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B E240 AAE
MAHATHIR-PRISON
BM

86
KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 19, (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD
SAID TONIGHT THAT HIS VISIT LAST NIGHT TO PUDU JAIL WHERE SIX
PRISONERS ARE HOLDING A DOCTOR AND A MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST HOSTAGE
WAS MERELY TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE SITUATION.

THE PRIME MINISTER ARRIVED AT THE PRISON AT 10.25 LAST NIGHT AND
LEFT ABOUT 20 MINUTES LATER.

APPROACHED BY REPORTERS AFTER ATTENDING A DINNER IN CONJUNCTION
WITH THE FIFTH CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATION OF ASIAN VETERINARY
ASSOCIATIONS HERE, HE DECLINED TO COMMENT ON WHAT ACTION POLICE
WOULD TAKE IF THE HANDLING OF THE CASE WAS HANDED OVER TO THEM BY
THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT SHOULD THE NEGOTIATIONS FAILED TO BE
CONCLUDED BY TOMORROW.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS DATUK IBRAHIM MOHAMED THIS EVENING
SAID THAT HE MIGHT HAVE TO HAND OVER THE HANDLING OF THE MATTER TO
THE POLICE AFTER 10 AM TOMORROW. -- MORE
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MAHATHIR-PRISON 2 KUALA LUMPUR

MEANWHILE, DEPUTY HOME MINISTER DATUK MEGAT JUNID MEGAT AYOB
CAME OUT OF THE PRISON AT ABOUT 10.30 PM AFTER BEING INSIDE FOR
ABOUT TWO HOURS.

APPROACHED BY REPORTERS, HE SAID NEGOTIATIONS +ARE STILL GOING
ON.+

ALSO PRESENT WAS DATUK IBRAHIM WHO WAS DOING HIS BEST TO SEEK A
SOLUTION TO THE HOSTAGE DRAMA. -- BERNAMA
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