

January 21, 2003

To: All News Editors

PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The National Union of Journalists Malaysia expresses its regret over yesterday's incident where 15 computers and 4 servers belonging to Malaysiakini were confiscated by the police during an investigation into an alleged sedition case

The Union is of the opinion that the seizure of the equipment would hamper the ability of the online news portal to serve its readers effectively.

NUJ urges the police to exercise due care and discretion so as not to give the public a wrong impression that the action was to shut down Malaysiakini and suppress press freedom.

NUJ sympathises the plight of Malaysiakini and is confident that it will be cleared from all allegations in the course of a proper, fair and transparent police investigation.

On behalf of the NUJ Executive Council,

HONG BOON HOW
General Secretary