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Court-Anwar (Letter)

LETTERS FROM UMMI AND AZIZAN TAKEN FROM PM'S OFFICE - MUSA

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 16 (Bernama) -- The Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim trial was told today that the originals of two apology letters to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad were obtained from the prime minister's office on Nov 6.

Investigating officer SAC I Musa Hassan said the letters were from Ummi Hafilda Ali and Azizan Abu Bakar who had both accused Anwar of sexual misconduct.

"I did not take any other documents from the prime minister's office apart from these two documents," Musa told the High Court during cross-examination by defence counsel Gurbachan Singh.

Anwar, 51, faces four charges of committing corrupt practice. The former deputy prime minister is accused of abusing his position to interfere in police investigations into allegations of sexual misconduct against him.

Gurbachan asked Musa if he had received any letters from Special Functions Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin, former Melaka chief minister Tan Sri Rahim Thamby Chik or Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Megat Junid.

Musa: I did receive the letters mentioned by counsel.

Judge: What letters?

Gurbachan: Letter from Tun Daim...

Musa: I did not receive any letter or document from Tun Daim, Tan Sri Rahim Thamby Chik and Datuk Seri Megat Junid Megat Ayob.

Questioned by Gurbachan why he had initially said that he had received the letters, Musa replied that he was thinking of documents sent to him by the Special Branch.

After pausing for a while, Musa apologised and said: "There were no documents received from them. I was confused by the question just now.

This brought laughter from some of the people in court including Anwar's family members.

Asked about the documents received from the SB, Musa said there were related to the apology letters from Ummi and Azizan.

To another question, Musa said he did not send Azizan's statutory declaration to a handwriting expert for the purpose of comparing his signature.

Another defence counsel, Christopher Fernando, asked Musa if during the course of his investigations he had taken any files from the SB.

Musa said he had but they did not contain any report sent to the prime minister.

Asked if he knew who sent a report to the prime minister, Musa said he did know although he was the investigating officer.

"Only now do I know that a report concerning the case I investigated in 1997 was sent to the prime minister during the probe into the '50 Dalil' case in August this year," he said.

To this, Fernando said the witness was lying because he had testified yesterday that he was aware of the report through a newspaper report.

Senior DPP Datuk Abdul Gani Patail objected to Fernando's statement and said it was the lawyer who was lying.

This prompted Fernando to demand that Gani withdraw his remark and the prosecutor then did so.

Musa explained to the court that he came to know that a report was sent to the prime minister through the newspaper. But it was only later that he

knew it was sent by the then SB director Datuk Mohd Said Awang.

On the newspaper report which quoted the prime minister as saying that he was satisfied with the investigations and that the case was closed, Musa said it was not a directive to him.

-- BERNAMA

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