

Lahad Datu: Bodies of two soldiers arrive for burial in hometowns

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SUBANG JAYA: The bodies of fallen heroes Prebet Ahmad Hurairah Ismail, 24, and Prebet Ahmad Farhan Ruslan, 21, arrived at the Royal Malaysian Air Force Base here at 8am Wednesday.

The remains of the Kelantan-born heroes were received by more than 500 Armed Forces personnel.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak led the list of dignitaries who paid their last respects to the fallen heroes.

Pbt Ahmad Hurairah was killed in a gunbattle with Sulu gunmen at Sungai Nyamuk near Kg Tanjung Batu in Lahad Datu on Tuesday.

Pbt Farhan Ruslan was killed, also on Tuesday, when the truck he was transporting supplies in went out of control and crashed while heading to Bandar Cenderawasih, in the Felda Sahabat region, from Lahad Datu town.

Later, more than 3,000 people were at the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport in Kota Baru this morning to receive the bodies of the two national heroes, Bernama reported.

Those present included Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed, Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Dr Awang Adek Hussin, Army Chief General Tan Sri Zulkifli Zainal Abidin and Kelantan Police Chief Datuk Jalaluddin Abdul Rahman.

Shortly after the aircraft landed, the remains of both soldiers were taken to the hangar where they were accorded military honours before the bodies were taken to their respective home towns for burial.

Ahmad Hurairah's remains were taken to his parents' house in Kampung Bayu Lalang, Pasir Mas before burial at the Kampung Lalang Muslim Cemetery nearby.

The remains of Ahmad Farhan were taken to his parents' home in Perumahan Desa Darulnaim II, Pasir Tumbuh for burial at the Pasir Tumbuh Muslim Cemetery.

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