

SPEECH BY
THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
AT THE DEBATE RESUMED ON THE MOTION
OF THE 'PERJANJIAN PERDAMAIAN DENGAN
INDONESIA' AT DEWAN RAKYAT
ON 26TH AUGUST, 1966.

Sir, I suggest for the Honourable Member for Tanjong's¹ sake, that he should leave his present company and find some other company for his own improvement.

Sir, the Honourable Member for Bung'sar², at least supported this normalisation of relations between Malaysia and Indonesia, or the peace treaty, and I have said that I congratulate him for his good sense. Of course, we all know, Sir, that in this uncertain and fast moving world, we cannot guarantee that anything can be permanent, let alone relation between countries, but we hope and pray that as we all wish to have peace that this peace arrangement we have with Indonesia will be everlasting.

Sir, the Honourable Member for Ipoh³ spoke at length and suggested that, since we have now signed a peace treaty and that confrontation is over, we should dispense with all the regulations causing, what he said, headships to the people — emergency regulations and restrictions and what not. I would like to explain, Sir. There are two aspects to this question. First, with confrontation we had to deal with the enemies, enemy agents, their saboteurs and what not, and then at the same time we had the communists with their agents who, during the period of confrontation, did intensify their activities to stir up trouble in this country. So, we had to deal with these two elements. Although, with the ending of confrontation, the first elements are now out of the way, we still have the communists and their agents and, as Honourable Members know or should know, in East Malaysia and Sarawak there are still enemy agents, communist terrorists, who are out to stir up trouble and to cause chaos and disturbance in this country, and also there are still enemies, communists, on the Thai border. So, it is necessary for this Government

to have these emergency powers under the Internal Security Act to deal with these enemy agents. We hope that with the ending of confrontation these communists, who are still in our midst, would give themselves up; and if they do give themselves up then it will be possible for us to have real peace. But until these communists do give themselves up, obviously, we have to take necessary measures to maintain the security of this country and to safeguard the interests of our people.

Sir, the Honourable Member for Ipoh alleged that the Honourable Prime Minister⁴ made a statement that rather disturbed him. He said that the Prime Minister said in his speech that, "What makes us happy is that people of the same race would no longer quarrel". This is not the first time that the Honourable Prime Minister made the statement, because this is a statement of fact, because the Indonesian people and the people of the Malay race in this country are of the same origin. But Honourable Members should know - and I think the country knows it well - the view of the Prime Minister — his policy: he has spent his life in trying to unite the people of all races of this country. It is for this reason that we formed the Alliance. The Prime Minister has always stated, whenever he made a public speech, that the people of this country, all races, should unite and that there should not be any discrimination against any particular group of people of race, in this country. I think everybody knows how fair-minded the Prime Minister is, and I think no one would listen to the Honourable Member for Ipoh, when he said that this peace with Indonesia would mean discrimination against the Malaysians of non-Malay race.

Sir, the Honourable Member for Ipoh, has also said that we cannot discriminate any more against non-Malays, because we have already reached the saturation point. Well, Sir, everybody knows, and I think most of the people in this country know, that in this country (Malaysia) people of all races live in complete harmony and unity and understanding, and there is a place for everyone. It is no good for anyone to bring up this sort of thing, because the majority of the people know, and in all these years they have supported the Alliance, because they know that the Alliance is fair and just and always serve the people of this country, whatever races they belong to.

Also, Sir, some Honourable Member spoke about restrictions and

the holding of elections and all that to the local councils. I would wish to say that it is the Government's earnest intention to try and bring real peace to this country and, with the ending of confrontation, as I said, I hope that we would be able to clear up the remnants of the communist terrorists, so that we will have real peace and be able to do away with a number of restrictions that we may have to impose for the sake of security and to safeguard the interests of the people of this country.

Sir, the Honourable Member for Batu⁵ has said that there is uneasiness among the non-Malays, because of this talk about "Satu Bahasa, Satu Bangsa, dan Satu Agama". Well, Sir, in all these years as I said, the people in this country know how fair we have been, and we have always stated that it is our policy to strengthen the harmony, goodwill, among the people in this country, so that ultimately we will be able to form one united nation, so that the people of various races no longer regard themselves as Malays, Chinese, or Indians, but as citizens of Malaysia. This has always been our policy, and we will continue to uphold this policy whatever the Opposition may say.

Sir, on the question of elections in Sabah and Sarawak, as stated in the Agreement, we have agreed to request the people of Sabah and Sarawak to reaffirm their wish to remain in Malaysia as soon as practicable. Sabah proposes to hold elections in March next year, and I hope to have discussion with the Chief Minister and the Government of Sarawak very soon, in order to prepare for elections to be held in Sarawak some time next year. Of course, the actual date will be a matter for the Sarawak Government to decide and, obviously, we must carry out a part of our Agreement with Indonesia and, as I said in my speech just now, it would not be difficult for the people of Sabah and Sarawak to undertake this task, because they have shown previously that they would like to remain in Malaysia, that they have supported Malaysia, and I think it would not be difficult for them to reaffirm their wish in the general elections which we hope to hold very soon.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua⁶, saya ucapkan banyak-banyak terima kasih kepada Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat yang menyokong Perjanjian Perdamaian yang telah diperbuat dengan Indonesia itu. Seperti saya kata tadi, kita berharap Perjanjian ini akan kekal dan nyatalah

bahawa Ketua-Ketua Kerajaan Indonesia yang ada sekarang ini adalah sebenar-benarnya ikhlas berkehendakkan perjanjian, berkehendakkan perdamaian dengan kita sendiri. Seperti kata Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Hilir Perak yang baharu sahaja balik dari Indonesia, rakyat Indonesia telah menunjukkan keikhlasan yang mereka itu berkehendakkan perdamaian dan persahabatan dengan Malaysia.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Pasir Puteh⁷ ada bertanya apakah caranya hendak menentukan ataupun membaharui hasrat rakyat di Sabah dan Sarawak. Perkara ini ialah akan dijalankan melalui Pilihanraya Umum (General Election) biasa dan dalam General Election itu akan diadakan masalah ini sebagai satu isu dalam Pilihanraya. Ini telahlah diterangkan dalam rundingan dengan pihak Indonesia dan saya fikir tidak adalah apa-apa selisih faham di atas hal ini. Jadi yang dikehendaki itu ialah dalam Pilihanraya, rakyat Sabah dan Sarawak menentukan yang mereka itu bersetuju hendak duduk dalam Malaysia seperti yang ada sekarang ini.

Berkenaan dengan perhubungan kita dengan Indonesia dan juga negara-negara lain di Tenggara Asia ini, saya telah terangkan tadi bahawa dasar kita ialah hendak mengadakan perhubungan baik dengan negara-negara di Tenggara Asia. Saya telah terangkan iaitu perdamaian dengan Indonesia ini telah membuka sejarah yang baharu dengan dua lapisan, satu, perdamaian dan persahabatan dengan Indonesia dan yang keduanya kita harap persahabatan dan perhubungan baik dengan negara-negara di Tenggara Asia. Jadi yang mustahaknya kita hendak ialah perhubungan baik di antara kita dengan negara-negara di Tenggara Asia ini - tak susah apa nama sekalipun - yang kita kehendak ialah perhubungan baik. Jadi, saya percaya ketua-ketua Indonesia sekarang faham atas hal ini dan kita akan cuba adakan kerjasama di antara Thailand, Filipina, Indonesia dan Malaysia dan juga negara-negara lain yang ada di sini di Tenggara Asia yang suka hendak bekerjasama. Kita berkehendakkan kerjasama kerana kita ada musuh-musuh yang tertentu yang telah cuba hendak memecah belahkan rakyat di Tenggara Asia dan yang cuba merosakkan masyarakat di Tenggara Asia. Jadi hanyalah dengan kita dapat mengadakan kerjasama dan perhubungan baik di antara negara-negara di sini dapat kita mempertahankan keadulatan negara kita dan mempertahankan kehidupan dan

masyarakat di Tenggara Asia. Jadi, itulah dasar kita. Yang kita hendak, saya kata, ialah persahabatan dan kerjasama dengan apa caranya. Kita harap kita akan dapat jalankan persahabatan dan kerjasama.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kota Star Selatan⁸ ada menyebutkan berkenaan dengan cadangan kita bersama-sama dengan Thailand dan juga Filipina untuk hendak meminta negara-negara Asia ini bersama-sama dengan kita supaya mendesak Kerajaan Vietnam Selatan dan juga Kerajaan Vietnam Utara supaya mereka itu dapat datang kepada bilik perundingan dan dapat selesaikan peringkahan mereka itu, sebab kita fikirkan peperangan yang ada di Vietnam itu adalah akan membahayakan keselamatan di Tenggara Asia ini dan boleh merosakkan bukan sahaja keamanan bahkan kemajuan-kemajuan yang kita sedang jalankan. Jadi, tujuan kita ialah meminta negara-negara itu dan perkara ini bukan kita jalankan melalui ASA. ASA ialah pertubuhan bagi lapangan iktisad, masyarat dan juga kebudayaan. Ini ialah lapangan siasah jadi perkara ini dibuat luar daripada ASA. Kita hanyalah berunding dan bersetuju hendak meminta negeri-negeri lain di Asia ini supaya bekerjasama dalam lapangan ini, sama ada mereka itu suka atau tidak bekerjasama, itu terpulang kepada mereka itu. Kita tidaklah memaksa mereka itu.

Saya sendiri belumlah dapat membaca dengan penuhnya ucapan yang diperbuat oleh Menteri Luar Thailand, Tun Thanat Koman, tetapi saya percaya perkara yang telah disetujukan ialah supaya diadakan kerjasama dengan negara-negara di Asia ini bagi mendesak Kerajaan Hanoi dan juga di Saigon supaya datang berunding dan selesaikan perselisihannya dengan cara perundingan, dengan itu kita harap dapat tamatkan pertelingkahan yang sedang berlaku di Vietnam itu.

Jadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya fikir itu sahaja pandangan-pandangan yang saya suka hendak jawab dan sekali lagi saya ucapkan berbanyak terima kasih kepada Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat sekalian yang telah memberi sokongan kepada Perjanjian Perdamaian ini. Dan saya berharap dengan sokongan ini akan menunjukkan lagi kepada rakyat Indonesia dan dunia seluruhnya bahawa kita di Malaysia ini daripada semua bangsa dan daripada semua pihak adalah sebenar-benarnya berkehendakkan kepada

keamanan dan bersedia hendak melaksanakan Perjanjian ini dengan seberapa daya upaya supaya dapat keamanan yang kita telah capai itu kekal, bukan sahaja kita berharap dengan adanya perdamaian dengan Indonesia ini akan dapat kita menguatkan lagi kerjasama di antara negara-negara dalam Asia ini. Sekianlah sahaja, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

¹ Dr. Lim Chong Eu

² Tuan C.V. Devan Nair

³ Tuan D. R. Seenivasagam

⁴ Y.f.M. Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj.

⁵ Dr. Tan Chee Khoon

⁶ Dato' Chik Mohamed Yusuf bin Sheikh Abdul Rahman

⁷ Dato' Haji Mohamed Asri bin Haji Muda

⁸ Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad