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US DEFENCE SECRETARY HOLDS TALKS WITH ANWAR

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 11 (Bernama) -- Visiting United States Defence Secretary William Cohen today met Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar to convey Washington's reassurance of its support to Malaysia in overcoming its economic woes.

The meeting took place at the Palace of Golden Horses at the Mines Resort City here, the venue of the Fourth Pacific Dialogue, an annual gathering of prominent regional economic and security experts.

Anwar and Cohen will participate in the dialogue scheduled to be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tomorrow.

Cohen, who will speak on regional security and defence cooperation at the dialogue, arrived here today at the start of an 11-day Asian tour which will also take him to Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, China, Japan and South Korea.

The two-day Pacific Dialogue is jointly organised by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (Isis), the Asia-Pacific Policy Centre (APPC) Washington and the Institute for Policy Research.

During his three-day visit here, Cohen is scheduled to call on Dr Mahathir and hold talks with Defence Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar.

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