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# Department of State

*J. Brown/BM*

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 288425Z  
ACTION INR-10

8805 EAP9366

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PORTERS FOR THE MILITARY.

8805 EAP9366

INFO 18-02 VLC-02 P-01 RA-01 FILE-01 PHU-01 EAP-05  
/013 A2 DOK

INFO LOG-00 PH-10 EAP-00 INRE-00 SP-02 /022 W  
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R 288423Z OCT 88  
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC  
INFO OCSA WASHINGTON DC  
CNO WASHINGTON DC  
CSAF WASHINGTON DC  
CPC WASHINGTON DC  
CIA WASHINGTON DC  
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC  
CNC CC WASHINGTON DC  
DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD  
USCINCSOC HADDILL AFB FL

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~~NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS~~

CITE: (b)(3):10 USC 424

SERIAL:

(b)(3):10 USC 424

COUNTRY: (U) BURMA (BM).

SUBJ: BURMA ARMY - WORKING  
OPPORTUNITIES (U).

(b)(3):10  
USC 424

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT  
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. THIS REPORT IS  
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TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 881018.

REQS:

(b)(3):10  
USC 424

SOURCE: (U) ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY NEWSPAPER "THE  
WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY".

SUMMARY: ~~(S)~~ THE "WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY", A GOVT  
CONTROLLED NEWSPAPER, HAS PRINTED THE BURMA ARMY (BA)  
VERSION OF RECENT SWEEPS WITHIN RANGOON TO GATHER STUDENT  
VENDORS, AND OTHERS TO WORK AS PORTERS FOR THE MILITARY.  
THE HEADLINE READS "PERSISTENT TROUBLE-MAKERS WITHOUT  
REGULAR JOBS GIVEN WORK." ENCLOSURE.

TEXT: 1: (U) THE GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED NEWSPAPER,  
"WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY", DTD 881018, REPORTED THE  
BURMA ARMY (BA) VERSION OF ITS RECENT SECURITY SWEEPS  
THROUGH DOWNTOWN RANGOON TO COLLECT "UNSAVORY ELEMENTS"  
AND "TROUBLE" MAKERS" AND TO ASSIGN THEM JOBS AS

2. (U) [REDACTED]  
THE TAMADAW (BURMA MILITARY) IS NOW MAKING ARRANGMENTS  
FOR ASSIGNING PERSISTENT TROUBLE-MAKERS WHO HAVE NO  
STEADY JOB AS PORTERS. THOSE BEING ASSIGNED AS PORTERS  
INCLUDE THOSE WHO COMMIT CRIMES OF VARIOUS KINDS;  
LOOTERS; PICKPOCKETS, ROBBERS, THIEVES AND UNSAVORY  
ELEMENTS. THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT STUDENTS, WORKERS,  
GOVERNMENT SERVANTS AND THOSE WHO HAVE PERMANENT  
RESIDENCE ARE NOT BEING ASSIGNED AS PORTERS. SINCE  
881006 THE MILITARY HAS ASSIGNED 1,120 PERSONS AS  
PORTERS. IT ALSO CLAIMS THAT PORTERS WILL BE PAID  
K 8.50 PER DAY (1 USD EQUALS 6.5 KYATS AT THE OFFICIAL RATE  
AND 1 USD EQUALS 35 KYAT AT THE BLACK MARKET RATE) AND GIVEN  
FREE MEALS AND AS A RESULT "... MAKING THEM AS WELL  
AS THEIR GENERATIONS TO COME HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE AND  
HAVE A PERMANENT RESIDENCE, NEEDLESS TO WORRY ABOUT  
FOOD, CLOTHING AND SHELTER NEEDS." THE RATIONALE AND  
JUSTIFICATION FOR THIS ACTION BY THE MILITARY WAS  
GIVEN AS "THEY ARE HINDERING THE TASKS OF RESTORING  
LAW AND ORDER IN RANGOON." THE ARTICLE WENT ON TO SAY  
THAT "THE ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE NOT THAT THE  
PORTERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED IN FORWARD OPERATIONS BUT  
TO MAKE THE RANGOON CITY FREE FROM CRIMES AS WELL AS  
RESTORE LAW AND ORDER."

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[REDACTED]

(b)(1), Sec.  
1.4(c)

//PSP:

//CONSOBJ:

PROJ:

INSTR:

PREP:

ENCL: (U) TO FOLLOW ONE ENCLOSURE

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY NEWSPAPER "THE WORKING  
PEOPLE'S DAILY", 1 CY, DTD 881018, 4 PAGES, (U).

ACQ: (b)(3):10 USC 424

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