

Chapter 1 : Burma's Grassroots War on Drugs – Foreign Policy

There's an easy way to avoid betrayal by winners of the world's most important humanitarian prize: only give it to dead people.

Burma's Denmark relations Burma is represented in Denmark through its embassy in the United Kingdom, [8] and Denmark is represented in Burma through its embassy in Thailand. Denmark was one of the first countries to respond to cyclone Nargis by providing humanitarian assistance to Burma. The sentence was for illegal possession of two facsimile machines and a telephone switchboard. Two months later, he died in prison. Despite Danish insistence, Burmese authorities refused to allow an independent autopsy. The money earned by the students goes to improve education for young people in Burma. Foreign relations of Ireland The Government of Ireland established diplomatic relations with Burma on a non-resident basis on 10 February. This became public knowledge after official papers were leaked in September. Burma's France relations Franco-Burmese relations go back to the early 18th century, as the French East India Company attempted to extend its influence into Southeast Asia. French involvement started in when it built a shipyard in the city of Syriam. A French envoy, Sieur de Bruno was sent to evaluate the situation and help in the defence against the Burmese. French warships were sent to support the Mon rebellion, but in vain. In , the Burmese under Alaungpaya vanquished the Mon. Many French were captured and incorporated into the Burmese Army as an elite gunner corps, under Chevalier Milard. In , official contacts resumed when a trade treaty was signed between King Hsinbyushin and the French East India Company. French contacts with Burma, effectively a British colony, became almost non-existent. Instead, from the second half of the 19th century, France concentrated on the establishment of French Indochina and the conflicts with China leading to the Sino-French War. Subsequent repression, including that of protestors in September , further strained the relationship. Later, the United States federal government imposed broad sanctions against Burma under several different legislative and policy vehicles. Bush in , imposed a ban on all imports from Burma, a ban on the export of financial services to Burma, a freeze on the assets of certain Burmese financial institutions, alongside further visa restrictions against Burmese officials. Since 27 September , the US Department of Treasury froze assets of 25 high-ranking officials Burmese government officials as it was authorised to do so by Executive Order. On 19 October , President George W. Bush imposed a new Executive Order E. In addition, since May , the US Government prohibited new investment by American people and other entities. A number of American companies exited the Burma market prior to the imposition of sanctions due to a worsening business climate and mounting criticism from human rights groups, consumers, and shareholders. The United States has also imposed countermeasures on Burma due to its inadequate measures to eliminate money laundering. Burma is also designated a Tier 3 Country in the Trafficking in Persons Report for utilising forced labour , and is subject to additional sanctions as a result. The political relationship between the United States and Burma worsened after the military coup and violent suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations. Subsequent repression, including the brutal crackdown on peaceful protestors in September , further strained relations. The US announced a reduction of laws against providing aid to Burma and raised the possibility of an exchange of ambassadors. S ambassador to Myanmar in 22 years formally assumed his job on 11 July by presenting his credentials to President Thein Sein at the presidential mansion in the capital Naypyitaw.

Chapter 2 : Burma's River of News " Foreign Policy

MYITKYINA, BURMA " Perched on the west bank of the picturesque Irrawaddy River, Myitkyina looks like a typical northern Burmese town of churches and timber houses.

October 19, 6: Since then, the political situation in the Southeast Asian nation has played like an endless video loop of oppressive stagnation. Tyrannical generals use violence and intimidation to cling to power; pro-democracy opponents languish in Gulag-style prisons; like-minded regimes in Beijing and Pyongyang keep the country afloat with military and financial flows; and Western and Asian governments are at odds on what to do. Inside Burma, officially known as Myanmar, the domestic press is censored and controlled by the state. And for the international media who occasionally take notice, the story is sadly the same as five or even 10 years ago. Recent political events only confirm the status quo. The military junta has rejected new international calls to release pro-democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest, ignored a push by the Bush administration to bring it before the U. Security Council, and rebuffed diplomatic pressure from its neighbors to move toward democracy. The monthly news magazine *The Irrawaddy* has found a way to penetrate the hermetically sealed country by relying on an underground network of contacts and informers. Burma rarely grants visas to Western journalists, and foreign media within the country can only hire local journalists who are targets of intimidation. *The Irrawaddy* also has multiple sources " from academics to monks to sympathetic civil servants and military personnel " who are scattered throughout Burma and turn over information and documents. The publication has come a long way since Aung Zaw created an amateurish, four-page newsletter 14 years ago. Today, *The Irrawaddy*, which is named after the river where Burmese civilization began, is a slick, glossy, color magazine with an international circulation of 3, That number may sound low, but its impact is high. Its Web site, <http://www.irrawaddy.com>, which monitors e-mail and Internet content, has been banned, but Burmese can still access it using proxy servers. In addition, copies of the magazine are surreptitiously brought into Burma each month and distributed to diplomats living there. Its staff of 24 includes Thais and Westerners, as well as exiled Burmese. Many of the Burmese reporters are former activists at risk of arrest if they return. But Aung Zaw emphatically denies any bias. *The Irrawaddy* staff is forbidden from belonging to any Burmese opposition group, which has created some resentment within the community of activists, intellectuals, and former student leaders based in Thailand. On several occasions, other publications have implied that it is "dissident media" or an "anti-Burma magazine. Certainly, the magazine publishes articles that often portray the ruling junta in a bad light. But Aung Zaw points out that it also prints negative stories about the numerous exiled pro-democracy groups and armed independent movements that base themselves in Bangkok and along the Thai-Burmese border. Despite infighting among mid-level officers and low morale in the ranks, the military, led by the indefatigable Gen. Than Shwe, is not about to loosen its grip on power. Aung Zaw makes a compelling case but falls victim to his habit of peppering what was supposed to be an objective news story with statements such as, "The lives of ordinary Burmese people have not improved in any discernible way," without any socioeconomic data to support them. They have endured threats from the junta, harassment from Thai authorities, and financial constraints in putting out the magazine. But they make no apologies for their product.

Chapter 3 : NPR Choice page

Myanmar's Foreign Policy Rebalance The country's shift in its alignments is about more than just China and the United States. By Jonathan T. Chow and Leif-Eric Easley for The Diplomat.

Representatives of the United Nations and International Agencies visited Myanmar and met with the responsible officials. High level officials from the United States and the European Union that had less contact in the past also visited Myanmar. During the Cold War, Burmese foreign policy was based on principles of neutrality, often tending toward xenophobia. Since , however, Burma has expanded its regional ties. Burma joined ASEAN in , and has participated in that regional forum, hosting a number of seminars, conferences, and ministerial meetings. Burma also is a member of the World Trade Organization. Although Burmese-Thai relations are generally cooperative, they have been tainted by a long history of border conflicts and sporadic hostilities over narcotics trafficking and insurgents operating along the Burmese-Thai border. Nonetheless, official and unofficial economic ties remain strong. In addition to the approximately , Burmese refugees it hosts, the Thai Government issues temporary work permits to another one million Burmese who live outside the refugee camps in Thailand. Despite their often-contentious histories, Burma has grown closer to both China and India in recent years. India is a primary destination for exports of Burmese beans and pulses. The military relationship between Burma and North Korea has come under increased scrutiny by the international community. The United States and others have urged Burma to be transparent in its relationship with North Korea to give the international community confidence Burma is not violating its international obligations, particularly with respect to implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions and The UN has made several efforts to address international concerns over human rights in Burma. Special Advisor Gambari made eight trips to Burma. Burmese authorities have denied Quintana access to Burma since a March report in which he called on the United Nations to consider establishing a UN Commission of Inquiry for Burma. In January , the United States and the U. The UN Security Council adopted by consensus a Presidential Statement on October 11, , deploring the September crackdown and calling for the release of all political prisoners and the creation of the necessary conditions for a genuine dialogue. Tomas Ojea Quintana replaced Pinheiro on May 1, On May 2, , the Security Council issued a second Presidential Statement calling for the Burmese regime to conduct the referendum on its draft constitution in a free and fair manner. In the wake of Cyclone Nargis, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon visited Burma in May and called on the regime to grant greater access for international aid to cyclone-affected areas of the country. On May 22, , the Security Council released a press statement expressing concern over the trial of Aung San Suu Kyi and reiterating its call for dialogue. Burma receives grants of technical assistance mostly from Asia , limited humanitarian aid and debt relief from Japan and China, and concessional loans from China and India. Since July , the World Bank has not made any loans to Burma. Since Burma has been in non-accrual status with the Bank. As such, it participates in regional meetings and workshops supported by the ADB, although it has not received loans or grants since Bilateral technical assistance ended in Burma has not serviced its ADB loans since January The United States maintains sanctions against Burma that prohibit U. An isolated Burma was heavily reliant on China, and this gave China significant diplomatic leverage in South East Asia. Since opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi was freed, there have been a number of protests in Burma against Chinese development projects that the local people feel are impacting badly on them. Also, there are a number of people in Burma who resent so much Chinese economic presence in their country. Relations between the governments of Burma and China have not been as good as they used to be under the old military dictatorship. In March , the conflict in Myanmar between the ethnic Chinese Kokang rebels and the Burmese army began spilling over into Yunnan, China. Two incidents of reported casualties and damage from bombings by the Burmese inside China drew a sharp reaction from Beijing. Myanmar said the incidents were unintentional, but the Chinese have demanded Myanmar investigate the bombings, apologize and pay indemnities to the victims.

Chapter 4 : Chinaâ€™Myanmar relations - Wikipedia

Historically strained, Myanmar's foreign relations, particularly with Western nations, have improved since Relations became strained once more in with the Rohingya crisis. [1] [2] Myanmar (also known as Burma) has generally maintained warmer relations with neighbouring states and is a member of the Association of Southeast Asian.

Senate , the President of the United States negotiates treaties with foreign nations, but treaties enter into force only if ratified by two-thirds of the Senate. Both the Secretary of State and ambassadors are appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The United States Secretary of State acts similarly to a foreign minister and under Executive leadership is the primary conductor of state-to-state diplomacy. Powers of the Congress[edit] Main articles: Constitution gives much of the foreign policy decision-making to the presidency, but the Senate has a role in ratifying treaties, and the Supreme Court interprets treaties when cases are presented to it. Congress is the only branch of government that has the authority to declare war. Furthermore, Congress writes the civilian and military budget, thus has vast power in military action and foreign aid. Congress also has power to regulate commerce with foreign nations. These policies became the basis of the Federalist Party in the s, but the rival Jeffersonians feared Britain and favored France in the s, declaring the War of on Britain. After the alliance with France, the U. Initially these were uncommon events, but since WWII, these have been made by most presidents. Jeffersonians vigorously opposed a large standing army and any navy until attacks against American shipping by Barbary corsairs spurred the country into developing a naval force projection capability, resulting in the First Barbary War in The short experiment in imperialism ended by , as the U. It became the basis of the German Armistice which amounted to a military surrender and the Paris Peace Conference. In the s, the United States followed an independent course, and succeeded in a program of naval disarmament , and refunding the German economy. Operating outside the League it became a dominant player in diplomatic affairs. New York became the financial capital of the world, [8] but the Wall Street Crash of hurled the Western industrialized world into the Great Depression. American trade policy relied on high tariffs under the Republicans, and reciprocal trade agreements under the Democrats, but in any case exports were at very low levels in the s. Winston Churchill , Franklin D. Roosevelt moved toward strong support of the Allies in their wars against Germany and Japan. As a result of intense internal debate, the national policy was one of becoming the Arsenal of Democracy , that is financing and equipping the Allied armies without sending American combat soldiers. Roosevelt mentioned four fundamental freedoms, which ought to be enjoyed by people "everywhere in the world"; these included the freedom of speech and religion, as well as freedom from want and fear. Roosevelt helped establish terms for a post-war world among potential allies at the Atlantic Conference ; specific points were included to correct earlier failures, which became a step toward the United Nations. American policy was to threaten Japan, to force it out of China, and to prevent its attacking the Soviet Union. The American economy roared forward, doubling industrial production, and building vast quantities of airplanes, ships, tanks, munitions, and, finally, the atomic bomb. Much of the American war effort went to strategic bombers, which flattened the cities of Japan and Germany. President Richard Nixon , After the war, the U. Almost immediately, however, the world witnessed division into broad two camps during the Cold War ; one side was led by the U. This period lasted until almost the end of the 20th century and is thought to be both an ideological and power struggle between the two superpowers. A policy of containment was adopted to limit Soviet expansion, and a series of proxy wars were fought with mixed results. In , the Soviet Union dissolved into separate nations, and the Cold War formally ended as the United States gave separate diplomatic recognition to the Russian Federation and other former Soviet states. In domestic politics, foreign policy is not usually a central issue. In â€™ the Democratic Party took a strong anti-Communist line and supported wars in Korea and Vietnam. Then the party split with a strong, "dovish", pacifist element typified by presidential candidate George McGovern. Many "hawks", advocates for war, joined the Neoconservative movement and started supporting the Republicansâ€™especially Reaganâ€™based on foreign policy. Taft , and an internationalist wing based in the East and led by Dwight D. Eisenhower defeated Taft for the nomination largely on foreign policy grounds. Since then the Republicans

have been characterized by a hawkish and intense American nationalism, and strong opposition to Communism, and strong support for Israel. Substantial problems remain, such as climate change , nuclear proliferation , and the specter of nuclear terrorism. Foreign policy analysts Hachigian and Sutphen in their book *The Next American Century* suggest all five powers have similar vested interests in stability and terrorism prevention and trade; if they can find common ground, then the next decades may be marked by peaceful growth and prosperity. The *New York Times* reported on the eve of his first foreign trip as president: For foreign leaders trying to figure out the best way to approach an American president unlike any they have known, it is a time of experimentation. Embassies in Washington trade tips and ambassadors send cables to presidents and ministers back home suggesting how to handle a mercurial, strong-willed leader with no real experience on the world stage, a preference for personal diplomacy and a taste for glitz Keep it short – no minute monologue for a second attention span. Do not assume he knows the history of the country or its major points of contention. Compliment him on his Electoral College victory. Contrast him favorably with President Barack Obama. Do not get hung up on whatever was said during the campaign. Stay in regular touch. Do not go in with a shopping list but bring some sort of deal he can call a victory. The chief diplomat was Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. His major foreign policy positions, which sometimes are at odds with Trump, include: Treaties are formal written agreements specified by the Treaty Clause of the Constitution. The President makes a treaty with foreign powers, but then the proposed treaty must be ratified by a two-thirds vote in the Senate. For example, President Wilson proposed the Treaty of Versailles after World War I after consulting with allied powers, but this treaty was rejected by the Senate; as a result, the U. While most international law has a broader interpretation of the term treaty, the U. Holland , the Supreme Court ruled that the power to make treaties under the U. Constitution is a power separate from the other enumerated powers of the federal government, and hence the federal government can use treaties to legislate in areas which would otherwise fall within the exclusive authority of the states. Executive agreements are made by the President – in the exercise of his Constitutional executive powers – alone. Congressional-executive agreements are made by the President and Congress. A majority of both houses makes it binding much like regular legislation after it is signed by the president. The Constitution does not expressly state that these agreements are allowed, and constitutional scholars such as Laurence Tribe think they are unconstitutional. Further, the United States incorporates treaty law into the body of U. As a result, Congress can modify or repeal treaties afterward. It can overrule an agreed-upon treaty obligation even if this is seen as a violation of the treaty under international law. Covert , as well as a lower court ruling in *Garcia-Mir v. ...* Further, the Supreme Court has declared itself as having the power to rule a treaty as void by declaring it "unconstitutional", although as of , it has never exercised this power. Generally, when the U. However, as a result of the *Reid v. Covert* decision, the U. International agreements[edit] The United States has ratified and participates in many other multilateral treaties, including arms control treaties especially with the Soviet Union , human rights treaties, environmental protocols , and free trade agreements. The United States is also member of:

Chapter 5 : Burma " Foreign Policy

More information about Burma is available on the Burma Page and from other Department of State publications and other sources listed at the end of this fact sheet. U.S.-BURMA RELATIONS The United States supports a peaceful, prosperous, and democratic Burma that respects the human rights of all its people.

Toggle display of website navigation Dispatch: But a violent Christian anti-drug squad is showing its dark side. October 5, , Myitkyina is fighting a heroin epidemic that has spiraled out of control. After nearly 20 years of uneasy peace, a ceasefire between the rebels and the Burmese army collapsed in The resulting fighting displaced an estimated , people. But locals say that heroin now claims more lives than the renewed fighting. After Afghanistan, Burma is the largest opium producer in the world. Here in Kachin, the easy availability of cheap, strong heroin has fueled addiction, particularly among underemployed young people. Evidence of the epidemic is everywhere " from used needles along the train tracks to signs in restaurants warning against drug use. Tun Tun, the local coordinator for the Substance Abuse Research Association " one of very few local NGOs that run harm reduction programs " told me that kids as young as 12 are injecting heroin. And at just 60 U. We all agreed to fight against drugs and are willing to make a better community. The objective of arresting people is to save them from drug abuse and help them recover. It has even led to armed conflict. Earlier this year, at the height of the harvest season, Pat Jasan vigilantes destroyed thousands of hectares of fields, leading to armed confrontations with local militias and Burmese security forces. Despite the violence, Gun maintains that destroying the fields is the way to curb local drug abuse and to decrease sales to neighboring China, Japan and even as far field as Australia. In , Burma launched a year plan to stamp out poppy cultivation, but the deadline has since been extended to In any event, since the still-powerful military and its allies have been implicated in the drug trade, the success of any government policy on this front will be open to question. Instead, they say the solution must include providing farmers with a realistic alternative way to make an income and ending the ethnic conflict. On the one hand, conflict fuels illicit drugs, and on the other hand, illicit drugs fuels conflict. We do not believe it is possible to have major progress on one area without progress on the other. For such communities, the opium is a lifeline " it helps them put food on the table and meet other basic needs like access to health care and education. According to Vester, more than hectares of poppy fields have already been replaced with coffee, and he that figure to more than double by end of Green rice paddy fields line a path out of Myitkyina that leads to a large concrete building called the Rebirth Rehab Center, run by a local Baptist church. The building is clean, and on the inside its walls are decorated with crosses and Bible verses. But behind the building is an ugly sight. A dark red timber hut is crowded with skinny men with blood-shot eyes. One man is particularly conspicuous: His legs are chained to the floor as punishment for bad behavior, probably smoking. The men relieve themselves in the corner. He has been using heroin for a year. In desperation, some have dug holes under the surrounding fence and escaped. But back in town, in the local tea shop, Gun is unconcerned about how his organization treats its drug-addicted prisoners. For him, its methods are worth it if they prevent overdoses.

Chapter 6 : China in Burma's foreign policy - ANU Press - ANU

Burma's junta has labeled The Irrawaddy a tool of the West. The magazine is a nonprofit that survives on grants from international groups such as the National Endowment for Democracy and.

Chapter 7 : Foreign relations of Myanmar - Wikipedia

Burma & Myanmar Jul 29, Snapshot Myanmar's Religious Problem Myanmar's, led by Aung San Suu Kyi, has been beset by protests, violence at sacred sites, and confrontations between the state's monastic council and Buddhist.

Chapter 8 : Foreign policy of the United States - Wikipedia

In November , Derek Mitchell and I published an essay in Foreign Affairs ("Asia's Forgotten Crisis," November/December) arguing that U.S. policy toward Burma (renamed Myanmar by the country's military junta) needed to move beyond the debate over whether to place sanctions on the country's repressive military junta or engage it.

Chapter 9 : Myanmar - Foreign Relations

The Burma case does reveal, however, that the President and Congress can quickly and effectively address foreign relations concerns. Judges should vigorously enforce federal treaties and foreign relations statutes when they conflict with state law.