

MAHATHIR

FROM MUSA SCULLY P

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CHICAGO, OCT. 6 (BERNAMA) — MALAYSIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY OFFERED MALAYSIA AS THE SITE FOR AMERICAN COMPANIES WANTING TO CONTINUE MANUFACTURING PRODUCTS COMPETITIVELY TO SERVE THE WORLD.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER, WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE FIDA INVESTMENT SEMINAR AT THE 80-STORY BUILDING OF STANDARD OIL HERE.

THE SEMINAR ATTRACTED ABOUT 60 INDUSTRIALISTS AND FINANCIERS. HE SAID THE MISSION HEADED BY HIM NOW IN THE UNITED STATES OFFERED THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPANIES WANTING TO EXPAND OPERATIONS OVERSEAS AS WELL AS MAINTAIN OR INCREASE THEIR COMPETITIVENESS OVERSEAS OR THOSE WHICH CURRENTLY FACED PROBLEMS OF LAND, LABOUR AND RAW MATERIALS.

HE ADDED THAT THEY COULD CONSIDER MALAYSIA AS THEIR POTENTIAL INVESTMENT SITE. — BERNAMA MORE 1355/YF

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EARLIER, WHEN ADDRESSING THE SEMINAR AT LOS ANGELES, HOUSTON AND NEW YORK, HE TOLD PARTICIPANTS THAT THE MALAYSIAN INVESTMENT MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES WAS NOT TO PUT FORWARD PROPOSALS TO BRING ABOUT COMPETITION IN JOB OPPORTUNITIES BETWEEN WORKERS IN BOTH COUNTRIES.

THE EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL BANK, ENCIK ALFRED MOSSI, THE CO-SPONSOR OF THE SEMINAR, SAID THE BANK WITH OTHER BANKS IN AMERICA VIEWED THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT FAVOURABLY AS A BORROWER AND LOOKED FORWARD TO CONTINUING PARTICIPATION IN FINANCING INTERNAL GROWTH AND INVESTMENT IN MALAYSIA.

HE ADDED THAT THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT'S POSITION OF FLEXIBILITY WITHIN THE INDUSTRIAL CO-ORDINATION ACT WAS REASSURING TO THE AMERICANS AND HAD DONE A GOOD DEAL TO DISPEL SOME CONCERN ABOUT TOO MUCH GOVERNMENT CONTROL. 222

HE SAID WHAT WILL MAKE MALAYSIA'S ECONOMIC CAKE EXPAND AND MATURE IS THE GOVERNMENT'S CLEAR DEFINITION OF TARGET AND QUALITY AIM AND ITS DETERMINATION TO BE FLEXIBLE IN IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE ICA+ — BERNAMA MORE 1355/YF

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HE ADDED THAT MANY CORPORATIONS CONTINUED TO VIEW MALAYSIA FAVOURABLY AS THEIR INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

THIS, HE SAID, WAS DUE TO MALAYSIA'S EXCELLENT RECORD IN DEVELOPMENT, OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL CREDIT RATING AND ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENT POLICY.

THE CONTINENTAL IS THE SEVENTH LARGEST BANK IN THE UNITED STATES WHICH HAS AN INTEREST IN MALAYSIA THROUGH MALAYSIAN INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT BANKERS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR HAD EARLIER VISITED MERCANTILE EXCHANGES WHICH IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST FUTURES EXCHANGES.

THE MALAYSIAN FLAG WAS HOISTED ATOP THE BUILDING IN HONOUR OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT. — BERNAMA MORE 1357/YF

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WILL LEAVE CHICAGO IN A PRIVATE PLANE TO TOLEDO, OHIO, FOR A VISIT TO OVENS RESEARCH CENTRE WHICH IS INVOLVED IN THE NEW DEVELOPMENT OF SOLAR POWER, FOOD PROCESSING AND PACKAGING.

HE WILL LATER JOIN OTHER MISSION MEMBERS IN ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, WHERE HE WILL VISIT MONSANTO HEADQUARTERS. — BERNAMA 1400/YF