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BUKIT KAYU HITAM (KEDAH), MAY 26⁹⁰ (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS ADVISED THE PUBLIC NOT TO ENCROACH INTO BORDER SECURITY AREAS LEST THEY STEP ON BOOBY TRAPS.

THESE AREAS WERE STILL STREWED WITH LIVE BOOBY TRAPS PLANTED BY THE COMMUNIST OF MALAYA (CPM) AT THE TIME BEFORE THEY LAID DOWN ARMS, SAID DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WHO IS ALSO HOME MINISTER.

+THE SECURITY FORCES, WITH THE HELP OF THE CPM, ARE IDENTIFYING AND COMBING THE AREAS TO REMOVE THE BOOBY TRAPS+, HE TOLD REPORTERS AT A HARI RAYA GET-TOGETHER WITH MEMBERS OF SECURITY FORCES DEPLOYED ALONG THE MALAYSIA-THAI BORDER AT KEM 305 OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY HERE TODAY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID AMONG THE AREAS STREWED WITH BOOBY TRAPS ARE GUBIR IN SOUTHERN KEDAH AND GRIK IN PERAK.

SEVERAL OTHER AREAS WERE ALSO PLANTED WITH BOOBY TRAPS BUT ONLY THE CPM KNEW THE LOCATIONS, HE SAID.-- MORE
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+THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT ENTER SUCH AREAS ALONG THE NATIONAL BOUNDARY AS WE DO NOT KNOW WHEN THE BOOBY TRAPS WOULD BECOME INVALIDATED,+ HE SAID.

IN HIS SPEECH TO SOME 300 MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES AT THE FUNCTION, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ACQUIRING HOUSES FROM PUBLIC PROJECTS FOR ACCOMMODATION OF POLICE PERSONNEL.

IT HAD SO FAR SPENT \$100 MILLION OF THE \$500 MILLION ALLOCATION TO BE USED BEFORE 1992 TO BUY HOMES COSTING BETWEEN \$50,000 AND \$60,000 A UNIT FOR THE PURPOSE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT WANT TO WAIT ANY LONGER TO BUILD HOUSING PROJECTS FOR POLICE PERSONNEL BECAUSE OF SOARING PRICES.

SO FAR THE GOVERNMENT HAD BOUGHT OVER SEVERAL UNITS IN SELANGOR, JOHOR AND PULAU PINANG, HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER LATER VISITED BORDER SENTRY POSTS OF THE ANTI-SMUGGLING UNITS AND THE SITE OF THE BUKIT KAYU HITAM MOSQUE.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MENTERI BESAR DATUK SERI HAJI OSMAN AROFF, STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR DATUK HAJI HANAFI RAMLI, COMMANDER OF THE 12TH INFANTRY BRIGADE BRIG-JEN DATUK JAAFAR MOHAMAD YUSOF AND KEDAH CPO DATUK MOHAMAD SOM SULAIMAN. -- BERNAMA

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