

**Karpal Wants Mat Sabu To Retract Statement On Bukit Kepong**  
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GEORGE TOWN, Sept 1 (Bernama) -- DAP chairman Karpal Singh wants his fellow Pakatan leader Mohamad Sabu to retract a recent statement he allegedly made regarding the Bukit Kepong incident in the 1950s.

He said the incident should not be disputed and must be accepted because it had been historically documented that the policemen and their family members fought the communist guerillas.

"Touching upon such a sensitive issue more than 61 years after the event is certainly unjustified and I think he should seriously consider retracting it in view of the negative reception of it by all quarters," he said here today.

Mat Sabu, who is PAS deputy president, allegedly remarked during a talk in Tasek Gelugor, here, on Aug 21 that the communist guerillas who attacked and killed 25 police personnel and their families in the Bukit Kepong tragedy were the real heroes as they were actually fighting the British.

He said Mohamad Sabu, better known as Mat Sabu, should immediately do the needful to assuage the feelings of the families of those who perished in the attack.

"I am not anti-PAS and I am not anti-Sabu, but I do not agree with his statement here on this issue," he said.

However, the Bukit Gelugor MP said Mat Sabu's statement could not be justified and that it could damage Pakatan.

"He should retract his statement as I do not see why he should not. I do not think what he said has any positive amplification for Pakatan; it's negative," he said.

Mat Sabu later clarified the remark, stating that those who attacked Bukit Kepong were heroes because they were freedom fighters, and not because they attacked Malay policemen.

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