



18 August 2020

## Newsletter No 29

We begin this newsletter with a congratulation to Aucklanders who got out to support the international solidarity action call from Samidoun.

More than 20 PSNA supporters met on Ponsonby Road for 90 minutes with Banners and Flags before sending a delegation to New Zealand Army Headquarters to send a message to the Prime Minister.



Here is how it was reported by Samidoun:

*On 8 August, activists from [Palestine Solidarity Network Aotearoa](#) – Auckland/Tamaki Makaurau organized an action for the Days of Resistance to demand an end to New Zealand’s complicity with Israeli war crimes, calling for New Zealand officials to put an end to military coordination with the Israeli occupation. They received many honks of support from passing cars before marching to New Zealand army headquarters (on Great North Road, Grey Lynn) to demand that NZ stop purchasing weapons from Israel.*

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## Bombings in Gaza – speak up New Zealand!

Once again Israel has been bombing Gaza – below is the letter we sent to the Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister. If you can back this up with your own messages to this pair then that would be helpful and important.



*18 August 2020*

*Jacinda Ardern  
Prime Minister  
[j.ardern@ministers.govt.nz](mailto:j.ardern@ministers.govt.nz)*

*Winston Peters  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
[w.peters@ministers.govt.nz](mailto:w.peters@ministers.govt.nz)*

*Kia ora Ms Ardern kōruā ko Mr Peters,*

***Call for New Zealand government to speak up and***

- 1. Condemn Israeli bombing of Gaza and***
- 2. Call for lifting of the Israeli blockade on the besieged Palestinian enclave***

*The Palestine Solidarity Network Aotearoa is calling on the government to speak up on behalf of the besieged people of Gaza who are once more under bombardment from Israeli bombs during the global Covid 19 pandemic.*

*Israel claims its attacks are in retaliation for incendiary balloons sent from Gaza which have caused fires in Israel. This is a micro issue. It is subterfuge. The cause of the conflict is the Israeli blockade of Gaza which has been intensified in recent days.*

We have previously requested the government speak out [calling for the end of the Gaza blockade because of the global pandemic](#) but the government has been silent.

Previously the government has condemned Palestinian resistance but has simply called for “restraint” on the part of Israel. This is a racist, one-sided policy of support for the aggressors and another kick in the teeth for the Palestinian victims.

This must change.

Gaza schools opened last Sunday after five months of suspension due to Covid-19 only to be hit the same night by an Israeli missile. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency [tweeted](#) that Beach Co-Educational School ‘D’ “was affected” by an Israeli air strike which has been found to be an [unexploded Israeli bomb which targeted the school](#).

Israeli brutality knows no bounds when it comes to attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure.

They are relying on complicity by silence from countries such as New Zealand to continue their abuses of Palestinian human rights.

It’s time for change. We are calling on you to act immediately to uphold international law and minimum human rights standards and demand:

1. An immediate end to Israeli military attacks on Gaza, and
2. The immediate and total lifting of the illegal siege of Gaza

NZ must then follow these up with concrete action which suspends all bilateral agreements between Israeli entities and New Zealand until Israel complies with both international law and all United Nations resolutions.

We look forward to your quick response in this urgent situation.

Nā,

John Minto  
National Chair  
Palestine Solidarity Network Aotearoa  
0220850161  
[johnminto@orcon.net.nz](mailto:johnminto@orcon.net.nz)

## United Arab Emirates, Trump and Netanyahu do a grubby little deal



Three of the nastiest racists in the world today – Bin Zayed, Trump and Netanyahu – have done a deal under which Israel agrees not to annex more Palestinian land “at the moment” in exchange for the United Arab Emirates “normalising” relations with Israel.

A good analysis of this nasty little deal is here: [Don't be hoodwinked by Trump's UAE-Israel 'peace deal'](#)

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## Aboriginal rights – Palestinian rights: A webinar not to be missed

The Australian BDS group has organised this exciting and important webinar. Indigenous Aboriginal voices from Australia join with Palestinian voices to call for action to fight decolonisation and dispossession in Australia and Palestine.

**Black Palestinian Forum** | **Countering Colonialism & Dispossession**

Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear BDS co-founder Omar Barghouti in discussion with key First Nations and Palestinian Australian speakers on the shared experience of dispossession, state-based discrimination and racism and how to counter it.

**Panellists**  
**Omar Barghouti** – Palestinian writer and founding member of the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel and of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign  
**Amy McGuire** – Darumbal and South Sea Islander journalist and academic  
**Dr Randa Abdulfattah** – Palestinian author, lawyer and activist  
**Professor Tony Birch** – Indigenous Australian author, academic and activist  
**Hiba Farra**, moderator – Palestinian lawyer and activist.

**ZOOM FORUM** – REGISTER HERE FOR LINK | **WHEN:** Saturday 29 August at 7:30pm EST

Register for this webinar here: <https://bdsaustralia.net.au/black-palestinian-forum/>

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## **A petition which deserves our attention – Drones over Gaza**

Have a look at this short video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJR0rJNzmvE>

And then sign the petition here: <http://chng.it/CMK6WqVf5C>

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### **Released: Mahmoud Nawajaa**



In our last newsletter we highlighted the case of the General Coordinator of the Palestinian National BDS Committee in Kafr Abu Qash [in the occupied West Bank], Mahmoud Nawajaa, who was arrested after dozens of Israeli soldiers broke into his home, handcuffed and blindfolded him, and marched him out, in front of his wife and children. Under intense international pressure he has now been released. The lesson here is that international vigilance is one of the best weapons at protecting high profile Palestinian leaders.

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### **Election pledges for all parliamentary candidates**

With the election now put back till October 17th our election pledges for parliamentary candidates will now also be delayed until nominations for the new election date change on 18 September.

Keep watching this space!

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### **“Telling Lies About Palestine”**



This is the topic PSNA National Chair John Minto will address as he gives the 2020 David Wakim Memorial Lecture later this year. The event will be held on Thursday 8 October at the St Columba Centre, 40 Vermont Street, Ponsonby, Auckland 1011, New Zealand.

Everyone welcome (Covid 19 levels permitting!)

Put it in your diary now! (<https://www.facebook.com/events/4025999910750679/>)

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## Boycott Hewlett-Packard! Don't buy HP!

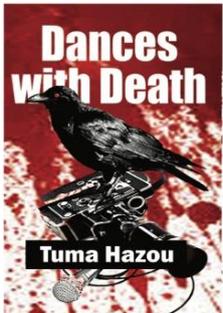
If you haven't had a chance to read through this information about Hewlett Packard then please do so. We will begin building a national campaign against Hewlett-Packard shortly so get yourself up to date and ready to act!

The online HP campaign page is here: <https://bdsaustralia.net.au/campaigns/dont-buy-hp-products/>

And the online petition is here: <https://bdsaustralia.good.do/boycotthp/individualpledge/>

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## Dances with Death

<b>NEW TITLE INFORMATION</b>	<h3 style="color: #800000;">Dances with Death</h3> <p style="color: #800000;">Perilous Encounters Reporting on Hostilities in the Turbulent Middle East</p>
<b>PUBLICATION DETAILS</b>	<p>A remarkable insight into Middle East affairs and events through the eyes of an accomplished journalist with 40 years experience in the media.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Tuma Hazou highlights also the events leading to the 1967 June war, with pre-emptive strikes by Israel against Syria, Egypt and Jordan.</p> <p>He relates the agonising loss of a colleague when fighting flares up in Jerusalem between the Israelis and the Jordanians.</p> <p>On yet another fateful day, he goes through 3 'dances with death' during repeated Israeli air raids on Jordan in August 1968.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Format: Paperback	
150 pp, 148mm by 210mm	<p>"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".</p> <p>—Janfrie Wakim, NZ Human Rights Activist</p>
ISBN: 978-0-473-50605-6	
\$25 SOR, trade discounts available	<p>King Hussein and Tuma Hazou in 1968, meeting on top of a captured Israeli tank.</p> <p>This is just one of several illustrations that adorn the book.</p>
<b>RELEASE: March 2020</b>	<p>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 &amp; Radio News and later as both cameraman and radio reporter with ABC TV &amp; 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.</p>
<b>TUMA HAZOU, AUTHOR</b>	
When he joined the BBC Arabic Service in London in 1957, at 22, Tuma was the youngest announcer at the BBC.	

"In this book I recount my many 'brushes with death' reporting on hostilities in the turbulent Middle East. The on-going conflicts and upheavals in the region have their roots in the infamous 1917 British Balfour Declaration committing Britain to set up in Palestine a national state for the Jews, ignoring the Muslim and Christian majority population.

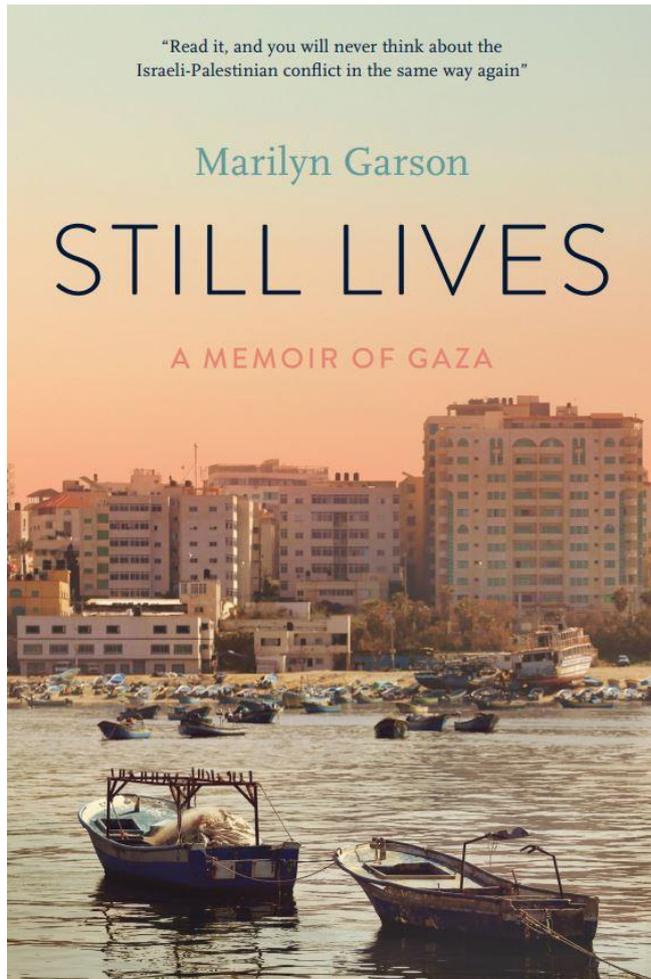
The book ends with an overview of the prevailing dire consequences of the 1967 June War. Addendums to the book add further substance to the personal traumatic narrative and related historical facts”

Books can be ordered directly from the author at [gandthazou@gmail.com](mailto:gandthazou@gmail.com)

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## Still Lives – Marilyn Garson

Canadian-Kiwi Marilyn writes of her experiences working in GAZA under the Israeli blockade from 2011 to 2015. This is a book which brings to life the horrific brutality of the 2014 Israeli invasion of Gaza which left over 300 killed – including over 500 children. Marilyn documented her experiences as she worked through this horror. It is a MUST READ.



You can purchase this from your local bookshop or order your eBook [here](#) or order a physical copy at [www.marilyngarson.com](http://www.marilyngarson.com)

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## 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](mailto: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>

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## 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](mailto: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*)

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## 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 at 2.00 pm on the first Saturday of every month. Please consider doing the same in your community. Contact [Secretary@PSNA.nz](mailto:Secretary@PSNA.nz) 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
    - ❖ Palestine Solidarity Network Aotearoa (PSNA) website: [www.PSNA.nz](http://www.PSNA.nz)
    - ❖ PSNA Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/groups/671376706283605/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/671376706283605/)
    - ❖ PSNA email: [Secretary@PSNA.nz](mailto:Secretary@PSNA.nz)
  - The Palestine Human Rights Campaign produces the *In Occupied Palestine* newsletter. It is a regular daily newsletter on the daily situation in Palestine, compiled by Leslie Bravery and emailed to subscribers. If you would also like to become a subscriber, please contact Leslie at “sumud1 @ outlook. com” (remove the spaces to use as an email address) for further information.
  - Keep Updated on our Facebook pages and websites (listed below)
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## Regional and Affiliates

### Regional

Bay of Islands	<a href="#">PSNA Bay of Islands</a>	email
Whangarei	<a href="#">PSNA Whangarei</a>	Facebook
Auckland	<a href="#">PSNA Auckland – Tamaki Makaurau</a>	Website
Hamilton	<a href="#">Palestine Human Rights Campaign Waikato</a>	Facebook
Tauranga	<a href="#">Tauranga Moana 4 Palestine</a>	Facebook
Napier/Hastings	<a href="#">Aotearoa Standing with Palestine</a>	Facebook
Palmerston North	<a href="#">PSNA Palmerston North</a>	email
New Plymouth	<a href="#">PSNA New Plymouth</a>	email
Wellington	<a href="#">Wellington Palestine</a>	Website
Nelson	<a href="#">Te Tau Ihu (Nelson) Palestine</a>	Facebook
Christchurch	<a href="#">PSNA Christchurch</a>	Facebook
Dunedin	<a href="#">Dunedin for Justice in Palestine</a>	Facebook
Invercargill	<a href="#">PSNA Invercargill</a>	email

### Affiliates

- [Boycott Divestment and Sanctions NZ](#)
- [Kia Ora Gaza](#)
- [Letters for Palestine](#)
- [Auckland Peace Action](#)
- [Global Peace and Justice Auckland](#)
- [Preserved Identity \(Palestinian products\)](#)
- [Auckland Uni– Students for Justice in Palestine](#)
- [Massey Uni- Students for Justice in Palestine](#)