

0177

U E084 DEE
MAHATHIR - AIRPORT '84

P

SUBANG, NOV. 25 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD CAUGHT EVERYONE BY SURPRISE AT THE KUALA LUMPUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WHEN HE STROLLED CASUALLY INTO TERMINAL ONE THIS AFTERNOON.

THE PRIME MINISTER WENT TO THE VIP ROOM AND **+INSPECTED+** THE AREA. COMING OUT FROM THE VIP ROOM; DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR AND HIS WIFE DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR. SITI HASMAH, WHO WAS CARRYING A BABY, WENT UP THE ESCALATOR TO THE VIEWING GALLERY ON THE FIRST FLOOR.

NO AIRPORT OFFICIALS WERE PRESENT TO RECEIVE OR ESCORT HIM.

AIRPORT EMPLOYEES, PASSENGERS AND OTHERS AT THE TERMINAL WERE SURPRISED TO SEE THE PRIME MINISTER MOVING ABOUT WITHOUT ANY OFFICIALS OR POLICE ACCOMPANYING HIM.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS WALKED AROUND FOR ABOUT 15 MINUTES BEFORE LEAVING THE AIRPORT. APPROACHED BY BERNAMA, HE SAID: + I CAME FOR LUNCH.+

HE THEN DROVE OFF IN A RED CAR WITH HIS WIFE AND THE BABY SEATED AT THE BACK. THERE WERE NO POLICE OUTRIDERS BUT A POLICE CAR WAS SEEN FOLLOWING THE CAR FROM A DISTANCE.--BERNAMA

175AMST 25 11 84 -