

No. 2 POSTS TO GHAFAR, RAZALEIGH



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Pledge to
work
for
party
and
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AND MAHATHIR

SEPTEMBER 22, 1975

KUALA LUMPUR,
Sat. — Incumbents Encik Abdul Ghafar Baba and Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah were re-elected Umno vice-presidents today with Dr. Mahathir Mohamed filling the third vice-presidency.

Encik Ghafar, the Agriculture and Rural Development Minister, polled the highest votes — 838 out of the 1,078. Tengku Razaleigh, the Petronas chairman, obtained 642 votes and Dr. Mahathir, the Education Minister, got 474 votes.

Three delegates did not vote while two votes were spoilt. The elections were held in conjunction with the party's 26th general assembly.

The results were announced

nearly four hours after delegates had cast their secret votes. Previously the practice was block voting.

Dato Haji Harun Idris, the Selangor Mentri Besar, was fourth with 427 votes — 47 votes fewer than those obtained by Dr. Mahathir.

The losers

However, Dato Harun will remain a vice-president by virtue of being the Umno Youth leader. He said he would not seek re-election as youth leader next year.

The other four candidates who lost were Tan

Sri Syed Jaafar Albar, MP for Panti 374, Datuk Hamzah bin Abu Samah, Trade and Industry Minister 209, Tan Sri Haji Ghazali Jawi, Perak Mentri Besar 164, and Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie, Home Affairs Minister, 106 votes.

For Encik Ghafar, 50, his victory meant that he has maintained his post since 1962.

Encik Ghafar, a graduate of the Sultan Idris Teachers' Training College in Tanjung Malim, is secretary of Malacca Umno. He has won every Federal election since 1955.

He was the National Front's Director of

Elections last year, and acted as Prime Minister when Tun Abdul Razak went on a three-week visit to Europe and Jamaica in April.

"My victory is a clear indication of the people's confidence in me. I pledge to work as hard as I can to fulfil the aims of the party and the New Economic Policy," he said.

For Tengku Razaleigh, his election as a vice-president is his first.

He was unanimously appointed by the Supreme Council to fill the post vacated by Datuk Hussein Onn, who became Deputy Prime Minister

on the death of Tun (Dr.) Ismail in 1972.

Highly regarded as a business "whiz" the bachelor prince from Kelantan joined Umno in 1962, shortly after he returned from Britain where he read law after obtaining his economics degree.

Close rapport

He was first appointed to the Supreme Council in 1963 and retained his post in the 1971 and 1972 party election. In 1971 he was appointed party treasurer, a post he has held since.

Tengku Razaleigh thanked party members and colleagues for returning him. He