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Be guarded against the unseen hand

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's comments on the Far Eastern Economic Review's article on the purported conditions set by US officials for a meeting between himself and President George W Bush of the United States was rational.

He said there was no initiative for the meeting on Malaysia's part. The article appeared after the cordial meeting between our Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar and US Secretary of State, Colin Powell.

Time and again, it seems that these foreign magazines and some shadowy middle-lower level US officials have acted as spoilers to the improving relationship between our countries.

It is obvious, by publicising the purported conditions, their agenda here is now to make the improving situation more difficult to continue.

For a small country like ours, the unseen hand behind these concerted efforts and manoeuvres has become a nuisance for great minds and people to meet for the betterment of mankind, or at least for the developing world, of which, our country is one.

It is hoped that some positive forces will appear to remove the spanners thrown in by these detractors to allow political progress between our two countries to continue.