



*The SALWEEN*  
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Burma's brutal military regime recently extended Aung San Suu Kyi's detention. At the same time the regime's troops in Karen regions continue to escalate their attacks innocent civilians, burning villages and destroying rice fields. Can't anyone help?



**FORCED LABOUR CONTINUED TO BE A MAJOR PROBLEM**



Note: Since 1989 the [military](#) authorities in Burma have promoted the name Myanmar as a conventional name for their state; this decision was not approved by any sitting legislature in Burma, and the US government did not adopt the name, which is a derivative of the Burmese short-form name Myanma Naingngandaw

**Government type: Military regime**

Capital: Rangoon (regime refers to the capital as Yangon)

New Capital: The Myanmar government began on Nov. 6 last year shifting its administrative capital from Yangon to Nay Pyi Taw near Pynmana, 390 kilometers to the north of Yangon.

Administrative divisions: Myanmar is divided into 7 divisions and 7 states. The divisions are Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Sagaing, Tanintharyi and Yangon. The states are Chin State, Kachin State, Kayin State, Kayah State, Mon State, Rakhine State, and Shan State. Independence: January 4, 1948 (from UK)

National holiday: Independence Day, January 4 (1948)

## Political System of Burma

**Country Name:** Conventional long form: Union of Burma, Local long form: Pyidaungzu Myanma Naingngandaw (translated by the US Government as Union of Myanma and by the Burmese as Union of Myanmar)

Local short form: Myanma Naingngandaw

Former: Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma.

**Constitution:** January 3, 1974 (suspended since September 18, 1988); national convention started on January 9, 1993 to draft a new constitution; progress has since been stalled.

Legal system: Has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction  
Suffrage: 18 years of age; universal

Judicial branch: Remnants of the British-era legal system are in place, but there is no guarantee of a fair public trial; the judiciary is not independent of the executive.

**Executive branch:**

Chief of state: Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Sr. Gen. Than Shwe (since April 23, 1992)

Head of government: Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Sr. Gen. Than Shwe (since April 23, 1992);

**Note** - The appointed Prime Minister, Gen. Soe Win (since October 19, 2004), is not the head of government cabinet: State Peace and Development Council (SPDC); military junta, so named November 15, 1997, which initially assumed power on September 18, 1988 under the name State Law and Order Restoration Council; the SPDC oversees the cabinet elections: none

**Legislative branch:**

Unicameral People's Assembly or Pyithu Hluttaw (485 seats; members elected by popular vote to serve four-year terms)

**Elections:** Last held on May 27, 1990, but Assembly never convened Election results: Per cent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - NLD 392, SNLD 23, NUP 10, other 60

**Political parties and leaders:** National League for Democracy or NLD [Aung Shwe, chairman, Aung San Suu Kyi, general secretary]; National Unity Party or NUP (progovernment) [Tha Kyaw]; Shan Nationalities League for Democracy or SNLD [Khun Htun Oo]; and other smaller parties.

**Political pressure groups and leaders:**

All Burma Student Democratic Front or ABSDF; Kachin Independence Army or KIA; Karen National Union or KNU; National Coalition

Government of the Union of Burma or NCGUB [Dr. Sein Win] consists of individuals legitimately elected to the People's Assembly but not recognised by the military regime (the group fled to a border area and joined with oppositions in December 1990 to form a parallel government); several Shan factions; United Wa State Army or UWSA; Union Solidarity and Development Association or USDA (progovernment, a social and political organisation).

**Current Situation:**

Governments, international institutions and human rights organizations have condemned the junta for systematically abusing human rights. Their use of forced labor on infrastructure, on tourism promotion projects and for transportation of war materials in their war against some ethnic nationalities are well documented. Forced portering and ruthless suppression of ethnic nationalities in the border areas have resulted in massive and continuing exodus of refugees; some experts estimate conservative figures to be 150,000 refugees and 350,000 internally displaced persons. Thousands of democracy activists and hundreds of elected NLD representatives are tortured and/or imprisoned in horrific conditions. There are documented and growing cases of deaths while in custody. The International Committee of the Red Cross has closed its Burma offices because of the regime's refusal to give them access to political prisoners.

The country is eclipsed with harsh, repressive security measures. The generals have tried to hide the realities of their rule for international legitimacy. Despite its efforts to control information about Burma and their intensive and costly international lobbying efforts, they have not convinced the world community of their claims for political "legitimacy." Ten years ago, the peoples of Burma demanded a voice in their own future. They are still waiting.

## Myanmar reinforces IT infrastructure in new capital

*Source: Xinhua:* [Myanmar](#) is reinforcing its information technology infrastructure in the new administrative capital of Nay Pyi Taw to improve government offices' links with Yangon, the weekly 7-Day News reported Wednesday.

At present, video conferencing, e-government and government online system are being adopted, the report said.

So far, private internet and hand phone links are not yet available in the new capital, local residents said.

According to other reports, telecom facilities in the new capital are being upgraded to match Yangon with six-digit phone lines, Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Lines (ADSL) and flexible roaming capacity being set up there.

With the establishment, the Information Ministry's vast new telecom network would be functioning fully by this month, and digitizing of key documents to carry out business between the ministry's office in the new capital and its departments left in Yangon will be made possible, according to the ministry.

Those departments so far remained in Yangon to maintain public access are the Department of Information and Public Relations, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Printing and Publishing Enterprise and Myanmar Radio and Television.

The Myanmar government began on Nov. 6 last year shifting its administrative capital from Yangon to Nay Pyi Taw near Pynmana, 390 kilometers to the north of Yangon.

Government office work in Nay Pyi Taw has been functioning normally since Feb. 7.

## Forced labour continued to be a major Problem

Toungoo District, Karen State, Burma



Burma Army officer from Div.66 overseeing forced labor. Photo Credit to FBR



Part of the porters demanded by SPDC Army

Forced labour continued to be a major problem for villagers living within reach of SPDC control throughout Karen regions. Instead of leading to a decrease in forced labour, the KNU-SPDC ceasefire actually caused increases in forced labour in some areas because it allowed the SPDC to send in more troops, freed up SPDC military movements and enabled the Army and civilian authorities to engage in more commercial activities - all of which rely on the forced labour of civilians.

Free Burma Rangers (FBR) reported that in its website about ongoing violation of human rights, the Burma Army forced 850 villagers from Kaw They Der Village area to carry military supplies from Kaw They Der Village to Naw Soe Burma Army camp. "This is in support of a

planned attack into eastern Toungoo District and northwestern Muthraw District.", FBR added. The villagers were forced to carry the supplies starting on May 25, 2006, by Burma Army Division 66. The attacks in Toungoo District (which started in February 2006) have displaced over 5,000 people.

Forced labouring include portering of military supplies, construction and maintenance of roads and other infrastructure, and labour gathering, processing and delivering materials like thatch, bamboo and timber.

## Myanmar slammed in State Department's trafficking-in-persons report

AP

WASHINGTON (AP) - The United States listed Myanmar on Monday as a leading source of people forced into the modern-day slave trade as prostitutes and captive laborers.

The generals who run Myanmar, also called Burma, are not making enough effort to eliminate the problem, according to the State Department's annual report on global human trafficking.

"The military junta's economic mismanagement, human rights abuses and its policy of using forced labor are driving factors behind Burma's large trafficking problem," the report said.

Men, women and children from Myanmar, the report said, are transported to Thailand, China, Bangladesh, Malaysia and other countries in the region.

Myanmar's anti-trafficking law has not been used effectively because of judiciary corruption and lack of money, the report said.

Myanmar was placed again in the U.S. government's category for the world's worst

trafficking offenders. Countries in this category may be subject to certain sanctions, but Myanmar already faces harsh U.S. sanctions

aimed at forcing the junta to democratize the government.

Myanmar's current junta took power in 1988. Two years later, the generals refused to hand over power after a landslide victory in general elections by pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi's political party.

**Dr. Cynthia Maung**  
**Healer of broken souls**  
*By Andrew Marshall*

**IN BURMA, FORCED LABOUR CONTINUED TO BE A MAJOR PROBLEM FOR VILLAGERS LIVING WITHIN SPDC CONTROL AREAS THROUGHOUT KAREN REGIONS**



Dr. Cynthia Maung, the 43-year-old founder of Mae Tao clinic in the Thai border town of Mae Sot, is an absconder, an insurgent and an opium-smuggling terrorist. Any attempt to deny this is as futile as covering the rotting carcass of an elephant with a goat hide.

That, at any rate, is the opinion of Burma's ruling military junta, as published on its reliably absurd and malicious website. The generals have every reason to despise "Dr. Cynthia," as her patients call her. In 1989, equipped with medicines scrounged from foreign relief workers and instruments she had sterilized in a rice cooker, she transformed a dilapidated barn in Mae Sot into a clinic to provide free treatment for the sick and wounded fleeing Burma's oppressive regime. Today, thanks to her preternatural drive and optimism, up to 200 patients—mostly migrant workers and refugees from across the border—pass through her clinic every day. Its five doctors and 120 other medical staff treat everything from diarrhea to gunshot wounds, all for a patient registration fee of just 25¢. Maung has won a slew of international prizes, most recently a Ramon Magsaysay Award for community leadership, and remains among her own people the likeliest candidate for sainthood after the leader of Burma's pro-democracy movement herself, Aung San Suu Kyi. If you were a Burmese general, you'd hate Maung, too.

"When I first arrived in Thailand I thought I'd be here for only three months or so," recalls Maung, a handsome, soft-spoken woman who emanates serenity even in less-than-serene circumstances—in this case, with dozens of infants howling from immunization jabs in her clinic's child-health center. "Then I thought I would go back in three years. Then five years. I always thought the political situation in Burma would improve." Instead, it got worse, creating an ever-growing caseload for Maung and her staff. While the clinic hasn't lost its

makeshift feel—the beds in its 49-bed inpatient ward are wooden trestles covered with floor linoleum—it has expanded to include a trauma department, blood and eye labs, and a prosthetics department for land-mine victims. The clinic also serves as a training center for the famous "backpack medics"—teams of doctors who make perilous treks deep into the Burmese jungle to treat people with no access to medicine. The physicians occasionally have to resort to jungle amputations to save lives.

Maung understands what it's like to be a refugee—she's one, too. Born into a Karen family in Rangoon, her work as a young doctor at a tiny rural clinic in Karen state enabled her to witness firsthand the poverty and disease endemic under Burmese military rule. She was among the euphoric millions who joined nationwide antigovernment protests in 1988—and, a few months later, one of thousands who fled over the border into Thailand to escape a savage crackdown. Traveling at night to evade army hit squads, Maung and 14 colleagues trekked through the jungle for seven days, stopping only to treat the sick and injured they came across with the few supplies they had carried. Although she has now lived in exile in Thailand for 15 years, Maung has no official papers and is effectively stateless. The clinic is her country now. Private and unassuming, she lives in a modest house at its gates, along with her husband and three children, the last a baby girl adopted after being abandoned by her mother at the clinic.

Maung places enormous faith in her medical staff despite their lack of formal training, and they return this faith with fierce loyalty. "For Dr. Cynthia, nothing is impossible," says Tara Sullivan, an American reproductive-health expert who has worked alongside her for two years. "She has a great sense of humor and a great sense of purpose." Clinic administrator

Rae Svarnas says, "She's an incredibly hard worker. She never asks anyone to do something she wouldn't. And in two years I've never seen her angry. Never." With her medical qualifications and experience, Maung could easily claim asylum in a third country. Has she ever been tempted? "Work abroad?" she asks, as if I've just suggested we tango through the inpatient ward. "I've never thought about it. The West has enough doctors." Which is a relief to hear, because as tens of thousands of her patients would attest, impoverished and benighted Burma needs all the doctors it can get—and all the heroes, too.

## Dr. Cynthia Maung meets with Canadian Immigration Minister

Source: CFOB

Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 , 16:30 p.m.



Mae Tao Clinic, directed by Cynthia Maung

(Ottawa, ON) -- Dr. Cynthia Maung, founder of the world renowned Mae Tao Clinic in Mae Sot along the Thai-Burma border, met with Canadian Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Monte Solberg today on Parliament Hill, along with a half a dozen other MPs including Larry Bagnell and Deepak Ohrai.

Minister Solberg wanted to thank Dr. Maung for her efforts in providing free medical treatment for Burmese refugees and migrant workers in Thailand, as well as internally displaced persons who cross the border because they cannot afford or access health services in Burma. It is estimated that Dr.

Maung's clinic serves over 100 000 patients each year.

The clinic has been funded by Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for over a decade, yet Solberg had to intervene personally last week when Dr. Maung's visa application was inexplicably rejected by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

The current situation in Karen State in Eastern Burma, where close to 20 000 civilians have been displaced due to a major offensive by the ruling military junta has caused a humanitarian crisis, was also discussed at the meeting. All Members of Parliament present obliged themselves to apply more pressure against the junta as representatives of the Canadian Government.

Dr. Maung and by extension the Mae Tao Clinic has received accolades from around the world for its humanitarian work on the border, including the Jonathan Mann Health and Human Rights Award, The John Humphries Award (awarded by Rights & Democracy), and the American Women's Medical Association President's Award. She has also been named an Asian Hero by Time Magazine.

## Security Council resolution, Canadian support essential for democracy in Burma



**MONTREAL –**

The United Nations

Security Council must enact concrete measures aimed at forcing Burma's ruling military regime (SPDC) to respect human rights and end its use of violence and political repression against its people, Rights & Democracy said today in a letter addressed to UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan.

The recent renewal of Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi's detention under house arrest, which now totals more than 10 years, and the internal displacement of more than 13,000 Karen villagers after recent military assaults are two of

the latest developments in Burma that necessitate a firm and unequivocal Security Council resolution in defence of human rights and democracy there.

“International interventions to bring peace to Burma and ensure respect for human rights have ended in failure,” writes Jean-Louis Roy, President of Rights & Democracy. “Peace and democracy in Burma are not only crucial to the realization of human rights for millions in Burma, but they are essential to the interests of regional and global security.”

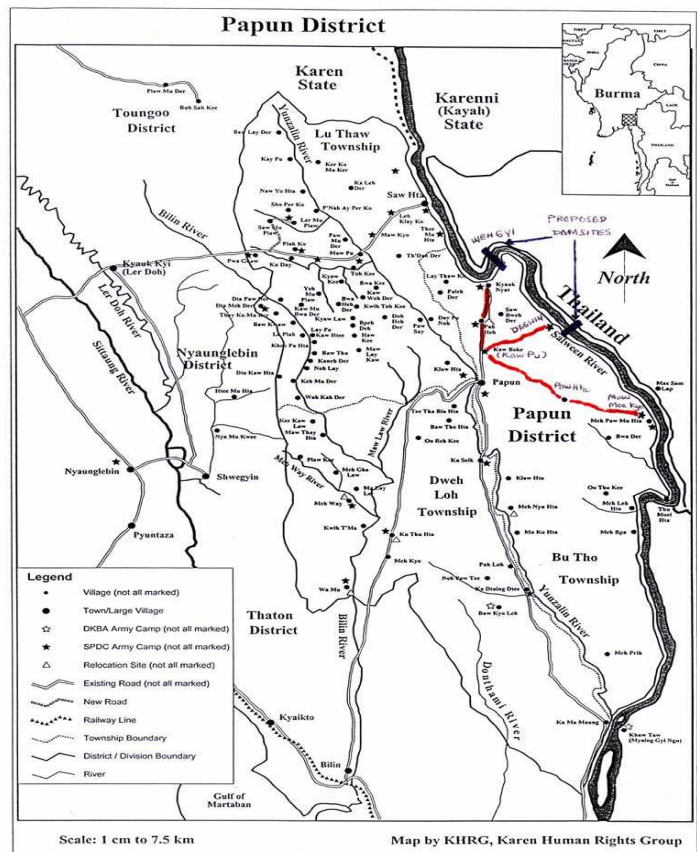
Rights & Democracy’s letter joins a growing international campaign in support of a recent report commissioned by former Czech Republic President, Vaclav Havel, and South African Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Bishop Desmond Tutu. The report, titled *Threat to the Peace: A Call for the UN Security Council to Act in Burma*, concludes that a Security Council resolution is key to breaking the SPDC’s totalitarian grip on Burma. .

Rights & Democracy said a UNSC resolution should include the following four points:

- Urge the SPDC to immediately end its attacks on indigenous/ethnic minorities and release Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners;
- Call on the SPDC to create the conditions of transparency, accountability and non-interference required to allow international humanitarian assistance to reach the most vulnerable groups of the population, including internally displaced persons;
- Require the SPDC to work with the Secretary-General’s office in implementing a plan for national reconciliation in order to restore democracy while respecting the results of the May 1990 elections;
- Allow the Secretary-General to report back to the Security Council on a regular basis.

request the Government of Canada’s support for this matter, which would respond to the Parliamentary motion on Burma adopted in May, 2005. Surprisingly, no past Canadian governments have supported any of Burma’s democratic institutions. These institutions, which include Burma’s government in exile and the Members of Parliament Union, are dependent on funding from foreign governments for their existence and Rights & Democracy urges an end to Canada’s silence on this matter.

Rights & Democracy’s involvement in Burma dates to 1990, the year Burma’s military refused to cede power to Aung San Suu Kyi’s National League for Democracy party after its landslide election victory. Rights & Democracy was the first institution to support the democratically-elected government-in-exile, and remains committed to



**Papun District Map. Credit to KHRG**

supporting Burma’s democratic movement.

Rights & Democracy has also written Canada’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, Peter MacKay, to

## **SPDC army shell and burn villages in northern Papun and Toungoo districts, June 7, Karen State**

**Source: KHRG,** The northernmost column in Papun district is made up of SPDC Light Infantry Battalions #361, 362, 363 and 370, all operating as part

of Military Operations Command (MOC) #10 based at Ler Mu Plaw. At the end of May this column headed northward to destroy villages and capture or kill villagers in the Ler Mu Plaw, Naw Yo Hta and Kay Pu areas. In addition to assault rifles, carbines and sniper rifles the column is armed with 60 millimetre and 81 millimetre mortars which it uses to shell villages and suspected hiding places of displaced villagers on its approach. Left behind at Ler Mu Plaw are Light Infantry Battalions #364, 365, 367 and 369 from MOC #10, and Infantry Battalion #60 from Southern Command in Toungoo. The MOC #10 commander is currently based at Htaw Mo Pleh Meh, on a hilltop just outside Ler Mu Plaw, and has set up a 120 millimetre mortar position there. The 120 is the largest of conventional mortars, with a range of 7-10 kilometres and producing a blast large enough to completely destroy several homes at once. Since June 2nd, MOC #10 has been using this mortar to shell all village sites and villagers' hiding sites within range. This includes villages as far away as Naw Yo Hta. In addition to using its own smaller mortars, the mobile column has called by radio for this 120mm mortar to shell each village before entering it, even though the villages are undefended.

On May 31st the abovementioned column saw Htee Baw Kee villager Saw Yweh Mu, age 40, working in his irrigated ricefield at Pwa Doh Hta, and shot him dead on sight. They then burned down his farmfield hut and his rice storage barn, and also burned a second farmfield hut and rice storage barn belonging to Naw K'Pru Paw, a woman villager who was not there.

On June 1st the column was heading for K'Neh Mu Der village when a small KNLA force tried to slow

their advance by ambushing them. After an exchange of fire the KNLA troops withdrew, and the SPDC column proceeded to destroy eight hillside ricefields located there by trampling the seedlings and destroying the fences so buffalos and wild pigs will be able to devour any crop before harvest.



On June 2nd the column found a group of thirty shelters where displaced villagers had taken refuge near K'Baw Kee, in Ler Mu Plaw area. The villagers fled the shelters before the column arrived, and the troops burned all thirty huts. On June 3rd, the column burned Dta Baw Meh Plaw village; exact information on the number of houses burned, the amount of livestock killed and belongings destroyed is not yet available. The villagers fled before the troops arrived.

The Karen National Union chairman of Lu Thaw township, where this column is operating, estimated on June 2nd that 2,800 villagers have

been displaced in the township by SPDC attacks over the past week. However, a KHRG researcher notes that this does not include the people of Htee Si Kee, Htaw Baw Peh, K'Baw Kee, Dtru Kee and Htee Baw Day villages who have fled their villages in anticipation of probable attacks, and that if these people are included the total rises to 3,500 to 4,000 displaced. This number is expected to increase as the column pushes further north to Kay Pu.

## **UN Security Council resolution against Myanmar has "broad" support: US**

**By P. Parameswaran *Thu Jun 1, 9:24 PM ET***

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States has "broad" support for a resolution it plans to introduce in the UN Security Council compelling Myanmar's military junta to change its repressive policies, the State Department said.

"And in terms of support for it, I do think that there is broad and general support for the idea that the Burmese regime does need to address the serious political problems in that country," department spokesman Tom Casey told reporters.

He did not specify which members in the council supported the move, saying the situation in Myanmar "is increasingly disturbing and is now posing a threat to the stability of the region itself."

"I'm not trying to predict for you any particular standing by individual members," Casey said, responding to a question. "I haven't done a survey of Security Council members at this point."

While the United States, Britain, France and several other council members have said the situation in Myanmar represented a threat to regional security, Japan, China and Russia have reportedly expressed opposing views at a council briefing on Wednesday.

The State Department had said after the rare briefing that Washington intended to pursue the unprecedented resolution to "underscore the

international community's concerns about the situation" there.

The concerns include the "unjustifiable detention" of democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi and lack of "an inclusive and democratic political process" in Myanmar.

Casey said that he did not have a specific date at which the United States intended to introduce the resolution at the 15-state council.

"We're working on some other preliminary actions in New York at this point. Certainly we expect to do it in the coming weeks," he said.

Aung San Suu Kyi, the Nobel Peace Prize winner who has been detained since May 2003 inside her lakeside home in central Yangon without a telephone, has spent 10 of the past 17 years in detention.

Tuesday marked the third anniversary of an attack against a convoy in which she was traveling with other members of her opposition National League for Democracy party in northern Myanmar, which led to her latest house arrest.

The NLD won a landslide election victory in 1990, but the military government never recognized the result.

No one has pushed for a resolution on Myanmar at the Security Council so far despite international uproar in the past nearly two decades over alleged human rights abuses by the military rulers in the southeast Asian state.

The United States put the international spotlight on Myanmar in December, when it successfully pushed the Security Council to hold a briefing on human rights and other problems there for the first time.

In the second briefing, Wednesday, UN envoy Ibrahim Gambari told the council about his trip to Yangon last week when he was allowed by the junta to meet with the 60-year-old Aung San Suu Kyi, diplomats said.

Hope had swelled for her release after the rare meeting, but the junta defied an international outcry demanding her freedom and extended her house arrest.

Meanwhile, Refugees International, a Washington-based advocacy group, warned Thursday that the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar was worsening and called on the US government to provide more humanitarian aid to the stricken country.

It said Washington's ongoing investment and trade sanctions on the military regime were hindering the flow of significant aid to Myanmar.

At least half a million people are internally displaced in the eastern part of the country alone and more than one million more have fled to neighboring nations, the group said in a report entitled "Ending the waiting game."

The people in Myanmar "suffer from disease, malnutrition and poverty at alarming rates and those who have been forced from their homes are particularly vulnerable," said report author Kavita Shukla.

She said the people "simply cannot wait for a civilian government to be put into power before the outside world comes to their aid.

"It is unconscionable to sit back and watch their plight without taking concrete measures to help them."

While humanitarian aid has been reduced over the last two decades, the report said disease, poverty, malnutrition and human rights abuses have risen in Myanmar.

## Drugs



### **Bosses offer more to get the most**

**Reporter: Hawkeye, 7 June 2006, Sources: S.H.A.N.**

Despite reports of a bumper crop in most of eastern and

southern Shan State, prices have gone up in several areas as buyers scrambled over each other for a bigger purchase, report sources from the border:

In Mongton, across Chiangmai, the increase is



slight at 20,000 baht (\$500) per viss (1.6 kg) up from 18,000 baht (\$450), but west of the Salween the price has shot up from 500,000 kyat (\$385) to 650,000 kyat, 700,000 kyat and even 800,000 kyat (\$615) in some places. "The

refineries are in a hurry to fill the orders coming from across the border," said a businessman whose home is near Taunggyi. "So except for a few places where the price is already fixed by the local bosses at 500,000 kyat, one cannot expect to make a purchase without paying more."

The highest bidders at present are

- Lao Hsaw, 44, of Namzang, a partner to Zhou Sang, an ex- Mong Tai Army (MTA) member, who has a refinery in Nayai, Mongnai township
- Lao Lu, 55, a Kokang man who has his refinery at Hwe Khailong, north of Mongton

Another Lao Lu, 52, and Haw Ping 45, who operate a refinery at Namhu Naihseng, east of Monghang, under the protection of the United Wa State Army's 171st Military Region.

Mongton township has long been known as a haven for refinery-operators. Until 2003, when Thailand declared an all-out war on drugs, the township used to boast about 19 "factories." Many of them have moved out since. However, those under Wa protection as in Hopang-Hoyawd (2) and Mongjawd (1) are still reportedly in full swing.

" All of them pay the local army units," declared his partner, Hwe Khailong to Light Infantry Battalion 519 and Namhu Naihseng to Infantry Battalion 65. "Everything goes well only when

local authorities are supportive of your activities."

Sai Keow, 45, a former MTA man, who now calls himself Hsang Hsu, he claims, is another shining example. He has a refinery in Nawnglerh, 20 miles southwest of Mongpan near Pangpi, a traditional opium producer. He is said to be close to the PaO National Army's Gandama and Lt-Col Aung Maung, Langkherh district chief. "Sai Keow is one of the few respected people in the area today," he said.

According to Jean-Lu Lemahieu, former UNODC representative in Burma, the country offers one of the most important ingredients for setting up a thriving drug industry: an undisturbed place.

## **Bank of England Financial Sanctions: Burma/Myanmar, 2 June 2006**



With the publication of Council Regulation (EC) No 817/2006 in the Official Journal of the European Union (O.J. L148, 2.6.2006, p.1) on 2 June 2006, the Council of the European Union has, amongst other things, amended the list of those subject to the financial sanctions applicable to certain individuals related to important government functions in Burma/Myanmar and to persons associated with them, and to certain Burmese state-owned enterprises. The list of targeted persons set out in Annex III of Council Regulation (EC) No 817/2006 replaces the list in Annex II to Commission Regulation (EC) No 667/2005 dated 28 April 2005.

The Bank of England, on behalf of Her Majesty's Treasury, therefore announces that with effect from 2 June 2006 all funds or economic resources belonging to the persons listed in Annex III to Council Regulation (EC) No 817/2006 must be frozen. No funds or economic resources are to be made available, directly or indirectly, to or for the benefit of the listed persons. Financial institutions and other bodies and persons in the UK must check

whether they maintain any accounts or otherwise hold any funds for the individuals and entities named and, if so, they should freeze the accounts and report the accounts or other funds and amounts frozen to the Bank of England. In addition, making financial loans or credits available to, and acquiring or extending a participation in, the Burmese state-owned enterprises listed in Annex IV to Council Regulation (EC) No 817/2006 shall be prohibited. The list of state-owned enterprises set out in Annex IV of Council Regulation (EC) No 817/2006 replaces the list in Annex III to Commission Regulation (EC) No 667/2005.

The Annex to this news release sets out in more detail the significant amendments made by the Council of the European Union in Council Regulation (EC) No 817/2006 compared with the list annexed to Commission Regulation (EC) No 667/2005, which take the form of additional names, deleted names and updated identifiers.

Copies of this Council Regulation, previous Regulations and related Bank Notices regarding the financial sanctions regime against Burma/Myanmar are available from the Financial Sanctions pages.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Salween is an independent news letter. Our mission is to inform and educate the communities about social and culture, the political background of people who were uprooted from their homeland called Myanmar, formerly known Burma.

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