



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Factsheet - Singapore Assault Rifle 21

11 Sep 1999

The Singapore Assault Rifle 21 (SAR 21) is the latest assault rifle developed jointly by the Singapore Army, the Defence Technology Group, and the Chartered Industries of Singapore. The SAR 21 is a highly reliable and technologically advanced weapon. The new improved features of the SAR 21 are:

- **Shorter Length.** The SAR 21 is a bull-pup designed weapon (i.e., the butt stock of the weapon is removed), making it about 20% shorter than the in-service M-16. The shorter length of the weapon makes it more suitable for the soldiers to move in confined spaces such as dense vegetation, windows, tunnels, inside armoured vehicles and helicopters.
- **Integrated 1.5x Optical Scope.** The new SAR 21 comes with a built-in aiming scope with a 1.5 magnification. This allows the firer to detect and hit targets rapidly and accurately. With the integrated 1.5x scope, our soldiers no longer need to zero their rifles (the aligning of weapon sight to where the barrel is pointing at).
- **Laser Aiming Device (LAD).** The SAR 21 also has a new feature called the LAD. It enables a soldier to fire quickly without aiming through the scope. The LAD enhances a soldier's combat survivability in the night and is highly effective for night combat and close combat in build-up areas.
- **Greater Control and Faster Recovery.** The low recoil (the kick-back when a round is fired) of SAR 21 gives the soldier better control over the rifle and hence faster recovery between successive shots. This is critical in combat operations where the soldier must be ready to fire his weapon instinctively.

The SAR 21 is designed to suit the build of the Singapore soldier. Its Technical Specifications are:

- Length : 805mm

- Calibre : 5.56 x 45mm
- Barrel Length : 508mm
- Sighting system : 1.5x Optical Scope Laser Aiming Device
- Effective Range : 460m
- Weight : 3.98 kg
- Rate of fire : 450 - 650 rpm
- Feed Device : 30 rounds Plastic Box Magazine

**News Release:**

- Launch of New Assault Rifle at Opening Ceremony of Army Open House 1999 (Document No: MINDEF\_19990911001.pdf)

National Archives of Singapore