

Probe halted after PM's statement

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KUALA LUMPUR: Investigations into Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's alleged sexual misconduct were brought to a halt after Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced publicly that the case was closed.

Testifying on his fifth day, outgoing Special Branch Director Comm Datuk Mohd Said Awang told the High Court yesterday that the police had stopped further investigations into the matter after the Prime Minister declared in a press statement that the allegations made against Anwar were false.

Re-examined by Senior DPP Abdul Gani Patail, Mohd Said said investigations were stopped because he respected the Prime Minister's decision and also because Dr Mahathir had said that An-

MAIN POINTS	
1. Ummi Hafilda Ali's letter to the Prime Minister accuses Anwar of being gay and of having an illicit relationship with another man's wife.	13
2. Datuk Mohd Said Awang said the Special Branch only closed its investigations after the Prime Minister announced the case was closed and that Anwar would succeed him.	
3. Search for elusive second report, said to contain the names of the alleged conspirators against Anwar, continues.	
4. Prosecution's first witness denies he has lied in the trial.	

war was his successor.

He said he had suggested to Dr Mahathir, in his covering letter of Aug 20, which accompanied the two retraction letters by Ummi Hafilda Ali and Azizan Abu Bakar, that there was no need to

"menghalusi" (go into detail on) the matter. (See Star Online for full transcript of retractions)

Mohd Said: We waited for the feedback from him. So on 25th (August 1997) a press statement appeared and we knew that his decision was to

close the case. Based on that we made the decision not to continue.

To another question, Mohd Said said the letters were written *secara sukarela* (voluntarily) since both Ummi Hafilda and Azizan had written the letters in their own handwriting.

He added, however, that it was done after the turning over process.

Abdul Gani: In your report to the PM, did you mention the method employed to obtain the statements from Ummi Hafilda and Azizan?

Mohd Said: No, I did not.

Mohd Said said he believed the allegations against Anwar based on the first letters by Ummi Hafilda and Azizan and also from the operation "Solid Grip."