THE PRIME MINISTER'S ADDRESS AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE SENTOSA GOLF CLUB, SUNDAY, 14TH JULY, 1974

On Sentosa, the noise and bustle of Singapore seems remote and cut off. But for huge oil tankers riding an anchor, I can imagine myself to be on an island in the South Pacific. Sentosa golf course has several attractive features. There is the sea. There is no roar of motor traffic, no loudspeakers as at the Singapore Island Country Club, blaring forth messages to members out on the golf courses. Incidentally, this is something which should be forbidden by law.

It is important to keep Sentosa this way, free from motor traffic. There should be more trees and palms. Buildings should be kept low, hugging the profile of the island. Then Sentosa will remain an idyllic retreat, albeit a crowded one at weekends and holidays, with people seeking the swimming lagoons and tourist and picnic spots. However, the temptation is for Sentosa Development Corporation to stick a high-rise building up, for maximum returns on their investments. Then the air of a remote retreat may be destroyed.

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I hope Sentosa Development Corporation will try to keep this island as a retreat for those who seek a place where they can walk, without competing with

cars, lorries and buses; a place where they can swim in the sea without bothering about tide-tables; and, most important, a place where they can get away from the noise of machines. The generator that serves the earth satellite station emits a small, but high-pitched hum. This, I hope, can be muted.

In declaring open this golf club and its club-house, I hope the Sentosa Golf Club will maintain its unique assets, all the comforts of proximity to a city, but all the quiet and seclusion of the wooded hillside, and a glorious view of a wide expanse of the sea.

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