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B E879 AAE  
MAHATHIR-WHITE PAPER R'R'R'  
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KUALA LUMPUR, JAN 11 (BERNAMA) -- THE WHITE PAPER ON THE DETENTION OF 106 PEOPLE UNDER THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT (ISA) RECENTLY MAY BE READY BEFORE PARLIAMENT SITS IN MARCH, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE THAT THE DRAFT OF THE WHITE PAPER WAS BEING PREPARED BY THE POLICE AND THAT THE PAPER MIGHT BE READY BEFORE THE NEXT PARLIAMENT SITTING.

THE 106 PEOPLE, INCLUDING LEADERS OF UMNO, MCA, DAP, PAS AND PSRM AND SOCIAL WORKERS, WERE ARRESTED UNDER THE ISA DURING A NATIONWIDE CRACKDOWN WHICH BEGAN ON OCT 27. THEY WERE DETAINED FOR CARRYING OUT ACTIVITIES CONSIDERED A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY.

AMONG THEM WERE OPPOSITION LEADER AND DAP SECRETARY-GENERAL LIM KIT SIANG, DAP VICE-CHAIRMAN KARPAL SINGH, MCA YOUTH LEADER DATUK YAP PIAN HON AND THREE UMNO YOUTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

SEVENTY-THREE OF THEM, INCLUDING DATUK YAP, HAD BEEN RELEASED WHILE THE DETENTION OF THE OTHERS, INCLUDING ENCIK LIM AND ENCIK KARPAL SINGH, WAS EXTENDED FOR TWO YEARS. -- MORE  
2012MST 11 01 88

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B E884 AAE  
MAHATHIR-WHITE PAPER 2 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

THE PRIME MINISTER EARLIER SPENT ABOUT 90 MINUTES VISITING THE UMNO-OWNED PUTRA WORLD TRADE CENTRE (PWTC) WHICH IS BEING RENOVATED AS PART OF EFFORTS TO MAKE IT A MORE ATTRACTIVE AND POPULAR CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION CENTRE AND TOURIST ATTRACTION.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO PRESIDENT, WAS ACCOMPANIED BY FINANCE MINISTER DAIM ZAINUDDIN, WHO IS UMNO TREASURER.

HE SAID THE RENOVATION WORK WAS TO ENABLE THE NUMEROUS VACANT LOTS AT THE BUILDING TO BE RENTED OUT TO INCREASE THE INCOME OF THE PARTY.

HE ADMITTED THAT THERE WAS A GLUT OF OFFICE SPACE IN KUALA LUMPUR BUT SAID: +THE SPACE IN PWTC IS MORE SPECIAL.+

THE PWTC, WHICH WAS OPENED IN SEPT 1985, AMONG OTHER THINGS, HAS SEVERAL LARGE HALLS WHICH CAN BE USED FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND SPACE FOR TRADE EXHIBITIONS. -- MORE  
2028MST 11 01 88

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B E890 AAE  
MAHATHIR-WHITE PAPER 3 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

ASKED ABOUT THE SECOND APPEAL BY TWO OF THE THREE NEWSPAPERS, WHICH HAD BEEN SHUT DOWN, TO RESUME PUBLICATION, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS BEING CONSIDERED.

+SO FAR, THERE HAS BEEN NO DECISION,+ HE SAID.

AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY, THE STAR, AND A CHINESE DAILY, SIN CHEW JIT POH, HAD APPEALED TO THE HOME MINISTRY TO LIFT THE REVOCATION ORDER MADE IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR. THE OTHER PAPER WHOSE PUBLISHING LICENCE WAS REVOKED WAS WATAN, A BAHASA MALAYSIA BI-WEEKLY.

ON THE UNREST IN THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HOPED THE UNITED NATIONS WOULD INVESTIGATE REPORTS OF ISRAELI TROOPS USING NERVE GAS ON PALESTINIANS.

THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANISATION, ACCORDING TO REPORTS, HAD CLAIMED THAT THOUSANDS OF NERVE GAS BOMBS HAD BEEN THROWN FROM HELICOPTERS INTO PALESTINIAN CAMPS AND DENSELY-POPULATED AREAS OF THE OCCUPIED WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP. -- BERNAMA  
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