

## **Project Fly Home is an initiative of the People's Commission Network.**

From April 2008 to June 2009, **Project Fly Home** contributed to community efforts to bring Aousfian Abdelrazik back home to Montreal. Since Abdelrazik's return in June 2009, Project Fly Home has been actively seeking accountability and supporting his de-listing from the 1267 list.

Project Fly Home  
www.peoplescommission.org/abdelrazik.php  
projectflyhome@gmail.com

The **People's Commission Network** is a Montreal network monitoring and opposing the "national security agenda". The network is a space for individuals and groups who face oppression in the name of "national security" - such as indigenous people, immigrants, racialized communities, radical political organizations, labour unions - and their allies, to form alliances, share information, and coordinate strategies to defend their full rights and dignity.

People's Commission Network  
www.peoplescommission.org  
abolissons@gmail.com



## **Justice for Abdelrazik**

### **Project Fly Home Statement**

Aousfian Abdelrazik, like Abdullah Almalki, Ahmad El Maati, Muayyed Nureddin, Maher Arar and others, is another victim of a national security agenda that has trampled on the fundamental rights and dignity of immigrants and racialized communities in Canada.

Aousfian Abdelrazik was arrested while on a visit to Sudan in 2003. The Federal Court of Canada concluded in June 2009 that this arrest probably took place at the request of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), a finding the government did not appeal. Never charged, Abdelrazik was beaten, threatened and tortured during two periods of detention totaling a year and a half. In this context, he was questioned by CSIS agents. Repeatedly blocked by Canadian officials from returning home to Montreal, he went public with his story in April 2008 and took refuge in the Canadian Embassy in Khartoum, where he remained for 14 months.

It took a groundswell of support from people across Canada, as well legal action, to finally bring about his return and reunion with his children in Montreal on June 27, 2009. After six harrowing years in de facto exile, Abdelrazik is home - but his struggle is far from over.

In 2006, without his knowledge, Abdelrazik's name was placed on a list established by UN Resolution 1267 ("the 1267 list"). This regime imposes a travel ban and complete asset freeze on listed individuals. Canadian regulations implementing the 1267 list prohibit anyone from providing Abdelrazik with any material aid - including salary, loans of any amount, food or clothing. In July 2009, the Canadian Ministers of Foreign Affairs and

Public Safety refused Abdelrazik's request for a meeting to discuss assistance in removing his name from the list, cynically referring him to the de-listing procedures on the UN 1267 committee website.

While the 1267 list imposes severe and indefinite restrictions on the liberty of individuals and their families, the listing and delisting procedures utterly fail to meet the most minimal due process standards. The allegations are vague, the evidence, if any, is secret, and there is no right to a hearing or appeal. The Federal Court wrote in its June 2009 decision on Abdelrazik's case, "There is nothing in the listing or de-listing procedure that recognizes the principles of natural justice or that provides for basic procedural fairness."

The United Nations Al Qaeda and Taliban Regulations which implement the 1267 list in Canada were never even debated in Parliament. They nevertheless purport to authorize violations of the most fundamental human rights protected by the Canadian constitution.

Both the UN 1267 list and the Canadian regulations implementing the list serve a political agenda which relies on a racist concept of "national security". Highly profitable for some, this agenda further marginalizes targeted communities, creates fear and silences debate, delegitimizes resistance and justifies oppression. On the global front, the national security agenda has unleashed a war of terror on the Muslim and Arab world which has wreaked devastation and left countless people dead.

At the same time, Canadian officials who played a role in the arrest, torture and exile of Abdelrazik remain in their positions. The government institutions in which they work, including CSIS, remain unchanged and unchallenged.

**Therefore Project Fly Home and the organizations listed below demand the following:**

- [1] That Canada make all necessary efforts to ensure that Abousfian Abdelrazik's name be immediately removed from the UN 1267 list;
- [2] That Canada's "United Nations Al Qaeda and Taliban Regulations" be repealed;
- [3] That Canada use all means in its power to compel the UN Security Council to scrap the 1267 list;
- [4] That all Canadian officials involved in the arrest, torture and exile of Abousfian Abdelrazik – particularly those at the highest level – be held responsible for their actions and either criminally charged, discharged from their positions, formally sanctioned, or subject to other measures as appropriate;
- [5] That, acknowledging that nothing can restore these six lost years or heal the wounds, appropriate reparations be made to Abousfian Abdelrazik and his family; and
- [6] That CSIS be compelled to cease its campaign of harassment against Muslims, Arabs and all other targeted communities.

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***To add your organization's name to the list of endorsing organizations, email us at [projectflyhome@gmail.com](mailto:projectflyhome@gmail.com).***

***For updated list of endorsing organizations, see [www.peoplescommission.org/abdelrazik.php](http://www.peoplescommission.org/abdelrazik.php)***