

## Gore bombs at APEC, as new economic order is on agenda

by Mary Burdman

Speaking in a region in which every nation, with the exception of China, is being devastated by the international financial crisis, the superstitious U.S. Vice President Al Gore had only one thing to offer the Nov. 12-18 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: the “magic” of the “free market.” In a most disgusting speech delivered on Nov. 16, Gore insisted that the Asia-Pacific nations adhere to his own “deconstructionist” Third Way ideology, and sacrifice all to “global financial architecture.”

Gore did not have it his own way, however.

In his statesman-like speech delivered on Nov. 18, Chinese President Jiang Zemin eloquently stated the truth. He laid the blame for the world crisis squarely on “globalization,” and demanded that every nation, however poor or underdeveloped, be able to determine how to rebuild its economy on the basis of its self-determined national situation and national interests. At the same time, Jiang Zemin demanded that each nation take full responsibility for its own condition, as China is doing — and that the “developed” countries take responsibility to cage the monster of international “hot money” speculation which they unleashed on the world.

Jiang Zemin came to APEC prepared to deliver a crucial policy statement. Days before he arrived, Beijing announced that he would deliver an “important speech” (see *Documentation*).

The two speeches were true to the conditions of economic policy in each country. China, still a developing nation, has in the past year responded to the effects of the world financial crisis, by launching a \$1.2 trillion “New Deal” for construction of infrastructure, industry, agriculture, and enhancing science and technology; the United States, which has already suffered a 50% collapse in living standards due to a “shock

therapy” as brutal as that imposed on Russia, has continued straight into the abyss of the past 30 years of industrial deconstruction.

In his speech, Jiang Zemin set out the essence of the policies China has been developing as the world plunges further into depression. The financial crisis seen already last year, is now affecting the entire world economy, he said. “This crisis has occurred in the context of the international background of accelerated world globalization. This situation has given people all over the world important revelations.” He added that this globalization “provides every country not only with development opportunities, but also creates very serious challenges and risks at the same time. It has also presented countries, especially for developing countries, a new subject to tackle: How to ensure national economic security.”

The only solution to this problem, Jiang Zemin said, is to establish a “just and reasonable new world economic order, in the interests of the common development of all nations.” Part of this must be a “new world financial order which conforms to the interests of all sides.”

### **Invasion of the ‘Third Way’**

Despite his intentions, Gore may perhaps have done something useful. His nastiness might well have shocked other APEC nations’ leaders into steps toward creating a level of cooperation, in pure self-defense, greater than all the previous months of economic devastation has done.

Asians have seen this all before. In January 1996, they were subjected to the “outing” of then-British Labour Party leader Tony Blair (since become Prime Minister), as he manically toured the region touting his “stakeholder society.” Blair’s term, which would appropriately put any literate person in mind of the bloodsucking tendencies of such as Gore

and Blair, has evolved into the “Third Way.” Asian leaders got another such sideshow, when U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright led her State Department minions in a song-and-dance routine to defend mega-speculator George Soros, who had destroyed national finances throughout Southeast Asia, from the attacks of Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum in Kuala Lumpur last July.

The “Third Way” crew came to Kuala Lumpur with a clear intention of breaking up the meeting. Already in early November, regional leaders were urging that the Kuala Lumpur APEC summit focus on the financial crisis and the “revitalization of the Asian economies,” rather than getting sidetracked into unproductive fights over trade liberalization issues. “We agree that the coming APEC meeting in Kuala Lumpur is a very significant one,” the spokesman of Japanese Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura said in Tokyo on Nov. 5, following his meetings in Canberra with his Australian colleague, Alexander Downer. The priority of the Malaysian summit, the Japanese official said, is “to focus on the revitalization of the Asian economies, and we should stimulate the international attention to this.”

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir spelled out the framework of this position in his keynote address to the APEC Business Summit on Nov. 15. Speaking on “Restoring Confidence, Regenerating Growth: Managing Globalization Better,” to an audience of 1,150 from countries representing 40% of world trade, Mahathir was explicit: “As host to APEC this year, Malaysia feels a strong sense of responsibility that the meeting should help tackle the current economic problems. As we approach a new millennium, it is imperative that we devise and put in place a better economic and financial regime,

now referred to as architecture, for the world. Some of these will be the result of technological progress, but others will reflect the emergence of new commercial and sociological ideas and values. With your indulgence, I would like to take this opportunity to discuss the present architecture or lack of it as manifested by the anarchical and unregulated capital flows in the international monetary system. In doing so we must not be tied down by fanatical beliefs which act as mental blocks to our recognition of the facts involved.”

In his conclusion, Dr. Mahathir took on the radical monetarists, epitomized by Dow Jones, Inc., and specifically by *Wall Street Journal* Editor Robert Bartley, who called on China to indulge in “creative destruction” of its economy in his Oct. 23 editorial. Mahathir said, “Creative destruction is not the way. We can build on what we have instead of destroying and expecting the phoenix to rise from the ashes.”

### **Gore’s shoddy-goods agenda**

But from the onset, the U.S. delegation, of Gore, Secretary of State Albright, and U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, supported by Canadian officials, insisted on liberalization measures so stark that even Japan, as integrated as it has been into the Group of Seven “bail out the mega-bubble” and radical free trade agenda, balked.

Barshefsky’s shrill Japan-bashing during the ministerial pre-meetings on APEC’s Early Voluntary Sectoral Liberalization, followed by Albright’s splashy, well-publicized meeting with the wife of fired Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim, anticipated Gore’s public self-destruction before an audience including the Malaysian Prime Minister and top officials on Nov. 16.

Gore reiterated all the worn-out phrases — “poor transpar-

## **Al Gore suffers foot-in-mouth disease**

November 17, 1998

Gore goofs again. Vice-President Al Gore’s address to the recent APEC meeting, has been fairly described by one Malaysia official, as the “most disgusting thing I have heard.” Those familiar with Gore would caution Asians not to overreact to such vintage Gore diplomacy: “What better should you expect from a Cigar-Store Indian?” Others might argue that Gore is a notorious sufferer from a relevant childhood infection, foot-in-the-mouth disease.

As to the implications of Gore’s shoddy performances for the future, I would point out to Asians worried about

the implications of Gore’s pretending to become the next U.S. President, Clinton would beat pretender George W. Bush, Jr. hands-down, but Bush would easily humiliate Gore. Bush’s advantage would be, that he is smart enough, so far, almost never to repeat his father’s frequent mistakes, never to put himself in a quotable position before cameras, on an important issue of public controversy.

Next time President Clinton seeks a moment of sweet relief in the White House environment, by shipping both Al Gore and Secretary “Meddling” Albright out of the country, he might send them some place where the blow-back would be minimal, such as to promote the export of U.S.-grown bananas, and of U.S.-made turtle-neck sweaters, on the sunny Galapagos Islands. Those beaches, such as they are, would offer Ms. Albright the opportunity to sing and dance to her heart’s content, without inviting the international publication of embarrassing comments from the local music critics. — *Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.*



*China's President Jiang Zemin (left) and Malaysia's Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad. At the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Summit in Kuala Lumpur, both leaders rejected the "globalization" policy, which is plunging the world economy into chaos.*



ency," "contagion," "cronism," "corruption"—that have been used for more than a year to try to cast the blame for the world financial debacle on the nations most devastated by it, rather than on the insane financiers of the City of London and Wall Street, where it belongs.

Gore's central demand is for "free markets everywhere." He praised the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank for their pathetic \$65-billion package (of which these grasping misers have disbursed only \$44 billion all year), to be shared into fragments among Asia nations, while Indonesia and South Korea alone are each burdened with well more than \$100 billion in bad debts. Like a voice from France's doomed *ancien régime*, Gore announced "let them eat cake," by proffering \$10 billion of "aid" and "trade financing" sponsored by the United States and Japan.

He then insulted leaders of nations, such as Russia, whose economies have been destroyed by years of murderous free-market "shock therapy." Gore proclaimed that "ultimately, our best hope is to allow free markets to work their magic." In Russia, that "magic" has already unleashed a holocaust, as the population has fallen by more than 1 million a year since 1992; many more could lose their lives this winter. Russian Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov was, along with the leaders of Vietnam and Peru, participating in the APEC summit as a full member for the first time.

Gore demanded that Japan, whose machine-tool exports alone have dropped by at least 50% just since last year, carry

on its economic suicide, with "bank reform, . . . [by] deregulating key economic sectors, and by opening more markets."

### **'The market' rampant**

Gore then revealed what "Third Way" advocates mean with their demands for "transparency": That the "markets," the domain of such criminal speculators as Soros and the rest of the hedge-fund mafia, have the right to dictate policy to any and every government on Earth. As the past year has demonstrated in Indonesia, Gore's markets are killers.

"We need a global financial architecture that is as open and inclusive . . . as today's high-speed, hyper-linked information economy," Gore proclaimed. "Today's economy operates on the information standard. A *nation's economic power comes from votes of confidence cast constantly in markets around the world that evaluate every government's policies every day*, through billions of transactions. If investors think you're playing fiscal games, or if a nation's financial standing is hidden in a dense fog of secrecy or confusion, or distorted by corruption, then interest rates climb almost instantly.

"Our governments, banks, and businesses—as well as global institutions like the IMF, the World Bank, and the WTO [World Trade Organization]—must also open more of their activity to public scrutiny. Openness, transparency, and greater disclosure are the surest path to economic strength and investment from around the world" (emphasis added).

Finally, Gore outlined what must be called "Going down

Jakarta way,” betraying an ignorance or insensitivity to more than 1,200 victims of violent demonstrations and riots, in his fulsome embrace of “democracy.”

Gore concluded: “People will accept sacrifice in a democracy, not only because they have had a role in choosing it, but because they rightly believe they are likely to benefit from it. . . . The message this year from Indonesia is unmistakable: People are willing to take responsibility for their future—if they have the power to determine that future. . . . Democracy confers a stamp of legitimacy that reforms must have in order to be effective. And so, among nations suffering economic crises, we continue to hear calls for democracy and reform in many languages—‘people’s power,’ ‘*doi moi*,’ ‘*reformasi*.’ We hear them today—right here, right now—among the brave people of Malaysia.”

Gore promptly left the venue, adding insult to injury to the businesspeople and government officials who sponsored this special event, and brought down on the United States an official letter of protest from the Malaysian host government, issued by Foreign Minister Abdullah Badawi, in which Malaysia warned that the United States must be held accountable for its incitement to instability (see *Documentation*).

Malaysian Minister of International Trade and Industry Rafidah Aziz bluntly summed up Gore’s performance as “the most disgusting speech I’ve ever heard in my life!” (See *Documentation*.)

### **A just and reasonable new order**

Gore and company may have done their best to break up the APEC meeting, but the speech of Jiang Zemin raised a perspective for resolving the crisis.

As Lyndon LaRouche has stated in his “New Bretton Woods” proposal, well-known among the APEC nations, sovereign nation-states alone have the capacity, as well as the power, to reorganize the world financial system and launch the great projects which can re-start the world’s physical economy.

Jiang Zemin based his proposal on national sovereignty. He warned the industrial nations that they are not immune to the financial crisis. The only answer is to reform the “inequitable and irrational old international economic order.”

“A new world financial order which conforms to the interests of all sides,” must be established, Jiang said. Industrial nations must take responsibility to adopt financial policies to promote real economic growth, while also helping the crisis-stricken countries; the big nations, with the power to do so, must regulate capital flows and curb “hot money” speculation. And, this must be done on the sole basis of the sovereign decisions of the nations involved. “There is no, and cannot be, a fixed model or a similar remedy” for all nations, he said.

Jiang Zemin concluded by describing the importance of promoting economic and scientific and technological cooperation among the APEC nations, noting specific measures be-

ing taken by Malaysia and China. “Liberalization is also important for APEC,” he acknowledged, but only “at a pace and in a mode suitable” to each nation’s conditions, “on the basis of voluntarism, flexibility, and pragmatism.”

Indeed, under such conditions, the Asia-Pacific would have a real chance for the “broad and bright prospect” Jiang Zemin foresees.

China’s leaders have lost patience with such effrontery as Gore’s. In their meeting on Nov. 16, Jiang Zemin lectured Gore on the long-established principles of the U.S.-China relationship, based on U.S. recognition of Chinese sovereignty in Tibet and Taiwan. The Tibetan Dalai Lama had just been received in the White House, by President Clinton as well as Gore and Albright, at the same time that U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson was in Taiwan, where he met with Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui and other senior political officials. While calling for the United States and China to “seize the current opportunities and establish a constructive strategic partnership,” Jiang Zemin stated that the “so-called Tibet issue is a product of imperialist aggression against China. . . . Some anti-China forces in the world have been using the issue to exert pressure on the Chinese government and their intention is quite obvious.”

In Kuala Lumpur on Nov. 19, Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan ironically “welcomed” the proposed U.S.-Japanese \$10 billion joint aid package, adding, however, that “such countries should have made these contributions long ago. . . . This is their responsibility as developed countries, which should not be pushed onto others.” China itself announced a \$4.5 billion aid program of its own for APEC member countries on Nov. 18. Tang Jiaxuan then expressed his opinion of Gore’s behavior. The Chinese “think that countries should all deal with each other on a principle of mutual equality and not interfere in each other’s internal affairs. We think the things Gore spoke of, were the internal affairs of Malaysia,” he said. “While it’s not for China to comment on what Americans say, the Chinese government and the Chinese people will never, ever, make irresponsible comments on the internal affairs of other countries.”

### **Regional meetings**

The APEC summit will be followed by intense regional diplomacy. In this context of bilateral national meetings, it is possible that more fruitful discussions of a new, just world economic order could be undertaken.

Central to this diplomacy will be the visits of Jiang Zemin to Russia and to Japan. Jiang Zemin will visit Moscow beginning on Nov. 22, and will then go to Novosibirsk on Nov. 25, where he will visit the Institute of Nuclear Physics in the Akademgorodok. This visit to Russia is being seen as of extreme importance, in order to give specific content to the two nations’s established strategic partnership. Among other things, Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan said that the two nations’ leaders will discuss the financial crisis, imple-

ment existing economic agreements, and seek new outlets for growth through diversifying current trading structures.

Jiang will then go on directly to Japan Nov. 25 for a five-day visit, including to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of relations between the People's Republic of China and Japan. This is the first visit of any Chinese President to Japan.

At the APEC meeting itself, participating nations exchanged a number of invitations for bilateral meetings. Those already accepted for the coming period, are: Jiang Zemin to Australia and New Zealand; Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi to Malaysia and Thailand; Prime Minister Mahathir to Singapore; and Indonesian Prime Minister B.J. Habibie to Australia, his first bilateral visit since he took office. In addition, Russian Prime Minister Primakov will visit India, on Dec. 6-8.

Obviously, a key provision for the potential success of such meetings, is that no one invite Al Gore.

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## Documentation

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# China's President Jiang Zemin addresses APEC

*Here are excerpts from President Jiang Zemin's speech to APEC, on Nov. 18, as reported by People's Daily. Subheads have been added.*

... At the Vancouver [APEC] meeting last year, the financial crisis in some Asian countries aroused wide concern among nations among the members of APEC.

Now a year has passed, but the ramifications are still spreading out, not only bringing serious economic difficulties to some countries and regions in Asia, but also affecting the entire world economy. This crisis has occurred in the context of the international background of accelerated world globalization. This situation has given people all over the world important revelations.

Economic globalization has become a trend as the result of the economic, scientific, and technological development in the present world. It provides every country not only with development opportunities, but also creates very serious challenges and risks at the same time.

It has also presented countries, especially for developing countries, a new subject to tackle: How to ensure the economic security of a country.

The trend of economic globalization requires active participation of nations in international economic cooperation.

However, countries should expand their opening up programs in light of their concrete national situation, in an orderly and step-by-step manner. At the same time, nations must consistently increase their capability to prevent and withstand risks.

The trend of economic globalization has made national economies more and more interdependent and interactive. Once a financial crisis breaks out in certain countries or regions, not only will developing countries suffer immensely, but the developed countries will also find it difficult to stay out of the crisis.

A globalized economy calls for global cooperation. All members of the international community should work together to maintain steady development of the world economy in the spirit of sharing responsibilities and risks. The trend of globalization is emerging and developing in a context where there is no fundamental change in the inequitable and irrational old international economic order, which has not been reformed. This will inevitably widen the gap between the rich and poor countries.

The ultimate solution to this problem is to work for the establishment of a just and reasonable new world economic order, in the interests of the common development of all nations.

At the moment, the international community has a common concern about how to curb the ramifications of the financial crisis at an early date and prevent a world economic regression. In order to promote steady development of the international financial sector and establish a new international financial order, I would like to put forward three proposals:

### Three proposals

1. To strengthen international cooperation, prevent the spread of crisis, and create a favorable external environment for the economic recovery and growth of the crisis-stricken nations and regions. The developed industrial countries have to take the responsibility, to adopt financial and currency policies to promote economic growth, expand internal demand and imports by means of fiscal and monetary policies, and refrain from resorting to trade protectionism. At the same time, they should increase financial assistance to the crisis-stricken countries, and take appropriate measures to reduce their debt burden in an effort to help them stabilize finances and rebuild their economies. In this way, the industrial nations will not only help these countries tide over the difficulties, but also serve their own interests.

2. To restructure and improve the international financial system and ensure safe and orderly operation of the international financial markets, these big powers with influence in international finance are duty-bound to take effective steps to improve the supervision and regulation of international capital flows and contain the excessive speculation with international hot money, and establish warning and emergency measures.

It is essential to deliberate on the establishment of a new world financial order which conforms to the interests of all sides, through dialogue and consultation between developed and developing countries in compliance with the principles of equality and mutual benefit and on the basis of extensive participation of the international community.

I agree that the APEC Finance Ministers meeting should study the questions related to the restructuring of the international financial system and put forward relevant proposals.

3. To respect the independent choices made by any countries or regions on overcoming the crisis. The countries and regions stricken or affected by crisis differ in their level of economic development and historic traditions, and also differ in the causes and course of the financial crisis. Therefore, there is no, and cannot be, a fixed model or a similar remedy for them all to come through the crisis and revitalize their economies. Instead, they should be given support in taking measures in light of their own situation.

The international community and international organizations should respect the right of a country to make decisions

on its own, and help lift itself out of the difficulties as rapidly as possible, through consultation on an equal footing. Developing countries, and particularly countries and regions stricken by the crisis, should make the necessary realignments of their economic structure and policies in light of their own conditions, properly handle the large problems of their economic development, and increase economic dynamism by taking full advantage of favorable conditions, both internal and external.

### China's initiatives

The financial crisis has also brought negative effects and great pressure on economic development in China. The Chinese government has assumed a highly responsible attitude. China has provided assistance to the relevant countries within the IMF [International Monetary Fund] agreements and through bilateral channels. Proceeding from the overall interests of maintaining sustained economic growth and international economic development, China has made the decision to not devalue the RMB [China's currency], for which, China

## Neme Salum says, Clinton must bring in LaRouche

In his weekly financial column in the Mexican daily *Excelsior* on Nov. 9, José Neme Salum reiterated that President Clinton should appoint Lyndon LaRouche as his economic adviser.

"People have questioned those — among them, this columnist — who have joined the campaign calling upon Clinton to appoint as his adviser, the U.S. economist, physicist, geometer, musician, politician, and historian, Lyndon LaRouche," Neme wrote. "The answer as to why, is simple: that person has demonstrated over the course of the last three decades that he is capable of 'understanding the universe,' as his nine successful economic forecasts over that period prove, the last of them — presented in August 1994 — referencing the systemic crisis which oppresses, and threatens to finish off today's civilization."

When Neme refers to "understanding the universe," he is speaking of a quote from Gottfried Leibniz, taken from a letter to the Princess Elector Sophia on Nov. 4, 1696, with which he opened his column. The quote, Neme wrote, was written by the "philosopher, geometer, physicist, jurist, economist, and historian — that is, the genius! — Gottfried Leibniz." There, Leibniz wrote that the most elevated of all souls, are those capable of understanding true eterni-

ties, those capable of representing the universe, and having "distinct ideas" of its beauty and magnitude, and of God Himself.

Neme reminded his readers that one year ago, certain Mexican authorities, under pressure from Wall Street and other financial groups, had taken steps to prevent LaRouche from visiting Mexico, "despite the fact that he had been invited by industrialists, academics, students, journalists, and citizens in general." Neme added: "People had to be satisfied, after being stripped of their rights by the cowardly attitude of authorities, with having contact with LaRouche only by a telephone hook-up to a conference, and to having access to some of the man's wisdom through very few media, fortunately one among them, *Excelsior*." Had Mexicans at that time listened to the "advice of this genius of our day, on how to avoid these cutbacks and greater sacrifices of people," Neme argued, perhaps Mexico would be today in the lead of countries headed toward a New International Order, such as China and Malaysia.

Providing his readers with an update on LaRouche's evaluation of the current status of the world battle for global economic justice (in the course of which he strongly defended Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad, whose name, he wrote, has become synonymous with the struggle against today's colonialism, called globalization), Neme recommended that his readers get ahold of LaRouche's article, "Time to Tell the Truth," published in *EIR*, Oct. 16, 1998, and in No. 20 of *EIR*'s Spanish edition, *Resumen Ejecutivo de EIR*.

has paid a high price. Having won a battle against catastrophic floods this summer, we are now going ahead with more in-depth reforms, adopting active fiscal policies, increasing input for infrastructure construction and boosting domestic demand in an effort to achieve this year's objective of social and economic development. APEC, as the most important international economic organization in this region, must adapt to the new situation, persist in narrowing the gap and realizing the objective of common prosperity through economic cooperation, and make timely realization of the priority areas for cooperation, so as to better meet the needs of the developing members, which make up the majority of APEC's membership.

At present, it is more important than ever to stick to the APEC approach, characterized mainly by respect for diversity, voluntarism, and consensus-building. APEC should make its own contribution to increased regional stability and prosperity, by adhering to this approach.

Promoting economic and technological cooperation (Ecotech) among its members is a major task of APEC and a primary way to common development. In the world of today, science and technology are progressing with each passing day, and the knowledge economy is unfolding. To redouble the efforts to develop advanced and new technology, and speed up economic restructuring, are the only way to promote a long-term and steady development of the economies of APEC members. We are glad to see the formulation by APEC of the APEC agenda for Science and Technology Industrial Cooperation in the 21st Century, and Skills Development Action Plan this year, under the chairmanship of Malaysia, the host country. They represent a major step by APEC members toward enhanced Ecotech.

China attaches great importance to and supports the implementation of these two important documents. As an expression of this, the Chinese government has set aside US \$10 million to establish the China APEC Science and Technology Industry Cooperation Fund for the purpose of financing cooperation between China and the other APEC members in the field of science and technology industry. China has put forward a series of proposals on cooperation projects. China has also set up a China APEC Enterprises Assembly to promote enterprise participation in APEC activities.

Promoting trade and investment liberalization is another important task of APEC. Thanks to concerted efforts of all members, positive progress has been made and will continue to be made in this area. In the current circumstances, it is important to pursue an active and prudent policy, and its members should be allowed to make efforts toward the realization of this goal—trade and investment liberalization—at a pace and in a mode suitable to their own conditions and in accordance with the two timetables on the basis of voluntarism, flexibility, and pragmatism.

The current difficulties facing some Asia-Pacific coun-

tries and regions are temporary ones. I believe that there is huge economic vitality and development potentiality in the Asia-Pacific region. As long as we work together to increase cooperation and surmount difficulties, the economic and social development of this region will have a broad and bright prospect.

## Officials, businessmen protest Gore's outrage

**Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Haj Ahmad Badawi**, from a statement released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Nov. 17, in response to Vice President Al Gore's remarks on the internal situation in Malaysia on Nov. 16:

Malaysia rejects as most unwarranted the provocative remarks made by U.S. Vice President Al Gore and the White House. Malaysia views them as gross interference in the internal affairs of the country and a brazen violation of the basic tenets of relations between sovereign states. We view these remarks were based willfully on one-sided views of developments in the country.

Malaysia finds the incitement by the U.S. government to lawlessness by certain elements within the country to use undemocratic means in order to overthrow a constitutionally elected government, most abhorrent. The action by the U.S. patently is not to advance the cause of democracy and the rule of law, but to serve its narrow political agenda. All its preaching about democratic principles ring hollow and must be seen for what it really is.

Malaysia wishes to remind the U.S. that the system of government in Malaysia has evolved out of Malaysia's historical experiences and [has been] expressed through constitutional and democratic means. Malaysians do not take kindly to sanctimonious sermonizing from any foreign quarter, especially the United States, a country which is known to have committed gross violations of human rights.

Malaysians hold dearly the harmony and stability which they have painstakingly built up through the years in their multiracial nation. Malaysians would hold the U.S. accountable for any rupture of this harmony arising from this irresponsible incitement.

**Malaysian International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz**, reported by *The Star Online* on Nov. 17:

"The most disgusting speech I have ever heard. . . . And I hope I never live to hear another one again like that. . . . We are doing our best in this part of the world. We do not play politics with economic recovery." Gore's speech "spoil the whole APEC meeting and ABEC functions. . . . I can imagine