

31/07/1997

MYC rebuts Albright's remarks

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - The Malaysian Youth Council has expressed regret at US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's remarks that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad did not speak for the region when he criticised the West.

"Her statement is arrogant," MYC president Datuk Suhaimi Ibrahim said today. "She should be sensitive towards the Prime Minister's views".

Dr Mahathir's views, he contended, reflected the region's as he was regarded as a spokesman for Asean.

"He is the only leader who dares to speak up for the region," he said. "Since the Asean Ministerial Meeting is hosted by Malaysia, the Prime Minister's statement surely reflects Asean's views".

According to news reports, Albright said she did not think Dr Mahathir's criticisms spoke for his region.

"I think that Dr Mahathir is a case of his own," she reportedly told reporters after the regional meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

She was referring to Dr Mahathir's attack on unscrupulous Western currency speculators.

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