

29 JUL 2002

POWELL ARRIVES FOR BRIEF VISIT

SUBANG, July 29 (Bernama) -- The United States (US) Secretary of State Colin Powell arrived at the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) base, here tonight for a brief visit to the country.

Waiting for his arrival at the base was Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Leo Micheal Toyad. Also present was US ambassador to Malaysia Marie T. Huhtala.

Powell, who flew in on board a special aircraft from Bangkok, Thailand, is on a diplomatic mission to Asean and Asian countries.

He is expected to call on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi tomorrow morning before leaving for Singapore.

Thereafter, Powell is scheduled to make brief visits to Brunei, Indonesia and the Philipines.

Powell began his mission to Asia on July 27, making the first stop in Pakistan, followed by India yesterday.

-- Bernama

NM SNS AO