

09 JUL 1997

MAHATHIR GUEST OF HONOUR AT FRENCH NATIONAL DAY PARADE

KUALA LUMPUR, July 9 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is on a two-month holiday in Europe, will be the guest of honour at the French National Day Parade in Paris on Monday.

A Foreign Ministry statement today said the guest of honour status accorded to Dr Mahathir is a mark of the respect and esteem with which the prime minister is being held by the French government.

He is due in the French capital on Sunday and will hold formal talks with President Jacques Chirac at the Elysees Presidential Palace and also with Prime Minister Lionel Jospin.

The July 14 parade is the premier national event in France.

Dr Mahathir last met President Chirac in November last year after he launched Malaysia's second satellite, MEASAT 2, in French Guiana. --

BERNAMA

AU JK