

06 OCT 2001
Lima-Aircraft
RMAF FIGHTER JETS BEGIN REHEARSING FOR LIMA

LANGKAWI, Oct 6 (Bernama) -- Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) fighter jets began rehearsing today for next week's Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (Lima 2001).

A spokesman of Le Proton Lima Sdn Bhd, the organiser of Lima 2001's air show, said seven MiG-29 Fulcrum and six F/A-18 Hornets aircraft rehearsed for two hours from 10am.

He said the full rehearsal of the air show would take place on Monday.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir will open the air show on Tuesday morning and then proceed to open the maritime show in the afternoon.

Lima 2001 will be open to the public next Saturday and Sunday.

Apart from witnessing the aircraft in action today, people living near the Langkawi International Airport also had the opportunity of seeing several parachutists training.

There was tight security at the Mahsuri International Exhibition Hall, the venue of the air show, with two armed RMAF personnel deployed at the entrance.

Last week, Defence Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said security would be tightened for Lima with a strong presence of police, armed forces and commandos.

The Le Proton Lima spokesman said the Red Arrows aerobatics team from Britain with 11 Hawk 100 aircraft, which was scheduled to arrived here last Thursday, would only be coming on Monday. The team is currently in South Africa.

He said two F-18EF jet and C-21 cargo aircraft from the United States were scheduled to arrive today.

A BE-200 amphibian jet from Irkutsk, Rusia arrived yesterday, a day after MiG-29 and IL-103 aircraft were brought from that country by an AN12 aircraft carrier and the Su-30 N597 by the IL-78 tanker aircraft carrier.

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