

# TV Film

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United Nations • Nations Unies

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**ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS  
PALESTINE**  
(Video - 19 minutes 09 seconds)

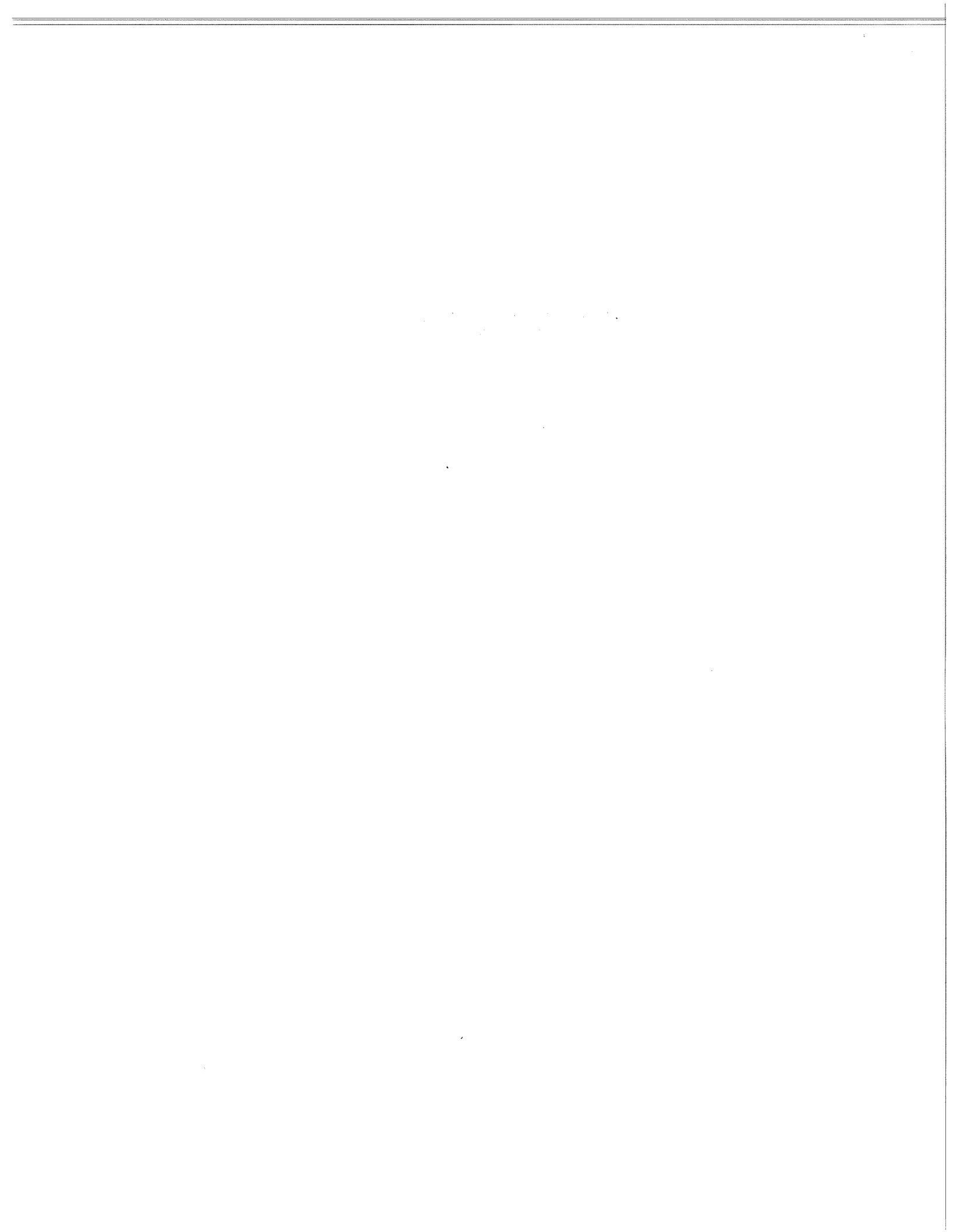
Against a background of Palestinian uprising, the intifada, a young news reporter investigates the problems in the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip by looking at the historical background and talking to people involved on both sides.

Narrator	Jonathan Zachary
Design	Clive Helfet
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A production of the  
United Nations  
Department of Public Information  
and  
The Mosaic Group, Inc.

Date of Distribution: January 1990

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**ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS**

**PALESTINE**

VIDEO

ANIMATED SERIES TITLE  
ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS  
PROGRAMME TITLE  
PALESTINE  
MONTAGE/MAP

SOLDIERS RUNNING

NARRATOR ON CAMERA

AUDIO

(MUSIC)

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

The occupied territories on the west bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip: For several years now, scenes like these have been seen on TV around the world on an almost daily basis, and with no end in sight. (17)

SYNC:

"I'm Jonathan Zachary, and I investigated the Palestinian uprising, the intifada, in the summer of 1988 when I was a reporter for an American news service called Children's Express. What our team saw was Palestinian children and teenagers squaring off against Israeli teen-age soldiers with a rage that only a person that lives in the Holy Land can fully understand." (22)

"The intifada, we learned, was on one level a war of children versus children. Back then, we thought the intifada would quickly push Israelis and Palestinians into resolving their forty-year-old conflict. But we were wrong." (14)

VIDEO

AUDIO

KIDS MARCHING

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Instead, Israel's fears for its security have grown stronger; its children act out in school plays what they sense will be their real life just a few years down the road. (13)

MAN WITH WORRY BEADS

And the will of the Palestinian people has grown stronger too, both inside and outside the occupied territories, the will to assert their pride, their solidarity, their identity and their right to national independence and sovereignty. (16)

DR. RASHID KHALIDI

Dr. Rashid Khalidi, a Palestinian living abroad, can trace his family's roots in Jerusalem back to the eleventh century. (7)

DR. RASHID KHALIDI ON CAMERA

SYNC:

" ... because when people say, "Well, you know, the Palestinians can go somewhere else" or "The Palestinians don't have roots in this country," it perhaps is something that might convince people who are totally ignorant but certainly doesn't convince Palestinians." (12)

VIDEO

AUDIO

PRIEST

DR. RASHID KHALIDI (VOICE-OVER):

"For them, the countries where they find themselves in exile, the countries where they find themselves in refuge, or the countries where, in some cases, they find themselves perfectly comfortable, are not only not their country, they are not a substitute for Palestine, and it is this--this kind of rootedness, whether in Nazareth or in Haifa or in Jaffa or in Jerusalem or Neves or wherever ..."

(20)

PEOPLE PRAYING

SYNC:

DR. RASHID KHALIDI

"... which is at the--at the core, I would argue, of Palestinians' attachments, Palestinians' attachment, to their own country."

(5)

SHAWFIKA & SHAWKI AZ-ZIQ IN GARDEN

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Inside the occupied territories, you find families like the Az-Ziqs. With the other Palestinian families in Jalazoun, Shawfika and Shawki, Az-Ziq fled from a cluster of villages inside Israel back in 1948. They thought they would be leaving for forty-eight hours when fighting broke out.

(18)

MAN SPRAYING PLANTS

But the forty-eight hours turned into forty years.

(2)

VIDEO

AUDIO

TENTS IN REFUGEE CAMPS

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

To understand the extent of the refugee problem: By late 1948 alone, half the population of Palestine had fled in panic to neighbouring countries. (9)

MAN WATERING PLANTS

Here in Jalazoun, run by the United Nations, the Az-Ziqs raise their children: the youngest, daughter Rana, and sons Samer and Luay, children who have only known war and occupation.

(12)

RANA AZ-ZIQ

(Translation from Arabic):

SAMER AZ-ZIQ ON CAMERA

"My generation is different from the last generation because my generation will do anything to regain its land and freedom."

(5)

NARRATOR ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"Do you ever throw stones at Israeli cars or army patrols?"

(3)

SAMER AZ-ZIQ ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"Several time."

(Translation from Arabic):

"Several times, and I would do it again."

(1)

MAN AND WOMAN

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

The Az-Ziqs claim they do not encourage their children to throw stones. (3)

VIDEO

AUDIO

NARRATOR ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"So if you don't encourage your sons to throw stones, what do you encourage them to do?"

(4)

SHAWKI AZ-ZIQ ON CAMERA

(Translation from Arabic):

"I'm an intellectual, and I know the real world. I didn't encourage my children or any children to throw rocks or stones at buses or soldiers. There could be some innocent people in that bus, and I don't encourage this method. But there is no other method. I encourage my children to study hard and take care of themselves, because a good education is the basis for everything else. Through education, maybe we'll succeed and regain power."

(17)

TEACHER IN CLASSROOM

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Reverence for education and the highest rate of university graduates of any Arab nation has sent thousands of Palestinians abroad, a huge population of highly motivated people studying and working in countries that are not their own.

(14)

DR. NASSRI KHOURI W/ DOCTOR & NURSE

SYNC:

"Would you come with us, please?"

VIDEO

THREE PEOPLE WALKING DOWN CORRIDOR

DR. NASSRI KHOURI W/ PATIENT

DR. NASSRI KHOURI ON CAMERA

RAMI KHOURI

AUDIO

DR. NASSRI KHOURI (VOICE-OVER):

"I was born in Jerusalem in 1953, the Mount of Olives, actually. And after I completed my degree in medicine, 1978, I went to Toronto in Canada, where I specialized in neurosurgery. I completed that in 1984, worked for a year, and then came back to Amman, and I've been here since then." (22)

"I felt a certain obligation towards my family and my area, my country, my people. My dream would be that I can live in Jerusalem, equal ..." (13)

SYNC:

"... to my neighbor Moslem and my neighbor Jew in a place where we would all be able to--to group together to--to build a better home for our children." (10)

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

That dream must come true according to Palestinian Rami Khouri. (3)

VIDEO

AUDIO

RAMI KHOURI ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"There are four or five million  
Palestinians. They won't go away ... "  
(3)

WOMEN DANCING

RAMI KHOURI (VOICE-OVER):

" ... they won't give up their  
identity; they won't assimilate into  
Australia or Egypt or New Mexico or  
France."  
(6)

RAMI KHOURI ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"When I was maybe eighteen or twenty, I  
started realizing what it meant to be a  
Palestinian, 'cause by a process of  
elimination you realize that, well,  
you're not really American, you're not  
really Jordanian, you're not really  
Lebanese, you're not really Swiss,  
you're not really Iraqi, and all the  
countries we lived in, you realize very  
quickly that you weren't one of these  
countries ..."  
(17)

MEN WALKING/STREET SCENE

RAMI KHOURI (VOICE-OVER):

" ... you didn't belong to them in the  
sense that you weren't born there, your  
cultural traditions didn't come from  
there, the dialect you spoke wasn't the  
same as the dialect spoken there, and  
you realize that you're a Palestinian."  
(11)

VIDEO

AUDIO

B/W RIOT

BRITISH SOLDIER

TANK

MAP

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Palestinians' attachment to their land was the source of much strife during the first half of this century. During World War I, the British wooed both the Arabs and the Jews of Palestine. Then, to assure Jewish support, they enacted the Balfour Declaration, which foresaw a Jewish homeland in Palestine. After World War I, Palestine came under British administration which tolerated large-scale Jewish immigration. For Jews, many scarred for life by Nazi atrocities in Europe, their arrival in Palestine was a cause for celebration; for Palestinian Arabs, the threat was frightening. (40)

They rebelled and they mounted protests. And by the end of World War II, the mid-East had become the scene of almost continual violence which the British failed to stem. By 1947, the United Nations endorsed the creation of one Arab and one Jewish state out of the British mandate of Palestine; the following year, Israel, seen in red on this map, was granted nationhood. But the Palestinian Arab state, outlined in green, never came into being. (32)

VIDEO

AUDIO

SILHOUETTE OF SOLDIER WITH GUN

Hostilities broke out immediately, and since that time, there have been four full-fledged wars between Israel and its neighbors. Each of those wars caused major changes in territorial limits as cease-fire lines moved back and forth, even during times best described as no-war-no-peace. (19)

CHILDREN/REFUGEES

And each war brought its new wave of Palestinian refugees, in some cases double refugees, people fleeing a second and sometimes a third time from the wars. Palestinians who did not leave the mid-East became the wards of the world. (17)

REFUGEE CAMP

Thousands of people from all sides fell victim to endless attacks and counterattacks, with Israeli and Palestinian civilians repeatedly caught in the middle. (8)

CHILDREN ENTERING TENT

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinians, UNRWA, consistently provided registered refugees with food, shelter, health care, and education, a responsibility that continues today.

(13)

VIDEO

AUDIO

BASIL ANAN

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

UNRWA administrator Basil Anan, seen here in Jordan in 1967, recently reflected on the magnitude of his job.

(8)

BASIL ANAN ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"Since I was responsible for most of the operation in the East Bank, I had to try to help them as much as I can, and then so many people came to help us: some of them were from the government, some of them were the voluntary agencies, and then other departments in UNRWA which were set up immediately to face this tragic situation."

(28)

WOMAN IN OFFICE

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

As the years wore on, the plight of Palestinians persisted. Yet the world around them grew complacent. A political stalemate replaced opportunities for peace. The result?

(15)

LITTLE SOLDIER GIRL

Palestinians learned not to rely on others. Many decided to make the world aware of their plight through dramatic news headlines.

(7)

VIDEO

AUDIO

INFILTRATION MISSIONS

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Infiltration missions into Israel clearly illustrated the conflict between what many Palestinians felt was justifiable but what to others was repugnant. (10)

YASIR ARAFAT

More recently, in late 1988, Yasir Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization, offered this dramatic statement: (8)

YASIR ARAFAT ON CAMERA

SYNC:

" ... I repeat for the record that we totally and absolutely renounce all forms of terrorism, all forms of terrorism. Our statehood provides salvation to the Palestinians and peace to both, to both Palestinians and Israelis." (31)

STREET SCENE/SOLDIERS RUNNING

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

But as the intifada continues, an interesting question arises: (3)

NARRATOR W/ MAN AND WOMAN

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

You, not Yasir Arafat ...

NARRATOR ON CAMERA

SYNC:

" ... not the P.L.O. are responsible for this intifada, and now Yasir Arafat, after forty years of failure, is saying that he is responsible. Does that upset you at all?" (12)

VIDEO

SHAWKI AZ-ZIQ ON CAMERA

AUDIO

(Translation from Arabic):

"The P.L.O. does everything for us. The P.L.O. is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The P.L.O. is responsible for the intifada, both inside and outside the territories. Yes, the intifada started inside the territories but the P.L.O. was aware of it, and we Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip belong to the P.L.O. completely with all our hearts."

(23)

DR. RASHID KHALIDI ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"And the two main images which I think are the most predominant are, first, the image of the "terrorist" (quote/unquote), and secondly, the image of the refugee. Now, that image would not have been able to gain such credence and would not have been able to drive out the truth were it not for some kernel of fact. One obvious kernel of fact is that many Palestinians have taken up arms against their--their dispossession and against what has happened to them; secondly many, many Palestinians have been turned into refugees. But I think the truest image of the Palestinian is in fact an image of ..."

(36)

ARAB BOY IN WOOD SHOP

DR. RASHID KHALIDI (VOICE-OVER):

" ... people working extremely hard, generally highly skilled and well educated, in countries which are not their own as expatriate laborers and engaged in doing a variety of--of vital tasks."

(14)

VIDEO

AUDIO

WOMAN W/ BASKET ON HEAD

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Yet most Palestinians still live in the occupied territories: the Gaza Strip and the West Bank of the Jordan River.

(6)

CHILDREN ON THE STREETS

Palestinian children, when not in school, are taking it upon themselves to battle for the freedom and independence that their elders have failed to win.

(9)

NARRATOR ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"Is the reason that the children are fighting--is (it) because the adults can't fight by themselves? They needed to use their young children?"

(6)

SHAWKI AZ-ZIQ ON CAMERA

(Translation from Arabic):

"It's not a child's problem, really, but these children are not really children, they may look like children, but they are as wise as adult men, both in the way they think and in the way they behave."

(11)

NARRATOR W/ 3 CHILDREN

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Do you know any Israeli children your own age?

(2)

VIDEO

AUDIO

SAMER AZ-ZIQ ON CAMERA

(Translation from Arabic):

"No, I don't, 'cause I've nothing to do with them. We live worlds apart. I've nothing against Israeli kids, because I'm sure they don't know anything about my problems. They're living their own life, with all its amenities, and later on when I grow up, I'm sure their parents will teach them to hate Arabs and Muslims, and then they will become my enemies."

(16)

NARRATOR ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"Are you scared of them?"

SAMER AZ-ZIQ ON CAMERA

(Translation from Arabic):

"No."

NARRATOR W/ 3 CHILDREN

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Why not?

SAMER AZ-ZIQ ON CAMERA

(Translation from Arabic):

"Because I believe in God--and in my fate."

(2)

VIDEO

AUDIO

MAN AND BOY ON KNEES PRAYING

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

God and fate: Some Palestinians justify their fight for a homeland on the basis of religious faith. Most Israeli settlers justify their presence in the same land on the basis of Biblical beliefs. (14)

JEWS PRAYING

Just an hour from Jalazoun, Biblical scholar Tuvia Grossman and his family live in the settlement of Karnei Shamron. Like most remote Israeli settlements on the West Bank, it is a religious community built high on a mountaintop that was Palestinian until it came under Israeli occupation after the 1967 Arab/Israeli war. (21)

COMMUNITY ON MOUNTAINTOP

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Did you see the intifada coming? (1)

SHAUL GROSSMAN ON CAMERA

SHAUL GROSSMAN (VOICE-OVER):

"No. I don't think anyone did ..." (1)

SYNC:

" ... just came sort of like thunder on a clear blue s--out of a clear blue sky."

(3)

VIDEO

AUDIO

NARRATOR ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"What would you suggest that the Arabs do, th--the Palestinian people? They do have a right to a homeland; where would you suggest they go?"

(7)

GEULA GROSSMAN (VOICE-OVER):

"As far as we're concerned, they can stay right here."

(2)

GEULA GROSSMAN ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"Most of the land around here is fairly empty, some of it is graze, some of it's cultivated, but it's certainly not densely populated. Many of the villages here are our friends. There's no reason in the world if there is peace that they should not stay right where they are. There's enough room for all of us."

(13)

MAN WITH BEARD

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Palestinians would agree with this statement--however, not under Israeli occupation as Palestine's permanent observer to the United Nations Zuhdi Terzi explains:

ZUHDI TERZI

(10)

VIDEO

AUDIO

ZUHDI TERZI ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"We can all live in that same land, provided we all have the same rights. And that will bring us back to having a democratic state all over Palestine. But since Israel--again I repeat, since Israel rejects that approach, that's why we go for the two-state solution, hoping that it will develop into a peaceful solution for the future."

(20)

NARRATOR W/ 3 PEOPLE

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

Were you friends with the Arabs before the intifada?

(2)

SHAUL GROSSMAN ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"The person who built our house was an Arab, and we even got invited to a wedding of one of his cousins. We had a very close relationship with them, and basically it was--except the fact that we knew that they were Arabs and we were Jews and we had different background, backgrounds and basically it was obvious that we belonged to different ethnic groups--definitely I didn't think that I had any different relationship with that Arab than with any Israeli."

(24)

VIDEO

AUDIO

FAMILY LEAVING HOME

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

The Grossmans' house, like most houses in Karnei Shamron, was built by local Arabs. (5)

STONE MASON/STREET PAVER

And despite the intifada with its strikes and boycotts, some Arabs continue to build for their Israeli clients, cause for much Palestinian anger inside the occupied territories, where the settlements are resented.

(13)

HOUSES IN SUBURBS

SYNC:

MENACHEM GROSSMAN ON CAMERA

"One of the Arab architects who built these houses--he told my friend, you know, he said to them, "You know why we're building so good houses for you, so--and so big ones? 'cause when the war is--when the intifada's gonna be finished, we're gonna come and sit in these houses." I mean, they're--their onl--the only thing they want is just taking our place, just throwing us into the sea."

(19)

ZUHDI TERZI ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"This is not at all true. Because the fact is that with their occupation of all of Palestine, the Israelis have rendered the entire Palestinian people--almost 5 million of us--as refugees away from their own homes. So it is they who threw us out into the desert, and it's not the other way around."

(17)

VIDEO

AUDIO

3 BOYS W/ BABY

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

The older Grossman boys will soon join the Israeli army as part of their compulsory military service. (5)

BOYS W/ FATHER IN STREET

They could serve in places like Jalazoun, whose young people, like the Az-Ziqs, will undoubtedly continue to resist the Israeli army's humiliating occupation and continue to work toward forming a government of their own, a Palestinian government. (14)

NARRATOR ON CAMERA

SYNC:

"What do you expect to be doing ten years from now?" (2)

SAMER AZ-ZIQ ON CAMERA

(Translation from Arabic):

"In ten years, once there's a Palestinian or Islamic state on the West Bank, maybe I'll have an important position. In any case, I want to be one of the people who tries to liberate his country." (9)

VIDEO

AUDIO

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NARRATOR/MAN ON BALCONY

MAN WALKING UP HILL

CREDITS

NARRATOR (VOICE-OVER):

The United Nations Secretary-General is in daily contact with all of the parties to the dispute in order to reach a just and lasting peace. For the UN General Assembly the solution is clear. Israel, which it created, has a right to live within secure and recognized boundaries and the Palestinians, long deprived of a homeland, have the right to a state of their own. (25)