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SERIAL: (U) (b)(3) 10 U.S.C 424

COUNTRY: (U) BURMA (RM)

SUBJECT: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C 424 DESTROY MOSQUES (U)

File PHOM - Freedom of Religion

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

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DCI: (U) 901200..
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SUMMARY: ~~(C)~~ DURING THE PAST MONTH THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT HAS DEMOLISHED THREE MOSQUES IN RANGOON.

TEXT: 1. ~~(C)~~ DURING THE LAST MONTH, THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THE USE OF EMINENT DOMAIN, DEMOLISHED THREE MOSQUES. THE MOSQUES WERE LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND EACH WAS LOCATED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO A GOVERNMENT PROJECT.

2. ~~(C)~~ THE FIRST MOSQUE WAS LOCATED NEAR THE NEW STADIUM COMPLEX. IN THIS CASE THE GOVERNMENT WANTED THE MOSQUE MOVED, AS IT DISTRACTED FROM THE AESTHETIC VALUE OF THE STADIUM COMPLEX. THIS MOSQUE WAS DEMOLISHED DURING THE HOURS OF CURFEW.

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3. ~~(C)~~ THE SECOND MOSQUE WAS LOCATED AT THE END OF STRAND ROAD, ADJACENT TO A FACTORY. THE GOVERNMENT WANTED THE LAND TO EXPAND THE FACTORY COMPLEX. AGAIN THE BUILDING WAS DEMOLISHED DURING THE HOURS OF DARKNESS.

4. ~~(C)~~ THE LAST MOSQUE IS LOCATED NEAR THE OLD RAN-GGON RACE TRACK COMPLEX. THIS MOSQUE'S LAND WAS WANTED TO EXPAND A SCHOOL COMPLEX.

[Redacted] (b)(1),Sec. 1.4(c)

2. ~~(C)~~ THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY VIEWS THESE ACTIONS AGAINST ITS MOSQUES WITH DISDAIN. SINCE THE MUSLIMS ARE IN A MINORITY AND LACK ANY POLITICAL CLOUT, LITTLE OUTWARD PROTEST HAS BEEN MADE. RESENTMENT IS BUILDING AGAINST THIS GOVERNMENT, BUT NOTHING THAT WOULD BE OF A SERIOUS THREAT TO THE GOVERNMENT.

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