

Army CI Acts to Deter Catastrophe

17 February 2004

Through an aggressive counterintelligence posture, Army CI officials detained Specialist Ryan G. Anderson, a tank crew member from the National Guard's 81st Armor Brigade.

Specialist Anderson is suspected of "trying to pass information about military capabilities to al Qaeda through an Internet chat room," according to LTC Stephen Barger, Fort Lewis' public affairs officer. Specialist Anderson is being held in Fort Lewis pending official charges.

Working closely with the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Staff Judge Advocate, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Army CI used a multitude of investigation techniques and followed a solid investigative plan to obtain evidence.

The investigative team averted a potentially dangerous situation to the hundreds of thousands of troops deployed around the world. The information that Specialist Anderson is alleged to have tried to pass pertains to the vulnerability of U.S. equipment.

The investigation into Specialist Anderson's alleged attempted communications with al Qaeda reflects the growing interaction between the Department of Justice and the FBI with the DoD CI community. A joint investigation requiring coordination and consultation was necessary to span the breadth of Specialist Anderson's alleged actions.

Mr. David A. Burt, II, Director of the Counterintelligence Field Activity (CIFA), expressed his gratitude to Army counterintelligence. "This alleged act could have resulted in many a relative of deceased and injured service members asking, 'how did this happen?' However, the diligence of the counterintelligence agents investigating this case saved potentially hundreds of lives."

"CI" Salutes the many men and women of the DoD Counterintelligence Community and the greater Intelligence Community who put themselves in harms way to protect our great nation.

