

20 MAY 2001

Andrew-Award

PRINCE ANDREW CONFERS MBE TO BRITISH REP IN JOHOR

KUALA LUMPUR, May 20 (Bernama) -- The Duke of York Prince Andrew today bestowed the Member of the British Empire (MBE) award to the British Government representative in Johor in a brief ceremony at the British High Commissioner's residence here.

The recipient, John Bradbury, 58, who has been staying in Malaysia for the past 21 years, has been the British Government's representative in Johor for 14 years.

"This award (actually) awarded to me last year in conjunction with Queen Elizabeth's birthday is an honour for my duties to the British Government and as a British representative in Johor for the past 14 years," he told reporters.

Bradbury, who had since become a Muslim and had taken the name of Mohd Shah Johan, was accompanied by his wife Salmiah Othman and two daughters at the ceremony. Also present was the British High Commissioner to Malaysia Graham Fry, his wife Toyoko Fry and Consul Officer Julie Johnson.

He said the honorary position was to help British citizens, especially tourists if they faced problems while in the state.

Bradbury said he has been working for an electronics and automotive company for the last 41 years and came to Malaysia 21 years ago to set up the firm's branch in Senai, Johor.

"Malaysia is my life now and (when) people ask me, I say I'm from Johor Baharu. I'm a permanent resident and my intention is to live and die here," said Bradbury who was born in Birmingham.

Prince Andrew, who arrived in Malaysia on May 16, is also scheduled to visit paralympic athletes at the National Stadium in Bukit Jalil tomorrow.

He is also scheduled to call on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

This is his first visit to Malaysia representing the British government.

-- BERNAMA

SHS SHS TS