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Documented evidence on May 13 produced

BUTTERWORTH, Tues. - Former Parti Keadilan Nasional vice-president Marina Yusoff produced in the Sessions Court today what she claimed was documented evidence on the May 13, 1969, racial riots.

She produced the document derived from the British Public Record Office in London after Judge Siti Mariah Ahmad called her to enter her defence on a sedition charge.

Deputy Public Prosecutor Noorbahri Baharuddin asked the judge to grant some time for the prosecution to examine the document and decide on its next course of action.

Siti Mariah gave the prosecution until tomorrow morning to object or accept the document as evidence.

Marina is charged with committing sedition at the Chang Hua Kor Moral Uplifting Society Hall in Jalan Tanah Liat, Bukit Mertajam, between 9.41pm and 10.08pm on Sept 29 last year.

The charge carries a penalty of up to RM5,000 fine, three years' jail or both.

DPP Ahmad Fairuz Zainol Abidin assisted Noorbahri while Marina's counsel Raja Aziz Addruse was assisted by Christopher Leong and Gopal Sreenevasan.

At the start of the trial, Siti Mariah called on Marina to enter her defence as the prosecution had proven a prima facie case.

Marina said the transcript of her speech on Sept 29 that appeared on the charge sheet was "taken out of context."

"What I said before uttering that part of transcript words did not appear in the charge," she said when questioned by her counsel Raja Aziz Addruse.

Marina said her speech was only referring to a statement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that appeared in newspaper reports on Aug 10 last year.

Based on the reports, she said Dr Mahathir had warned a repeat of the May 13 riots if Barisan Nasional lost the (Nov 29, 1999) general election.

"I was merely trying to calm the situation," she said, "and convince the Chinese that there will be no trouble if Barisan Alternatif wins the general election."

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