

28 FEB 1998

BRUNEI SULTAN LEAVES FOR HOME

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 28 (Bernama) -- Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei left for home tonight after a two-day visit to Malaysia during which he held talks with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and pledged to invest in Malaysia.

The royal plane departed from the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah International Airport here at about 8.45pm.

The Sultan was seen off by Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Economic Adviser to the Government Tun Daim Zainuddin.

He was accompanied on his visit to Malaysia by the Chairman of the Brunei Investment Agency (BIA) Pengiran Jefri Bolkiah and the secretaries-general of the trade and foreign affairs ministries and the Brunei Prime Minister's Department.

Dr Mahathir and the Sultan also discussed the use of a common currency for intra-Asean trade as part of efforts to overcome the regional economic crisis.

Trade between Malaysia and Brunei last year totalled RM830 million with Malaysian exports amounting to RM763 million.

The problem of increased migration of workers from countries worst affected by the crisis was also discussed.

The Sultan and Dr Mahathir last met in Bandar Seri Begawan on Feb 18.

-- BERNAMA

RAZ AAM