



22nd September 2004

Press Release

FAIR saddened at United States of America's decision to bar Yusuf Islam from entering United States of America

FAIR is saddened at the decision of the United States of America's Government to ban Yusuf Islam from entering the United States of America.

Yusuf Islam was denied access to the United States because his name was on a security "watch list", the aircraft on which Yusuf Islam was travelling was ordered to land in Bangor, Maine, by the Transportation Security Administration where Yusuf Islam was then interviewed by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the FBI.

Yusuf Islam has devoted his life to charitable and peaceful causes, speaking out against war and all acts of terrorism. He recently released a track called 'Hope', a collection of songs to raise money for the children of war-ravaged Iraq with Sir Paul McCartney, David Bowie and George Michael. Immediately after September 11 Yusuf Islam donated a portion of the royalties from his box set to the September 11th Fund. The remaining funds were sent to orphans and homeless families in underdeveloped countries.

Notes for Editors:

1. See other Links on this Press Release:

FAIR Daily News Digest

<http://www.fairuk.org/dnd/2004/09/dnd20040922Wed.htm#1>

Singer Cat Stevens refused entry to the US

<http://news.independent.co.uk/world/americas/story.jsp?story=564395>

The Former Cat Stevens Gets Plane Diverted

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uslatest/story/0,1282,-4506026,00.html>

Cat Stevens sparks US plane alert

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/3678694.stm>

2. See Links to Yusuf Islam's charitable work:

Yusuf Islam speaks out against horrific Beslan school siege & its brutal ending

<http://www.yusufislam.org.uk/beslan.shtml>

Stars release CD for Iraqi children

<http://entertainment.iafrica.com/news/230591.htm>

Former Cat Stevens To Donate Some Box Set Royalties To September 11 Fund

<http://www.vh1.com/thewire/content/news/1449391.jhtml>

Yusuf Islam Expresses 'Heartfelt Horror' Over Terrorist Attacks

<http://www.vh1.com/thewire/content/news/1448948.jhtml>

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FAIR FUNDING APPEAL

FAIR is an independent voluntary sector organisation established for the purpose of raising awareness of and combating Islamophobia and racism, monitoring specific incidents of Islamophobia and racism, working towards eliminating religious and racial discrimination, and campaigning and lobbying on issues relevant to Muslims and other multi-ethnic communities in Britain.

We have several projects to tackle each of these areas, and we are making a significant progress.

- 1. Faith & Positive Images**
- 2. Equality Casework Monitoring**
- 3. Media & Popular Culture Watch**
- 4. Policy Research & Lobbying**

Further details on each of these projects are available on our website, www.fairuk.org

FAIR is always in need of charitable donations in order to continue our work.

Donations of any size are always valued and much appreciated. At the end of every year we will be able to give you a breakdown of exactly where the money you have donated is spent.

To make a donation, please visit our website at <http://www.fairuk.org/howtohelp.htm> or contact us on the details below

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