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Malaysia not convinced

ALOR GAJAH: Malaysia is not convinced of the United States' claim that there is clear evidence linking Iraq and the Al Qaeda.

However, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said if it is proven that there is such a link, Malaysia will cooperate with the US.

"We are not convinced yet and can't accept, and even the world has yet to accept," he said, after opening the Honda plant here.

"No, we're not anti-America. If they convince us, we will go along with them just as in the case of the fight against terrorism. We are willing to cooperate fully with them," he said.

In his annual State of the Union speech to Congress and the American people, US President George W. Bush said the US has new intelligence on Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and also that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein "aids and protects terrorists" including members of the Al Qaeda.

Secretary of State Colin Powell will present the evidence to the UN Security Council on Feb 5.