

SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE AT THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA AIR TRAINING CORPS
END-OF CAMP PARADE AT THE ROYAL
MALAYAN AIR FORCE STATION, KUALA
LUMPUR ON 13TH DECEMBER, 1961

I would first like to congratulate you on your smart turn out and bearing on parade. I am glad to see that you have retained the same high standards that have been set in past years.

When I addressed you at the end of your annual camp last year, I explained it was the intention that FMATC should be absorbed into the Combined Cadet Force during 1961. However, because of the need to concentrate our efforts on other and more urgent matters, it has not yet been possible to complete the necessary legislation to enable this transfer to take place. We are now planning to take the necessary action to enable the transfer to take place during 1962, and I hope that it will be about the middle of the year. Meanwhile, we have to continue with the present organisation.

It is therefore likely that I am addressing you, as the FMATC, for the last time. As I explained last year, the training in discipline and community responsibility provided by the FMATC will enable you all the better to take your place as good citizens in the future. In this way, the FMATC has played, and continues to play, an important part in our development as a nation.

The FMATC is of course an entirely voluntary organisation, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all, officers and cadets alike, for your loyalty and devotion to duty and for so readily sparing your time. These are the factors which have made the FMATC such a great success. Good luck to you all.