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## FW: BBC Radio 4 - The Report - UK-Iran relations

Raza Kazim

To: Massoud Shadjareh

09 February 2012 13:50

Flag for follow up. Start by 09 February 2012. Due by 09 February 2012.

We also note that the programme is listed (at 18 December 2011 <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00jkr1q/episodes/upcoming>) on the The Report webpage as 'Iran's Soft Power'. This is not a phrase you have used with us or even intimated was the focus of your programme. Yet more misrepresentation.

In answer to your question of 15 December:

Secondly, please could you explain what is going on in this clip?

<http://www.spittoon.org/archives/7838>

We trust that you have sourced this video and found that it comes from the youtube account 1plus2minus3. The context to the clip above is that Mr. Shadjareh was approached at the 2010 demonstration by someone coming across from the counterdemonstration who asked the questions you hear at the end of the clip. Mr. Shadjareh did not want to engage with someone approaching from a counter-rally engaged in racist chanting and abuse, and therefore dismissed the protestor with these answers.

We are sure you will have noted that the cameraman of this piece has 7 videos he has posted of that year's Al-Quds Day. We are sure you will have also noted that he has cast racist aspersions against the majority of demonstrators whom he deems to be Pakistanis not Iranians as not being able to understand the chants at the demonstration which are in English.

We trust that your research of the Al-Quds Day demonstration has revealed that for the last 3 – 4 years there has been a counterdemonstration to the Al-Quds day march and rally. This counterdemonstration is called by far right groups and is joined by supposedly Iranian opposition members and pro-Israel sympathisers. Photos of these counterdemonstrations are widely available on the net, showing the distressingly racist, Islamophobic and xenophobic nature of the counterdemonstrations.

There are also videos available catching the racist and Islamophobic chanting from the counterdemonstration.

Please confirm that you did research and source the video you cited, and that you are aware of the far-right counterdemonstrations that take place each year and the involvement of these groups in these counterdemonstrations.

Your other question in your email of 15 December is:

Massoud and yourself have answered my question about Fazel Harwamy's particular request to you - may I use what you have sent me on that in the script, or would you like to write a more formal response?

You have not actually posed a specific question from Mr. Harwamy and indeed your story as to what he has said has changed at various times so we cannot answer in a specific way. As a result our comment on this matter, taking into account your varying representations of what Mr. Harwamy has said to you, is to reiterate that we understand why a blogger or activist would be disappointed that we did not take on his / her case or cause, and indeed that is their right. Unfortunately we cannot take on every case and cause, and just as other