

# American Values

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Gary L. Bauer, President

April 11, 2002

Honorable George W. Bush  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Bush:

We, the undersigned, wish to take this opportunity to commend you for the enlightened leadership you have provided in the global war against terrorism, and your efforts to bring peace to the Middle East.

We also wish to express our support for the Bush Doctrine - your moral conviction that terrorism can never be justified no matter the cause or grievance. As you have repeatedly made clear those who intentionally slaughter non-combatants for political purposes are at war with the United States and with the entire civilized world.

It is because we so strongly support the moral case you have made against terrorism that we write you today with heavy hearts. We believe the Bush Doctrine is in great jeopardy and the war on terrorism with it. We believe it is imperative for the United States to stand with our friend and ally Israel as they attempt to defeat the same forces of terrorism that we have been battling since September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001. We would ask you to end pressure on Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon so that he has the time necessary to complete the mission he has undertaken - the elimination of terrorists cells and infrastructure from the West Bank territories.

Prime Minister Sharon has made clear that he intends to keep troops in the West Bank no longer than absolutely necessary. But, as he has also made clear, to leave armed and dangerous terrorists at large among the general Palestinian population would not facilitate the cause of peace. Indeed, such terrorists pose an unacceptable threat not only to innocent Israeli civilians, but also to those Palestinians who sincerely seek a way out of the current conflict. If suicide bombings prevail in the Middle East surely America will see such attacks on our own families and communities.

No one knows what tomorrow will bring in the Middle East, but we can determine what Israel's brief offensive has accomplished so far: Five bomb-making facilities have been discovered and destroyed, including 17 bombs that were ready to be used. In addition, documentary evidence was discovered in the offices of Yassir Arafat, evidence showing that he personally approves and finances bombings and other terrorist activities.

Given these revelations, it seems to us that Secretary Powell's current peace-making trip is sending a dangerous message. The focus of the trip appears to be more pressure on Israel to