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SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND  
PRESIDENT, OLYMPIC COUNCIL OF MALAYSIA AT  
THE TORCH RELAY MAIN CEREMONY, STADIUM  
NEGARA, KUALA LUMPUR ON 2ND SEPTEMBER, 1964

Your Excellency, Mr. Takashima, Ladies and Gentlemen,

You have just witnessed the lighting of the Fire Cauldron from the Sacred Flame which was brought here from Athens on its way to Tokyo for the 18th Olympiad.

It is indeed a great honour to our country to be chosen by the Organising Committee of the Tokyo Olympic Games as one of the places where the Sacred Flame pauses for a night before it continues its journey to Tokyo. The Sacred Flame arrived in Kuala Lumpur Airport at 5.00 this evening and was brought to this Stadium by a relay of 39 runners.

Malaysia is a sports loving nation and feels proud that she is being accorded the privilege of contributing a leading part in the Torch Relay. In fact two Malaysians had already taken part, on the 21st August this year, in the historic ceremony of the kindling of the Sacred Flame at Olympia in Athens. Malaysia is now doing its part when the flame is half way from its ultimate destination and finally Malaysians will witness the conclusion of the Torch Relay when the Malaysian Contingent on 10th October, witness the lighting of the cauldron in the Tokyo Main Stadium. As you all may have already known that Malaysia is sending a sizeable contingent to the Tokyo Olympic Games - a part though may not be significant but I am sure will help Japan to make the 18th Olympiad a memorable occasion.

Whilst on this, I would like to say a few words about the Chef de Mission of the Tokyo Torch Relay Mission, Mr. F. Takashima. He has been to the Olympic Council of Malaysia since 1957, and is well-known and popular in the sports world. The Organising Committee of the Tokyo Olympic Games has well chosen him to be the leader of the Mission.

In conclusion I wish to express on behalf of the Olympic Council of Malaysia, my very warm and sincere appreciation of the honour bestowed upon us by the Organising Committee of the 18th Olympiad and to extend the hopes and prayers to all the sportsmen of Japan and its people good luck and signal success.