

Scandal, Iran topics of Bush-Olmert talks

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- Iran's nuclear program and Israeli-Palestinian relations are topics expected to be aired by U.S. President George Bush and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. "He and the president are good friends and they talk a lot about a range of issues, and they often have a little bit of one-on-one time," White House spokeswoman Dana Perino said. Olmert was in Washington to address the annual American-Israel Public Affairs Committee convention and meet with Bush Wednesday, CNN reported. The Israeli prime minister came to the United States with a cloud of scandal over his head. Olmert is under investigation in Israel for corruption. Other major issues expected to be discussed include Israel's contact with Syria and bilateral defense relations between the two nations, CNN reported. Olmert told the pro-Israel lobby attention must be focused on Iran and its nuclear program, asserting that Tehran is working to develop nuclear weapons. "We must stop the Iranian threat by all possible means," he said. "Israel will not tolerate the possibility of a nuclear Iran, and neither should any other country in the free world."

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