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Subject: DISTRIBUTION OF PORNOGRAPHIC VIDEO IMAGES IN SOLOMON  
ISLANDS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVING A [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] SOLDIER

Comment:  
Action Area CJOPS

**LIMITED DISTRIBUTION - NOT TO BE FORWARDED**

HQJOC HIB 2011/05

## **HOT ISSUE BRIEF**

### **ISSUE: DISTRIBUTION OF PORNOGRAPHIC VIDEO IMAGES IN SOLOMON ISLANDS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVING A [REDACTED] SOLDIER**

**SENSITIVITY:** An article appeared in Solomon Islands media (*Island Sun* 5<sup>th</sup> August 2011 edition) reporting that a pornographic video image had been circulating locally. The paper alleged that the image involved a teenage local female and a [REDACTED] soldier committing a sexual act in the back of a taxi. While no Australian Defence Force personnel are directly involved in this alleged incident, this issue is considered sensitive in view of recent media reporting, and given that an Australian officer commands Combined Task Force 635.

### **KEY ISSUES:**

- There is no direct evidence that the images depict a [REDACTED] soldier.
- The images, from a mobile phone camera, do not show the alleged [REDACTED] member's face. It is unlikely that the person depicted in the images will be able to be identified.

- All [REDACTED] personnel other than the Senior National Officer have left the Solomon Islands on a normal rotation on [REDACTED]
- The [REDACTED] is dealing with the matter in conjunction with [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] in Combined Task Force 635.
- As no criminal complaint has been raised, the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force is unlikely to conduct an investigation. Should additional information become available an investigation may be initiated.
- The Commander of Combined Task Force 635, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Landford, is in contact with Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands stakeholders regarding this issue.

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**Date issued: 7 March 2011**

**BACKGROUND: DISTRIBUTION OF PORNOGRAPHIC IMAGES IN SOLOMON ISLANDS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVING A [REDACTED] SOLDIER**

- There is no suggestion that any Australian Defence Force member is involved in this incident. However, [REDACTED] members are part of Combined Task Force 635 which is under Australian command.

- There is no indication as to when these images were taken.
- The images only show that the person depicted is wearing [REDACTED] camouflage trousers. The wearing of such apparel by civilians is not uncommon in Solomon Islands.
- The sound accompanying the image is reported to be a person speaking with a [REDACTED] accent. There are numerous [REDACTED] expatriates living and working in Solomon Islands.
- A copy of the article is attached.

## **TALKING POINTS: DISTRIBUTION OF PORNOGRAPHIC IMAGES IN SOLOMON ISLANDS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVING A [REDACTED] SOLDIER**

- The [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is dealing with the issues raised in the Island Sun newspaper article on 5 April 2011 that a member of the [REDACTED] on deployment to Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands allegedly committed an indecent act with a teenage girl in the back of a taxi on the west side of Guadalcanal.
- There is no direct evidence that the male person in the video is a member of the [REDACTED]
- The most recent contingent of [REDACTED] personnel have completed their rotation returned to [REDACTED]. This contingent was replaced with a contingent from [REDACTED]
- The article in the Island Sun made no reference to the forces of any other country participating in Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands being involved in the incident but did refer to the Australian commander of Combined Task Force 635, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Landford, in an unrelated but adjoined story.

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