

## SARAWAK SALE?

The main reason for Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamed's two-day visit to Brunei in March was not the ostensible one of improving transport links. It is understood that foremost on the agenda was a proposal to sell Brunei a sizeable area of jungle belonging to the neighbouring Malaysian state of Sarawak, which currently divides the tiny Bruneian territory into two halves. The area in question is known as Limbang and covers around half of Sarawak's thinly populated 8,000 km<sup>2</sup> Fifth Division, which was hived off from the Brunei Sultanate early this century. If the sale goes ahead — and prices being mentioned start at US\$6 billion — Brunei's territory would be nearly doubled.