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**SPEECH BY PROF S JAYAKUMAR, MINISTER FOR LAW AND HOME AFFAIRS, AT THE FORMATION CEREMONY OF THE POLICE COAST GUARD PATROL SQUADRONS AND NAMING OF COASTAL PATROL CRAFT ON FRIDAY, 7 MAY 93 AT 11.00 AM AT THE POLICE COAST GUARD HEADQUARTERS, STADIUM LANE**

Commissioner of Police, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Five years ago, the Police Coast Guard, then known as the Marine Police, began to retrain, re-equip and improve manning to upgrade its operational effectiveness. That programme made possible the inauguration of the Police Coast Guard three months ago. The inauguration was not just a change of nomenclature. It was the end of one phase of development, enhancing the Police's capability to patrol and police our coastal and territorial waters.

2 The official launching of the three patrol squadrons marks the beginning of the second phase of development of the Police Coast Guard. The Police Coast Guard will now be organised into three patrol squadrons, each with designated areas of responsibilities in our territorial waters.

3 The first squadron, the **INTERCEPTER SQUADRON**, consisting of PC-class crafts, will ensure that the Singapore waters of the narrow Johore Straits will be free of illegal immigrants and smugglers of dutiable goods, firearms, drugs and other contraband. The second squadron, the **PORT SQUADRON**, consisting of PT and PX-class crafts, will be responsible for security in the port waters. This squadron's main responsibility will be to patrol, prevent and respond to incidents. The third and newest patrol squadron, the **COASTAL PATROL SQUADRON**, consisting of ex-RSN coastal patrol crafts and existing PT-class crafts, will ensure that our open waters, where rougher sea conditions prevail, will remain free for sea passage.

4 I am particularly pleased that the four coastal patrol crafts have been transferred from the Republic of Singapore Navy to the Police Coast Guard. Another four CPCs will be transferred from the Navy in 1994. These crafts, with better communications, radar and electronic equipment, will provide the PCG with the basis for efficient operations and further upgrading.

5 With larger crew and more sophisticated equipment, our PCG officers will be exposed to a variety of command and control challenges which require more immediate operational procedures and better leadership and management skills. Therefore, in the next phase of PCG's development, the Police will upgrade their

training facilities at the PCG base at Kallang. Sophisticated training simulation and exercises for gunnery, radar and navigation are planned. This upgrading process and training is made possible through the co-operation of the Republic of Singapore Navy and I wish to thank the RSN for their assistance.

6 Finally, to the Commissioner of Police, the Police Project Team in charge of this programme, and the Police Coast Guard officers and men, let me say: Well done! Let us press ahead and keep our territorial waters secure and trouble-free.

7 I now have the pleasure to launch the Police Coast Guard Patrol Squadrons.

Thank you.

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