



April 15, 2002

60 Minutes
524 West 57th St
New York, NY 10019

Attn: Andy Rooney

Re: Your excellent comments about the Middle East

Dear Mr Rooney,

Thank you for your comments at the end of *60 Minutes* on April 14. In particular, you are the first American public figure that I have heard that has questioned the almost \$2 billion of military aid that we give to Israel each year.

It is beyond my belief that we went to war to evict Saddam Hussein from Iraq, and when the Soviets occupied Afghanistan, we supplied arms and training to the resistance yet in the Middle East, **we are now giving aid to the occupier!** There seems little recognition in the US media that Israel is the “occupier” in the “occupied territories”. No wonder the Arabs hate us so much. It seems the double standards are obvious to everyone outside America but few within.

With Jewish settlements continuing to sprout on the West Bank, it appears that Ariel Sharon's idea of a Palestinian homeland looks a lot like the reservations that we forced the **Native Americans** on to over a hundred years ago. The Palestinians are losing their land, just as the Native Americans lost theirs. We should have learned by now how immoral our actions were then and now be strenuously seeking better treatment for the Palestinians.

yours sincerely,

Peter 