



18 March 2020

Newsletter No 18

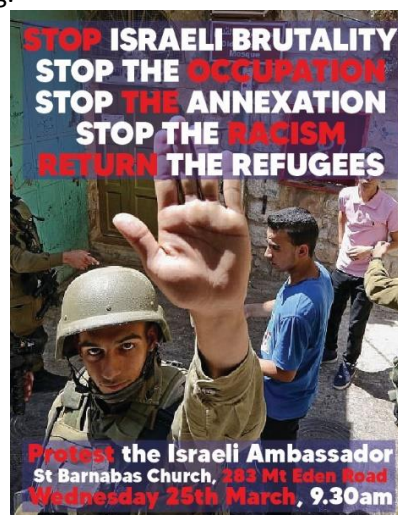
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1. One thing you can do right now...

Circulate this poster to family and friends in Auckland and come along yourself if you can. ACT MP David Seymour has invited the Israeli ambassador to talk about the Trump/Netanyahu “deal of the century” – the filthy plan to steal more Palestinian land and further develop the Israeli apartheid state at the expense of Palestinians.

We don’t expect to get more than 500 people to this protest so it’s going ahead and we need you to help get a decent crowd along.



2. Coronavirus, Racism and Israel

The Israeli state remains in a political mess with Netanyahu failing again to get a parliamentary majority in the third election early this month and facing charges of corruption. Covid 19 has postponed his court appearance and he is trying to stitch together a six-month emergency government to deal with the global epidemic. However, the blatant race-hatred of Palestinians by Netanyahu and most of the Israeli parliamentary leadership means Palestinian Israelis (20% of voters in Israeli elections) are not welcome in any government – emergency or otherwise. Instead the pandemic is being used to drive forward ethnic cleansing of Palestinians. PLO spokesperson [Hannan Ashrawi explains what's happening in this release](#) while the [deep-seated racism of the Israeli state is explained here](#).

3. Some Kiwisaver accounts in the clear

We have written to all 29 registered Kiwisaver providers to check if they have investments in any of the 112 companies which the United Nations Human Rights Council has identified as being complicit in illegal settlement building or settlement maintenance on occupied Palestinian land. We are encouraging any providers with such investments to transfer their investments elsewhere rather than in assisting in Israel's blatant abuse of international law and oppression of Palestinians. So far four Kiwisaver providers have indicated they have no such investments. These responsible Kiwisaver providers are:

- Amanah Kiwisaver (www.amanahnz.com/)
- Christian Kiwisaver (<https://christiankiwisaver.nz/>)
- Caresaver Kiwisaver (caresaver.co.nz/)
- Juno Kiwisaver (www.junokiwisaver.co.nz/)

We will update this list in future newsletters as we find out more from each of the other providers.

4. Positive City Council responses

After the attempt by pro-Israeli groups to have the Wellington City Council pass a resolution on anti-semitism last month based on the highly controversial International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of anti-semitism we have written to all mayors and councillors around New Zealand alerting them to the possibility this will be attempted at other councils. We have received a wide range of deeply appreciative response from around the country.

In case you missed the last newsletter, the IHRA definition of anti-semitism is not designed to protect Jewish communities from anti-semitism but is designed to protect Israeli from criticism and political action such as BDS by claiming this is anti-semitic.

5. Palestine Land Day Protests

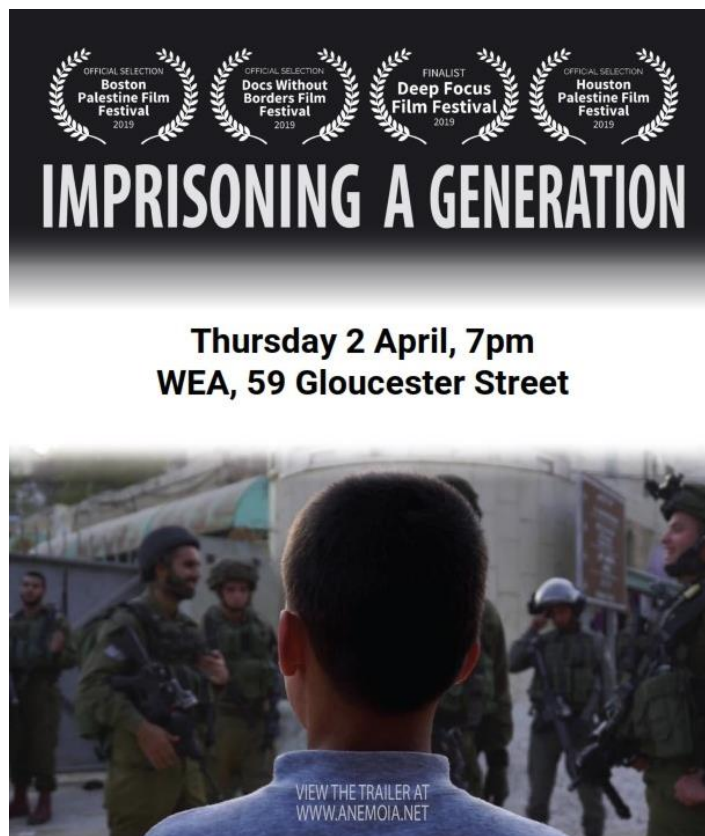
Some centres are organising activities to protest Palestine Land Day – here is the poster for the Christchurch protest. (Palestine Land Day is the 30th March but it makes sense for us to take action on the 29th)

Please circulate it to friends and family in Christchurch and encourage them to join us.



6. Imprisoning a generation – Wellington screening postponed

Wellington Palestine have postponed their screening of the film *Imprisoning a Generation*, scheduled for Thursday 26th March, due to coronavirus. The Christchurch screening on 2 April will go ahead as we can manage the proximity of patrons quite easily at the WEA venue. Please send the notice below to family and friends in Christchurch!



7. Dances with Death - A new book by Palestinian New Zealander – Tuma Hazou

“Written without rancour, Tuma Hazou’s account of his wartime reporting experiences is an engaging, authentic and rare Palestinian account of recent Middle-East events and of nerve-racking personal trauma” - Janfrie Wakim - Auckland

Tuma will be travelling to various centres for the launch of his book but in the meantime the book can be purchased from Tuma at gandthazou@gmail.com

NEW TITLE INFORMATION

PUBLICATION DETAILS

Format: Paperback

150 pp, 148mm by 210mm

ISBN: 978-0-473-50605-6

\$25 SOR, trade discounts
available

RELEASE: March 2020

TUMA HAZOU, AUTHOR



When he joined the BBC Arabic Service in London in 1957, at 22, Tuma was the youngest announcer at the BBC.

Dances with Death

Perilous Encounters Reporting on Hostilities in the Turbulent Middle East

A remarkable insight into Middle East affairs and events through the eyes of an accomplished journalist with 40 years experience in the media.

Author Tuma Hazou attributes the ongoing turmoil in the Middle East to the 1917 Balfour Declaration committing Britain to create a 'national home' for Jews in Palestine, at the expense of the Muslim and Christian indigenous majority. The subsequent shambolic Jewish-Arab conflict culminated in establishing Israel in 1948 and the defeat by young Israel of six Arab armies.

Tuma Hazou highlights also the events leading to the 1967 June war, with pre-emptive strikes by Israel against Syria, Egypt and Jordan.

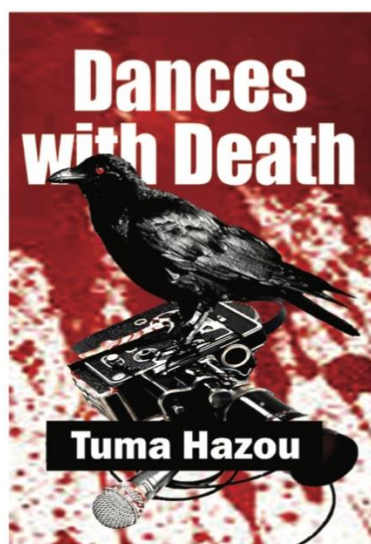
He relates the agonising loss of a colleague when fighting flares up in Jerusalem between the Israelis and the Jordanians.

On yet another fateful day, he goes through 3 'dances with death' during repeated Israeli air raids on Jordan in August 1968. His chilling eye-witness account of the harrowing raids is included in a United Nations Security Council record of the raids, cited in Addendum 2.

The book's addendums add intriguing substance to Tuma Hazou's narrative, such as his wife's role in circumventing a Jordanian law preventing her Kiwi friend Christine from marrying a high-ranking officer who ends up, for only 10 days, as Jordan's Prime Minister at the start of Jordan's 1970 September civil war.

The author reviews what led to the civil war between King Hussein's Jordanian army and the Palestinian guerrillas after a 'leftist' guerrilla faction hijacked a number of civilian planes, forcing them to land in the Jordanian desert before blowing them up. While covering that gruesome 8-day civil war, Tuma was incredibly spared being blown up when he drove over 4 anti-tank mines.

Relocating in 1967 to Amman, in Jordan, the author worked as a radio programmes producer and freelance journalist contributing Middle East coverage to UPI, BBC, NBC TV & Radio News and later as both cameraman and radio reporter with ABC TV & Radio News of New York. He also acted as media advisor to Prince Hassan of Jordan. In 1990 Tuma joined UNICEF as Director of Information for the Middle East and North Africa, working there until 1997 when he took early retirement and settled with his Kiwi wife in New Zealand.



“Written without rancour, Tuma Hazou’s account of his war-time reporting experiences is an engaging, authentic and rare Palestinian account of recent Middle East events, and of nerve-racking personal trauma”.

—Janfrie Wakim, NZ Human Rights Activist



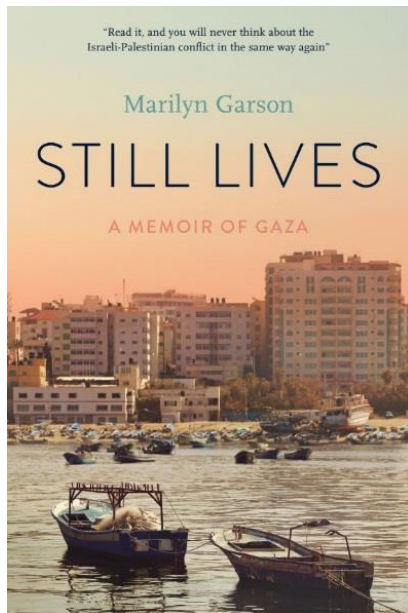
King Hussein and Tuma Hazou in 1968, meeting on top of a captured Israeli tank.

This is just one of several illustrations that adorn the book.

8. Still Lives – Marilyn Garson

Marilyn Garson's book *Still Lives* has been accepted for the Auckland Writers Festival. Great news for a great book!

In the book Canadian-Kiwi Marilyn writes of her experiences working in GAZA under the Israeli siege



Order your eBook [here](#)

www.marilyngarson.com

9. BDS Conference in Sydney cancelled

The BDS conference planned for Sydney in late July has been cancelled due to corona virus. It will either held much later this year or more likely held over till July 2021.

10. Merchandise for Sale

T shirt Free Palestine End Israeli Occupation medium size only \$22



Kaffiyeh 110 x 110 \$44 + postage



For any of these email bronwensummers@gmail.com or phone 03 55 00 132 txt 0220850161
Alternatively, you can buy merchandise including T-shirts from our website
<http://www.palestinesolidaritynz.net/shop.html>

11. Are you able to donate a cup of coffee a month to the campaign?

We will need some serious money to make our campaign as effective as possible. For example, we will need somewhere in the vicinity of \$25,000 to bring speakers to New Zealand over the next year and organise large public meetings to help spread the message.

You can help. Are you able to donate a cup of coffee a month to the campaign? In other words, **can you afford to make an automatic payment of \$5 per month to support the Palestinian struggle?** (If you can afford more that would be great!)

Our account details are:

Account name: Palestine Solidarity Network

Account number: 38-9015-0849542-00

Or Pay Pal account: admin@palestinesolidaritynz.net

We are happy to provide a receipt upon request (however, we are not a registered charity so this is not tax-deductible)

12. More ways you can get involved

- Forward this Newsletter – If you know people who may be interested in this movement, please forward this Newsletter to them.
- Join in local activities in your area monthly Rallies - In Auckland, we hold a monthly Protest at 2.00 pm on the first Saturday of every month. Please consider doing the same in your community. Contact <mailto:admin@palestinesolidaritynz.net?subject=Flags> and Banners if you would like to know where and how to get Flags and Banners
- Help set up a Students for Justice in Palestine groups on your campus
- Tell Your MP your opinions on Divestment and Sanctions of Israel.
- Write Letters to Newspapers – Call Talkback Radio

- Keep in touch with the campaign on social media
 - NZ Palestine Solidarity Network website: <http://PalestineSolidarityNZ.net/index.html>
 - NZ Palestine Solidarity Network Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/671376706283605/
 - NZ Palestine Solidarity Network email: admin@PalestineSolidarityNZ.net
- Keep Updated on our Facebook pages and websites (listed below)

Regional	
Bay of Islands	PSNA Bay of Islands
Whangarei	PSNA Whangarei
Auckland	PSNA Auckland – Tamaki Makaurau
Hamilton	Palestine Human Rights Campaign Waikato
Tauranga	Tauranga Moana 4 Palestine
Napier/Hastings	Aotearoa Standing with Palestine
Palmerston North	PSNA Palmerston North
Wellington	Wellington Palestine
Nelson	Te Tau Ihu (Nelson) Palestine
Christchurch	PSNA Christchurch
Dunedin	Dunedin for Justice in Palestine
Invercargill	PSNA Invercargill

New Zealand Affiliates	
	Boycott Divestment and Sanctions NZ
	Kia Ora Gaza
	Letters for Palestine
	Auckland Peace Action
	Global Peace and Justice Auckland
	Preserved Identity (Palestinian Goods)
	Auckland – Students for Justice in Palestine
	Massey University- Students for Justice in Palestine

John Minto
Spokesperson
Palestine Solidarity Network Aotearoa