

## Thousands run riot in KL

Fears that the first anniversary of the sentencing of Anwar Ibrahim on April 14 would spark violence came true when Kuala Lumpur was swarmed by thousands of violent rioters in green uniforms and red helmets, armed with batons, tear gas, automatic rifles, sub-machine guns and water cannon. The rioters attacked hundreds of people praying in the National Mosque with water cannons, before descending in waves upon Jalan Tunku Abdul Rahman to baton-charge hundreds of peaceful pro-Reformasi shoppers.

Hundreds of the red-helmeted rioters were seen gathering at other strategic parts of the city such as Dataran Merdeka and Central Market, assembling illegally in red trucks and shouting abusive slogans at innocent passer-by, such as "Bersurai! Bersurai!" and "Balik! Balik!"

It is understood that two separate groups of rioters - calling themselves the Federal Reserve Unit and the General Operations Force - took part in the day's gatherings. Many of the rioters were also seen at road blocks, bus stands, railway terminals and LRT stations, pointing automatic rifles at frightened commuters to prevent other groups of demonstrators from

disrupting their rioting.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad had earlier this month warned Malaysians that rioters would hold gatherings "aimed at commemorating something or other". "We are commemorating a significant event that occurred exactly one year ago to this day," said one of the uniformed rioters as he was wiping some blood off his boots with a prayer mat in the main hall of the National Mosque. "Exactly one year ago, we were allowed to roam the streets and beat the crap out of anyone we saw. Today, we want to beat the crap out of some more people."

"The Constitution says we have the right to gather and it is a basic human right," said a group of rioters on Jalan TAR as they fired dozens of rounds of tear gas into a passing schoolbus. "We are just exercising that right," stressed one of them, as he clubbed a 60-year old lady with his baton.



*Rioters were armed with water cannons, tear gas, batons and automatic rifles*

A nearby group of red-helmeted rioters who were playing football with a student denied that their actions amounted to aggravated assault. "No, this is just simple assault. And the most we can get imprisoned for it is three months," they explained.

## US criticises crackdown on demonstrators

A US State Department spokesman who refused to be named criticised Malaysia's crackdown on demonstrators this month, describing tough

police actions as "preventing its citizens from exercising free speech and peaceful assembly"

"The US demands that the Malaysian government allow its citizens to exercise their universally recognised rights to free speech and assembly," he said. "Errr ... as long as it does not involve the WTO or IMF, of course, now that's a different story altogether....."

He also criticised police handling of demonstrators. "We have seen CNN footage of dozens of Malaysian riot policemen kicking young students to the ground mercilessly until they are unrecognisable. The pain inflicted is unnaturally cruel and barbaric. In the United States, we do it the civilised way - we just shoot the bastards dead. Especially if they're black."



*More civilised riot control methods in the US*

## Police recover lethal weapon from Reformasi supporter

Police prevented what could have been dozens of tragic deaths during the April 14th demonstrations when they recovered a plastic toy gun from a Reformasi supporter. A Police spokesman who refused to be named described the weapon as a "0.22 calibre made-in-Taiwan Magnum water pistol", adding that the suspect also carried ammunition in the form of half a bottle of mineral water.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad had earlier warned that Reformasi demonstrators would "bring sharp weapons, sticks and make Molotov cocktails to attack the police". The Police spokesman conceded that no such sharp weapons, sticks or petrol bombs were recovered. "However, as you can see, this water pistol is by far more lethal," he warned as he fired a thin squirt of water more than three feet into the air. "You can catch a terrible cold if it hits you at the right spot. It might even stain your uniform."

"How can the police force stand up against this kind of firepower when we are just lightly-armed with water cannons, revolvers, automatic pistols, high-velocity automatic rifles and sub-machine guns?" he lamented.

Following this highly successful haul, police raided kindergartens, primary schools and playgrounds all across the capital, seizing a veritable arsenal of deadly weapons. Among the seizures were three baby rattles, a bag of rubber bands, a dozen marbles and a plastic battery-powered Darth Vader sword that glows. Police suspect the arms are being illegally smuggled into the country by a shadowy US-based CIA-controlled company called Toys-R-Us.



*Police search women protestors for hidden toy pistols*

## Opticians donate RM5 million worth of glasses to NUJ

The National Association of Opticians in Malaysia this month donated over RM5 million worth of spectacles, contact lenses and eye-care products to the National Union of Journalists. This generous donation follows widespread local news reports that violent

demonstrations did not occur in Kuala Lumpur on April 14 and that the situation was "just like any other normal weekend".

"Even a blind, deaf and dumb man walking in KL that day would have known that hundreds of people were being chased all over town by thousands of policemen," said an optician who refused to be named. "The National Mosque was cloaked in tear gas. Water cannons were spraying the length of Jalan TAR. The rest of the city looked like

a police barracks. And the local press couldn't see all of this?! They must all have major eye problems."

The optician added that local journalists also exhibited many other symptoms of chronic eye disease. "They seem to turn a blind eye to injustice, frequently have wool pulled over their eyes on corruption and do not seem to see anything wrong with government."

He lamented that most Malaysians were generally suffering from deteriorating eyesight. "Maybe it's because of all the reading between the lines that we have to do," he noted.



*A normal weekend in Kuala Lumpur*

## Human Rights Commission not an April Fool joke

A spokesman for the Malaysian Human Rights Commission denied that the announcement of the Commission in the media early this month was a belated April Fool's joke. "No, guys, we're serious, there really is a human rights commission, no kidding ....," he emphasised to a disbelieving press conference.

Suspicion grew further when it was realised that the Commission's name in Bahasa Malaysia is 'Suruhanjaya Hak Asasi Manusia', or SHAM for short.

Interviews with members of the public revealed that there seemed to be a strong undercurrent of suspicion over the announcement. When asked in surveys if they knew of the Malaysian Human Rights Commission, responses ranged from

uncontrollable laughter to comments such as "Yeah, riiiiiggghhhh.... and pigs can fly...", "Go on, pull the other leg ....", "Isn't that an oxymoron?" and "Hey, April Fool was yesterday!"

"A Malaysian Human Rights Commission?!" said one startled interviewee. "Suuurree ... what's next? An UMNO anti-corruption panel?"

The Commission will be holding a competition to design its logo as part of efforts to create greater awareness of its objectives and programmes. One of the more innovative designs submitted is an illustration of three monkeys, each in turn shutting its ears, eyes and mouth.



*A Malaysian expresses surprise on learning of the existence of a human rights commission*

## Mahathir's call to restore democracy in Pakistan not an April Fool joke

A Foreign Ministry spokesman denied that Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's call for a restoration of democracy in Pakistan was not April Fool's joke. In a shock announcement that resulted in mass vomiting across the country, Mahathir urged visiting Pakistan strongman General Pervez Musharraf to restore democracy in his country. Mahathir induced even more vomiting when he called for Pakistan's leading political prisoner to be given "a fair trial".

"The Prime Minister was quite serious in making the call," said a spokesman who refused to be named. "It was not a gag, he was not kidding ... heee hee ...hehe heh ... He is as committed to democracy in Pakistan as he is ... hee

hee ... committed to ... ha ha ... democracy in Malaysia .... Hahahahaha!!!!"

The spokesman also denied accusations that Mahathir would not be able to recognise a "fair trial" if it hit him on the head. "The Prime Minister is quite serious in calling for ex-PM Nawaz Sharif to be given a fair trial. After that, Musharraf can shoot Nawaz anytime he likes."



*Musharraf: Committed to democracy (... hee hee...)*



*Mahathir: Committed to democracy as well (...haha! hahaha!...)*

## Malaysia in danger of losing world record

Malaysia faces the prospect of losing a world record when it was revealed that the world's oldest virgin is not Malaysian. Malaysia stunned the scientific world in 1998 when bankrupt fashion designer Ummi Thurman Ali revealed in numerous press conferences and articles that, at 33, she was still a virgin.

"Saya masih dara," cooed the alleged virgin in a canary yellow, knee-length Christian Dior skirt, with matching Versace jacket and open-necked Chanel blouse.

However, a defence witness in the Anwar Ibrahim trial, Nor Azman Abdullah, this month testified that he had sex with Ummi. "We had sex when we went to London for five days in June 1998," he claimed. It is not known if this occurred on all five consecutive days and nights, or if there were

breaks in between.

Ummi's brother lent weight to the claim when he testified this month that she had "run away with a married man overseas."

"These testimonies are certainly a blow to the country," said a spokesman for the Malaysia Boleh World Records Association. "We are now scouring the country for alternative virgins who are as old as the current record holder, if not older."

Court testimony this month also revealed that Ummi's late father had disowned her because of this illicit affair, completely wrecking her chances of winning the Marina Mahathir Daughter of the Year Award.



*Ummi: No longer world's oldest virgin?*

## Melaka Wall to prevent entry of 'bad influences'

Sources in the Melaka State Government today revealed that Melaka is considering building a 100-foot high Melaka Wall around the state to ensure that 'bad influences' from Kelantan and Terengganu do not encroach into the State.

The move is a follow-up to the

announcement this month that Melaka government departments and agencies are banned from making official visits to the PAS-ruled states of Kelantan and Terengganu. Chief Minister Mohd Ali Rustam said the ban was to ensure Melaka government staff were "protected from the bad influences" of the two states.

A State Government spokesman who refused to be named said that preventing Melakans from going to those states may not be enough to 'protect' them. "Hopefully, the Wall will shut out those 'bad influences' more directly."

Modelled along the lines of the Berlin Wall, the Melaka Wall will be built along the complete length of the state's borders. Constructed of

reinforced concrete, it will be lined with barbed wires, electric fences, guard dogs and machine gun posts to deter any incursions by Kelantan and Terengganu residents. Special electronic sensors will also be installed at entry points to detect 'budu' and any other substances that may be of Kelantan or Terengganu origin.

Melaka residents who visit other states in Malaysia will also be screened by medical teams to ensure that they had not been exposed to people from Kelantan and Terengganu. Special quarantine camps will be set up for those infected, where they will be decontaminated of all 'bad influences' by being forced to listen to videotaped speeches of Ali Rustam for 500 hours continuously.



## Philippines declines Malaysian offer to rescue hostages

The Filipino government today declined an offer from Malaysia to send in Federal Reserve Unit riot police to rescue the 20 hostages abducted from Pulau Sipadan by suspected Muslim separatists this month.

There had been rumours of a bold Malaysian plan, involving water cannons and tear gas being fired at the rebel headquarters, followed by a baton charge by squads of FRU to extricate the hostages. Malaysian sources had said that the storming of Anwar Ibrahim's house in 1998 and the violent quelling of the Reformasi demonstrations in Kuala Lumpur clearly showed the FRU's ability to conduct such a raid.

However, a Filipino government

spokesman who refused to be named said such a plan would probably be doomed to failure. "We recognise that Malaysia's FRU - armed only with water cannon, tear gas, automatic rifles and sub-machine guns - has shown great courage in fighting unarmed, defenceless students, kids and old ladies in the streets of Kuala Lumpur. But these rebels have rocket launchers and heavy machine guns, fellas. And I don't think your riot police are used to people shooting back."

"In fact, if you had more policemen guarding your borders, instead of beating up old ladies in your capital city, we probably wouldn't be in this bloody mess today!" the spokesman concluded respectfully.



*FRU ... only good against defenceless students, women and children*

## Singapore apologises over 'incorrect' media report

A spokesman for the Singapore High Commission who refused to be named today issued a statement apologising for the controversy surrounding reports in the Singapore media which Malaysia claims are incorrect. The reports allegedly urged Singaporeans to stop visiting Malaysia due to an outbreak of hand, foot and mouth disease.

The spokesman said that investigations indicated that the reports were indeed incorrect. "It was all because of a simple typographical error. It was not 'foot AND mouth' disease that was breaking out in Malaysia - it was 'foot IN mouth' disease," he clarified.

He said teams from the Singapore Health Department had determined



*Suffers frequently from foot-in-mouth disease*

that the "foot in mouth" epidemic would not affect ordinary Singaporeans as it seems to attack only Malaysian senior politicians. "Foot-in-mouth" disease impairs their

brain and vocal cord functions, making them say incredibly stupid things, which they regret later, making them look even more like morons."

He cited a very recent example where, for months, a sufferer bravely declared in public that he was not frightened of testifying in court, then suddenly wrote a 14-page affidavit saying he couldn't. "The same sufferer even once said that Anwar Ibrahim beat himself up," the spokesman said. "You can see how this disease completely cripples all brain functions."

## UMNO to send fact-finding mission to Zimbabwe

UMNO will be sending a high-level fact-finding mission to Zimbabwe to study ways in which Zimbabwe's ruling ZANU-PF party are silencing the Opposition ahead of polls in the country.

"ZANU-PF has been using many innovative techniques to silence the Opposition," said an UMNO spokesman who refused to be named. "They're bombing Opposition newspaper offices - we just close them down. They actually shoot people wearing Opposition t-shirts - we just get the police to beat them up. There is so much we can learn about democracy from Zimbabwe."

The spokesman said that both



*Much in common:  
Tin-pot dictators  
clinging desperately  
onto power at all  
costs*

countries have much in common and can share experiences. "We both have oppressive governments. We both have economies run by corrupt cronies. We both have ruling parties that have been in power for far too

long. We both blame all our troubles on whites. We both have tin-pot dictators clinging desperately onto power at all costs. There is so much we can share and learn from each other."

## Foreign Ministry denies G77 rumour

Officials from the Foreign Ministry today denied rumours that Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad went missing from the first presidential summit of the Group of 77 (G77) in Cuba last month.

Speculation of his disappearance from the G77 Summit became rife when there was hardly any mention of Mahathir in any of the international press coverage of the event. "This was the ideal opportunity for him to spew

out his xenophobic, racist, simple-minded O-level economics to a captive audience," said a political analyst who refused to be named. "But we didn't hear a peep out of him. Nothing about foreign devils out to recolonise us, nothing about democracy being an evil tool of the West. It was as though the loudmouth wasn't there at all."

"There was some talk about him doing something at the Summit," said a local news editor who refused to be named.

"I think he moved a table or tabled a motion or passed motion on a table or something like that. But that was it."

Speculation was rife that Mahathir had actually left the Summit to be with the thousands of protestors attempting to disrupt the International Monetary Fund meeting in Washington at the time. Mahathir had frequently

praised the violent anti-WTO protests that occurred in Seattle last year. "I would not be surprised if the Conquering Hero of the Third World and the Scourge of Global Capitalism was not satisfied with just shooting his mouth off in Cuba," said the news editor. "He wanted to be in Washington and kick ass with the demonstrators!"

Unconfirmed reports indicated that, during scuffles between demonstrators and police in Washington, a man looking very much like Mahathir was seen falling off a horse. A toy pistol was recovered from the man.

Speculation is also rife that Mahathir had left the G77 Summit early in protest against the draft declaration that was made at the meeting, which he'd found insulting. The declaration pledged the G77's commitment to democracy and respect for universally recognised human rights and fundamental freedoms.



**IMF protest: Is that Mahathir (red arrow) in the crowd?**