

US envoy

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courtesy call on PM

KUALA LUMPUR: US Ambassador to Malaysia B. Lynn Pascoe called on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday.

The visit was made following a request from the US embassy, sources here said. "The appointment was fixed two months ago," said a source, adding that it was a "normal courtesy call."

The source added that during the hour-long meeting both sides expressed the desire to further improve bilateral ties.

"In view of the new administration of President George W. Bush, both sides felt the need to move ahead with bilateral ties," the source said, but refused to reveal what other matters the Prime Minister and Pascoe discussed.

Pascoe came to Malaysia in March 1999.

Bilateral ties with Malaysia suffered a setback in 1998 following the then US Vice-President Al Gore's remarks in support of the *reformasi* movement in the country.