

Bush warns Saudi of oil price consequences

by UPI

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia -- U.S. President George Bush issued a rare public warning of consequences of high oil prices Tuesday while visiting Saudi Arabia. In his second day in the kingdom, Bush and King Abdullah reportedly discussed several issues, including Palestinian-Israeli violence, Iraq, Lebanon and Iran's nuclear defiance, Voice of America reported. In a rare move, Bush spoke in front of media about oil prices. "I talked to the ambassador and will again talk to his majesty tonight about the fact that oil prices are very high, which is tough on our economy, and that I would hope, as OPEC considers different production levels, that they understand that if one of their biggest consumers' economy suffers, it will mean less purchases, less oil and gas sold," Bush said. The Saudi media was critical of Bush when he arrived Monday for his verbal attack on Iran he made Sunday in Abu Dhabi, with the Saudi Gazette calling it "a display of the fairly muddled thinking behind the current foreign policy of the United States."

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