

Marina's speech in response to PM's statement, cop tells court

BUTTERWORTH, Tues: A police officer agreed today a speech by **Parti Keadilan Nasional** vice-president was in response to a statement made by the Prime Minister.

ASP-R. Rajagopal, who is also the Seberang Perai Tengah CID chief, said Marina's speech touched on several issues, including abuse of power among ministers, waste of public funds, merger of banks, the case of Datuk Seri **Anwar Ibrahim**, May 13 and others.

Cross-examined by lawyer Raja Aziz **Addruse**, he said Marina gave an assurance the May 13 riots would not happen again if the Alternative Front were elected in the general election.

He also agreed that Marina mentioned that if the Alternative Front were elected, Malays would take care of Chinese and Chinese would take care of Indians.

He was testifying in the trial of

Marina, who is charged with uttering seditious remarks during a ceramah organised by the DAP at the Chang Hua Kor Moral Uplifting Society Hall in Jalan Tanah Liat, Bukit **Mertajam**, last Sept 29.

Earlier, Rajagopal said he was instructed to take over the investigation of the case by OCPD Supt **Noor Rashid Ibrahim**.

He said Insp Salmiah Mohd Nawawi was initially the investigating officer of the case after Datuk Hishamuddin Hussein, then the acting Umno Youth chief, lodged a police report against Marina's speech. JUN 24 5 2000

Eight prosecution witnesses testified today

Sessions judge Siti Mariah Ahmad adjourned the hearing to Thursday after Raja Aziz said he needed time to view videotapes of the speech, having just received them from the prosecution today