

CHINA PRESS HIGHLIGHTS, JAN 23, 1998, FRIDAY
23 JANUARY 1998

1. PETALING JAYA: "I killed my mum because I want freedom." Those were the words of an evil son who killed his mother. The 18-year-old suspect told the police that he hates his mother for being too stern and over-restrictive. page 1. lead story.

2. ALOR SETAR: A 30-year-old man, highly wanted in the police' list, was shot dead at a hotel room here following a fierce gunbattle with the police. An automatic pistol and several bullets were recovered. page 1.

3. PETALING JAYA: The teenage suspect, who had confessed killing his own mother, tried to strangle his own father twice by using a nylon cord but failed. He also tried to frame his father while being detained by the police. Nevertheless, he confessed later following interrogation by the police. page 2.

4. KOTA KINABALU: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim says the government could not committ itself for a total payment on money spent on equipment and facilities for the deferred Bukun dam project. It would compensate companies only for the amount they had spent. page A3.

5. KOTA KINABALU: Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim again calls on the people, particularly the business community not only to have confidence in local banks but the entire financial system. Malaysia could overcome the current economic woes speedily with minimum casualty only if people have strong self-confidence and a resolve to work together. page 3..more

6. KUALA LUMPUR: The National Economic Action Council held its first meeting yesterday. Its main objective is to revive the public's, especially foreign investors' confidence for the country's economy. page 3.

7. KUALA LUMPUR: Dr Mahathir Mohamad warns of the possibility of people losing their rights to elect their own government when speculators transform economic depression into political pressure. page 3.

8. KUALA LUMPUR: The appointment of Tun Daim Zainuddin as executive director of the National Economic Action Council is not against the constitution or in anyway interferes with the function of the Finance Minister. page 3.

9. JOHOR BAHRU: Malaysians working in Singapore who had been retrenched could return to seek jobs in their home country. Human Resources Minister Datuk Lim Ah Lek says there are still ample of jobs available in the country. page 6.

10. KUALA LUMPUR: Sales of new cars are foreseen to be reduced by 60 per cent from 404,837 units in 1997 to only 160,000 this year in view of the current economic downturn. Among those would be hardly hit are four-wheel-drive and commercial vehicles, says Malaysian Motor Traders Association president Aishah Ahmad. page 7.-- Bernama

23/01/98 11-35MST

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