

22/11/1999

Charge those out to wreck economy

M.S. Ismail

THE more we know about Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and his relationship with the Asia Pacific Policy Centre in Washington DC and Douglas H. Paal, a former Central Intelligence Agency and National Security adviser, the more we understand the nature of the reformasi movement and its numerous demonstrations.

For those who are familiar with the operations of the CIA in many parts of the world, demonstrations and economic chaos are two common tools used whenever the CIA wants a government brought down.

From 1970 to 1973, the CIA instigated chaos in Chile causing the popular democratic government of President Allende to be brought down.

Assisted by the CIA, General Pinochet (yes, the same one), launched a military coup and finally caused the death of Dr Allende and many other political leaders of Chile.

The CIA had played a critical role in overthrowing many governments in the world, especially in Latin America and Africa using the same tactics - economic chaos, demonstrations and coups.

Lately, the CIA has not been so effective. Iraq and Libya are the two best examples of its failures despite hundreds of millions of dollars being spent.

With the revelation of the existence of the Anwar-funded APCC and its CIA connection, it is not surprising that Al Gore made a public declaration of his support of the reformasi demonstrations in Kuala Lumpur during the 1998 Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (Apec) meeting.

The direct interference in the internal affairs of a country by a visiting foreign leader is uncommon even by the standards of the modern cowboys from Washington.

The CIA must have been very confident that the Malaysian Government would collapse under pressure from the demonstrators, currency attacks and stock market collapse.

We were lucky. The strong support by Malaysians reported in foreign publications like the Newsweek and Time slowed down the open interference by the CIA.

The economic collapse resulted in two million people losing their jobs in Thailand. Three million in Korea and more than 10 million in Indonesia also lost their jobs.

In Malaysia, we lost a lot of money in the stock market but our job market was not badly affected.

I want to thank Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for taking a unique stand on this issue even though he was condemned as a pariah for trying to save his country the Malaysian way.

In the USA, the United Kingdom and other European countries, many of their citizens were taken to court for sabotaging the countries or for working for foreign agents to sabotage their countries.

It is not too difficult to prove that our economy was sabotaged. For almost two years, Malaysians lost the value of their savings, stocks and foreign currencies.

If former Bank Negara assistant governor Datuk Abdul Murad Khalid is right, those people working with foreign agencies should be held responsible for the near collapse of our economy.

Why should they not be charged with treason? Why should they be shouting keadilan (justice) when they are the people who tried to destroy our

economy?