

UN decision shows our stand correct, says PM

2 CSEP 1992

From Calvin Goh

LIMERICK (Ireland), Fri. — The expulsion of the Government in Belgrade from the United Nations proved that Malaysia's stand on the matter had been appropriate, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

In fact, the Prime Minister said, the world should view seriously the actions of Serbia and Montenegro over the atrocities committed in Bosnia-Herzegovina and they should be expelled from the world body.

He said all necessary actions should be taken to stop them from assisting the Serbs who are attacking the Bosnians. *Overly top*

In this connection, he thanked the United States for its suggestion that those who committed the atrocities should be tried for their crimes by the international community like the Nazis in the past.

He said those who committed the atrocities were very cruel and the international community should not take them lightly or only think of their national politics.

Dr Mahathir was speaking to Malaysian reporters on the last day of his four-day visit to Ireland.

Dr Mahathir and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali had called on Irish President Mary Robinson in Dublin yesterday before arriving in Limerick, about 217 kilometres from Dublin.

Malaysia severed diplomatic ties with the Government in Belgrade on Aug 12 in protest against its tacit support for the atrocities committed by the Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Malaysia also pressed for immediate action against

Serbia during the Non-Aligned Movement Summit in Jakarta earlier this month.

While in Ireland, he visited the Shannon Free Zone, about 17 kilometres from Limerick, where he was impressed with the activities. The zone and its hinterland is seen as a special centre for the country's aviation sector.

In this connection, it is also being promoted as a world aviation centre incorporating manufacturing, aircraft repair and maintenance and international service activities.

The Shannon area is al-

ready home to over 35 aviation-related companies including world leaders like Guinness Peat Aviation (GPA) and the Shannon Aerospace aircraft maintenance facility.

Malaysia Airlines has three B737 aircraft on lease from GPA, which is linked to Aer Lingus in which the Guinness family has a major stake.

The Guinness family is perhaps the most famous Irish family.

Dr Mahathir said a free zone similar to that in Shannon may be set up in Subang once the international airport there was shifted to Se-

pang.

On Malaysia-Ireland relations, the Prime Minister said there was scope for more business opportunities. Malaysians who set up companies in Ireland or go into partnership with Irish companies could perhaps use Ireland as a staging post for trade with Europe.

Dr Mahathir was also happy with Ireland's willingness to accommodate Malaysian medical students.

At the same time there is also a possibility of Irish medical academicians providing assistance in Malaysia.

After the Press confer-

ence, Dr Mahathir attended a briefing by Aer Rianta, a subsidiary of Aer Lingus, the Irish national airline, and GPA, the world's largest aircraft leasing company.

This evening Dr Mahathir and Dr Siti Hasmah left for an unofficial visit to Britain.

He will visit Belfast in northern Ireland where he will be looking at the operations of Short Brothers which makes the Skyvan.

He will also visit Scotland to look at two frigates which Malaysia has ordered from Britain. Next Wednesday he will call on British Prime Minister John Major.