

Burmese Democratic Futures Working Group – BDFWG

University of Virginia

Weekly Summary (July 08 - 14, 2024)

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

During the second week of July, 52 civilians lost their lives in various regions of Myanmar as a result of airstrikes and artillery fire carried out by the Military Council. Among the casualties were 5 children and 3 women.

The highest number of fatalities occurred in Mandalay, where 17 people were killed. There were 13 deaths in Sagaing, 6 in Shan State, and 3 each in Rakhine State, Southern Shan State, Magway Division, and Mon State.

Of the total casualties, 28 individuals perished due to artillery attacks, 9 from aerial and drone strikes, 5 due to arrest and torture, and 5 from arson. Additionally, one woman was raped and killed.

Villages Set on Fire

During the second week of July, a total of 541 houses were engulfed in flames across different areas of Myanmar. Of these, 538 houses were destroyed by fires intentionally set by troops of the military council, while three houses succumbed to the explosion of artillery shells. The devastation was most significant in Mandalay Region, with 503 houses affected, followed by 30 houses in Magway Region and 8 houses in Southern Shan State. Tragically, in Mandalay Region's Natogyi Township, five sick elderly individuals lost their lives in the fires set by the Military Council troops.

Arrest of Civilians by the Military Council

Two civilians were arrested in Mon State and another two in Kachin State during the second week of July.

Airstrike on Civilians by the Military Council

In the second week of July, the Military Council carried out 17 airstrikes in different regions of Myanmar. Fourteen airstrikes were conducted in Mandalay, two in Rakhine State, and one in Northern Shan State.

The Conflicts and Casualties in the Second Week of July

In the second week of July 2024, a total of 96 significant and minor clashes occurred, including drone attacks. The highest number of clashes, 44 in total, occurred in Northern Shan State, followed by 21 clashes in Mandalay Region. Sagaing Region experienced 8 conflicts, while both Magway Region and Rakhine State saw 6 clashes each. Karenni State had 3 skirmishes, Bago Region and Mon State each had 2 incidents, with single clashes reported in Karen State and Southern Shan State. No fighting was reported in Irrawaddy Region, Kachin State, Chin State, and Yangon Region.

Throughout these encounters, 119 Military Council soldiers lost their lives, while no Revolutionary fighters were reported killed during last week.

Operation 1027 (Part 2)

Operation of MDY-PDF and Joint Forces

On July 8, the MDY - PDF forces seized control of five Military Council camps in Singu Township, resulting in the arrest of Lt. Col. Hlaing Tun Aung of the Military Council. The following day, clashes between the "MDY PDF" and the "Military Council" persisted in Madaya Township and Singu Township in Mandalay Region. Nine Military Council soldiers lost their lives, while four, including an officer, were captured. On July 11, the MDY-PDF successfully took over North TannGar Military Camp, and the army's guard post of Alpha Cement Factory in Madaya Township of Mandalay Region, confiscating weapons and ammunition in the process. This operation resulted in the deaths of nine Military Council members.

Operation by TNLA and Joint Forces

On July 7, the Taang Army's TNLA successfully launched an attack and took control of Lak Koup Pin camp, Lak Koup Than Camp, and Le Gi Camp. The following day, on July 8, intense fighting between the Military Council and the Taang National Liberation Army (TNLA) erupted in the eastern part of Mogoke Township in Mandalay Region. The TNLA clashed with the Military Council Army near OakSong Taung, approximately five miles from Mogoke Township, where the Military Council resorted to aerial bombardment.

On July 9, TNLA and joint forces managed to seize control of Tharataw Camp in Mongmit Township, as well as Military Council camps at Mile 5, Mile 6, and Yomu Camps in Mogoke Township of Northern Shan State. Additionally, the TNLA and joint forces successfully captured the Missile Battalion (606) of the Military Council in Naungc ho City. On July 12, the TNLA and joint forces launched an attack on the Gottong military camp, confiscating 20 heavy and small weapons.

Continuing the offensive, on July 13, the TNLA targeted the Military Council forces stationed near the Kabalone Pagoda in Mogoke Township, along with military camps in the eastern part of Mogok. Furthermore, the Sanfat Camp, Battalion 503, and Battalion 504 bases of the Military Council in Thipaw Township were attacked by the TNLA and joint forces on the same day.

Operation of MNDAA and Joint Forces

A fierce battle between the Military Council No. 507 Infantry Battalion and the Ninth Army (MNDAA) began on July 14. In honor of the Third Central Committee Meeting of the Communist Party of China, the MNDAA announced a cease-fire from July 14 to July 18.

Operation by Arakan Army and Joint Forces

In Arakan State, in Thandwe Township, On July 9, there was a fierce battle between the Arakan Army and the Military Council army which had retreated to Lintha Beach, the AA was able to capture the Battalion 55) battalion based in Thandwe town and the Ma Kyi Chao camp in Maungdaw Township.

Operation by MNDAA and Joint Forces

On July 14, a major clash broke out between the MNDAA and the Military Council at the crucial stronghold of Lashio, the No. 507 Infantry Battalion. In recognition of the Third Central Committee Meeting of the Communist Party of China, the MNDAA announced a temporary ceasefire from July 14 to July 18.

Operation Arakan Army and Joint Forces

In Thandwe Township of Arakan State, a fierce battle unfolded on July 9 between the Arakan Army and the retreating Military Council army at Lintha Beach. The Arakan Army successfully seized control of Battalion 55 in Thandwe town and the Ma Kyi Chao camp in Maungdaw Township.

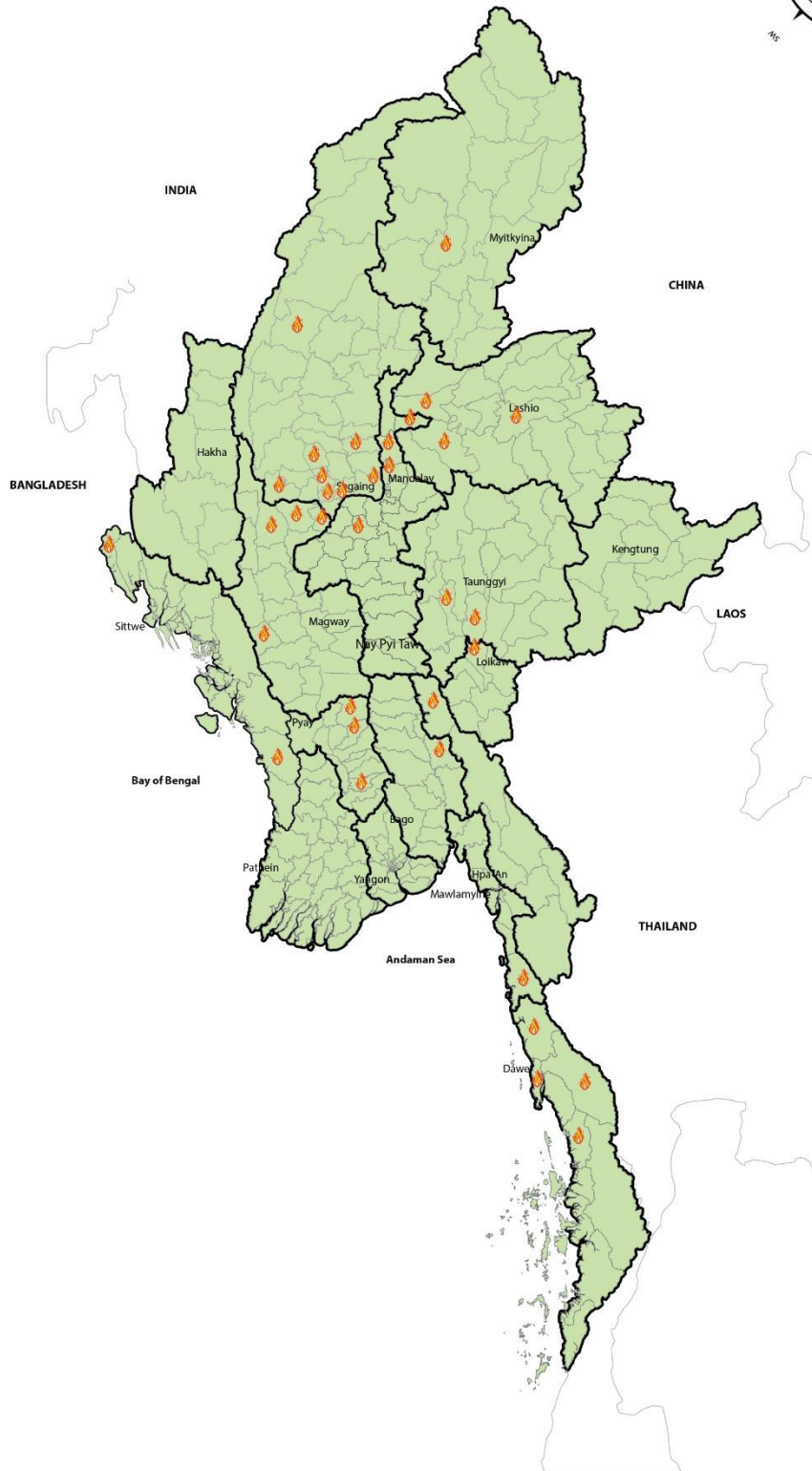
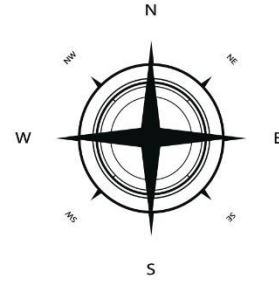
Karenni Operation

In Karenni State, the conflict between the Karenni Nationalities Defense Force (KNDF) and the Military Council in Loikaw Township has escalated continuously from July 3 to July 8.

All information provided is based on local news reports between July 8th and 14th, 2024

Data of Myanmar Conflict 08-14, July 2024									
States	Clashes between SAC and PDF/EAOs	SAC's soldiers killed	PDF killed	Children killed	Civilians killed	Civilians arrested	Air Strike	Villages set on fire	Houses burned down
BAGO	2	6			3				
KACHIN						2			
KARENNI	3								
KAYIN	1	20							
MAGWAY	6	10			1				30
MANDALAY	21	9		2	17		13		503
MON	2	6			1	2			
RAKHINE	5				3		2		
SAGAING	8	53		1	13				
SHAN (North)	44			1	6		2		
SHAN (South)	1	2			3				8
TANINTHARYI	3	13		1					
TOTAL	96	119		5	47	4	17		541

Map of Myanmar Conflict (July 08-14, 2024)



Other Significant Events from the Second Week of July

Military Council and International Community

China providing arms to the Myanmar Military Council

According to Irrawaddy Media, China is supplying military hardware and ammunition to the Myanmar military junta. Sources in Naypyitaw and on the Thai-Myanmar border disclosed that Beijing was in the process of delivering arms purchased by the regime, with a significant shipment expected to arrive in the coming weeks. The arms list includes equipment for ground and air forces, with China and Russia as major suppliers of jet fighters and advanced drones to the regime. The junta's deputy leader Soe Win visited China to attend a Green Development Forum, but it is believed that his main purpose was to oversee arms purchases and shipments, a duty typically handled by the army chief, a role currently held by Soe Win.

The Foreign Ministers of Myanmar, Thailand, and India convened for an informal meeting

Thai Foreign Minister Mr. Maris Sangiampongsa, Indian Minister of External Affairs Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, and Myanmar Military Council Foreign Minister Than Swe gathered on July 11 to collaborate on shared interests among the three nations.

ThanSwe and his delegation from the Myanmar Military Council departed Myanmar on July 10 to participate in the second BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi. BIMSTEC is an international organization fostering technical and economic cooperation among seven South and Southeast Asian countries bordering the Bay of Bengal. The Military Council representatives are attending the meeting at the invitation of India.

China extended invitations to four political parties, including the USDP

The Communist Party of China invited 17 representatives from the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP), People's Party (PP), Arakan Front Party (AFP), and Shan Nationalities Democratic Party (SNDP), all of which are registered with the Military Council's Election Commission. The invitation spans seven days from July 20th to 27th. The delegates will travel to Yunnan and Shanghai, engaging in discussions with Chinese experts on topics such as China's rural development and the Belt and Road Initiative. Seven representatives from the USDP and three from the other three parties are expected to participate in the visit.

Crackdown on Businessmen

Yoma Bank Chairman U Thean Wai and nine directors, including CEO U Ba Maung Sein, are currently being investigated for alleged involvement in money laundering.

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

Myanmar Pressphoto Agency, D Day News, Khit Thit Media, Narinjara