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PENCE CONDEMNS PALESTINIAN HOMICIDE BOMBING IN ISRAEL TODAY

Congressman Touring Military Base 20 Miles from Gaza Checkpoint at Time of Incident

Washington, Jan 14, 2004 - JERUSALEM, ISRAEL - U.S. Congressman Mike Pence released the following statement from Jerusalem, Israel today condemning in the strongest possible terms the Palestinian suicide bombing between Israel and the Gaza Strip. The bombing killed four Israelis and wounded four Palestinians, according to Israeli Radio.

“I condemn this latest attack by Palestinian terrorists in the strongest possible terms.

“My deepest sympathy goes out to the families of the victims killed in this attack. Israelis and Palestinians both were killed and wounded.

“This underscores the reality that innocent Israelis and Palestinians are suffering at the hands of terrorist violence.

“After my travels throughout Israel the past few days, it is evident that the first step to achieving a lasting peace is for terrorist violence against Israelis to stop.”

Pence, a member of the House International Relations Committee, where he serves on the Middle East and Central Asia Subcommittee, is on a mission to Israel with the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis. Congressman Pence toured the security fence and met with border security officials in the region of Jenin.

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