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Actions speak volumes about our stand on terror

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IT is preposterous to imply that the Barisan Nasional has connections with al-Qaeda. It is irresponsible of the Security Council to base its findings on a book written by one Rohan Gunaratna without verifying the facts from BN leaders.

The Alliance, and subsequently the Barisan Nasional Government, has been fighting religious, racial and ideological extremism from the time of the Communist insurgency. Later, there were crackdowns on organisations such as Al Arqam, Al-Ma'unah and Kumpulan Militan Malaysia. The recent detention of scores of radical activists merely underscores the point.

After the Sept 11, 2001 tragedy, the Malaysian Government has again shown its firm commitment to combat international terrorism. It has co-operated with the United States and Britain in the provision of intelligence and information to combat this menace.

The recent speedy deportation to the US of Ahmed Ibrahim Bilal, an International Islamic University student suspected of involvement in such activities, is further proof of the Government's sincerity.

All this, and repeated statements by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and other BN leaders of the nation's uncompromising stand on terrorism surely indicate that it is ridiculous to suggest the BN has