

PM TO QUIT ON JULY 16

By N.V. RAMAN and
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**KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.
— Datuk Hussein Onn
will step down as Prime
Minister on July 16.**

He announced this at the Umno general assembly this morning.

He said he had chosen the date after consulting the new party president and Prime Minister-designate, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He had wanted to step down immediately after the general assembly, but Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir had asked him to stay on a little longer to ensure a smooth transition, he said.

Datuk Hussein, who was winding up the debate on the presidential address which he delivered on Friday, said that Umno's achievements so far has been due to co-operation among the members.

"This co-operation and unity should continue as the future of the party is in the hands of the members," said Datuk Hussein.

He was happy that the party elections had been carried out in an orderly manner and in accordance with party tradition.

Datuk Hussein also urged Finance Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah not to leave the Government and the party Supreme Council.

Tengku Razaleigh lost to Education Minister Datuk Musa Hitam in the deputy presidential contest. He had pledged to resign from the Government if he lost.

"Winning and losing are a normal thing in any democratic contest and it should not be a reason to resign

"The contests are provided for in the party constitution and I hope Tengku Razaleigh will continue to serve the party, as every member is committed to do," said Datuk Hussein.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said later that Datuk Hussein would chair his last Cabinet meeting on July 15.

The Barisan Nasional leaders would also have a meeting on the same day, he said.

Commenting on his plans, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said that he did not envisage a major Cabinet reshuffle as practically all the present Ministers had been re-elected to the Supreme Council.

He said he would hold at least one other portfolio besides the Prime Ministership, but he could not say what it would be



Datuk Hussein, overcome by the tribute lavished on him by his successor, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, succumbs to his emotions. ..