والمناسبة والالانتها والمناه و

-- Methoday 8

## Environment linked

Story: Nigel Tapp Nowes: Grant Wells

MIERNATIONAL eco-tist group Earth First! Healinked with the plant-y's potentially dangerous is in the Taskall line op-thine Black River Bridge, wilk im east of Smithton day.

Tasmania Police hesped Sen. Sgl. Boh Knights was to detonate the device, he con-id that there had been no real good it expluding.

the bonds consisted of a plastic testing a potentially volatife a amount of the - a common wifefulisce - and fuel oil as well steller placed between alcoperated for the track.

se Set Knights said the second for assisted of the radiments for a risk such as wires and batteries it is cloth tape — but could not nike detonated.

is said the numeric nitrate and white Australia ANFO — could right volatile under appropriate transces.

respect.

\*\*s. Sci Knightt said the combland naterials result have despited

that it been defensed—elecun
\*\*s which could have had far at

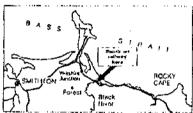
present for any present highway

types that the toud is less than

these from the line.

sing motorist that the cultury

special



line was being nhstructed by a banner which read "Earth First - Save the Tarkine".

Tarkine".

Tashail was also notified by passing motorists and was able to stop a fully ladeo tog train before it passed Wiltshire Junction on route to the Longreach mill la the State's North.

When Smithten politee discovered the device, they immediately classed the westbound lane of the highway, restricting traffic for about three hours.

The highway was compiledly classed.

The highway was completely closed soon after 3 p.m. to allow Sen. Set Knights to defuse the device.

BuO lanes were reopened to traffic about 3.30 pin.

Acting Insp. Hant, Timpierman said it was not known whether the desired bad been designed in Indicate the manufacturer's copi-liky or had been incorrectly prepared.

"If night have I one and there is score is or by anneane who did not could know a list than were delay," be

ovsil afficers examine the determine device at 2. Our distancion using the cable in the foreground

Moto-extras

seat



North-Wast: Fine and cool to mild. Burnie-Davonport maximum:

RJM:SH

ENQUIRIES



A-1061/93

Out Ba

Your Bar

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE 80 ELIZABETH STREET HOBART

## BRIEFING NOTE

## MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

SUBJECT: EXPLOSIVE INCIDENT - BLACK RIVER, 11 MARCH 1993

- Further enquiries have failed to identify the person or persons responsible or to link any group to the incident.
- Although a banner located at the scene implicated the Earth First movement, no evidence has been forthcoming to support this view.
- Innuendo in the Smithton community espoused the view that the incident was the
  work of the pro-logging community, the alm of which was to discredit the
  conservation movement's programme during the summer months. Available
  direct evidence did not support this argument.
- The results of scientific examination of the scene and of the components located at Black River did not advance the enquiry.
- Numerous persons have been interviewed and all avenues of enquiry have been exhausted.
- The Director of Australian Government Solicitors who acted for Australian National Railways has been informed (verbally) of the result of Police enquiries.
- Although the enquiry has failed to identify the person(s) responsible, should additional information emerge, the matter will be further investigated.
- Investigators are pleased that the confidentiality of the enquiry was maintained as information was supplied on two (2) previous occasions. There are now no grounds to request such confidentiality.

nc Johnson

Commissioner of Police

27 August 1993