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China, Russia team up against US

In a rare double veto, China and Russia put an emphatic end to US efforts to use the Security Council to isolate rulers of resource rich Myanmar (formerly Burma) for alleged human rights abuses.

[China and Russia vetoed](#) a draft UN Security Council resolution urging Myanmar's rulers to free all political detainees and end military sexual violence, **dealing Washington a major setback.**

The rare double veto by China and Russia, which often worked hand in hand to rein in the only remaining superpower, came despite attempts by the United States to water down the draft's language.

Nine countries backed the text, which was co-sponsored by Britain.

The last time a multiple veto was used in the 15-member Security Council was in 1989 when the United States, Britain and France blocked a resolution on Panama.

Last November, the United States used its veto to block an Arab-sponsored draft that would have called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip. Russia last used its veto in 2004 while China last used it in 1999.

Also opposing the text Friday was South Africa, which early this month joined the council as a non-permanent member.

Indonesia, like Myanmar a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Qatar and Congo abstained.

Opponents of the text said the Myanmar issue did not represent a threat to international peace and security and was best handled by the Geneva-based UN Human Rights Council.

China's UN Ambassador Wang Guangya conceded there were problems but said **"they do not represent a threat to international peace."**

US hegemony, on the other hand, DOES.

"China believes there's no need for the UN Security Council to get involved," he noted, adding **"the council should not usurp the powers of (other) organs of the UN."**

"The United States is deeply disappointed by the failure of the council to adopt this resolution," Washington's acting ambassador Alejandro Wolff said.

What exactly is the US 'deeply disappointed' about?

Myanmar Facts:

Natural gas - production:

9.98 billion cu m (2003 est.)

Natural gas - consumption:
1.569 billion cu m (2003 est.)

Natural gas - exports:
8.424 billion cu m (2003 est.)

Natural gas - imports:
0 cu m (2003 est.)

Natural gas - proved reserves:
283.2 billion cu m (2005)

The resource war between East and West moves forward unabated.

Posted in [china](#) [power struggle](#) [resource war](#) [Russia](#) [security council](#) [UN](#) [US](#) Submitted by
qrswave on Sat, 2007-01-13 17:05.

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