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`Arms heist is not party's doing'

KUCHING, Mon. - Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad denied that Umno had orchestrated the July 2 Gerik arms heist and the Sauk hostage-taking episode, as alleged by some quarters.

The Prime Minister said if the claims were to be believed, he would be awed by what Mohamed Amin Mohamed Razali (leader of the Al-Ma'unah deviationist group whose members staged the arms heist) had done for Umno in risking his own life.

"If people can believe that Amin was willing to risk the lives of others for Umno, then they can subscribe to the opposition claims.

"If they say it is Umno's doing, I'll be very impressed with Umno's ability to order people who are openly anti-Umno to resort to doing something for which they would be eventually arrested and charged in court," Dr Mahathir said.

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