

## Sixth Security Workshop, 29-31 July 2008, Washington DC

Together with US Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories (LLNL), Temasek Defence Systems Institute (TDSI) jointly held the Sixth Security Workshop at Washington DC from 29-31 July 2008. Working on the theme “Globalisation and Maritime Security”, 93 policy makers, academia, military officers, industry leaders and engineers from Singapore, Australia and the USA gathered at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel to examine issues on globalization and trans-national terrorism. This event is the sixth in the series of annual meetings between NPS, TDSI and LLNL to discuss research issues of prevailing interest. The five past conferences were held at Monterey (Nov 2004 and Jun 2007), Hawaii (Dec 2005) and Singapore (Dec 2006 and Dec 2007).



Some of the participants from Singapore. BG Tan Yih San is third from left

US Navy’s Vice Chief of Naval Operations ADM Patrick Walsh and Singapore MINDEF’s Future Systems Architect BG Tan Yih San delivered the opening addresses. ADM Walsh discussed the changing role of state and non-state actors in the global environment. He also touched on how globalisation links communications, transportation, technology and economies which, in turn, results in events in one region affecting other regions. The cascading effects of such relationships shape today’s security issues.

BG Tan examined how global changes in demography and urbanisation placed strong pressure on food and energy resources and on the global arterial system of uninterrupted information flow. The geographical and economic imbalance of supply, demand, consumption and transportation of oil and food leads to several choke points in the global shipping network and melting of ice caps. These pose maritime security challenges. He then elaborated on how Singapore was tackling the above issues.



ADM Patrick Walsh addressing participants



BG Tan Yih San’s address on the Trends and Shocks facing us

After each morning's plenary session, participants grouped themselves into parallel tracks on Maritime Security and Globalisation covering topics such as the Straits of Malacca and Singapore; Maritime Partnership; Leadership; and Trends, Shock and Prevention to explore those areas. They interacted actively in the ensuing ideas synthesising sessions, whose findings were presented at the last day.



Prof Yeo Tat Soon summing up at the end of the Workshop

Participants also enjoyed the insights given by guest speakers Mr John Kabricky, Deputy Under-Secretary of Defense, Mr Gregory Gross, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Mr Donald Loren, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, and Senator Gary Hart at the reception and luncheon talks.

The 17 participants from Singapore came from NUS's TDSI, Faculty of Engineering, and Lee Kwan Yew School of Public Policy, DSTA, NTU's S Rajaratnam School of International Studies and MINDEF.

This conference, deemed the most successful so far, has brought together key players whose support is vital for the implementation of nine research programme profiles identified at that event.

Please visit this NPS website for more news of this event

<http://www.nps.edu/News/ReadNews.aspx?id=3877&role=pao&area=media>

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