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Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAMPAGE 01 288425Z
ACTION INR-18

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
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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 424WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. THIS REPORT IS
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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 881018.

REQS:

(b)(3):10
USC 424SOURCE: (U) ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY NEWSPAPER "THE
WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY".SUMMARY: (U) 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] (b)(3):10
USC 424

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."

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

//IPSP:

//CONSOBJ:

PROJ:

INSTR:

PREP:

ENCL: (U) TO FOLLOW ONE ENCLOSURE

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

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