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Wee Cho Yaw, UOB Group chairman & CEO

'I have the highest regard for the late Tan Sri Tan, both for his contributions to the banking sector and for his generosity to the nation. When I joined UOB in 1960, Tan Sri Tan was already a successful banker. Later I had the opportunity to work closely with him when the four local banks got together to form the International Bank of Singapore in 1974.

Besides being an astute banker, he was one of our pioneer entrepreneurs, expanding OCBC's reach to insurance, manufacturing and property development. Without his cross-holding efforts, OCBC would not be what it is today.

When I was invited for tea with Tan Sri Tan in January this year, I was impressed by his clarity of thought and his recollections of past events. I had gone to get his support for the Chinese Language and Culture Fund. He responded with a generous donation of \$500,000.'

Cheong Choong Kong, OCBC Bank chairman

'Tan Sri Tan Chin Tuan will be remembered for a very long time for his enormous contributions to the development and prosperity of the OCBC Group, especially in the earlier years. He guided OCBC safely through the tumultuous times of the Second World War, and it was his stewardship that helped transform OCBC into a solid and highly respected bank. It was difficult very often to separate the man from the bank. He was not just an outstanding leader of the business community; he was an institution himself. He will always have a special place in the annals of OCBC.'

Lee Seng Wee, OCBC Bank board member

'Tan Chin Tuan was a man of tremendous drive, strength and foresight. He held the leadership in OCBC and managed its rapid growth for some 40 years from the Second World War to the early 80s. During the post-war years, he built OCBC into a formidable force in the local banking arena. His keen foresight resulted in the very many strategic investments which have greatly strengthened and benefited the bank. I shall always remember his great dedication and strict adherence to principle which has set the tone for all of us who have followed him.'

Teoh Keng Hoon, OCBC Bank staff

'I started work as a TBO (trainee bank officer) in OCBC in June 1971. I have very fond memories of the meetings that I had with the late Tan Sri together with other management staff of the bank. He would take out his small notebook and share his wealth of experiences with us, having gone through the depression, the Japanese

occupation, the world wars. He always inculcated in us the importance of the high integrity expected of bank staff. He would tell of the dangers of financing speculators.

What impressed me was his good memory. When we met for lunch in recent years, he could even recall incidents with customers and talk about them.

I recalled also how when any officer was upset about not being promoted, he would tell us not to be unduly disappointed as sometimes 'you have to be in the right place at the right time'.