

BERITA HARIAN HIGHLIGHTS

31 DEC 96

1. SHAH ALAM: Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Muhamad Taib said the RM2.4 million cash which he failed to declare before leaving Australia belonged to his three brothers who have entrusted him to purchase property in Brisbane's Gold Coast. Muhammad said he intended to do the purchase on behalf of his elder brother, Datuk Othman and younger brothers, Datuk Reduan and Hasan. Page 1. Lead story

2. SHAH ALAM: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Malaysia would continue to seek technology either in the West or East to enhance the production of its car industry. Page 1

3. SHAH ALAM: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is happy with the release of Malaysian ambassador to Peru Ahmad Mokhtar Selat on Sunday after 12 days in captivity by Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement guerillas at the Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima. Page 1

4. KUALA LUMPUR: The Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) is likely to call up Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Muhamad Taib for an explanation on the currency offence he was arrested for in Australia, ACA Director-General Datuk Shafee Yahaya said. Page 2

5. KUALA LUMPUR: "Ops Pacak", under which errant motorists got summonses by post instead of being booked on the spot, has helped to reduce accidents although it involved many traffic policemen, Internal Security and Public Order Director Datuk Ghazali Yacub said. Page 14

6. MOSCOW: The last batch Russian troops pulled out of Chechnya, leaving behind only a few extra units, reports said. Page 21

7. LIMA: "Incredible" lapses in security made it easy for Peruvian guerrillas to seize the residence of the Japanese ambassador in Lima and take about 500 hostages, the rebel who led the assault has been quoted as saying. Page 21

8. SEOUL: South Korea returned the bodies of 24 North Koreans shot dead after landing from a submarine in September to Pyongyang on Monday, according to government radio. Page 22

9. SYDNEY: Two Malaysian nationals, Yap Hwang Khor, 24, and See Wooi Lim, 21, were accused Monday of trying to smuggle 80 fake credit cards into Australia. Page 22

Bernama