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Mahathir-Gulf

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KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 15th (Bernama) -- Malaysia continues to support decisions of the United Nations related to efforts to free Kuwait from Iraqi occupation but remains neutral with regard to the Gulf war, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

Malaysia supported Resolution 678 of the UN Security Council which authorised the use of force to drive Iraq out of Kuwait but questioned the bombing of Iraq by the multinational forces led by the United States, he told reporters at the Gerakan Chinese New Year +open house+ at a hotel here.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said he could not see a solution to the war because both sides (Iraq and the allied forces) were unyielding.

+Whatever the solution, Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait. It cannot occupy another country because that is not the way to resolve border disputes,+ he said.

He added that if one country could take over another in such a way, then people in a weak country will be apprehensive at all times. -- more

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Asked when he would visit opposition-ruled Kelantan, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said he no plans to do so yet.

The Umno Supreme Council, at a meeting last week, appointed Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir as the Kelantan Umno liaison chief.

Earlier, on arrival at the +open house+, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir and his wife, Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah, were greeted by Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik and several other leaders of the party.

Among others who attended the +open house+ were Deputy Prime Minister Encik Ghafa Baba, Energy, Telecommunications and Post Minister Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu and Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumers Affairs Datuk Dr Sulaiman Daud. -- Bernama

♥15/02/15-33MST