



RECAP

CONFLICT UPDATE BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE KACHIN ALLIANCE

Conflict Updates

- There was at least one battle/armed clash between the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and Tatmadaw forces in 7 out of 31 days in October, 18 out of 30 days in November, and 26 out of 31 days in December.

- During these three months, armed clashes between the KIA and Tatmadaw most frequently occurred inside and near Mansi Township in the southern region of Kachin State. The area of Danai Township experienced the second highest frequency of armed clashes.

- Several provocations from the Tatmadaw consisted of fighter jets dropping bombs on KIA positions and sometimes, in the vicinity of IDP camps.

- On the Christmas Day alone, there were 2 armed clashes and 4 incidents of provocation.



An IDP family braving the brutal winter of the Kachin region. Hkun Li Photo

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS & HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

October 2017

- On October 3, when civilians with provisions attempted to cross into the Danai area, Tatmadaw soldiers stationed at Tawang Hka bridge turned them away and threw the provisions into the river.
- On October 16 and 17, after getting ambushed by KIA troops, [Tatmadaw soldiers randomly fired at by-passers](#), injuring a civilian in his leg.

	Clashes	Provocations*
October	9	14
November	26	32
December	56	92

* Any incident of gun firing, bombing or ambush that did not escalate to a battle is considered to be a provocation. Accordingly, any provocation that escalated to a battle is counted as a clash and excluded from the provocation tally. These figures indicate the number of provocations initiated by either Tatmadaw or the KIA troops on one another.

[Humanitarian Crisis & Human Rights Violations continue]

November 2017

- On November 11, Npawp Lu Ing, a mother of two who was eight months pregnant, was reported to have been [fatally struck by a vehicle driven by a Tatmadaw brigadier general](#) in Hpakant.
- On November 23, three civilians, Mr. Aung Soe, Mr. Win Naing, and Mr. Min Aye, stepped on a landmine and were injured near Tawng Ya mine in the Indawgyi area of Kachin State.
- On November 24, Nampaka-based Tatmadaw troops have reportedly fired artillery rounds on Maiyu Lay IDP camp, which hosts 138 households and 700 IDPs; 5 temporary houses inside the camp was damaged in this incident.

December 2017

- The Irrawaddy reported in early December that locals in Danai Township were running out of fuel and experiencing rice shortage because the [Tatmadaw has restricted the transportation of basic commodities](#) in the township.
- On December 4, Mr. Paw Se Hawng, 63, of Man Mau village stepped on a landmine while cleaning his yard and was injured.
- On December 7, after getting ambushed by KIA troops at Nawng Hkam Bum, Tatmadaw soldiers randomly fired and injured a Kachin civilian in his left shoulder.
- On December 7, Mr. Aik Aung of Ginsi village stepped on a landmine while fishing in U Ru and U Ra river junction and was injured. The next day, Mr. Ba Aung and wife, Mrs. Tangbau Lu Yan, also stepped on a landmine while on their way to go fishing; they lost their lives.
- On December 11 around 5pm, Tatmadaw troops stationed between Maw Swi and Dingga villages took into their custody Mr. Lama Seng Gawng, Mr. Mahka Yau Htung and Mr. Hkapawng Naw Mai, IDPs who were taking shelter at Man Maw Cultural Compound, because they were reportedly suspicious of the three IDPs.
- On December 14, Tatmadaw forces dropped bombs in several areas of southern Kachin State. A civilian woman was injured by one of the dropped bombs.

OTHER UPDATES

- According to classified information *The Irrawaddy* received, [the previous government issued ownership documents of 170,000 acres of land vacated by the IDPs to companies and individuals](#) between 2013 and 2014 in Waingmaw Township alone. Similarly, in [Mansi Township](#), there are some 20,000 acres that companies and individuals are trying to obtain licenses to use. *The Irrawaddy* reporter noted, "IDPs are unaware of the fate of their land... and hope to return at some stage."
- In October, when inquired about Nlam Bawk Nan, who was taken by the Tatmadaw troops on June 20, the Tatmadaw claimed that although [he was in their custody, they do not know his whereabouts](#), because he had run away.
- On October 27, [the Lashio District Court convicted Dumdaw Nawng Lat, 67, an ethnic Kachin religious leader, of criminal defamation for an interview he gave to Voice of America in December 2016 in which he alleged that Tatmadaw had attacked civilians during conflict with ethnic armed groups. According to Fortify Rights, "Under international law, criminal penalties, and particularly imprisonment, are considered disproportionate forms of punishment for defamation."](#)
- On December 12, the government police force raided the office compound of the Kachin Independence Organization's Technical Advisory Team in Myitkyina and [conducted a search without a warrant](#).

- On December 14 around 2pm, Tatmadaw troops took into their custody a Jan Mai Kawng Ra villager, Mr. Maru Tang Ji and a Bang Gaw Htingnu villager, Mr. Nhkum Tu Awng. Then they burned down several houses in Jan Mai Kawng Ra village.
- On December 14 around 4 pm, the Tatmadaw troops in Hpau Daw village took village elders of Nam Gut village and Hpau Daw village to question them regarding fishing dynamite and gun-firings that went off in their area. When the village elders answered that they did not know who were responsible for the said incidents, they were tortured by the troops. The village elder of Hpau Daw village sustained serious injuries.
- On December 19, a primary school student from Mong Paw Township, Shan State was [killed by a landmine blast](#).
- On December 19 around 3pm, five students who were returning to Hu Na village after school were struck by a bomb. Aung Lin, 12, lost his life while Hkaing Lin Htun, 10, Tang Mai, 13, Tsai Aik Ung, 10, and Aik Htun, 8, were injured. The injured students were treated at Lashio Hospital.
- On December 23, [a man was injured by a landmine](#) in Wara Zut village, Hpakant Township, Kachin State.
- On December 23, [mortar shells fell on a house in Maiyu village](#), Muse Township, northern Shan State. A 12-year-old died from [injuries to his abdomen](#). Three others—two men and a 3-year-old boy who [lost his right leg](#)—were also injured.
- On December 24, Tatmadaw troops [fired a few shells near the Woi Chyai IDP camp](#) in Laiza. The attack reportedly came around 9 pm and was thought to be timed intentionally for the Christmas Eve celebration. Lahpai Kai Nan, 29, a volunteer teacher in the IDP camp, was injured in the neck and had her jaw and teeth shattered from shelling by the Tatmadaw.

[Other Updates continue]

- On December 20, the UN's OHCHR website reported, "the Government of Myanmar has informed UN Special Rapporteur Yanghee Lee that all access to the country has been denied and [cooperation withdrawn for the duration of her tenure](#)." Regarding this decision, Lee remarked, "This declaration of non-cooperation with my mandate [can only be viewed as a strong indication that there must be something terribly awful happening](#) in Rakhine, as well as in the rest of the country."
- On December 21, the United States "[imposed sanctions on 13 'serious human rights abusers and corrupt actors'](#) including Tatmadaw general Maung Maung Soe, who oversaw this year's brutal crackdown against the Rohingya Muslim minority."

RECAP is a quarterly newsletter that aims to inform policymakers and relevant advocacy organizations of Kachins' struggles and humanitarian crisis in the Kachin region. It is based on a wide-ranging news outlets and trustworthy local sources. It is in no way comprehensive.



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