





"Ukraine is **not just a neighbouring country** for us. It is an inalienable part of our history, culture and spiritual space [...] the people living in the south-west of what has historically been Russian land have called themselves Russians..."

- Russian President Vladimir Putin from a speech to the nation on 21 Feb 2022 before ordering a "special military operation" against Ukraine



"We cannot accept one country attacking another without justification, arguing that its independence was the result of 'historical errors and crazy decisions'. Such a rationale would go against the internationally recognised legitimacy and territorial integrity of many countries, including Singapore."

- Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Vivian Balakrishnan in his Ministerial Statement on the Russian invasion of Ukraine in Parliament on 28 Feb 2022.

Russia Was Behind Cyberattack in Run-Up to Ukraine War, Investigation Finds

As Tanks Rolled Into Ukraine, So Did Malware. Then Microsoft Entered the War.

Hackers Breached Colonial Pipeline Using Compromised Password

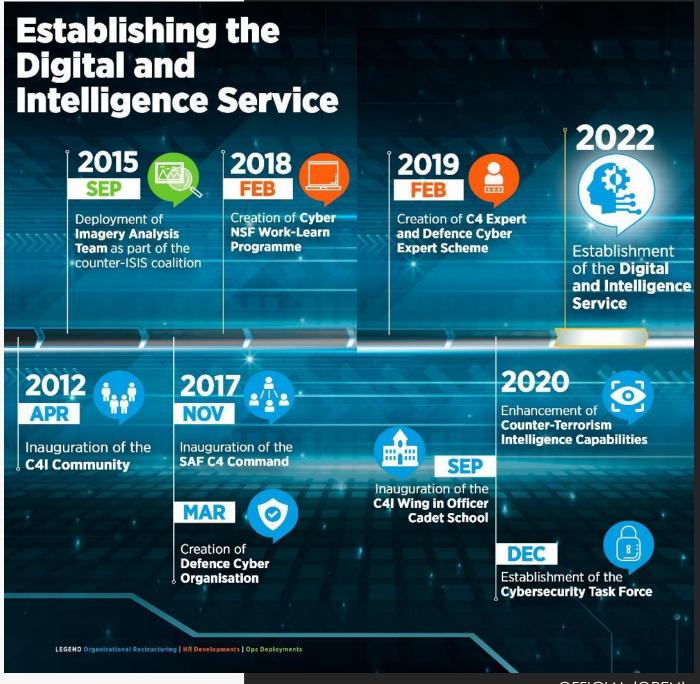
- Investigators suspect hackers got password from dark web leak
- Colonial CEO hopes U.S. goes after criminal hackers abroad

CYBERSECURITY . EDITORS' PICK

Iran's Gas Stations Stop Pumping After Hack, State Media Reports

European oil port terminals hit by cyberattack

The hybrid war being fought in Russia-Ukraine, and the range of cyber attacks globally, show the necessity of building capabilities in the digital terrain, which has become as important as the land, air, and sea domains.



To position the SAF to deal growing with the digital Command, threats. the Communications Control, Computers and and Intelligence (C4I) community will evolve into the fourth service - Digital and Intelligence Service (DIS) by the end of 2022.

The addition of DIS will also allow the SAF to better train and fight as a networked, integrated and expanded force - as part of fulfilling our vision of the "Next Gen SAF". The Next Gen SAF will be equipped with new and upgraded assets and capabilities to defend our land, waters, skies, and cyberspace.



The Army, equipped with Next Gen Infantry Battalions and new armoured tracked carriers and howitzers will be more manoeuvrable, able to strike faster and harder.

The Next Gen Air Force, with its F-15SGs, F-35 fighter jets and Next Gen UAVs will be more lethal, versatile, and effective to protect our skies.

The Navy, with Multi-Role Combat Vessels, Invincible-class submarines, and unmanned vessels will be able to see and strike further at sea and in the depths to better protect our waters.



In this increasingly uncertain world, we need a strong SAF to protect Singapore's sovereignty and keep Singaporeans safe from any potential external aggressors.

However, this capability of the SAF must be undergirded by Singaporeans' resolve to defend what is ours and our way of life.

In the Russia-Ukraine conflict, despite its superior numbers, Russia has not succeeded in taking over Ukraine, partly due to the stiff resistance put up by the Ukrainian military, including its conscripts and volunteers.

Ukrainians have shown that the protection of their homeland is something worth fighting for.





NS is the backbone of Singapore's security and defence.

This year, we commemorate NS55 to thank the one million and more Singaporeans who have served NS.

It is because of our NSmen's commitment and contributions that we have a strong, credible SAF that serves as an effective deterrent to external threats.

What do you think?

What is one experience from NS that has impacted you?



NS brings Singaporeans from diverse racial, religious, socio-economic, and education backgrounds to train, live, and serve together.

It has since become a **rite of passage** where life-long bonds are forged. Such common life-shaping experiences have helped to foster **greater cohesiveness and national identity** among our people.

The **support of all Singaporeans for NS** reminds our servicemen why they serve, and keeps them going when the going gets tough. It is important to **appreciate the dedication**, **service and contributions of our national servicemen**, and to thank them for their efforts.

"Singapore is much better defended now than when we started out 50 years ago but we will always be a small country, and National Service will always be a cornerstone of our defence. We must ensure that every generation understands why NS remains critical, particularly as the younger generations have only ever known stability and peace."

- PM Lee Hsien Loong NS50 Dinner Reception, 30 Oct 2017



Image source: PMO



"Singapore is vulnerable because we are small, and that will never change. [...] physical invasion of your country puts an end to all that you have built over the years and to future dreams... Without a strong defence, there is no economic security, there is no future."

- Minister for Defence, Dr Ng Eng Hen at the Total Defence Awards Ceremony on 23 Mar 2022

In Conclusion...

A strong SAF remains the most effective deterrent against any potential aggressors.

And what makes the SAF strong is not just our technological capabilities, but the professionalism and dedication of our servicemen and women, and the support of all Singaporeans.

It is with Total Defence, and this shared commitment, that we continue to safeguard Singapore's independence and way of life, as well as secure our future through uncertain times.



END Thank you!





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