



[CHIN ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND, INC.](#)

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Remarks by Zo Tum Hmung

Special In-Person IRF Roundtable at the Department of State
Thursday, December 7, 2023 from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

I will talk about the escalating persecution of Christians in Burma by the military in the last month.

In Kayah State, Bishop Celso Ba Shwe of Loikaw Diocese reports that the military shelled the compound of Christ the King's Cathedral on November 26 and occupied it the next day. The military uses it as its military base. The Bishop's statement also mentioned that more than 80% of the State population has been internally displaced. I have a copy of the Bishop's statement with me.

In my home state of Chin, on November 7, Pastor Mang Kui was shot to death by the military. His son, a resistance fighter, was killed when he came to retrieve the body.

In the past month, military jets have bombed civilians in Vuilu, Lailenpi and Rezua, Chin State, killing 8 children and destroying churches and other buildings.

I call on the administration to determine that these atrocities against Christians in Burma constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Thank you.

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The Chin Association of Maryland (CAM) is a non-profit organization based in Ellicott City, Maryland with an office in Washington, DC. CAM advocates for Chin and other refugees and internally displaced persons in Burma, religious freedom, and human rights. CAM also works to empower the local Chin community in Maryland to successfully integrate into American society.