



## Quotes about the Apartheid Wall

**Ariel Sharon:** "The security fence will continue to be built, with every effort to minimize the infringement on the daily life of the Palestinian population."

(29 July 2003, press meeting George W. Bush - Ariel Sharon, source: [White House Transcript](#))

**Kieran Prendergast (Undersecretary-General for Political Affairs UN):** "Suspending construction of the wall would contribute to the overall effort to improve security and humanitarian conditions and restart the political process. While understanding the dilemma that Israel faces in deciding how to protect itself from terrorist attacks, nevertheless, in light of developments since construction on the wall began, we believe that work on the wall should be halted. It potentially separates tens of thousands of Palestinians from their agricultural lands, wells, markets, schools, health clinics and hospitals. By the end of July, 12,000 Palestinians in 15 villages could find themselves wedged between the wall and the Green Line. A further 138,000 Palestinians in 16 localities could be surrounded on three sides by the wall."

The wall's construction could also have "obvious adverse implications for the peace process" given that it lies well inside the West Bank and not along the Green Line. "It could easily be seen as jeopardizing the territorial contiguity of a Palestinian state and thereby inhibiting the establishment of a Palestinian state."

(13 June 2003, Security Council, source: *UN official: Israel should halt construction of West Bank fence*, Ha'aretz, 14 June 2003)

"I haven't sat with the prime minister recently, but the map of the fence. . . is the same map I saw during every visit Arik made here since 1978. He told me he has been thinking about it since 1973."

-Ron Nahman, Mayor of Ariel settlement. From *A Wall in the Heart*, May 26, Yedioth Ahronoth

"The fence is a death sentence for the Palestinians. The fence is a mistake, it will only exacerbate the problem, it will make more people more frustrated."

- Shmil Elad, Right wing settler from Einav settlement. From *A Wall in the Heart*, May 26, Yedioth Ahronoth

"There is a very sneaky combination here. The army doesn't look at the political side, it insists on saying that this is a security barrier. But it is clear to everyone that this is a political line behind which there is a political outlook. Those who try and say that the fence doesn't represent a political line, don't know what they're talking about. Don't give me that nonsense. Everyone is playing this double game, and it's convenient for everybody. That is why I am in favor of the fence, obviously it will put us inside."

-David Levy, head of the Jordan Valley (settler) council. From *A Wall in the Heart*, May 26, Yedioth Ahronoth

"I think the wall is a problem, and I discussed this with Ariel Sharon. It is very difficult to develop confidence between the Palestinians and the Israel -- Israel -- with a wall snaking through the West Bank. And I will continue to discuss this issue very clearly with the Prime Minister. As I said in my statement today, he has issued a statement saying he is willing to come and discuss that with us."

-George Bush