

February 28, 2000

Dr M Home From Holidays

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad returned hale and hearty from his holiday in Argentina, the Caribbean, London and Paris - quashing vicious rumours that he had fallen off his horse while rustling cattle in the Pampas dressed as a Gaucho. However, he failed to attend the World Economic Forum in which international financier George Soros was to join him in a panel discussion.

This fuelled further rumours that it was in fact George Soros who had fallen off a horse while mountain climbing in Switzerland, when in fact it was Jacques Chirac who had fallen off the stairs in the *Champs Elysee* on his way to greet Mahathir. Politicians and local journalists, meanwhile, fell all over themselves trying to convince Malaysians not to listen to rumours.

*Soros:
Fell of a
horse in
Switzer-
land?*



*Chirac:
Fell down
the stairs
in Paris?*



*Formula 1
racing in
Argentina*

UMNO organised APCET riot

Former UMNO Youth leader Saifuddin Nasution publicly apologised for leading a 1000-strong mob that stormed and violently broke up the Asia-Pacific Coalition for East Timor II (APCET II) conference in October 1996. A couple of the UMNO demonstrators were arrested and released the same day, while 59 of their victims were detained for a number of weeks or deported.

The revelation comes just weeks after Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad praised demonstrators who clashed with riot police at the World Trade

Organisation (WTO) meeting in Seattle last November. "This proves conclusively that our government is fully committed to freedom of assembly as a basic human right," said FRU officer Ling Ban Tai as he battered a pro-Anwar demonstrator with his truncheon outside the courthouse of the Anwar Ibrahim trial.

Meanwhile, it is rumoured that the WTO has purchased the rights to the series of Barisan Nasional advertisements that appeared prior to the General Elections last year. It is believed the WTO will be running the



*Riot police
warmly greet
demonstrators
outside the
High Court in
Kuala Lumpur*

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Millenium jump team makes second attempt for the Pole

Malaysians were overjoyed this week to hear triumphant news that Malaysia's South Pole Millenium Jump 2000 team were successful in their second attempt to parachute to the South Pole. However, the joy was short-lived when it was revealed a few days later that the team had not in fact jumped over the Pole but were accidentally dropped by the Russian organisers over Grozny in Chechnya.



Locals await the arrival of the Jump team

Half of the team were unfortunately killed in the crossfire between Chechen rebels and KGB Security forces, while the other half were killed by humiliated Malaysians who greeted them when they returned at the KL International Airport.

The first attempt on New Year's Day was a triumph for Malaysia, when the team broke the World Record for the longest ever distance a parachute jump actually missed its target. Malaysians are now collecting funds for a third attempt, where the jump organisers and Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports officials will be made to jump over the Pole - this time, without parachutes.



KGB Security forces greet Millenium Jump team members as they are dropped accidentally over Grozny

More efforts to eradicate Bahasa Baku

In its efforts to completely eradicate all influences and traces of Bahasa Baku from living memory, UMNO educationists are now lobbying for the return of the old pre-Independence spelling system to Bahasa Melayu, such as 'ch' instead of 'c', 'sh' instead of 'sy', the 'e tanda', the use of hyphens with 'di-' and the use of '2' to indicate plural nouns (as in "buku2").

UMNO linguist Haji Abdul Bakhil said the move would restore Bahasa Melayu to its purity and "eliminate the homosexual, traitorous, disloyal and ungrateful influences of the evil Bahasa Baku".

He denied that the move was politically motivated in any way or form and had nothing to do with wiping out all traces of Anwar Ibrahim's influence in Malaysian society. "However, we are also considering banning the use of the name of 'Anwar' in all written publications and radio and television broadcasts in Bahasa Melayu, as we feel it will contribute to the purity of the language."

UMNO to target youth

UMNO will intensify its efforts to close the generation gap with younger Malays and promote greater support for the party among youth. "We have identified pre-schoolers as the only group where we're likely to have even the slimmest chance of success," said UMNO Youth activist Ahmad Bacul. "Young people with even basic schooling will probably be too embarrassed to be associated with us."

To this end, UMNO Youth cadres will now be supplied with Ronald McDonald clown suits and tour

kindergartens, nurseries and fast-food outlets throughout the country, talking to toddlers and pre-schoolers about the UMNO struggle. Young people will also be offered 'Toys R Us' discount cards with every UMNO Youth membership application and UMNO Youth conventions will now be held in Disneyland to attract more youth participation.



Ronald McDonald and clown

ISA does not erode human rights

Home Ministry officials this month denied that the Internal Security Act (ISA) erodes human rights, as the government did not use it on the basis of hatred or revenge but in the interests of the people as a whole. "So what if most of those detained in recent years were Opposition supporters or people the government didn't like - it was purely coincidental," said Ministry official Isa bin Isa.



Morbid fear of appearing before court

He said that the ISA in fact recognised the basic human right of Malaysians not to go into court and added that most people welcomed being detained without trial rather than going through the court process. "Some people really do have a deep, morbid fear of appearing before court - look at our Prime Minister."

Rafidah explains share allotments to son-in-law

International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz this month explained at length how she was not involved in the allotment of RM 1.5 million worth of shares to her son-in-law, raising speculation that she was involved in the allotment of RM 1.5 million worth of shares to her son-in-law. "She denies being involved?" said UMNO backbencher who refused to be named. "Damn. I thought that she was clean as a whistle, now she's gone and denied things." Rafidah had said that the committee which looks at share allotment, of which she is a member, do not investigate the person's origin, whether he is from the ruling party or opposition. "Let's be fair - she probably did not realise that the name on that application was her son-in-law's" said another UMNO backbencher Aziz Bodek.

Meanwhile, police are still conducting investigations on the police report on this issue filed by Parti Keadilan Nasional Youth Chief Ezam Mohd Noor nearly a year ago. 'We have just completed stapling the police report and its documents and are now in the process of purchasing a few nice, pink manila folders for it,' said an investigating

officer who refused to be named. 'We are also re-typing all the documents but unfortunately our clerk recently crushed her fingers while parachuting over the South Pole, so will have to wait for her to recover before we can actually file the report. We also need to order a new filing cabinet as soon as that is done - perhaps construct a new building for the filing cabinet as well. In the meantime, we will ensure the speedy investigation of the 345,398 other reports that are ahead of it and we can assure you that actual investigations will begin well before the third millennium.'



Rafidah indicating to reporters approximately how many million ringgit was involved

Foreigners out to recolonise us invade Malaysia

Dark warnings from the Prime Minister that evil foreigners are plotting to recolonise us became true this month with the arrival of two invasion forces from the US and Israel. The US Navy's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, USS John C. Stennis berthed at Klang's North Port this month and a contingent of Israeli commandos arrived in Kuala Lumpur disguised as innocent ping-pong players taking

part in the World Team Table Tennis Championships. The government is planning to repel this unprovoked attack on Malaysian sovereignty with another wave of arrests of Opposition party supporters.



The Israeli ping pong team arrive in Port Klang

High tech boost for schoolkids

The Deputy Education Minister Hon Choon Kim this month proposed to lighten the load children had to carry to school every day by replacing books with RM200 laptop computers that did not have keyboards. As a follow-up to this brilliant suggestion, the Ministry is also looking at plans to completely do away with crowded and dangerous school buses and, instead, have school children directly 'beamed up' to schools from their homes using transporter technology from Star Trek.

Old-fashioned classrooms will also be replaced with used Holodecks from the Starship Enterprise and Mr Data androids will be manufactured to



replace human teachers. When asked how the Minister had come across this RM200 keyboardless laptop technology, Ministry officials admitted he probably confused laptops with Brick Game consoles.



New high-tech school buses will be introduced

UMNO hopes Ku Li will keep promise

The UMNO Supreme Council this month urged Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah to keep his promise of not contesting for the top two posts at the party polls this May. Prime Minister and UMNO President Mahathir Mohamad also said he believed that Razaleigh will "stick to his statement".

Razaleigh had earlier made a statement that he had no plans to contest either of the top two ruling party posts but raised some speculation when he started giggling and crossing his fingers as he was issuing the statement. Some Mahathir loyalists are now seeking a written statement from the Kelantan Prince signed in blood.



"I promise not to contest ... cross my hat ..."

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Shortlisted candidates will be invited for a confidential interview at Bukit Aman Police Headquarters.

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30 *Dalils* why Mahathir cannot be a witness at the Anwar Ibrahim trial



This February, High Court Judge Ariffin Jaka put off a decision on whether Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad can be forced to testify at the sodomy trial of former Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim. The High Court Judge said he needed to hear arguments from Anwar's lawyers, who subpoenaed Mahathir four months ago, on why they felt Mahathir's testimony was crucial in defending the former Deputy Prime Minister. 'Not The New Straits Times', in the meantime, has exclusively received the following secret document - '30 Dalils Why Mahathir Cannot Be A Witness at Anwar Ibrahim's Trial' - to counter the defence team's arguments:

Dalil 1: Mahathir does not want to be placed at the same level as a bankrupt 32-year old virgin and a stained mattress

Dalil 2: He might cause one of the mounted policemen guarding the court compound to fall off his horse.

Dalil 3: High Court Judge Ariffin Jaka already told him to stop shooting his mouth off about the Anwar case.

Dalil 4: He might testify that the sodomy was self-inflicted.

Dalil 5: The court still remembers Mahathir's famous quote of 1988: "Hang the lawyers! Hang the judges!"

Dalil 6: He might join the pro-Anwar demonstrators outside the courthouse and persuade them to march on Seattle

Dalil 7: Like a previous witness, he might not be able to remember where, what day and what time the sodomy acts were committed



Another credible witness arrives in court

Dalil 8: The Special Branch haven't turned him over yet

Dalil 9: He is abiding by the UMNO Supreme Council's 'No Testify' Rule

Dalil 10: He'd already testified to Anwar's guilt in numerous press conferences in Tokyo, New York and London since 1998, apart from his frequent testimonies over the local newspapers and television

Dalil 11: Tengku Razaleigh might sneak up on him from behind while he's busy in court and suddenly become UMNO President

Dalil 12: He couldn't understand the *subpoena* from Anwar's lawyers because it was in Bahasa Baku

Dalil 13: He'll be away overseas yet again fighting the foreigners out to re-colonise us

Dalil 14: He does not want to look stupid by repeating his statement in 1997 that anyone who believed the accusations against Anwar was "stupid"

Dalil 15: He would not be the first Prime Minister to



Demonstrators wait outside the High Court to welcome Mahathir

appear in court and therefore would not qualify for a placing in the Guinness Book of World Records

Dalil 16: He's hasn't had time to have *all* of Anwar's lawyers charged for sedition yet

Dalil 17: He doesn't have any ties loud enough to match Ummi Hafilda's outfits

Dalil 18: The last time UMNO was in court, it was declared illegal

Dalil 19: He does not believe there is a secret political conspiracy to destroy Anwar - everyone knows it's no secret now

Dalil 20: He is not above the law - he *is* the law

The remaining 10 Dalils: It's just 10 more campaigning weeks before the UMNO Elections!