

MAHATHIR

79 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, NOV. 5 (BERNAMA)—THE POWERS THAT BE IN KAMPUCHEA HAVE BEEN URGED TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND LOVE FOR PEOPLE OF THEIR OWN KIND BY FACILITATING EXPEDITIOUSLY THE DELIVERY OF ASSISTANCE AND RELIEF SUPPLIES TO ALL THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE.

THE CALL WAS MADE BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD AT A DINNER HOSTED BY HIM FOR THE VISITING NEW ZEALAND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ENCIK BRIAN TALBOYS AND HIS WIFE HERE TONIGHT.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN KAMPUCHEA WAS NOT A POLITICAL ISSUE.

IT WAS ONE OF SIMPLE HUMANITARIAN NEED.

+NO ONE, LEAST OF ALL THE KAMPUCHEANS, SHOULD USE THE MISERY OF KAMPUCHEANS TO SCORE POLITICAL POINTS OR GRAB THE OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTED, + HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS WITH A FEELING OF PURE COMPASSION FOR THE SURVIVAL OF HUMANITY IN KAMPUCHEA THAT MALAYSIA HAD INFORMED THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL THAT MALAYSIA WOULD RESPOND TO HIS CALL FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE.

—BERNAMA MORE 2050/AH

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MALAYSIA, HE SAID, HAD EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT HER CONTRIBUTION TO THE MASSIVE INTERNATIONAL EFFORT WOULD FIND ITS WAY TO THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE.

HE SAID NO ONE SHOULD CHANNEL THIS AID ELSEWHERE NOR PREVENT THE REAL VICTIMS FROM RECEIVING THEM.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS HEARTENING TO NOTE THAT NEW ZEALAND WOULD REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH AND CONSULTATION WITH MALAYSIA AND THE OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES ON DEVELOPMENTS IN INDOCHINA.

THE FACT THAT NEW ZEALAND SHARED ASEAN'S INTEREST AND CONCERN AND ITS AIMS OF ACHIEVING PEACE, PROSPERITY AND STABILITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA WAS INDEED A MOST WELCOME STAND-POINT.

+FOR OUR PART, WE WOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE EVERY COOPERATION SO THAT OUR JOINT ENDEAVOUR TO ENSURE PEACE AND STABILITY IN OUR REGION AS A WHOLE WOULD MATERIALISE FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF OUR PEOPLE, + HE SAID.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THE DIRECT CONSEQUENCE OF THE PRESENT CONFLICT AND HOSTILITY IN KAMPUCHEA HAD BEEN UNTOLD SUFFERING, DEPRIVATION AND MISERY TO THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE.

—BERNAMA MORE 2103/AH

N109: (F)

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HE SAID THE SITUATION IN INDOCHINA WAS OF SERIOUS CONCERN TO MALAYSIA BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUED FIGHTING IN KAMPUCHEA, WITH THE DANGER OF THE AREAS OF CONFLICT AND HOSTILITY WIDENING EVEN FURTHER.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR REITERATED THE CALL OF THE ASEAN COUNTRIES FOR THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM KAMPUCHEA.

TURNING TO TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER, SAID MALAYSIA WAS CONSCIOUS THAT NEW ZEALAND WHILE HAVING HAD ONE OF THE HIGHEST LIVING STANDARDS AT ONE TIME WAS NOW FACED WITH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

HE SAID MALAYSIA KNEW THAT SOME OF THE MEASURES THAT NEW ZEALAND WOULD NEED TO TAKE TO OVERCOME THESE PROBLEMS WOULD INFRINGE UPON THIS COUNTRY.

UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES IT WAS NOT RIGHT FOR MALAYSIA TO EXPECT THE HELP OF NEW ZEALAND, HE SAID.

+IN DEFENCE, YOUR CONCEPT HAD CHANGED SO THAT MALAYSIA IS NOT AS ESSENTIAL AS IT USED TO BE.

+IN EDUCATION, THERE IS NO REASON WHY YOU SHOULD BE A SAFETY VALVE FOR MALAYSIAN INADEQUACIES. IN TRADE, YOU OF COURSE, NEED TO PROTECT YOUR OWN INDUSTRIES,+ HE ADDED. — BERNAMA MORE 2120/ZCM

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HE SAID MALAYSIA ACCEPTED THESE NEEDS OF NEW ZEALAND.

HOWEVER, HE STRESSED, BOTH COUNTRIES MUST DISTINGUISH BETWEEN WHAT WAS UNAVOIDABLE AND WHAT WAS DELIBERATE.

A COUNTRY IN DIFFICULTIES SHOULD NOT INDULGE IN THE KIND OF LUXURIES LIKELY TO AGGRAVATE THESE DIFFICULTIES, HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT IN TRADE, THEREFORE, CERTAIN REARRANGEMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE SO THAT UNNECESSARILY HIGH COST IMPORTED PRODUCTS WOULD NOT INFLATE THE MALAYSIAN LIVING COST.

+THE PROCESS OF TRADE REARRANGEMENTS WILL NOT BE SUDDEN.

+WE WILL NOT FORGET THE HELP WE RECEIVED PREVIOUSLY.

+BUT EQUITABLE TRADE WILL STILL BE OUR AIM AND OBJECTIVE,+

HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ADDED THAT IN THE PROCESS IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THOSE WITH FAVOURABLE TRADE BALANCES AGAINST US TO REDUCE THEIR EXPORTS TO US OR FOR THEM TO INCREASE THEIR IMPORTS FROM US, PARTICULARLY MANUFACTURED GOODS,+ HE SAID. — BERNAMA

2137/A1