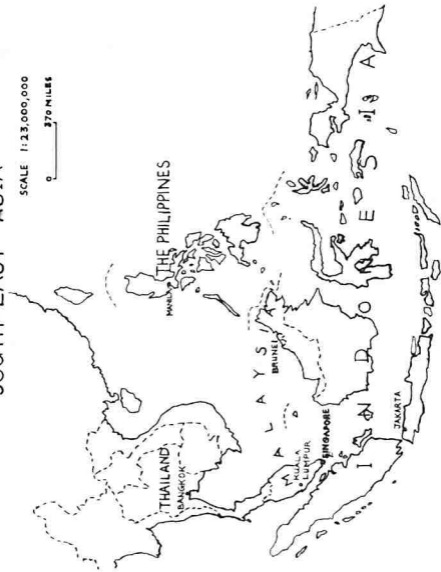


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*Malaysia—  
An Anthology*

TAN SRI HAJI KHALID

VANTAGE PRESS  
New York Washington Atlanta Hollywood

Extract from **THE STRUGGLE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST: *The Soviet Union in the Mediterranean, 1955-1968*** by Walter Laqueur, Copyright © 1969 by Walter Laqueur, reprinted by permission of Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc.

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## *Preface*

THE PURPOSE of this book is to have more people in the Democratic World know Malaysia in greater depth to enable them to understand better the situation in Southeast Asia.

In the east, Malaysia comprises of Sabah (formerly British North Borneo) and Sarawak on the island of Borneo. In the west is peninsular Malaysia which juts out of the Southeast Asia mainland right into the heart of the Malay archipelago. Malaysia is, therefore, in the center of the Southeast Asian region. Consequently, if Malaysia falls to the Communist, the whole of Southeast Asia and indeed the rest of Asia will be threatened.

The book is made up of three separate brochures, namely:

- (1) Fundamental Liberties in Malaysia
- (2) Malaysia—Communist or Free?
- (3) The Malaysian Peasants and Communist Subversion

The brochures are in their original forms. Though they were written in 1970 the basic facts are the same. Her tactics and strategies have changed, but China's plan to dominate Asia still remains.

The first brochure deals with human rights and fundamental freedom in Malaysia. The Constitution of Malaysia guarantees these rights and freedom and the Government of Malaysia observes them rigidly because to do otherwise is unconstitutional. Furthermore, in a democracy the will of the people is the source of all rights. If the people have expressed their will which is then translated into law, the law should be respected.

The second and third brochures deal mainly with the Communist threat to Southeast Asia in general and Malaysia in particular. While on this subject, I cannot but touch upon the infamous "Domino Theory." I consider it infamous because it

equates the peoples of Southeast Asia, who are struggling for their survival and freedom, with lifeless pieces of dominoes in a game of dominoes. Psychologically it is dangerous because if a nation succumbs to the theory it will lose all the will and tenacity to do anything to meet the Communist threat. Fortunately, Malaysia does not believe in the theory and is doing everything within her power to prevent the further spread of Communism and Communist domination of Southeast Asia.

My belief is that Malaysia will not become Communist unless and until the Malay peasants, who form the backbone of the Malaysian population, want the country to be so. To prevent Communist subversion of the peasants, every effort has to be made to improve their standard of living and narrow down the socioeconomic disparity gap between the haves of the urban and the have nots of the rural areas. This is the main reason why Malaysia is putting so great an emphasis on rural development under her new economic policy which is Malaysia's contribution towards ASEAN's (Association of Southeast Asian Nations comprising Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand) efforts at self-reliance in order to enhance ASEAN's economic resilience and consolidate further ASEAN's solidarity which would contribute to the peace, progress and stability of Southeast Asia.

My thanks go to Mr. Mohamed Hassan, my private secretary when I was Malaysia's Ambassador in Bonn and Mr. K. Rajagopalan, my private secretary in New Delhi. The former helped in typing and preparing the brochures while the latter helped in reproducing them for the publishers. Without their valuable assistance this book would not have been in print.

My sincere thanks also go to Mr. Leonard Zimmerman of Vantage Press Inc., for editing my work.

I must also thank Vantage Press, Inc., for taking keen interest in my work. They have done a very good job.

Lastly, it is my sincere hope that this book, *Malaysia—An Anthology*, will attract people, who believe in Democracy and all it stands for, to earnestly come forward and diffuse the political dynamite in Southeast Asia before it is too late.