

Burma, in my view, is such a case. One year is not a sufficient period of time to judge the effectiveness of the sanctions, and there is reason to believe that the international community is coming together to put additional pressure on the military regime.

I was disappointed that the European Union and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) did not follow the United States' lead last year and impose tough sanctions on the military junta.

Nevertheless, the EU, for one, is beginning to realize that engagement with Rangoon has failed to achieve the desired results.

Last week, the EU refused to include Burma in two lower-level meetings with ASEAN representatives and, in response to ASEAN's demand that all of its members be allowed to attend, the EU canceled the meetings.

Supporters of freedom and democracy in Burma should welcome this move and continue to urge our allies to put additional pressure on the military regime.

There is also some positive movement within ASEAN itself, including Malaysia, the country that sponsored Burma's entry into the Association and has supported "non-interference" in domestic affairs of other members.

Earlier this month, a group of Malaysian parliamentarians—from the government and the opposition—formed a committee to press for democracy in Burma. The group called on the SPDC to immediately and unconditionally release all political prisoners and restore democratic government.

The parliamentary group stated: "The caucus also calls upon the (Burma) government to respect ASEAN and international opinion and return to the mainstream of responsible international norms and behavior."

Of course, we would all like to see ASEAN, the EU, and others to take additional steps to put pressure on Rangoon to respect human rights and restore democracy. But we must continue to take the lead.

I believe that by passing this resolution and renewing the sanctions on imports from Burma for another year, we will enhance our leadership in this area and rally the international community to our cause. Now is not the time to weaken our resolve.

Some may argue that the sanctions do no harm to the members of the military junta and instead place additional hardships on the Burmese people.

The military junta itself cynically suggested that the reason why human trafficking is a rampant problem in Burma—as cited in the latest State Department report—is due to the desperate economic conditions caused by the sanctions imposed by the United States.

Let us not forget that for over 15 years the military junta has brutalized its won citizens, engaged in numerous human rights abuses including rape, forced labor, and human trafficking of

young boys and girls, and run the Burmese economy into the ground.

And the consequences of the regime's repressive rule extend far beyond its borders. As Senator McCONNELL and I pointed out in an op-ed that appeared in the Wall Street Journal, the spread of narcotics, HIV/AIDS, and refugees across the region can be traced back to Rangoon.

As South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu stated earlier this year: "To dismantle apartheid [in South Africa] took not only commitment, faith, and hard work, but also intense international pressure and sanctions. In Burma, the regime has ravaged the country, and the people, to fund its illegal rule. Governments and international institutions must move past symbolic gestures and cut the lifelines to Burma's military regime through well-implemented sanctions."

We cannot say for certain these sanctions will work. But we can be certain that if we do nothing and allow these sanctions to expire, the military junta will strengthen its grip on power and the day of Suu Kyi's release from house arrest and the re-birth of democracy in Burma will be put off further into the future.

We simply cannot afford to make that mistake and turn our backs on those who are looking to us for hope and inspiration.

I urge my colleagues to renew their support for freedom and democracy, Suu Kyi and the Burmese people and support this resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is, Shall the joint resolution pass? The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 150 Leg.]

YEAS—96

Akaka	Carper	Dorgan
Alexander	Chafee	Durbin
Allard	Chambliss	Edwards
Allen	Clinton	Ensign
Baucus	Cochran	Feingold
Bayh	Coleman	Feinstein
Bennett	Collins	Fitzgerald
Biden	Conrad	Frist
Bingaman	Cornyn	Graham (FL)
Bond	Corzine	Graham (SC)
Boxer	Craig	Grassley
Breaux	Crapo	Gregg
Brownback	Daschle	Hagel
Bunning	Dayton	Harkin
Burns	DeWine	Hatch
Byrd	Dodd	Hollings
Campbell	Dole	Hutchison
Cantwell	Domenici	Inhofe

McConnell	Schumer
Mikulski	Sessions
Miller	Shelby
Murkowski	Smith
Murray	Snowe
Nelson (FL)	Specter
Nelson (NE)	Stabenow
Nickles	Stevens
Pryor	Sununu
Reed	Talent
Reid	Thomas
Rockefeller	Voivovich
Santorum	Warner
Sarbanes	Wyden

NAYS—1

Enzi

NOT VOTING—3

Kerry Lugar Roberts

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 97) was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. BOND. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 393, which is at the desk; provided further that the Senate proceed immediately to a vote on the adoption of the resolution with no intervening action or debate. I further ask unanimous consent that following the vote, the preamble be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table. I further ask unanimous consent that following that vote the Senate proceed to executive session to the votes on the two previously debated judges; provided further that following those votes the Senate proceed to a vote on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 637, William D. Benton to be U.S. circuit court judge for the Eighth Circuit.

I further ask unanimous consent that following the votes the Senate proceed en bloc to the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: No. 433, No. 638, and No. 639.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations then be considered and confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and that the Senate then return to legislative session.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, will the Senator modify his request so all of these votes will be 10-minute votes?

Mr. McCONNELL. I so modify my request.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object—I probably won't object—will the Senator identify the first resolution to which he alluded?

Mr. McCONNELL. Will the Chair identify the resolution?

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.