

SINGAPORE M.S.O.

The Singapore M.S.O. is now firmly established in Phoenix Park. This is an area of about twelve acres surrounded by a high fence and barbed wire in which are the various offices of Admiral Sir Patrick Brind, our Commander-in-Chief, the Rt. Hon. Malcolm MacDonald, P.C. (the C.G. for South-East Asia), the Far East Defence Secretariat, and mysterious people with even more mysterious titles.

Huge plans are afoot for the complete reshuffling of the M.S.O. to try and put right some of the weaknesses found when the Korean war started. Among many things they include the knocking down of four internal walls—one hopes there will still be sufficient support for the top storey.

Keppel Barracks—an isolated outpost of the Navy, close to Singapore town—continues to provide accommodation for all the Phoenix Park staff.

Despite the lack of sports grounds on the south of the island, we have been lucky enough to get our fair share of games.

At soccer we are near the top of the Terror League, and at the time of writing are still in the Navy Cup (with strong hopes). L./Sig. Saunders and Sig. Ingham have been to the forefront.

Many good games of rugger have been played although we started off rather badly with some defeats that looked more like cricket scores. Sergeant Blackwell of the printing staff and Sig. Hearn have been our keen enthusiasts, and we feel that the tide is now turning.

Hockey under the guidance of L./Sig. Ludlow has had strong support, and even C.Y.S. Cooper has been seen playing. The impending staff match (officers v. ratings) is awaited with much interest. It is rumoured that Commander Kennard may be playing!

At Keppel Barracks itself the Badminton court continues to provide a good outlet for surplus energy.