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Malaysia-Brunei

SULTAN OF BRUNEI'S VISIT REFLECTS SPECIAL TIES, SAYS SYED HAMID

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 3 (Bernama) -- The visit of Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei to Malaysia reflects the special ties between both countries and this will be preserved through the close bilateral links at all levels, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said today.

He said that Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah regarded his three-day visit here as successful and was satisfied with the discussions he held with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The Sultan also confirmed that he would be attending this year's Langkawi Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (Lima 2001) to be held from Oct 9 to 14, he told reporters at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport in Subang near here after sending off the Sultan and his entourage.

Asked to comment on the telephone conversation between Dr Mahathir and United States President George W. Bush two days ago, Syed Hamid said that the US had acknowledged the role sincerely played by Malaysia in combating terrorism and the US appreciates this.

On his assessment of the current Malaysia-US relationship, he said that under the Bush administration, there had been various efforts at "approachment" between both countries.

He said that the US understands the role and actions undertaken by Malaysia especially on matters affecting Malaysia's principles on certain issues.

"It's not that Malaysia is against the United States (on certain issues) because of our hatred for the US. In matters of principle, we voiced out what we feel needs to be expressed. In this way, they appreciate what we are doing... because of that they are very happy with the relationship," he said.

-- BERNAMA

MHI AHH RON RM