

31 JUL 2003

Mahathir-Warriors

DR M ATTENDS WARRIORS' DAY AT NATIONAL MONUMENT

KUALA LUMPUR, July 31 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad laid a wreath at the National Monument here today in conjunction with Warriors' Day in honour of the contributions and sacrifices of the country's soldiers who died in the line of duty.

Defence Forces Chief Jen Tan Sri Mohd Zahidi Zainuddin and Deputy Inspector-General of Police Datuk Seri Mohd Bakri Omar also laid a wreath at the brief ceremony.

Defence Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, cabinet ministers and foreign diplomats based in Kuala Lumpur also attended the wreath-laying ceremony which started at 8.30am.

Former army chiefs and servicemen, who served during the Japanese Occupation in the early 1940s, also paid their respects to the fallen heroes.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir inspected a guard-of-honour mounted by members of the Royal Malay Regiment.

Patriotic songs were aired and a poem entitled "Pahlawan" (Warrior) was recited to commemorate the services and sacrifices of the country's national heroes who were killed in the battle field in World War II, during the Emergency and in the foreign soil while on a tour of duty under the United Nations peacekeeping missions.

In IPOH, the Sultan of Perak, Sultan Azlan Shah, attended the state-level Warriors' Day at the state secretariat grounds.

More than 500 uniformed personnel from the army, Royal Malaysian Air Force, Royal Malaysian Navy, Royal Malaysia Police, Fire and Rescue Department, Malaysian Red Crescent Society and School Cadet Corps mounted a guard-of-honour led by Mejar Uzir Abdullah from the Second Regiment of the Royal Malay Regiment from the Syed Putra Camp.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohd Tajol Rosli Ghazali and state executive councillors also attended the ceremony.

A poem was recited accompanied by the song "Pahlawan Ku".

In SHAH ALAM, the Sultan of Selangor, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah, attended the state-level celebrations at the State Monument.

He laid a wreath at the monument in honour of the services and sacrifices of the fallen heroes.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Mohamad Khir Toyo also laid a wreath.

Present were state executive councillors, assemblymen and government officials.

In KOTA BAHARU, Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat led the prayers at the launch of the Warriors' Day celebrations at Padang Merdeka.

More than 200 uniformed personnel from the army, police and school cadet corps took part in the brief ceremony.

Present were Kelantan Police Chief Datuk Mohd Najib Abdul Aziz and Eighth Brigade Commander Brig-Gen Zulkifeli Mohd Zin and state executive councillors.

In KOTA KINABALU, Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Ahmadshah Abdullah led the VIPs at the wreath-laying ceremony at Ujana Tropika Bandaraya at Jalan Penampang.

Present were Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Lajim Ukin, Sabah Police Commissioner Datuk Pahlawan Ramli Yusuff and Fifth Infantry Brigade Commander Brig-Jen Datuk Muhamad Yasin Yahya.

About 200 uniformed personnel and leaders of ex-servicemen and

ex-policemen associations attended the ceremony which started at 7am.

-- BERNAMA

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