

## **Burmese Democratic Futures Working Group – BDFWG**

### **University of Virginia**

#### **Myanmar Weekly Conflict Update (January 01 - 07, 2025)**

##### **Civilian Casualties**

Across Myanmar, 49 civilians were killed in air and artillery attacks by the Military Council in the first week of January. These included four children and nine women.

Magway Region and Northern Shan State had the highest death tolls, with 10 each. Bago Region and Southern Shan State had five each, Rakhine State had three, and Karen State had one. Artillery attacks killed 11, and air and drone strikes killed 32.

##### **Civilians' Houses Burnt Down**

228 homes were burned down by the Military Council in one state and two region in Myanmar, in the first week of January. 144 homes in Magway Region, 82 homes in Sagaing Region, and 2 homes in Southern Shan State.

##### **Civilian Arrest**

In the first week of January, a total of 24 civilians were arrested across various regions in Myanmar. The breakdown of arrests includes 13 in the Bago Region, 7 in the Mandalay Region, 2 in the Sagaing Region, and one each in Rakhine State and Yangon Region.

## **Aerial Assaults Against Civilian Targets**

The Military Council carried out 40 airstrikes across nine states and regions during the first week of January. The airstrikes were distributed as follows: 12 in the Sagaing Region, 11 in Kachin State, 6 in Chin State, 4 in Mandalay Region, 3 in Rakhine State, and one each in Bago Region, Karenni State, and both Northern and Southern Shan State.

## **Conflicts and Casualties of Combatants**

In the first week of January 2025, a total of 55 clashes, both major and minor, including drone strikes, were reported. The highest number of incidents occurred in Karen State, with 11 clashes. Magway Region and Mandalay Region each reported 9 clashes, followed by Sagaing Region and Tanintharyi Region with 7. Ayeyarwady Region and Bago Region recorded 4 clashes each, while Mon State had 2. Rakhine State and Southern Shan State each experienced 1 clash. No clashes were reported in Chin State, Kachin State, Karenni State, Northern Shan State, or Yangon Region.

During the week, 323 members of the Military Council were reported killed in the clashes, along with 19 members of the Revolutionary Joint Forces.

**All information provided is based on local news reports published between January 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

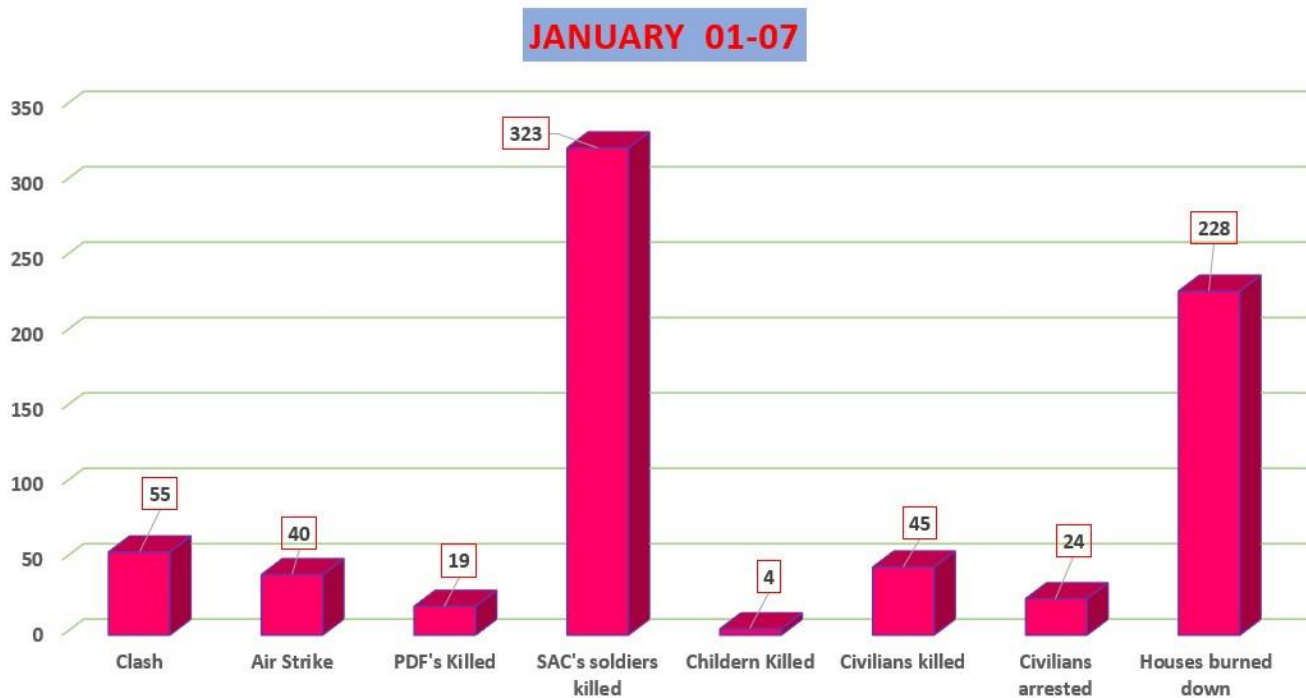
## Military Developments

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### Operations of AA and Joint Forces

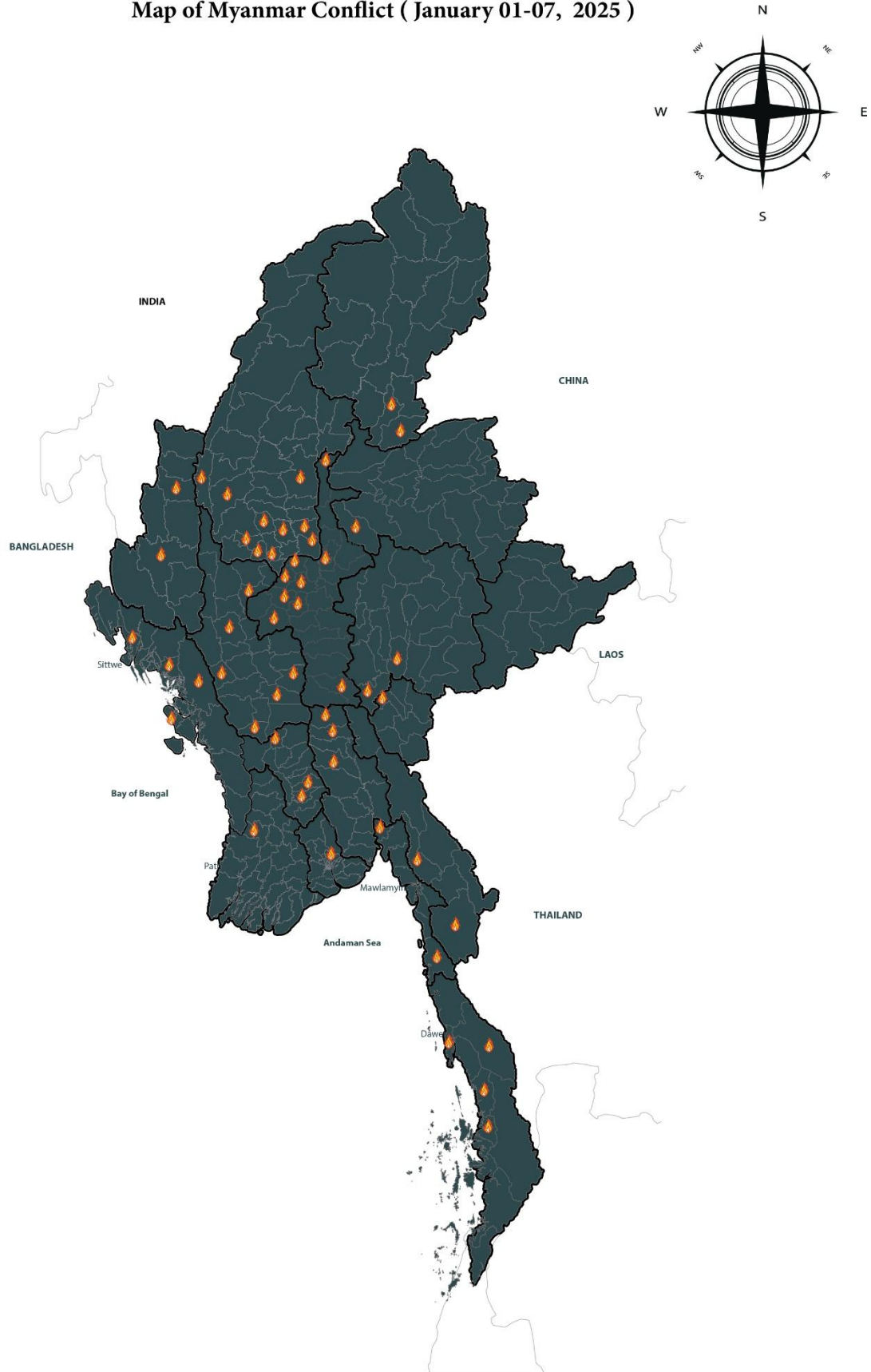
On January 5, the Arakan Army (AA) and Joint Forces took control of the Military Council's Beda checkpoint in Ngathingchaung Township, Ayeyarwady Region.

On the same day, the AA seized control of the Taung Saught Taung Military Council camp, which is responsible for securing a Chinese gas pipeline substation located approximately 20 miles from Ann, Rakhine State.



| <b>Data of Myanmar Conflict 01-07, January 2025</b> |  |                   |                              |                   |                        |                         |                           |                           |
|---|--|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>States</b>                                       | <b>Clashes between SAC and PDF/EOs</b> | <b>Air Strike</b> | <b>SAC's soldiers killed</b> | <b>PDF killed</b> | <b>Children killed</b> | <b>Civilians killed</b> | <b>Civilians arrested</b> | <b>Houses burned down</b> |
| <b>AYEYARWADY</b>                                   | 4                                      |                   |                              |                   |                        |                         |                           |                           |
| <b>BAGO</b>   | 4                                      | 1                 | 7                            | 10                |                        | 9                       | 13                        |                           |
| <b>CHIN</b>   |  | 6                 | 7                            | 1                 |                        |                         |                           |                           |
| <b>KACHIN</b>                                       |  | 11                |                              |                   |                        |                         |                           |                           |
| <b>KARENNI</b>                                      |  | 1                 |                              |                   |                        |                         |                           |                           |
| <b>KAYIN</b>  | 11                                     |                   | 40                           |                   |                        |                         |                           |                           |
| <b>MAGWAY</b>                                       | 9                                      |                   | 28                           | 1                 |                        |                         |                           | 144                       |
| <b>MANDALAY</b>                                     | 9                                      | 4                 | 75                           | 1                 | 3                      | 13                      | 7                         |                           |
| <b>MON</b>  | 2                                      |                   | 3                            |                   |                        |                         |                           |                           |
| <b>RAKHINE</b>                                      | 1                                      | 3                 |                              |                   | 1                      | 5                       | 1                         |                           |
| <b>SAGAING</b>                                      | 7                                      | 12                | 106                          | 2                 |                        | 18                      | 2                         | 82                        |
| <b>SHAN ( N )</b>                                   |  | 1                 |                              |                   |                        |                         |                           |                           |
| <b>SHAN ( S )</b>                                   | 1                                      | 1                 | 10                           | 1                 |                        |                         |                           | 2                         |
| <b>TANINTHARYI</b>                                  | 7                                      |                   | 47                           | 3                 |                        |                         |                           |                           |
| <b>YANGON</b>                                       |  |                   |                              |                   |                        |                         | 1                         |                           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>55</b>                              | <b>40</b>         | <b>323</b>                   | <b>19</b>         | <b>4</b>               | <b>45</b>               | <b>24</b>                 | <b>228</b>                |

**Map of Myanmar Conflict ( January 01-07, 2025 )**



## **Political Developments**

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On January 1, the Military Council implemented the Cybersecurity Law, which establishes penalties for individuals who establish or provide VPN services without authorization. Offenders may face imprisonment ranging from a minimum of one month to a maximum of six months, fines between 1 million and 100 million kyats, or both, along with the confiscation of related evidence.

On January 4, coinciding with the 77th Independence Day, the Military Council granted pardons to 5,864 prisoners held in facilities across Myanmar.

Additionally, on January 4, the Military Council announced that honorary service medals have been awarded to the late U Khun Htun Oo, former chairman of the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy (SNLD), as well as to the current chairman, U Sai Nyunt Lwin.

On January 3, the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, Ms. Ma Jia, held meetings with Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein and Minister for Energy U Ko Ko Lwin in Nay Pyi Taw.

**Sources - The Irrawaddy, Ayeyarwaddy Times, ThanLwin Myanmar, Mizzima, Myanmar Now, Myanmar Pressphoto Agency, Khit Thit Media, Narinjara, DVB, BBC, MeKong News, ThanLwin Times, PVTV, RFA, Khonumthung Burmese.**