Singapore and the United States have a strong bilateral defense partnership underpinned by the 1990 Memorandum of Understanding Regarding United States Use of Facilities in Singapore, the 2005 Strategic Framework Agreement, and the 2015 Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement. In 2019, the Prime Minister of Singapore and President of the U.S. signed a renewed Memorandum of Understanding extending through 2035.

Singapore and the U.S. manage defense relations through several annual senior-level policy dialogues. With the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement, both sides agreed on a broad framework for defense cooperation in five key areas, namely in the military, policy, strategic, and technology spheres. Under the technology sphere, the U.S. and Singapore collaborate in 10 distinct bilateral dialogues through forums, committees, and workshops under the oversight of the Defense Cooperation Committee (DCC). The DCC is the senior bilateral science and technology forum between the U.S. Department of Defense and the Singapore Ministry of Defence. The Department of Defense and Ministry of Defence work closely to equip Singapore’s sailors, soldiers, and airmen with the latest state-of-the-art weapons systems, sophisticated sensors, and smart munitions through an extensive Foreign Military Sales program. Singapore and the U.S. are increasing cooperation in non-traditional security challenges, such as piracy and transnational terrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), cyber defense, and bioscience.

Singapore has been a steadfast partner in coalition operations against terrorism. The Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) contributed to the reconstruction efforts in Iraq from 2003 to 2006 and deployed close to 500 personnel from 2007 to 2013 to Afghanistan as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). The SAF deployed a ship with 240 personnel and two Super Puma helicopters to the Gulf of Aden for anti-piracy operations and, most recently, deployed medical teams to Iraq to provide medical support to coalition forces contributing to counter ISIS efforts in Iraq.

Singapore hosts the Shangri-La Dialogue, Asia’s premier defense summit, annually. The Dialogue is a unique conference where defense ministers debate the region’s most pressing security challenges, engage in important bilateral talks, and come up with fresh solutions together.

### BY THE NUMBERS

- **40** Years of Exercise TIGER BALM, a bilateral exercise between the U.S. and Singapore Armies
- **1** Singapore is the only Indo-Pacific country that holds annual unilateral training exercises in the U.S.
- **9** Bilateral military forums focused on science and technology collaboration
- **32** Years Singapore has operated advanced fighter jet detachments in the continental U.S.
- **30** Years of Exercise COMMANDO SLING between the Singapore Air Force and U.S. Air Force
- **1,000** Singaporean Armed Forces personnel train in the U.S. each year

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**DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY**

The Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) collaborates with Singapore on various research and development projects, as well as Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and high-yield Explosives (CBRE) and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Awareness training. To help ASEAN countries develop or improve their core capacities to meet international health regulations, DTRA has partnered with Singapore via the Third Country Training Program to build laboratory and epidemiologic capacity, as well as training scientists and physicians from partnering countries.

**OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH GLOBAL**

Since 2000, the regional Office of Naval Research Global (ONRG) in Singapore has supported emerging science and technology (S&T) globally to address the technological needs of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. The office identifies and funds research and development to enable future Naval missions and capabilities. ONRG actively collaborates with government, industry, and academia on key S&T of mutual benefit to the U.S. and its strategic partners including Singapore.

**NAVY MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER-ASIA**

NMRC-A, headquartered in Singapore, studies and responds to infectious diseases of military and public health importance across SE Asia. With a laboratory in Cambodia, the scientists, research physicians and support staff partner with host nation military and civilian agencies to conduct research and surveillance of infectious disease threats and develop mitigation strategies against these threats to support the US Indo-Pacific Command.

**U.S. Army International Technology Center - Indo Pacific (ITC IPAC)**

Since 2004, the Southern Asia Regional Office of ITC-IPAC, as part of the Army’s Combat Capabilities Development Command (DEVCOM), has promoted S&T collaboration with partner countries, to include Singapore, in areas that are relevant to the overall needs of the U.S. Army. The goal of the office is to identify emerging technology (basic and applied research) by supporting cooperative development initiatives and identifying innovative foreign technology solutions.