2 pages



BY THE BEST-SELLING AUTHOR OF MAY 13



This latest book by Dr Kua Kia Soong is a bombshell! It is about bombs and shells, jet fighters, helicopters, submarines and other weapons of war, all bought with Malaysian tax payers' money. And it is a lot of money! The 10th Malaysian Plan has allocated RM23 billion for defence & security.

This is the first full expose of Malaysia's military since Independence. It contains the A to Z of Malaysia's arms industry and spending, from the unanswered questions surrounding the murder of Altantuya...to the high incidence of accidents involving the Sikorsky Nuri helicopters.

Kua has been monitoring the arms trade since the Seventies and what is significant about this book

is that it brings together in one volume, the key issues and events connected with defence spending in Malaysia. From a range of published sources, he unearths the vested interests, corruption, wastage and negligence in arms procurement and alerts us to the growth of the domestic military-industrial complex. Malaysians are called upon to seriously consider the question of war and peace; the justifications for arms procurements; procedures of accountability and the choice of alternative socially useful production.

The 'Arms for Aid Scandal' is published in this groundbreaking book for the first time. It contains the 1994 revelations from the British press on the RM5 billion arms deal as well as the statutory declarations of private investigator Balasubramaniam in the Altantuya murder case.

"For too long, the military has been spared public scrutiny under the guise of 'nationa! security'. Kua's well researched book is bound to ignite public debate and outrage. It confirms that major policy shifts are needed, both in terms of transparency as well as a paradigm shift in how we think of security. A must read!"

- Premesh Chandran, CEO Malaysiakini

"Actions to focus public attention on the costs of military spending and the need for new priorities need to be grounded in solid research, and it is in this respect that the present work is so helpful, Kia Kia Soang is a writer and activist with a long record of investigation into important issues. He has now produced another courageous work..."

- Colin Archer, Secretary General of the International Peace Burean

Or Kua Kia Soong is director of Maleysia's human rights organization, SUARAM. He was Principal of the community-funded New Era College (2000-08): Opposition Member of Parliament for Petaling Java (1990-95); Director of Huazi Research Centre (1985-90): Political Detelinee under the ISA (1987-99): Academic Director to the Malaysian Chinese schools (1983-85) and Lecturer in Sociology at the National University of Singapore (1978-79). He studied for his BA Econ (1975), MA Econ (1976) and PhD in Sociology (1981) at Manchester University, UK.



