SUMMARY: A CENTRAL PORTERS CAMP WAS SET UP IN TAYOY RATHER THAN MAKING SMALLER CAMPS IN THE OTHER CITIES BECAUSE RESIDENTS OF THOSE TOWNS KNEW THE AREA SO WELL THEY COULD RUN OFF EASILY. TAKING THEM TO TAYOY, WHERE
THEY DON'T KNOW THE AREA. REDUCES THE RUNAWAY PROBLEM.
IT IS STILL POSSIBLE TO BUY OUT OF PORTER DUTY AT ANY
TIME IN THE PROCESS. THE STANDARD "FEE" IS 3,000 TO
5,000 KYAT OR A GOLD "THAI BAHT" CHAIN COMMONLY WORN
AROUND THE NECK BY MALES IN SOUTHERN BURMA. PAYMENT OF
THE FEE ALSO GETS A "CERTIFICATE" FROM THE BA ATTESTING
THAT THE INDIVIDUAL HAS DONE PORTER DUTY AND SHOULD NOT
BE "RE-KIDNAPPED".

3. A PARTICULARLY OBNOXIOUS TACTIC IN ROUNCING
UP PORTERS IS THE "MARKET SWEEP." BA SOLDIERS ENTER A
MARKET AND ARREST EVERYONE IN SIGHT INCLUDING WOMEN AND
CHILDREN. WHEN MALE RELATIVES APPEAR AT THE ARMY
COMPOUND SEEKING THEIR CHILDREN OR FEMALE RELATIVES THE
BA MAKE A TRADE: THEY RELEASE THE WOMEN/CHILD RELATIVES
AND KEEP THE MALE AS A NEW PORTER.

EXPENSIVE THAT THE INITIAL STEP WILL BE TO FORM THE
RAILBED INTO A PASSABLE MOTOR ROAD. WE HAD NO KNOWL-
EDGE OF WHETHER THE THAI GOVERNMENT PLANS TO EXTEND THE
RAILROAD TO THE BORDER ON ITS SIDE.

5. TO CONDUCT THE MAJOR PART OF THE ROUGH LABOR ON THIS PROJECT, ALL HAMLETS AND VILLAGES ALONG
THE RAILROAD ARE SUBJECT TO CORVÉE LABOR WHEREBY A
VILLAGE IS TASKED TO CONTRIBUTE ITS ENTIRE MANPOWER FOR
A FULL DAY OF CONSTRUCTION WORK. THIS CORVÉE PROCESS
HAS ALREADY STARTED IN THE YE AREA AND VICINITY.
PORTERS KIDNAPPED BY THE BA ARE ALSO USED TO WORK ON
THIS PROJECT ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.
AFTER HE RETURNED TO SAW THAUNG HE WAS TOLD BY HIS FRIEND THAT THE BA WAS HAPPY TO TAKE RANGOON RESIDENTS LIKE HIMSELF WHO WERE IN TOWN TO "DO BUSINESS" BECAUSE THEY WERE WEALTHIER AND WOULD PAY MORE TO GET OUT OF THE PORTER DUTY. [REDACTED] RETURNED CAUTIOUSLY TO RANGOON BY SHIP AND PLANE VIA TAVOY, WHERE HE RECEIVED SUCH THE SAME INFORMATION.

2. PROJECT OF THE MAGNITUDE OF A RESULT ROAD OR RAILROAD CONNECTING YE WITH THREE PAGODAS PASS, WHILE IT MAKES GOOD STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION SENSE TO HAVE THIS LINK, THERE ARE ALREADY PLANS AFOOT TO FORGE A LAND LINK BETWEEN THAILAND AND BURMA BY BRIDGE AT MAE SOT-MYAWAD-\[REDACTED\].

WARNING: [REDACTED] REPORT CLASSIFIED [REDACTED] TO BE NOT READABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

(b)(3): 10 USC 424

CONFIDENTIAL

(b)(3): 10 USC 424

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

(b)(3): 10 USC 424, (b)(3): 50 USC 3024(e)