

24 OCT 2000

Saudi

SAUDI SECOND DPM ARRIVES FOR EIGHT-DAY VISIT

SEPANG, Oct 24 (Bernama) -- Saudi Arabia's Second Deputy Prime Minister Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz Al-Saud arrived here today for an eight-day visit to Malaysia.

He was met on arrival at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tengku Datuk Azlan Sultan Abu Bakar, who is the minister-in-attendance, also received Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz.

Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz then inspected a guard of honour mounted by 103 officers and men of the ceremonial 1st Battalion of the Royal Malay Regiment.

His visit is at the invitation of Dr Mahathir and while here they will discuss several issues, especially those relating to peace in West Asia and the Palestine-Israel conflict.

Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz, who is also the kingdom's Aviation and Defence Minister, is accompanied by a 164-member delegation including four Saudi princes and three ministers.

Dr Mahathir will host a dinner for Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz and his entourage at Putrajaya tonight.

Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz is scheduled to receive an honorary PhD in political science from the International Islamic University and later to call on Dr Mahathir at Putrajaya.

He is also scheduled to call on Abdullah after that.

Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz is expected to brief Dr Mahathir and Abdullah on the outcome of the Arab League Summit in Cairo last weekend.

He also scheduled to call on the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah on Thursday and to meet several members of the Cabinet.

He leaves for home on Oct 31.

-- BERNAMA

APG AHH RYN