

'Company linked to Jho Low'

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Witness: Hundreds of millions were transacted into Najib's account

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KUALA LUMPUR: Former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak received US\$61mil and £9.46mil in his personal bank accounts through overseas transactions from a company linked to fugitive businessman Low Taek Jho or Jho Low.

Prosecution witness Wedani Senen, who is the manager of the Real-Time Electronic Transfer of Funds and Securities System (Rentas) division unit at AmBank (M) Bhd, then testified that the funds were transferred to AmIslamic Bank accounts bearing the number 2112022009694 (code-named AmPrivate Banking - MR) and account 2112022011880 (code-named AmPrivate Banking - 1MY).

Both accounts belonged to Najib. The witness, reading her witness statement, said seven transactions went into Najib's AmIslamic accounts between 2013 and 2014.

She further told the court that the US\$61mil transaction came from Tanore Finance Corp into Najib's 9694 account (AmPrivate Banking - MR) on March 25, 2013.

It was said that Tanore is a company linked to Eric Tan, a close associate of Jho Low.

The other 1880 account (AmPrivate Banking - 1MY) received £750,000 from Blackrock Commodities (Global) Ltd on June 23, 2014.

The same 1880 account also received £5,750,000 (Oct 19, 2014); £694,343.62 and £2,216.01 (Nov 24, 2014); £995,000 (Dec 5, 2014) and £1,264,462.29mil (Dec 18, 2014) in

five transactions from Vista Equity International Partners.

It was reported the US Department of Justice identified the two entities - Blackrock Commodities and Vista Equity - as being owned by Tan.

During a cross-examination by lawyer Wan Aizuddin Wan Mohammed, Wedani said she did not make any reports to Bank Negara regarding the big transactions into the two accounts.

"We have a unit that does all the reporting to Bank Negara," said the witness, now AmBank's SWIFT (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications) division unit manager.

Wan Aizuddin: But from your unit, there was no doubt (on the transactions) that could warrant a

report to Bank Negara?

Wedani: No.

The lawyer then pointed out that US\$61mil into one's account was a huge transaction.

Wan Aizuddin: Bank Negara never raised a red flag and asked for an explanation when this huge transaction was made?

Wedani: I'm not sure.

Wan Aizuddin: Were you contacted by your superior on this?

Wedani: No.

Najib is on trial for 25 charges - four for abuse of power that allegedly brought him financial benefit to the tune of RM2.28bil; and 21 for money laundering involving the same amount of money.

The hearing continues before Justice Collin Lawrence Sequerah today.