

27 SEP 2001

Memorandum-Embassy

ABIM HANDS OVER MEMO TO AMERICAN EMBASSY URGING GLOBAL PEACE MISSION

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 27 (Bernama) -- Twenty-three non-governmental organisations (NGOs) handed over a memorandum to the United States embassy here today calling for global peace.

The memorandum was handed over by Malaysia Islamic Youth Movement (Abim) president Ahmad Azam Abdul Rahman to the embassy's first secretary, Simon Lee.

"This memorandum addressed to President George W. Bush expresses the importance of a global peace mission and we don't want the US to use violence against violence. If they use violence against violence, when will this end?" Ahmad Azam told reporters later.

He said that in the memorandum they also conveyed their condolences to the families of the victims of the Sept 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre in New York and the Pentagon in Washington.

The memorandum also proposed that any global fight against terrorism must be initiated by the United Nations and supported by other nations.

"The memorandum also condemns any attack on Afghanistan that will jeopardise the civilians' safety and any insinuation that links terrorism with Islam," he said.

He said Muslims had always been used as a bogey for every terrorist attack, including some of the bombings which could have been stage-managed perhaps by certain interest groups or by some American terrorists like Timothy McVeigh.

Ahmad Azam said they supported Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's call "that the United Nations organise a world conference on terrorism so that we can define terrorists because not all terrorists are Muslims".

He said Abim was also organising a fund for Afghan refugees and donations can be addressed to Sekretariat ABIM Pusat (u/p: Pejabat Kewangan ABIM), No.3-2, Jalan 46B/26, Pusat Bandar Sri Rampai, 53300 Kuala Lumpur or call 03-41428300.

-- BERNAMA

SHI AHH JK