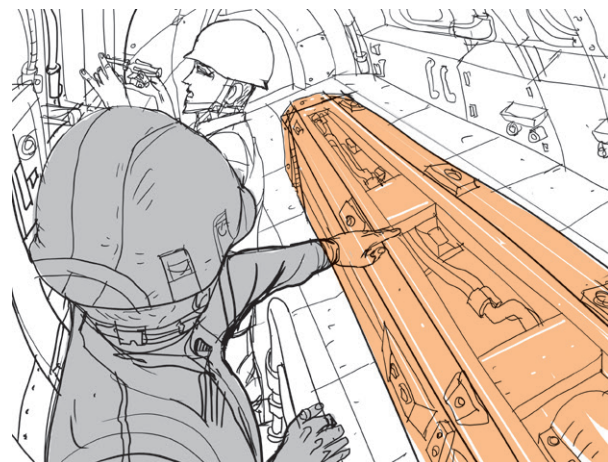


# Critical moments before Aloysius Pang was crushed by a howitzer gun barrel

The findings of an independent Committee of Inquiry, delivered in Parliament yesterday, showed that the three soldiers inside the cabin of the Singapore Self-Propelled Howitzer on Jan 19, including the late actor Aloysius Pang, flouted safety protocols, made wrong assumptions and reacted irrationally in the incident that led to the actor's death. Here's how the incident unfolded.

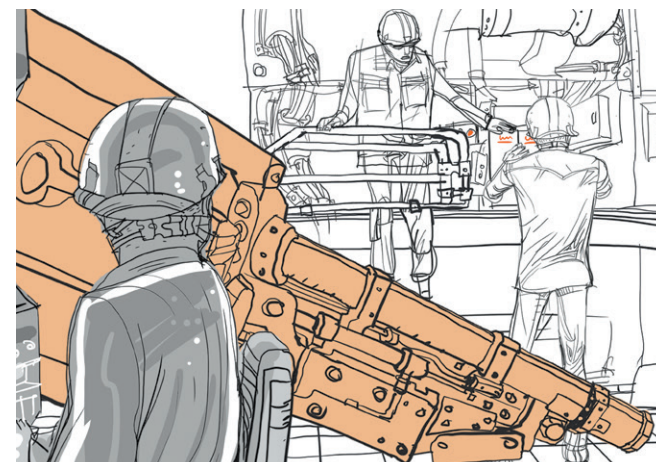


**1** During a live-firing exercise in New Zealand in January, Corporal First Class (NS) Pang, an armament technician on reservist duty, helps a regular technician with maintenance work in the howitzer.



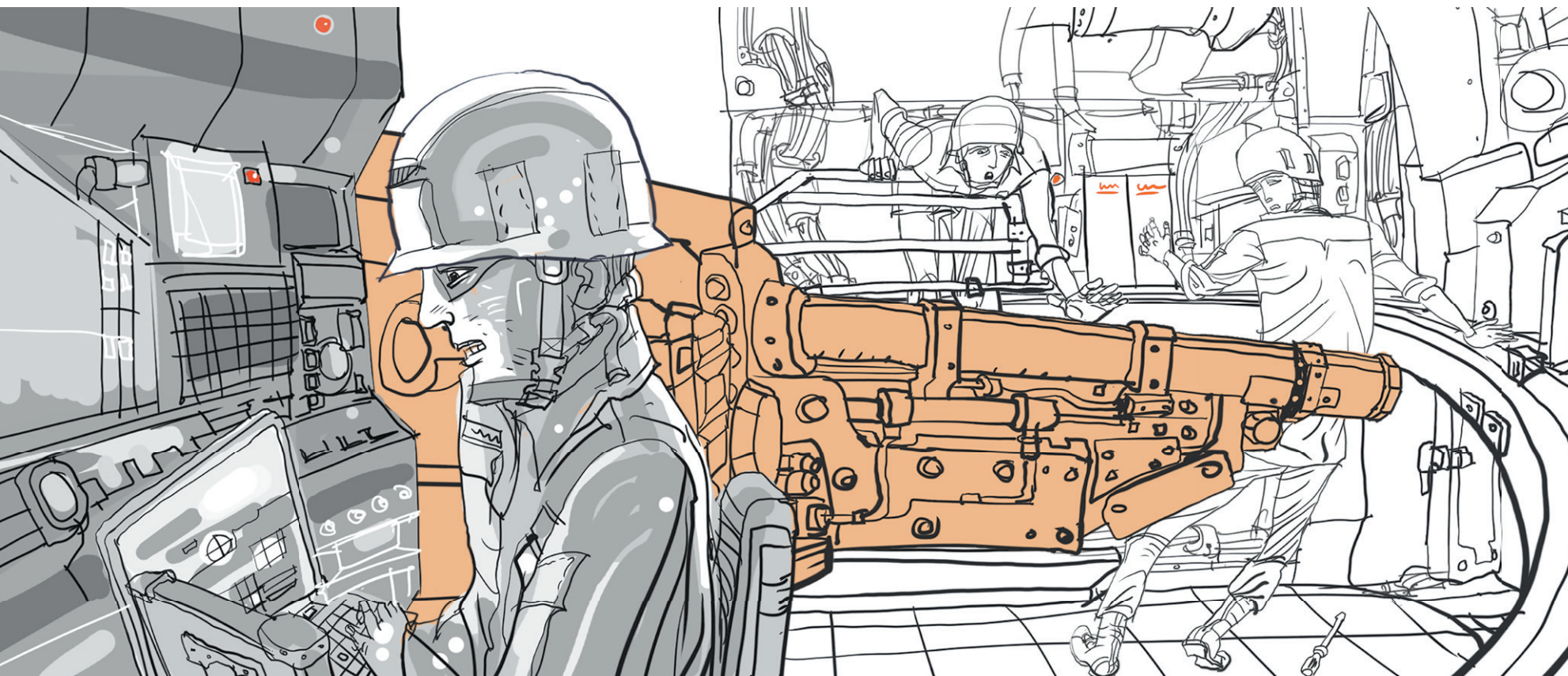
**2** The technician tells CFC Pang in a mix of English and Mandarin to move out of the way for the front of the gun barrel to be lowered to a standby position, which means its rear end will go up.

The actor is not in a designated safe position but replies in Mandarin that it is fine and that the barrel will not hit him.



**3** The gun commander checks and sees CFC Pang standing near the end of the barrel, and assumes the actor will have time to move away.

The commander shouts "standby, clear away" and starts lowering the gun.



**4** CFC Pang, who has his back facing the barrel, starts taking evasive movements as its end moves closer to him.

The regular technician is in shock and uses his hands to try and stop the barrel, instead of pressing the emergency stop button near him.

Panicking, the gun commander also acts irrationally and uses the main control screen to stop the barrel, instead of using his emergency stop button.



**5** CFC Pang is wedged between the barrel and the interior of the cabin. He is attended to by a medic on site, and later evacuated by helicopter to Waikato Hospital for surgery, where he died from injuries on Jan 23.