

WE HAVE TO DEFEND

OURSELVES,

517 JUN 1985

SAYS Dr M

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ALOR STAR, Sun. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad slammed certain groups which used Hari Raya cards to criticise the spirit of nationalism.

He said some such cards carried inscriptions claiming that Islam rejected the spirit of nationalism.

"These people claim Islam does not ask Muslims to defend their race and nation. They criticise our security forces," he said.

Addressing a *buka puasa* gathering in the Bukit Tangga Felda Scheme in Kubang Pasu, near here last night, the Prime Minister said:

"The Muslims in Malaysia must be prepared to defend their own race and homeland as no one else will help us if we are in trouble

or attacked tomorrow."

He said that although the Muslims in other countries would feel sad and sympathise with us, they would not come forward to protect us.

Dr Mahathir also announced that a doctored version of the Quran had been banned in the country.

He said the version, produced by a foreign Islamic country, was mischievously re-written with certain verses omitted.

"The Government strongly rejects such editions of the Quran which deviate from the actual teachings of Islam," he said.

He said they had to take a stern stand to prevent Muslims in the country from being led astray.

Dr Mahathir said the Go-

vernment encouraged the people to study the tenets of Islam but they must always be wary of such deviations and tampering of the Holy Book.

The Prime Minister also took to task groups which rejected the learning of the Quran through computers just because computers were invented by non-Muslims.

He warned that such mental extremism was dangerous and that it could see the downfall of the Muslims and Islam.

He advised Muslims to accept advancement and told them to try and move along with the present computer age, using every available opportunity.