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Syed Hamid-Afghanistan

NO NEED FOR M'SIA TO INITIATE MOVE TO BRING US TO THE ICJ

PUTRAJAYA, Nov 1 (Bernama) -- Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said today there is no need for Malaysia to initiate efforts to bring the United States to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to face charges of causing the death of innocent people in Afghanistan.

"I think there is no necessity. There is no need for us to follow up because, in this particular case, Malaysia is not the country involved.

"So we leave it at that. It is not for us to decide on behalf of other countries," he told reporters on the sidelines of talks between Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his Bahraini counterpart, Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, here.

Syed Hamid was asked to comment on Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim's suggestion on Monday that Malaysia should initiate the tabling of a resolution in the United Nations and the filing of a petition to bring the US to the ICJ.

To a question, he reiterated that Malaysia was a safe country and was not a place for terrorists.

The US is currently conducting military attacks on targets in impoverished Afghanistan in an effort to get at Osama bin Laden, the suspected mastermind of the Sept 11 deadly attacks on American soil.

The Saudi-born millionaire has been a guest of the Taliban rulers of Afghanistan.

The US military blitz has led to reports of mounting civilian casualties as relief agencies grapple with the problem of Afghan refugees fleeing the turmoil in their country.

-- BERNAMA

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