

MAHATHIR-ASSASSINS 84  
CM

KOTABA HARU, SEPT. 14 (BERNAMA) --- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY HE HAS HEARD OF A PAS MOVE IN SETTING UP AN ASSASSINATION SQUAD WITH UMNO LEADERS ON THE HIT LIST.

HE SAID HE DID NOT HAVE PROOF OF THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A SQUAD BUT CAME TO KNOW ABOUT THE MATTER FOLLOWING AN ADMITTANCE BY PAS LEADERS THEMSELVES THAT THEY HAD FORMED WHAT THEY CALLED A +SUICIDE SQUAD.+

+THEY SAY THAT SPILLING THE BLOOD OF UMNO PEOPLE IS HALAL (SANCTIONED IN ISLAM) FOR THEM AND THAT KILLING UMNO PEOPLE IS NOT A CRIME IN THEIR EYES,+ HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER CLOSED-DOOR DISCUSSIONS WITH 600 COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF UMNO, UMNO YOUTH AND WANITA UMNO DIVISIONS IN "KELANTAN AT THE MARA AUDITORIUM HERE.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND UMNO PRESIDENT LATER HELD A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING WITH THE STATE UMNO LIAISON COMMITTEE TO BRIEF IT ON THE STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO COUNTER THE PAS ONSLAUGHT AGAINST UMNO.

HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW TO WHOM THE ASSASSINATION CONTRACT WAS ASSIGNED. --MORE  
1542MST 14 09 84

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MAHATHIR-ASSASSINS 2 KOTABA HARU 84

A BERNAMA ARTICLE RECENTLY SAID A LIST CONTAINING THE NAMES OF FIVE UMNO LEADERS HAD BEEN GIVEN OUT TO THE HITMEN.

+I DO NOT KNOW IF I AM ONE OF THE FIVE TARGETS.. IN FACT I DO NOT KNOW THE NAMES OF THE FIVE AS I HAVE NOT SEEN THE LIST,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REPLIED WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE IS AMONG THE INTENDED VICTIMS.

HE SAID HE HAD NOT RECEIVED A REPORT ABOUT THIS FROM THE POLICE +BUT I WILL GET FURTHER DETAILS TO FIND OUT IF THE STORY HAS ANY TRUTH OR IF IT IS ONE OF THE LIES TO WHICH PAS LEADERS ARE SO PRONE.+

HE WARNED THAT IF THE SQUAD REALLY EXISTED THE POLICE WOULD TAKE ACTION WITHIN THE LAWS OF THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID THE MATTER CLEARLY SHOWED HOW FAR PAS HAD DEVIATED FROM THE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM AND HE URGED MUSLIM IN THE COUNTRY TO BEWARE OF THE DANGER POSED TO THEIR RELIGIOUS FAITH BY PAS' DELIBERATE MISINTERPRETATION OF ISLAM FOR ITS OWN INTERESTS. --MORE  
1604MST 14 09 84

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MAHATHIR-ASSASSINS 3 KOTA BAHARU

+THERE IS A DANGER OF THE FAITH AND BELIEF OF MUSLIMS IN THIS COUNTRY BEING UNDERMINED.

+THEY MAY BELIEVE THE RELIGIOUS DISTORTIONS PROPAGATED BY PAS LEADERS WHOSE KNOWLEDGE OF ISLAM IS SO SHALLOW BUT WHO ARE ALWAYS READY TO MISUSE THE RELIGION FOR THEIR OWN GAINS.+

ASKED WHETHER INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENTS INCLUDING THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT, HAD INFILTRATED PAS HE SAID: +WE OBSERVE SOME SIMILARITIES BETWEEN PAS ACTIVITIES AND CERTAIN ACTIVITIES ELSEWHERE AND IT IS LEFT TO YOU ALL TO MAKE YOUR OWN INTERPRETATION.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR STRESSED THAT UMNO ESPECIALLY SHOULD MONITOR ALL PAS MOVEMENTS AND ACT POSITIVELY TO ERADICATE THE FALSE TEACHINGS AND DISTORTIONS OF PAS IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE SAKE OF ISLAMIC STRENGTH IN MALAYSIA AND THE WORLD.

DESCRIBING PAS LEADERS AS +LOST+, HE SAID THAT COMPARED WITH THE FORMER LEADERS THE NEW GROUP HAD OVERSTEPPED THE BOUNDS OF COMMON DECENCY AND RATIONAL THINKING.

THEY LABELLED AS UNISLAMIC NOT ONLY UMNO MEMBERS BUT ALSO OTHER MUSLIMS NOT MEMBERS OF UMNO.

+THEY CLAIM THAT ONLY PAS MEMBERS ARE ISLAMIC. IF THIS WERE SO, THEN PROPHET MUHAMMAD WAS UNISLAMIC BECAUSE HE NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO JOIN PAS. SIMILARLY WITH THE OTHER MUSLIMS IN THE WORLD. --MORE

MAHATHIR-ASSASSIN 4 KOTA BAHARU

HE SAID THE PAS LEADERS WERE SO DESPERATE THEY E'JEN THREW OUT THE OLD LEADERS LIKE DATUK ASRI MUDA AND DATUK HAJI MOHAMADNASIR AND RECRUITED INCOMPETENT NEW PERSONALITIES WITH THE RESULT THAT THEIR STRUGGLE HAD NOW CHANGED IN NATURE AND BECOME A DANGER (TO THE COUNTRY).

+OTHER PAS MEMBERS ARE INNOCENT BECAUSE THEY ARE LED BY THE NOSE BY THESE IRRESPONSIBLE LEADERS. IT IS THEREFORE OUR (UMNO) RESPONSIBILITY AS THE BIGGEST ISLAMIC PARTY IN THE COUNTRY TO STOP THESE DEVIATIONISTS FROM FREELY PROPAGATING TEACHINGS THAT ARE AGAINST THE SPIRIT OF ISLAM,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT AS A RESULT OF PAS' FREEWHEELING DEVIATIONIST ACTIVITIES, SOLDIERS WERE ALSO ACCUSED OF BEING KAFIRS (UNBELIEVERS) BECAUSE THEY FAILED TO PRAY WHEN ENTERING JUNGLES TO FIGHT THE COMMUNISTS.

+THIS IS CALCULATED TO WEAKEN NATIONAL RESILIENCE TO PAVE THE WAY FOR A COMMUNIST TAKE-OVER OF THE COUNTRY. I WOULD LIKE TO ASK WHETHER WE CAN UPHOLD ISLAM IF THE COMMUNISTS BECOME OUR MASTERS,+ HE SAID.

HE STRESSED THAT THE PAS CONSTITUTION WAS NOT BASED ON THE QURAN AND HADIS (SAYINGS OF THE PROPHET), BUT A CONSTITUTION LIKE THE UMNO-CONSTITUTION, THE DIFFERENCE BEING THAT PAS USED ISLAM FOR ITS POLITICAL INTERESTS.

HE STRESSED THAT UMNO WAS NOT AFRAID OF PAS BUT WORRIED THAT PAS ACTIVITIES WOULD ERODE THE FAITH OF MUSLIMS AND SO CONFUSE THEM THAT WHAT WAS TRULY ISLAMIC WOULD BECOME UNISLAMIC AND WHAT WAS UNISLAMIC, WOULD BE REGARDED AS ISLAMIC.

HE HOPED UMNO MEMBERS WOULD FEARLESSLY OPPOSE PAS, SAYING THAT IT WAS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO EXPOSE PAS' MISINTERPRETATIONS OF ISLAM AND DEVIATIONIST ACTIVITIES TO THE PEOPLE.

+THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO ARE AFRAID TO COMMENT ON THE MISINTERPRETATION MADE BY PAS, ALLEGEDLY OUT OF FEAR OF BEING BRANDED A GOVERNMENT AGENT. IF WE ARE AFRAID, THEN WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE.+

UMNO'S MOVES, HE SAID, WERE NOT MADE WITH AN EYE ON THE ELECTIONS. UMNO WOULD ALWAYS ACT: WHEN A SITUATION THREATENED THE COUNTRY AND IN THIS CONNECTION PAS COULD NOT BE FORGIVEN BECAUSE IF IT SUCCEEDED IN SPLITTING THE MUSLIMS! THE COUNTRY WOULD FALL TO ITS ENEMIES.

THE PRIME MINISTER EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS AGAINST PAS ONLY ON THE QUESTION OF ISLAMIC FAITH. UMNO, IN FACT, WELCOMED THE EXISTENCE OF OPPOSITION PARTIES IN THE COUNTRY THAT COULD PROVIDE CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT. --BERNAMA