

NO37 (F)
MAHATHIR - HUSSEIN
BM

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N BY IDZAN ISMAIL

KUALA LUMPUR, MARCH 12 (BERNAMA) — ACTING PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED CONFIRMED TODAY THAT PRIME MINISTER DATUK HUSSEIN ONN WILL RETURN HOME FROM LONDON ON SATURDAY EVENING. HE SAID HE HAD RECEIVED A TELEGRAM TO THIS EFFECT FROM DATUK HUSSEIN.

DATUK HUSSEIN AND DATIN SUHAILA ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE AT THE KUALA LUMPUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT 6.45 P.M. ON THAT DAY BY MAS FLIGHT MH 001.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO TOLD REPORTERS UMNO WOULD ORGANISE A SMALL WELCOMING FUNCTION FOR THE PRIME MINISTER WHO ALTHOUGH CURED WAS NOT SUPPOSED TO EXERT HIMSELF.

+WE HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO BRING DATUK HUSSEIN STRAIGHT TO HIS RESIDENCE AT SRI TAMAN FROM THE AIRPORT, + HE ADDED.

ONLY SELECTED PERSONS INCLUDING PARTY LEADERS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO WAIT AT THE BOARDING RAMP TO GREET DATUK HUSSEIN WHEN HE DISSEMBARKED FROM THE AIRCRAFT.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR APPEALED TO JOURNALISTS AT THE AIRPORT NOT TO PRESS DATUK HUSSEIN INTO GIVING A NEWS CONFERENCE. — BERNAMA MORE 1642/AM

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID DATUK HUSSEIN WOULD REST FIRST BEFORE ASSUMING HIS DUTIES BUT HE COULD NOT SAY HOW LONG THE REST PERIOD WOULD TAKE.

+NORMALLY A CORONARY BY-PASS PATIENT NEEDS AT LEAST TWO MONTHS' RECUPERATION AFTER THE OPERATION, + HE SAID.

HE SAID HE WOULD CONTINUE TO ACT AS PRIME MINISTER UNTIL SUCH TIME AS DATUK HUSSEIN WAS COMPLETELY FIT TO RESUME HIS ROLE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WOULD TABLE THE FOURTH MALAYSIA PLAN IN PARLIAMENT ON MARCH 27 +UNLESS THERE IS A LAST -MINUTE CHANGE.+

HE ADVISED THE PEOPLE TO REFRAIN FROM CALLING ON DATUK HUSSEIN WHILE HE WAS RESTING AS THIS MIGHT TIRE THE PRIME MINISTER.

ON WHY DATUK HUSSEIN WAS RETURNING EARLIER THAN MARCH 22 AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR EXPLAINED THAT THE WEATHER IN LONDON WAS AT PRESENT VERY COLD AND PREVENTED DATUK HUSSEIN FROM TAKING WALKS. —BERNAMA 1650/AM