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CAMBODIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT CALLS ON AGONG AND PM

KUALA LUMPUR, July 12 (Bernama) -- Cambodian National Assembly President Chea Sim was granted an audience by Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar at Istana Negara here today.

Earlier, he called on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Prime Minister's Department.

Chea's three-member delegation included Chairman of the Commission for Home Affairs, National Defence, Investigation and Anti-Corruption Bou Thang and Chairman of the Commission for Public Works, Transport, Communications, Industry, Energy, Mines and Trade, Ahmad Yahya.

They were accompanied to Dr Mahathir's office by Dewan Rakyat Speaker Tan Sri Mohamed Zahir Ismail.

Chea arrived here last Wednesday for a three-day visit to reciprocate Mohamed Zahir's visit to Cambodia in 1994.

Apart from exchanging views on bilateral and international issues of mutual interest with Mohamed Zahir, Chea also met Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat and visited the Barisan Nasional secretariat and the Kuala Lumpur Tower during his stay here. -- BERNAMA

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JOINT MILITARY EXERCISES CAN AVOID SUSPICIONS

KUALA KRAI, July 12 (Bernama) -- Joint military exercises could avoid Malaysia and Singapore being suspicious of each other, Second Division Commander Mej Jen Datuk Hashim Mohamad Amin said today.

"In fact, there is a need to further enhance such cooperation to ward off accusations which could jeopardise bilateral ties," he told reporters after the closing of a joint exercise between forces of both countries at Pahi, near here.

Singapore's Army Chief of Staff Brig Gen Lam Joon Khoi officiated the closing ceremony of the exercise on July 4.

Mej Jen Hashim said such exercise could also foster greater understanding between members of both forces in ensuring the success of a given task.

Brig Gen Lam, in his speech, said the joint exercise enabled Singapore forces to learn certain skills from Malaysia.

A total of 969 officers and men from both countries took part in the exercise. -- BERNAMA

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