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Repeating, adding second take

Malaysia-arms

M'SIA NOT SUPPLYING ARMS TO THE BOSNIANS, SAYS DR M

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KUALA LUMPUR, May 31 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today denied a Cable News Network (CNN) report that Malaysia intends to supply arms to the Bosnians in their struggle against Serb aggression in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"If somebody is providing arms to Bosnia, we know nothing about this thing," he told reporters here when asked to comment on a CNN report today, claiming that Malaysia, Iran and Turkey will supply arms to the Bosnians.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia was only providing arms to its 1,500 soldiers serving under the United Nations Protection Force (Unprofor) in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The CNN report could have misinterpreted this as supplying arms to the Bosnians, he added.

"We are not in the gun running business," he said. -- more

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Malaysia-arms 2 (last) Kuala Lumpur

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Defence Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the ministry was not "directly or otherwise" involved in sending arms to Bosnia.

The ministry was unaware of any supply of arms from Malaysia to that country, he said in a statement issued this afternoon.

He made it clear that Malaysia's involvement in Bosnia was limited to that of peacekeeping under the mandate of the United Nations.

He reiterated his call to the United Nations to lift the arms ban on Bosnia-Herzegovina as the human tragedy in that country was worsening with the intervention of a certain quarter known to be supplying arms to certain parties.

This made a mockery of the UN ban on arms for Bosnia, he said. --

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