

14 APR 1996

PM LEAVES FOR BALKAN VISIT

KUALA LUMPUR, April 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight left for Europe to begin his tour of three Balkan states.

He was seen off by his deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport near here.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

During his stopover in London, Dr Mahathir is scheduled to give a talk on Islam at the Oxford Centre for Islam, Oxford University, on Tuesday.

The following day Dr Mahathir will visit Mowag Industry which specialises in military equipment and heavy transport vehicles, in Zurich, Switzerland.

He begins his four-day official visit to Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia on April 18.

His programme in Croatia includes launching the Malaysian Product Exhibition in Zagreb.

In Sarajevo, Dr Mahathir will hold talks with Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic and hand over a RM3.2 million donation collected from Malaysian teachers and students for rebuilding a school in the Bosnian capital.

He will also visit Malaysian troops in Bosnia and seek investment opportunities in the three Balkan states.

Dr Mahathir will address a conference on public administration and management in Malta before returning home on April 26. -- BERNAMA

JM YBY