STATUS OF HUMAN RIGHTS & SANCTIONS IN MYANMAR

JULY 2023 REPORT

Summary. This report reviews the July 2023 developments relating to human rights in Myanmar.

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I. <u>Coup, Crackdown on Protests and Civilian Resistance</u>

General Min Aung Hlaing announced on July 31 that the military is extending the state of emergency for an additional 6 months.¹

More than 35 military troops were killed during the first three days of July in clashes between the military and resistance groups and ethnic armed organizations in Sagaing, Magway and Bago Regions and Mon State.² Around 30 troops and four resistance group members died when six resistance groups attacked an outpost in Thaing Ngai, Chin State on July 11.³ The resistance groups were able to seize multiple weapons from the outpost.⁴

From July 15 to 18, at least 115 troops, five resistance group members and three civilians were killed in attacks across Magway, Bago and Sagaing Regions and Mon and Kayin States.⁵ At least 80 of those troops were killed when People's Defense Force ("PDF") groups ambushed a military convoy in Saw Township, Magway Region.⁶ In retaliation, four military fighter jets bombed nearby Kanpetlet Township in Chin State on July 18.⁷ Around ten houses and a church suffered some damage after around 20 bombs were dropped on the village.⁸ The bombings were then followed by a raid conducted by a column of around 300 soldiers.⁹

At least 30 soldiers were killed in an ambush of a military convoy in Yinke village in Gangaw District, Magway Region on July 18.¹⁰ On July 19, 41 soldiers were killed and another 40 were injured while fighting in Kyauktaga Township, Bago Region.¹¹ From July 20 to 23, around 50 troops were killed while fighting in Kayin and Chin States and in Sagaing, Magway and Tanintharyi Regions.¹²

The military continues to conduct raids in the Sagaing Region and across the country. From July 6 to July 17, around ten civilians and a resistance fighter were killed in Myinmu and Ayadaw Townships.¹³ During that period of time, a group of around 300 troops raided more than ten villages along the border of both townships, and five of those villages were torched, resulting in the destruction of around 1,000 homes.¹⁴ Four civilians in Ayadaw Township were killed while defending their village.¹⁵ Military troops raided Yinmabin Township on July 21, beheading three resistance fighters and killing eleven residents.¹⁶ The eleven civilians, three of which were teenagers, were tortured before they were killed.¹⁷

A military fighter jet bombed a camp for internally displaced people ("IDPs") in western Demoso Township on July 4, which resulted in the injury of three people.¹⁸ The military also bombed a displacement camp that sheltered at least 4,000 IDPs near Shadaw and Mese Townships in Kayah State on July 12.¹⁹ As a result, two civilians were killed and thousands have fled across the border to Thailand.²⁰

II. <u>Political Developments</u>

A. Rohingya Refugee Crisis

On July 7, two Rohingya armed groups engaged in a gun fight to establish supremacy in Bangladesh's southern Cox's Bazar camps.²¹ At least five Rohingya men, members of the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army ("ARSA"), were killed while engaging in a conflict with the rival Rohingya Solidarity Organization.²²

An ARSA commander, Hazeef Noor Mohammad, who was allegedly responsible for the killing of Squadron Leader Rizwan Rushdi of Bangladeshi military intelligence in November 2022, was captured in Cox's Bazar in late July.²³ Nearly 70 people, including ARSA commander-in-chief Ataullah Abu Ammar Jununi, were prosecuted for the abduction and killing of Rizwan Rushdi on the border in Bandarban last year during a military operation.²⁴

The United Kingdom announced a new aid package of \$11.6 million to support Rohingya refugees.²⁵ The aid will include food, water and sanitation for the refugees.²⁶

B. Corruption

On July 12, the Supreme Court heard an appeal regarding the conviction of jailed former State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi.²⁷ She was found guilty on five counts of corruption charges alongside former President Win Myint, and both were sentenced to seven years in prison in December 2022.²⁸ The cases involved the ousted National League for Democracy ("NLD") government's rental and purchase of a helicopter for state affairs and natural disaster responses.²⁹ The military regime alleged that the NLD violated the law and wasted government funds.³⁰ Former Vice-President Henry Van Thio, head of the NLD government's national disaster management committee, testified in Aung San Suu Kyi's defense at the trial but to no avail.³¹ A source close to the Supreme Court said the court is likely to announce its ruling in the next hearing.³² Aung San Suu Kyi was moved from prison to a high-level venue compound in Naypyidaw on July 24.³³

Family members of retired Lieutenant-General Ohn Myint have been granted almost 80 square kilometers of the Pegu Range, which forms a 475-kilometer spine in central Myanmar.³⁴ His wife Nu Nu Swe and daughter Thiri Swe are officially listed as directors of Thiri Bhetsone, the company that owns the land.³⁵ Ohn Myint headed the army's No. 3 Bureau of Special Operations under the previous military regime, known as the State Peace and Development Council, and was sanctioned by the European Union.³⁶ Other business entities listed under Ohn Myint family ownership include the Thiri gems company and Thiri tourism company.³⁷ Nu Nu Swe and Thiri Swe sit on the boards of both companies.³⁸ The Thiri gems company operates jade mines in Kachin State's Hpakant and a jade-cutting factory in Naypyitaw.³⁹ The Thiri agricultural company was granted the land in the Pegu Range to develop an eco-tourism site along with an elephant sanctuary.⁴⁰ While serving as a minister, Ohn Myint told Chinese media that the company owned by his wife and daughter would cooperate with Austria's Fours Paws International to establish an elephant sanctuary called the Pegu Kapaung Forest Wildlife Sanctuary.⁴¹

Myanmar's junta chief Min Aung Hlaing handed out 220 honorary titles to his allies, including prominent Buddhist monks, to reward those supporting military rule.⁴² On July 25, he gave titles to Buddhist leaders Sitagu Sayadaw and Dhammasuta Chekinda, the military's Quartermaster General Kyaw Swar Lin, Myanmar Economic Corporation chairman Lieutenant General Nyo Saw and Aung Khaing Than, who reportedly donated the marble for the colossal Maravijaya Buddha statue in Naypyitaw.⁴³ Aung Khaing Than, the managing director of Anglo Mining Co Ltd in Mandalay, was awarded the Sīhasudhammamaṇijotadhara title for his "remarkable donation" to the statue.⁴⁴ The marble block from the family's quarry was donated to former military dictator Than Shwe in 2013 for a Buddha statue.⁴⁵ Than Shwe gave the marble to the military, which was then headed by Min Aung Hlaing, in 2017.⁴⁶

C. International Community / Sanctions

At its July meeting, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations ("ASEAN") again condemned the violence in Myanmar and repeated support for the five-point peace plan agreed to with the junta two years prior, which the junta has failed to implement.⁴⁷ ASEAN asked all sides of the conflict in Myanmar to "create a conducive environment for the delivery of humanitarian assistance and inclusive national dialogue."⁴⁸ The junta's foreign ministry condemned ASEAN for ignoring its "peaceful efforts to restore democracy."⁴⁹ U.S. Secretary of State Blinken implored ASEAN ministers that the United States and ASEAN "must press the [junta] military regime to stop the violence, to implement ASEAN's five-point consensus, to support a return to democratic governance.⁵⁰

The annual report of the United Nations ("UN") High Commissioner for Human Rights, that was released on July 5, painted a dire picture of the crisis in Myanmar, finding that the junta is the party most responsible for the negative impact on human rights in Myanmar.⁵¹ The report recommends that the UN Security Council take steps to refer the full scope of the current situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court.⁵²

The European Union imposed a seventh round of sanctions on Myanmar; the sanctions target six individuals and one entity.⁵³ This brings the total number of EU sanctioned targets to 99 individuals and 19 entities.⁵⁴

Singapore's United Overseas Bank will shut all junta-linked Myanmar Airways International's ("MAI") bank accounts by August 15; during the phase-out process, the bank informed MAI that its accounts will be subject to enhanced monitoring.⁵⁵

A U.S. court has convicted Myanmar national Phyo Hein Htut of conspiring to seriously injure or kill the country's ambassador to the United Nations, Kyaw Moe Tun, a vocal critic of the junta's rule.⁵⁶ Phyo Hein Htut and compatriot Ye Hein Zaw, both residents of New York, were arrested by the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation in mid-2021 on suspicion of plotting to harm Kyaw Moe Tun.⁵⁷ According to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the pair planned to hire assailants to force Kyaw Moe Tun to resign and, if he refused, to kill him.⁵⁸ Phyo Hein Htut was a member of the volunteer security team of Myanmar's Permanent Mission to the United Nations and passed information regarding the ambassador and Myanmar's Permanent Mission to the UN to an arms broker in Thailand who did business with the Myanmar military junta.⁵⁹ He received money from the arms broker to hire attackers to hurt the ambassador in an attempt to force him to step down from the post, according to a statement issued by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York on July 24.⁶⁰ However, in the end he didn't carry out the plan and informed the Permanent Mission of the plot.⁶¹ Phyo Hein Htut was found guilty and faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison on charges of conspiring to attack a foreign official.⁶² Ye Hein Zaw confessed to participating in the plot, was convicted in 2021 and has served his sentence.⁶³

III. <u>Civil and Political Rights</u>

A. Freedom of Speech, Assembly and Association

In the first week of July, the junta arrested 20 civilians for protesting in Yangon.⁶⁴ According to *Mizzima*, junta troops are randomly arresting young people and accusing them of helping the PDFs.⁶⁵ Further, there are reports that soldiers are accepting bribes to secure release.⁶⁶

On July 7, political prisoner Sein Win was tortured to death in Myingyan prison.⁶⁷ According to his family, Sein Win was in good health prior to his conviction of aiding the opposition and his sentence of three years in prison.⁶⁸

On July 10, seven political prisoners died during a prison transfer.⁶⁹ Critics have alleged that the junta has been using prison transfers as an opportunity for extrajudicial killings.⁷⁰ Thirty-seven political prisoners from Daik-U prison in Bago Region have been missing since June 27 when they allegedly were transferred out of the prison.⁷¹ The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners reported on July 20 that eight of those prisoners were killed by the regime.⁷² As of July 20, the whereabouts of the rest of the prisoners remain unknown.⁷³ Prisoners also have allegedly gone missing from or been killed in Myingyan and Thayawady prisons.⁷⁴

On July 16, nine political detainees, including Activist Ko Tin Htut Paing, were severely beaten at Yangon's Insein Prison.⁷⁵

A teacher who ran an online school opposed to military rule was sentenced to 20 years in prison on July 17 by a Myanmar court at Obo Prison in Mandalay.⁷⁶ Ei Shwe Sin Myint was head of the Federal School of Aung Myay Thar Zan in Aungmyaythazan Township, Mandalay Region, which was in cooperation with the civilian National Unity Government ("NUG").⁷⁷ The school was opened in February 2022, a year after the coup, for families that rejected education under the junta with classes from primary to lower-secondary levels.⁷⁸ Four teachers, including Ei Shwe Sin Myint, were arrested on March 22 last year.⁷⁹ The school was subsequently closed.⁸⁰ Junta newspapers in April last year reported that 15 teachers, aged 20 to 40, were arrested for unlawfully teaching at the instruction of the NUG.⁸¹

B. Freedom of the Press and Censorship_

In July, the International Press Institute ("IPI") and The Committee to Protect Journalists ("CPJ") called for the release of Thaung Win.⁸² In late June, the former publisher of *The Irrawaddy* was sentenced to five years in prison. The CPJ described the sentencing as punitive, unjust, and repugnant, saying "[t]he military regime must release him and stop harassing *The Irrawaddy* for its fearless and uncompromising news reporting." ⁸³

On July 7, former chief editor of *The Voice Weekly*, Kyaw Min Swe, was released from prison by the military junta.⁸⁴ *Mizzima* confirmed that he was safely returned to his home.⁸⁵ The junta had arrested Kyaw Min Swe in April for alleged defamation after he posted a black square on Facebook to mourn the bombing of Pazigyi Village.⁸⁶

On July 9, the Ministry of Information announced that it will take legal action against two independent news channels, *Mizzima* and *Democratic Voice of Burma*.⁸⁷ The Ministry said that it is closing the two outlets due to overdue transmission fees. However, the two outlets are also well known for being critical of the regime.⁸⁸ On July 20, IPI released a statement condemning the junta's plans to sue *Democratic Voice of Burma* and *Mizzima*.⁸⁹ IPI's Director of Advocacy, Amy Brouillette, said, "[t]hese retaliatory lawsuits only show the extent to which the junta will go to muzzle Myanmar's remaining independent media, which continue to report at great risk – and with great courage."⁹⁰ The military junta has banned more than a dozen media outlets since the coup in 2021.⁹¹ The junta has arrested over 170 journalists and continues to imprison at least 50 journalists.⁹² Many news outlets, including *Mizzima* and *Democratic Voice of Burma*, are currently operating in exile.⁹³

IV. Economic Development

A. Economic Development—Legal Framework, Foreign Investment

The junta-controlled Central Bank of Myanmar announced that it will issue new 20,000 kyat banknotes, a denomination that is double the value of the current highest banknote of 10,000 kyat.⁹⁴ It said the new banknote is being issued to commemorate the construction of a giant marble Buddha statue and the first anniversary of the junta's "white elephant" calf.⁹⁵ However, the announcement sent a jolt of inflation panic through Myanmar's financial markets, and raised concerns among business people that more economic turmoil and pain lies ahead.⁹⁶ Businesses and markets, especially currency-exchange counters and gold and jewelry shops, shut or suspended operations.⁹⁷ The prices of automobiles and commodities also rose over widespread concerns that the introduction of the new banknotes will cause prices to jump.⁹⁸

The NUG launched the Spring Development Bank ("SDB") as part of its effort to fund the revolution and block financial flows to the junta.⁹⁹ The SDB is the first Myanmar financial institution to run entirely on crypto and blockchain.¹⁰⁰ Plans are underway to open SDB branches or agency access points in major liberated areas.¹⁰¹ When services commence, customers will be able to use four currencies: Myanmar's kyat, U.S. and Singaporean dollars, and the Thai baht.¹⁰²

B. Economic Development—Infrastructure, Major Projects

Three of the four Chinese-backed liquefied natural gas power plants in Rakhine State's Kyaukphyu Township in western Myanmar have ceased operation due to various challenges faced by the power generation company, VPower, a Hong Kong-listed company.¹⁰³ The three shuttered plants are located near Kyaukphyu deep-sea port project and had a combined capacity of 150 megawatts.¹⁰⁴

Singapore-listed Fraser and Neave Limited ("F&N") plans to invest US\$14 million in Myanmar to build a new brewery through a joint venture with local beverage conglomerate Win Brothers.¹⁰⁵ The brewery will be built on 35 acres of land with a lease term of 50 years, but the location of the site has not yet been announced.¹⁰⁶ F&N established the joint venture, Sapphire

Brewery Myanmar Limited ("SBML"), with Win Brothers in March.¹⁰⁷ F&N holds an 80% stake in SBML and Win Brothers owns the rest.¹⁰⁸

C. Land Seizure

There have been no material updates since the prior report.

V. Peace Talks and Ethnic Violence

A. Ethnic Violence

A Myanmar junta captain and lieutenant were killed when their fighter jet was shot down by the Karenni National People's Liberation Front ("KNPLF") and other resistance forces above Bawlakhe Township in Kayah State on June 30.¹⁰⁹ On July 1, the KNPLF released a statement formally declaring themselves in rebellion against the Myanmar military regime.¹¹⁰ Three members of the Arakan Liberation Party ("ALP"), an ethnic Rakhine political and armed organization, were shot dead in Sittwe, Rakhine State on July 1.¹¹¹ The victims, which included ALP vice chair Khaing Ni Yaung and a battalion commander, were targeted by unidentified gunmen as they were leaving the ALP office in the Sat Yone Hsu ward.¹¹² In an official statement on July 2, the ALP accused the Arakan Army ("AA") of carrying out the attack on its members.¹¹³ An AA spokesperson denied the accusations and instead speculated that the incident was due to personal grudges.¹¹⁴

On July 2, the NUG began limiting access to highways in parts of Bago Region and Kayin and Mon States, where PDF groups and the Karen National Liberation Army ("KNLA") have established bases and regularly carry out operations.¹¹⁵ These highways have served as important routes for junta forces to transport supplies, weapons and reinforcements to the aforementioned regions.¹¹⁶ The mandate follows heightened clashes between the junta and resistance forces in the area.¹¹⁷

Heavy fighting broke out in July near Laiza, an area under the control of the Kachin Independence Army ("KIA").¹¹⁸ Fighting began on July 3, when junta forces launched an attack on Nam Sang Yang village.¹¹⁹ Another incident occurred near the village of Jar Pu on July 12, and again on July 13 near Dawtponeyan and Ma Dee Yan villages.¹²⁰ Most residents have been forced to flee their homes.¹²¹

On July 9, the Karen National Union ("KNU") overran a junta base in Myawaddy Township, Kayin State.¹²² The KNU said in the statement that the operation's goal was to prevent soldiers from shooting at resistance fighters passing through the area.¹²³

On July 13, military troops on their way to southern Chin State launched shells and arson attacks on villages in Magway Region's Saw Township, killing a 12-year-old child and one other civilian.¹²⁴ The Chinland Defense Force ("CDF") intercepted some of the junta convoys carrying reinforcements to southern Chin State on multiple occasions. In response, junta forces torched and raided villages in an effort to clear areas occupied by the resistance.¹²⁵ Following the conflicts between the CDF and the military, four Myanmar military aircraft bombed a village in Kanpetlet Township, Chin State on July 18.¹²⁶

The KIA seized a junta outpost in Kutkai Township, Shan State after a battle on July 18 that resulted in the death of a 15-year-old villager.¹²⁷ Over 150 villagers were forced to evacuate their homes and are currently being housed in a church in Hko Mone village.¹²⁸

A Myanmar junta airstrike hit Nam San Yang village, Kachin State near where regime troops have been fighting the KIA for the last month.¹²⁹ No casualties were reported as the villages fled the area last month.¹³⁰ However, some livestock were killed and houses and an administration office were destroyed.¹³¹

A clash was reported on July 19 between the AA and ARSA in Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State, with both sides suffering casualties.¹³² "Five ARSA fighters were killed and an outpost was seized. The AA seized weapons. I heard one AA member was killed and two injured," an AA source told *The Irrawaddy*.¹³³ Neither side has commented on the fighting and

The Irrawaddy could not independently verify the reports.¹³⁴ Rakhine media reported that fighting began when ARSA troops entered AA territory in the Mayu mountains.¹³⁵

Clashes broke out on July 16 in Kanpetlet Township in Chin State between the Myanmar military and the combined forces of the Chin Defense Force ("CDF") and the Minbu District PDF.¹³⁶ Around 10 regime soldiers and a CDF fighter were killed and four resistance members injured, according to the CDF.¹³⁷

Fighting was reported on July 23 between Myanmar troops and the Ta'ang National Liberation Army ("TNLA") in Muse Township near the Chinese border.¹³⁸ Two civilians were reportedly killed and one civilian was injured in the clashes.¹³⁹

At least two regime soldiers were killed and 12 others injured in Myawaddy Township, Kayin State, on July 25 when resistance groups led by the KNLA, the armed wing of the KNU, attacked a large regime force near the Lat Khat Taung mountains, according to the Cobra Column that joined the attack.¹⁴⁰

B. Peace Talks

The AA has warned that Myanmar's regime is risking an armed conflict in Rakhine State by violating a ceasefire agreement.¹⁴¹ The military and AA engaged in fierce fighting from late 2018 to November 2020.¹⁴² After approximately 18 months of relative calm, the two sides clashed again from August to November last year before declaring an unofficial truce after mediation by Yohei Sasakawa, Japan's special envoy to Myanmar.¹⁴³ The ceasefire was agreed on humanitarian grounds, and the regime agreed to stop arrests, release innocent civilians and lift travel restrictions.¹⁴⁴ However, according to the AA, the regime has violated the agreement by imprisoning civilians on terrorism charges over alleged ties to the AA.¹⁴⁵ A senior clerk from Thandwe District General Administration Department was given a two-year sentence on July 7 for sedition.¹⁴⁶ He was detained in November last year and charged under the Unlawful Association Act.¹⁴⁷ Six Taungup Township residents were sentenced by the junta-controlled Thandwe District Court on July 11 to four years in prison under the Counterterrorism Law.¹⁴⁸ Buthidaung Township Court charged two village administrators under the Unlawful Association Act over alleged ties to the AA.¹⁴⁹ The regime also continues to restrict the delivery of goods by roads and waterways in the state with approval needed from the junta's security and border affairs minister to bring goods into Rakhine State.¹⁵⁰

¹ Myanmar Now, July 31, 2023: https://myanmar-now.org/en/news/myanmar-regime-extends-military-rule-for-the-fourth-time/.

² The Irrawaddy, July 3, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/war-against-the-junta/around-40-myanmar-junta-troops-killed-inthree-days-of-resistance-attacks.html.

³ The Irrawaddy, July 12, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/chin-resistance-reports-dozens-of-myanmar-junta-troopskilled-in-7-hour-battle.html.

⁴ Id.

⁵ The Irrawaddy, July 19, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/war-against-the-junta/over-100-myanmar-junta-forces-killed-infour-days-of-resistance-attacks-2.html.

⁶ Id.

⁷ The Irrawaddy, July 19, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-bombs-chin-village-in-retaliation-forconvoy-ambush.html.

⁸ Id.

⁹ Myanmar Now, July 19, 2023: https://myanmar-now.org/en/news/junta-deploys-multiple-aircraft-to-attack-southern-chin-statevillage/.

¹⁰ Mizzima, July 21, 2023: https://mizzima.com/article/30-junta-soldiers-killed-magway-regions-gangaw-district.

¹¹ Mizzima, July 26, 2023: https://mizzima.com/article/41-myanmar-junta-members-killed-bago-clash.

¹² The Irrawaddy, July 24, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/war-against-the-junta/about-50-myanmar-junta-troops-killed-infour-days-of-resistance-attacks.html.

¹³ Myanmar Now, July 19, 2023: https://myanmar-now.org/en/news/junta-kills-nearly-a-dozen-in-sagaing-region-over-span-of-11days/.

¹⁴ *Id*.

¹⁵ Myanmar Now, July 28, 2023: https://myanmar-now.org/en/news/four-members-of-local-defence-team-shot-dead-in-sagaingsavadaw-township/.

¹⁶ The Irrawaddy, July 22, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-kills-14-in-sagaing-massacre.html.

¹⁷ Myanmar Now, July 24, 2023: https://myanmar-now.org/en/news/military-slaughters-14-locals-including-teenagers-andresistance-fighters-in-sudden-attack-on-sagaing-village/.

¹⁸ The Irrawaddy, July 12, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/thousands-flee-to-thailand-after-myanmar-junta-bombsidp-camp-in-kayah-state.html.

¹⁹ *Id*.

²⁰ *Id*.

²¹ VOA, July 4, 2023: https://www.voanews.com/a/seven-rohingya-refugees-killed-in-violence-in-bangladesh-/7172474.html. ²² Id.

²³ The Irrawaddy, July 25, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/bangladesh-police-arrest-rohingya-militant-leader.html. ²⁴ Id.

²⁵ Relief Web, July 3, 2023: https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/uk-provides-ps116m-rohingya-refugees-and-communitiesaffected-disasters-across-bangladesh.

²⁶ *Id*.

²⁷ The Irrawaddy, June 13, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/daw-aung-san-suu-kvis-lawyers-appeal-for-herrelease.html.

- ²⁸ Id.
- ²⁹ Id.
- ³⁰ Id.

³¹ Id.

³² Id.

³³ The Irrawaddy, July 28, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/politics/myanmars-daw-aung-san-suu-kyi-moved-from-prisonparty-official.html.

³⁴ The Irrawaddy, July 24, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-military-cronies-eye-green-gold-in-pegurange.html.

³⁵ Id.

³⁶ Id.

³⁷ Id. ³⁸ Id.

³⁹ Id.

⁴⁰ Id.

⁴¹ *Id*.

⁴² The Irrawaddy, July 25, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-boss-honours-religious-and-militarychiefs.html.

⁴³ *Id*.

⁴⁴ Id.

⁴⁵ Id. ⁴⁶ *Id*.

⁴⁷ The Irrawaddy, July 14, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/myanmars-crisis-the-world/divided-asean-condemns-myanmarviolence-again-supports-five-point-plan.html.

⁴⁸ Id.

⁴⁹ The Irrawaddy, July 17, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/myanmars-crisis-the-world/myanmar-junta-condemns-asean-forignoring-peaceful-efforts-to-restore-democracy.html.

⁵⁰ Mizzima, July 15, 2023: https://mizzima.com/article/blinken-says-must-press-myanmar-junta-stop-violence-return-democracy.

⁵¹ Mizzima, July 1, 2023: https://mizzima.com/article/un-issues-dire-report-critical-human-rights-situation-myanmar.

⁵² Mizzima, July 2, 2023: https://mizzima.com/article/un-offers-recommendations-bring-peace-and-reduce-human-rights-violationsmyanmar.

⁵³ Mizzima, July 22, 2023: https://mizzima.com/article/eu-imposes-seventh-round-sanctions-myanmar-six-individuals-and-oneentity-targeted.

⁵⁴ Id.

⁵⁵ The Irrawaddy, July 10, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/singapores-uob-is-shutting-myanmar-junta-allied-airlinesbank-accounts.html.

⁵⁶ The Irrawaddy, July 25, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/myanmars-crisis-the-world/us-court-convicts-myanmar-man-ofplotting-to-injure-or-kill-countrys-ambassador-to-un.html.

⁷ Id.

⁵⁸ Id.

⁵⁹ Id.

⁶⁰ Id.

⁶¹ Id.

⁶² Id.

⁶³ Id.

⁶⁴ Mizzima, July 7, 2023: https://mizzima.com/article/more-20-youths-yangon-arrested-during-first-week-july_

⁶⁵ Id. ⁶⁶ Id.

⁶⁷ Mizzima, July 7, 2023: https://mizzima.com/article/political-prisoner-tortured-death-myingyan-prison_

⁶⁸ Id.

⁶⁹ The Irrawaddy, July 10, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/seven-myanmar-political-detainees-dead-after-prisontransfer-group-says.html.

⁷⁰ The Irrawaddy, July 11, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-condemned-for-using-prison-transfers-asa-pretext-for-murder.html.

⁷¹ *Id*.

⁷² The Irrawaddy, July 20, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-names-six-more-dead-political-

prisoners.html.⁷³ The Irrawaddy, July 18, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/political-prisoners-in-constant-fear-of-torture-andmurder.html.

⁷⁴ Id.

⁷⁵ The Irrawaddy, July 20, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/nine-myanmar-political-prisoners-unaccounted-for-afteryangon-jail-beatings.html.

The Irrawaddy, July 21, 2023: https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-gives-striking-mandalay-teacher-20-yearsentence.html.

⁷⁷ Id.

⁷⁸ Id. ⁷⁹ Id.

⁸⁰ Id.

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