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MAHATHIR-GDR

KUALA LUMPUR, APRIL 21<sup>90</sup> (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT MALAYSIA IS HOPING THAT THE CURRENT MOVEMENT TOWARDS THE REUNIFICATION OF GERMANY WOULD BE REALIZED IN A MANNER THAT ACCORDED WITH THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE TWO GERMANIES.

HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT A UNITED GERMANY WOULD ASSUME A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND STABILITY NOT ONLY IN EUROPE BUT ALSO THE WORLD AT LARGE.

IN A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO EAST GERMAN PRIME MINISTER LOTHAR DE MAIZIERE ON THE LATTER'S RECENT ELECTION TO THE POST, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT MALAYSIA HAD BEEN CLOSELY FOLLOWING THE RAPID MOVEMENT TOWARDS THE REUNIFICATION OF EAST AND WEST GERMANY.

HE SAID THAT EAST GERMANY AND MALAYSIA HAVE ENJOYED GOOD AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS SINCE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE ESTABLISHED IN 1973.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT UNDER ENCIK DE MAIZIERE'S ABLE LEADERSHIP AND STRONG POPULAR SUPPORT, EAST GERMANY WOULD BE LED INTO A NEW AND DYNAMIC ERA OF PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY. -- MORE

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IN A SIMILAR MESSAGE TO EAST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER MARKUS MACKEL ON HIS RECENT APPOINTMENT TO THE POST, FOREIGN MINISTER DATUK ABU HASSAN OMAR SAID THAT EAST GERMANY AND THE GERMAN PEOPLE WERE PRESENTLY AT AN IMPORTANT CROSSROAD IN THEIR HISTORY.

HE WISHED ENCIK MACKEL EVERY SUCCESS IN HIS ENDEAVOURS TO FORGE A PEACEFUL, PROPEROUS AND UNITED GERMANY.

DATUK ABU HASSAN ADDED THAT MALAYSIA AND EAST GERMANY HAVE ENJOYED GOOD AND CORDIAL TIES SINCE THE INCEPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND HE HOPED THAT THE TIES WOULD CONTINUE TO BE DEVELOPED IN THE YEARS AHEAD. -- BERNAMA

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