

ALOR STAR, MARCH 24 (BERNAMA) — FOREIGNERS WERE TODAY WARNED NOT TO INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF MALAYSIA.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, WHO ISSUED THE WARNING, SAID: +WE WILL NOT ACCEPT ORDERS FROM FOREIGNERS EVEN IF THEY THREATEN TO DESTROY THE NATION.+

FOREIGNERS OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS DID NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE DECISIONS ON THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTRY, HE SAID WHEN OPENING A CIVICS COURSE FOR 200 LOCAL LEADERS, NEAR HERE.

MALAYSIA HAD HER ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES TO ADMINISTER THE COUNTRY, HE SAID.

MALAYSIA'S REPRESENTATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION WAS ON CONDITION THAT THE FOREIGNERS DID NOT INTERFERE IN HER INTERNAL AFFAIRS, HE SAID. — BERNAMA MORE 1556/HS

### MAHATHIR 2 ALOR STAR

+WE WILL DEFEND THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE NATION FROM ANY INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION AS WE WOULD DEFEND THE COUNTRY FROM ITS ENEMIES,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WOULD RATHER LISTEN TO THE COMPLAINTS AND PROBLEMS OF HIS ELECTORATE THAN SUBMIT TO PRESSURE FROM FOREIGNERS.

EARLIER, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THE EXISTING SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION ALLOWED WORKERS IN THIS COUNTRY TO FORM TRADE UNIONS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM EXPLOITATION BY EMPLOYERS.

BUT, THE UNIONS SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE AND MUST NOT ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE MADE USED OF BY INTERNATIONAL UNIONS.

THIS WAS BECAUSE INTERNATIONAL UNIONS NORMALLY SUPPORTED LOCAL UNIONS IN THEIR CLAIMS FOR HIGHER SALARIES WITHOUT GIVING THOUGHT TO THE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES TO THE NATION'S ECONOMY, HE SAID. — BERNAMA MORE 1615/HS

### MAHATHIR 3 ALOR STAR

MALAYSIA NOW PRODUCED VARIOUS COMMODITIES SUCH AS RUBBER, PALM OIL AND TEXTILE WHICH COULD COMPETE WITH THOSE OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD MARKET.

THE DIFFERENCE WAS THAT TEXTILE PRODUCED IN MALAYSIA WAS SOLD AT A LOWER PRICE THOUGH ITS QUALITY WAS GOOD AND IT HAD A LARGE MARKET, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID.

INTERNATIONAL UNIONS MIGHT INCITE LOCAL WORKERS TO FIGHT FOR HIGHER SALARIES (WHICH MIGHT EVENTUALLY RAISE PRICES OF GOODS) SO THAT MALAYSIA'S GOODS DID NOT PENETRATE THE WORLD MARKET.

WHEN THIS HAPPENED, FACTORIES PRODUCING THE GOODS WOULD HAVE TO CLOSE DOWN AND WORKERS WOULD LOSE THEIR JOBS INSTEAD OF GETTING HIGHER SALARIES, HE SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THAT HOPES FOR THE MALAYSIAN AIRLINE SYSTEM TO RESUME ITS INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS, EXCEPT TO BRITAIN AND AUSTRALIA, WERE BRIGHT. — BERNAMA MORE 1641/BW

THIS WAS BECAUSE THE INFLUENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS' FEDERATION (ITF) IN THE TWO COUNTRIES WAS STRONG.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT NEGOTIATE WITH THE ITF BECAUSE THE ORGANISATION AIMED TO ELIMINATE THE AIR SERVICE IN THIS COUNTRY.

ON THE DISPUTE BETWEEN MAS AND THE AIRLINE EMPLOYEES UNION (AEU), HE SAID THE PROBLEM COULD BE SOLVED BECAUSE NEGOTIATIONS WERE BEING HELD.  
— BERNAMA 1640/BW