

17 MAY 1996

PM MEETS FILIPINO PRESIDENT

By: Tham Choy Lin

TOKYO, May 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad held a bilateral meeting with Filipino President Fidel Ramos here this morning.

The two leaders, who will make separate addresses at an international conference on the future of Asia here this afternoon, met for 45 minutes.

Dr Mahathir was accompanied by the Malaysian ambassador to Japan, Datuk H.M.Khatib, while Ramos was with his Foreign Minister, Domingo Siazon Jr, as well as Trade and Industry Ministry, Rizalino Navarro.

Ramos presented to Dr M a book authored by himself with the title "Our Time Has Come" that was published two months ago.

Dr Mahathir will also witness the signing of a memorandum of understanding between a Malaysian consortium, Premier Choice Sdn Bhd, and Nichiei Seiki Steel today.

He will wrap up his working visit here since May 13 with a news conference for Malaysian reporters this evening.

He is scheduled to fly to the United States for a similar working visit tomorrow evening. -- BERNAMA

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