

MAHATHIR-REFUGEES

IPOH, NOV. 26 (BERNAMA) — MALAYSIA IS VIEWING THE PROBLEM POSED BY THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM VIETNAM VERY SERIOUSLY, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

ALL MEASURERS HAD BEEN TAKEN TO SEE THAT NONE OF THEM WAS ALLOWED TO LAND, HE SAID.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER ATTENDING A MEETING WITH STATE UMNO DIVISIONAL HEADS AT THE MENTRI BESAR'S RESIDENCE HERE, HE SAID THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THERE MIGHT BE COMMUNIST ELEMENTS AMONG THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THEIR INFLUX INTO MALAYSIAN WATERS HAD POSED A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS TO THE COUNTRY.

+WE HAVE TO INCREASE OUR NAVAL PATROLS, INVOLVING MORE SHIPS, TO GUARD OUR COASTLINE,+ HE SAID. — BERNAMA MORE 2004/A1

££

NO92:

MAHATHIR-REFUGEES 2 IPOH

MEDICAL PERSONNEL HAD ALSO TO BE ASSIGNED TO LOOK AFTER THEIR HEALTH.

HE SAID THAT THE FREE-SPENDING OF THE AMERICAN DOLLAR BY THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS HAD ALSO INADVERTENTLY AFFECTED THE LOCAL POPULACE.

OF THE MEETING TODAY, HE ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF ENCIK KHALID NASIR AS THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE UMNO LIAISON COMMITTEE, DATUK TAJUDDIN ALI AS TREASURER AND HAJI SAIDIN BIN MAT PIAH AS CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER.

THE MENTRI BESAR, DATUK SERI WAN MOHAMED HAJI WAN TEH, REMAINED AS DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS THE PERAK UMNO CHAIRMAN, SAID THAT A COMMITTEE HAD BEEN SET UP TO LOOK INTO THE FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS OF UMNO DIVISIONS IN THE STATE. — BERNAMA 2007/A1