

19 JAN 1996

Chretien-departure

CHRETIEN LEAVES AFTER VISIT TO M'SIA

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 19 (Bernama) -- Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien left for home tonight after a two-day official visit to Malaysia.

Chretien, accompanied by his wife, Aline, and a delegation comprising ministers and premiers of six Canadian provinces and businessmen, was sent off at the airport here by Acting Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar.

Present was Deputy Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Mohamed Tajol Rosli Ghazali who was the minister-in-attendance.

The Canadian leader and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had a bilateral meeting yesterday which ended with the signing of three agreements in air services, education and forestry.

Chretien and his wife were granted an audience by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Ja'afar, and the Raja Permaisuri Agong, Tuanku Najihah, earlier today and were last night entertained to a banquet by Dr Mahathir at his official residence, Sri Perdana.

Chretien delivered a keynote address at the First Malaysia-Canada Business Leaders Dialogue this morning after which several business deals were signed between Malaysian and Canadian companies.

He was joined later by Dr Mahathir and they fielded questions from the floor.

The Canadian prime minister also visited the Kuala Lumpur City Centre and the light rail transit projects, both of which have Canadian participation. -- Bernama