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### The Military and Homeland Security

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**Published in PAM, Vol. 10 No. 2**

Since September 11, American citizens have witnessed an expansion of the participation of the U.S. military in domestic security (e.g., civil infrastructure protection, defenses against WMD attack). Currently much of this activity remains limited to activities only indirectly related to the monitoring, investigation and apprehension of individuals and groups with suspected terrorist ties. However, in the event of a new, large-scale attack (or fear of one) politicians may be tempted to accept an even greater role for the U.S. military in antiterrorism efforts--efforts that border on "police work." This essay argues against permitting an expanded role on three grounds: military and police work are fundamentally different activities, which require different training and mindsets; expanding roles in internal security could politicize the officer corps and undermine the fundamental premises of U.S. civil-military relations; allowing the military an active role in domestic security challenges important, historically grounded societal and cultural values.

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