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Mahathir-Sabah

PBS STILL INTENDS TO TAKE SABAH OUT OF MALAYSIA, SAYS DR M

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KUALA LUMPUR, May 25⁹³ (Bernama) -- ⁸Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) still harboured the intention to take Sabah out of Malaysia.

"I think the intention is still there (to take Sabah out of Malaysia)," he told reporters at the airport on his return from Seoul where he addressed a forum of the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC).

Dr Mahathir said it could be concluded that the intention was there based on the reluctance of the PBS government to cooperate with the federal government in any matter.

The prime minister was asked to comment on a claim by Parti Angkatan Keadilan Rakyat (AKAR) president Datuk Mark Koding last Sunday that PBS leaders had planned to use Pulau Balambangan north of Kudat as a military training ground for the plot to take Sabah out of Malaysia.

Koding claimed that the proposed military training was to have involved veterans of the United States marines. -- more

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Mahathir-Sabah 2 (last) Kuala Lumpur

However, said Koding, the effort was thwarted when the Home Ministry learned of it and detained several of those involved under the Internal Security Act (ISA). Several others fled abroad, he had said.

Dr Mahathir said: "We are aware of the attempt (to take Sabah out of Malaysia)...that is the reason we had to detain (Sabah Foundation director Datuk Dr) Jeffrey Kitingan and several other people.

"Despite their denials, they had intended to take Sabah out of Malaysia."

The prime minister said the federal government had sufficient proof to back its statement that there had been attempts to take Sabah out of Malaysia.

Minister for Sabah Affairs Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun, who is Sabah Umno deputy head, reportedly said yesterday that PBS had attempted to take Sabah out of Malaysia from the time it came to power in the state in 1985.

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