

STATEMENT BY MR. LEE KUAN YEW

I am disappointed that the nine PAP candidates did not fare better. But I take great satisfaction in the fact that far from being a disruptive force, we have helped to bring home the dangers of Indonesian confrontation and subversion and contributed to the rout of the Socialist Front.

The results could not have been better for international effect. No government in the world can now doubt that Malaysia is the free will of its people -- Sabah, Sarawak, Singapore and Malaya. All the strident voices that were raised against it over the last few years were those of reckless adventurers and traitors.

My one concern at the election results is that it means the old order will carry on, the same old economic and social policies in the same old way. This would be a retrograde step and must be prevented. Exposing and isolating the S.F. meant that the MCA benefitted. But the issue was too vital for petty party considerations to deter us from pressing the lesson home.

We had hoped that our token participation would have given the people of the bigger towns an opportunity to endorse our economic and social policies

towards a more egalitarian society. But I am afraid the token participation was too subtle a method of doing it. Since we said "back the Tunku" and since the Tunku said "back all my colleagues in the MCA and MIC", we had to accept this situation arising.

Every analysis I have made of the basic political situation in Malaysia remains undemolished. The people have decided to back the Tunku in the fight for Malaysia's survival. All the other problems of economic and social change will come back to the fore later when Indonesian confrontation has been resolved or contained. Between now and then we shall build up our organisation and recruit able and honest men in Malaya to help carry on the battle for a more equal and more just society.

26th April, 1964