

09 SEP 1996

FORMAL WELCOMING CEREMONY FOR CZECH PRIME MINISTER

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 9 (Bernama) -- Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus who arrived here yesterday for a three-day visit was accorded an official welcome at Parliament Square this morning.

He was greeted on arrival by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Escorted by Dr Mahathir, the Czech leader inspected a guard-of-honour mounted by 306 officers headed by Mej Rafizi Shariff after the national anthems of both countries were played by the Royal Malay Regiment band.

He was later introduced to cabinet ministers and members of the foreign mission. He then left for an audience with Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah at Istana Negara.

Klaus is scheduled to address an economic seminar and meet Dr Mahathir later in the afternoon.

This is Klaus' first official visit to the country. He is accompanied by his wife, Livia Klausova, and a 49-member delegation which include Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office Jiri Weigl and Trade and Industry Acting Deputy Minister Pavel Dvorak. -- BERNAMA

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