

# Nuclear Malaysia is OK

The Star - 28/2/2007.

## Envoy: US won't object if use is peaceful



**LaFleur:** 'Ties between the United States and Malaysia are based on common interests'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The United States said it would not oppose if Malaysia were to pursue a nuclear energy programme for peaceful purposes.

Ambassador to Malaysia Christopher J. LaFleur said there were very clear international guidelines for such a programme.

"Many other countries do it. Malaysia wants to do it... fine, we have no objection," he said when asked at an intellectual discourse (The US and Malaysia in 2007: Focusing on Our Political-Economic-Commercial Relation) about Iran's nuclear programme

and whether Malaysia would face any objection if it pursues a nuclear agenda.

The event was organised by Universiti Putra Malaysia's Faculty of Human Ecology.

LaFleur said that nuclear energy was quite important for countries which had no energy resources of their own.

He praised Malaysia saying that the country's success story in the Muslim world demonstrated clearly the capacity for Islam to assume once again the leadership role it had once played among the world's civilisations.

He said that the country's economic and social achievements and its tradition of religious pluralism stand out among Muslim majority nations.

LaFleur said that the ties between the United States and Malaysia are based on a variety of common interests - political, defence and security, in the fight against terrorism and in the economic, cultural and educational fields.

He said the world's only super-power and Malaysia cooperated closely in military matters even though they were not treaty allies. — Bernama

