

18 MAR 2002

Mahathir-Airport

DR M INSPECTS DUSSELDORF AIRPORT OPERATIONS

By: Muin Abdul Majid

DUSSELDORF (Germany), March 18 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is on an official visit to Germany, made a stopover here yesterday from Stuttgart to inspect the operations of the Dusseldorf International Airport.

He was given a briefing on the handling of cargo and passengers at the airport, which was rebuilt and reopened in January last year after it was destroyed by fire in 1996.

It now handles more than 15 million passengers a year who travel on flights of 90 airlines operating to 180 international destinations from here.

The prime minister also visited the cargo holding area and was given a briefing by the airport's managing director, Christa Soltau.

Dr Mahathir was also given a briefing by senior officials of HOCHTIEF Airport, the company which manages the airport.

The prime minister was accompanied by Malaysian Ambassador to Germany Datuk Abdul Kadir Deen.

The prime minister will arrive in Munich today to begin a three-day official visit to Germany after spending a night here.

-- BERNAMA

MAM AHH YBY