

19 APR 1996

MAHATHIR ARRIVES IN SARAJEVO

SARAJEVO, April 19 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived in this war-torn capital of Bosnia-Herzegovina today for talks with Bosnian leaders on ways Malaysia could help in the reconstruction of the country.

Dr Mahathir is leading a delegation of 23 government officials and chairmen of 14 major Malaysian companies on a trip which will also take him to Livno, 200km from here, to meet Malaysian troops serving with NATO's Implementation Force (IFOR).

Accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Dr Mahathir later proceeded to Konak State Guest House for the official welcoming ceremony.

During the visit, he will hold meetings with both President Alija Izetbegovic and Prime Minister Hassan Muratovic.

He is also scheduled to receive the "Dragon of Bosnia" golden decoration, the highest award of the country, at a ceremony to be held at the Presidency.

Dr Mahathir is also expected to present Malaysian donations of at least RM30 million to the Bosnian government. -- BERNAMA

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