

TOTAL DEFENCE DAY 2022



THE FALL OF SINGAPORE (15 FEBRUARY 1942)

No one, but ourselves, is responsible for our security.



(1942) The British surrender party with COL Sugita and LT Hishikara on the road to the surrender chamber at Ford Factory building



(1942) British surrender at conference room of Ford Motor Factory, General Tomoyuki Yamashita facing camera



DURING WORLD WAR II: HAVING OUR OWN DEFENCE

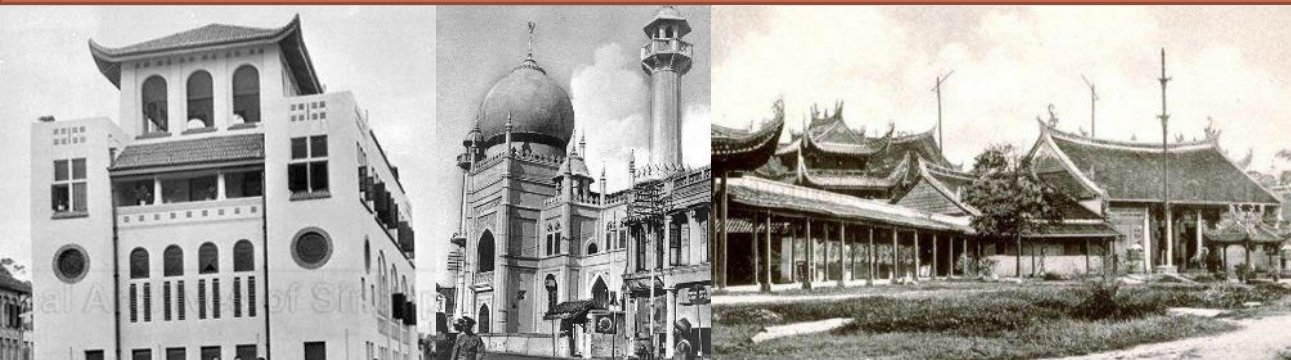


“ We were under British rule, who were not actually looking after us at that time. The Japanese were able to force themselves into Singapore because we were not willing fighters. We did not have Singaporeans who were fighting to defend their own country.

-- MAJ (Ret) Ishwar Lall Singh, 2017

DURING WORLD WAR II: HELPING OTHERS IN TIME OF CRISIS

Providing shelter and solace during air raids



Images (left to right): Telok Ayer Chinese Methodist Church, Sultan Mosque, Siong Lim Monastery

Treating people in makeshift hospitals



Images (left to right): St Andrew's Cathedral, St Joseph's Institution

Sharing rations among neighbours



“ It didn't matter if you were Chinese, Indian, Malay or Eurasian like me, everyone helped one another because we needed to. We had to queue up for food rations at 3am in the morning. Even so, when it came to our turn, the food would have run out and the person-in-charge would tell us to go away. Thankfully neighbours who had queued earlier would also share what they had with us.

-- Mrs Helen Joseph, 2017

DURING WORLD WAR II: STANDING UP FOR SINGAPORE

Lieutenant Adnan bin Saidi



He and his men bravely defended Singapore to their last breath at the Battle of Opium Hill.

Halford Boudewyn



Passed on Japanese war documents to the Allied Forces and shared with the public during WWII, helping the war effort and improving public morale.

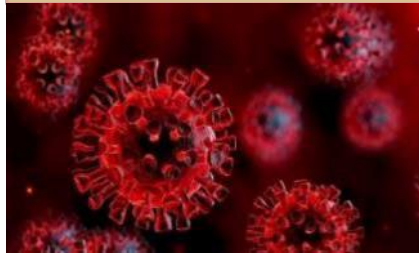
Elizabeth Choy



Secretly aided British prisoners of war and did not betray them, even under torture and starvation.

TODAY'S CONTEXT

COVID-19



Economic Pressures



Fake News



Cyber Attacks



Climate Change



Terrorism



Disinformation Campaigns

- D**istortions
- R**umours
- U**ntruths
- M**isinformation &
- S**mears



Increasing diversity



Growing socio-economic divide

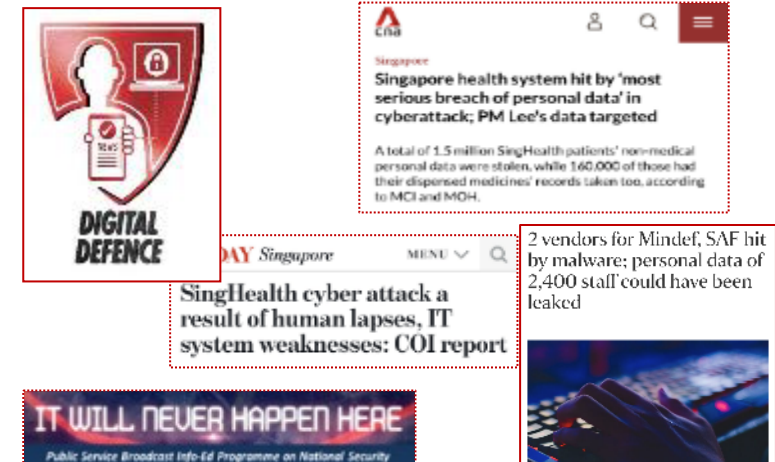


Diplomatic Pressures



EVOLUTION OF TOTAL DEFENCE

Introduced in 1984, Total Defence today is a Whole-of-Society response to an evolving threat landscape. Total Defence involves every Singaporean playing a part, both individually and collectively.



1980s – 1990s
Support for national conscription
Everyone has a part to play



Post 9-11
Framework to deal with non-conventional threats or crises such as Terrorism, SARS, and Haze



Today
What individuals and communities can do to strengthen resilience against hybrid threats

RECAP: WHAT IS TOTAL DEFENCE?



A strong and credible defence force of committed Regulars and National Servicemen, supported by the entire nation.



A cohesive and caring society, with strong bonds uniting diverse groups who live in harmony with one another.



A vigilant and prepared society, with a crisis-ready mindset.



A digitally-prepared population that is discerning and responsible online.



A robust, resilient, and globally competitive economy.



The collective **will to act**, the **resolve** to defend our way of life and national interests, and the **fighting spirit** to overcome challenges together.

SOME TOTAL DEFENCE ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



- Support local businesses
- Pick up new skills



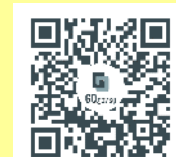
- Debunk fake news
- Be alert to COVID-19 phishing scams



- Be socially responsible
- Support healthcare workers



Can you think of more Total Defence actions?



SOME TOTAL DEFENCE ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE THREAT OF FOREIGN INFLUENCE



- Use social media responsibly
- Be discerning about what we read, especially online



- Understand Singapore's stand and national interests
- Stand up against deliberate online falsehoods that undermine Singapore's interests



Can you think of more Total Defence actions?



SOME TOTAL DEFENCE ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE



- Use fewer disposables
- Purchase energy-efficient electrical appliances



- Curb the spread of unsubstantiated or fake news on climate issues



Can you think of more Total Defence actions?



CONCLUSION



- 2022 marks the 80th Anniversary of the fall of Singapore to the Japanese in 1942, when we first learnt that we could not depend on others to defend us.
- Total Defence has been our safeguard for the past 38 years. Total Defence still plays a critical role in protecting our way of life and ensuring our survival and future. With Total Defence, we are prepared and resilient to deal with emerging and evolving threats, and be united enough to overcome challenges that threaten our well-being and independence.
- Let us continue putting Total Defence in action and playing our part to keep Singapore safe, secure, and sovereign.

EXIT & POST-SESSION ACTIVITIES: HOW WILL YOU PLAY A PART?



TOTAL DEFENCE SANDBOX 2022

Take 5 mins to reflect on the following:

1. Amidst the pandemic, how has Total Defence been relevant to me and those around me?
2. What more could I do to put Total Defence into action in my daily life?



Have an initiative you think can help the community put Total Defence into action? Share it with us and stand a chance to have your ideas come to life! If your idea is selected, funding will be awarded for its implementation.



Design an initiative or campaign that targets the problem statement below:

Through the years, the nature of threats have evolved from traditional security threats (e.g. terrorism, piracy, territorial tensions). These are emerging trends where Singapore's vulnerabilities could be easily exploited without the need for military conflict and other challenges such as:

- *Cyberattacks, Misinformation and Fake News through digital platforms such as social media.*
- *Climate and Sustainability Challenges which impacts our food, water and energy security.*

Start an initiative which could help educate youths and the community on the evolving threats and how they can be dealt with as we navigate the complex environment that Singapore operates in. This could be done through the creation of content/an initiative/a campaign/a product that supports Total Defence. If you have ideas that address other issues, do submit them as well! We welcome all ideas that will put Total Defence in action.

For submission of ideas please go to <https://go.gov.sg/tdsandbox>.

More information can also be found at <https://www.ideas.gov.sg/home>.