

CNS4186

R GE 18-07 00148 EG281

aae

Mahathir-relief

bm

91

9

KUALA LUMPUR, July 18, (Bernama) -- The government has donated \$270,000 (US\$100,000) in relief aid to help children affected by the Gulf war last year, Prime Minister ~~Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad~~ said today.

The children deserved the aid as they were innocent victims of the war, he told reporters.

+The question of whether their country is at fault or not does not involve the children. They don't make the decisions. That's why we don't regard them as friends or foes,+ he said after 'Signing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children at the Putra World Trade Cent-r-e here.

What was important was that the children must be given help, he said.

Malaysia's aid to the children had already been handed over to the parties concerned, he said.-- more

♥18/07/14-01MST

CNS42.32

R GE 18-07 00113 EG285

aa e

Mahathir-relief 2 Kuala Lumpur

The Prime Minister also announced that Malaysia donated about \$81,000 (US\$30,000) to help flood victims in China.

He said it would try to get the private sector to also 'contribute towards the same cause.

UNICEF-United Nations Children's Fund deputy director Dr Richard Jolly told reporters that- he thanked the Prime Minister for Malaysia's contribution to help young victims of the Gulf war.

The money would go a long way to help UNICEF draw up relief programmes for Iraqi children affected by the conflict,--he said.

+Children in war need special attention,+ said Dr Jolly. -- Bernama

♥18/07/15-47MST .