

US set to cut aid to Burma

Washington (UPI) — Assistant Secretary of State Gaston Sigur recommended on Monday a cutoff of the \$12.2 million in US aid to Burma to express disapproval of the country's new military government, a department official said.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said he expects the Administration in the next two or three days to act on Sigur's recommendation.

President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz would have to approve the recommendation before the aid is halted.

Representative Stephen Solarz, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, called Monday for an aid cutoff "both to protest this new wave of violence against the Burmese people and as a symbol of our support for the democratic aspirations of the people of Burma."

US aid for fiscal 1988 consists of \$7 million in development aid for agriculture and primary health care, \$5 million for opium eradication and \$260,000 for military training, according to State Department figures.

The official said no US aid to Burma had been delivered since July because many federal civil servants in Rangoon have skipped work to join anti-government demonstrations.

CA 1028/14 D/0004