



April 16, 2002

Paul Wolfowitz
Deputy Secretary of Defense
1010 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1010

Re: Your speech to the pro-Israeli demonstration April 15

Dear Sir,

I want to thank you for the comments you made yesterday recognizing that *Innocent Palestinians are suffering and dying in great numbers as well*. I'm sure it took some courage to say this to an overwhelmingly Jewish audience and I was appalled that so many took your statement-of-the-obvious to be so offensive that they would boo you.

I'm hoping that you and other Administration officials will also acknowledge something else that is obvious: that Israel is the *occupier* in the "occupied territories". While we claim to support freedom, our failure to demand total withdrawal from the territories taken by force in 1967 makes us utter hypocrites and a target of Arab anger and possibly terrorism.

The illegal settlements must go and Israel's military presence must end if there is to be lasting peace.

Yours truly,

Peter 