

HIB Number: 000862  
Date/Time Transmitted: 08/19/2011 02:35 PM  
Subject: SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE INCIDENT AT LAVARACK BARRACKS  
TOWNSVILLE  
Comment:  
Action Area HDSO

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION - NOT TO BE FORWARDED

**SENSITIVITY: Medium - potential to attract local media attention**

### **KEY ISSUES:**

- At 1010hrs on Friday 19 August 2011, a package was identified as suspicious by mail room staff at Lavarack Barracks, Townsville.
- Due to the suspicious nature of the package, Defence staff activated the Base Emergency Response procedure. All personnel from Building 611 were evacuated at this time.
- In accordance with base emergency procedures, The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) and the Domestic Police Unit were notified. They responded, cordoning off Building 611 and the surrounding area to other Base personnel.
- The Senior Ammunition Technical Officer (SATO) Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team also responded to make an assessment of the package.
- SADFO was advised of the incident and was provided regular updates as the incident progressed.
- At around 1100hr QFRS advised DSG Staff that the item had been removed and the building deemed safe. The EOD team have taken the package away for further investigation.

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**Date issued: 19 August 2011**

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### **BACKGROUND: SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE INCIDENT AT LAVARACK BARRACKS TOWNSVILLE**

**At 1010hrs on Friday 19 August 2011, contractor staff at the DSG mail room Lavarack Barracks notified the DSG Registry Supervisor that they had received what they believed was a suspicious package.**

**The package - a yellow C5 size envelope which had been cut down and stapled heavily along the opening, the address RAAF Base Townsville was spelt incorrectly and there was no return address. The envelope appeared to have some form of bulk inside it around 1 cm in width.**

**Due to the suspicious nature of the package, the DSG Registry Supervisor activated the Base Emergency Response procedure. All personnel from Building 611 were evacuated at this time.**

**In accordance with base emergency procedures, DS-TVL STH staff notified QFRS and the Domestic Police Unit who responded, cordoning off Building 611 and the surrounding area to other Base personnel.**

**Building 611 is located in the central business district of Lavarack Barracks, and as such the Domestic Police Unit controlled access to this location. QFRS responded and controlled the incident. The SATO EOD team also responded to make an assessment of the package.**

**SADFO was advised of the incident and was provided regular updates as the incident progressed.**

**At around 1100hr QFRS advised DSG Staff that the item had been removed and the building deemed safe. The EOD team have taken the package away for further investigation.**

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## **TALKING POINTS**

- **At 1010hrs today staff at Lavarack Barracks identified what they believed to be a suspicious package.**
- **Due to the suspicious nature of the package, the Base Emergency Response procedure was activated, and all personnel from the affected building were evacuated.**
- **The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service and the Domestic Police Unit were notified and responded, and the affected area was cordoned off.**
- **Queensland Fire and Rescue Service removed the package, and DEEMED the affected building was deemed safe.**
- **The Army's EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL Team has taken the package away for investigation.**

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