

HIB Number: 000855
Date/Time Transmitted: 25/07/2011 21:11
Subject: USN MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT NEAR RAAF BASE AMBERLEY -
TALISMAN SABRE 11
Comment:
Action Area: CJOPS

**LIMITED DISTRIBUTION - NOT TO BE FORWARDED
HOT ISSUE BRIEF**

**SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH - USN MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT
NEAR RAAF BASE AMBERLEY - TALISMAN SABRE 11**

SENSITIVITY: The issue of US Military involvement in the incident is likely to generate interest. They have the PA lead and spokesman prepared but do not intend to actively seek public announcement.

KEY ISSUES:

- At 0835K 24 Jul 11, two USN Military personnel deployed as part of Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2011 (Ex TS11) were involved in a motor vehicle accident with an Australian civilian cyclist on a public road near RAAF Base Amberley.
- RAAF and civilian emergency services attended the scene.
- The civilian cyclist was a 61 year old female. Injuries sustained were a broken arm, leg and punctured lung. She was transferred to the Princess Alexandra Hospital by Queensland Ambulance Service and has undergone surgery.
- The Queensland Police Service is investigating the accident.
- The US Military personnel are cooperating with the police, but will not be formally interviewed until legal representation is present.
- A freelance media representative was seen at the scene of the incident and by 1700K 24 Jul 11, some initial reporting of the incident was seen on web-based news services and local media.

BACKGROUND:

- The USN personnel are deployed to RAAF Base Amberley as part of Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2011.

TALKING POINTS

- The accident occurred at the intersection of Southern Amberley Drive and Ipswich - Rosewood Rd, near RAAF Base Amberley.
- The members were taking part in Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2011.
- Queensland police attended the accident.
- US officials are now working closely with the state authority as they investigate the accident. All enquiries in to this accident are to be directed to the Queensland police.

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