

25/10/1997

Snippets

\* PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had a tight schedule yesterday after arriving for the CHOGM meeting. Four heads of Government held separate bilateral discussion with him at Belmoral Hotel.

They were James Bolger (New Zealand), John Howard (Australia), Goh Chok Tong (Singapore) and Sheikh Hasina (Bangladesh). At least two more heads of Government, Cyprus and Malta, are expected to hold discussion with the Prime Minister today.

\* THE Brrr-itish weather took a chillier turn in Edinburgh just as CHOGM was about to start. While the sub-10 degree Celsius temperature affected most Malaysians, it did nothing to deter Tan Sri Musa Hitam from taking a midnight stroll around town on Thursday. Musa, who is a member of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group, had just bought dinner for a group of journalists at an Indian restaurant when he decided to "walk around" a bit - with his chauffeur-driven limo following closely behind.

\* BRITISH Telecommunication provides its best services to journalists at the CHOGM Media Centre, ensuring that the foreign correspondents are able to transmit their stories to their respective countries.

All calls were accounted for, including local calls, by dialing a-three-digit access line followed by eight-digit account numbers, four-digit pin numbers and country code - quite a number of digits before you can get through.

\* "TOTAL chaos" screamed a headline in a local tabloid yesterday and the story was about the road closure and traffic diversion enforced because of the on-going CHOGM. Commuters complained about the massive traffic jam. But most of the time, the "congestion" involved only about 10 to 15 cars at the traffic lights - a Sunday drive by Kuala Lumpur standards.

(END)