

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

### **University of Virginia**

#### **Weekly Summary (August 22 - 31, 2024)**

##### **Civilian Casualties / Deaths / Losses During the Third Week of August**

In the last week of August, Myanmar experienced significant violence resulting in the deaths of 33 civilians, including one child and seven women, due to airstrikes and artillery fire from the Military Council.

The Sagaing region recorded the highest fatalities, with seven deaths, followed by six in the Mandalay Region. Mon State and Northern Shan State each reported five deaths, while Bago and Rakhine States had four casualties each. Additionally, Bago Region and Northern Shan State each recorded two deaths, and the Magway and Tanintharyi Regions reported one fatality each.

Among the total casualties, 11 were attributed to artillery attacks, and 11 were caused by aerial and drone strikes.

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

The Military Council has reported the destruction of 363 houses, with 221 in the Bago Region, 130 in the Sagaing Region, and six each in the Tanintharyi Region and Chin State.

### **Arrest of Civilians by the Military Council**

In the final week of August, 79 civilians were detained across six regions of Myanmar. This included 33 individuals in the Mandalay Region, 23 in the Yangon Region, 13 in the Irrawaddy Region and five each in the Bago and Tanintharyi Regions.

### **Aerial Assaults on Civilians by the Military Council**

In the last week of August, the Military Council carried out a significant number of airstrikes across multiple regions of Myanmar, totaling 33 incidents. The Sagaing Region experienced the highest frequency, with 12 airstrikes reported. The Mandalay Region recorded seven strikes, while both Northern Shan State and Magway Regions had five airstrikes each. Additionally, Chin State witnessed two strikes, and Mon State and Rakhine State each reported one airstrike.

### **The Conflicts and Casualties in the Last Week of August**

During the last week of August 2024, a total of 70 significant and minor skirmishes, including drone attacks, were reported across various regions. The Sagaing Region experienced the highest number of conflicts, with 17 clashes, followed by 12 in the Tanintharyi Region. The Mandalay and Bago Regions each recorded eight skirmishes, while the Magway Region had seven. Additionally, there were six fightings each in Rakhine State and Northern Shan State, four in Mon State, and one each in Kachin State and Karen State.

No fighting was reported in the Irrawaddy Region, Yangon Region, Chin State, Karenni State, or Southern Shan State.

In these confrontations, 215 soldiers from the Military Council were reported killed, along with five Revolutionary fighters.

### **Operation of MDY-PDF and Joint Forces**

On August 25th, joint revolutionary forces carried out an operation in Thabeikkyin township in the Mandalay Region, resulting in the capture of the Thabeikkyin town, the apprehension of Lt. Col. Soe Minao, and the seizure of 68 various weapons. During the engagement, Military Council forces reportedly dropped over 70 bombs from jet fighters and more than 150 bombs from Y-12 aircraft, along with attacks from two Mi-35 helicopters.

### **Operation by TNLA and Joint Forces**

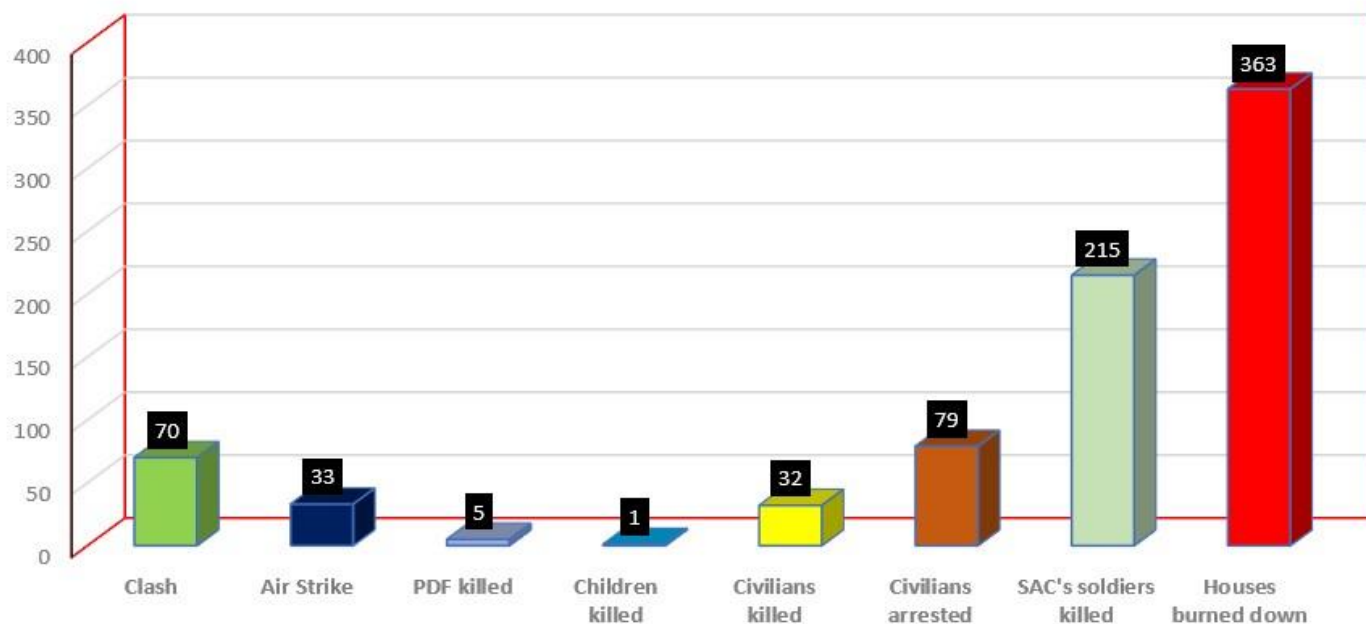
The TNLA joint forces conducted operations against four artillery battalions near Taungkham village, approximately 20 miles from Nungcho town in Northern Shan State. On August 28, Artillery Battalions 206 and 406 (Amata) were captured.

### **Operation of MNDAA and Joint Forces**

On August 21, the MNDAA launched an attack that resulted in the capture of the Military Council Infantry Battalion 147 (Khlara) and several militia camps in Tsipaw Township, Northern Shan State.

**All information provided is based on local news reports published between August 22nd and 31<sup>st</sup>.**

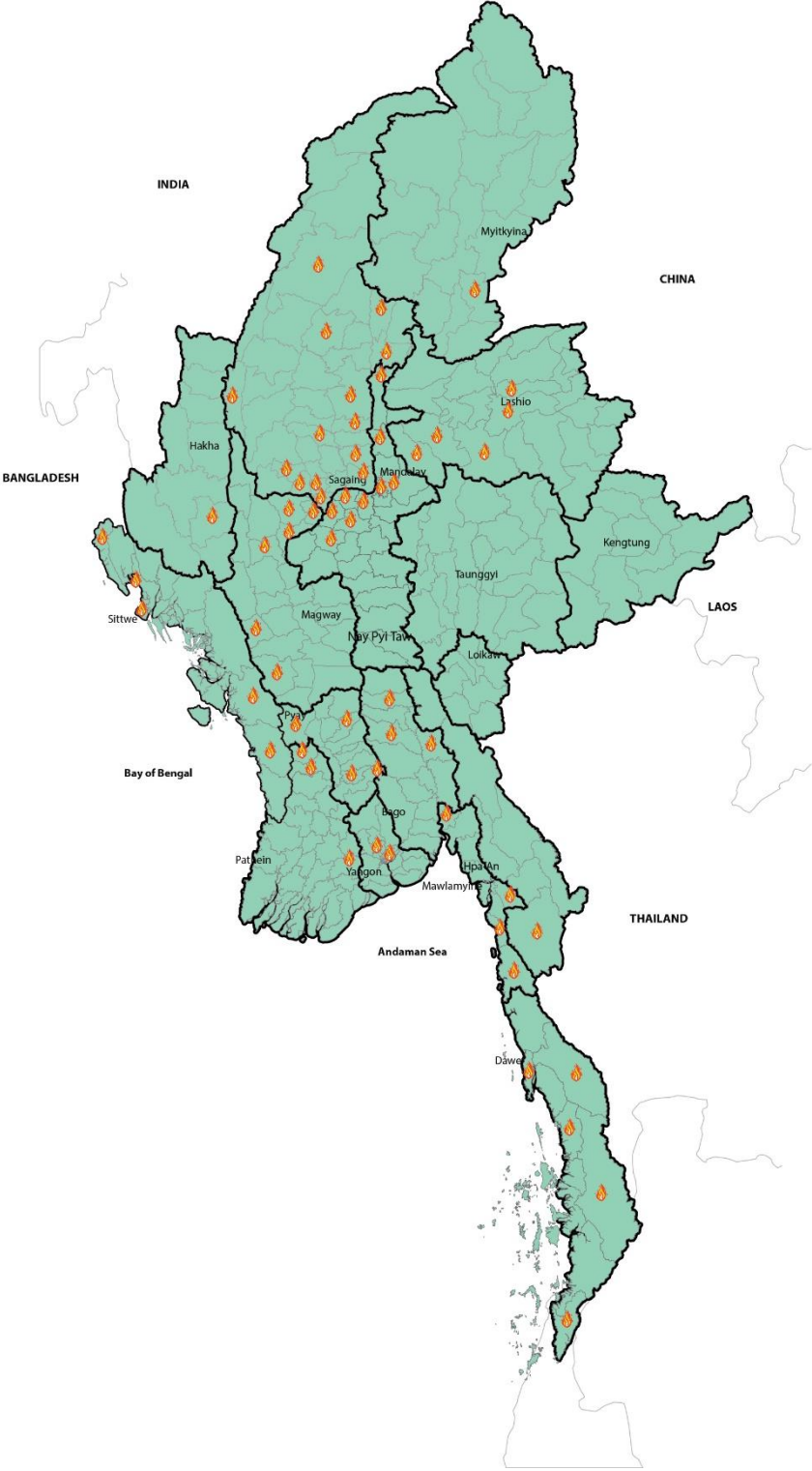
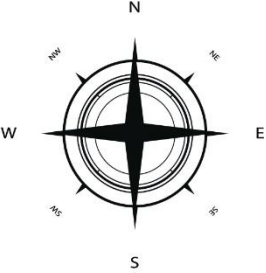
August 22-31



Data of Myanmar Conflict 22-31, August 2024

States	Clashes between SAC and PDF/EAOs	Air Strike	SAC's soldiers killed	PDF killed	Children killed	Civilians killed	Civilians arrested	Villages set on fire	Houses burned down
AYEYARWADY							13		
BAGO	8		66			4	5		221
CHIN		2							6
KACHIN	1								
KAYIN	1		9						
MAGWAY	7	5	45			1			
MANDALAY	8	7	5	1		6	33		
MON	4	1	14			5			
RAKHINE	6	1				4			
SAGAING	17	12	42	4	1	6			130
SHAN (North)	6	5				5			
TANINTHARYI	12		34			1	5		6
YANGON							23		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>79</b>		<b>363</b>

Map of Myanmar Conflict ( August 22-31, 2024 )



### **Other Notable News in the Last Week of August**

Military Council newspapers reported that on August 21 and 22, political parties and the Military Council's National Solidarity and Peace Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) convened a meeting in Nay Pyi Taw to discuss amendments to the 2008 Constitution. The meeting was chaired by Lt. Gen. Tun Tun Naung, the NSPNC chairman, along with Dr. Aye Maung, the chairman of the Rakhine Party, representing the political parties. Both parties presented proposals for constitutional amendments aimed at facilitating future elections, and discussions also covered the current political situation and security issues.

On August 23, in Nay Pyi Taw, the National Solidarity and Peace Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) held a meeting with the Alliance of Seven Ethnic Armed Organizations (7 EAO Alliance). Attendees included representatives from the Arakan Liberation Party (ALP), Democratic Karen Army (DKBA), KNU/KNLA (Peace Council), Lahu Democratic Union (LDU), New Mon State Party (NMSP), and the Pao National Liberation Organization (PNLO). Six of the seven member groups of the EAO Alliance participated in the meeting, while the Shan State Restoration Council (RCSS/SSA) was not present.

On August 23, the military council issued an order requiring the formation of groups of 10 men aged 35 to 65 in every village. This directive follows the establishment of the Public Security and Anti-Terrorism Central Supervisory Committee on August 16

On August 27, the Military Council's Union Election Commission (UEC) announced its approval for the establishment of two new political parties: the Unity and Development Party and the Socio-Economic Promotion Party.

On August 27, Chinese Ambassador Ms. Ma Jia met with Military Council Foreign Minister U Than Swe in Nay Pyi Taw. The discussion focused on the protection of Chinese projects and personnel in Myanmar, as noted in a statement from the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar.

China has urged the Ta'ang Liberation Army (TNLA) to stop fighting immediately. A letter from the Ruili City Security Committee, dated August 29, stated, "If you do not comply with China's warning, you will bear full responsibility for the consequences."

On August 30, the Military Council's Ministry of Electricity announced that electricity charges will more than double across the country starting September 1.

The Military Council has changed the Union Taxation Law for 2024, which includes a 3 percent increase in commercial tax on gold sales. Previously, a 1 percent business tax was applied to buyers of gold crafts, and there was no tax imposed on transactions involving gold bars.

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