



ကရင်နီသမ္မတတို့၏ ဒုက္ခသည်များ၏ အခြေအနေအထား
Karenni Civil Society Network

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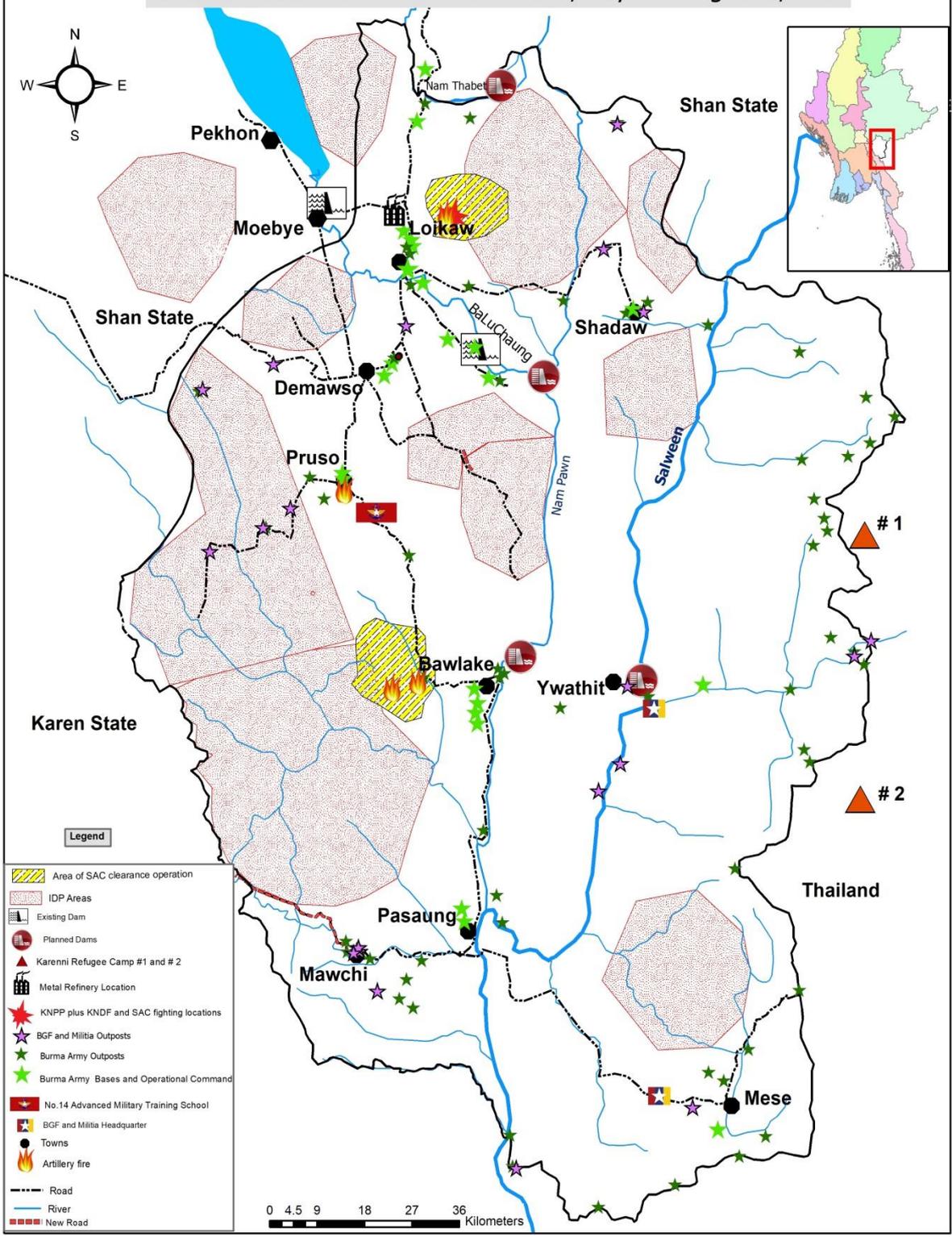
Bi-weekly situation update by the Karenni Civil Society Network, July 19-Aug 1, 2021
Summary of SAC violations in Karenni State and Pekhonn Township

No		Feb 1- July 18	July 19- Aug 1	Total
1	People killed	82		82
2	People arrested	132	3	135
3	People injured	102		102
4	Buildings damaged/destroyed			
	Loikaw town	7		7
	Demawso town	165		165
	Pekhonn town	48	-	48
5	Dismissal of CDM education staff			
	Pruso Township	526		526
	Demawso Township	1,123		1,123
	Mae Set Township	78		78
	Pasaung Township	152		152
	Shadaw Township	54		54
	Pekhonn Township	648		648
	Bawlake Township	42		42
	Total dismissed	2,623		2,623

Summary of displacement

No	Township	Estimated no. of IDPs by Jul 18	New IDPs Jul 19-Aug 1	Total displacement
1	Loikaw	22,311		22,311
2	Demawso	55,265		55,265
3	Pruso	2,729		2,729
4	Pasaung	4,000		4,000
5	Pekhonn	30,000		30,000
6	Shadaw	729		729
7	Mae Set	1,000		1,000
8	Bawlake	2,929	812	3,741
	Total	118,963	812	119,775

Location of SAC attacks and violations, July 19- August 1, 2021



- People arrested

In Karenni State the total number of people arrested since the coup has increased from 132 to 135 during the past two weeks. The three arrested, including a young woman, were aid volunteers, who were on the way to provide assistance to one of the IDP camps on July 30, 2021.

- Ongoing military aggression

The SAC troops have been continuing clearance operations in the areas where KNDF and IDPs are staying, so on July 23 the KNDF issued a statement that fighting could occur at any time.

On July 19, SAC troops who had set up a camp near Kalilyah village, Nan Peh village tract, in Bawlake township fired artillery into the village. On the same day, SAC troops based in Bawlake town also shelled artillery into Nan Peh village, about 10 kilometers away. After the shelling, SAC troops in civilian clothes patrolled around the villages of Taw Khu, Kalilyah, Nan Peh and Tah Leh. Most of the villagers of Kalilyah and Nan Peh have now fled to hide in the jungle.

On July 20, 2021, the SAC shelled into Pruso town for no apparent reason. Residents of Pruso suddenly heard loud explosions of shells, but luckily no one was injured or killed.

On July 22, 2021, at 4 pm, KNPP troops and KNDF troops ambushed a convoy of SAC trucks transporting rations and troops near Kayan Thayar village and Kyauk Kone village in Loikaw township.

On July 31, 2021, at 11:45 am, KNPP troops and KNDF troops clashed with SAC troops near Pah Tima village and Daw Muklah village in Loikaw township. The SAC troops, from LIB 261 and LIB 250, were heading to IDP camps in Kayan Thayar village tract and Pakyeh village tract in Loikaw township, on the instructions of the Eastern Regional Command and Loikaw-based military command.

- Situation of IDPs and humanitarian aid

The new displacement of 812 villagers from Kalilyah and Nan Peh villages in Bawlake township, due to ongoing SAC artillery attacks on civilians, has raised the total numbers displaced to almost 120,000 in all townships of Karenni State and Pekhoh township. This has increased the need for food, medicine and shelter for the IDPs.

Some villagers have risked returning to their original villages to try and farm their lands, but dare not bring their children with them in case fighting breaks out again. They therefore leave their children in the IDP camps, where makeshift schools have been set up.



An IDP camp school



Living conditions in an IDP camp

“Parents have been going back home to farm in their gardens and fields. But they do not trust the situation and always worry that if there is fighting, the SAC troops will persecute them. They are always afraid of the SAC troops,” said a villager from Htee Po Klo village, Demawso township.

Some IDPs hiding close to villages have been searching for more remote hiding places, where they might be safer from the SAC troops. However, the disadvantage of moving to remoter areas is that it is more difficult for aid groups to access them.

- Covid situation in Karenni State

Covid cases in Karenni State (from the SAC health ministry):

Date	Covid positive cases	No. of deaths from Covid
June 15-July 18, 2021	157	3
July 19-August 1, 2021	463	20

Location of Covid cases in Karenni State (June 15-August 1, 2021)

Township	No. of cases
Loikaw	490
Pasaung	109
Bawlake	15
Pruso	6

The SAC Covid figures show a sharp increase in Covid cases in Karenni State in the past two weeks. However, the actual numbers are likely to be higher, as many villagers do not dare go and get tested by SAC health staff, as they don't trust the SAC-controlled health system. Villagers who suspect they have Covid prefer to stay at home and treat themselves.

Even though Loikaw township is the worst affected by Covid 19, the SAC authorities recently ordered all Loikaw residents to remove the local Covid screening points they had set up to protect their communities and control the spread of the disease. This clearly indicates the SAC has no interest in protecting people from the pandemic, and suggests they may be seeking to spread the disease instead.

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