

(P) Mahathir did not use
the word 'meddle'

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad has expressed dissatisfaction over the wording of a headline in today's issue of the *New Straits Times* on a report on what action the Government will take against any foreign diplomat found to have been involved in this country's internal affairs.

In a statement today, his Press Secretary, Encik Ahmad Mustapha, said that Dr. Mahathir felt the headline was

misleading. "Dr. Mahathir did not use the word 'meddle.' Also, the headline implies that all diplomats were warned.

"What Dr. Mahathir meant was that it is normal practice for any country in the world to declare as *persona non grata* any member of a foreign mission who indulges in activities detrimental to the security of a country."

Encik Ahmad said, however, that the story "as it stands, is not incorrect."