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Feature on Collins' kin a truly pleasant surprise

John Collins

WHILE enjoying a lovely vacation at The Crown Prince Hotel in Penang, I was pleasantly surprised to read a feature on Michael Collins in New Straits Times on Jan 1.

As a grandnephew of Collins, I take great pride in seeing him remembered by a nation which has such close ties with Ireland over the years.

Although Eamon de Valera lived to a great old age, he lived to regret many things he did wrong.

The worst was not to accept the 1921 general election which endorsed the treaty that Collins had signed in London. His action plunged Ireland into a bitter civil war in which Collins was shot at age 31.

The best thing de Valera did was to swallow his pride and in 1931 became the leader of the Irish Government under the very same treaty Collins signed.

He went on to build up Ireland with the same vigour that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is doing for Malaysia!

John Collins

Penang

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