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CHOGM-APARTHEID

FROM SYED JAMIL JAAFAR

85

9/11/85 00015003

NASSAU (BAHAMAS), OCT 18, (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT NOW IS THE MOST OPPORTUNE TIME TO IMPOSE GREATER ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA TO FORCE AN END TO APARTHEID.

+WE HAVE TO STRIKE WHILE THE IRON IS HOT,+ HE SAID, POINTING OUT THAT PRETORIA HAD NEVER BEEN MORE CONSCIOUS OF WORLD PRESSURE AGAINST IT THAN THE PRESENT TIME.

EXPRESSING MALAYSIA'S SUPPORT FOR CONCRETE ACTION AGAINST THE RACIST SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME, HE SAID ANY WATERED-DOWN RESOLUTION EMERGING FROM THE ON-GOING COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT HERE ON THE ISSUE WOULD HAVE NO EFFECT.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS SPEAKING TO MALAYSIAN NEWSMEN WHO ARE HERE TO COVER CHOGM 85 BEING ATTENDED BY 46 OF THE 49 COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES.

DEBATE ON SOUTH AFRICA WHICH STARTED YESTERDAY CONTINUES TODAY.

-- BERNAMA

2345MST 18 10 85