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MAHATHIR-ARAFAT

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KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 4 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE ISRAELIS MUST BE BROUGHT TO BOOK AND CONDEMNED BY THE WORLD FOR THEIR BOMBING OF THE PLO HEADQUARTERS IN TUNIS.

THE PRIME MINISTER, IN A MESSAGE TO PLO CHAIRMEN ENCIK YASSER ARAFAT, SAID HE WAS SHOCKED AND OUTRAGED OVER THE ATTACK.

IT WAS REPORTED THAT 50 PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND 100 OTHERS WOUNDED IN THE ISRAELI RAID ON TUESDAY, SAID TO BE IN RETALIATION FOR LAST WEEK'S KILLING OF THREE ISRAELIS IN CYPRUS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR DESCRIBED THE ISRAELIS AS THE WORLD'S ENEMIES +ACTING AS INTERNATIONAL TERRORISTS WITH NEITHER COMPUNCTION NOR RESPONSIBILITY.

+DESPITE THE SUPPORT THAT SOME COUNTRIES ERRANEOUSLY GAVE THEM, THE ISRAELIS MUST BE BROUGHT TO BOOK AND THE WORLD'S CONDEMNATION HEAPED ON THEM,+ HE SAID. -- MORE

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THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO EXPRESSED HIS SORROW OVER THE LOSS OF THE MANY PALESTINIAN LIVES, AND TOLD ENCIK ARAFAT TO +CONSOLE YOURSELF THAT YOUR CAUSE IS JUST AND THAT VICTORY EVENTUALLY WILL BE YOURS.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR IN ANOTHER MESSAGE TO HIS TUNISIAN COUNTERPART ENCIK MOHAMMAD MZALI, EXPRESSED HIS GRIEF AND OUTRAGE OVER THE ISRAELI VIOLATION OF TUNISIA'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND SOVEREIGNTY.

HE SAID ISRAEL +IS BECOMING A MENACE INTERNATIONALLY AND WE MUST ALL WORK TOGETHER TO CONDEMN AND PUNISH ISRAEL.+

ISLAMIC COUNTRIES PARTICULARLY, HE ADDED, MUST STRENGTHEN THEIR RESOLVE AND EFFORT TO REALISE VICTORY FOR THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE. --
BERNAMA

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