

Turkish TV won't air Muslim-bashing video

by UPI

KAYSERI, Turkey - Turkey's national TV Channel 24 has agreed not to broadcast footage showing Israeli soccer fans singing incendiary songs about the Prophet Muhammad. The video was shot by Turkish reporter Elif Ural, who accompanied the Maccabi Tel Aviv soccer team on its flight from Israel to the Turkish town of Kayseri, where the team was to play Erciyesspor Thursday. Fans on the plane with the team were captured on tape singing unflattering songs about Muhammad and Muslims in general, Ynetnews said Thursday. Ural, who has lived in Israel for the past three years, working as the network's Mideast correspondent, said she was deeply offended by what she witnessed, as well as by the club officials' failure to put an end to the rude behavior. "The decision not to broadcast the video was the right one and I don't have a problem with it," Ural said. "There is really no need to risk relations between Israel and Turkey because of 10 idiots. I understood that if the incident is published, the potential for a violent outbreak at the stadium and in the city could grow significantly. But what I felt on the plane would be very hard to forget."

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