ABDELRAZIK "UNKNOWN AT EMBASSY"

Montreal, 4 December 2009 -- On December 1, 2009, Abousfian Abdelrazik finally received a care package that supporters in Montreal had sent to him on 22 April 2009 when he was still trapped in the Canadian Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan. The box was returned to the sender bearing the words, "The name is unknown at Embassy".

"There is no way my name was not known at the embassy," said Mr. Abdelrazik, who had been living in at the embassy for more than a year when the package arrived. "In fact, the Consul, Mr. Eric O'Connor, informed me that the package had arrived, but that he would not give it to me."

"The government says Abousfian was treated well during his stay, but this is one more piece of evidence to the contrary," said Freda Guttman, who helped to put the package together. Guttman, a retired teacher and artist, is active in Project Fly Home – Montreal, a grassroots group seeking justice for Mr. Abdelrazik. "

The package contained letters of encouragement and support, notebooks, an Arab-French dictionary, two button-down shirts, a pair of sandals, and other items to help keep up Mr. Abdelrazik's spirits.

Abdelrazik only received the package after Project Fly Home paid Canada Post the $130 return to sender fee, making the total shipping cost of the package more than $250. The group is hoping to contest the return fee.

"Opening the package was like opening a time capsule. Then we were focused entirely on his return to Canada. Now he is home, but there are still struggles ahead," said Maria Forti, who is also a part of Project Fly Home. "Abousfian's name must be removed from the racist UN 1267 list," she added.

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Background information: peoplescommission.org/en/abdelrazik/

Source:
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