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NAM: DR M QUESTIONS US INTENTION TO ATTACK IRAQ, NOT N.KOREA

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 20 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today questioned why the United States is focusing its attention on attacking Iraq, instead of North Korea.

The Prime Minister said the US stance was questionable because North Korea could reportedly deploy its weapons of mass destruction.

Stressing that Malaysia did not like to see war against North Korea anymore than war against Iraq, he said: "It is strange why they (US) are not focusing on the more dangerous country and (are) going for the weaker country.

"We are told...that one reason why they are not going to attack (North) Korea is because (North) Korea has got the weapons of mass destruction which they may use," he told reporters after chairing the Umno Supreme Council meeting here.

"But they are willing to attack Iraq because chances are Iraq cannot deploy such weapons," said Dr Mahathir, the incoming chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), whose Summit began here today.

He said this implied that to the US, Iraq was less of a danger than North Korea.

-- BERNAMA

AZH MNY MAM YBY