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MAHATHIR-POLICE  
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(EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AFTER 0001 HRS TOMORROW)

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 23 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAYS MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE HAVE SHOWN THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO STRUGGLE TO THE VERY END IN THE DEFENCE OF THE COUNTRY'S INTEGRITY AND SOVEREIGNTY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO HOME MINISTER, SAYS HE IS PROUD OF THE CAPABILITY OF THE POLICE IN DISCHARGING THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN ENFORCING THE COUNTRY'S LAWS, PRESERVING THE NATION'S PEACE AND STABILITY AND PROTECTING THE PEOPLE.

ALL THE SACRIFICES OF THE POLICE WILL BE REMEMBERED AND HELD IN HIGH ESTEEM BY THE PEOPLE, HE SAYS IN A MESSAGE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONFERMENT OF THE +ROYAL+ STATUS TO THE POLICE FORCE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAYS THE BESTOWING OF THE TITLE +ROYAL+ WAS IN APPRECIATION OF THE STRUGGLE, SACRIFICES AND LOYALTY OF POLICE PERSONNEL DURING THE ARMED INSURRECTION LAUNCHED BY THE OUTLAWED COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA (CPM) FROM 1948 TILL 1960.

THE PRIME MINISTER CALLS ON ALL OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE POLICE FORCE TO BE DETERMINED IN PROVIDING MORE EXCELLENT SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE AND THE COUNTRY.

HE SAYS ALL THEIR SACRIFICES WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED BY THE PEOPLE. -- MORE  
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THE PEOPLE SHOULD ALSO GIVE THEIR COOPERATION AND SOLID SUPPORT TO THE POLICE FORCE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

IN HIS MESSAGE, INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE TAN SRI MOHAMAD HANIFF OMAR SAYS THE EXISTING GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND THE POLICE SHOULD BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED.

THIS WILL HELP THE POLICE TO PLAY THEIR ROLE AND DISCHARGE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES IN UPHOLDING THE LAW, MAINTAINING PEACE AND SAFEGUARDING NATIONAL RESILIENCE, HE SAYS.

+COOPERATION AND PUBLIC TRUST ARE VERY NECESSARY TO HELP US BUILD UP AN EFFICIENT AND PROFESSIONAL FORCE WITH INTEGRITY,+ HE ADDS.

IT IS THE POLICE FORCE'S ASPIRATION AND DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE PROVIDING MORE EXCELLENT SERVICE IN A MORE DEDICATED AND RESPONSIBLE MANNER TO THE PEOPLE AND THE NATION, HE SAYS.

TAN SRI MOHAMAD HANIFF SAYS CELEBRATIONS MARKING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONFERMENT OF THE +ROYAL+ TITLE TO THE FORCE IS NOT ONLY TO RECALL THE GLORIOUS MOMENTS OF THE FORCE AT THE TIME WHEN THE TITLE WAS BESTOWED BUT ALSO TO LOOK BACK ON THE STRUGGLE AND EXCELLENT SERVICE OF THE FORCE DURING THE EMERGENCY PERIOD. -- MORE

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HE SAYS THE CELEBRATIONS ARE BEING HELD IN THE HOPE OF INSPIRING THOSE IN THE POLICE FORCE TODAY AND THOSE JOINING LATER TO WORK WITH MORE DEDICATION, DETERMINATION AND RESPONSIBILITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE, RELIGION AND HOMELAND.

RECALLING THE HISTORY OF THE FORCE, HE TOUCHED ON THE DETERMINATION OF THE MEMBERS TO STRUGGLE AND MAKE SACRIFICES TO ENSURE THE SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY OF THE NATION IN THE FACE OF THE THREAT FROM COMMUNIST TERRORISTS.

THEY WERE PREPARED TO FIGHT TILL THEIR LAST DROP OF BLOOD, HE SAID, ADDING THAT 1,346 OF THEM DIED, ACCOUNTING FOR ABOUT 72 PERCENT OF THE 1,865 UNFORMED PERSONNEL WHO PERISHED IN THE CAUSE OF DEFENDING THE NATION. -- BERNAMA  
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