

13 NOV 2001

MOROCCAN PREMIER ACCORDED OFFICIAL WELCOME

PUTRAJAYA, Nov 13 (Bernama) -- Visiting Moroccan Prime Minister Abderrahmane El Yousoufi was accorded a formal welcome at Dataran Putra here including the customary inspection of a guard of honour.

Accompanied by wife Helene, he was received on arrival there by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali.

Abderrahmane then inspected the guard of honour mounted by 106 officers and men of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Malay Regiment under the command of Major Abdul Samah Md Noh.

Abderrahmane and Dr Mahathir then held closed door discussions for 30 minutes before adjourning to an inter-delegation meeting.

The Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, the Moroccan Transport and Merchant Marine Minister Abdesslam Znined, the Secretary of State at the Prime Minister's Department in charge of Post, Telecommunications and Information Technology Nasr Hajji and the Secretary of State for Foreign Trade Abdelkrim Benatiq also attended the closed-door meeting.

Abderrahmane arrived yesterday for a four-day visit accompanied by a 36-member delegation.

-- BERNAMA
HK AFY RYN