

0837

U E410 A A E
MAHATHIR-AQUINO ~~RRRR~~ (REPLACING EARLIER ITEM).

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC 4 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS SENT A MESSAGE TO PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT CORAZON AQUINO EXPRESSING HIS +DEEP CONCERN+ OVER THE LATEST COUP ATTEMPT BY MILITARY REBELS AGAINST THE AQUINO GOVERNMENT.

'+I HAVE FOLLOWED WITH DEEP CONCERN THE EVENTS OF THE LAST FEW DAYS,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IN A MESSAGE SENT ON SATURDAY.

+THE ATTEMPT BY ELEMENTS OF THE PHILIPPINE ARMED FORCES TO OVERTHROW YOUR GOVERNMENT THROUGH FORCE WOULD ONLY CREATE INSTABILITY IN THE COUNTRY AND REGION,+ HE SAID. A COPY OF THE STATEMENT WAS RELEASED BY WISMA PUTRA TODAY.

+AS A CLOSE NEIGHBOUR, MALAYSIA VIEWS THESE DEVELOPMENTS AS AN OBSTACLE TO THE MORE URGENT TASK OF NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION,+ HE SAID.

+MY GOVERNMENT HOPES YOU WILL SOON BE ABLE TO RESTORE CALM AND STABILITY IN THE COUNTRY AND BRING ABOUT RECONCILIATION AMONGST THE FILIPINO PEOPLE,+ HE ADDED, -- MORE
1427MST 04 12 89

0845

U E416 A A E
MAHATHIR-AQUINO 2 KUALA LUMPUR

MEANWHILE9 FOREIGN MINISTER DATUK ABU HASSAN OMAR SAID TODAY THAT ALL MALAYSIANS WERE SAFE IN MANILA AND THOSE STRANDED THERE WERE AWAITING THE SPECIAL MAS FLIGHT TO BRING THEM HOME ONCE THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WAS RE-OPENED.

AMONG THOSE STRANDED ARE LORD PRESIDENT TAN SRI ABDUL HAMID OMAR AND HIS WIFE, AND ABOUT 15 SENATORS WHO ARE IN MANILA AS PART OF THEIR TOUR TO ASEAN CAPITALS.

MAS, ALONG WITH OTHER CARRIERS1 HAD CANCELLED ITS DAILY FLIGHT FOR THE PAST THREE DAYS TO MANILA AFTER THE MANILA NINYO AQUINO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WAS SEIZED BY THE REBELS.

DATUK ABU HASSAN SAID ONLY THOSE STRANDED WOULD BE EVACUATED. +THERE IS NO NEED AS YET TO EVACUATE ANY OF THE MALAYSIAN EMBASSY STAFF OR THEIR FAMILIES,+ HE ADDED.

DATUK ABU HASSAN WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER RECEIVING LAOTIAN MINISTER OF ECONOMIC, PLANNING AND FINANCE SALLY VONGKHAMSAO AT HIS OFFICE HERE. -- MORE
1452MST 04 12 89

0846

U E417 A A E
MAHATHIR-AQUINO 3 KUALA LUMPUR

ENCIK VONGKHAMSAO, WHO IS A DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF LAOS, IS LEADING A FOUR-MEMBER DELEGATION ON THE FIRST HIGH-LEVEL VISIT FROM THAT COUNTRY TO MALAYSIA. THE FOUR-DAY VISIT IS A RECIPROCAL ONE OF THE VISIT MADE LAST YEAR TO LAOS BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER GHAFAR BABA.

DATUK ABU HASSAN SAID LAOS, WHICH WAS KEEN ON IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH MALAYSIA, HAD REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPING ITS AGRICULTURE AND BANKING SYSTEMS.

HE SAID THIS COULD BE MADE POSSIBLE UNDER THE MALAYSIAN TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME (MTCP) IN WHICH TRAINING WOULD BE GIVEN TO LAOTIAN OFFICERS.

LAOS WAS ALSO INTERESTED IN MALAYSIAN INVESTMENT AND INVITED LOCAL BUSINESSMEN TO LOOK INTO POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURES IN THE AGRO-BASED INDUSTRY.-- BERNAMA
1454MST 04 12 89