

NATIONAL DAY PARADE

Thanks for the memories

I HAD the privilege of attending the National Day Parade on Thursday ("Spectacle by the Bay"; yesterday).

Having lived overseas since 2004, this was indeed a special treat.

The setting by Marina Bay was spectacular as were the marching contingents, military fly-past, the Red Lions' freefall display and, of course, the wonderful fireworks.

The Advance-in-Review Order to commemorate 45 years of national service was an excellent personal touch and resonated not only with current and former national servicemen, but also their families and loved ones.

Special mention goes to the Heartware Network



ST PHOTO: RAJ NADARAJAN

volunteers, who were excellent in ushering and greeting the audience with smiles and good cheer. Singapore should be proud of them.

Last but certainly not least, I am sure all Singaporeans were happy to have former prime minister Lee Kuan Yew and Emeritus Senior Minister Goh

Chok Tong joining the nation at the Parade.

I hope my fellow Singaporeans will take this opportunity to reflect on how far Singapore has come since our independence in 1965, and understand that none of this would have been possible without sheer grit and determination, a forward-looking, capable and prudent government, and unity among Singaporeans.

It would be wonderful if future National Day Parades featured messages from the more than 200,000 overseas Singaporeans.

We may be living and working abroad, but our hearts and minds are very much with Singapore.

Dennis Tan