

22/11/2001

Royal hearse, outriders first indication Ruler had died

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - The arrival of the royal hearse and presence of police outriders about 12.10pm at the Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre in Jalan Ampang was the first indication to the people that the King had died.

The Queen, Tuanku Siti Aishah, looked calm and composed as she made her way to the car where she hugged several people before leaving.

At 1.10pm, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived followed shortly by Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

The royal hearse pulled up closer to the hospital entrance just after Dr Mahathir left at 1.17pm for Angkasapuri to make the announcement of the King's demise.

A large crowd had by then gathered both outside and inside the entrance as people waited patiently to catch a glimpse of the King.

Just after 1.30pm, the royal hearse was backed close to the entrance and at 2.06pm the King's body emerged borne on the shoulders of eight uniformed staff.

The body was followed closely by royal members, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Health Minister Datuk Chua Jui Meng.

At 2.10pm, the royal hearse left for Istana Selangor.

(END)