



**THE HON RICHARD MARLES MP  
SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE  
MEMBER FOR CORIO**

**SINGAPORE MILITARY TRAINING AGREEMENT**

Labor welcomes the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Military Training and Training Area Development in Australia.

We absolutely support any steps enhance Australia's bilateral defence relationship with Singapore, and this MoU provides the framework for up to 14,000 Singapore Armed Forces personnel to conduct unilateral Army training in Australia by 2021.

While we still need to see the details on cost and implementation, the agreement builds on the efforts of previous governments, including the former Labor Government which renewed the Oakey Agreement, allowing Singapore Armed Forces to train at the Army Aviation Centre in Oakey, Queensland.

Australia and Singapore already enjoy a strong partnership in many other areas, as well as both being respected voices in ASEAN, APEC and the East Asia Summit.

In Afghanistan, our troops have served alongside one other and both nations are engaged in countering the threat posed by ISIS and radical extremism.

This agreement is a positive next step for Australia, Singapore and the region.

**FRIDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2016**