

31 JULY 2001

King-Warriors

KING LAYS WREATH AT NATIONAL MONUMENT TO MARK WARRIORS' DAY

KUALA LUMPUR, July 31 (Bernama) -- The nation commemorated this year's Warriors' Day today with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah laying a wreath at the National Monument here.

He was followed by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Chief of Defence Forces Gen Tan Sri Mohamed Zahidi Zainuddin and the Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Norian Mai.

The solemn ceremony was preceded by a recital of Major (Rtd) Mohamad Awang's poem "Warrior" by Inspector Rose Bains Kassim to the strains of a bugler's "Last Post".

The Chief of Army Gen Tan Sri Mohamed Hashim Hussein, the Chief of Navy Admiral Tan Sri Abu Bakar Abdul Jamal and the Chief of Air Force Gen Datuk Suleiman Mahmud also laid wreaths at the ceremony.

Warriors' Day is observed every July 31 in remembrance of security forces personnel who died or were wounded in defence of the nation.

In PORT DICKSON, the Yang Dipertuan Besar Negeri Sembilan Tuanku Ja'afar laid a wreath at the army recruit training centre.

This was followed by the four Undangs, the Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Isa Abdul Samad, Commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade Brig Gen Abidin Aluwi and the Negeri Sembilan Chief of Police SAC I Datuk Amiruddin Embi.

Earlier upon arrival there, the Yang Dipertuan Besar took a salute from a guard of honour mounted by 124 officers and men of the 24th Battalion of the Royal Malay Regiment commanded by Maj Zahari Abdullah.

In KOTA KINABALU, the World War II Memorial in Jalan Tugu was the scene of the state-level Warriors' Day remembrance which started at 7.30 am today.

The Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat led Sabah dignitaries, including the State Secretary Datuk K.Y. Mustafa, to lay wreaths at the monument to mark the occasion.

In JOHOR BAHRU, the Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman launched the 2001 state-level Warriors' Day fund-raising drive and presented a RM100,000-state grant to be divided among widows of servicemen who died during service in Johor.

He also distributed to district officers proceeds from the previous five-month-long Warriors' Day donation drive.

At the function, he also received donations of RM5,000 each from four companies to the Johor chapter of the national Ex-Servicemen Association.

-- BERNAMA

RAM RYN