

**Dr M claims Anwar, Bar Council are US agents**  
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**By Yow Hong Chieh**

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 12 — Key opposition leaders, including Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, are in cahoots with the US to overthrow the Barisan Nasional (BN) government, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad claims.

The former prime minister alleged his one-time protégé was getting support from Washington via a pro-Zionist non-governmental outfit formed by American neoconservatives to remove unfriendly governments.

Dr Mahathir cited Anwar's close friendship with leading neoconservative Paul Wolfowitz as proof of his claim, adding that members of the Bar Council were also involved in the alleged conspiracy.

"Anwar always meets with them and says that when he becomes prime minister, he will abolish this and that... will give freedom to the people," Berita Harian reported the Umno veteran as saying yesterday.

"He has their support, either in terms of money or something else. He and several others, including lawyers, get backing from an organisation created by the US government specifically to topple governments they don't like."

Dr Mahathir added that he was confident Putrajaya would take appropriate steps against those involved once the government obtained sufficient evidence of wrongdoing.

"Without proof, we cannot simply act or use our powers to arrest people. Once there is clear proof, I'm sure the government will act," he said.

Dr Mahathir has on many occasions accused Jews, whom he claimed were jealous of Malaysia's advancements, of trying to undermine the country, even during his 22-year tenure as prime minister.

He most famously blamed the 1997 Asian financial crisis on a worldwide Jewish conspiracy, reasoning: "We are Muslims, and the Jews are not happy to see Muslims progress."

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