

FBI Officer Speaks at Law School, lists Food Not Bombs and Indymedia on “Terrorist Watch List”

Thursday, March. 09, 2006 from the Austin-IMC
Posted by Elizabeth Wagoner
Email: elizabethwagoner@gmail.com

Food Not Bombs, Indymedia and the Communist
Party of Texas on “Terrorist Watch List”

In a guest lecture at the University of Texas
School of Law on Wednesday, FBI Supervisory
Senior Resident Agent G. Charles Rasner listed
Indymedia, Food Not Bombs, and the Communist
Party of Texas as “Terrorist Watch” cause groups
in Austin.

Rasner gave a presentation entitled “Counter-
Terrorism Efforts in Texas” to a U.S. Law and
National Security class at the Law School. He
used PowerPoint slides to illustrate the nature of
the terrorist threat in Central Texas. The word
“Unclassified” appeared prominently in bold red
letters on the opening PowerPoint slide.

Listing three categories of cause groups potential-
ly linked to terrorist activity, Rasner named white
supremacist groups, Islamic terrorist groups, and
Anarchists. When asked what anarchist activity in
Austin the FBI was investigating, Rasner referred
the questioner to the Ted Kaczynski Unabomber
case, claiming that Kaczynski “was an anarchist.”
He did not discuss Austin-specific anarchist activi-
ty when pressed.

Rasner used a map of Texas to illustrate the exist-
ence of the three kinds of terrorist groups in the
state. Austin was listed as a site of all three kinds
of terrorist activity.

Rasner then placed the FBI’s Central Texas
“Terrorist Watch List” on the screen. On a list of
approximately ten groups, Food Not Bombs was
listed seventh. Indymedia was listed tenth, with a
reference specifically to IndyConference 2005.
The Communist Party of Texas also made the list.
Rasner explained that these groups could have

links to terrorist activity. He noted that peaceful-
sounding group names could cover more violent
extremist tactics.

Food Not Bombs is an all-volunteer organization
that recovers food that would otherwise be thrown
out and serves vegetarian meals to the public at
no cost. Austin Indymedia is an open newswire in
which readers may publish news, events, and
commentary.

In response to a questioner, Rasner stated that
the FBI will attend activist group meetings when-
ever it suspects that the group might engage in
illegal activity. He said that he saw no problem
with an agent failing to represent himself as a rep-
resentative of the FBI and implied that the prac-
tice was common.

Student Elizabeth Wagoner requested a copy of
the PowerPoint presentation at the end of the
class. Rasner refused, claiming the presentation
was private government property. He then refused
a request for the contact information of the FOIA
officer in his bureau, saying it “was not worth [his]
time”.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation has been
requested via the Freedom of Information Act. We
will publish the presentation on Indymedia as
soon as it becomes available.

austin.indymedia.org/newswire/display/26784/index.php



Food Not Bombs

P.O. Box 424
Arroyo Seco, NM 87514 USA
1-800-884-1136
www.foodnotbombs.net