

White House denies wider role in CIA tapes

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- The White House demanded a correction to a New York Times story Wednesday that said several of its lawyers discussed the destruction of CIA videotapes. Senior administration officials, who asked not to be identified because of an ongoing Justice Department investigation, told the newspaper at least four top White House lawyers took part in discussions with the CIA as to whether the tapes showing violent interrogation techniques should be destroyed. A sub-headline on the article reads, "White House Role Was Wider Than It Said," which prompted a White House statement. "The New York Times' inference that there is an effort to mislead in this matter is pernicious and troubling, and we are formally requesting that NYT correct the sub-headline of this story," the statement said. The tapes purportedly showed interrogation of terror suspects at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Tuesday, a federal judge ordered a hearing into whether the tapes' destruction violated an order to preserve evidence in a lawsuit brought against the United States by 16 Guantanamo prisoners.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

White House denies wider role in CIA tapes by UPI