

# The reality of war

Too often in our daily dealings with the world we overlook what is happening elsewhere as not being real. A war which is half a world away takes on the feeling of unreality even when we see it live on television, with close-up coverage of battles, and sounds of artillery or rifle bursts popping apparently harmlessly in the background.

This suddenly changes when, as with the Elaine Abrahams family, a beloved relative or friend becomes a part of that war. Suddenly Beirut becomes all too frighteningly real, and with the possibility that that loved one can become a casualty, we become frightened for and with that family.

The story of the family and friends of George "Boss" Ramos, personalizes an action into its stark reality. As with Vietnam, Korea and every recent war fought, our concern becomes even greater for the soldiers in conflict, the innocent civilians, and for the horrid possibility of escalation of that local battle into wider and ever more destructive arenas.

The old saw "War is hell," assumes an air of truth.

We hope and pray that "Boss" Ramos returns from the hell of Lebanon.