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B E211 AAE  
UMNO-MUZAKARAH  
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86 19  
KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 3 (BERNAMA) -- THE UMNO-PAS MUZAKARAH (DISCUSSION) HELD RECENTLY WAS SOLELY TO LOOK INTO WAYS TO REDUCE TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE IMMINENCE OF THE GENERAL ELECTION, UMNO PRESIDENT (DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID AN EASING OF THE TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES WAS NECESSARY TO AVOID A RECURRENCE OF UNDESIRABLE INCIDENTS LIKE THE ONE IN PADANG TERAP.

+WE DO NOT WANT THE TENSION BETWEEN UMNO AND PAS TO MOUNT TO THE EXTENT OF CREATING DISTURBANCES IN THE COMING GENERAL ELECTION,+ HE TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER CHAIRING A MEETING OF THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL HERE.

COMMENTING ON A STATEMENT BY A BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTY ON UMNO PURPORTEDLY ADOPTING DOUBLE STANDARDS IN ITS DEALINGS WITH PAS, THE PRIME MINISTER AND BN CHAIRMAN SAID THE ALLEGATION AROSE BECAUSE THE BN COMPONENT PARTY CONCERNED DID NOT HAVE THE PROPER INFORMATION ON THE MATTER.

(THE PARTY HAD SAID UMNO HAD ASKED BN COMPONENT PARTIES TO KEEP AWAY FROM PAS BUT HAD ITSELF MET WITH THE OPPOSITION PARTY). -- MORE  
1534MST 03 05 86

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B E218 AAE  
UMNO-MUZAKARAH 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID UMNO REMAINED FIRM IN OPPOSING PAS AND THIS WAS EVIDENT FROM HIS CRITICISMS OF THE PARTY LIKE HIS STATEMENT THAT THE PARTY WAS +NOT ACCURATE IN WHAT IT SAYS.+

IN THIS CONTEXT, HE DREW ATTENTION TO THE ALLEGATIONS OF ISMAIL LIBYA, THE BROTHER OF THE SLAIN IBRAHIM LIBYA, THAT HIS CONFESSION OVER TELEVISION WAS MADE UNDER THREAT.

+ON TELEVISION HE (ISMAIL LIBYA) SPOKE FOR SO LONG AND ANSWERED EVERY QUESTION SO FLUENTLY THAT IT WAS CLEAR NO ONE WAS POINTING A GUN AT HIM,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS IMPOSSIBLE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO SUCH A THING,+ HE ADDED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE PRESS HAD MISINTERPRETED HIS STATEMENT TO MEAN HE WAS REFERRING TO PAS DEPUTY PRESIDENT HAJI FADZIL NOR WHEN THE STATEMENT WAS IN FACT AIMED AT ISMAIL LIBYA. -- MORE

1612MST 03 05 86

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B E229 AAE  
UMNO-MUZAKARAH 3 KUALA LUMPUR

CLARIFYING THE ALLEGATIONS OF SEVERAL PAS LEADERS THAT THEY WERE NOT INVITED TO THE MUZAKARAH, HE SAID THERE WAS NO INVITATION BY LETTER BEARING UMNO'S LETTERHEAD AS SUCH.

+THE INVITATION TO THE PARTY PRESIDENT, HAJI YUSUF RAWA AND HAJI FADZIL NOR WAS ALSO ISSUED THROUGH THE SAME MEANS, THAT IS, THROUGH ENCIK ANWAR IBRAHIM (UMNO YOUTH LEADER), HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID PAS VICE-PRESIDENT HAJI HADI AWANG WAS ALSO INVITED BUT HE TURNED IT DOWN.

+WE INVITED ALL BUT IF HE (HAJI HADI) DID NOT WANT TO COME, THAT IS HIS PROBLEM,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT HE REALISED THERE WERE SEVERAL SINCERE LEADERS IN PAS BUT THE INSINCERE ONES APPEARED AGITATED AND TRIED TO MAKE THE MEETING A FAILURE

+IF THERE ARE THOSE WHO WANT TO READ BAD IN GOOD INTENTIONS, IT CANNOT BE HELPED BECAUSE EVEN IF WE DO CHAIRTY WORK, THERE WILL STILL BE THOSE WHO WILL SAY IT HAS AN ULTERIOR MOTIVE,+ HE SAID -- MORE

1715MST 03 05 86

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B E223 AAE  
UMNO-MUZAKARAH 4 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE TWO PARTIES HAD AGREED NOT TO MAKE A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE MUZAKARAH HELD AT HIS OFFICIAL RESIDENCE, SERI PERDANA.

+WE DID NOT WANT ANY PUBLICITY ABOUT THE MUZAKARAH NOR TO MAKE ANY PRESS STATEMENT BUT THE NEWS WAS LEAKED TO A TABLOID NEWSPAPER.+ HE EXPLAINED THAT ENCIK ANWAR HAD TO MAKE A CLARIFICATION ABOUT THE MUZAKARAH AT A PUBLIC CERAMAH BECAUSE THERE WERE PAS LEADERS DENYING SUCH A MEETING TOOK PLACE.

THE UMNO PRESIDENT REITERATED THAT THE MUZAKARAH DID NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH ANY INVITATION TO PAS TO JOIN THE BN. -- BERNAMA  
1653MST 03 05 86