

Email: [REDACTED]

Hon. Ben Nighthorse Campbell
6950 E. Bellevue Ave, #200
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

August 18, 2002

Re: Israeli occupation and use of American weapons

Dear Sir,

I was appalled to hear that an Israeli bomb dropped in a residential district in Gaza killed 14 people, nine of them children and wounded well over a hundred others (see attached article). Israel may have killed a Hamas leader but it was inevitable that there would be heavy civilian casualties. Actions like this only breed hatred and will lead to more violence, not less.

What really caught my attention is that the Israelis used an **American-supplied F-16 fighter jet!** President Bush may say that the action was "heavy handed" but there has been no condemnation of the use of American equipment.

Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza (and Syria's Golan Heights) is no different to Iraq's occupation of Kuwait except that it has lasted 35 years with barely a whisper of American protest instead of lasting a few months and being met by a forceful American response. Those who hate America see our support of Israel and are no doubt planning another terrorist attack putting you and me at risk

I am also appalled that President Bush demand that the Palestinians elect new leadership. Would he like it if the Chinese refused to deal with America until he was removed? Mr Arafat was elected by a wider majority than he was.

Furthermore, Mr Arafat may well be "compromised by terror" but **so is Ariel Sharon!!!** His own government found him indirectly responsible for the massacres at the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps in which over a thousand Palestinian died. If the President is serious, he should demand Mr Sharon's removal as well.

As a member of Congress, I urge you to:

- get a clear statement from the Administration that the use of American military equipment against civilian targets is completely unacceptable
- reduce aid to Israel. Given that we give \$3 billion of military and economic aid to Israel each year, I am disgusted that my taxes are being used to support this sort of atrocity and the continuing occupation
- tell Israel that the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza must end. It is illegal - end of story. The settlements must go. They should never have been there in the first place so should not be used as a bargaining chip in negotiations.
- obtain generous compensation for those who lost their houses and land in 1948. Yes there are some Palestinians who want the destruction of Israel but their numbers will be greatly reduced if their needs are addressed in some alternative manner. Letting them rot in refugee camps is not a solution. **There will be no peace until there is justice.**

Your sincerely,

Peter [REDACTED]



Ms Sobhiya Al-Amour (50) facing an Israeli bulldozer. The bulldozer had destroyed two Palestinian houses and is now digging up her field of olive trees.



Never too young to die in Palestine. Palestinian hatred of Israel is not without reason, yet the United States gives active support to the occupation!

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Sen. Wayne Allard
7340 E. Caley Ave
Englewood, CO 80111

August 18, 2002

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Email: [REDACTED]

Rep. Diana DeGette
1600 Downing St, Suite 505
Denver, CO 80218

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