

15 DEC 1998

Court-Anwar (Mahathir)

OFFICER DENIES HEARING FROM ANWAR ABOUT WHAT DR M SAID

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 15 (Bernama) -- The investigating officer in Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's case denied today that Anwar had quoted Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as saying that the prime minister's political secretary was involved in the case.

SAC I Musa Hassan, who was testifying in the High Court, made the denial during cross-examination by Anwar's counsel Christopher Fernando.

Fernando suggested to him that Anwar had quoted Dr Mahathir as saying: "Sorry that Aziz Shamsuddin (PM's political secretary) was involved. I have warned him. I should have sacked him but as I said the case is closed."

According to Fernando, Dr Mahathir told Anwar this at a meeting at the prime minister's residence after the National day celebrations last year, and Anwar related this to Musa during their meeting two days later.

Musa, however, denied that was so.

Anwar, 51, is charged with four counts of committing corrupt practice by abusing his position to interfere in police investigations into allegations of sexual misconduct against him.

Musa also denied telling Anwar that the allegations against the former deputy prime minister were false and baseless.

Asked if he was aware that the then Special Branch director Datuk Mohd Said Awang had sent a report to Dr Mahathir, Musa said he was not informed of this.

He also denied that Anwar had not ordered him not to submit the investigation papers to the Attorney-General.

He said five documents, including a letter of retraction, that he received led him to propose that the investigations be halted, including to the Attorney-General.

To a question on the taking of Anwar's blood sample for a DNA test, Musa denied that Anwar had told him that he had referred the matter to Dr Mahathir and the prime minister had said there was no need for the test.

Musa said blood samples were then taken Anwar's former private secretary, Mohamed Azmin Ali, his wife Shamsidar Taharin and their daughter Afifah.

Azmin's sister, Ummi Hafilda, had written a letter to the prime minister accusing Anwar of having an affair with Shamsidar and to have fathered Afidah.

Musa said he came to know that the tests showed that Azmin and Shamsidar were the biological parents of Afidah.

Fernando then asked Musa if he agreed that the results showed that Ummi's allegations was baseless, and he replied that it showed that only one of the allegations were not true.

-- BERNAMA

SK NHD SK