

Khair: Leaked cables merely 'diplomatic gossip'  
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Recently-leaked US diplomatic cables which referred to several Malaysia personalities should not be regarded as facts, said former Selangor menteri besar Dr Khair Toyo.

Referring to the cable on Anwar Ibrahim's sodomy trial provided by whistleblower website WikiLeaks to the Sydney Morning Herald, Khair added that such information should be regarded as "diplomatic gossip".

"What was recorded in the relevant diplomatic notes were discussions and gossip that has been common in Malaysia for years.

"It was merely raised again by Singaporean leaders to diplomats from other countries and it became a classified diplomatic document for the United States.

khair toyo interview 150910 "This does not mean that it is true, let alone factual," said Khair (left) in a posting on his blog today.

He explained that diplomatic notes more often recorded the diplomat's perceptions which may not necessarily be true.

In the case of Singapore, Khair pointed out that the cables do not provide any evidence to back the claims.

'WikiLeaks might confuse people'

He added that if issues raised by WikiLeaks were used overzealously, it would have a serious effect on the public and some court cases.

"I fear that there are some people who are confused about WikiLeaks and takes it as facts which will later influence their decisions," he said.

According to the Sydney Morning Herald report, Australia's Office of National Assessment (ONA) had concluded that Anwar's sodomy charge are the result of a "set-up job" which he knowingly "walked into".

The report said that the ONA sourced the information from their Singaporean counterparts.

Anwar's lawyers have dismissed the cables and said that no sane person would knowingly walk into a trap.

The lawyers also said that New Straits Times and Utusan Malaysia's report were "clearly sub judice" and may be in contempt of court.

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