

Burmese Democratic Futures Working Group – BDFWG

University of Virginia

Weekly Summary (July 01-07, 2024)

Civilian Casualties/Deaths/Losses During the First Week of July

A total of 46 civilians, including one child and 8 women, lost their lives in aerial and artillery assaults carried out by the Military Council in different regions of Myanmar. The highest number of casualties was recorded in Southern Shan State, where 26 individuals perished. Additionally, fatalities were reported in various other areas: 7 in Mandalay, 4 in Tanintharyi, 2 each in Sagaing Region and Bago Region, and 1 each in Southern Shan State and Magway Region.

Houses set on fire

In various regions of Myanmar, the Military Council has destroyed a total of 38 homes.

On July 4th, in Myingyan Township, Mandalay Region, the Military Council raided Turinbo village, resulting in the burning and destruction of 12 houses.

On July 6th, the PNO militia group associated with the Military Council attacked Nar Khte village in Hsihseng Township, Southern Shan State, burning down and destroying 6 houses.

During the night of June 30th, the Military Council bombed the One Love Hotel in the center of Kyaukme in Northern Shan State, causing over 20 neighboring houses, including the hotel itself, to be destroyed.

Civilian Arrests

In the Irrawaddy region, a man in Wakema Township was detained on June 29 for purportedly criticizing the Military Council on TikTok. Additionally, in Kyaiklat Township, five individuals were arrested between June 29 and July 3 for allegedly supporting People's Defense Forces (PDFs).

Reported Incidents of Minor Girls Being Raped

According to local sources, two soldiers affiliated with the Military Council sexually assaulted a 12-year-old girl in Molpi village, located in the Sayyi area of Tedim Township, Chin State, on July 5th. It was reported that the soldiers also intended to rape two additional girls.

Airstrikes Targeting Civilians

On July 3rd, an airstrike conducted by Military Council forces resulted in the death of four local residents and numerous injuries. The following day, on July 4th, more than 10 individuals lost their lives in an aerial bombardment of Lapan Hla Village in Singu Township, Mandalay Region.

In another incident on July 7th, a Military Council airstrike on Yone Pin village in the eastern region of Madaya Township, Mandalay Region, led to the death of a woman and injuries to four individuals, including two children.

In Northern Shan State, on the night of June 30th, the Military Council bombed the One Love Hotel in Kyaukme Township, leading to the destruction of more than 20 nearby houses by fire and resulting in one fatality. Additionally, on July 4th, the Military Council bombed Hsenwi Town, causing damage to several houses. During fighting on July 6th, two civilians lost their lives when the military council bombed them using a jet fighter in Mongmit Township.

In Maungdaw Township, Rakhine State, intense fighting has caused civilian casualties. On July 4th, the Military Council dropped 500-pound bombs from the air, resulting in deaths and injuries. The exact number of casualties is currently unknown.

The Conflict and Casualties in the First Week of July

In June 2024, a total of 46 battles, including drone attacks, took place across various regions. Northern Shan State experienced the highest number of battles at 18, followed by Mandalay Region with 11 battles. Rakhine State saw combat 9 times, while Karenni State and Bago each had 3 battles. Additionally, there was one battle each in Karen State, Sagaing Region, Southern Shan State, and Tanintharyi Region. No fighting occurred in Magway Region, Yangon Region, and Irrawaddy Region.

During the first week of July, a total of 806 Military Council soldiers lost their lives in the ongoing conflicts. The highest number of casualties among Military Council soldiers occurred in Rakhine State, where 750 soldiers were killed. Additionally, 44 Military Council soldiers died in Mandalay, and 12 soldiers lost their lives in Southern Shan State.

In the same period, 6 members of the Joint Revolutionary Forces were killed in the fighting.

Operation 1027 (Part 2)

Operations of the MDY-PDF and Joint Forces

The Mandalay People's Defense Force and its Joint Forces carried out attacks on July 1st and 2nd targeting the police station in Chaunggyi village in Thabeikkyin Township, Mandalay Region.

The People's Defense Force (Mandalay) successfully seized control of six Military Council camps in Singu Township, including Do Nwe Village Camp, Namhap Village Camp, Male Dam Clearing Camp, Shwe Male Pagoda Camp, Ywa Taw Lay Village Camp, and the Nwe Yone police station. They captured 13 Military Council prisoners of war during these operations. On July 3rd, the People's Defense Force (Mandalay) reported seizing over 40 bodies of Military Council soldiers and various weapons in these engagements.

Further, on July 4th, the Mandalay People's Defense Force and its Joint Forces captured the Military Council's Pin Lel Gyi camp, resulting in the deaths of more than 30 Military Council

soldiers. Additionally, on the same day, police stations and military camps in Lapan Hla Village and Shwe Pyay Village in Singu Township were taken over. In Madaya Township, on July 4th, the village police station and army camp of Yay NanThar Village were also captured by the Mandalay People's Defense Force and its Joint Forces.

Operations of TNLA and Joint Forces

On June 30th, the TNLA and allied forces successfully seized the Military Council's Shwe Myat Wone camp in Mogoke Township, gaining control of half of the township.

In Mongmit Township, Northern Shan State, the TNLA and joint forces captured the Shwe Aung Tha Military Council camp on July 4th.

Furthermore, on July 5th, the Taang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and Joint Forces secured control of the renowned Gottong Bridge located on the Mandalay-Lashio railway in Nungcho Township in Northern Shan State.

Operations by MNDAA and Joint Forces

On July 2nd, the MNDAA and Joint Forces launched an attack on four military bases near Lashio Township in Northern Shan State, resulting in a fierce battle where six civilians lost their lives.

The following day, on July 3rd, there was a firefight between the MNDAA and the Military Council forces in Ho Ya village, Mongyai Township, Lashio District, Northern Shan State.

By July 5th, the MNDAA and joint forces successfully took over the headquarters of the 291st Battalion in Nampaon, located approximately 10 miles southeast of Lashio in Northern Shan State. More than 300 Military Council soldiers surrendered to the MNDAA during the capture of the camp.

Starting from July 6th, intense combat has been ongoing between the Military Council Forces and the MNDAA Forces in Ward 5 of Lashio Township, Northern Shan State.

Operations by Arakan Army and Joint Forces

The Arakan Army (AA) successfully took control of Infantry Battalion 566 of the Military Council and Thandwe Airport in Ngapali on July 5th. Over 400 soldiers of the Military Council lost their lives in the intense fighting at Thandwe.

On July 6th, the border guard camp of Na Ma Kha 2 in Maungdaw Township was fully captured by the Arakan Army, with more than 350 soldier casualties recorded. Additionally, a significant quantity of weapons and ammunition were seized during this operation.

Other Significant Military Clashes During the First Week of July

Between July 3rd and July 6th, repeated clashes occurred in the city of Loikow, Karenni State, between the Joint Revolutionary Forces and the Military Council forces.

A battle erupted on July 5th between the Military Council Army and the KNLA joint forces in the area of the 7th Brigade of the Karen National Union (KNU) in the northern region of Kawkaeik Township, Karen State.

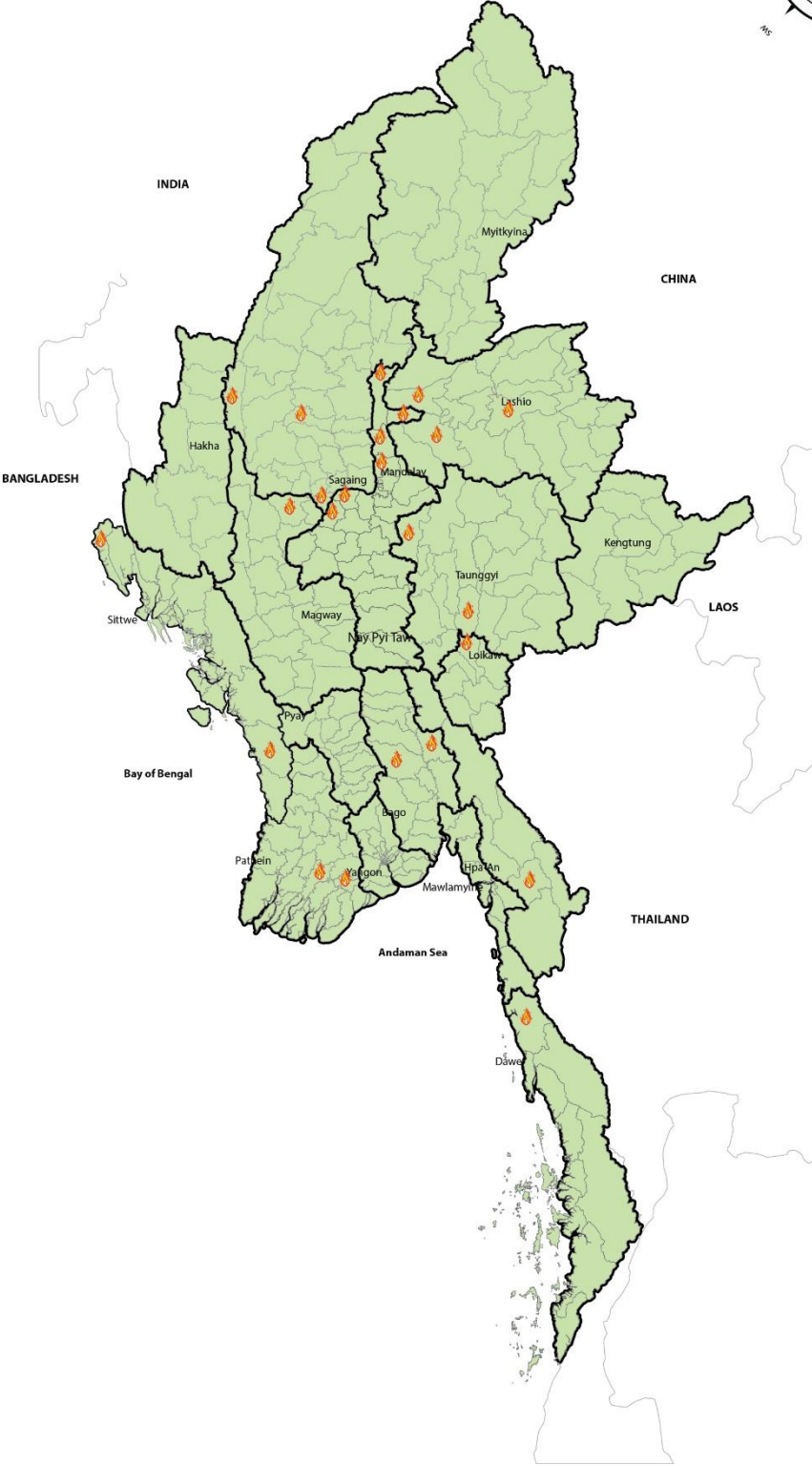
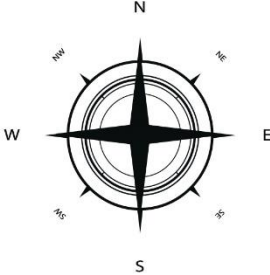
Additionally, on July 5th, the Ywangan PDF - JPRF intercepted the advancing Military Council army in Ywangan Township, Southern Shan State, resulting in the deaths of at least 12 soldiers and the confiscation of their weapons and ammunition.

Furthermore, on July 2nd, a skirmish took place near Le Shaung Village, close to the Dawei Deep Sea Port project in Tanintharyi Region, between the Military Council Army and the Local Defense Forces, leading to the loss of five PDF soldiers.

All information provided is based on local news reports between July 1st and 7th, 2024

| Data of Myanmar Conflict 01-07, July 2024 | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| States | Clashes between SAC and PDF/EAOs | SAC's soldiers killed | PDF killed | Children killed | Civilians killed | Civilians arrested | Villages set on fire | Houses burned down |
| AYEYARWADY | | | | | | 6 | | |
| BAGO | 1 | | | | 2 | | | |
| KARENNI | 3 | | | | | | | |
| KAYIN | 1 | | | | | | | |
| MAGWAY | | | | | 1 | | | |
| MANDALAY | 11 | 44 | | 1 | 7 | 100 | | 12 |
| RAKHINE | 9 | 750 | | | | | | |
| SAGAING | 1 | | | | 2 | | | |
| SHAN (North) | 18 | | 1 | | 26 | | | 20 |
| SHAN (South) | 1 | 12 | | | 1 | | 1 | 6 |
| TANINTHARYI | 1 | | 5 | | 4 | | | |
| TOTAL | 46 | 806 | 6 | 1 | 43 | 106 | 1 | 38 |

Map of Myanmar Conflict (July 01-07, 2024)



Other Significant Events from the First Week of July

Military Council and International Community

Min Aung Hlaing will attend the BIMSTEC meeting

Myanmar's Min Aung Hlaing is set to participate in the upcoming 5th summit of the Bay of Bengal Economic and Technological Cooperation Organization (BIMSTEC) in Thailand. The summit will also be attended by leaders from countries such as India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. This summit, which had to be rescheduled from last year, will carry the theme of "prosperity, sustainability, resilience, and openness." BIMSTEC is a collaborative platform for technical and economic cooperation that includes seven countries - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand - all sharing the Bay of Bengal as a common geographical feature. Formed on June 6, 1997, at the suggestion of Thailand, the first BIMSTEC Summit was hosted by Thailand in 2014.

Chinese Ambassador Chen Hai bid farewell to Min Aung Hlaing

The Chinese Embassy in Myanmar announced that Chinese Ambassador Chen Hai met with General Min Aung Hlaing, the leader of the coup d'état, in Nay Pyi Taw on July 4. Ambassador Chen Hai, who was about to depart after completing his assignment in Myanmar, paid a farewell visit to the military leader. During their meeting, Min Aung Hlaing commended Ambassador Chen Hai for his efforts in enhancing China-Myanmar relations and expressed his eagerness to further develop ties with China. He affirmed his commitment to strengthening friendly cooperation between the two countries and fostering a Myanmar-China community. Additionally, they discussed China's role in promoting development and peace in Myanmar, the assistance provided by China, collaborative efforts for stability and peace along the border, and preparations for upcoming elections in Myanmar.

Military Council second leader Soe Win visits China

Vice Senior General Soe Win, the second leader of the Military Council, arrived on July 6 in China attended the Green Development Forum at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Qingdao. This trip marks the first time in three and a half years since the military coup that a senior leader from the Military Council has visited China. On July 7, he engaged in discussions with Shen Yueyue, the vice chairwoman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and president of the SCO's Good-Neighborliness, Friendship, and Cooperation Commission. Reports from junta media say that their discussions covered various topics, including border stability, security measures for Chinese investments in Myanmar, combating online scam activities, enhancing trade relations, and addressing plans for the upcoming election.

Oppression on Businessmen

Military Council to take actions against 7 banks

According to an announcement made by the junta on July 1 on the website of its information ministry, executives from seven private banks, which include Yoma, AYA, and UAB, are facing administrative repercussions for allowing their institutions to surpass the Central Bank of Myanmar's prescribed limit on home mortgage lending established in January 2019.

The statement specified that the executives of these seven banks, found responsible for exceeding the central bank's home loan limit, will be prosecuted under Section 154 of the Financial Institutions Law. Additionally, it mentioned that officials at the central bank will also face consequences for their failure to adequately monitor the banks.

Yoma Bank is under the ownership of tycoon Serge Pun, while AYA Bank is owned by prominent individual U Zaw Zaw, and UAB Bank is owned by Nay Aung, the son of former Than Shwe regime minister Aung Thaung. The other four banks implicated in the legal action are Myanmar Citizenship Bank, SME Development Bank, Myanmar Metro Bank, and Construction, Housing & Infrastructure Development Bank.

Notably, KBZ and CB were omitted from the list, indicating potential affiliations with the junta that prevented their inclusion. Both KBZ and CB have known connections with the ruling generals. Furthermore, military-owned Myawaddy and Inwa banks were also left off the list.

Military Council announced to register Rice Storage

The Military Council announced that businesses failing to register their rice storage facilities will face consequences. The Ministry of Economy and Commerce, operating under the Military Council, issued a notice mandating registration for entities storing 50 tons or more of rice. According to the press release, rice storage businesses are required to complete online registration as part of efforts to establish a financial assistance system utilizing warehouse certificates. The Myanmar Rice Federation emphasized the importance of compliance with the registration requirement, warning of potential enforcement actions or on-site inspections for those who do not adhere to the directive.

Sources - Myanmar Now, The Irrawaddy, PVTV, DVB, BBC, RFA, Mizzima, Ayeyarwaddy Times,

Myanmar Pressphoto Agency, D Day News