Beyond the Mirage
The Face of the Occupation

by David Neunuebel

David Neunuebel grew up in an average American home where the Middle East and Palestinian/Israeli conflict were never part of his world. Yet after his first visit to the area he knew something was terribly wrong. What he saw, after many more trips, went counter to every American instinct he’d been taught growing up. This documentary is an attempt to get “beyond the mirage.”

Too often the conflict is presented in black and white terms. This, in itself, is a form of injustice. Beyond the Mirage: The Face of the Occupation is an opportunity to hear from people who actually live in the region and goes beyond what we get from the American media.

The film discusses some of the major daily realities Palestinians face: roadblocks, destruction of houses, military brutality. Powerful insights are provided by interviews with Jessica Montel, Director of B’Tselem, Jeff Halper of the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions, and Allegra Pacheco, an Israeli attorney who represents Palestinians in Israeli military court and the Israeli Supreme Court.

Having witnessed firsthand and been struck by the humiliating, oppressive way the Israelis treat the Palestinian people, David Neunuebel founded the group Americans for a Just Peace in the Middle East (www.ajpme.org).