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### Zionism labelled racist, from page 1

tegether with the Jews, "Al-Hout said. Israel must end its discrimination against the Arabs living in Palestine, and must "identify thenselves with the area about them" rather than creat a "middle-east ghetto" of Jews.

Al-Hout said the PLO will not accept any attempt to resolve the dispute by creating a separate state for the Palestinian Arabs. "We don't want to be settled anywhere except in our own land."

The question of the use of violence by the PLO in their struggle against Israel was repeatedly raised by pro-Israel members of the audience.

What about the killing of

civilians? What about the violence at the 1972 Olympics? What about the hijacking of airplanes?

"You condemn hijacking a plane but you don't condemn hijacking a whole country," replied Al-Hout. He did not deny that violence is a component of the PLO struggle, but stressed that Arabs are also the victims of Israeli violence.

"We are not the agressors. Arab people are born tolerant. But this time there is not more tolerance...there will be an everlasting struggle until we achieve complete victory."

Al-Hout concluded his talk by asking Jews outside Israel "to play a role by voicing out that the only way to co-exist is to live in democracy despite religious difference."

Afterwards, at a local restaurant owned by an Arab Canadian, Al-Hout told a largely pro-Palestinian audience "it is up to the Arab community and progressive forces in Canada to do something to create an evenhanded policy on the part of the Canadian authorities"

He said the PLO "just wants to see Canada take an objective look at the middle east situation" rather than blindly follow pro-zionist policies.

Al-Hout also predicted that the "Kissinger Plan" for peace in the middle east, which he called "peace by pieces", would fail, and the Arab solidarity in support of the Palestinian people would not be broken.

But negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, he said, are out of the question because the Israelis refuse to recognize the PLO as the legitimate representatives of the Palestinians, and because the PLO will not sit down and negotiate "as prisoners of war."

Again in response to questions about the use of violence involving civilians, he reiterated that it is a two-way street on that score.

Seven attemps have been made on his life, he said, including one last year when 10 mortar rockets fired by Israeli terrorists hit his offices in Beirut. "The building was filled with women and children. But you do not see that (in the west) because you are one-eyed children." "Is that not violence?" he asked.

Al-Hout's message to the audience was to "tell all you find that the Palestinian people will not give up the struggle... we will never leave."

The response was a standing ovation and chants of "long live Palestine" and "revolution and to victory!"

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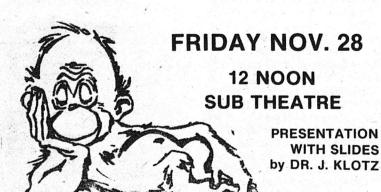
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