Existing frames of international security in the Asia-Pacific are fixated upon either the state of coexistence and rivalry among the great powers, or explore the limitations of regional organizations in securing the interests of the weaker states. There is also a third perspective that informs the overlapping security architecture of ASEAN-driven security forums such as the ASEAN Regional Forum, the East Asia Summit and ASEAN Plus Three. However, there is a widespread sense that with ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) fast approaching its fiftieth anniversary in 2017, it is inadequate in dealing with transnational threats to physical population security, as well as psychological threats to the daily operation of national economies, transportation systems, health facilities, multiracial nation-building, post-disaster recovery and urban normalcy. What ASEAN has excelled at is in containing conventional interstate disputes over land, sea and air boundaries under the rubrics of its Treaty of Amity and Cooperation, and the various declarations on codes of interstate conduct. These ‘excellent practices’ are little more than conflict mitigation efforts: they involve the deliberate temporization on conflict resolution and the subtle avoidance in assigning blame for state provocations. ASEAN also dealt with great powers by striving to be inclusive of them in regional processes. Increasingly too, in the wake of Cyclone Nargis, Typhoon Haiyan and the MH370 aircraft disaster, the arena of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief is emerging as the latest field of intra-ASEAN and great power rivalries. Therefore, going into the twenty-first century, ASEAN has to address non-traditional threats that draw attention to domestic, or internal, conditions of distress and poor governance, while still paying attention to the manoeuvres of interstate rivalry over great power spheres of influence and territorial disputes. This workshop calls on participants to discuss the frictions arising from these two divergent patterns of security.
DAY ONE: 9th October 2014 (THURSDAY)

Venue: Officer Cadet School Auditorium, SAFTI MI

0900 – 0905h  Opening Remarks
BG Benedict Lim, Commandant SAFTI MI, SAF

0905 – 0915h  Keynote Address
BG Desmond Tan, Director of Joint Operations, SAF

0915 – 0930h  Keynote Speech
Dr Ooi Kee Beng, Deputy Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Panel 1: Reaching ASEAN’s Limits
This panel deals with a familiar starting point in Southeast Asian security – ASEAN’s achievements and its increasingly visible limitations. Topics include: recalling ASEAN’s best achievements between the 1970s and 1980s; critical examination of ASEAN’s founding documents; ASEAN’s gingerly handling of political and military security up till 1992.

Chair: Dr Linda Quayle

0930 – 1100h  ASEAN Centrality: A Concept in Search of Relevance?
Associate Professor Tan See Seng, Deputy Director, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies and Head, Centre for Multilateralism Studies, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Conflict Management: Approach, Achievements and Challenges
Associate Professor Ramses Amer, Associated Fellow, Institute for Security and Development Policy, Sweden

ASEAN’s limits to the Regional Conflict Resolution
Professor Kriengsak Chareonwongsak, President, Institute of Future Studies for Development, Thailand

1100 – 1130h  Coffee Break
Venue: Officer Cadets' Mess, SAFTI MI
Panel 2: Great Power Cooperation and Rivalry in the Asia-Pacific
This panel will explore the patterns of cooperation and rivalry between the great powers of China, Japan and the USA, with India covered as an embryonic player. The perspective of great power priorities from Beijing will be critically examined by the majority of speakers. Perspectives from Washington and Tokyo will also be dealt with from the test of their credibility in responding to China’s challenges through either creative civilian diplomacy or policy probes using military and economic means. In the meantime, it may appear that ASEAN-driven forums such as the ARF, ASEAN Plus Three, ADMM Plus and the East Asia Summit may still offer constructive avenues for the great powers to de-escalate their rhetoric and meet on neutral ground to discuss confidence building initiatives.

Chair: Associate Professor Alan Chong

1130 – 1315h Hegemon Rising: China’s Flexible Assertiveness
Dr Hoo Tiang Boon, Assistant Professor, China Programme, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore

The Role of the US’ Quasi-Alliances in Asia: Shadow Puppetry or Hard Alliances?
Dr Charmaine Misalucha, Assistant Professor, De La Salle University, Philippines

The Emerging Security Landscape in Asia-Pacific: Where ASEAN Fits
Professor Huang Xiaoming, Director, New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Japan-China Tensions and the Future of ASEAN-centered Regionalism
Dr Takeshi Yuzawa, Associate Professor, International Relations, Hosei University, Japan

1315 – 1415h Lunch
Venue: Officer Cadets’ Mess, SAFTI MI

Panel 3: Defence Diplomacy in the Asia-Pacific
The panel explores the ramifications of pre-existing channels of defence diplomacy, which is understood collectively as the various forms of bilateral and multilateral communication practised by governments involving their respective military organizations in non-combat collaborative endeavours. Across the Asia-Pacific region today, this is increasingly important given the ongoing temperature of territorial disputes in the South China Sea and the East China Sea. Militaries need to produce their own ‘language’ or ‘proxy instruments’ for maintaining peace and stability if options of using force are to be kept off the policy table.

Chair: Associate Professor Ramses Amer
1415 – 1600h  Fostering Military Diplomacy among America’s Bilateral Allies: The Philippine Policy of Linking Spokes Together  
Professor Renato Cruz de Castro, Senior Faculty, International Studies, College of Liberal Arts, De La Salle University, Philippines  

Naval Diplomacy and Sino-Japanese Relations: What Prospects for CBMs?  
Dr Alessio Patalano, Lecturer in East Asian Warfare and Security, Department of War Studies, King’s College London, United Kingdom  

TBC  
Associate Professor David Capie, School of History, Philosophy, Political Science & International Relations, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand  

Insights on the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus: The Road to Realisation, and What Lies Ahead  
Mr Chiang Chie Foo, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Defence, Singapore  

1600 – 1630h  Coffee Break  
Venue: Officer Cadets' Mess, SAFTI MI  

1630 – 1745h  Syndicated Group Discussion 1
Panel 4: Non-Traditional Security Threats in Southeast Asia
Non-traditional security (NTS) issues increasingly dominate national and international agendas in Southeast Asia. This will have implications on how governments define security for themselves or through ASEAN and other ASEAN-related forums. Topics include: What are the operational ramifications of dealing with pandemics? What are the operational ramifications of dealing with recovery efforts after a natural disaster? What policing capabilities might be needed in restoring calm after inter-ethnic violence?

Chair: Mr Jeffrey Engstrom

0900 – 1030h How did ASEAN fare on NTS cooperation?: From Cyclone Nargis to Typhoon Haiyan and MH 370
Assistant Professor Dr Kittip Prasirtsuk, Director of Institute of East Asian Studies, Thammasat University, Thailand

Asia’s Security Competition by Proxy: Competitive HADR as a Respectable Arena?
Associate Professor Alan Chong, Faculty, Military Studies Programme, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore

Subnational Conflict Mitigation and Civil Society: Networks, Innovations, and the uncertain place of ASEAN
Dr Linda Quayle, Assistant Professor, The University of Nottingham (Malaysia Campus), Malaysia

1030 – 1100h Coffee Break
Venue: Officer Cadets’ Mess, SAFTI MI

Panel 5: Military Experiences in Coping with Non-Traditional Threats in Asia
Topics to be covered include: reflections on relief operations in Sumatra, Phuket by SAF officers; sharing of perspectives on national political factors conditioning humanitarian relief efforts by South Korea, China, Taiwan and Japan; reflections by experts on the ground difficulties involved in relief operations in Tacloban City after Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda; and finally discussions on naval relief capabilities.

Chair: Professor Renato Cruz de Castro

1100 – 1245h Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief in the Asia-Pacific
Dr Alistair D.B. Cook, Research Fellow, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore
Disaster Relief as Defense Diplomacy: Exploring the Factors Conditioning Humanitarian Responses by the Militaries of South Korea, China, Taiwan and Japan
Mr Jeffrey Engstrom, Senior Project Associate, RAND Corporation, United States of America

Operation Flying Eagle: What are the lessons for small states?
BG (NS) Goh Kee Nguan, former SAF Contingent Commander, Operation Flying Eagle, Singapore

Australia’s Experience in Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief: Avenue for Confidence Building
Brigadier Peter Gates, Commandant Australian Command and Staff College, Australia

1245 – 1345h Lunch
Venue: Officer Cadets' Mess, SAFTI MI

1345 – 1515h Syndicated Group Discussion 2
Visit to Information Fusion Centre for local and overseas speakers

1515 – 1545h Coffee Break
Venue: Officer Cadets' Mess, SAFTI MI

1545 – 1715h Plenary Presentation
Chair: Associate Professor Alan Chong, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

1715 – 1730h Closing Remarks
COL Ng Wai Kit, Deputy Commandant SAFTI Military Institute and Commandant GKS CSC, SAFTI Military Institute, SAF

End of Seminar