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SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, OVER
RADIO MALAYSIA SABAH ON 1ST AUGUST, 1964

Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me much pleasure to talk to you over Radio Malaysia Sabah tonight. The last time I came to Jesselton was to attend the celebrations which ushered in this young nation of ours, almost a year ago. Those celebrations still remain fresh in my memory and I thought then that the strength and the unity then so fervently demonstrated, this nation of ours would not only stand and hold together, but would move forward, getting stronger day by day, each separate unit building itself upwards, forging ahead, but all the units together forming a cohesive, prosperous and greater Malaysia.

I had not been wrong. Let me say this quite categorically and sincerely that we are indeed building Malaysia and we are moving, perhaps, slowly but surely, towards a united nation, a united people, diversity in unity. Whatever we are, whichever part of Malaysia we may live in, whatever our ideals and our hopes, we are one people and the world must know that this is so.

Malaysia is now facing a testing time and national crisis — the Indonesian confrontation. We are facing serious threats to our very survival as a free, democratic and sovereign nation. We are facing an enemy that for its own reasons are anxious to see us fall, an enemy that for obvious reasons want to pull us down to their own level of chaos and poverty, so that they may not stand alone in the critical eyes of the world. In times like this — when we are facing Indonesian confrontation — everything else must be submerged in the national interests and in defence of Malaysia.

And I am very glad to visit you at this time when we are together and in unity facing threats from an unfriendly neighbour. I know Sabah is one of the States in our nation in the front line and which has to bear the brunt of Indonesian confrontation, aggression and hostility. We in Central Government are very proud of the people of Sabah. To take one instance — the people in Tawau — just a stone's throw from the enemy line in Sebatik Island, who despite constant anxiety, harassment and war of nerves being conducted by the Indonesians are in good spirit and high morale. They show a clear determination and patriotism as demonstrated by the people of Tawau to me yesterday, would not only

defeat Indonesian confrontation but she will also grow into a strong united nation, worthy of great respect of the world.

I would like to repeat to you, my friends, the people of Sabah, that the Central Government is determined to do everything within its powers and resources to defend our national integrity and the independence of Malaysia. I am very glad to tell you that we have enough troops to meet the Indonesian threats. I would like to reiterate here what I said at the Sabah Alliance Victory celebrations last night that the Central Government and the people of Malaysia in other parts of our nation will always work together with you and will suffer and, if need be, die together in defence of our independence and our honour.

We did not reject British colonialism to invite Soekarno domination. Our birth was endorsed by the Secretary General of the United Nations and by almost all countries in the world. Malaysia has every right to exist the way she chooses and we intend to do this, come what may. I am very satisfied with the loyalty and patriotism of the people of Sabah towards Malaysia and indeed I am very touched by your determination to uphold our independence and integrity.

But we in Malaysia cannot fight an enemy from outside unless we are fully united — even one little unit at variance will jeopardise our national security and our national interest. I am happy that in Sabah there is not only so much goodwill amongst the people of all races but so much goodwill towards all others too. There are people from Indonesia, for example, who live amongst us in various parts of Sabah. They are welcomed to continue to live amongst us, if they show loyalty to Malaysia, and not only that, they are welcomed to work with us, prosper with us, and build Malaysia with us. Malaysia is hardly a year old and there are many things still to be done. There are schools and hospitals to be built, roads that add up to hundreds and thousands of miles, rural areas to develop, parks to develop and the need to cater to the needs of everyone, the new born, the young, the working population and the old. We want schools for everyone, medicine for all, and above all, we want security so that we can preserve, conserve and develop all that we already have.

In times like this — when we are facing Indonesian confrontation — everything else must be submerged in the national interests and in defence of Malaysia. At a time when this nation is being challenged by a hostile neighbour, national unity, racial harmony, determination and patriotism must be at the highest peak and all our energies must be devoted entirely to fighting Indonesian confrontation and in our task of moulding a united Malaysian nation. We all should be united and pledge our loyalty to our King and our country.

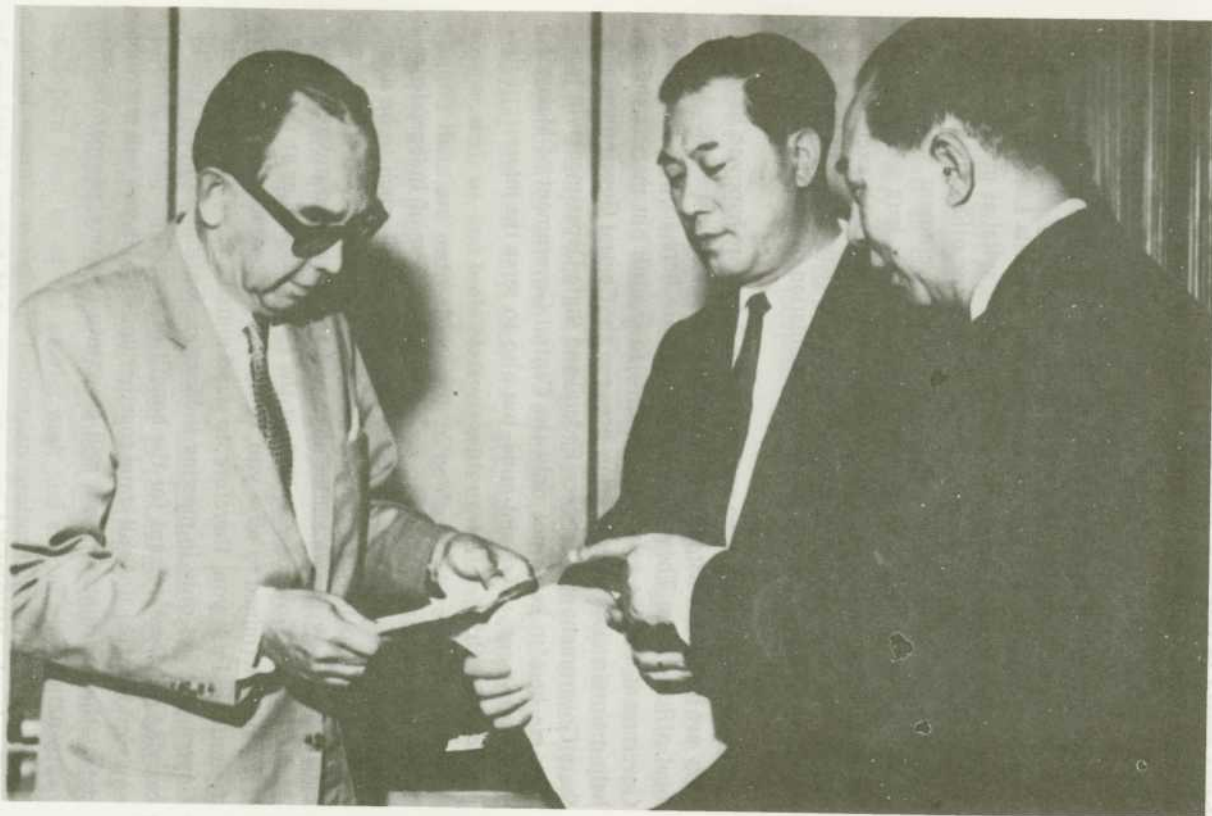
The Indonesian confrontation must be fought on all fronts. It must be fought on military, economic as well as social fronts. Consequently it is most important that development should be carried out in Sabah particularly in the rural areas with real energy and earnestness. I am pleased that the Sabah Alliance Government has already embarked on its programme of Development and the machinery of Government is being geared to this end. The Central Government will do all it can to help the State Government in the implementation of its Development Plan.

Now that Sabah has joined Malaysia I hope you all realise and appreciate we now belong to one people. We are citizens of an Independent Sovereign country. The Central Government in Kuala Lumpur is your Government. Kuala Lumpur is your National Capital as much as it is that of the people of Selangor, Perak, Pahang or other States of the Peninsula. We have officers of the Federal Government working in Sabah and soon I hope some of the officers from here will serve in Kuala Lumpur and other parts of Malaysia through an exchange of officers. We would like you here to feel that you have a part in the Central Government and have a say in the formulation of Federal Policies.

The Federal Officers who are working in Sabah are happy to be here. They are happy in their jobs and anxious to pass their experience to the local officers here. These Federal Officers are here to help the State Government and the people of Sabah - to smooth out matters and to help maintain close coordination between the Central Government and State Government and between Federal and State Departments. In fact, they are here to serve not only the Central Government of Malaysia, our Government, yours and mine, but also to serve the interests of the people of Sabah.

My friends, I am pleased to see after only a year of Independence, Sabah has made so much progress. But there is still much to be done and there is also Indonesian confrontation to face before the people of Sabah can enjoy the amenities alike and the peace and progress they desire. But the Government, both at the Centre as well as at the State level, are determined to serve you, to try and meet your needs and your aspirations. I ask you, therefore, to stand united and solidly behind the Government not only in meeting Indonesian confrontation but also in carrying out Development for the benefit of you all people of Sabah. I am confident that if we all stand together united, Malaysia will not only defeat the confrontation but will grow into a strong, prosperous and happy nation.

Good night. MERDEKA.



Gambar menunjukkan Y.A.B. Tun Haji Abdul Razak bin Hussein yang juga Pengerusi Tabung Derma Pertahanan Negara sedang menerima cek dari Encik Chin Kim Fook untuk Tabung Pertahanan Negara pada 15 Disember 1964.