

14/12/1999

US should not insult Malaysia's dignity by ignoring BN's victory

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THE US administration is obviously jealous of the resounding victory achieved by the Barisan Nasional in the free and democratic general election on Nov 29.

The new mandate given by the voters to the BN must have left a sour taste in the mouth of the politicians on Capitol Hill. That is why they went out of their way to belittle our electoral process by deliberately congratulating the Opposition for losing and ignoring the BN for winning.

Such a blatant violation of the norm and etiquette of international diplomacy is not only in the worst taste but also betrays the deep hatred of the US Government towards our Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad simply because he has the moral courage to champion the cause of the developing world and point out the hypocrisy and excesses of rich and powerful nations.

One need not look very far to see that the US administration holds a big grudge against Malaysia because neither the leadership nor the majority of people want to kowtow to Uncle Sam.

History has shown that a nation that panders to the whims and fancies of the overlords in Washington will be put on a pedestal. But the moment that nation becomes a little assertive in its opinions on the White House's wheelings and dealings, it loses favour quickly.

Furthermore, the Oval Office has also shown that its promise to liberate the oppressed from war-mongering despots can turn out to be nothing more than an illusion.

The Kurds in northern Iraq will attest to this.

The people of Kosovo are wondering what has happened to all the western promises of reconstruction following a most extensive bombing campaign by the US-led Nato in the Balkans.

We, as freedom-loving Malaysians, must be aware of the US Government's dubious agenda for our country. The White House brooks no criticism from countries it considers less powerful.

It subscribes to the doctrine of might is right and because it possesses a huge arsenal of weapons of mass destruction and a fat bank account, it will have no qualms about interfering in the affairs of others.

One of the biggest jokes around must surely be that the US administration's assertion that Malaysia should be censured for its outspoken views on issues affecting the developing world because in having the courage to call a spade a spade, Malaysia, according to the White House, is posing a threat to America's national security. How paranoid can one get? A small nation like ours threatening the security of a superpower like the US! This certainly takes the cake.

It will also be recalled that when US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright insisted on meeting Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim during a side meeting of the Apec Summit in KL in 1997 and became recalcitrant when her wish was not acceded to, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz got the last shot in by suggesting that she would like to meet independent US prosecutor Ken Starr when she visited the US next. Albright's jaw dropped at Rafidah's raspy retort.

The next day, when he learned about the incident (apparently from Albright), US State Department spokesman James Rubin described Rafidah's remarks as pathetic.

Well, Rubin, let me tell you this very plainly. Your latest action of

deliberately congratulating the Opposition for losing the general election and sneering at the BN's popular victory is not only more pathetic but it also stinks.

The people of Malaysia will stand by the Government they legally elected. Don't insult our dignity with your arrogance and by belittling the democratic progress for electing our Government. We don't need people like you to tell us how to vote and run our country.