

USSOUTHCOM United States Southern Command NEWS RELEASE



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CHARGES DISMISSED IN YEE CASE

MIAMI – U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Geoffrey D. Miller, Commander of Joint Task Force Guantanamo, dismissed all charges related to the alleged mishandling of classified information pending against Army Chaplain James J. Yee, ending an investigation that began with his apprehension at the airport in Jacksonville Naval Air Station, Fla., in September 2003.

Citing national security concerns that would arise from the release of the evidence, Miller decided to drop these charges. Miller made his decision after consultation with government lawyers and intelligence officials. Although Miller considered Yee's offer to undergo a debriefing in exchange for the government dropping the charges, granting him immunity and supporting his resignation, relevant law enforcement agencies could not support Yee's request for immunity.

As for allegations of adultery and pornography, Miller also dropped those charges, and instead will offer Yee nonjudicial punishment under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice for those offenses.

We anticipate that Yee will be returned to his home duty station at Fort Lewis, Wash., at the conclusion of any Article 15 proceedings.

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Questions regarding this matter should be directed to the USSOUTHCOM Public Affairs Office at (305) 496-3812.