

# Foreign jet fighters allowed in

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**MUADZAM SHAH:** The foreign jet fighters sighted recently over southern Johor were not infringing the country's airspace.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the aircraft were allowed to fly over the area as they were taking part in the annual Five-Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA), of which Malaysia was a participant.

The other countries were Sin-

gapore, Australia, New Zealand and Britain.

A news report yesterday carried concerns of residents, who complained that the jet fighters had been flying low over the area for the past two weeks.

This year's military exercise, based at Changi, Singapore, started on Sept 7 and ended on Friday, Najib said after closing an Education Ministry outreach pro-

gramme at SK Runchang, near here, yesterday.

The FPDA is a series of defence relationships set up through bilateral agreements among the five countries in 1971.

It followed the termination of Britain's defence guarantees for Malaysia and Singapore as a result of its decision in 1967 to withdraw its forces east of the Suez canal.

On the sending of a Malaysian peacekeeping team to Lebanon, Najib, who is also Defence Minister, said the government was still waiting for the official notice in "black and white" from the United Nations.

He said members of the 360-strong team had been selected and were currently at the 4th Mechanised Brigade base near Kuantan.