

Burmese Democratic Futures Working Group – BDFWG

University of Virginia

Myanmar Weekly Conflict Update (December 15-21, 2024)

Civilian Casualties

In the third week of December, air and artillery attacks conducted by the Military Council in Myanmar resulted in the deaths of 31 civilians, including two children and four women. The highest casualty figures were reported in the Ayeyarwady and Sagaing Regions, with eight fatalities in each. Additionally, five deaths occurred in both the Bago and Magway Regions, while southern Shan State reported two, and Karen State, Mon State, and Rakhine State each had one casualty. Among the total deaths, 18 were attributed to artillery fire, and six were due to air and drone strikes.

Civilians' Houses Burnt Down

The Military Council in Myanmar has destroyed a total of 286 homes across two regions and one state. Specifically, 242 homes were lost in the Magway Region, 39 in the Sagaing Region, and 5 in Rakhine State.

Civilian Arrest

During the third week of December, a total of 240 civilians were arrested across five regions and one state in Myanmar. The breakdown of arrests includes 74 in Sagaing Region, 63 in Magway Region, 33 in Yangon Region, 30 in Bago Region, 23 in Mandalay Region, 10 in Tanintharyi Region, and 7 in Mon State.

Aerial Assaults Against Civilian Targets

During the third week of December, the Military Council conducted 15 airstrikes across three states and regions in Myanmar. This included 11 strikes in Sagaing Region, 3 in Rakhine State, and 1 in southern Shan State.

Conflicts and Casualties of Combatants

In the third week of December 2024, there were 79 major and minor clashes, including drone strikes, across various regions. Kachin State reported the highest number of clashes, totaling 21, followed by Southern Shan State with 18. Other regions experienced the following numbers of clashes: Rakhine State had 8, Magway Region had 7, Sagaing Region had 6, Chin State had 5, Tanintharyi Region had 4, Bago Region had 3, Karenni State had 2, while Mon State and Karen State each recorded 1 clash. No clashes were reported in Ayeyarwady Region, Northern Shan State, or Yangon Region.

During this period, 93 members of the Military Council were killed in the clashes, along with 9 members of the Revolutionary Joint Force.

All information provided is based on local news reports published between December 15th and 21st.

Military Developments

Operations of AA and Joint Forces

On December 14, the Arakan Army successfully took control of the No. 5 Operations Command Headquarters (SaKaKha 5) located in Toungup, Rakhine State.

Following this, on December 20, the Arakan Army fully captured the Western Region Command Headquarters in Ann, apprehending Deputy Regional Commander Brigadier General Thaung Htun and Regional Chief-of-Staff Brigadier General Kyaw Kyaw Than.

Operations by KIA and Joint Forces

On December 15, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) initiated an offensive in KhaungLanhpui Township, Putao District, Kachin State, successfully capturing a Lahu Sel camp.

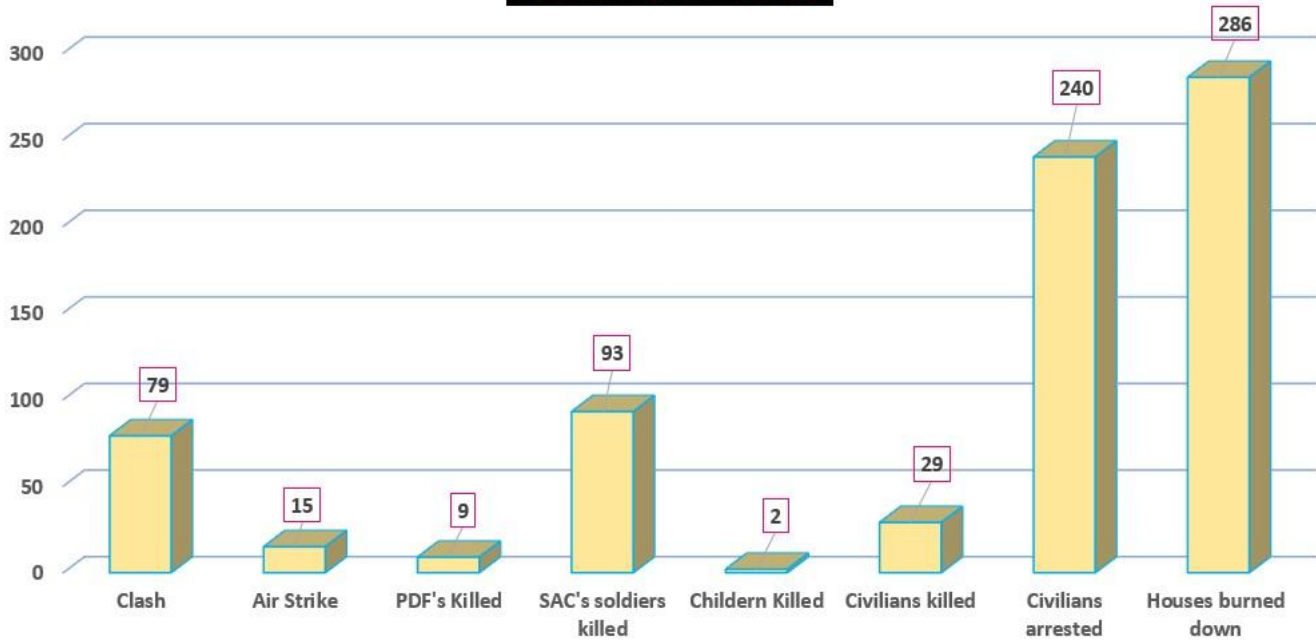
Operations by KNLA and Joint Forces

On December 16, joint forces led by the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) successfully captured the Manelpalaw camp in Karen State, recovering the bodies of 10 soldiers.

MDY-PDF Joint Forces Operations

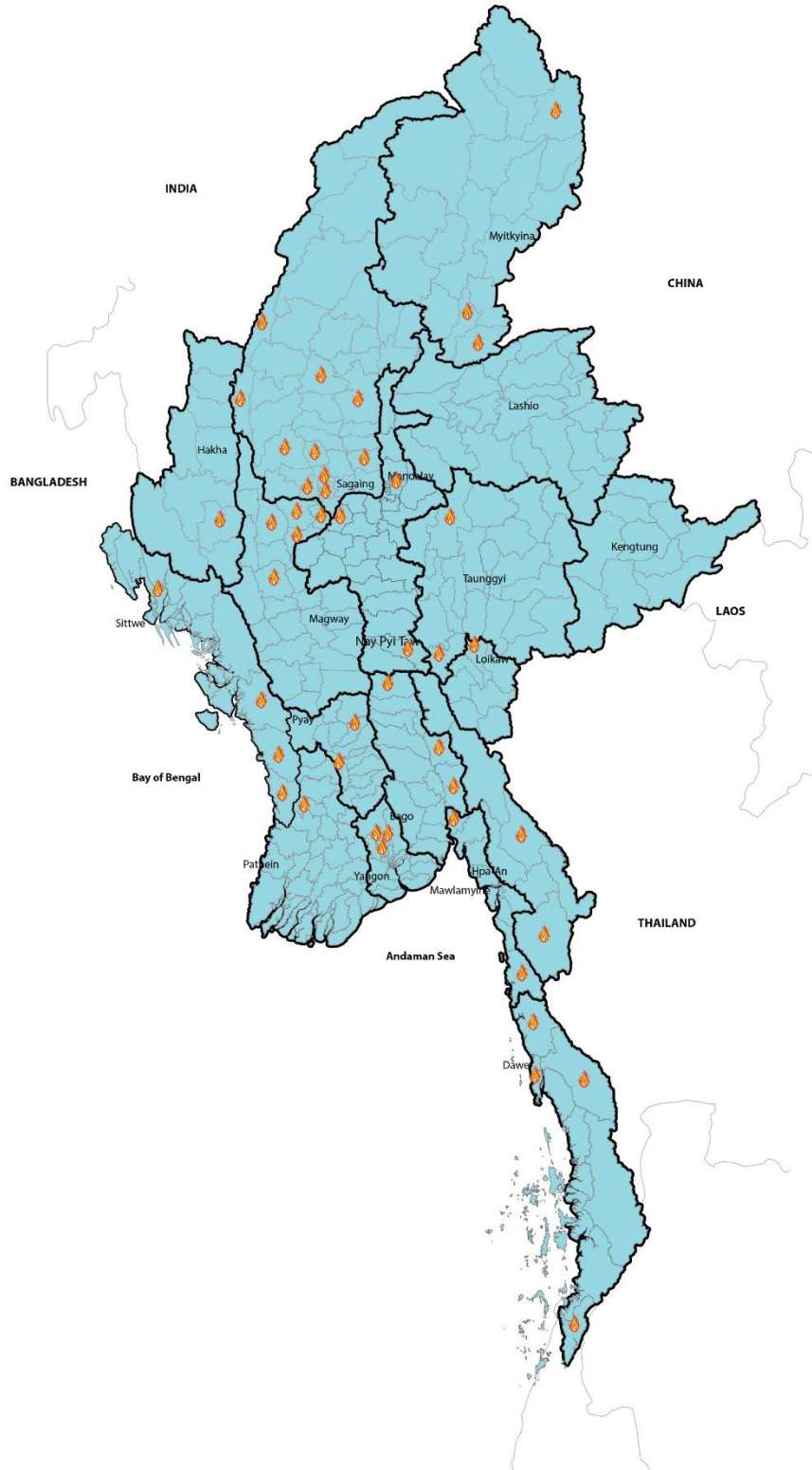
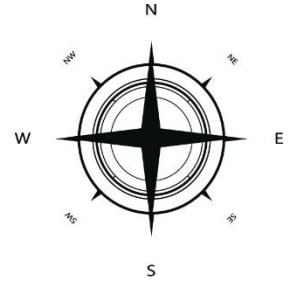
On December 19, the MDY-PDF conducted an attack on soldiers stationed in Htanpingon Village, Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Region, resulting in the capture of two soldiers and the seizure of five weapons.

DECEMBER 15-21



Data of Myanmar Conflict 15-21, December 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						8			
BAGO	3		13			5	30		
CHIN	5								
KACHIN	21								
KARENNI	3		6						
KAYIN	1		10			1			
MAGWAY	7		24	6		5	63		242
MANDALAY	1						23		
MON	2		2	2		1	7		
RAKHINE	8	3				1			5
SAGAING	6	11	29	1	2	6	74		39
SHAN (South)	18	1				2			
TANINTHARYI	4		9				10		
YANGON							33		
TOTAL	79	15	93	9	2	29	240		286

Map of Myanmar Conflict (December 15-21, 2024)



Political Developments

On December 15, a delegation led by Lieutenant General Ko Ko Oo of the Myanmar Military Council and representatives from the Kokang National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) commenced discussions in Kunming, China, as reported by sources close to the military council.

On December 1, officials from the Arakan Army (AA) met with Chinese officials in Htin Chong, China, to discuss matters related to peacebuilding, ceasefires, and security issues concerning Chinese projects.

On December 18, the Military Council announced the removal of General Tin Aung San from the position of Minister of Defense, appointing General Maung Maung Aye, who currently serves as the Coordination Commander for the Army, Navy, and Air Force, as his successor.

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