

THE STAR

DATE: 31/08/2007

Nephew pens Tunku memoirs

The Star - 31/8/2007

Book based on letters-to-editor excerpts

By **TUNKU SHAHARIAH**
tsheri@thestar.com.my

SUNGAI PETANI: Former educationist Tunku Datuk Dr Ismail Jewa has published a 22-page memoirs on Tunku Abdul Rahman in conjunction with the country's 50th Merdeka celebration.

Tunku Dr Ismail, who lived with his late uncle at the Residency in Kuala Lumpur from 1959 to 1960, said the book *Letters - With Reference To Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra* was based on excerpts of letters he had sent to various newspapers on Tunku.

"The memory of Tunku is so infectious during this 50th Merdeka celebration. He is like an icon as you can see his picture everywhere now.

"That gave me the idea to come up with the book on the excerpts," he added.

"Tunku's death on Dec 6, 1990 was mourned by the nation as he was loved and respected for his efforts in propagating national unity and achieving independence through peaceful means."

He has printed 500 copies of the memoirs to be distributed on Merdeka Day, which is also his 70th birthday.

Copies of the memoirs would be given to close friends and associates who held Tunku in high esteem.

A trainee teacher at the Malayan Teachers' College at Brinsford Lodge in England when Merdeka was proclaimed, Tunku Dr Ismail later became a frequent contributor to the letters pages of several newspapers.

He said he chose to put the picture of The Residency on the book cover as it was the home Tunku loved the most, having lived there for 15 years from May 1956.

In the memoirs, Tunku Dr Ismail included a personal excerpt by Tunku on how sad he was



Malaysiaku Gemilang

» **The memory of Tunku is so infectious during this 50th Merdeka celebration** «



TUNKU DATUK DR ISMAIL JEWA

when he had to leave the Residency upon his retirement.

The book includes letters under these subjects - Tunku's Legacy, The Residency, Tunku's Family Tree, The Japanese invasion of Alor Star, Proclamation of Independence, Tunku's Merdeka Message, It's "Tunku" for Bapa Malaysia's Name, Who Said What, What Tunku Means to Peace-Loving Malaysians and Enduring Truths From Bapa Malaysia.