Jewish community chase out pro-Palestinian protest outside Melbourne synagogue

By Christina McIntosh. A bit more encouraging news from Australia. From the <u>Jerusalem Post</u> and the <u>Australian Jewish</u>
News

A protest outside of Melbourne synagogue on Monday night which organisers claimed to have cancelled saw a handful of protesters turn up anyway. The synagogue had been scheduled to host a planned talk on Israel's challenges and opportunities in the new Middle East, organised by the Australia/Israel & Jewish Affairs Council and the United Israel Appeal Victoria.

The 20 or so protesters who attempted to get to Caulfeild Shule were outnumbered by an exuberant crowd of around 200 Jews. They were stopped by police a few blocks from the synagogue during evening prayers.

Pro-Palestinian protesters had reportedly been summoned to demonstrate outside the synagogue by a social media post made by the organization Free Palestine Coalition Naarm, according to the Herald Sun.

"We need to let them know their genocidal planning is not welcome on sacred Boonwurrung land. We will peacefully demonstrate across the road," the pro-Palestinian organization wrote online. "We stand for the liberation of Palestine and justice for Palestinian people, and refuse to allow Zionist Jews to hide behind religion to avoid culpability."

In their cancellation post, the group published that "Zionists are threatening to surveil, call the police on, and 'defend' themselves against a peaceful protest called to protest genocidaires presenting a talk in a synagogue.

The talk had been moved from Caulfeild Shule to Central Shule earlier in the day, a decision which was kept under wraps.

Victoria Police arrested two individuals, and no charges have been laid, according to the Herald Sun.



Jews gathered at the Caulfeild Shule rushed to confront the handful of demonstrators who had been stopped by Police two blocks away.

The Jewish community velled at the protesters "Go home," Sky News Australia reported. The community also was filmed singing the

Israeli national anthem and waving Israeli flags. Sky News reporter Georgie Dickerson described the atmosphere as "peaceful" with singing and "Jewish flags."

Last year, pro-Palestinian protests raged outside the synagogue, and rocks were allegedly thrown at the building, the Herald Sun reported. That incident at Princes Park saw carloads of demonstrators' clash with police and local Jewish residents, leading to a nearby synagogue being evacuated in the middle of a Friday night service.

Victoria Police said they would provide a visible presence on Monday night to ensure the safety of the community, which they did. They were also present at Central Shule where the talk was actually held, with apparently no protesters figuring out the venues had been switched.

The jihad mobsters, of course, claimed to have been threatened, etc, beforehand: I don't believe them. I think they're projecting. The take-home from this, I think, is that boots on the ground matter… and in a place like Australia where the Jewish community is much smaller than the Mohammedan presence that has been colonising key electorates and now 'wags the dog' because of the bribe of the mohammedan block vote, the onus is on all NON-Jewish Friends of Zion to be prepared to come out in public in LARGE numbers shoulder to shoulder with our Aussie Jews. This is where groups like Never Again Is Now are helpful.