

Intrusion Tragedy Brings Malaysians Together Regardless Of Political Differences - Zahid

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LANGKAWI, March 27 (Bernama) -- The armed intrusion tragedy in Lahad Datu, Sabah, may just be a blessing in disguise as it unites Malaysians and make them, including the opposition, realise the importance of having strong national defence, Defence Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said.

He said the deaths and injuries sustained by national security forces personnel in the tragedy, proved that it was not a drama staged by the government, and hence reduced the opposition's attacks on national defence and security issues.

"I would like to thank all quarters for accepting the fact that national defence is not an issue that can be politicised.

"It seems that after the tragedy, even the opposition is not keen to question the ability of our police and military forces," he told reporters when met at the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace (LIMA 2013) exhibition here Wednesday.

On matters concerning five former military officers who were reported to have politicised the tragedy in their bids to enter politics and gain political mileage, Ahmad Zahid said they really should not have done that.

"They still think they are smarter than the current leaders in the Armed Forces when in reality, they are corrupting the politicians' minds," he said.

On the action that could be taken against them, the minister said the people could simply reject these former military officers from being their representatives.

He said the government would not take any action against them under the Armed Forces Council regulations as the five former officers did not represent the voice of the rest of former military officers.

"About 200 of them have already pledged their supports for the government and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak," he added.

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