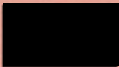


1/21/91

Mr. Lamb —

This is too long for
the call-in format, but
I wanted to add to
the discussion on the
Gulf War. I am a
humanist.



Jan. 21, 1991

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Editor:

The Arab-Israeli conflict is confusing because of the unique blend of cultural, political and economic differences in a small area near the eastern Mediterranean Sea.

Palestinians are the true natives, but both Palestinians and Jews have long histories in the region and share common holy sites. Both deserve to be there. Israel exists as a Jewish settler state and millions of Jews will be emigrating from all over the planet. This is a cultural reality. In the meantime, the Palestinians have no homeland and no sovereignty. They are a people in exile.

The real grit of the conflict is Israel's expansionism and occupation of Arab lands. Many Arabs see the present Israeli government as racist and brutal in its treatment of Palestinians displaced from their homes so Jewish settlers can build homes for themselves. Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip -- as well as Arabs all over the region -- have a deep resentment for the government of Israel. And the United Nations General Assembly has passed many resolutions against Israel -- all vetoed by the United States.

Let's get the Arab-Israeli conflict out in the open once and for all. Let's analyze it. Let's talk about it. Let's solve it democratically and peacefully, face-to-face. Why start World War Three?

MAR 5 - ANS'D

In my opinion, this war -- this war that none of us wanted in the first place -- did not begin with Saddam Hussein; he was simply the catalyst. When Saddam's army wrongly violated the sovereignty of Kuwait by occupation, the fragile, volatile balance of power in the region shifted. I am convinced that Israel would have attacked Iraq independently if the U.S. Government had not started manipulating an undemocratic United Nations Security Council (by economic favors and threats of veto) to gain support for this nightmarish slaughter of human beings.

I think that our bureaucracy in Washington, D.C., has anticipated this war for years. This is what the costly, high-tech arms build-up was for. This is why Americans have been suffering cuts in educational and social programs. And right up until the first million dollar cruise missile was launched, yet another U.S. president refused to allow discussion on the Palestinian issue. We are in the Gulf for two reasons: to fight Israel's war against Iraq and to protect U.S. oil interests in case the war spreads.

Unless we stop it now, this war is going to haunt the entire planet. Who knows what the environmental and economic consequences will be? Who knows what forces of change will be unleashed? Who knows what forces of destruction will be unleashed? I say: Stop the War! International Peace Talks Now! Democratize the United Nations Now!

Citizens of Earth must unite to stop this war. This is the only way we can support the brave human beings of all nationalities, civilian and military, now in danger because of this idiotic war. Human conflicts require human solutions. War solves nothing; it just creates more bitterness, more resentment, more anger and more war. We must learn to share this fragile planet peacefully and we must do it now.

Civil disobedience tactics are useless. We need well-organized, peaceful mass demonstrations. Everyone who wants to stop this war must get involved. This affects the planet we live on. We will be heard.

In human solidarity,



Boulder, CO 80303

