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**HERE'S
ROYAL · AIR · FORCE
C H A N G I**

INTRODUCTION

Changi is the location of one of three RAF Stations on the Island of Singapore. [Section 2](#) of this booklet describes the Station in some detail. Another major section offers important advice and information about your health in Singapore and Malaysia.

The booklet is intended to help you, the newcomer, during those first weeks at RAF Changi when you are trying to adjust yourself to a new job as well as grappling with a new climate and finding your way around. Should your family be with you - or when you call them forward later - they, too, will find much of interest in this booklet. Not only are official matters covered but many [amenities and club](#) activities are also described and these form an important feature of overseas service. I hope you will be able to find at least one new interest or activity whilst you are on the Island.

It is important that the reader of this booklet understands that we at RAF Changi are guests of the people of Singapore. We employ a considerable number of local civilian staff in all grades, and you will probably meet uniformed members of the Royal Air Force (Malaya). With these points in mind, you will find useful reading in those sections that describe the [multi-racial people of Singapore](#) and the [amenities that its island Republic offers](#).

Getting to know the Singaporeans, their customs and their country - as well as the neighbouring country of Malaysia - is part of the pleasure of an overseas tour in the Far East Air Force. I hope you will enjoy your work and your play; if you do, you and your family will have a happy and successful tour.

E. W. MERRIMAN

Group Captain

Station Commander

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Section 1 - Singapore its History and Peoples

The History of Singapore



1. Six thousand years before Christ the ancestors of the Australian aborigine passed through Singapore in their search for new homes. Since then it has come under the influence of the Indian, the Malay, the Javanese, the British and the Chinese.
2. The name Singapore is not a Malaya one. It comes from two Sanskrit words, "Singa Pura", meaning Lion City, and dates back to the time when Indian influence was predominant. The Malays called it 'Tumasik', Sea Town. References of the name Tumasik are found in ancient Javanese and Chinese chronicles.
3. During the thirteenth century Singapore became the headquarters of a powerful Malay Buddhist principedom, which was overthrown by the Majapahit of Java's last Hindu empire in 1377. The invaders put the islands to the sword and the legend says that "blood flowed like water in full flood and the plain of Singapore is red to this day!"
4. Nothing very much is known of the period after the Javanese invasion. The Malays fled north to Malacca where they flourished for a hundred years. During this time Indian and Arab missionaries used Malacca as a base from which to spread religion of Islam to the neighbouring islands.
5. Gradually Singapore itself became a place where pirates fought one another for control of the surrounding seas, and the island remained desolate until the British established a settlement in the early nineteenth century. Nothing has survived of the old Singapore except its name and the tomb on Fort Canning Hill reputed to be of the last Hindu ruler Shah Iskander.
6. In 1819 Thomas Stamford Raffles, who was in the service of the East India Company, saw the possibility of turning what was a swampy, malarial island into a great trading centre. He set up a trading post and created a port free from the piracy of the surrounding waters, where all could come and trade. To this day Singapore remains a free port, open to ships and vessels of every nation.
7. In 1824 the island of Singapore, together with the small islands within ten miles of its coastline except those in the Straits of Johore, were ceded to the East India Company. In 1836 it was incorporated with Penang and Malacca as the Straits Settlements and the Governor of the Straits Settlements took up formal residence at Fort Canning Hill in Singapore. In 1869 the Straits Settlements were transferred from the East India Company to the Colonial Office. From 1869 to 1946 Singapore remained a part of the Straits Settlements. During the Second World War the Island fell to the Japanese in 1942 and was occupied by them until 1945. In 1946, it was made a Crown Colony, separate from the mainland of Malaya.
8. During the period 1948 - 1960 Singapore Island was one of the main bases used against the Communists in Malaya. At the same time the pressure for independence steadily increased, until in 1959 Singapore ceased to be a Crown Colony and became a self-governing State. Defence and internal security remained the responsibility of the United Kingdom Government, but in all other matters the new state was independent.
9. The new Constitution provided for a fully elected Legislative Assembly of fifty-one members, to which the Cabinet presided over by the Prime Minister, was collectively responsible. The Head of State was to be the Yang di-Pertuan Negara, who officially resided at the Istana Negara, off Orchard Road.
10. The final stage on the road to independence was reached on 16th September 1963, when Singapore joined with Malaya, Sabah (formerly North Borneo) and Sarawak to form the Federation of Malaysia, with a Federal Parliament at Kuala Lumpur. However on 9th August 1965 Singapore withdrew from the Federation of Malaysia and is at present, a self governing State under the Prime Minister ship of Mr. Lee Kuan Yew. Singapore is responsible for her own defence and internal security.
11. British forces stationed in Singapore are thus resident in an independent country, the people of which are justly proud of their independence. We and our families are representative of the British way of life, and if we are to keep the respect of the local population we must be punctilious and fair in our dealings with them. We in our turn must respect their customs and traditions.

The People of Singapore



12. The multi-racial population of Singapore includes Buddhists, Christians, Confucianists, Jews, Hindus, Muslims, Parsees, Sikhs, Taoists and Zoroastrians.
13. **The Malays.** Of all the peoples in Singapore the Malays, recognised by the Constitution as the indigenous people, have been here the longest. It is believed that originally they came from Yunan in China, thousands of years ago. They were settlers left behind from the people's moving southwards from the heart of Asia to the islands of S.E. Asia. They comprise 13% of the population. Their religion is Muslim, and their language is Malaysia's national language. Traditionally they are an agricultural and fishing people and have tended to lag behind in commerce, industry and local affairs in competition with the Chinese population. All sections of the community are increasingly anxious that they should play a full part in the commerce, industry and government of the land. Many wear the traditional dress of songkok and sarong, and they look resplendent when dressed for festive occasions. The women wear the baju kebaya, a close fitting jacket.

14. **The Indians.** Indians have been present in Malaya since the first century, mainly for the purpose of barter and trade. More recently Tamil and Malayalee immigrants have arrived in search of work and have since settled in Singapore. They have retained their own languages but of necessity many speak Malay and English. They number about 124,000, which is about 8% of the population. Western dress is common amongst the men, though the Sikhs in their turbans are a normal sight. Many of the Indian women wear the sari.
15. **The Chinese.** 76% of the total population is Chinese. To Singapore have come Cantonese, Hokkien, Teochew, and others, and although many have retained their own dialects and customs, the Chinese national language of Mandarin is becoming more common. The Chinese are to be found in every walk of life and are the most influential in the life of the island. The educated Chinese, like the Indian, is multilingual. The women wear the cheongsam, or sheath dress, or the samfoo consisting of tunic and trousers.
16. **Other Races.** The remaining 3% of the population includes Europeans and Eurasians, as well as a sprinkling of Arabs, Jews and Filipinos.

Traditions And Religious Customs



17. **Ramadan of Malayan Fasting Month.**
 - (a) Ramadan is the Muslim or Islamic adaptation of the Jewish or early Christian beliefs and is similar to Lent. It occurs during the ninth month of the Muslim Lunar Year. In Singapore it is announced by the Chief Kathi. On the first sighting of the new moon by the Chief Kathi, prayers are offered, a gun is fired, drums and gongs are beaten in all mosques and the commencement of Ramadan is announced to the public over the radio.
 - (b) The objects of Ramadan are to instil into all Muslims self-discipline, to realise by experience the hardships endured by the less fortunate, and to make them know God's bounty in giving them food and drink. During Ramadan a Muslim fasts from dawn to dusk every day. Some sects may not even swallow their own spittle, so that many Malays will be seen spitting almost indiscriminately. He must also abstain from anger, unkindness or envy. In fact he must think of almost nothing but Allah his God.
 - (c) On the sighting of the next new moon by the end of the fasting period is announced by the Chief Kathi. This is known as Hari Raya Puasa and on this day all Muslims offer special prayers from dawn to noon to thank the Almighty for having seen them through the Ramadan. Before the mid-day prayers are completed, the head of each Muslim family attends to the compulsory alms giving for himself and his family. During this day Muslim families, friends and acquaintances are greeted, blessings bestowed and forgiveness asked and given for all past sins.
 - (d) All Servicemen and their families should be particularly considerate and understanding to the Malay during this long period of self-discipline and fasting. No one finds it easy to deny himself food, drink and smoking.
18. **Chinese New Year.**
 - (a) The Chinese Lunar calendar was invented about 5,000 years ago and, in spite of the introduction by law of the solar calendar, it is still in popular use today. It consists of twelve alternate months of 29 and 30 days and closely follows the moon's circuit, the 15th day always being full moon. The years are grouped into 12 cycles, each year represented by an animal symbol, and these symbols repeating themselves every 12 years. The 'Mouse Year' starts the cycle and this is followed by Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Cock, Dog and Pig. 1959 was the Pig Year and 1960 began a new cycle with the Mouse Year. In 1969 we are in the year of the Rooster.
 - (b) Chinese New Year adds another year to the age of all Chinese for age is reckoned not from birthdays but from New Year's Day. It is the day for settling both temporal and spiritual debts, and is the occasion for general reconciliation and the burying of past differences. The festivities last for fifteen days during which there are many rituals and celebrations culminating with the 'Feast of the Lanterns'.
19. **Deepavali.** On the feast of Deepavali, which occurs in October or November, Hindus celebrate the defeat of a spiritual demon King (Cruel Evil) by the Lord Subramaniam (The Spirit of God). During the festivities Hindus burn oil lamps and visit their friends and relatives to distribute sweetmeats.
20. **Thaipusam.** This is another Hindu festival. It is the birthday of the Lord Subramaniam and always falls on the full moon day of the tenth month of the Indian calendar (January). During this festival the sacrifice of life is forbidden and meat is not eaten. To atone for their sins, many deeply religious Hindus pierce their bodies with weighted hooks, thrust large pins through their tongue and cheeks, don their "kavadi" (a metal frame of a most ornate nature held in position by skewers piercing the body), and take part in a religious procession from the Perumal Temple in Serangoon Road to the Hindu Temple in Tank Road.
21. **Vesak Day.** Vesak celebrates three things —the birthday of the Lord Buddha, the anniversary of his attaining Buddhahood and also of his death. On this day all Buddhists assist the poor by giving alms. They also give freedom to their cage animals and birds.

Section 2 – Royal Air Force Changi

History of Changi



22. In 1926 the eastern end of Singapore Island was chosen as the site for the main artillery batteries that were to guard the entrance to the Johore Strait and the Naval Base. During the years that followed the swamp and jungle gradually disappeared, under the hand of the Royal Engineers, to be replaced by the spacious buildings of the army cantonment. By 1941 the Royal Artillery was manning extensive heavy gun and anti-aircraft gun defences in the Changi area.
23. The fall of Singapore in February 1942 occurred in circumstances which gave Changi little chance to show its teeth, and the whole military camp was used by the Japanese as their main prisoner-of-war camp on Singapore island, over 50,000 men being concentrated there to begin with. Later in the war the Japanese decided to build an airfield at Changi, using prisoner of-war labour, and two interesting air-strips were constructed. By 1944 all the prisoners who remained had been evacuated to Changi Gaol, leaving Changi Camp itself to be use by the Japanese Air Force.
24. Although Changi was reoccupied by the Army, in 1945 it was soon decided that it should be handed over to the Royal Air Force for development as an air base. From 1946 onwards it became the terminal point for the Transport Command services to the Far East, and also the base for the medium-range transport squadrons. To begin with, the East-West P.S.P. runway was used, but by 1950 a permanent tarmac runway had been built along the North-South airstrip, and this has remained in use ever since. Changi was one of the main bases for the transport squadrons that operated in Malaya during the Emergency.
25. **A short History of Changi has recently been published. This booklet, which includes illustrations and maps, outlines the whole story of Changi from 1926 to the present day.** Copies are available at \$1.50 each in the Station Library, or O.C. Training and Education Flight.

Changi Today



26. Royal Air Force Changi houses a multiplicity of units probably unparalleled in any other RAF Station. It is organised according to the normal pattern of an operational station, with three wings: Operations, Administration and Engineering. It's Squadrons Comprise:
 - **48 Squadron**
 - **52 Squadron with an attached flight for Far East Communications**
 - **103 Squadron Helicopters**
 - **101 Squadron Helicopters**
 - **130 Flt RCT**
 - **205 Squadron**
 - **1574 Target Facilities Flight**
 - **41 Squadron RNZAF**

In addition Changi remain the terminal point for the Comets Britannia's and VC10's of Air Support Command. Among the lodger units at RAF Changi are:

- **HQ Far East Air Force (FEAF)**
- **RAF Hospital**
- **Comcen Singapore**
- **No. 2 Aeronautical Documents Unit**
- **Jungle Survival School**
- **19 Signals Regiment**
- **Joint Warfare Branch**

Accommodation



27. The problem of finding suitable accommodation for families is particularly acute in Singapore. Rents are very high and good accommodation is at a premium, if you wish to have an accompanied passage you must therefore be willing to say in a hotel to begin with. Hotel standards are not particularly high, but families can at least be accommodated there at prices they can afford until they find somewhere else more suitable.
28. As soon as possible after you arrive you should consult the Families Accommodation Flight opposite Station Headquarters. They will advise you on private accommodation and will give you an indication of when you may qualify for a hiring or a married quarter. These are allocated on a points system and the waiting lists are published monthly. These lists are lengthy and you are unlikely to obtain a married quarter unless you have a large number of points. If you have only a few points you may have to wait a long time even for a hiring.
29. Unless you have plenty of points you are almost certain to have to seek private accommodation when you decide to leave your hotel. You must not occupy such accommodation until it has been recommended by the Joint Service Housing Agency and approved by CC Families Accommodation Flight. Vetting forms are obtainable at the Families Accommodation Flight. You are strongly advised not to enter any agreement or pay any deposit to a private land owner until you have discussed the matter with this Flight. In their anxiety to find a private house or flat, individuals often decide to pay whatever rents the landlords ask. This is one

of the reasons why rents continue to rise and why the Families Agent finds it difficult to increase the number of hiring's held by the station.

30. **Safety of Families.** In the event of local civil disturbance, arrangements exist for the safety of all RAF families. Security patrols will operate in the main housing estates, and where there are no patrols families will be evacuated to Changi. Detailed notes on civil disturbances will already have been received by the head of the family. In this connection it is as well to remember that supplies of food may be disrupted and you are advised to hold and maintain at all time's a minimum of 48 hours supply of tinned foods for use in such an emergency,

Baggage



31. Personal heavy baggage will be delivered to the Supply Squadron by the Port authorities and will then be delivered to your accommodation to meet your requirements. Normally baggage dispatched from the UK reaches RAF Changi in eight to twelve weeks from the date of dispatch from the UK. It is important therefore, and in your own interest, to give the NCO IC Baggage full details of your baggage as soon as possible after your arrival at RAF Changi. Arrangements will then be made to notify you of the arrival of your baggage and to ascertain your requirements for delivery. Another feature which frequently causes difficulty and often involves financial penalty if the return of cases issued by your previous unit. It is your responsibility to arrange for the return of these cases to the Supply Squadron as quickly as possible after you have unpacked. Failure to do so means that the Supply Squadron will have no alternative but to "bill" you for them.

Catering



32. **Officers' Messes.** There are two officers' messes at RAF Changi: Fairy Point Mess, primarily for the staff of HQ FEAF and the RAF Hospital, and Temple Hill Mess, for station officers and those on the strength of other parented units. Both messes stand on high ground on the eastern side of the camp, the former commanding a fine view of the Johore Straits. In addition to offering the normal services, each mess conducts frequent formal and informal functions for the pleasure of its members.
33. **Sergeants' Mess.** The Sergeants' Mess at RAF Changi, one of the largest in the Royal Air Force, is situated on the airfield side of the domestic site, It is modern in design and, despite its size, provides above average service, particularly for living-in members. Formal and informal dances, film evenings and tombola feature regularly in its social calendar.
34. **Cosmopolitan Restaurant.** The Cosmopolitan Restaurant, forming the ground floor of Blocks 116 and 119 (opposite the ASTRA Cinema), is the "Airman's mess" of RAF Changi. This restaurant has no less than five service bars offering a range of dishes sufficient to satisfy all tastes. Most popular of these bars are the Chan-Grill-La, in which steaks and other light grills are cooked to order, and the Bavarian Room, where 'customers' may help themselves from an elaborately decorated cold buffet. The remaining services are: the Curry Bar for popular oriental dishes, the Moorish Bar for traditional fare and the Omelette Bar, where up to eight varieties are prepared 'before one's very eyes'. The times of meals are published in Station Routine Orders (SRO's) at frequent intervals. Currently they are:

Breakfast	(0600-0730)	
	(Sundays/Stand Downs 0600-0830)	
Late Breakfast	—	0800-0830
Lunch	—	1130-1300
Dinner: Early	—	1545-1600
Normal	—	1630-1730
Late	—	1800-1830
Supper	—	2000-2030
Night Duty Meals	—	2215-2245 & 2300-2330 (Duty personnel only - in uniform).

On Sundays and Public Holidays "Brunch" is served from 0600 to 1330 hours. Remainder of meals as per weekday times.

Clothing



35. **Working Dress.** Working dress is beret (Service Dress (SD) hat for officers) khaki shirt, shorts, stockings and black shoes. Long trousers, long sleeved shirts and a tie are worn after 1900 hours. Officers visiting other units or proceeding into Singapore on duty wear SD hat, bush jacket, shorts, stockings and black shoes.
36. **Dress for parades.** The dress for parades will be stated in Routine Orders, Short-sleeved bush jackets, shorts, stockings and black shoes with service dress cap are usually worn on major parades.
37. **Initial Kitting — Airmen and Airwomen.** Airmen are completely kitted to tropical clothing scales (Scale C 4 AP 830) on arrival at RAF Changi. Personnel are to report to the Clothing Store as soon as possible after arrival at Changi to enable this to be done. Airwomen receive their initial scale of tropical clothing before leaving the United Kingdom except for one pair of sandals, which are made locally at Changi,
38. **Tropical Uniform - Officers.** Officers are required to obtain material for the manufacture of their uniforms on repayment from the Clothing Store. The choice of a tailor rests with each individual officer but a guide as to Changi Village tailors and current prices is on display in the Clothing Store - see also (para's 41 and 42).

39. **Mess Dress.** Tropical mess dress consists of a white drill jacket, RAF trousers, cummerbund, white shirt, black bow tie and socks. Miniatures are worn.
40. **Tailoring.** Several shops in Changi Village and the station tailor in Block 125 will make up officers' uniforms at a reasonable cost. Material for officers' uniforms is to be obtained on repayment from the Clothing Store. A list of tailors and a guide as to prices is displayed in the Clothing Store for the information of all newly arrived officers. Airmen are not permitted to have uniforms made privately kitting to scale is carried out by the Clothing Store.

The prices charged by tailors and dressmakers in Changi Village for civilian clothing are reasonable, and cheaper than those in Singapore City.

41. **Arrival Procedure.** All officers, airmen and airwomen must report to the Clothing Store as soon as possible after arrival. This is necessary to:
- Allow airmen to be kitted to scale at the earliest opportunity.
 - Provide an opportunity for airwomen to obtain items not issued in UK, e.g. sandals.
 - Allow officers an opportunity to obtain an early supply of material for the manufacture of uniforms.
42. **Civilian clothing.** As a general guide, civilian clothes worn are as follows:
- Formal. White sharkskin, drill or linen jacket, soft shirt, black bow tie and black trousers. Black dinner jackets are also correct but are generally worn only by the minority. With a single-breasted jacket a cummerbund should also be worn.
 - Ubin Sea-kit. Black evening trousers, soft shirt, black bow tie and cummerbund.
 - Semi-formal. Palm beach, tropical worsted or linen lounge suit.
 - Informal-Evening. (Also known as Planters' rig) Long-sleeved shirt, tie and trousers.
 - Informal-Day. Shorts, socks or stockings and short-sleeved sport shirt with open collar.

It should always be remembered that the local population do not appreciate the very brief shorts and revealing blouses sometimes worn by younger wives and teenage girls. The local population is very circumspect about dress and since you are in a foreign country you should respect their customs. At the swimming pools or beaches this is a different matter, but it is quite improper to parade in Singapore City in the briefest of attire. In the City you will find the local inhabitants, including Europeans, correctly dressed, i.e. men folk wearing slacks and a long-sleeved shirt and tie, If you are visiting the City you should take a lead from the more permanent residents and dress accordingly.

It is not necessary for Ladies to wear hats even to formal parades, but on these occasions most do.

43. **Laundrying.** Generally, you will find that your amah will do all the laundrying. However, in Changi Village there are several reputable firms of dry-cleaners and laundries. The cost for laundrying is moderate, but the cost of dry-cleaning is slightly above U.K. Prices. The station laundry service is free to all airmen and airwomen living in single accommodation. The collection and delivery from single accommodation takes place three times weekly and the laundry is returned in 48 hours.

Storage of Clothes



- Clothes, particularly heavy ones, become mouldy unless carefully dry-cleaned before being stored away in an airtight box or a heated wardrobe. They should also be hung out frequently in the sun and air, and this, together with brushing, will discourage ants and moths. Leather goods of all kinds should be treated with polish or saddle soap to prevent mildew. Vaseline coated on locks and zip fasteners will help to prevent rusting.
- On arrival, airmen and airwomen are to hand in their blue uniforms, for dry cleaning and packaging to the Station Laundry. They will be notified in Station Routine Orders when the packages are ready for collection. Officers may also avail themselves of this service if they wish, at a nominal charge.
- Air-conditioned storage space is available at the Singapore Cold Storage, Orchard Road, Singapore, where clothes can be stored. The charges made for this service can be obtained from the Singapore Cold Storage.
- Any heavy clothing that you do not want to keep until your return to the United Kingdom can be left at the Thrift Shop for sale on your behalf. Particulars of the Thrift Shop will be found in para 123.

Dogs



44. Dog Licences.
\$5 for Dog.

\$15 for a bitch for the first year, thereafter \$5 providing a certificate is produced that the bitch has been doctored.

Dog Licences can be obtained from various Veterinary Centres. The nearest to Changi is:

The Changi Veterinary Centre,
29 Somapah Rd.
(Nr. 10 milestone Changi Rd.)
(Tel. 491208)

Travelling from Changi, Somapah Road is the first turning left after the overhead pedestrian crossing in Suicide Village - an off-white bungalow almost at the end of the road.

Normal working hours

9 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. & 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. (Monday to Friday).

9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (Saturday).

The nearest to Katong:

The Katong District Council,
6 Milestone East Coast Road,
(Tel. 445705)

45. No animals (including dogs) may be moved from the island of Singapore unless the owner has first obtained an Import Licence from the Country to which it is desired to take the animal, and an Export Licence obtainable from the Veterinary Division, Commerce and Industry Dept., Fullerton Building, Singapore, to which the animal must be presented for medical examination for the issue of such licence.

Financial Matters



46. **Currency.** The local currency is Singapore and Malaysian Dollars and Cents. The current rate of exchange is M\$7.34 for One Pound Sterling. As an approximate equivalent, M\$1.0 equals 2/8d sterling.
47. **Pay and Allowance.** In the Far East an airman's marriage allowance, pay and allowances are all paid fortnightly except for Warrant Officers, Flight Sergeants and Sergeants, who are paid monthly either in cash or by credit to a local bank account monthly if he so wishes. If you have a bank account in the United Kingdom you may make a fixed monthly deduction from your pay into your bank and draw the balance in Singapore. If a husband is detached or sick, arrangements can be made at the Accounts Flight for a wife to draw part of his pay or allowances.
48. **Local Overseas Allowances.** Local overseas allowance is paid to enable you to meet a cost of living, which is higher than that in the United Kingdom. The Singapore rates LOA are high and there is a tendency for new arrivals to consider themselves far better off financially than they are in fact. Whilst it should be possible to buy a number of things that perhaps you could not afford in the United Kingdom, you are strongly advised not to start your tour by ordering the many attractive goods displayed in Changi Village and elsewhere. Do stop and assess the cost of living before deciding what you can afford, and what is a worthwhile investment. Many local traders willingly give credit; be careful not to saddle yourself with bills, which you will have, difficulty in meeting.
49. **Settling-In Advances.** Officers or airmen moving into private accommodation may be granted a settling-in advance of their pay to cover immediate payments of rent and electricity. The advance is repayable over twelve months. The Accounts Flight will advise you on details of the scheme.
50. **Post Office Savings.** Deposits into Post Office Saving may be made through the Accounts Flight (not more than one deposit per month). Application forms for withdrawals from your U.K. Post Office Savings Bank are available from the Accounts Flight. Normally it takes about a fortnight to obtain the authority for payment from the U.K.
51. **Banks.** There are a variety of banks in Singapore offering normal banking facilities. The Chartered Bank has a branch on the camp at Changi. Officers are required to open banking accounts into which their fixed monthly allotments are paid on the last day of each month. Disturbance Allowances and Travelling Allowances will be paid to a local bank; all other allowances will be credited to the officers' U.K. Bank accounts. Airmen are encouraged and may elect to have their pay and allowances paid into a private banking account; the Station Accountant Officer will advise on its operation. At the Chartered Bank a Savings Account may be opened on which interest is credited regularly.

Identity Registration



52. 'Wives of personnel of HM Forces, UK Based Civilians and all members of their families, aged 12 years of age and over, are required to be in possession of Identity Cards-known as British Services Identity Card-Civilians. Application for the issue of BSICs is to be made during the arrival procedure at the General Office RAF Changi or HQ (Unit) Far East Air Force as appropriate. Failure to apply for a BSIC may render a person liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding M\$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months'.
53. Registration is not required in respect of Servicemen, whose RAF Identity Card Form 1250 takes the place of a civilian identity card.

Insurance



54. Unfortunately, there is a fair amount of petty thieving from married quarters, hiring's and private houses, and it would be wise to safeguard yourself by taking out insurance cover. If you have not already taken out private insurance on your personal goods and effects, you are strongly advised to take out cover against fire and theft. You will find that most British Insurance Companies have offices in Singapore City and their address can be obtained from the Singapore Telephone Directory.
55. Remember that experience never comes cheaply and your "experience" may cost you your pay, a valuable camera or radio, or some other treasured item. Close all windows in your house when you go out and check that you have locked all the doors. The house may be a bit "stuffy" when you come back but you won't be left with only the fresh air! Even when you are at home, thieves may pay you a visit so get into the habit of keeping door grills closed and out of the habit of leaving wallet, watch or handbag near open windows. It isn't only the Law that has a long arm; thieves in this country often extend theirs with a bamboo pole. If you are unfortunate enough to be visited by thieves you should:
- Married Quarters and Hiring's in Toh Estate:-Inform the RAF Police immediately on Ext 6249.
 - Hiring's and Private Accommodation: Inform the Civil Police. Dial 999 for immediate assistance (as in U K)

Juvenile Delinquency



56. Although many facilities are available to children of the upper age group some do get into trouble. The reasons are often difficult to determine, but the responsibility rests with the parents and it has, on occasions, been necessary to repatriate a family due to delinquency. In some cases the father has been required to complete his tour alone in Singapore.

Police



57. The Station is policed by RAF Police and RAF Police Auxiliaries. You will find that all entrances are manned by RAF Police Auxiliaries, all of whom speak and understand a certain amount of English. They are empowered to stop and demand the identity of all persons, irrespective of rank, who seek to enter or leave the Station or at anytime on the Station. It is important that all servicemen and servicewomen are at all times in possession of their service identity cards. Persons not in possession of identity cards are liable to be escorted to the Guardroom and detained until their identity is verified. Dependents should carry their British Services Identity Card or Passport. If they are not in possession of either document they will have to give the number, rank and name of their sponsor (i.e. husband or father).

Radio controlled Mobile Patrols are on duty at all times and Police Assistance can be quickly obtained by telephoning Ext. 999.

Registration of Motor Vehicles



58. If you buy a motor vehicle of any description, besides the normal Singapore Government requirement of Road Tax, insurance and Driving Licence, you are required by law to follow the under mentioned procedure:

All privately owned vehicles must be taxed with the Registrar of Vehicles, Middle Road, Singapore, 7. The vehicle must also be insured and there are many reputable insurance agents in Singapore who will do this.

All vehicles, be they motorcars, motor cycles or scooters, must be registered at the Main Guardroom if they are to be used on the camp. In addition the tyres of private vehicles registered on the Station must be serviceable and a checking system is in operation.

"Application" forms can be obtained at the Main Guardroom. When registering the vehicle the following documents should be produced:

- Singapore Driving Licence
- Registration Book
- Road Fund Tax

Insurance Certificate



Vehicles should be brought to the RAF Police at the Main Guardroom between 0800 and 1600 hours, Monday to Friday. The vehicle will then be registered provided it meets current requirements, and a Changi "sticker" will be issued, which must be displayed on the vehicle. This sticker will enable you to take the car on to RAE Changi. It is not, however, a pass for the occupants, and you and your passengers may still be required to produce identity cards before you are admitted to the camp.

Footnote: To obtain a Singapore Driving Licence, see [Section 4 Para 164](#).

Traffic Accidents



59. Over 120 traffic accidents, on and around the Station, are dealt with every year by the RAF Police. This averages about two per week. The main causes of traffic accidents are non-observance of road signs and

speeding. Road signs are placed at all important junctions. Not all of the road signs in use on this Station are as large as those used in the U.K. This is due to local requirements but they are placed by order of the Station Commander and the fact that they are not "UK Standard Size" is no excuse for failing to observe them. The speed limit on the Station is 30 mph except in the Lloyd Leas Married Quarters area where it is 20 mph. Remember these are the maximum speeds at which you may drive. Road or traffic conditions may require you to drive slower. Overtaking on Station roads is almost unnecessary and should only be done when the vehicle in front of you is stationary and the road ahead is clear.

60. A maxim to remember when driving in Singapore is "It's better to be alive than dead right."
61. On average someone is killed every other day on the roads of Singapore. You don't want to be one of them, neither do you want to be responsible for one of them, so drive carefully at all times.
62. It is essential to be especially careful in wet weather. Many of the roads in Singapore become 'skid pans' in the rain. Reduce your speed, increase the distance between your vehicle and the one in front and avoid sudden movements on the steering. Brake gently and only when necessary.
63. If you are unfortunate enough to be involved in a traffic accident on the Station you must inform the RAF Police (Ext. 6249). If the accident occurs off the Station and there are injuries, damage to property or other complications you must inform the Civil Police (Dial 999). If death or serious injuries are caused you must not move the vehicles except with the permission of the Civil or RAF Police. In all cases of death or serious injury you must notify the RAF Police in addition to the Civil Police. (It is in your interest to do so).

Road Accidents Involving Service Personnel and Hire-Cars



64. The Civilian Police Authority, Singapore, have requested the co-operation of the RAF in their campaign against unauthorised agents who hire out cars, often uninsured and in an un-roadworthy condition, to unsuspecting clients. The dangers of hiring a vehicle from an unlicensed and, therefore, unauthorised, agent cannot be overstressed, and it is in the interests of the community in general, and of themselves in particular, that individuals who become involved in an accident whilst driving, or a passenger in, a hire-car, whether injured or not, report the facts as soon as possible to the RAE Police.

A final word: "if you drink don't drive."

Private Firearms



65. These must be lodged in the station armoury. A firearms certificate is required by the Civilian Police and application must be made to the Divisional Headquarters Police Station in the area in which you reside. For most people stationed at Changi this is Joo Chiat Police Station.

Radio and TV Licences



66. You must have a licence to keep a radio and/or a TV set. This is obtainable from any Civil Post Office. A car radio is not included and a separate licence is necessary except where the radio is portable.

Servants



67. The Civilian Pay and Administration Office is in Station Headquarters. In addition to the normal administration and payment of the civilian workers on the Station, CP & A Flight controls the engagement, payment and discharge of batwomen.
65. All married officers, accompanied by their families and living in married quarters or hiring's, are entitled to the services, or part-services, of batwomen. These batwomen are similar to their English counterparts and are supplied as servants for the officers and not for their families.
69. Married accompanied airmen are not entitled to personal servants administered and paid under the aegis of the Royal Air Force, but an element to cover the private employment of a servant is provided in the married rate of Local Overseas Allowance. If the servant is employed within the camp area, it is essential that a camp pass be obtained. This may be arranged through the Passes and Permits Section at the Main Guardroom. The servant should be brought to the Guardroom and she/he should be in possession of Singapore Identity Card and three Passport photographs.
70. If you are accompanied by your family, or are expecting your family to join you, you are advised to visit the CP & A Flight as soon as possible, to obtain more detailed information on servants.
71. In every case where a servant is employed through the Royal Air Force, a condition of employment is that he or she is fully medically examined, including an X-ray. All privately employed servants should be just as fully examined before they are engaged. Such examinations can be arranged at No. 2 M.I. Room. It is very important, particularly if you have children, to be absolutely certain that your servants are fit and are not carriers of any chronic infections.
72. It is important to ensure that the servant or batwoman is a Singapore citizen before she is taken on. A Singapore citizen can be identified by a pink coloured identity card issued to her by the Singapore Government. It is an offence under the Singapore Regulation of Employment Act 1965 to employ a non-citizen.

Section 3 – The Amenities of Changi

CHURCHES

Church of England

73. **St. George's Church** is at the cross-road of Cromwell Road with Halton Road and Farnborough Road. Services and activities are as follows:

Sunday

- 0800 hrs. Holy Communion.
1000 hrs. Morning Service. (Family Communion is on the first Sunday in the month).
1000 hrs. Catechism Class and Sunday school (Children's Service on Special Festival).
Note: Service coaches convey Service personnel and their families who live off the station to and from Morning Service and Sunday school. Full details are available from the Chaplains' Office.
1115 hrs. Holy Baptism (By arrangement)
1830 hrs. Evensong.

Tuesday

- 2000 hrs. Ambassadors Club (visiting speakers/films/discussions/outings)

Wednesday

- 0930 hrs. Holy Communion.

Thursday

- 1845 hrs. Choir Practice in the Church. We have a robed choir. New members are welcome.

Friday

- 0930 hrs. Ladies Guild (visiting speakers! local visits/demonstrations)

Saints' Days.

- Celebration of Holy Communion. (as announced in Church.)

Except for choir practice, all church activities take place in the Church of England Centre, opposite the Malcolm Club.

The Station Chaplains are usually available for private interviews in their office at Church of England Centre (Ext. 6447) each day from Tuesday to Friday between 0830 and 1100 hrs. or by appointment. Arrangements for baptisms, banns and weddings should also be made at this time.

Church of Scotland and the Free Churches

74. **Trinity Church** is in Cromwell Road. Services and activities are as follows:

Sunday

- 1000 hrs. Morning Worship
1000 hrs. Sunday School & Babies, Crèche
1500hrs. Young Peoples Fellowship
1830 hrs. Evening Worship

Tuesday

- 0930 hrs. Ladies Guild
2000 hrs. Fellowship

Thursday

- 1900 hrs. Choir Practice

Sacraments:

- Holy Communion
First Sunday Evening. Monthly after Service.
Third Sunday Morning. Monthly during Service

- Baptism
First Sunday Morning. Monthly during Service

Crèche:

A comfortable crèche for babies and young children is situated at the rear of the Church Hall under the care of a responsible adult during Morning Services. (Ext. 6507 or civil 491521).

Interviews:

0900 -1030 hrs. Tuesday to Friday (or by appointment.)

Roman Catholic Church

75. **St. Anthony's Church** is situated in Cromwell Road. Services are held as follows:

Sunday

- 0730 Mass
1000 Mass (Baptism after Mass)
1800 Benediction
1815 Mass

Monday

- 0930 Mass
1000 Catholic Women's League

<u>Tuesday</u>	
0730	Mass
1000	Legion of Mary
<u>Wednesday</u>	
0930	Mass
<u>Thursday</u>	
0700	Mass
1900	Junior Legion of Mary
<u>Friday</u>	
1830	Mass
1900	Instruction in Catholic Doctrine
<u>Saturday</u>	
0900-0925	Confessions
0930	Mass
1830-1930	Confessions

Weekly Activities

<u>Tuesday</u>	
0930	Ladies Guild
1930	Prayer & Bible Study
<u>Wednesday</u>	
1930	Church Fellowship
<u>Thursday</u>	
1900	Choir Practice

Telephone: 6660 (Church Office — Interviews daily from 0830-0900 hours)
61178 (HQ FEAF Office, Block 36)
61163 (Fairy Point Officers' Mess)

Education



76. The Station Education and Training Flight is situated in Block 79, Manston Road. OC Education Flight and his staff are available for information and advice on such matters as Service Education, Trade Training, Resettlement, and Children's Schools. Facilities available include:

- a. Class instruction in R.A.F.E.T. Parts I and II, and G.C.E. Examinations; Organization of Trade Training Classes. Both these are intended for servicemen who need to study for promotion or resettlement purposes.
- b. Further 'O' G.C.E. subjects, City and Guilds and R.S.A. Examinations and leisure time activities such as Art and Woodwork. These are open to servicemen and their dependants.
- c. **Station Library.** The library contains reference, recreational and children's sections and is available to all U.K. Personnel serving at Changi and their dependants. It is open during normal working hours, on Saturday mornings and between 1800 and 1930 hours Monday to Friday.
- d. **Information Room.** The Information Room contains U.K. newspapers and periodicals; also a wealth of information about Changi and its environs.

77. **Children's Schools.** Children of parents serving at Changi attend one of the following schools, each of which offers facilities comparable with those offered in similar schools in the United Kingdom.

- a. **Changi Infant School.** The Infant School is situated in Manston Road. The normal age of admission is at the beginning of the term following a child's fifth birthday, and children remain there until aged seven. Nursery facilities are not available. Parents wishing their children to attend the Infant School should register them with the School Secretary (Ext. 6864).
- b. **Changi Junior School.** The Junior School is in Farnborough Road. It takes children between the ages of seven and eleven, and children aged eleven sit the secondary selection tests. Junior children should be registered with the School Secretary (Ext. 6442).
- c. **RAF Seletar Secondary School.** Children who are not selected for grammar education attend the Secondary School at RAF Seletar, to which they travel daily by Service coach. The school provides a 'Modern' education for its pupils of school age, and it also offers a wide range of special courses for pupils aged 16 and over. Parents wishing their children to attend this school should register them with OC Education Flight in Block 79 (Ext. 6347).
- d. **RAF Grammar School Changi.** The Grammar School, which is situated just off the main road at Selarang takes children from both Changi and Seletar who have been selected for a grammar education. It offers instruction in the normal range of academic subjects up to the Ordinary and Advanced levels of the London University General Certificate of Education. Registration of pupils is organised by the School Secretary (Ext. 6362).

Parents who wish to discuss professional matters affecting their children's education should seek an appointment with the head teacher of the appropriate School. General questions concerning the administrative arrangements for children's schooling should be referred to OC Education Flight.

Entertainment And Recreation

Cinemas



78. The Astra Cinema (air-conditioned) is operated by the Services Cinema Corporation. This cinema is open every evening and there are several changes of programme each week. There is a children's programme every Saturday afternoon.

Free cinema shows are held regularly in the Messes and Clubs as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| • Fairy Points Officers' Mess | Sunday evenings. |
| • Temple Hill Officers' Mess | Sunday evenings. |
| • RAF Officers' Club | Children's programme on Friday evenings. |
| • Sergeants' Mess | Sunday evenings. |
| • Married Families' Club | Wednesday evenings. |
| • Malcolm Club | Alternate Monday evenings. |

Bowling Alley



79. A five-lane, air-conditioned bowling alley is situated in Building 126 (NAAFI block, Serial 51 on the map). The alley, known as "Changi Bowl" is open to all personnel and their families stationed at Changi. Opening times are 0900 - 2300 hours every day, with an extension to 2359 hours on Saturdays. Charges are:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| • 1800—closing time | \$1.40 per game |
| • 0900—1800: | \$1.20 per game |
| • Shoe hire: | 30.c per game |

A flourishing bowling league meets on three evenings per week; details are available at the alley.

Officers' Club



80. This is a private club situated on the seashore at Fairy Point. The open-sided clubhouse, with its upper and lower decks, is set on a sandy stretch of beach. On the upper deck there is a dining room with seating capacity for 250 diners which is also used as a cinema and for dancing, a lounge and the long bar. On the lower deck there are air-conditioned hairdressing salons, another bar and additional kitchen from which pool-side service is provided at tables for members and their families who wish to make use of the two swimming pools. One of the pools is for the exclusive use of small children. Swimming, diving and water-skiing instruction is available.
81. Members of the club is open to officers of all three Services and to U.K. based civilians of officer status together with their families. The subscription is \$12 per month for the married accompanied officer and an additional \$6 per month for each child of 18 or over. A newsletter and programme of entertainments and events is forwarded to each member monthly.

Married Families' Club



82. The Club is situated off the main Changi Road opposite the road leading to the Main Guardroom. Membership is open to all British and Commonwealth non-commissioned ranks (and civilians of equivalent status) stationed at Changi, Selarang and Loyang who are married and accompanied by their families. The monthly subscription is \$3 per family, and guests may be introduced at 50 cts. Per head Facilities include:
- Restaurant service providing a wide variety of European and Asian foods and hot or cold snacks. Open every day between 1100 and 1400 hours (1500 hours on Sundays when a curry lunch is also served) and between 1700 and 2300 hours.
 - Air conditioned bar open every day from 1200 to 1330 hours and 1800 to 2230 hours on weekdays with extensions to 1400 hours at lunchtime on Saturdays and Sundays and 2300 hours on Saturday evenings. Extensions allowed, subject to the Station Commander's permission, for special occasions.
83. Social events include tombola, whist drives; dances, cabarets, darts league, adult and children's film shows. Ladies tombola is on Tuesday mornings and whist drives on Thursday mornings.
84. The Club may be booked through the Chairman for Squadron, unit or private parties, wedding receptions etc. A small fee is charged for use of club facilities, but even this may be waived in special circumstances.
85. Other facilities include a well-equipped book, stationery and toyshop and a ladies and children's dressmaker. Children under the age of 16 years are allowed into the Club until 1900 hours daily, and there is a safe and well-equipped children's play corner and lawn for their amusement.

Malcolm Club

86. This is an all-ranks club for servicemen and their families, and is situated near the Airmen's Dining Halls. The Club is open daily from 0900 to 2200 hrs and has a large restaurant, where light meals are served, a bar and a reading and writing lounge. In the restaurant there is a small shop where cigarettes, writing materials, soap, etc., can be bought. There is a newspaper, magazine and bookstall, and a photographic section, which carries a large stock of films. A local watchmaker is in daily attendance for watch repair service. Orders for the despatch of flowers through INTERFLORA or local florists can be taken, and cables to the United Kingdom can be sent through the agency of Cable and Wireless Ltd. On the first floor, there is a ballroom available for hire, where parties and wedding receptions are catered for. A free film show is held on alternate Mondays and a dance is held once a month. There are facilities for playing darts and table tennis.

Chalet Club

87. The Chalet Club is situated in Turnhouse Road overlooking the beach, the Padang and the Swimming Pool. It is open to all non-commissioned honorary members, and U.K.-based civilians of Warrant Officer status or below may, with the consent of the Station Commander, be invited to become honorary members.
88. The Club provides full restaurant and bar facilities and social activities are arranged during the evenings. The Club may also be booked for private parties through the Secretary, Changi Wives Club.
89. The RAE Changi Wives Club, for the wives of RAE, and 19th Signal Regiment personnel and U.K.-based civilians, is situated opposite the civilian Post Office. Wives of servicemen and U.K.-based civilians at Headquarters Far East Force are also very welcome. Club mornings are held on Thursdays, and on the second Thursday of each month an outing is arranged to some place of interest in Singapore. On club mornings there are talks, films, demonstrations, dress shows, games, etc. Club Activities are published monthly in the "Changi Informer" you may join in even if you cannot come to the club's mornings.
90. There is no membership fee but a subscription of \$1 is paid by each member on a club meeting day and members contribute towards the cost of transport for the outings. The clubroom may be used by wives as a rest and recreation room and refreshments are available. The room may be used, when it is convenient, for squadron and section wives coffee mornings, by arrangement with the committee.

Siglap Wives Club

91. The Siglap Wives Club is for the wives of all Service personnel and U.K.-based civilians living in the Siglap, Katong, Frankel and Opera Estate areas. Meetings are held in the Siglap Wives Club room at the Siglap Families Clinic, 901 Upper East Coast Road each Monday at 1000 hrs. Interesting demonstrations, talks, outings and also social mornings are arranged as well as other recreational classes. The current programme is included in the Changi Informer. The Committee is pleased to welcome all wives and especially new arrivals in Singapore who may be used for Squadron and unit Coffee mornings by arrangement with the Committee.

Siglap Social Club

92. The club is for airmen and their families resident in the Siglap area and is situated at the Siglap Health Centre, 901 Upper East Coast Road. It offers normal club facilities and it open most evenings. Monthly programmes are distributed to the families resident in the Siglap area.

Siglap Badminton Club

93. Meets every Monday, Wednesday & Friday evening 7.30 to 11.00 p.m. \$5 per month + shuttle fee at the:
Anglican High School.
Upper Changi Road.
(Almost opposite Peakview Estate).

Model Railway Club

94. Meets every Thursday at 1930, Club Rooms at Block 270, West Room, Telok Paku.

The Theatre Club

95. The RAF Changi Theatre Club is always on the lookout for new blood, whether of the acting, building, or just plain supporter's club variety, and anyone interested in the dramatic arts is always certain of a welcome. Previous experience is by no means necessary, and in fact this is the ideal opportunity to gain that experience in all aspects of amateur theatricals.
96. The Club has an active and busy programme, ranging from pure drama to farce, with an occasional variety show or revue, and even the odd opera. Club policy calls for about six major shows every year; this figure varies, of course, and to give everyone a fair crack of the whip there are frequent one-act plays put on for club members and their guests. The idea behind the latter is to provide the novices with experience before a friendly though critical audience, and also to allow ambitious types to try their hands at producing, directing, and even writing plays.

97. Beside the actual visual side of things, there are also ample opportunities to learn the arts of lighting, scenery design, make-up, sound, and all the other essential crafts of the theatre. The experts can always use assistance, and are equally ready to advise and instruct newcomers. This is not to say, of course, that there is not a ready welcome for skilled theatrical types - on the contrary, the expert will probably be surprised at the warmth of his/her welcome.
98. The club itself is situated in that long black and rather ugly wooden building just down the road and opposite the civilian post office; the Attic Folk Club is upstairs, and the Theatre Club clubroom is next door. This is where most of the associated social life happens, and where you can find someone to tell all at almost any time. Lunch-times and evenings are usually busy but never too busy to welcome new or prospective members over a beer or how do you fancy at hard evenings' scene-shifting!
99. The Theatre Club is almost certainly one of the cheapest ways of making your tour enjoyable (subscriptions: \$10 per person or \$15 per married couple per tour) and is certainly a most satisfying way of spending your free time, so please call in when you are passing that way and find out more.

Changi Choral Society



102. Changi Choral Society meets on Tuesday evenings in the Grammar School Hall at 2000 hrs. There are always vacancies for new singers. The choir performs three or four times each year. Enquiries to the Director of Music FEAF Band (Tel. Ext. 6590).

Photographic Club



103. The Club is situated in Hornchurch Road, next to the RAF Post Office. The club itself consists of two darkrooms and a clubroom. One darkroom is air-conditioned. Each darkroom is fitted with running water and full developing and enlarging equipment. In addition there is a set of lighting equipment for taking portraits, and the club owns a slide projector and screen.
104. The monthly subscription is \$2 for men and \$1 for women and this entitles a member to use the club and equipment whenever he wishes. Family membership is \$1 extra per member.

Darts Club



105. The Darts Club meets in the Chalet Club and matches are held every Tuesday and Wednesday evening. Wives and girl friends of members are welcome at all times. There is a league competition and competition for a team cup, and individual and doubles championships are arranged. A ladies team competes in all events. There is a bar in the clubroom. Further particulars may be obtained from the Office i/c Club or any club member on competition evenings.

Slot Club



106. The Slot Club promotes model car racing. Membership is open to all Service personnel and their dependants over 14 years of age. The club has its own four-lane track on the ground floor of Block 125 where race meetings are held every Friday evenings at 2000 hours. Members must provide their own cars and hand controls. The joining fee is \$5!-, and there is a \$2 monthly subscription.

Model Aircraft Club



107. This Club is open to service members and U.K. based civilians at Changi, including their sons from the age of 12 upwards. Membership fees are \$1.00 per month, which entitles members to use the Club facilities and insures them as required by the Unit before flying model aircraft. Meetings, the dates of which are published in SRO's are held in the Clubhouse in Block 108 near the parade ground Further information can be obtained from the Officer I/C
108. Other Clubs. Information about other Clubs may be found under 'Sport'

Changi Informer



109. There is a Station Magazine published monthly called the Changi Informer. Your section magazine Rep. will provide a free copy for you each month.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

Medical Services



110. Three Medical Centres are provided by Royal Air Force Changi:
- a. Station Medical Centre, Digby Road, RAF Changi.
 - b. Changi Families Clinic, Diby Road, RAE Changi.
 - c. Siglap Health Centre, 901, Upper East Coast Road, Siglap.
111. Service Personnel (and male UK-based Civilians)

- a. Surgeries — Mondays to Fridays
 - (1) All Service personnel (excluding WRAF airwomen) and male UK-based civilian's are seen at the Station Medical Centre by appointment only (Telephone Extension 6285 before 0900 hours, if possible).
 - (2) WRAF airwomen are seen at Changi Families Clinic between 0800 and 0630 hours.
 - b. **Urgent Medical Attention** — Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. Personnel requiring urgent medical attention are to report to the Station Medical Centre at 0900 hours.
 - c. **Emergency Medical Attention** outside normal working hours. Personnel are to report to the Station Medical Centre or phone Extension 6548.
 - d. Medical Examinations. Appointments for all examinations (excluding WRAF airwomen) are carried out at Changi Families Clinic.
 - e. Vaccinations. All personnel are responsible for keeping their own (and dependants) vaccinations up-to-date at all times. Vaccinations are carried out at the Station Medical Centre, Mondays to Fridays 1345 to 1415 hrs. (excluding Public Holidays).
112. Dependants of Service Personnel and Female UK-based Civilians. There are two Families Clinics:
- a. Changi Families Clinic for dependants living at Changi and East of Bedok junction (Telephone Singapore 491551 Ext. 6530).
 - b. Siglap Health Centre for families residing in the Postal Districts 14 to 18 West of Bedok Junction (Telephone 45200).
 - c. These Clinics are open (excluding public holidays):

Monday	0800-1230	: 1330-1630hours
Tuesday	0800-1230	: 1330-1630hours
Wednesday	0800-1230	
Thursday	0800-1230	: 1330-1630hours
Friday	0800-1230	: 1330-1600hours

The Families Clinics are open on Wednesday afternoons from 1330-1630 hours, but medical officer coverage is for emergency medical attention only.
 - d. Urgent Medical Attention — Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. Dependants requiring urgent medical attention are to attend the Station Medical Centre between 0930 and 1100 hours.
 - e. **Emergency Medical Attention** outside working hours. Dependants are to report to the Station Medical Centre or phone Singapore 49155 Ext. 6548. Please try to considerate; the medical officers cover this commitment **in addition to their normal duties**.
 - f. Home Visits. Requests for home visits should be made to the appropriate clinic before 1000 hours each day. When making a call some indication should be made as to the degree of urgency because the doctors are invariably busy and unless specifically requested, may take some hours to complete the visit because of the distance involved, requests for house calls should be kept to a minimum and only made in cases of real need.
 - g. **SSAFA Service**. There are SSAFA Sisters at each Families Clinic and they provide a service, which includes welfare, visits for infants, antenatal care and school medical inspections. Should your family have any health or welfare problems the SSAFA Sisters will be pleased to help and advise.

ROYAL AIR FORCE CHANGI

Changi Families Clinic

Digby Road.

TEL. No. Singapore 491551 Ext. 6530

Ext. 6796 for SSAFA Sister.

Siglap Health Centre

901, East Coast Road

TEL. No. 45200 for Appointments and enquiries

48717 for SSAFA Sister.

Surgeries

Mondays to Fridays, mornings only by appointment. Please make your request for an appointment before 10 a.m. if possible.

School Children and BFES Teachers

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, by appointment: 1500-1630 hours (1600 on Fridays).

Ante-Natal Clinic

Monday and Friday afternoons by appointment.

Post-Natal and Family Planning Clinics

Tuesdays and Thursdays afternoons by appointment.

Infant Welfare Clinic

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1330-1530 hours.

Vaccination Clinic

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1345-1430 hours.

Hospital - Royal Air Force Changi



113. The hospital in Halton Road provides inpatient treatment and out-patient clinics for patients referred there by unit medical officers. There are medical, surgical, eye, ear, nose and throat, maternity and gynaecological departments.

114. Visiting hours are as under:

a. General Wards (Daily: 1400 to 1600 hours; and 1830 to 2030 hours.)

b. Children's Ward (Daily: 0930 to 1830 hours.)

Parents may visit their children in this ward by arrangement with the nursing officer in charge, and will normally be allowed to visit them as often as they wish, unless there are good medical reasons why they should not do so. It will be appreciated that essential nursing procedures, and school or rest periods may affect the times at which individual patients may be visited during the day

c. Maternity Wards (Daily: 1500 to 1600 hours; and 1900 to 2000 hours.)

Visiting is restricted to these times for sound nursing reasons.

- To avoid unnecessary risk of cross-infection, only husbands are allowed to visit mothers and babies in the Maternity Wards. However, if a husband is away on duty and unable to visit her, his wife may nominate one visitor of her own choice to visit her instead.
- All visitors should report to the nursing officer or staff nurse on duty before entering the ward. Patients are normally allowed two visitors at a time, but additional visitors may be permitted at the discretion of the nursing officer or staff nurse on duty.
- Children under 12 years of age are not permitted to visit the Hospital, including the NAAFI snack bar adjacent to the Reception Desk. This does not apply, of course, to children attending as outpatients.

Visitors should enter the Hospital via:

a. Hendon Road to Block 37.

b. Halton Road to Block 161.

Telephone enquiries by relatives should be made to ward sisters. Medical Officers will see relatives by appointment.

Dental Centre



115. **The Dental Centre** is next to the Station Medical Centre. Emergency treatment for the relief of pain only is carried out at times stated below. Appointments for permanent dental treatment i.e. fillings, denture work etc. are obtained by reporting in person at the Dental Centre or by Telephone (Ext. 6509).

- Airmen to report at 0800 hrs.
- Officers to attend at 0&15 hrs.
- All Dependants and UK based Civilians to attend at 1330hrs.

Children on visits to their parents overseas during school holidays are not entitled to routine dental treatment at public expense. Emergency dental treatment only will be given at the service Dental Centre.

Personnel working at HO FEAF and their Dependants will be treated at the Hospital Dental Centre.

Postal



116. Your correct postal address is as follows: and you must ensure that all your correspondents in the U.K. are informed of it

No. Rank Name Initials
Section.
Royal Air Force, Changi,
C/O GPO Singapore.

117. The Station Post Office (Block 101) is opposite the Changi Civilian Post Office.

118. Private mail is collected by the Flight Mail Orderlies and delivered to working sections. You may collect registered letters, parcels, etc., from the Station Post Office between the following times:

- Monday to Friday 1030 — 1400 hrs and 1430 - 1615 hrs.

- Wednesday and Saturday 1030 — 1300 hrs only.

119. The Forces Concessionary Rate for airmail to the U.K. is 15 cents for one ounce and 25 cents for each additional ounce with a maximum weight of 4 lbs. 6 oz. All envelopes must bear the words 'Forces Air Mail' on the front, and the rank, name and address of the sender on the back.
120. Current G.P.O. regulations state that there is no special address or concession for correspondence and parcels for the wives and families for HM Forces stationed with their serving relatives. A civilian address and civilian postage rates should be used. A serviceman is permitted to use a Forces Postal Address and Forces Concessionary Mail Rates, whereas the members of his family are not. As an example, therefore, an item addressed to Flt Lt Jones and Mrs. Jones would be entitled to concessionary rates, whilst one addressed to Mrs. Jones, c/o Flt Lt Jones would not. You should inform your correspondents in the UK accordingly.
121. There are letterboxes for the posting of both local and overseas letters at the following places:
- Temple Hill Officers' Mess
 - Fairy Point Officers' Mess.
 - Sergeants' Mess.
 - Opposite the WRAF Block 117.
 - Opposite 1 Sqn. 19 Signal Regt. and HQ (U) Orderly Room.
 - Changi Creek Transit Hotels
 - Wittering Road, near, Changi Civil Post Office.
 - Lloyd Leas.
 - RAF Hospital.
 - Air Terminal.

These letterboxes are cleared twice daily at about 0830 hours and 1330 hours. Forces Concessionary Mail is not, in any circumstances, to be posted in the letterboxes at the Civil Post Office, Changi.

122. The Station Post Office does not accept outgoing registered mail or parcels. Neither does it sell postage stamps. The Changi Civil Post Office is on the road to Changi Village, 500 yards from the Main Guardroom, and here you may buy stamps, postal orders, etc., and despatch telegrams, registered letters, etc.

The times of opening at Changi Civil Post Office are: 0815 - 1700 daily Monday to Saturday.

123. You may despatch gift parcels from Singapore to the UK where they will be admitted duty free as a special concession provided the value of the contents does not exceed One Pound, and that tobacco, wines, spirits or perfume are not included.

The forms of declaration, which must be affixed to each parcel, may be obtained from the Civil Post Office at which the parcels are posted.

124. **Concession Telegrams.** A concession telegram service is operated through RAF Signals, whereby RAF personnel serving at Changi and their nominated kin (usually a near relative) may send each other urgent domestic messages at reduced rate. Service personnel wishing to send a CSN telegram should report to the Station Head Quarters (SHQ), General Office, who will advise them of the correct procedure. Nominated kin in the U.K. should apply for CSN telegram forms to the under mentioned authorities, quoting the number, rank, unit and relationship of the personnel concerned:

- For Officers:
Ministry of Defence (AR8) (RAF),
Adastral House,
London WC1.
- For airmen and airwomen:
Air Officer Commanding,
RAF Record and Pay Office,
Gloucester.

Shops



125. **NAAFI Shops.** There are two NAAFI grocery shops at Changi. One is a self-service shop and is in Tangmere Road opposite the Main Guardroom. The second shop is off Halton Road opposite the PMRFNS Mess. The ration of duty free beer for living-out Service personnel is obtainable at the NAAFI shop in Tangmere Road (living in personnel obtain theirs through the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and the Airmen's Clubs).

126. **Thrift Shop.** The RAF Changi Thrift Shop is situated in the Changi Wives' Club Building, Changi Road and is open to the families of servicemen and U.K.-based civilians on Thursdays 1430 - 1600 hrs.

The main object of the Thrift Shop is to enable families to buy and sell second-hand clothing and household goods at reasonable prices. This is a particularly useful service for families arriving from and returning to the U.K. All goods to be sold must be clean and serviceable. 10% of all sales are retained, and this profit is donated to various charitable organizations. In addition, bed linen may be hired for \$3 a

month per pair of sheets. Two pillowcases are loaned free of charge with each pair. A hand sewing machine is also available for hire at \$2 per week.

Sport



127. Many people take advantage of the wide variety of sporting activities available at Changi and enjoy the recreation and social pleasures which sport provides. You will find that your Squadron or Flight has teams, which play in the Inter-Squadron competition and of course Station teams play in civilian leagues and in Service Competitions.

128. Information about all sport on the station is available from the Physical Fitness Flight (Extension 6673), which is located in the Chalet Club, near the Airmen's Swimming Pool. A wide range of sports equipment may be borrowed from the Sports Store for the Sports played on the Station.

129. **Station Commander's Cup Competition**

The McLean Trophy is awarded twice yearly to the overall winner of the Inter-Squadron Competition.

A Trophy for each sport is awarded to the Squadron team which wins the League and to the team which wins the knock-out Competition.

130. The playing seasons for the major sports are:

1st September to 28th February

- Badminton
- Rugby
- Hockey
- Boxing
- Cross Country
- Squash
- Basketball
- Volleyball

1st March to 31st October

- Association Football
- Athletics
- Cricket
- Swimming/Water Polo
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Basketball

Many games are played all the year round because of the relatively small climate changes.

131. The Playing Fields are distributed round the station and are used as follows:
- a. **Farnborough Sports Field** (near SHQ) Inter-Squadron and Station Soccer or Rugby according to season. The main pitch is floodlit.
 - b. **Padang Sports Field** (near the Airmen's Swimming Pool). Inter-Squadron Hockey and Station Hockey, Cricket, Athletics and Inter-Squadron Soccer.
 - c. **Basketball, Netball and Volley Ball Courts** (Malcolm Club). These are hard surface outdoor courts used for Inter-Squadron and station games. The Basketball court is floodlit.
132. **Gymnasium.** (Opposite Malcolm Club). This building has no changing or toilet facilities, it is used for Badminton daily and in the evenings; the Tae Kwon Do Club meets here on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 1400 and 1000 hrs respectively.
133. **Circuit Training and Weight Training.** A circuit is located at the PF Flight and advice and supervision is available during working hours and by arrangement (Ext. 6673) at other times. The weight training room in Block 125 is always open; instruction is available at the P.F. Flight.
131. **Swimming Pools.** The Airmen's Swimming Club is open to all NCOs airmen and their families based at Changi. Membership for serving airmen is free and family membership \$6/quarter; \$11 per half year; \$20 per year. New arrivals can join at the Pool.
- The Officers' Club Pool is for officers and their families who may obtain details of membership at the club.
135. **Squash Courts.** One cement-floored court is located at Temple Hill Officers' Mess and two wood floored courts are near Fairy Point Mess along Cranweli Road.
136. **Other Activities.** A number of activities such as Ladies' Swimming Classes, Ladies' Badminton and Netball, Married Families' Badminton, Rowing and Keep Fit Classes, take place at Changi. Information about any sporting activity can be obtained by telephone (Ext. 6673) or by visiting the Physical Fitness Flight.

Sports Clubs



137. **Angling Club.** The Clubhouse, which has a bar and small restaurant, is at Fairy Point Pier at the end of Pier Road. It looks out across a strip of water to one of the many outlying islands, Pulau Ubin. In the middle of this channel lies an outcrop of rock, which is always above the surface. The depth of water around it is 70 to 80 feet, which is the average depth for the whole channel. The majority of fish in the area are ikan glama (small and silvery, similar to a herring), catfish, in two main species, black and silver, snappers of various kinds, red, golden brown, grey etc., and also mullet. The Club has five launches, and engines available for hire to qualified members. Membership is open to all service personnel and U.K.-based civilians.
- Monthly subscriptions are as follows:
- Single lady member \$3
 - Gentleman member \$5
 - Family membership \$7
138. **Families Badminton Club.** The Families Badminton Club meets in the Gymnasium each Tuesday and Thursday evening at 1900 hours. The subscription is \$4/- per quarter.
139. **Golf Club.** The Changi Club has a nine-hole course built round Changi Hill. The Clubhouse is in Netheravon Road and overlooks the sea. It is well appointed, and refreshments are available to members at reasonable prices. Membership is open to Service personnel, U.K.-based civilians and their wives. There is a golf professional attached to the Club with whom lessons can be arranged. Forms of application for membership may be obtained at the Clubhouse.
140. **Changi Tae Kwon-Do Club.** Tae Kwon-Do is a contemporary version of an ancient form of unarmed combat practised for many centuries in the Orient. It comprises T'AEKYON, which mainly employs the feet, and KARATE, which chiefly employs the hands. Tae Kwon-Do is a martial art, not a mere sport; it is a lethal weapon and it cannot be too strongly emphasised that one's knowledge of the art must never be abused.

Instruction is given by a Korean - Mr. LEE BYONG MOO, who is a Black belt 5th degree holder. If you would like to be able to defend yourself against one or more adversaries, deliver blows with the side of the hand capable of breaking a house-brick in half, kick and break wood two inches thick, punch through six or more one-inch roof tiles, then why not come along to the camp gymnasium at the following times:

- Wednesdays 1400 — 1600 hrs.
- Saturdays 1000 — 1200 hrs.

141. **Physical Culture Club.** Situated in Block 125, this Club provides adequate facilities for all personnel who are interested in weight training and bodybuilding. The Clubroom is available for use every day from 0800 hours — 2200 hours. All those interested should contact the Officer i/c Physical Culture Club or PFO.
142. **Sub-Aqua Club.** RAF Changi under-water swimming club trains its members to 1st Class diver standards of the British Sub-Aqua Club to which it is affiliated. Training sessions are held at the Airmen's Swimming Pool every Friday from 1900 hours to 2200 hours, Weekly expeditions are arranged for Sundays, and periodic trips are made to the islands off the East Coast of Malaya. Further details are available from the Club Officials.

Tennis



143. We are fortunate, at Changi, in having what are undoubtedly the best tennis facilities in the Command.
- There are four "shale" courts which are well maintained, and a further two all-weather courts nearby. We also possess an excellent pavilion, with changing facilities, tea-room, and a refrigerator for storing cold drinks.
144. Although there is a technical "season" as far as matches are concerned, play takes place all through the year and every day of the week. Flood lighting on Courts 1 and 2 means that play can be continued right up to 2200 hours. The courts are open to all ranks, all Changi based civilians, and of course to both sexes. There are no club subscriptions.
145. On Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday evenings, from 1630 hours onwards, we have a "Club Night" when players may come without having fixed up any pairings and be sure of a game. There are also "Ladies Club Mornings" on Wednesday and Friday from 0830 to 1000 hrs. Monday evening is team practice night, and two courts are reserved for this purpose. Matches take place on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Courts may be firmly booked through the Sports Store (Ext. 6673).
146. There are very few rules, and these are displayed in the pavilion. Further information may be obtained from any member of the Station Tennis Committee.
- They will be glad to hear from new players especially those who would like to be considered for the Station team.
- Be assured of a welcome at the tennis courts. You will never have opportunities for playing which surpass these; and whatever your standard, you will quickly find others who approximate to your "weight".
147. **Yacht Club.** The RAF Changi Yacht Club is situated on the north coast just below the Airmen's Swimming Pool, Its aims are to provide sailing and motor boating facilities as cheaply as possible to all members of the Services and their families. There is a large clubhouse with two lounges and a dining room, where members are served with excellent food at about the cheapest prices to be found on the Island, a fully stocked bar, and changing rooms. There is a spacious boat park with an area set aside for relaxing, workshop facilities for boat repairs, a sail loft and an engine shed. Apart from privately owned boats, the Club owns a number of sailing boats Snipes, G.P. 14s and Ospreys - for hire and charter to members. Qualified members give free sailing instruction to others who require it. There is a very full racing programme and there is an annual Regatta. The Club is also in one of the best positions on the Island for those who just wish to go cruising. Boats may either be brought ashore into the boat park, or left on moorings, which are provided at a nominal charge. The Club is particularly useful for junior members who can learn to sail in "Cadet" dinghies and have special races arranged for them. Forms of application for membership can be obtained from the Bar in the Clubhouse.
148. **RAF Changi Rowing Club.** RAF Changi Rowing Club is a section of The Yacht Club. The Club provides the opportunity to row in fine fours and fine pairs. There is always plenty of room for new members. If you are interested in rowing come down to the Yacht Club and make yourself known to the Captain of Rowing Boats.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Sea Rangers, Girl Guides and Brownies



149. At Changi the Girl Guide movement flourishes and all Guiders, Guides and Brownies are very welcome, as of course, are those wishing to become Guiders, Guides or Brownies. Meetings take place in the Guide Hut, which is next to the Theatre Club and opposite the Changi Civilian Post Office.

Anyone wishing to join should make herself known at any of the meetings, which are held as follows:

- a. **Air Land and Sea Rangers.**
Contact Guide at Guide Co Meeting.
- b. **Guides**

4th Singapore Company	Fri	1800-2030 hrs.
8th Singapore Company	Tues	1830-2030 hrs.
9th Singapore Company	Fri	1800-2000 hrs.
- c. **Brownies**

8th Singapore Pack	Thurs.	1430
9th Singapore Pack	Wed.	1500
10th Singapore Pack	Thurs.	1615
11th Singapore Pack	Fri.	1445
17th Singapore Pack	Fri.	1645

Boy Scouts and Cubs



150. **1201 (Changi) Scout Group.** The Group consists of five cub packs and three Scout troops, (BOY, SEA and AIR). There is also a thriving Senior Scout troop. We have over two hundred boys in the various sections but we are rather short of Scouters at the moment. If your son would like to start, or continue, Cubbing or Scouting, or you would like to help us in training the boys, then come along and see us at the Scout Den, next to the Wives Club on Changi Road. Group Scout-master Sgt. J. Adamson, 205 Squadron, Ext. 6436.

TIME OF MEETINGS

Cubs

Senol Pack	Thurs	5.00-6.30
Cheewong Pack	Wed.	5.00-6.30
Temoq Pack	Fri.	3.00-4.30
Masai Pack	Fri.	5.00-6.30
Dyak Pack Siglap	Thurs	5.00-6.30

Scouts

Air Scout Troop	Fri.	7.00-9.00
Scout Troop	Tues.	7.00-9.00
Sea Scout Troop	Thurs.	7.00-9.00
Senior Troop	Wed.	7.00 p.m.

Changi Youth Club



151. Meets regularly in its own rooms near the Wives' Club.

Other Youth Activities



152. The clubs mentioned below, whilst not run specially for young people, do offer them certain facilities. Particulars may be obtained from the club in question.
- a. **Aero modelling Club.** Boys of 14 and over, who are the sons of service personnel or U.K. based civilians, may join the Aero modelling Club with the written approval of the parents. The club subscription is \$1.00 per month. Boys interested should contact the Officer i/c Aero modelling Club for further particulars.
 - b. **Sub-Aqua Club.** The Sub-Aqua Club will only consider applications for membership from boys of the age of 17 and upward. Before such boys are accepted, they will be required to pass the RAF Swimming Proficiency Test and a medical examination. Boys interested should contact one of the club's officials who will give them further details.
 - c. **Golf Club.** Young people between the ages of 11 and 18 years whose parents are members may join the Golf Club as Junior Members.
 - d. **Rugby Club.** During the season membership of the RAF Changi Rugby Club will be open to the Sons of all personnel serving at RAF Changi who are 17 years or over. Youth members will be welcomed in the Club and will be able to compete for places in the team. Particulars of membership can be obtained from the Officer i/c Rugby, RAF Changi.
 - e. **Officers' Club.** There are many activities arranged for the children of the members of the Officers' Club. Activities are published on the club notice boards.
 - f. **Yacht Club.** Although there is no junior section of the Yacht Club as such, juniors may join and the full facilities of the club are available to them. Special coaching and instruction is always available and special races and children's days are arranged

Changi Broadcasting Service



153. The Changi Broadcasting Service, located in Building 143 in Old Sarum Road operates wire-relay broadcasting throughout the Station, the system also relaying to certain married quarters. The station is manned by volunteers drawn from all walks of life on the Station, who themselves compile and produce the bulk of the programmes which are broadcast, although selected programmes from the B.B.C. World Service and the British Forces Broadcasting Service (Far East) are also relayed.
154. The station is operated by Wives Monday to Friday mornings, but in the evenings, seven nights a week, the full team of volunteers, on a rota basis, combine to operate the station, five hours a night.
155. To allow for postings etc, a steady stream of helpers is always required. If you think this rewarding hobby might interest you, either as an Announcer, Engineer, Controller, Librarian or Production Assistant, come along any evening after 7 p.m., and ask for the Duty Programme Supervisor or Duty Announcer who will be only too pleased to answer your question. As training is given the only essential requirement you need to have is enthusiasm.

Section 4 – Out and About

Changi Information Bureau



156. The Changi Information Bureau is run on a Voluntary Basis by Wives of Changi personnel. It is situated on the far side of the car park behind Station Headquarters. There you can find useful information on a wide range of subjects including Station activities, shopping, current events in Singapore, sightseeing and places for leave.

Opening hours : 0900 to 1200 Monday to Friday - Telephone Number Changi Extension 6404

Information about Singapore



157. A very good Street Director and Guide to Singapore is published by the Survey Department and is obtainable at most book sellers. You are strongly advised to buy one as soon as possible after your arrival. The cost is \$3.50. In it you will find sectional and street maps, the names of hotels, cinemas and various other places of local interest. You will also find the Information Room in the Education Flight (Block 79) worth a visit also Changi Information Bureau.

Transportation



158. **Public Transport.** Singapore Island is well served by buses. There is no objection to your using public transport and you will find it considerably cheaper than using taxis. Officers, however, may not use public transport when in uniform. The Changi Bus Company runs the following services:-
- a. A service Changi Village direct to Singapore City, at a charge of 40 cents each way. Buses run throughout the day at three to five minute intervals. The first and last buses leave for and from Singapore as follows:
 - Changi Village for Capitol Stand at 0550 hrs.
 - Capitol Stand for Changi Village at 0600 hrs.
 - Changi Village for Capitol Stand at 2310 hrs.
 - Changi Village for Geylang Serai at 0030 hrs.
 - Capitol Stand for Changi Village at 2359 hrs.
 - b. A service from Changi Village through RAF Changi, Lloyd Leas and Telok Paku. Details of the times of this service are published from time to time in Station Routine Orders.
159. **Taxis.** There are adequate numbers of taxis in Singapore. Most of those in the city charge by meter at a rate of 40 cents for the first mile and 20 cents for each subsequent half mile. These may also be hired on an hourly basis at \$4 per hour. These taxis are identified by an SH registration and have a yellow coloured roof with the name "Taxi" attached to the roof. Outside the city a percentage of taxis ply with the charge being a matter for negotiation, and during the journey the taxi may be shared with other passengers. There is no law to prosecute passengers who travel in these taxis, however it is illegal for taxi drivers to operate their taxis in this manner.
160. Members of the public may not be prosecuted for hiring pirate taxis. However, should there be an accident the insurance companies concerned will be free from liabilities in respect of claims for damages by the passengers. Owners or operators of such vehicles are liable to a maximum fine of \$3,000 or six months imprisonment apart from having their vehicles confiscated.
161. The only taxis allowed to operate within the Changi Station area are those belonging to Sher Khan (Ext. 6255), which make a standard charge of 50 cents for journeys within Station bounds.
162. **Purchase and importation of Motor Vehicles.** Under the Anglo-Malaysian Defence Agreement the ad valorem registration tax (10% on cars of British or Dominion origin) normally charged in Singapore on new or imported cars is waived in respect of cars bought or imported by U.K. Service personnel and U.K.-based civilians. Claims for exemption from registration tax or for refund of tax already paid must be lodged within

three months of the applicant's arrival in Singapore. Claim forms are held by OC General Duties Flight, RAF Changi and HO (U) Far East Air Force.

163. **Vehicle Taxation and Registration.** All privately owned vehicles must be taxed with the Registrar of Vehicles, Middle Road, Singapore, 7. The vehicle must also be insured and there are many reputable insurance agents in Singapore who will do this. All vehicles, be they motorcars, motor cycles or scooters, must be registered at the Main Guardroom if they are to be used on the camp. In addition the tyres of private vehicles registered on the Station must be serviceable and a checking system is in operation for which application forms are available at M.T. Control.
164. **Driving Licences.** To obtain a driving Licence an application form must be completed and handed in to the Traffic Office, Maxwell Road, Singapore, together with ten dollars, and your G.B. driving licence. You will then be issued with a receipt, which permits you to drive immediately. The licence itself can be obtained a few days later in exchange for the receipt. If you do not hold a G.B. licence, or cannot produce one, you will be required to take a driving test before obtaining your Singapore licence. You should make your application for taking a test to the Traffic Office, Maxwell Road, Singapore. The fee payable for a driving test \$10.00. Renewals of Driving Licences can be made at Changi Civil Post Office
165. **Driving Schools.** If you have not driven before or require driving tuition, there are a number of reputable driving schools in Singapore. Details may be found in the Singapore Telephone Directory, and generally the fee for instruction is about \$7.00 per hour.

Motoring Associations



166. a. **Forces Motoring Association.** There is a branch of the Forces Motoring Association in Singapore. Motor trials and events are held regularly. The Association holds a monthly meeting in the Coral Room, Adephi Hotel, Singapore.
- b. **Automobile Association of Singapore.** The A.A. (Singapore) is federated with the A.A. (G.B.). Its address is 336 River Valley Rd. Singapore.
167. **Bicycles.** By local Government law, all bicycles, including children's, ridden on the roads, must be registered and must display a registration number and plate. This applies to all camp roads. Application for registration should be made to the Registrar of Vehicles, Middle Road, Singapore 7. A registration fee of \$41- is payable.

Out of Bounds Areas



168. As soon as possible after your arrival you should acquaint yourself with the places, which are out of bounds. A list of these is published regularly in Station Routine Orders.

Shopping



169. The local shopkeepers' commercial methods are very different from those, which you have been used to in the U.K. Until you have settled in, and have looked around, you are strongly advised to buy only essentials, leaving the purchase of souvenirs and ornaments until you have gained some experience of trading methods.
170. **Robinsons**, in Raffles Place, mark the prices of articles and there is no question of bargaining. This applies to most of the bigger shops in the main shopping areas in Singapore City. In the smaller shops and also in many of the shops in the village it is accepted that you do bargain with the shopkeeper. This is particularly so when the prices of articles are not displayed.

Places of Interest



171. The following places of interest are well worth a visit:
- a. **Botanical Gardens**, Tanglin,
 - b. **Haw Par Villa (or Tiger Balm Gardens)**, Pasir Panjang.
 - c. **House of Jade**, Nassim Road.
 - d. **Johore Causeway and Kranji War Cemetery**, off Woodlands Road.
 - e. **Monkey God Temple**, 18, Bukit Permei.
 - f. **National Museum** (formerly Raffles Museum).
 - g. **Sri Mariamman Hindu Temple**, South Bridge Road.
 - h. **Sultan Mosque**, North Bridge Road.
 - i. **Twin Grove Chinese Buddhist Temple**, Kim Keat Road.
 - j. **Van Kleef Aquarium**, Clemenceau Avenue,

Cinemas and Theatres



172. There are a number of excellent cinemas in Singapore, most of them air-conditioned. The main ones are the **Cathay**, in Dhoby Ghaut, the **Lido**, and **Orchard** in Orchard Road, and the **Capitol and Odeon**, both in North Bridge Road. Plays, ballets and concerts are held at the **Victoria Theatre**, Empress Place, at the **Cultural Centre**, Canning Rise, and at the **National Theatre**, Tank Road.

Hotels, Restaurants and Clubs



173. Balls and dances are frequently held in the various hotels in the City in particular at the **Raffles, Adephi, Cathay, Princes and Goodwood Hotels**.

174. There are many restaurants and eating houses in and around Singapore and you will find that the prices vary considerably. In Changi Village itself the following are recommended:

- **The Airfield Restaurant.**
- **Changi Milk Bar**
- **Tong Sing.**
- **The Europe Bar.**

175. Clubs in Singapore open to Officers.

- Tanglin Club**, Stevens Road. This is the main social club in Singapore and has facilities for dining, dancing, tennis, squash and bridge. It has a fresh water swimming pool.
- Singapore Swimming Club**, Tanjong Rhu Road. Swimming, dining and dancing.
- Island Club**, Thomson Road. Golf. A small swimming pool.
- Royal Singapore Golf Club.**
- Turf Club**, Dunearn Road. Horse racing. There are six meetings annually. The club is open to members only.
- Singapore Cricket Club.**

Both of the following clubs have children's section.

- Saddle Club**, Dunearn Road.
- Polo Club**, Thomson Road

176. Clubs In Singapore open to Airmen and Airwomen.

- Britannia Club, Beach Road.** This is a NAAFI club. Facilities include a swimming pool, dining, dancing and bar. There is no subscription.
- Commonwealth Services Club**, North Bridge Road. Meals and accommodation.
- The China Sea Beach Club.** This is situated on the coast on Nicoll Drive, Changi. Facilities include safe sea bathing, boats on hire, full restaurant service from light snacks to full course dinners, and a well stocked bar. Part p1 the Club can be hired for parties ranging from 10 to 300. There is also some 'Billy Butlin' type sleeping accommodation for both men and women at very reasonable price~. The Club is open to all ranks of all services and there is no subscription.

Travel



177. There are many opportunities for travel, both in Malaysia and further a field. The Army publishes a booklet entitled "Leave in the Far East", which will amply repay study by anyone anxious to broaden his horizons. The booklet describes fully the many places that are worth a visit in Malaysia, and lists the main hotels and rest houses. It contains information about Hong Kong, Macao and West Australia, and it also covers some of the sea trips that can be undertaken from Singapore.

Indulgence Passages



178. Indulgence passages on service aircraft may be granted subject to availability of seats. Such passages are allotted on the basis of a single outward journey only. Arrangements for the return journey, though sponsored by RAF Changi, or HQ(U) FEAF, as appropriate must be arranged on arrival at the destination.
179. If you avail yourself of this privilege, you must be prepared to make alternative arrangements at your own expense for the return journey should an indulgence passage not be available. You should bear this in mind if you are going on leave as it is your responsibility to return to your unit before your leave expires. Details of the method of application for indulgence passage are published at regular intervals in Station Routine Orders.

Section 5 – Health Hints

Introduction



180. This section is intended to give advice on how to live a healthy life in the tropics. To those of you who have never been out east before, there are certain health precautions, which must be taken owing to the different climate and because of the prevalence of certain diseases that are not often met with at home. The precautions, which you should take, are mentioned under different headings. These precautions may seem tiresome, but when after a time familiarity breeds contempt, take care not to ignore them.
181. In spite of the fact that Singapore is an extraordinarily healthy place, many people still come out here with the mistaken idea that they will have to live for two or three years in a hot and unhealthy country. The stories of dread happenings if you walk about in bare feet, eat unsterilised food, drink untreated water, go out into the mid-day sun, etc., are very much exaggerated. Singapore is a highly civilised and very pleasant place, and there is no reason why you should not live here exactly as you do at home without any worry about your health.

Acclimatisation



182. People who are used to living in a temperate climate do take some time to get used to the heat and high humidity of Singapore. This is quite understandable. The human body is a resilient machine and can adapt itself to widely different conditions, but it does take time to adapt itself. Having been conditioned to living in a fairly cold climate in Europe, it may take anything from six days to six months, depending on the individual, to adjust completely to the new heat and humidity. During the period of acclimatisation, many people, women in particular, complain of tiredness and a vague feeling of not being well. Don't worry, that invariably passes and, except for the rare occasion, one feels as well as, if not better than at home.
183. Whilst becoming acclimatised, four things may happen to you:
- Occasional attacks of diarrhoea.
 - Prickly heat.
 - Boils.
 - Mosquito bites.

When acclimatisation is complete these nuisances worry few people again. Children get used to the climate much more quickly than adults, and almost invariably thrive in the tropics, particularly up to the age of 13 or 14.

Heat



184. **The Use of Salt.** On arrival most people keep a bottle of salt tablets on their dining table and religiously swallow one or two with each meal. This they do because they have been told that when they sweat they lose salt and that this salt must be replaced at all costs. This is quite true, but it is unnecessary to go to the length of swallowing hundreds of tablets to do the replacing. The salt can quite easily be put back into the body merely by taking a little extra on the side of one's plate and eating it with the food. None of the local people ever think of taking salt tablets nor do the European civilians who spend most of their lives out here, because they find they get sufficient with their normal diet. During these first weeks or months, the body does in fact lose more salt, and until it is used to the heat, it is a good thing deliberately to take a little extra with food. After this, however, if you lead a normal sedentary life, there should be quite as much salt as is necessary in the cooking, and in the food itself. Should you play a violent game of tennis or squash, or take part in other fairly strenuous physical exercise, it is wise then either to drink half a pint of lemonade or squash with about a quarter of a teaspoonful of salt dissolved in it, or again, deliberately to take extra on one's plate. Salt in lemonade sounds revolting but does not taste at all bad to most people.
185. **Sunbathing.** If you came out by sea, during the journey you will have seen many people madly frying themselves on the decks so that when they get to Singapore they will be a dark mahogany colour. They imagine that they will not then be accused of being newcomers to Singapore. In fact, one of the first things that will be said to them is "i-tow was England when you left it?" and on looking around you will find that most of the people who have been here for some time are only lightly tanned. The majority of people prefer to stay in the shade, not because of the un-doing them any harm but because it is so very hot! To most people, a suntan is an attractive thing to have and there is no harm in this but the sun in the tropics is very strong and must be treated with great respect. If you want a suntan, start off very, very gently indeed, with about ten minutes in the sun and gradually increase this until you have acquired the required colour. When you are in any doubt as to the length of time you should stay in the sun, occasionally rub the back of your shoulder with your hand, if it feels at all sore or tender, dive for the shade straight away. Nivea cream is an excellent antidote for sunburn. Fair skinned people, particularly those with red hair, must be especially careful not to get burned. If you stay out of the sun for about a week, even if you are practically black, you may think that you can spend a whole afternoon on the beach without getting burned. However, you will find that, despite your colour you will burn almost as easily as if you were snow white. It is also true that one does burn much more quickly bathing by the sea than at a swimming pool somewhere inland.
186. **Hats.** There is no such thing as sunstroke and there is no necessity to wear a hat if you do not want to; nor is it necessary for children to wear hats. Hats do shade your face and eyes from the sun, but at the same time they make your head hot and sweaty.

187. **Sunglasses.** Some people do not like the strong sunlight in their eyes and to a few it is even painful. If this applies to you, wear sunglasses. There is no special virtue in any particular colour or darkness of the glass; this is purely a matter of personal preference.

Food



188. The food you eat in Singapore is practically the same as in the United Kingdom, with the addition of a few local dishes, which Europeans have decided that they like to eat. You will get a full and varied diet, and there really is no need to take the extra vitamin pills that some people, when they arrive out here, think are very necessary.
189. You can eat anything, which is set before you in a restaurant or hotel without fear of catching some dread disease. If you want to, you can in fact eat local Chinese and Malay food from the stalls which are set up on the pavements, and which are popular eating-places for all and sundry in the early hours of the morning.
190. All food, which is eaten raw, that is, fruit and salads, should be washed thoroughly before you eat it. This piece of advice should be followed just as much at home as in Singapore. Soap and water is an excellent thing in which to wash apples, but running water is quite sufficient for salads, grapes and other things. Put them in a basin, turn on the cold tap and leave for two or three minutes.
191. A refrigerator is an essential thing to have in the home in the tropics, and all open food should either be kept in the refrigerator or under a fly proof cover until you are actually going to eat it or cook it.
192. Most of the meat comes from Australia or New Zealand "deep frozen" and is quite safe to eat. Some of the local pork makes very good eating, and if cooked thoroughly, is perfectly safe. The risk you take in eating it is very small indeed, but to be on the safe side, see that there is no red meat left anywhere in the joint when it is cooked, particularly deep in the meat near the bone.
193. When you move into your own home in Singapore, do see that your kitchen is kept spotlessly clean. You should do this at home but it is more important in the tropics.

Water



194. All tap water in Singapore is safe to drink and one need never bother to boil it or to sterilise it in any other way. If, however, you happen to be out in the jungle or in a small village, never drink the local water unless it has been sterilised or boiled. If you can buy bottled lemonade or some such drink, have this in preference.
195. If you hold a party, you will probably want to cool a large number of bottles of drink. For this you can buy from your local grocer large blocks of ice, weighing about a hundredweight. Do not use this in drinks because although the ice itself is probably quite clean and pure, it has almost certainly been kicking around in the back of a dirty lorry buried in sawdust, or wrapped in a sack. The ice that you make in your own refrigerator is of course quite safe to use in drinks.

Ice Cream



196. The making of ice cream in Singapore is strictly controlled by the City Health Authorities, but as in England, there are the odd small shops that make their own. It is wise only to buy ice cream, which has been made by a fairly big company. It is quite safe to buy ice cream anywhere, even from local peddlers who take it around on the backs of their bicycles, provided it is labelled 'Cold Storage', 'Magnolia', 'Iceberg Cold Creameries', 'Cold Ice Cream', 'Fitzpatrick's' or 'Walls'.

Clothes



197. Quite obviously, the less you wear the cooler you will be. Children need only wear a pair of shorts provided you see that they do not get burned when they first arrive here, and they can be allowed to run about without shoes - it is very good for their feet. They will not get worms from any of the places where they are likely to play.

Inoculation



198. There is no smallpox in Singapore, but as in England there is the possibility of a case arriving here by ship, so that it is a good thing to see that your children are vaccinated at least every three years. As this will have been done in England before you left this should last for your stay out here. The really important inoculations that your children should have are those against diphtheria and poliomyelitis. They will probably have been done as babies and they will now need booster doses.

Insects



199. **Ants.** Ants are fascinating creatures although most people hate the idea of having them all over the house. In fact they are the best 'cleaner-uppers' in the world. If you drop a crumb on the floor, spill a drop of tea, kill an insect and leave it lying around, or leave anything about that is edible and small enough for the ants to move, they will come and take it away in a very short space of time. Ants do no damage in the house and do not carry any disease. It is wonderful to watch perhaps one or two hundred ants no bigger than a pinhead moving a dead cockroach perhaps two inches long. However, it is not very pleasant to have them running about in your sugar, or stealing your jam. It is quite easy to stop them doing this. All food

cupboards should have legs and the legs should be put in a suitable sized tin filled with paraffin. The ants cannot cross the paraffin so they cannot get at your food.

200. **White Ants.** White ants are a different matter entirely. You never see them as they always work in the dark. Their favourite diet is wood. They will eat anything in the house which is made of wood, and are sometimes difficult to spot because they only eat the inside and leave the visible part looking exactly as if it is still whole whereas it is really only paper thin. Probably the first indication you will have of an infestation of white ants will be the collapse of a piece of furniture when, instead of getting the support you expect your hand will go straight through. As you may go through the whole tour in Singapore without ever seeing a white ant infestation and they do not carry any disease, they are not as bad as they sound.
201. **Flies.** A fact, which has not yet been explained, is that there are very few flies in many parts of Singapore and Malaya. You can walk around the slums of Chinatown in Singapore and see refuse lying about the roads and in the drains and yet there are few flies. Why this is so does not really matter. The fact that it is so contributes greatly to its healthiness, because flies are one of the biggest menaces to health. You will see the occasional one in and around your house. When you do, pursue it relentlessly and kill it either with a flit spray or swatter. Flies breed in refuse and it is up to you to see that you do not supply them with a breeding place. Always keep your dustbin covered and see that the area where your dustbins are kept is spotlessly clean.
202. **Mosquitoes.** Many people think that if a mosquito bites them they will get malaria. In Singapore this is not so. Of the hundreds of different kinds of mosquito, only those of a particular family can carry the germ of malaria. The Health Authorities in Singapore have been waging war on this family of mosquito for the last fifty years, and it is now very rare indeed to find a specimen, which can carry malaria. In fact, it can be said that there is no malaria in Singapore. They are, however, hundreds of mosquitoes. They are most elusive things to kill, and their bites are most annoying the next day. You can avoid this nuisance by sleeping under a net, but that is very stuffy and most people prefer to 'flit' their room well before going to bed, and to take the risk of being bitten by the odd one, which comes in later. There are two other things, which you can do to reduce the number of mosquitoes in your house. The first is not to provide the mosquitoes with breeding places, and the second is every morning to spray behind chests of drawers and inside cupboards with 'flit'. They rest in these dark places during the day and only come out to bite at night. Mosquitoes breed by leaving their eggs in water. Empty tins or coconut shells left lying around outside the house are their favourite spots, So do not have any small collections of water anywhere around. If you must have ant traps, for instance, put two or three drops of paraffin on top of the water.
203. **Cockroaches.** Cockroaches are a pest and a nuisance, but do not carry disease. Their favourite food is clothing; particularly wool and more particularly dirty wool. Any of your cold climate clothes, which you are keeping in cupboards, boxes, or trunks, should never be put away unless they have been cleaned. You can buy tins of Gammexane powder from the chemist or your grocer. This is lethal to cockroaches. If you dust this around your kitchen shelves and inside drawers and cupboards, it will kill any cockroaches that come into contact with it.
204. **Spiders.** You will occasionally see in the house enormous spiders. The majority of these are revolting to look at but will do you no harm. The very big ones, which you may never see in a lifetime, can bite and produce a painful swelling but no more.
205. **Centipedes.** Some of the bigger centipedes can produce a very painful bite. Do not worry; it is most improbable that you will ever see one.
206. **Other Insects.** There are many other insects, none of which will do any harm. Even the occasional big beetles, which you see, are quite harmless, but, as in England, a bee or a wasp may sting you.

Ailments And Illnesses



207. **Cuts and Abrasions.** Wash them well and cover with a piece of elastoplast or bandage. They heal as well here as they do in England but, as in England, some of them go septic. If a cut does begin to look red and angry or throbs and does not heal as quickly as it should, go to the medical officer.
208. **Bites.** When you first get out here you will find that mosquitoes bite unmercifully and that the bites last for days. Despite the fact that it is best not to scratch them, you will find that it is quite impossible not to. Even though you avoid scratching during the day you will do so in your sleep. Consequently, after some people have been out here about a week, their arms and legs are covered in scratched spots. If you go to the doctor he will give you something to stop the itch. You may feel desperate after two or three weeks, of itching and scratching but do not worry; invariably your body becomes immune to bites. After about two or three months, you will find that you do not even seem to get bitten or if you do, you hardly notice the bite and do not need to scratch it.
209. **Prickly Heat.** Another annoying thing that may happen to you when you first arrive is that you will probably get prickly heat. The name describes the ailment. You get a red rash, usually where your clothing fit closely around your waist. It itches and although advice has been given in the past on how to avoid getting prickly heat, there is really no way of avoiding it. If you are going to get it, you will get it. It can, however, be made much less annoying by certain lotions which you can get from the medical officer. Calamine is not much good and neither are any of the antiseptic soaps which are advertised. Again, this will become much less annoying after two or three months in Singapore. You will find that although you may still have the rash, it no longer itches as much as when you first arrived.
210. **Boils.** Boils are fairly common, and some people get lots of them soon after they arrive in Singapore. They are exactly the same as those you get in England, and so is the treatment. Go and see a doctor. He will

probably be able to stop more developing. In any case, even if you are having a series of boils, they will dry up and should not give you any more trouble for the rest of your tour. 'Monsoon' blisters are rather similar, and clear up as easily with treatment. They are not dangerous to general health.

211. **Coughs and Colds.** You would think that in the tropics you would never get a cold or a cough. This is quite wrong. Coughs and colds are just as prevalent in Singapore as they are in England in the summer; so do not be surprised if you do get one.
212. **Ears.** You will probably have heard of 'Singapore Ear', which is a painful inflammation of the outer part of the ear channel. It is almost invariably caused by getting water in your ears and leaving it there. The water makes the skin soft and it forms an ideal breeding place for all sorts of germs. You get water in your ear just as easily under a shower or in a hot bath as you do in a swimming pool or in the sea. Therefore do be careful always to shake all the water out of your ears. Never, never try drying your ears with a matchstick or a rough towel.
213. **Dengue Fever.** This is an illness, rather like influenza, and about as common as influenza in England. Instead of getting 'flue' in Singapore you get dengue, a most annoying thing to get. However, it is usually over fairly quickly.