

# MERLION STAR

Serving the Sembawang Community

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- ✦ Black History Month Luncheon, Mar. 9
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## VICE CHIEF WRAPS UP VISIT TO SINGAPORE



SINGAPORE (Feb. 23, 2012) - Vice Chief of Naval Operations (VCNO) Adm. Mark Ferguson addresses Sailors assigned to various commands in Singapore during an all-hands call. Ferguson is visiting Singapore to meet with regional partners and U.S. personnel in to discuss U.S. Navy engagement in the Pacific in support of the new defense strategy. US Navy photo by Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Jessica Bidwell

SEMBAWANG, Singapore --

By: Lt. Cmdr. CHRIS SERVELLO,  
VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS,  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Vice Chief of Naval Operations (VCNO) concluded

a two-day visit to Singapore Feb. 23.

Adm. Mark Ferguson met with Chief of the Singapore Navy, Rear Admiral Chee Pang, toured facilities at Changi and Sembawang naval bases, and spoke to U.S. Sailors at an all hands call.

"I am visiting regional partners on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations to discuss our Pacific engagement," said Ferguson. "As

we look at the future of the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and our presence in the region, this was an important stop."

In meetings with the Singapore Navy, VCNO focused on the recent U.S. force posture review, the status of the two respective navies and future plans to operate LCS out of Singapore.

"This visit further solidified the strong relationship we enjoy with the Singapore Navy," said Ferguson. "We are committed to deploying LCS to Singapore. My time here gave me a better understanding of the support facilities available and the factors we

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# Merlion

## Star

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## SECNAV Addresses The Fleet Tuesday



U.S. Navy Photo

Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus will address the Navy and Marine Corps team from Norfolk, Va. on board USS Bataan (LHD 5) pier side at Naval Station Norfolk on Tue, 6 Mar. at 0400 Singapore time. This worldwide All Hands call will be televised and web-streamed live to announce to the Fleet a new program designed to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness to build resiliency and to hone the most combat effective force in the history of the Department of Navy.

Personnel across the globe can watch the Secretary's remarks live on American Forces Network, the Pentagon Channel ([www.pentagonchannel.mil](http://www.pentagonchannel.mil)), Direct-to-Sailor (DTS) or streaming on the Navy's and Marine Corps' Facebook pages, [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil)

and the Defense Video and Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS) ([www.dvidshub.net](http://www.dvidshub.net)) at 3:00 p.m. EST.

Following his remarks, the Secretary, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert, Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command Lt. Gen. Dennis J. Hejlik, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Rick D. West and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Michael P. Barrett will answer questions from the audience, as well as questions from those watching throughout the Fleet. Sailors and Marines can submit their questions live through the Navy's and Marine Corps' Facebook pages, or in advance by emailing them to [USNtownhall@gmail.com](mailto:USNtownhall@gmail.com). Electronically submitted questions will need the name, rank and command of the person

**SECNAV's Live, Worldwide All-Hands Call is Tues. 6 Mar at 0400 Local Time.**

# Patrol Squadron (VP) 16 showcases the P-3C Orion at the Singapore Air Show, Feb. 13-19

SINGAPORE – Sailors from the Patrol Squadron (VP) 16 participated in Singapore Air show 2012, Asia's largest and one of the three most important aerospace and defense exhibitions in the world, Feb. 13-19.

By: MC2 JESSICA BIDWELL,  
CLWP  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

VP-16 showcased the P-3C Orion during the week-long event, which drew more than 150,000 civilian spectators and thousands of government and industry representatives.

“The air show is a great opportunity to not only showcase our aircraft but to also to represent the U.S. Navy,” said Chief Warrant Officer Dan Haller. “The residents of this part of the world don't get a lot of face to face time with the U.S. military; I think that our interactions with the locals will leave a larger impact than the aircraft itself.”

Throughout the show the 21 Sailors who participated educated the public on the capabilities P-3C Orion, as well as posed for photos and sold squadron souvenirs.

“I brought my son here since he wants to be a pilot when he grows up,” said Chan Tyson, a resident of Malaysia whom made the trip to Singapore for the air show. “The tour of the P-3C Orion was fantastic, I appreciate that you were able to entertain all of my sons questions.”

Singapore Air show 2012 included 900 exhibiting companies from over 50 countries. The show also welcomed 266 foreign delegations from 80 countries and a total of 38,000 trade visitors from a total of 119 countries making this the largest edition ever.



SINGAPORE (Feb. 18, 2012) – SINGAPORE (Feb. 18, 2012) – Attendees at the Singapore Air show 2012 stand in line to tour the P-3C Orion. Patrol Squadron (VP) 16 showcased the P-3C Orion throughout the Singapore Air show 2012. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jessica Bidwell



SINGAPORE (Feb. 18, 2012) – SINGAPORE (Feb. 18, 2012) – Chief Warrant Officer Dan Haller, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 16, educates attendees at the Singapore Air show 2012 on the P-3C Orion. Patrol Squadron (VP) 16 showcased the P-3C Orion throughout the Singapore Air show 2012. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jessica Bidwell.

Approximately 100 U.S. military personnel supported Singapore Air show 2012. Various models of U.S. military aircraft, including C-17 Globemaster III, E-3B Sentry AWACS, KC-135 Stratotanker, B-52 Stratofortress, as well as the P-3 Orion.

VP-16 is currently deployed to Kadena Air Base in Okinawa. The squadron conducts security, surveillance and reconnaissance missions in support of Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet and is homeported at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla.

# VCNO In Singapore

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still must work through before we move ahead.”

While visiting Changi Naval Base, Ferguson met with Fleet Commander Rear Admiral Lai Chun Han, toured the information fusion center, fleet headquarters and the Singapore Navy Frigate RSS Stalwart.

“It was clear to me in this visit that the Singaporean facilities and infrastructure are well suited to accommodate our ships for training, exchanges, and exercises,” said Ferguson. “Our ongoing access to these facilities helps us promote regional stability and supports operations from the Western Pacific to the Arabian Gulf.”

In an all hands call at Logistics Group, Western Pacific (COMLOG WESTPAC), Ferguson thanked Sailors for the important work they have done supporting U.S. interests throughout the region. He discussed what the future Navy will look like, what is expected of Sailors and how each of them can make a difference daily.

COMLOG WESTPAC, Commander, Task Force 73 (CTF 73), and Navy Region Center Singapore are the U.S. 7th Fleet’s providers of combat-ready logistics, maintaining and operating government-owned and contracted vessels to keep combatant ships and units throughout the region armed, fueled, fed and supported. Additionally, they are 7th Fleet’s Theater Security Cooperation agent for Southeast Asia, providing persistent engagement with allies and partners.

Ferguson is traveling throughout the U.S. Pacific Fleet to meet with regional partners and U.S. personnel to discuss U.S. Navy Pacific engagement.

# 217th Singapore Supply Corps Association Birthday Ball

The 217th Singapore Supply Corps Association Birthday Ball was held on February 17, 2012 at The Legends Golf & Country Resort in Malaysia. The theme of this years celebration was British East India Trading Company meets Southeast Asia.



Photos By: MC2 Jessica Bidwell

# Space Academy Singapore 2012

Some of you may have heard of Space Camp® which began in Huntsville, Alabama as an education program in 1982. Singapore has its own space camp called Space Academy Singapore. Over three-hundred Singapore graduates have enjoyed Space Academy Singapore. There are two programs.

Space Academy Singapore Junior is a two-day, space-themed program for students ages 8-12 offered during school holidays by current and former NASA engineers. They have experience on projects like the Hubble Space Telescope, Space Shuttle, International Space Station and the X-37 Orbital Test Vehicle. This program is designed to encourage, inspire, and educate students in the study of space, science, and engineering in a fun and enriching way. Space Academy Singapore Junior has six academic modules, several activities and projects, and a site visit. Our goal is for young students to appreciate math and science principles, learn to work together, and be able to evaluate problems systematically and creatively.

Space Academy Singapore Youth is a five-day, space-themed learning program for teenage students, also offered during school holidays by current and former NASA engineers. Space Academy Singapore Youth has seven academic modules, many activities and projects, and several site visits. Our goal is for students to learn math and science principles, learn to work together in a team setting, be able to solve problems systematically and creatively, expand their knowledge by understanding "rocket science,"

and be able to apply learned skills.

Presented by the Singapore Space and Technology Association ([www.space.org.sg](http://www.space.org.sg))

Supported by A\*Star, DSO National Labs, & Science Centre Singapore, our NASA engineer-instructors offer:

Space Academy Singapore Junior two-day programs for ages 8 – 12: 31 May – 1 June, 7 – 8 June, & 14 – 15 June -- cost is \$680. See [www.sas.space.org.sg](http://www.sas.space.org.sg) for more information

Space Academy Singapore Youth five-day programs for teenagers: 28 May – 1 June, 4-8

June, & 11 – 15 June-- cost is \$950-- See [www.sas.space.org.sg](http://www.sas.space.org.sg) for more information

SSTA, a non-profit industry association, works with schools, businesses, public and private organizations, and parents to enroll students. SSTA offers group discounts and may be able to accommodate special requirements and offer dedicated programs. For more information on Space Academy Singapore go to [www.sas.space.org.sg](http://www.sas.space.org.sg) and get ready for blast off! You can register on line! Check out cool videos at <http://sas.space.org.sg/media/videos> too!



**SPACE ACADEMY SINGAPORE JUNIOR** (AGE : 8 - 12 YEARS)

**ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE IN SINGAPORE!**

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**  
 Fly a High Tech UAV ! · Eat Space Food ! · Build a Rover !  
 Build and Launch a Water Rocket ! Experience Extreme Environments !

**IN THIS 2-DAY PROGRAM, CHILDREN WILL**  
 Appreciate basic math and science principles in an exciting platform  
 Learn how to work in a team setting to solve problems systematically and creatively  
 Understand firsthand what really goes on behind the scenes in rocket science!  
 Understand how to apply their math and science skills to real world challenges.



**JOIN US!**  
 2 Days (9am - 5pm)    31 May - 1 Jun    7 Jun - 8 Jun    14 Jun - 15 Jun

Register at [www.sas.space.org.sg](http://www.sas.space.org.sg) :: Email: [sas@space.org.sg](mailto:sas@space.org.sg) :: Tel: +65 6472 1646