

**Apt To Record Life Journey Of Former Armed Forces Chief – Najib
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PUTRAJAYA, Aug 19 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the life journey of a leader, who fight for his country, should be recorded in a book as a historical reference and treasure for the people.

The Prime Minister said efforts by Perwira Niaga Malaysia (Pernama) to produce a pictorial book on former armed forces commander Jeneral (B) Tan Sri Mohamed Hashim Mohd Ali relating to the field of Malaysia's military should be commended as it was a valuable and important milestone in the country's history.

"The production of such a book is very meaningful because what was experienced by Mohamed Hashim was part of national history that should be recorded.

"It can become a basic reference material and valuable enough to be studied and used as a guide in the future," he said at the launch of Mohamed Hashim's coffee table book, 'Mission To Accomplished: The Military Journey, From Soldier To Leader' here today.

Najib said he was attracted by the work of the pictorial book because it really reflected the personality of the leader, who is well-known and respected by him, and for having experience and knowledge in the world of military for 38 years and nine months.

He said 'Mission Accomplished' had done well in documenting Hashim's achievements that gave the wisdom of his insights into the major milestones of his military career besides providing highly interesting reading and as an inspiration for future generations of leaders.

"When I started my first term as Defence Minister in 1991, (Tan Sri) Hashim was then the Chief of the Defence Force. Together we worked towards implementing and managing Malaysia's national defence policy.

"Solidifying national security was our common objective. We managed to revamp and modernise the Malaysian armed forces to meet the ever changing threats, and took measures to minimise the risk of conflict.

"(Tan Sri) Hashim is a great proponent of military diplomacy, and he has worked tirelessly to maintain relations with military leaders, around the world. In him, I found a steadfast partner - a man who exemplifies honour, dedication and devotion to his country," he said.

Najib also thanked Hashim for expressing his solid support towards the prime minister and the government in power.

Hashim, in a press conference, said he dedicated the 'Mission Accomplished' book to his late mother Siti Khatijah Ahmad, who initially did not allow him to join the armed forces but eventually agreed to allow him with words of wisdom - "Take Good Care' (Jaga

Baik-Baik).

Besides, he also advised Malaysians to appreciate the peace and harmony of the nation by understanding and evaluating the meaning of Negaraku, the country's anthem and Rukun Negara.

'Mission Accomplished' contained 134 pages with captioned photographs to record Hashim's life journey when he helmed the Malaysian armed force from 1954 to 1992.

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