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KERIS TERBANG

KERIS TERBANG

ISSUE 13



Sambutan Hari Kebangsaan
Negara Brunei Darussalam

ISSUE 13

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

I am proud to present to you the 13th edition of Keris Terbang, and what an amazing journey it has been thus far. The first quarter of 2023 has already experienced a

variety of both challenges and achievements. Reflecting on the past year in 2022, we saw the changes in response to the pandemic as the nation transitioned through the endemic phase of COVID-19. The daily battle rhythm and day-to-day business of our men and women within the Royal Brunei Air Force took some adjustments, but with the key aim of ensuring mission success and upkeep of the organisations effectiveness in its conduct. As a unit, we collectively and individually took lessons away and embraced change. Our quarterly magazine is here again to showcase the daily lives of our men and women of the Royal Brunei Air Force.

In this edition of Keris Terbang we are pleased to share our journey throughout the 1st quarter of 2023. To break the ice, we kick off with a personal perspective of the recent Brunei Darussalam National Day parade from our AFSM. We also cover recent courses

conducted within the RBAirF, an insight to a fun filled sports interaction with the Royal Air Force, the recent wing presentation to graduating student pilots and many more. In addition to this, we also understand the importance of family, which is why we have also included an article on the RBAirF BAKTI members and their roles.

As we look forward to the future and the challenges it may bring. It is important that we adapt to change and remain flexible in our approach. Whilst the unit strives towards achieving its goals and daily battle rhythm, we must never forget the sacrifices made along the way. My utmost appreciation goes out to all our officers, airmen and airwomen who keep this continuous cycle going.

Last but not least, a special thank you to the contributing writers and editorial team who have worked so hard on producing Issue 13 of Keris Terbang!

We all have a story worth sharing. What's yours?. Please continue to support us with any articles, stories or images you would like to include in future editions.

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NATIONAL DAY PARADE – FROM AFSM’S PERSPECTIVE

by Lt (U) Dk Rabiatul

The editorial committee would like to express our sincerest gratitude to **WO1 (U) Suridi bin Haji Ibrahim, Air Force Sergeant Major (AFSM)**, for making time to be interviewed for this edition. WO1 (U) Suridi bin Haji Ibrahim is the current Royal Brunei Air Force Sergeant Major since his appointment on 01 October 2020. He has been in the Royal Brunei Armed Forces for 29 years and officially joined the Royal Brunei Air Force for 28 years. This article will cover his perspective as the AFSM during the 2023 National Day Parade.

Generally, what are the roles and responsibilities of an AFSM?

Alongside being the eyes and ears of the RBAirF Commander and responsible for the directives from the Commander and Officers, briefly, an AFSM acts as a leader to the other ranks of the service unit in ensuring the quality of discipline of each member is at the expected level, monitoring Warrant Officers and other ranks’ activities involvement in National events, parades, as well as determining the welfare of all personnel with the cooperation of Group Sergeant Majors.

More importantly, for every directive received, it must be determined and properly ensured to be correctly and ideally implemented.

What are the roles and responsibilities of an AFSM during the National Day Parade?

The duties of an AFSM during the National Day Parade depends on the duties given. Alhamdulillah, this year, I was assigned to the March Past Cluster for all RBAF personnel. Among the responsibilities to be carried out was to ensure the strength of personnel is sufficient, ensuring the drills for the



March Past and the uniform state was up to standard as well as reporting attendance to the Parade Commander.

What are the notable differences between this year’s National Day Parade in comparison to last year’s National Day Parade, which was adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic season?

From my perspective, the highlight of the National Day Parade of 2023 did not differ as much as the number of

participations is about the same as compared to last year’s parade. The only difference was the bigger number of audiences which was evident from the lively turnout on the actual day since the early endemic phase was announced.

With the National Day 2023 theme being “Menjayakan Wawasan Negara 2035”, how does the theme can be related into the role of RBAF in participating the 2023 National Day Parade?

If we play close attention to the theme of the National Day 2023, *Menjayakan Wawasan Negara 2035*, Accomplishing the National Vision of 2035, it cannot be denied that the role of RBAF is vital and the national vision will not be fully achieved as the organisation contributes to the national defence and security. In addition, the aid and contribution from RBAF distributes to the government and private sectors are very significant.

We are all well aware that the succeed towards an aim, especially the vision of the country, it can be successfully and easily achieved with exercising the qualities incorporated in the Core Values of RBAirF, where

these values are instilled in our daily lives. *Takwa* (Piety), *Berani* (Brave), Professional, and *Setia* (Loyalty); these four elements are very necessary and important for every personnel to instil, regardless of their age, rank or position. With high piety, it is certain that each and every individual will conduct positive actions and activities, including loyalty to the Sultan, the religion, the nation and the country.

With the presence of loyalty, it is certainly possible to eliminate all deviations and treacheries in conducting duties and tasks. Courage in upholding the truth and doing good is very necessary in ensuring the country’s vision a success. Last but not least, remaining professional in making any decision in carrying out any responsibility to oneself as well as to the society and the country.

In conclusion, the RBAF Core Values are very much in line with the concept of the Nation Philosophy of *Melayu Islam Beraja*.

In your opinion, what is the importance of the participation of various government and private agencies in the National Day Parade, especially RBAirF and RBAF?

Participation from all sectors in the parade is important as the pact and cooperation from all will be crucial in achieving the success of the main event. This includes the contribution and participation of RBAF and specifically RBAirF in the March Past and during the preparation, showcasing the spirit of unity.

What are the preparations made by an AFSM in ensuring the success of the National Day Parade?

Preliminary preparation and proper planning are crucial in ensuring the event is a success, especially in terms of the quantity of participants, quality of the march past, drills, rehearsals and uniformity. This matter can be realised successfully through cooperation from all relevant sectors whether from the RBAirF, RBAF and the National Day Parade Higher Authorities and Committee.

In the near future, what other roles RBAirF, other than the norm, can be showcased during the National Day Parade?

The RBAirF will continue to deliver any given role to support the National Day Parade. In the future, with the planned acquisition of new assets, the RBAirF will be able to showcase its latest technological developments as well as the expansion of its capabilities. With the new capabilities, there will also inevitably be new roles within the RBAirF. Additionally, the RBAirF will be able to showcase its new wing

“**MEREALISASI
KAN WAWASAN
BRUNEI 2035**”



NO.2 WING 24th ANNIVERSARY



by Lt (U) Zul Zainul

Borneo Darussalam is still in the Endemic phase of COVID-19. With the easing of restrictions, under the morning sun shining across Rimba Air Force Base, all Officers, Senior Non-Commissioned Officers, Junior Non-Commissioned Officers, and personnel of No. 2 Wing gathered to participate in the No. 2 Wing 24th Anniversary.

With the echoing voice of the Parade Commander's command of "Hormat Senjata" or "Present Arm", the contingent stood still to present their salute to Lt Col (U) Amierul Halpi bin Talip, CO of No. 2 Wing.

The celebration was held as part of a 4-day event of Thanksgiving Ceremony, Parade Ceremony, Community Service as well as Sports interaction from Tuesday, 03 January 2023 to Friday, 06 January 2023.

To begin the series of celebration, the Thanksgiving ceremony gathered all No. 2 Wing personnel for mass recitation of Surah Yassin, Tahlil, and Doa Selamat as well as Zuhor prayers at Surau Al-Barakah, Rimba Air Force Base. This was led by Muhammad Fathurrahman bin Haji A. Matali, The Imam of Surau Al-Barakah.



The celebration continued with a Parade Ceremony at No. 2 Wing Headquarters, Rimba Air Force Base consisting of 207 personnel with four contingents, led by Captain (U) Mohammad Alauddin bin Awang Haji Besar, Administrative Officer, No. 2 Wing, Operations Group, RBAirF. During the ceremony, Lieutenant Colonel (U) Amierul Halpi bin Talip, CO of No. 2 Wing, delivered his insightful speech highlighting the achievements and also importantly the future planning and endeavors of No. 2 Wing and the importance of discipline to everyone.

In conjunction with the anniversary, No. 2 Wing also initiated the Hearts and Minds projects for the community by organising blood donations and cleaning campaigns. A total of more than 130 personnel donated blood and collected a gargantuan amount of more than 200kg of residual waste along the Berakas Forest Reserve beach coastline.

No. 2 Wing also carried out cleaning campaigns at Masjid Kampong Lambak Kiri and Masjid Kampong Rimba as part of their community service. The 4-day event also included a friendly Golf Classic Interaction by inviting former officers and personnel of No. 2 Wing and a beach football friendly tournament that aimed to strengthen the relations among the personnel whilst encouraging to practice a healthy lifestyle.



COMMANDER RBAirF MUZAKARAH SESSIONS

by Cpt (U) Al Hafizh

Since the beginning of 2023, the Commander of the RBAirF has hosted muzakarah sessions with various levels of groups including officers, female officers, and senior ranks. These sessions aims are:

1) To provide a platform for all levels of personnel to voice out sensitive or confidential issues to create a safer and more conducive working environment.



It is crucial to establish clear and detailed criteria for how information from the audience will be dealt with and who will have access to it. At the start of the session, I think it is critical to remind those attending that their information will be kept between both parties and the few circumstances under which confidentiality may be compromised (e.g. when there is a peril of harm to the guest or others). Confidentiality should be maintained at all levels of the sessions. This can aid in establishing confidence between the guest and the Commander.



For instance, the Commander always ensures that any notes or records taken are appropriately stored and that only authorised individuals have access to them.

From the writer's point of view, keeping confidentiality is an integral part of creating a safe environment where individuals can express their problems during the sessions. It can aid in developing trust between the Commander and the RBAirF personnel, which is necessary for an effective organisation.

2) Application of tailored intervention to improve engagement that better suits the needs of each group

Tailored intervention is the implementation of tactics specifically developed to address the specific needs and features of a particular group of individuals. The purpose of customised interventions is to promote engagement and involvement by developing a more personalised approach that resonates with the target audience.

The use of data-driven insights and analytics to discover the individual requirements and characteristics of the target audience is vital for the effectiveness of personalised interventions. The use of tailored approaches is a valuable tool for increasing engagement and participation in various contexts, and it can result in better outcomes for individuals and organisation. By examining the questions from the audience through the collection of data from Slido Apps that I had collected, the Commander intervention techniques that engage and motivate individuals can be developed.

3) Avoiding conflict of interest to ensure that individuals or groups do not have competing interests that could influence their decision-making and actions

Conflicts of interest must be avoided for individuals or groups to make objective and fair decisions. A conflict of interest occurs when a person or organisation has competing interests that potentially influence their decision-making and action. Individuals and organisations must identify and account for any possible conflicts of interest to avoid conflicts of interest.

Individuals and groups can safeguard their integrity and behave in the best interests of all parties concerned by doing so. This may entail refraining from making judgments or acting in ways that benefit oneself or those around them at the expense of others. In my perspective, to manage conflicts of interest and maintain a transparent and impartial decision-making process, clear standards and procedures must be established.



RAF SPORT INTERACTION

by Cpt (U) Khairi

“The winner for the Sports Tournament is.....”



The loud cheers echoed the grand stand of the Sports Complex. On Friday, 3 February 2023, No. 1 Wing, 51 Squadron and 73 Squadron of Royal Brunei Air Force (RBAirF) participated in a sports interaction activity hosted by No.1563 Flight, Royal Air Force (RAF), United Kingdom at the Sports Complex, Rimba Air Force Base. Also present were aviators and aircrew from the Brunei Helicopter Detachment Team of the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF). In attendance as well during the sports interaction was Lieutenant Colonel (U) Muhammad Walee bin Haji Roslie, Commanding Officer of No. 1 Wing, Operations Group, RBAirF.

Everyone arrived and gathered at half past two, seated at the grand stand of the Sports Complex. To start of the event, Sgt Benny from No. 1563 Flight gave an enthusiastic brief on what was to happen that afternoon. “4 games!” he said. The games that every participant will compete in were Water sports – ‘Casualty Rescue’, Dodgeball, Village Athletics, Team Task – ‘Protect the egg’. Each unit will have representatives to participate in these games and the overall score collected from these games will dictate the winner of the overall tournament.



Late in the afternoon, we gathered once more at the grandstand. Sgt Benny steps up again to the front of the grandstand with the results of the overall games written on his folder. Eager and tired faces were seen around that grand stand. He announces.... “In third place, 73 Squadron!”. “In second place, 51 Squadron!”. He pauses and smile, “The winner for the Sports Tournament this afternoon is.....No. 1563 Flight!”. The grandstand rumbled with the loud cheers of everyone who attended.

The sports interaction aimed to foster cooperation in a friendly competitive environment amongst the participants, allow players to build and harness the spirit of teamwork and respect, and further strengthen the relationship. Bringing everyone closer, the event ended with everyone gathered by the poolside enjoying some refreshments sharing stories and experiences with one another.



Casualty Rescue – Teams of 6 would swim from one end of the pool to another to save the casualty and together return with the casualty to the safe point. The fastest team to reach the safe point would receive the highest point for this game.

Dodgeball – Each team would battle it out to eliminate the opposite team member within time limit.

Village athletics - Team members would stand in their individual stations and in turns conduct the following tasks such as a sack race, egg on a spoon and the three-legged race.



The final game, which was a Team Task – ‘Protect the egg’, had teams conjure up some form of armor for an egg using only the materials provided by the invigilator in the time given. These materials included sheets of newspaper, rubber bands, plastic tapes and strings. Once the time runs out each representative would step up to the throwing point, and throw their egg as far as they possibly could without breaking the egg.

RBAirF Overseas Participation

by Lt (U) Qawiemah

Developing Our Human Capital

Despite the ongoing challenges, the RBAirF continues to send its personnel overseas for professional development.

The Command and Staff Course at Goh Keng Swee Command and Staff College – Maj (U) Hamiz

The 54th Command and Staff Course (CSC) at GKS CSC SAFTI MI, Singapore has been an incredible learning opportunity for me. The college has been a place of intellectual and emotional challenge, fostering development on all fronts.

I consider it a great honour to learn alongside officers from the Singapore Armed Forces and the armed forces of other countries (Australia, France, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, South Korea, the United States, and Vietnam). The unique insights and ideas from various cultural backgrounds and perspectives have greatly enriched the learning environment. The rigorous course load has demanded a lot of my time and attention, but the benefits to my professional and personal development have been well worth it.

The time I've spent in Singapore has added greatly to my life. This city's diverse population has given me the chance to learn about new cultures and customs up close and personal. The highlights of my time here have been getting to know my colleagues, both local and overseas, as well as experiencing the local cuisine, sights, and sounds of the city. Overall, I've learned so much and had so many of my perspectives shifted by this experience. The chances RBAirF has given me are greatly appreciated. This training has provided me with invaluable knowledge and experience that I know will serve me well in any future roles I may be assigned to within the organisation.

The Helicopter Instructor Course at Air Force Training Command

The Helicopter Instructor Course (HIC) is conducted in Singapore by the RSAF, specifically the RWSF. This course has produced much of RBAirF Qualified Helicopter Instructors (QHI) with the necessary standards, professionalism to train the next generation of pilots. The long standing agreement between RSAF and RBAirF also serves as a testament to the ever strong relationship between the two agencies.

Cpt (U) Azhar and I were enrolled in the 102nd HIC course from January 2023. We had to attend several prerequisite courses such as the SAF Instructor Course and the Instructional Competency Programme before going for the actual flying part. This gave us the necessary fundamentals such as the theory and knowledge expected as instructors. It was from these courses that we saw a glimpse of the industrious pace at how our Singaporean colleagues conduct their daily work.

Flying in Singapore airspace made us realise how lucky we are in Brunei airways; spacious, less busy. In the cockpit of our EC120B, the air was hot, humid with the sear from the sun on the skin that was familiar and reminded of home. Yet the voices in the radio chatter were sharper and faster, that it took a few seconds to process and understand what was going on. Even with a thousand hours worth of flying at home, this course humbled us. It reminds us during the time when we were still trainees where hard work, perseverance and tenacity would accumulate into professional, competent and committed aviators.

Senior Warrant Officer Exchange Programme between RBAirF and Republic of Singapore Air Force

The programme was held for five days starting from 30 January until 03 February 2023. The five senior warrant officers were representing the RBAirF were 11663 WO1 (U) Suridi Bin Hj Ibrahim, 11844 WO1 (U) Abd Halim Shah Bin Hj Abd Kadir, 13481 WO1 (U) Pg Hj Redzaini Bin Pg Hj Ahmad, 11933 WO1 (U) Shamsul Bin Hj Saman and 13944 WO1 (U) Md Yusmiew Bin Ali.

The experiences shared include areas of training procedures & operations carried out in the host country, were valuable and insightful. For example the search and rescue flight operations which was explained and shared by the crew chief leader from 125 Sqn, RSAF was very beneficial. Additionally, we were also able to experience the training using the winching simulator which was available there. In addition to the flight, we were also taken on a tour of the Republic of Singapore Air Force training centre, which is the Air Force Training Command (AFTC) at Paya Lebar Camp.



Aviation Physiology Training at Paya Lebar Camp

The Aviation Physiology Training is one of the training exchanges between RBAirF and RSAF. In this edition, a total of 14 personnel took part in the training consisting of 6 operational pilots and 8 student pilots.

The aim of the course is to educate aircrew and aviation-related personnel regarding the effect of the environment on the human body, both physically and mentally. This is particularly very crucial especially for those personnel operating at high altitudes. The trainees were able to benefit from very realistic simulations by experiencing rapid decompression effects, hypoxia effects and breathing in rarefied air using the Altitude (Hypobaric) Chamber. The trainees were also able to experience spatial orientation using the Somatogyral Turntable simulator. All in all, the use of such advanced simulators were very beneficial as it provides very realistic situations which may well be experienced during operations or training.



Air Warfare Officer Course at Air Force Training Command

The AWO course is for Air Defence personnel holding the rank of Lieutenant to Captain. The course was designed to train personnel specifically with the operational knowledge and competencies using the RBS-70 system of the RSAF. The RBAirF operates almost the same system using the Mistral and hence the knowledge gained during the training was very useful.

During the course the trainees were taught on the basics of knowledge of air defence, system specific training and the command and control means used for the Ground Based Air Defence (GBAD) system. Although the systems are different from ours, the principles and planning and operational considerations remain the same.

International Observer Programme at Guam

The Cope North Exercise was held between 13 to 24 February 2023 at the Andersen Air Base in Guam. As part of the International Observer Programme, the RBAirF sent two personnel to learn first hand on the operations and conduct of the exercise. Representing the RBAirF were Maj (U) Izdiyar and Maj (Dr) Ranald.

The Cope North is a trilateral exercise between the United States Air Force (USAF), Japan Air Self-Defence Force (Koku-Heitai) and the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). The exercise focused on interoperability through combined tactics, techniques and procedures particularly for HADR operations.



Basic Fixed Wing Course in Australia

As part of the ongoing efforts to produce competent and highly skilled pilots for the RBAirF, the organisation maintains its commitment to sending student pilots abroad. The Basic FW course is the starting point for military pilots in their flying career. The course took part over the duration of 11 months consisting of ground school and flying. The latest batch of 7 student pilots completed their training in February 2023 at the Air Combat Australia, New South Wales.



Advanced Rotary Wing Course in Australia

The Advanced Rotary Wing Course is designed for student pilots who have completed their initial Basic FW course. These trainees have been chosen to specialise in the helicopter platform, and will become Blackhawk S70i pilots or any new platform the RBAirF will acquire. Upon completion of the course, the students will be posted to No. 1 Wing to further their training in the said aircraft. A total of 4 student pilots completed the RW course in the latest batch of training.



Royal Brunei Air Force Courses

by Lt (U) Hidayatullah

No. 7 Wing, Royal Brunei Air Force (RBAirF) has long been regarded as the training wing. No. 7 Wing Headquarters, 73 Squadron, 75 Squadron and 77 Squadron, units under No. 7 Wing, all offer a wide range of courses for RBAirF personnel, with each of the units having their own area of expertise. Over the years, No. 7 Wing have produced hundreds of quality personnel for RBAirF and provided over 33 different types of courses and programme annually, which includes leadership courses for other ranks, Special to Service programme for recruits and officer cadets, basic flying course, basic and advanced technical courses, and lastly air defence and base defence courses. However, it does not stop there, with new capabilities coming into RBAirF, the training wing will be looking to expand its expertise in keeping up with future operational requirements.

Now let's have a look on some of the courses that are being offered:

Basic Military Clerk Course

Previously, Basic Military Clerk Course was only conducted by Training Institute, Royal Brunei Armed Forces (TI RBAF). This has caused several issues hence an agreement was made between RBAirF and TI RBAF, that allowed No. 7 Wing to conduct the course for RBAirF personnel. The course was first conducted in June 2021, which then continued to be conducted with two serials per year. The duration for the course is 6 weeks, with the aim of educating, training as well as imparting knowledge in office management and administration matters to RBAF and civilian personnel, in line with the vision to produce more efficient personnel in the affairs of office administration in the future.



Blackhawk S70i Airframe and Powerplant Introductory Course



This course is conducted annually but it ultimately depends on the requirement of the Training Requirement Authority (TRA) which is No. 5 Wing. The most recent was conducted for 14 weeks from 03 October 2022 until 06 January 2023. Throughout the course, the students are exposed to theory knowledge, aircraft publications, Principles of Operation and Maintenance Procedures among other things, with the objective

of equipping students the basic knowledge needed to maintain the Blackhawk S70i Aircraft. For personnel who have not attended this course, they will not be given any authorisations to work on the Blackhawk S70i Aircraft therefore the course is mandatory for the Blackhawk S70i engineers and technicians.

Aircraft Technician Supervisory Upgrading Course



Similar to the Blackhawk S70i Airframe and Powerplant introductory course, this course is conducted annually. The course is offered to Acting Corporals or Corporals, who have experience in aircraft maintenance for about 8 years or more and the course is mandatory before being promoted to Acting Sergeant. The duration is 8 weeks. It is open to RBAirF personnel only, up until recently where personnel from Royal Brunei Navy participated in the course as well due to the recent acquisition of similar assets which were the UAV. The course mainly focuses on developing supervisory management skills in a military aviation setup rather than improving hand skills, with the objective of equipping personnel with appropriate knowledge and understanding of the management of supervisory duties required when working with an aircraft.

Air Defence Technician Supervisory Upgrading Course



Not only courses for aircraft technicians are being provided but courses for air defence technicians are also being offered. Similar to the aircraft upgrading course, this course focuses on leadership which covers both theory and practical. Its objective is to provide basic knowledge to air defence technician in providing quality standards of maintenance and repair of air defence asset. The course is for 3 weeks and is offered to Acting Corporals or Corporals with at least 8 years of service with air defence technician background.



منجلیاکن و اوسن نگرا
MENJAYAKAN WAWASAN NEGARA
23 FEBRUARI 2023



Airwomen
Preparing for the 39th
National Day Parade

Wing Presentation Ceremony

by Lt (U) Hijazi

Receiving pilot wings for a military pilot is a momentous occasion that represents years of rigorous training and dedication. From the Basic Flying Training (BFT) at Air Combat Australia, Australia through to the local Basic Helicopter Course (BHC) that I completed, it was a journey full of bittersweet memories that I will never forget.

I remember the day vividly, Wednesday, 18th of January 2023 and I had just completed my Final Handling Test (FHT) that morning. I was nervous as I walked into the briefing room to receive my results, but I was also filled with excitement and anticipation knowing that I could be done with the final hurdle of my training. As the flying instructor announced that I had passed, a wave of relief and pride washed over me. I had done it. I am officially a military pilot.

The next step was the official pilot wing presentation ceremony which was held on Friday, 17 February 2023. The ceremony was held at the Rajawali Hall, RBAirF Headquarters, set up for family members, friends, and other fellow recipients. The anticipation was palpable, and I could feel my heart beating faster as I waited for my turn to receive my wings.

Finally, the moment arrived. I stepped forward to face Brigadier General (U) Dato Seri Pahlawan Mohammad Sharif bin Dato Paduka Haji Ibrahim, the Commander of the RBAirF, as he pinned the wings onto my uniform. “Congratulations, you should be proud of what you achieved and fly safe”, he said. The weight of the wings felt significant, both physically and symbolically. It was a moment of great pride and accomplishment.

Receiving pilot wings is not just a personal accomplishment, it is also a recognition of the sacrifice and support of those who helped you achieve your goal. For me, it was a tribute to my wife and family, who had always supported and encouraged me to pursue my dreams. It was also a tribute to my flying instructors, Ray Ekinici, Jay Ekinici and Connor Small (BFT instructors) and Maj (U) Amin, Maj (U) Adi Faiz, Lt Col (Rtd) Johar and Lt Col (Rtd) Jasmin (BHC instructors) who all pushed me to be the best pilot I could be, and to my colleagues who had supported me throughout my training.

As a military pilot, the wings are not just a symbol of accomplishment but also a symbol of responsibility. They represent the trust that has been placed upon me to protect and defend my country, while bearing the risks it carries. The training and discipline required to become a military pilot are rigorous, and the responsibilities are significant. The wings serve as a constant reminder of the commitment made to serve the country and to uphold the highest standards of excellence.

When I reflect on my experience of receiving pilot wings, I am struck by the sense of gratitude that I feel. Gratitude for the opportunity to serve my country, gratitude for the support of my loved ones, and gratitude for the camaraderie that I have found among the pilots and crewmen I worked with. It is a moment that I will always treasure, and one that I will carry with me throughout my life.



“The wings serve as a constant reminder of the commitment made to serve the country and to uphold the highest standards of excellence”

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

by Cpt (U) Hifdzullah

Does military personnel need to be Defensive Driving qualified?

In any scenario, defensive driving is beneficial, but for the military setting it is particularly crucial. This is because the military frequently operates vehicles in dangerous situations, including at hostile surroundings and conflict zones, where there is a high chance of accidents and attacks. Defensive driving tactics must therefore be taught to military personnel in order to protect their own safety as well as the safety of their passengers and equipment.

Being aware of potential road hazards and taking precautions to avoid them are both components of defensive driving in a military context. Keeping a safe distance from other vehicles, anticipating and responding to other drivers' actions, scanning the road for any hazards, and adhering to all traffic laws and regulations are all part of this.

Why the military needs Defensive Driving?

- 1. Safety of Personnel:** Military personnel often carry a high number of personnel within vehicles. The safety of these personnel especially during movement to and from operation areas are paramount to the success of the mission.
- 2. Protection of Equipment:** Military vehicles frequently transport expensive supplies and equipment, so any mishaps could have serious repercussions. Driving defensively can reduce the possibility of damage or loss while ensuring the safe transfer of equipment.
- 3. Mission Success:** A target for hostile forces, a military convoy may carry sensitive and classified materials or equipment. The success of military operations can be ensured by employing defensive driving strategies to prevent ambushes and reduce the likelihood of attacks.
- 4. Compliance with Regulations:** Defensive driving is a vital requirement in the military, and military drivers are subject to tight restrictions and procedures. Military drivers can adhere to rules and guarantee the safety of themselves and their passengers by implementing defensive driving tactics.

Who needs the Defensive Driving?

1. Military Drivers: Drivers in the military who run trucks, Humvees, and armored vehicles should be trained in defensive driving. They should be able to drive safely and reduce the danger of accidents and attacks by having the required skills and knowledge.

2. Convoy Commanders: Military convoys are led by convoy commanders, who are in charge of organising and carrying out secure convoy movements. Additionally, they ought to be able to identify potential risks and react appropriately to any threats.

3. Military Police: Military police personnel are in charge of enforcing safe driving habits and traffic legislation on military facilities. To ensure safety, they should be able to recognise potentially dangerous circumstances and react properly.

4. Support Personnel: Defensive driving certifications should also be obtained by support employees who run military vehicles as part of their job, such as mechanics or logistics staff. They ought to be capable of driving safely and reducing the likelihood of accidents and attacks.

In conclusion, anyone who drives a military vehicle or participates in a convoy of military vehicles should be certified as a defensive driver in a military setting. This is necessary to safeguard equipment, defend military personnel's lives, and guarantee the accomplishment of military missions.

SAFE DRIVING TIPS



Don't speed!

- ☐ Driving fast is one of the major causes of traffic accidents
- ☐ The faster you go, the higher your risks, both to you and other drivers!

Avoid Distractions while Driving!

- ☐ This can help you from getting into accidents.
- ☐ The most common distraction is mobile phones.

Wear your seat belt!

- ☐ Safety belts can save you during crashes. Buckle up and enjoy the ride!

Keep your vehicle safe!

- ☐ Ensure your vehicle is safe before travelling. Check your tyres and others, ensure your car is serviced regularly.

Don't follow too close!

- ☐ Always maintain a safe distance with the car in front of you.



MILITARY AVIATION CASE STUDY

by Lt (U) Hamiz



LIGHTNING INCIDENT

The following case study is based on the experience of an RSAF pilot who encountered a close proximity lightning strike completing his training sortie. MAJ Chan Tze Yang who is a very experienced pilot with well over 2000 flying hours on the Super Puma was flying his sortie across the South China Sea. On the journey back to the Sembawang Air Base, the weather had started to deteriorate very rapidly. Upon landing at the airbase, at 1440H, there were no CAT 1 warning issued yet. Shortly after however, there was a call from the ops room stating that the CAT 1 will be issued by 1500H to which they acknowledged.

Prior to completing their shut down checks at 1450H, the rain started falling very heavily thus making it dangerous to walk or even run. They then requested for a ferry vehicle to bring them back to the base. They then proceeded to shut down the aircraft. Immediately after, multiple flashes were seen at close proximity of the aircraft. With the increasing frequency of lightning activity, MAJ Chan informed the ops room to hold the ferry vehicle using his phone, at the same time asking the rest of the crew to stop using their handphones to reduce the possibility of a lightning strike. After the weather had gotten better, they then went out of the helicopter and carried out a post-flight visual inspection. It was then that they noticed the bonding cable connecting the aircraft and grounding point had broken to bits and burnt through.

Upon further inspection several burnt marks, along with deflated rear wheels and burnt marks on one of the main rotor blade. Looking back at the incident it was a wise choice to not exit the aircraft during the bad weather. The weather in Brunei is very much similar to the weather in Singapore and as such we must always be wary of potential risks and hazards associated with it. The following are the lessons learnt from the incident:

- **To provide ample time for aircraft shut down and to make sure whenever the weather becomes severe, always take shelter and do not risk anything.**
- **To assess and allow sufficient time for the aircraft to be towed back if the weather deteriorates.**
- **To always reduce risks when facing situations such as lightning, such as by not using handphones.**
- **Although bad weather is a normal occurrence in this region, never take it for granted.**

VIRTUAL REALITY

THE FUTURE IS HERE!

by Cpt (U) Fatin

VR Systems are computer-generated environments that simulate a user's physical presence in a 3D virtual space.

They provide realistic, high value and safe platforms for training and is the way ahead especially for the military.



As an advanced training solution

Many armed forces around the world have started utilising VR as a training solution. Usage includes marksmanship training and even vehicle driving courses. The main benefit is that they provide very realistic experiences and most importantly they are conducted in a safe environment.

Providing realistic simulation

Another reason why VR is beneficial for the military is that they also simulate real life scenarios accurately. Trainees can engage and participate in scenarios such as evacuations, emergencies and also disaster response. By doing this, stress and pressure can be introduced within the simulation scenario and this improving the capability of the trainee.

Planning tool for operations

Planning is a key feature of the military. It is almost as crucial as performing the mission itself. By using VR, the military can craft plans, test it out in a controlled environment and make changes where necessary. This will result in the mission being not only safer, but with a higher rate of success.

For research and development

VR can also be used to test out new military technologies to gather data and performance. They can also be used to refine existing technologies and tactics.





Military Technology – The Matrice 300 RTK Drone



In 2019, the Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ) handed over the DJI Mavic Zoom 1 and Zoom 2 Drone System to 233 Squadron, No. 2 Wing, Operations Group, RBAirF. The purpose of the drone system is to give support by providing surveillance through air and to protect our airspace from small air threats. They are usually deployed during national festivities and also during operations.

Now, the first drone system bought by RBAirF in 2023 is the DJI Matrice 300 RTK Drone. The drone can be used to patrol the air force base and can also be used to ensure the local safety of Air Defence deployment sites. The first training sessions for the drone system was conducted by 233 Squadron at the Bukit Agok Firing Range and Berakas Camp. The objectives were to qualify, train and enhance proficiency on the drone system for the operators as well as the maintainers from 520 Squadron.

To function, the DJI Matrice 300 RTK Drone requires a few main pieces of equipment which are the drone system itself, remote controller for controlling the drone, battery station to store and charge battery and few payloads depending on the operations. In every deployment, there must be at least three personnel to operate the drone from 233 Squadron and maintainers from 520 squadron.



PAYLOADS



- **Megaphone**



- **Zenmuse H20T Camera**



- **Spotlight**

15 Km Max Transmission

55-min Max Flight Time

6 Directional Sensing & Positioning

Primary Flight Display

IP45 Rating

-20°C To 50°C Operating Temperature

Hot-Swappable Battery

UAV Health Management System

Multiple Payload Configurations (Spotlight, Megaphone, Zenmuse H20T Camera)

Dual Operator Mode

Intermittent Fasting

THE 16:8 DIET

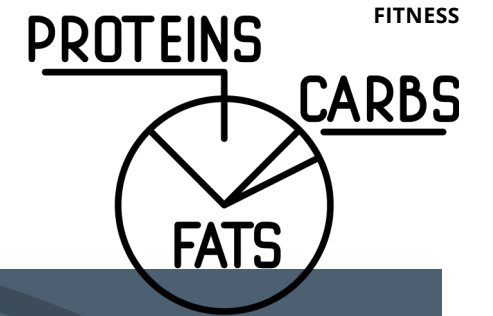
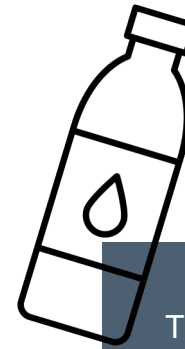
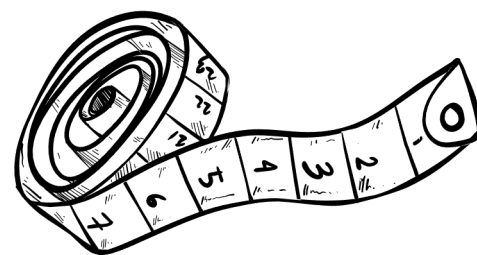
	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6	DAY 7
MIDNIGHT							
4 AM	FAST	FAST	FAST	FAST	FAST	FAST	FAST
8 AM							
12 PM	First meal	First meal	First meal	First meal	First meal	First meal	First meal
4 PM	Last meal by 8PM	Last meal by 8PM	Last meal by 8PM	Last meal by 8PM	Last meal by 8PM	Last meal by 8PM	Last meal by 8PM
8 PM							
MIDNIGHT	FAST	FAST	FAST	FAST	FAST	FAST	FAST

THE 5:2 DIET

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6	DAY 7
Eat normally	Women: 500 calories Men: 600 calories	Eat normally	Eat normally	Women: 500 calories Men: 600 calories	Eat normally	Eat normally

One of the most popular forms of IF is the 16/8 method, which involves fasting for 16 hours per day and eating during an 8-hour window. Another common approach is the 5:2 method, which involves eating normally for five days of the week and restricting calorie intake to 500-600 calories for two non-consecutive days.

Intermittent fasting (IF) is a popular dietary approach that has gained considerable attention in recent years. It involves restricting the time frame during which one consumes food, typically by skipping meals or fasting for certain periods. There are several different variations of intermittent fasting, but they all share the common principle of intermittent energy restriction.



The benefits of intermittent fasting are widely studied and reported. Many people turn to intermittent fasting as a way to lose weight and improve their body composition. Studies have shown that IF can lead to significant weight loss and a reduction in body fat, particularly in the abdominal region.

Intermittent fasting has also been linked to improved blood sugar control and a reduced risk of developing type 2 diabetes. By restricting the time frame during which food is consumed, intermittent fasting can improve insulin sensitivity and help regulate blood sugar levels.

Another potential benefit of intermittent fasting is its ability to promote longevity and delay the onset of age-related diseases. Studies in animals have shown that intermittent fasting can increase lifespan and reduce the incidence of age-related diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurodegenerative disorders.

In addition to these health benefits, intermittent fasting has been shown to improve cognitive function and boost mental clarity. Fasting has been shown to increase the production of a protein called brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF), which is essential for the growth and survival of neurons. BDNF has been linked to improved learning and memory, as well as a reduced risk of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's.

Despite the many potential benefits of intermittent fasting, it is not without its drawbacks. For some people, fasting can be difficult to sustain and can lead to feelings of hunger and fatigue. Additionally, fasting may not be appropriate for everyone, particularly those with certain medical conditions such as diabetes or eating disorders.

It is also important to note that intermittent fasting should not be used as a way to justify unhealthy eating habits during non-fasting periods. It is important to maintain a balanced and nutritious diet during the eating window in order to reap the full benefits of intermittent fasting.

In conclusion, intermittent fasting is a dietary approach that has gained popularity in recent years due to its potential health benefits. Studies have shown that intermittent fasting can lead to weight loss, improved blood sugar control, and a reduced risk of age-related diseases. However, it is important to approach intermittent fasting with caution and to ensure that it is appropriate for one's individual needs and health status.

ROYAL BRUNEI AIR FORCE FLIGHT SAFETY POSTER COMPETITION

**SUBMISSION
DEADLINE
18 JUNE 2023**

SUBMIT POSTER TO:

RBAIRF.FLIGHTSAFETY@GMAIL.COM

FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES, CONTACT
CPT (U) HIFDZULLAH AT
+6738751022

HOW TO ENTER:

- Produce a Poster to illustrate any flight safety related matter and of any theme
- Poster must be in ENGLISH
- Entries must be submitted in PDF format
- A3 Printable
- No limit for submission per person
- Open to RBAirF personnel

**PRIZES TO
BE WON!**

**HOW MUCH
DO YOU CARE
ABOUT SAFETY?**

PHOTO OF THE QUARTER

Have you ever taken photos that you have always wanted to share with everyone? Send us your best photographs and we will showcase the best one every quarter of Keris Terbang!

How to Enter: ?

Please submit photographs via email to:
abdqawiy.yakub@mindef.gov.bn
along with a simple declaration in the email that you are the sole creator and copyright owner of the submitted photograph/s.

You may submit up to 3 photographs. In order to be judged by the editorial committee without being stretched or distorted, each photograph must be submitted in .jpeg, or .jpg format and no larger than 10 MB.

Who may enter: ?

All RBAirF personnel, TEMD and Civilian staff may enter.

What to enter: ?

- ✓ Picture submissions must be RBAirF-related.
- ✓ Any photograph taken with a mobile device (phone or tablet) is accepted. The contestant certifies that he/she is the sole creator and copyright owner of the submitted photograph.
- ✓ Cropped photos are eligible. We will not accept digitally or otherwise enhanced or altered photos. Minor adjustments of pictures, including sharpening, contrast, toning, slight color adjustment and conversion to grayscale are acceptable.
- ✓ For a photo in which a person is recognisable, you must be prepared to provide a model release from the subject in the form of permission, whether written or verbal. Photos that violate or infringe upon another person's rights, including but not limited to copyright, are not eligible.

COUNTER AIR OPERATIONS

by Maj (U) Ali Farid

“Control of the air requires constant effort and activities”

Over the past few editions, we have mentioned the ‘control of the air’ terminology extensively. To recap, control is a term used to describe the state of a contested airspace, be it favourable or otherwise.

The most desirable state, air supremacy in which opposition forces have little to no capacity to exert dominance is what all air forces around the world strive to achieve.

However, it is important to note that these control states are never permanent and as such requires constant effort and activities in order to maintain it.

The act of gaining and maintaining the required degree of control is known as counter air operations. They can be broadly classified into two main classes of operations namely the Offensive Counter Air (OCA) and Defensive Counter Air (DCA) missions. They are meant to disrupt, deny, degrade and even destroy the adversary and its capabilities.



OFFENSIVE COUNTER AIR

Offensive Counter Air Operations are those which target enemy air capabilities as close to their source as possible. Generally they are considered as proactive means and seek to dominate the adversary’s airspace.

The main objective is to prevent the launch or threats against friendly forces by affecting adversary assets and support systems. They are usually performed by manned or unmanned aircraft as well as other land or naval based capabilities.

DEFENSIVE COUNTER AIR

Defensive Counter Air Operations on the other hand are generally reactive and they seek to nullify or achieve the reduction of the adversary’s air and missile threats, both through the use of active and passive measures.

Operation Granby and Operation Corporate perfectly describes the importance of achieving control of the air to overall mission success

Active measures include processes and procedures for detection, interception and engagement usually performed using a multi-layered air defence system. These typically consist of fighters and ground based air defence systems, all working as part of one big mechanism.



Passive measures are measures that include the defence and protection of friendly forces though early warning, camouflage, concealment or deception as well as dispersal.

OPERATION GRANBY VS OPERATION CORPORATE

Operation Granby is an example during which control of the air was established. This operation was performed during the freeing of Kuwait by coalition forces from Iraq in 1991.

The coalition forces, with their considerable and comparatively higher advantage of air power assets were able to avoid fighting on the Iraqi Army’s terms. As such, the coalition forces managed to shift their focus towards the counter-land operations.

The operation was so successful that even before the counter-land operation started, the Iraqi Army was already depleted.

Operation Corporate however represents the other side of the coin. During that operation, British forces were finding it difficult to control the air with their limited carrier-borne capabilities.

This, coupled with the ever present Argentinian air threats meant that the British carrier group had to remain on the east side of the island, thus providing limited coverage for the task force. Successful control of the air was however eventually achieved, although it came through fine margins.