

SPEECH BY: DATO' SERI DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD
(PRIME MINISTER)

EVENT: DEPARTURE STATEMENT AT THE MONUMENT GROUNDS, WASHINGTON D.C.

VENUE: THE NATIONAL MONUMENT GROUNDS, WASHINGTON D.C.

DATE: 20 JAN 1984

TIME:

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank President Reagan personally, as well as the Government and people of the United States, for the kind invitation to me and my wife to undertake this official working visit.

2. From the point of view of the relationship between our two countries, I regard my present visit to the United States as being constructive and important in further strengthening and reinforcing the bonds of friendship, goodwill and cooperation which happily exists between Malaysia and the United States.

3. We take back with us many pleasant memories of our stay in your country. But more importantly, the free, frank and friendly discussions which my delegation and I have had with the President and members of his Cabinet, as well as with other prominent American leaders particularly those from the business community, will serve to further expand and widen the areas of cooperation and collaboration between our two countries for mutual benefits.

4. I am appreciative of the meticulous planning and painstaking effort that has been taken to make this visit a success. I would like therefore to express on behalf of my wife, members of my delegation and on my own behalf our gratitude and deep appreciation to all our American friends.

5. In taking our leave, may I take this opportunity to pledge once again my personal commitment, as well as the commitment of the Government and people of Malaysia, to widen and strengthen further the friendly and cooperative relations which have characterised the relationship of our two democratic societies over the years.