

9 February 1991

Seattle, Wa 98101

The McNeil/Lehr News Report

001456 FEB 20 1991

The "C-Band"

400 North Capitol Street #650
Washington, DC 20001

Sies:

Both of your news broadcasts are outstanding. Referring to the recent controversy of the press regarding being controlled in its access of news, I feel the average journalist is trying to cover the news as he would the Rose Bowl or some super sporting event. He deals with human interest aspects and ^{only} obliquely deals with the main thrust of the Mid-East crisis.

The key word of this letter to you is demographics. I am mystified by the Palestinian issue. I do not understand the geography, the social working within Arabian and Mid-east countries, the activities of the population, the land use, etc. I do not know the geography of Palestine, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan. I do not appreciate the fact that the nations in this area of the world are not cohesive societies but are only represented by monarchs wheeling and dealing with a bunch of localized tribes whose chieftains will always maintain their tribes autonomy.

Related to the foregoing, I do not know the history of Israel. When did it come into being as it now exists? I would like to know why ^{it} is so totally opposed by Islam and even the Christian world. (It must revert back to

the history in the Bible's "Old Testament.")

I would like to understand what the chances are of the United Nations ever becoming a truly governing body. One can see that if the representatives to this body represent only a ruling clique of each nation, true strength will never come into being.

To wind this up, I would like to see the talent of journalists directed more to the underlying factors and less to the "human interest" stories which degenerate into superficialities.

Again

Demographics of the Mid-East.

Israel's history and reason for being.

United Nations representation.

If documentary oriented journalism on your part could be effected, we the general public could better critique the planners post war aspirations. You might say to me, go to the library and read. True but that does not disseminate knowledge to the public.

P.S. Tonight saw an interview with a professor at the University in Jerusalem. Talk about guesstimate, Rinky Thinking!

Good Luck in
Thoughts & Journalism

