



Press Release (No. 03-03-04)

March 12, 2004

INSCOM concludes review of events at University of Texas law school

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM) has completed a careful review of the facts and circumstances surrounding actions taken by military intelligence personnel at the University of Texas School of Law in Austin.

On Feb. 4, 2004, two Army lawyers from Fort Hood, Texas, attended an open-to-the-public conference titled "Islam and the law: a question of sexism" held at the University of Texas School of Law. The lawyers, in preparation for deployment to Southwest Asia, thought the presentations at the conference would help prepare them for their assignments in Southwest Asia where they will deal with legal issues between the American Forces and the largely Muslim populace.

While at the conference, the two lawyers were persistently questioned about their identity, occupation and status by a man who appeared to be attending the conference with two associates. The tone and repetition of the questions made the Army lawyers suspicious. They subsequently reported the matter to local military intelligence officials, as all Army personnel are required to do by Army regulation.

On Feb. 9, two US Army counterintelligence special agents went to the law school to request a roster of attendees in an attempt to identify the suspicious individual and his two associates. The special agents properly identified themselves. They did not, however, obtain the roster or pursue this matter further after the individuals with whom they spoke declined to cooperate.

INSCOM's review concluded that the special agents and their detachment commander exceeded their authority by requesting information about individuals who were not within the Army's counterintelligence investigative jurisdiction. To prevent this from happening again, INSCOM has provided refresher training on the limits of Army counterintelligence investigative jurisdiction to all counterintelligence personnel performing duties in the United States.

**For additional information contact Ms. Deborah Parker, INSCOM Public Affairs,
(703) 428-4553 or Deborah.Parker@inscom.army.mil.**