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MALAYSIA WILL PROTEST AGAINST INVASION OF IRAQ WITHOUT REASON

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LANGKAWI, Aug 7 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today Malaysia would not support the invasion of Iraq by any one for the sole purpose of ousting President Saddam Hussein.

Furthermore, Malaysia would voice its protest against such action, he told reporters here in response to questions on US talk about a second military intervention in Iraq.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia was against the use of force by any country.

+If Iraq challenged the sovereignty of neighbouring countries, these countries might seek help but if there was no problem and there was a move to invade Iraq for the sole purpose of removing Saddam Hussein, then we will not support it and protest against it,+ he added.

On the US contention that Iraq had not complied in full with the conditions imposed by the United Nations (UN) in respect of inspection by a UN team of suspected nuclear facilities in that country, Dr Mahathir said: +Iraq allowed the UN team in but they found nothing. We have to believe the UN.+ -- Bernama

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