



**S. W. O. R. D.
S. E. S. LOGISTICS UNIT**



**DEPLOYMENT Port Hedland: Cyclone Veronica
March 2019**

Thursday 21st March

To D.J.W. from D.O. SWORD: 1045hrs - couldn't raise Unit duty 'phone
Require 4 people to deploy for up to 7 days to Port Hedland/Karratha
Two trucks: 1 x 8 tonne hire Hertz 1 x Isuzu Unit truck
MR licence required
Pallets of tarps, sand bags, etc.
To depart Kewdale 0530hrs Friday morning
D.J.W. called duty 'phone, Darren, at 1049hrs to call for team members to deploy
Due to short notice, only J. B. and D.J.W. available.

1035 to 1630 hrs, Luke Mitchinson (D.O. SWORD), Jan Belczowski and others
loaded both trucks and trailer with required gear

Friday 22nd March

0440hrs J.B. picked up D.J.W.
0515hrs: briefing on action by D.O.SWORD (Luke Mitchinson)
0545hrs: Jan Belczowski, John White (SES Logs), Matt Squire and Steve
Welsh (VFES) with D.O. in vehicle with trailer depart Kewdale

2045hrs arrive Newman for overnight at the Seasons Hotel
Hertz truck impacted a cattle south of Newman – no one hurt, minor damage
to the bulbar on the truck - later straightened

Saturday 23rd March

0825hrs departed Newman for Port Hedland
Wet and windy approaching the N.W. Coastal Highway and Great Northern
Highway intersection
From there into Port Hedland and the local S.E.S., VERY wet and windy
extremely limited visibility.
Arrived Unit about 1345hrs
Introductions and familiarisation, settle in

Sandbags and "Star-iron" pickets unloaded from the Isuzu as an immediate
availability of for local residents.

Late afternoon and evening: we four plus others sent out to recce/door-knock flood
prone areas to determine who remaining in homes and suggesting evacuation.
Details recorded and provide to the I.M.T.

All personnel in "lockdown" due to weather conditions.

Deployment Port Hedland

Night accommodation is swags and stretchers etc in the large Unit training room
Relatively comfortable 35+ people
I.M.T. personnel on night shift in Operations Room

Sunday 24th March

Limited activity due to “lock down”
I.M.T. monitoring the situation
Overnight in Port Haven (workers) accommodation

Monday 25th March

Beginning storm damage “clean ups” by local SES and DFES USAR teams
J.B., M.S., S.W. and D.J.W. tasked to assist relocation of residents from their
hostel to the Welfare Centre
Specified equipment and quantities of unloaded from the Hertz truck and
stored in the SES Unit garage.
To be accessed by the community and other Units, eg Karratha, as and when
needed.
Overnight in the Ibis Hotel

Tuesday 26th March

Depart the Ibis for local SES Unit headquarters and then to Regional Office
Then “Meet and Greet” at S.E.S. Unit with the Premier Mark McGowan,
Minister for Emergency Services, Fran Logan, and Commissioner DFES, Darren
Klemm
Showed M. McG. and F. L. what we had transported for the incident
Believe they were suitably impressed
Returned to Regional Office
Tasked to assist relocation of residents from the Welfare Centre back to their hostel
and private homes
Limited activity
To Regional office then relocated back to the Ibis Hotel

Wednesday 27th March

At Regional Office awaiting clearance to depart
Roads deemed to be safe for vehicles under 20 tonne
0910hrs departed Port Hedland Regional Office
D.O.SWORD vehicle experiencing mechanical problems
1500hrs arrived Newman
D.O. vehicle checked over for problem
Overnight at the Seasons Hotel

Thursday 28th March

0755hrs departed Newman
1730hrs arrive Paynes Find to overnight in well-appointed “Dongas”
Hertz truck, M.S. and S. W. continued to Kewdale arriving about 2230hrs

Deployment Port Hedland

Friday 29th March

D.O. vehicle picked up by tow truck for transport to Perth

0745hrs: depart Paynes Find arriving Kewdale 1330hrs

Other team members attending Saturday to unload the trucks and re-stack gear as required

J.B. dropped D.J.W. at home

Jan Belczowski

John White



Video_2.MOV

Approaching Port Hedland can you see the 8-tonne truck?



Video_3.MOV

A bit wet and windy – S.E.S. Unit

Deployment Port Hedland



Accommodation at Port Hedland S.E.S. Unit – Night 1



Jan Belczowski and Minister Fran Logan – S.E.S. Unit “breeze-way”

Deployment Port Hedland



Commissioner, Premier and Minister and others – 26th March



Paynes Find – accommodation on way home

Deployment Port Hedland