



Message of the Week

May 6-14, 2002

Presented by Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN)

“America and Israel are allies in self-defense against international terrorism.”

- Israel is at war with terror, just like the United States, so we must stand with Israel.
- Israel is our greatest ally in the Middle East and the only democracy there.
- After September 11th, President Bush declared that the entire free world is at war with terror.
- Nowhere is that more evident than in Israel, where in recent months, suicide bombers have repeatedly attacked innocent civilians.
- Just this week, Israel has endured two suicide bombings, killing 15 and injuring more than 60.
- Since Yasser Arafat “renounced” violence in the Oslo Peace Accords on September 13, 1993, at least **30 Americans**, including women and children, have been murdered by Palestinian terrorists, and another **68 Americans** have been injured.
- Given these figures, it is clear that Israel’s war on terrorism is America’s war on terrorism.
- To help America continue the fight against worldwide terrorism and defend the nation and its allies against attack, the House passed a bill to authorize \$382.8 billion for defense in fiscal year 2003—that’s **\$39.5 billion more** than last year’s authorization.
- This Defense Authorization bill would:
 - Authorize \$7.3 billion for programs to combat terrorism
 - Authorize \$7.8 billion for the Ballistic Missile Defense Program
 - Increase active-duty end-strengths by more than 12,000 personnel worldwide
 - Increase funding for military readiness
 - Increase basic military pay by 4.1%