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In-person Interviews

Datuk Abdul Wahab Abdul Majid
Ms Sandra Buenaventura
Mr Raymond Chan Kin
Ms Christina Cheang
Ms Amy Chua
Mr Leslie Fong Yin Leong
Mr Jamshed K. Fozdar
Mrs Parvati Fozdar
Mr Raymon Huang
Dr Masaru Ishii
Mrs Hiroko Ishii
Ambassador (Retired) Bilahari Kausikan
Professor Tommy Koh Thong Bee
Ambassador (Retired) Lee Chiong Giam
Mr Peter H.L. Lim
Mr Lim Soo Peng

Ambassador (Retired) Kishore Mahbubani

Ambassador (Retired) Verghese Mathews

Ambassador (Retired) Mushahid Ali

Ms Irene Ng Berry

Cik Puan Noor Aishah Md Salim

Mr Param Ajeet Singh Bal

Mr Sathivan Singh (S.S.) Dhillon

Ambassador (Retired) Tan Chin Tiong

Mr Tan Wee Him

Ms Edith Tay

Ambassador (Retired) Toh Hock Ghim

Mr Colin Wee

Miss Wee Eng Hwa

Dr Wee Hong Neo

Mr Vincent Wong

Mr Geoffrey Yu

Oral Histories

The following oral histories were recorded by the Oral History Centre, a division of the National Archives of Singapore, which in turn is part of the National Library Board of Singapore. These verbal accounts of Singapore's past are largely accessible to all via online searches of the names and Accession Numbers stated below, at the website <https://www.nas.gov.sg>.

Abdul Gaffor bin Abdul Hamid. Accession Number (AN) 001430. This telephone operator at the Istana recalled being kept very busy every day with the volume of calls from President Wee Kim Wee's many friends and well-wishers.

Vaidyanathan Thirunavukkarasu (V.T. Arasu). AN 002307. His significant mentions of Dr Wee, that is, Dr Wee advising him to mind Japan's sensitivities while chronicling the Japanese Occupation of Singapore, are recorded in Reel 20 of his interviews.

Maurice Baker. AN 000554. His significant mentions of Dr Wee's clamouring for a diplomatic posting beyond Kuala Lumpur are in Reel 3.

Chiang Hai Ding. AN 002716. His significant mentions of Dr Wee's wisdom in continuing to cultivate his social networks in retirement are in Reel 32.

Lieutenant-General (Retired) Winston Choo Wee Leong. AN 003026. He recalled how Dr Wee once helped Singapore soldiers push a boat stuck in muddy waters in Reel 3.

Fong Chan Yoon. AN 002332. In Reel 17, he recalled how supportive Dr Wee was to the elderly, including championing Senior Citizens' Week.
Leslie Fong Yin Leong. AN 003849. His significant mentions of Dr Wee as a stern boss who put on a rather stiff front among colleagues are in Reels 8–11.

Brother Pierre Paul @ Emmanuel Gaudette. AN 001739. In Reel 16, he recalled how close Dr Wee was with Dr Ee Peng Liang and their reactions after both were considered for the presidency of the Republic of Singapore.

Alfred Goh Kok Kee. AN 003208. His significant mentions of the challenges and occasional hilarity of being aide-de-camp to Dr Wee, and how grandfatherly Dr Wee was to him, are in Reels 1 and 2.

Graham Starforth Hill. AN E000054. His lauding of Dr Wee as a national treasure is in Reel 9.

Idris Mohamed Ali. AN 003979. He recalled being commissioned to paint a portrait of President and Mrs Wee Kim Wee towards the end of their term at the Istana.

Ismail bin Abdul Ghani. AN 003318. He recalled Dr Wee's days at the Istana as Singapore's fourth president in Reel 1 of his seven recorded interviews.

Ambrose Anthony Khaw Tai Wah. AN 003830. His significant mentions of Dr Wee's chequered career and constant pressures as a journalist are in Reels 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 47, 50 and 51.

Khoo Teng Soon. AN 000475. As one of Dr Wee's closest friends, as well as being his long-time boss at the *Straits Times*, Mr Khoo mentioned Dr Wee in Reel 15.

Lau Teng Chuan. AN 001888. He marvelled at how widely known Dr Wee was to all badminton-mad Malaysians, and how wise he was.

Lee Ah Jee. AN 003215. She recalled how humble and fuss-free Dr Wee and his wife were at the Istana, and how they would give her and all other Istana staff thoughtful festive gifts.

Lee Kip Lee. AN 002956. His significant mentions of how Dr Wee inspired him to start a magazine for the Peranakan community are in Reel 2.

Lee Liang Hye. AN 002186. His significant mentions of how supportive Dr Wee and his wife were of the Peranakan community are in Reel 9.

John Leow Swee Gek. AN 004394. He recalled Dr Wee as a beloved family friend.

Lim Jiat Kin. AN 003896. He recalled how supportive Dr Wee was of the grassroots.

Arthur Lim Siew Ming. AN E 000004. He made the conjecture in Reel 2 of his interviews that Dr Wee seemed to him a fair-weather friend.

- Sunny Low. AN 002423. His father, Low Poh San, was Dr Wee's ballroom-dancing instructor, and he recalled in Reel 1 how Dr Wee became a beloved family friend.
- Colonel (Retired) John Morrice. AN 003306. His significant mentions of working with Dr Wee at the High Commission in Kuala Lumpur are in Reel 12.
- Sellapan Ramanathan (S.R. Nathan). AN 002963. His significant mentions of Dr Wee as his colleague and friend are in Reels 2 and 11.
- David Ng Shin Chong. AN 000670. He recalled being Dr Wee's trusted family photographer whom Dr Wee also hired to help him take photographs for news agency, the United Press Association.
- Ong Poh Lim. AN 001932. He recalled how adept Dr Wee was at organising social dos for the badminton community in Singapore.
- Balji Poravankara. AN 003826. His significant mentions of Dr Wee's harried weeks when his staff at the *Straits Times* went on strike in December 1971 are in Reels 6, 7, 9 and 10.
- Subaraj Rajathurai. AN 004236. His significant mentions of Dr Wee's strong support for his proposal to set up the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve are in Reel 3.
- Kasinather Sauntharajah (K.S. Rajah). AN 002088. He recalled what a gentleman Dr Wee was.
- Rufino Soliano. AN 003704. His significant mentions of Dr Wee's charm and elan as a ballroom dancer at Raffles Hotel on weekends are in Reels 2 and 5.
- Utamani d/o Tambisamy. AN 003201. She recalled what it was like to serve Dr and Mrs Wee at the Istana, and the tweaks that the Wees introduced to the running of the Istana.
- Tan Hwee Hock. AN 004045. His significant mentions of Dr Wee's strong and much welcome support for Singapore's sportspeople at international meets are in Reel 19.
- Tan Wee Him. AN 003058. He was hired by Dr Wee in May 1970 as a photographer for the *Straits Times* and recalled being mentored by him.
- Wong Shang Hoon. AN 001518. He recalled in Reel 1 how friendly Dr Wee was with the staff at the Istana, sometimes even cooking simple Peranakan fare for them.

Letters

Letters from President Wee Kim Wee to the Fozdars (1992–2005) accessible via <https://eresources.nlb.gov.sg/printheritage/detail/40e499433-7081-4269-9133-eb6d3075931e.aspx>.

Letters between President Wee Kim Wee and Raymond Chan Kin (14 February 1989 – 15 May 1990).

Speeches, Statements and Other Government Releases

Condolence letter from Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew to Mrs Li Vei-Chen dated 18 November 1977 (Singapore Government Press Release lky/1977/lky1118.doc at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Statement by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew on the resignation of Mr C.V. Devan Nair, President of the Republic of Singapore (Singapore Government Press Release lky/1985/lky0328.doc at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew in moving the motion on the election of Mr Wee Kim Wee as President of the Republic of Singapore on 30 August 1985 in Parliament (Singapore Government Press Release lky/1985/lky0830.doc at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by President Wee Kim Wee at the annual dinner of the Old Rafflesians' Association at the Westin Plaza on 5 July 1986 (Singapore Government Press Release 12/JUL/01-1/86/07/05 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by President Wee Kim Wee at the dinner for the President of Israel Chaim Herzog and Mrs Herzog at the Istana on 18 November 1986 (Singapore Government Press Release 40/NOV/01-01/86/11/86 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Statement by the Prime Minister in Parliament on 27 January 1988 concerning the investigations leading to the prosecution of Mr Allan Ng and his allegations against Mr Tan Boon Teik, the Attorney-General (Singapore Government Press Release 34/JAN/02-1/88/01/27 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by President Wee Kim Wee at the launch of Volunteers' Week 1988 at the Raffles Ballroom Westin Stamford on 22 July 1988 (Singapore Government Press Release 41/JUL/01-1/88/07/22 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by President Wee Kim Wee at the state banquet for His Majesty Sultan Iskandar Shah, the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia, on 26 July 1988 at the Istana (Singapore Government Press Release 49/JUL/01-1/88/07/26 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by President Wee Kim Wee at the launch of Volunteers' Month 1989 and the fifth community guest awards ceremony at the Istana on 30 June 1989 (Singapore Government Press Release 43/JUN/01-1/89/06/30 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by President Wee Kim Wee at the launching of Care and Share Month 1989 at the National Productivity Board auditorium on 30 August 1989 (Singapore Government Press Release 73/AUG/01-1/89/08/30 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by the President at the state banquet hosted by the President and Mrs Wee Kim Wee in honour of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh at the Istana on 10 October 1989 (Singapore Government Press Release 23/OCT/01-1/89/10/10 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Address at the opening of the Second Session of the Seventh Parliament on 7 June 1990 (Singapore Government Press Release 14/JUN/01-1/90/06/07 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by President Wee Kim Wee at the state banquet in honour of President George Bush and Mrs Barbara Bush in the Stamford Ballroom at the Westin Plaza on 4 January 1990 (Singapore Government Press Release 04/JAN/01-1/92/01.04 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by President Wee Kim Wee at the state banquet in honour of His Excellency Yang Shangkun, President of the People's Republic of China, at the Istana on 7 January 1992 (Singapore Government Press Release 08/JAN/01-1/92/01/07 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong in Parliament on 31 August 1993—Tribute to President Wee Kim Wee (Singapore Government Press Release 67/AUG/02-1/93/08/31 at <https://www.nas.gov.sg>).

Speech by Wee Eng Hwa at the joint launch of the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information and of the commemorative book *On the Record: The Journalistic Legacy of President Wee Kim Wee* at the Istana on 5 December 2006. See <https://www3.ntu.edu.sg>.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's eulogy for Dr Wee Kim Wee at his state funeral at Mandai Crematorium and Columbarium on 6 May 2005 (via <https://www.nas.gov.sg/archivesonline/speeches/view.html?filename=2005050601.htm>).

Eulogy by Mr Bill Wee Hock Kee for his father Dr Wee Kim Wee at Mandai Crematorium and Columbarium on 6 May 2005.

Eulogy by Ms Natalie Wee for her grandfather Dr Wee Kim Wee at Mandai Crematorium and Columbarium on 6 May 2005.

Eulogy by Ms Lim Hui Min for her grandfather Dr Wee Kim Wee at Mandai Crematorium and Columbarium on 6 May 2005.

Miscellaneous Sources

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Article by Don Crandall Becker for the Publisher's Notebook column of the *S&P Journal of Commerce* posted on 4 June 1996 (see <https://www.joc.com/article/publishers-notebook-don-c-becker-19960605.html>).

Article by Albert E. Kaff for the Overseas Press Club of America dated 17 August 2009, posted online on 26 October 2011 (see <https://opcofamerica.org/al-kaff-reflects-vietnam>).

Article by Michael Leifer titled "Israel's President in Singapore: Political Catalysis and Transnational Policies", *Pacific Review* 1, no. 4 (1988): 341–52, Taylor & Francis UK (<https://www.tandf.co.uk>).

MediaCorp Pte Ltd broadcast of the state funeral for Dr Wee Kim Wee on 6 May 2005 (see <https://youtu.be/sRyvIYAcb6E>).

NHK documentary on the Imperial Palace in Tokyo (with English subtitles) (see <https://youtu.be/fxZcf7axvhl>).

Al-Jazeera

Business Times

Berita Harian (Malaysia)

Berita Harian (Singapore)

Channel NewsAsia

Malay Mail

Malaya Tribune

New Nation

New Paper

New Straits Times

Sinar Daily/Sinar Harian

Singapore Monitor

Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser

Singapore Standard

The Star

Straits Times

Sunday Times

Time magazine

Today

The National Library Board of Singapore microfiche collection in the Lee Kong Chian Reference Library

Wikipedia entry on Thailand's "Silent Coup", also known as the "Radio Coup" (see [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silent_Coup_\(Thailand\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silent_Coup_(Thailand))).

