SUMMARY: A move to increase military presence in Rakhine State is causing some populace dislocation.

TEXT: 1. Rakhine State is the home for the Army's Western Command, as well as the Rakhine Naval Regional...
SECRET

COMMAND. THERE IS NO ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AIR FORCE.

2. WESTERN COMMAND IS HEADQUARTERED FOUR MILES NORTHWEST OF SITTWE TOWN.
   THE SAIKKAPARA CANTONMENT (CANTT) AREA. THE COMMAND IS DIVIDED INTO TWO TACTICAL OPERATIONAL COMMANDS (TOC).
   NUMBER ONE TOC IS LOCATED AT BUTHIDAUNG AND THE SECOND TOC IS LOCATED AT SAIKKAPARA CANTT. UNITS UNDER WESTERN COMMAND ARE:

UNIT               LOCATION
20TH MYANMAR REGIMENT (MB)   SAIKKAPARA CANTT.
   (LOCATED 4 MILES NORTHWEST OF SITTWE)

233D MYANMAR REGIMENT        LETWEDET CANTT - LOCATED 3 MILES WEST OF BUTHIDAUNG
234TH MYANMAR REGIMENT       TOITAW CANTT - LOCATED 4 MILES WEST OF BUTHIDAUNG
252D MYANMAR REGIMENT        TARMAICHANG - LOCATED 6 MILES WEST OF BUTHIDAUNG AND IS A NEWLY FORMED REGIMENT
232D MYANMAR REGIMENT        PADWALAI CANTT - LOCATED 16 MILES NORTHWEST OF SITTWE TOWN
4TH MEDICAL REGIMENT         SAIKKAPARA CANTT
962D COMPANY OF GARRISON ENGINEERS SAIKKAPARA CANTT
918TH COMPANY OF ENGINEERS   SAIKKAPARA CANTT
924TH SUPPLY & TRANSPORTATION COMPANY SAIKKAPARA CANTT

(b)(3):10 USC 424
Sec. 1.4(c)
3. DEPLOYMENT OF NAVAL VESSELS ARE:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAVAL VESSEL NUMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Y-306 GUNBOAT</td>
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<td>Y-309 GUNBOAT</td>
<td>SANDOWAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGM-401 COASTAL PATROL CRAFT</td>
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<td>RPC-14 RIVER PATROL CRAFT</td>
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4. THERE ARE TWO DEFENSE SERVICES INTELLIGENCE (DSI) UNITS IN RAKHINE STATE. THE FIRST IS THE 18TH, BASED AT SITTWE, WHILE THE SECOND UNIT IS THE NEWLY FORMED 18TH, WHICH IS STATIONED IN BUTHIDUN. THE 18TH HAS THE TOWNSHIPS CLOSEST TO THE BANGLADESH BORDER, AS WELL AS TWO TOWNSHIPS IN THE CHIN STATE. THE BURMA ARMY HAS STRENGTHENED WESTERN COMMAND FROM FIVE TO SEVEN INFANTRY REGIMENTS.

2. TO HOUSE THE NEW INFANTRY REGIMENTS, AS WELL AS THEIR FAMILIES, LARGE CANTONMENT AREAS WEST OF BUTHIDUN ARE BEING CONSTRUCTED, WHICH HAS CAUSED DISPLACEMENT OF THE LOCAL POPULACE. THIS DISPLACEMENT IS CAUSING SOME TURBULENCE AS THE LOCAL POPULACE BECOME TRANSIENTS IN SEARCH OF NEW HOMES.

3. REPORTS ALSO INDICATE HARASSMENT OF THE MUSLIM POPULATION BY THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT. IN SITTWE, FOUR MOSQUES HAVE BEEN DEMOLISHED, AS WELL AS SOME MUSLIM SCHOOLS, TO MAKE WAY FOR PUBLIC PROJECTS. MUSLIM HOUSEHOLDS THROUGHOUT THE STATE ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ONE WORKER A DAY TO LABOR ON PUBLIC WORKS' PROJECTS. MOST OF THESE PROJECTS ARE ROAD BUILDING. INDICATED THAT SOMETIMES AFTER PRAYERS AT THE MOSQUES, WORSHIPPERS ARE IMPRESSED FOR LABOR GANGS. THIS HARASSMENT AND DISPLACEMENT HAS CAUSED 5,000 RAKHINE MUSLIMS TO FLEE ACROSS THE BORDER TO BANGLADESH.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

CONDUCTED "OPERATION MAQAMIN", WHICH ATTEMPTED TO FORCIBLY SEPARATE THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM THE
BURMESE CITIZENS, AND RESULTED IN THOUSANDS OF BURMESE MUSLIMS ENTERING BANGLADESH. THE TWO GOVERNMENTS REACHED AN AGREEMENT IN JULY 1978 AND BURMA COMPLETED REPATRIATION IN DECEMBER 1979.

(b)(1), Sec. 1.4(c)
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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5) 10 USC 424

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act