and AMDA was fully utilised.

Tun Razak understood the depth of the threat, especially the "Fish and Water"

strategy applied by the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM).

I recall that Tun Razak, as defence minister, directed the Malaysian Armed Forces Staff College to do a study on the correlation of security and development on nation-building.

The final study concluded that you cannot separate development and security, meaning there will not be development without security, and likewise, you cannot achieve a high level of security without a meaningful development programme. This was presented to Tun Razak and he officially declared his strategy of Keselamatan dan Pembangunan (KESBAN). As we all know, he was also the rural development minister.

Tun Razak was the first defence minister, and he had General F Brooke (Jan 1956-Oct 1959) and General Sir Rodney Moore (Oct 1959-Jan 1964) as head of the Malaysian Armed Forces. Both generals understood fully Tun Razak's vision of what the armed forces should be.

General Moore was replaced after five productive years as chief of the armed forces by General Tan Sri Tunku Osman Tunku Mohd Jewa in 1964, and two other Malaysian officers, for the first time, took over command of the Royal Malaysian Navy (Vice-Admiral Tan Sri K. Thanabalasingam) and Royal Malaysian Air Force (Air Vice-Marshal Tan Sri Sulaiman Sujak).

Tun Razak understood how the military conducted its business, and its aspiration and needs. The frequent visits to military operation rooms, where he was briefed on operations using sliding boards with maps and charts, gave him the insight of the military system of passage of information and storage of data.

He used a similar system for his rural development programme, and every state and district office has its own operation room with up-to-date development programmes.



Three of his sons spoke of him with lots of emotion at the seminar. I humbly seek Datuk Seri Nazir Razak's permission for me to quote him when he said: "I was only 9 when my father died. I do not know him as well as most of you here."

Such a feeling is only natural, and it also reflects how closely-knit the family is and how the children were raised and nurtured by Tun Razak and, of course, their beloved mother, Tun Rahah Noah.

Tun Razak was the first defence minister the Malaysian Armed Forces had and we, too, lost a bapa.

KESBAN remains a legacy which is one of the pillars of nation-building, and is still very valid.

Tun Razak also reminded us that the nation's defence and security cannot, and must not be taken for granted.

GENERAL (R) TAN SRI HASHIM MOHD ALI, Chairman, The Chiefs' Circle

SMU-STRATAGEM GROUP SINO-SINGAPORE DIALOGUE | 31 MARCH 2016

To the members who were unable to attend our recent event, fret not - we are excited to share a group photo of the inaugural SMU-Stratagem Group Sino-Singapore Dialogue event which took place at Singapore Management University (SMU) on 31 March 2016. We received a good number of participants who attended the talk featuring three Chinese speakers from China, namely retired Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Hu Zhengyue, crowdfunding expert Xie Senshu, and Director of the China Development Research Institute Zhang Qi.

From the event, Assistant Minister Hu, who was based in Singapore from 1992-1997, commented that close relations between China and Singapore was forged in the past 26 years of Sino-Singapore relations, and will continue to progress, such seen from the advent of government-to-government projects, such as the China-Singapore (Chongqing) Demonstration Initiative on Strategic Connectivity.

Assistant Minister Hu mentioned that the right time, location and people involved helped strengthen the Sino-Singapore relationship, which will continue to bring greater opportunities for both countries.

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CONTRIBUTION

We thank President Fidel V. Ramos and GEN (Ret'd) Tan Sri (Dr) Mohamed Hashim Bin Mohd Ali for their contributions for this newsletter.

We welcome contributions (quotes, articles, commentaries, photos) from members of the Pinnacle Club, to be published in our newsletter! We will also like to feature your profile and notable accomplishments in future issues, and will be approaching you on your story in the upcoming Pinnacle Club event.

Please email secretariat@pinnacle-asean.org if you wish to submit any documents, photos or special messages and we will be happy to include them in our next issue.

*ALICE AND HIDAYAH
THE PINNACLE CLUB SECRETARIAT*

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