WEEKLY COUP UPDATE BY THE KACHIN ALLIANCE

JULY 24-30, 2021

Uring the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth week since the coup, the people of Burma continued to battle the spread of the Covid-19 virus. Fighting between the Burma Army (BA) and the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) occurred in Karmaing, Laiza, Monyin, and Waingmaw, Kachin State and in Kutkai, and Muse, Shan State. In other parts of the country, the BA and BA's Border Guard Forces clashed with the MNDAA (Kokang) and the KNLA (Karen). Additionally, clashes between the BA and the local People's Defence Forces (PDF) were reported in Kani, Karmaing, Katha, and Minkin. This week, violence against regime informants and collaborators were reported in Homalin, Khin-U, Madaya, Minkin, Pathein, and Yaye townships. Daily anti-SAC protests were reported in Hpakant.

Humanitarian Crisis and Human Rights Violations

- On July 19 in Shwebo, Sagaing Region, the security forces raided 5 villages. Conflict in the area caused over <u>6,000 villagers to seek</u> <u>shelter in the nearby forest</u>. It is reported that a woman was shot with a sniper in that incident. In one of the villages, the security forces looted, destroyed and burned homes belonging to NLD members.
- In Mindat, Chin State, <u>the coup regime only allowed the United</u> <u>Nations' humanitarian aid in certain areas</u> of the town, preventing those displaced in rural areas from receiving the aid. The security forces reportedly also prohibited other organizations such as ICRC and WFP from providing essential needs to IDPs in the area.
- In Kyaukme and Hsipaw Townships, fighting between SSPP/SSA and RCSS/SSA <u>displaced hundreds of villagers</u>.
- On July 26 in Yinmarbin Township, Sagaing Region, <u>around 10,000</u> locals were forced to flee their homes due to attacks by the security forces. The regime's forces raided the villages and killed cows and chickens for food.

COVID-19 UPDATES

- In Waingmaw, Kachin State, <u>Maina IDP camp</u> which shelters about 3,000 displaced persons has been on lockdown since July 21 to control the virus outbreak. There were four COVID positive cases at the camp this week. Similarly in Myitkyina, the virus was reported to be in several IDP camps. In <u>the Shwe Zet IDP</u> camp, 32 of 50 who were tested were found to be Covid-positive.
- <u>The coup regime will build</u> <u>ten new crematoriums in</u> <u>Yangon</u>, as the rising death toll continues to overwhelm the current crematoriums.
- <u>China delivered three million</u> <u>vaccine doses</u> to Burma--China donated two million doses of the Sinopharm and the coup regime purchased one million doses.
- The SAC announced that oxygen containers refilled at the oxygen plant located at Hpakant <u>cannot</u> <u>be transported to other</u> <u>townships</u> without permission from the authorities.
- On July 24 in Karen State, <u>a BA colonel seized 100</u> <u>medical oxygen cylinders</u> <u>imported from Thailand</u> by Yangon charities, which were originally designated to treat COVID-19 patients.

¹ This figure does not include the ethnic armed organizations' soldiers killed in action or civilian casualty of the armed conflict between the BA and the various ethnic armed organizations.

- On July 27 in Yin-mar-pin Township, Sagaing Region, <u>the BA raided a</u> <u>village, destroyed civilians' homes, and forcibly took money, valuable</u> <u>items, and food.</u>
- On July 27 in Mya Taung, Mandalay, the security forces opened fire and violently cracked down on the pro-democracy protest killing two people and injuring one.
- On July 27 in Naypidaw, <u>security forces beat and arrested a protest</u> <u>leader</u>, Ko Kyaw Bo Bo Khat, who was taking refuge at a monastery at the time.
- On July 28 in Taungdwingyi Township, Magwe Region, the <u>security</u> forces arrested Ko Phoe Zaw when they could not find his son who was accused of working with the PDF.
- On July 29 in Waingmaw, Kachin State, <u>artillery shell explosions from</u> the BA killed a civilian.
- On July 29 in Kani, Sagaing Region, <u>the security forces arrested and</u> <u>beat several villagers</u> in Zee Pyin Twin village.
- On July 29 in Pauk, Magway Region, <u>a landmine explosion killed two</u> <u>civilians</u>, Ko Min Thaik and Ko Naing Min, at Kyi Ngo Taung.
- On July 29 in Yinmar Pyin, Sagaing Region, the <u>BA troops looted</u> Thabyay Aye village.

Flooding Disaster

- There has been disastrous flooding in several parts of the country. In <u>Thandwe</u> and <u>Mrauk-U</u>, Rakhine State, <u>flooding across the township</u> <u>put hundreds of civilians in urgent need of relief</u>.
- In Myawaddy, Karen State, flooding halted the importation of medicine and oxygen cylinders from Thailand.
- In Hlaingbwe, Karen State, people struggled to cremate bodies of <u>COVID-19 victims amidst the flooding</u>.
- In Kyar Inn Seikgyi, Karen State, <u>flooding displaced thousands of</u> <u>civilians</u>.
- On July 25 in Mon State, landsliding caused by <u>flooding killed two</u> <u>civilians</u>.

 On July 29, Britain's UN Ambassador warned that <u>half of Burma's 54 million</u> <u>people could be infected with</u> <u>COVID-19</u> in the next two weeks.

Other updates:

- On July 19 in Momauk Township, Kachin State, military officials gave <u>2.1 million kyats</u> (<u>\$1,276</u>) in compensation to the family of a 51-year-old woman who was raped and murdered by 3 soldiers in the previous week. The military promised to launch an investigation into the soldiers for their actions. The BA officials acknowledged that the victim was murdered but not that she was raped.
- According to the World Bank's latest report, <u>Burma's economy</u> is set to shrink by 18 percent this fiscal year due to the military coup and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- On July 26, <u>the regime-controlled Union Election</u> <u>Commission (UEC) announced</u> <u>the official cancellation of</u> <u>the 2020 election results</u> in which the National League for Democracy (NLD) won a landslide victory.



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