

ทยบอญหุล ឧญอูปอู่ ឧฦหุอิญหุอิฤฮั ឧญฮังิอู่ Karenni Civil Society Network

P.O. Box - 100, Mae Hong Son, 58000, Thailand Phone: 06 5329 7814, E-mail:kcsn2010@gmail.com

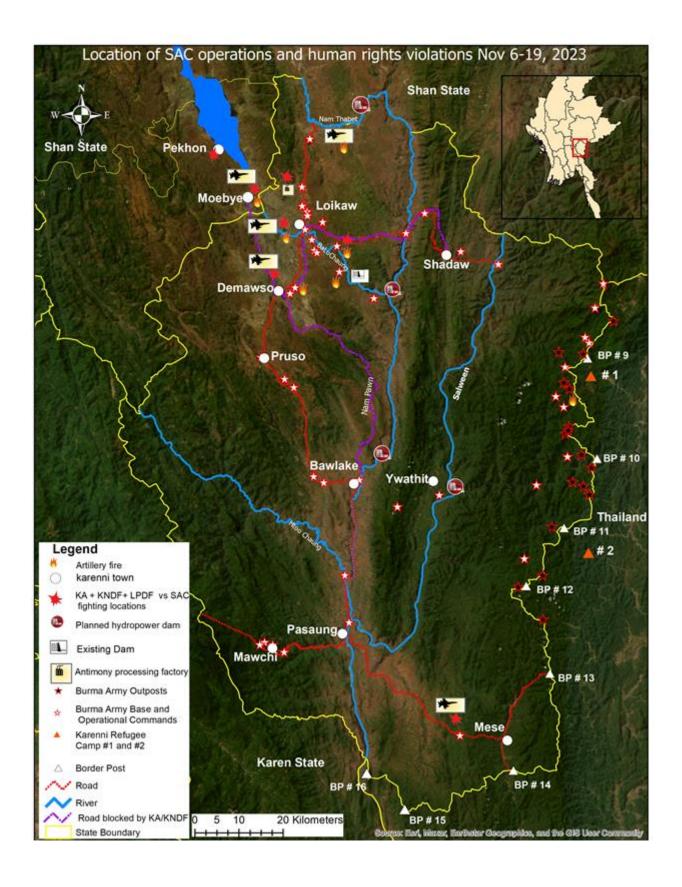
Nov 22, 2023

Bi-weekly situation update by the Karenni Civil Society Network, Nov 6–19, 2023 Summary of SAC human rights violations in Karenni State and Pekhon Township

No		Feb 1 2021 – Nov 5, 2023	Nov 6–19, 2023	Total
1	Civilians killed	416	61	477
2	Civilians arrested	355	15	370
3	Civilians injured	472	26	498
4	Buildings			
	damaged/destroyed			
	Loikaw township	172	27	199
	Demawso township	621		621
	Mese township	31		31
	Pekhon township	376		376
	Pruso township	151		151
	Bawlake township	33		33
	Shadaw township	16		16
	Pasaung township	32		32

Summary of displacement

No	Township	Estimated no. of IDPs	New IDPs	Total
		by Nov 5, 2023	Nov 6-19, 2023	displacement
1	Loikaw	52,311	40,000	92,311
2	Demawso	83,265		83,265
3	Pruso	14,403		14,403
4	Pasaung	24,000		24,000
5	Pekhon	56,000		56,000
6	Shadaw	2,395		2,395
7	Mese	5,000		5,000
8	Bawlake	5,241		5,241
	Total	242,615		282,615



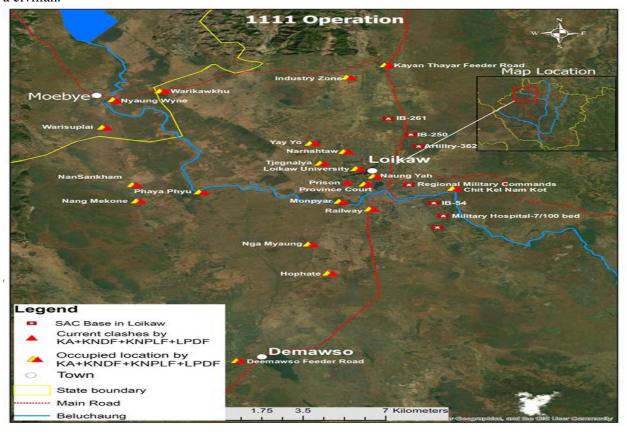
SAC air and ground attacks kill 61 civilians and injure 26, as Karenni resistance forces close in on Loikaw

Combined Karenni resistance forces under "Operation 1107" launched in Mese township and "Operation 1111" launched in Loikaw, Demawso and Moebye townships have succeeded in seizing ten SAC military camps during the past two weeks, most notably in the Karenni capital, Loikaw. The SAC has responded with indiscriminate air and artillery attacks, which have killed 62 civilians and injured 26, as well as damaging dozens of buildings, including Buddhist temples. The indiscriminate SAC attacks on civilians have caused about 80% of the residents of Loikaw town to flee their homes, while 228 UN/INGO staff and family members have been safely evacuated to Taunggyi, under the arrangement of Karenni forces, the Interim Executive Council (IEC) and National Unity Government (NUG).

On November 7, a combined force of Karenni armed resistance groups launched "Operation 1107" in the Karenni region. At 4 am, combined troops of the Karenni Army (KA) and Karenni Nationalities Defense Force (KNDF) seized control of a BGF 1004 military outpost near Pan Tain village in Mese township. The engagement resulted in the death of at least ten SAC soldiers, with many others injured, and a significant amount of weapons and ammunition captured. Some soldiers from the resistance groups also lost their lives. The SAC utilized airstrikes during the course of the battle.

On November 9, at 11:30 pm, artillery fire from SAC LIB 530, stationed in Loi Le Lay town, Loikaw township, was unleashed upon a village situated on the east side of the town. As a result, five civilian houses were destroyed, and a 10-year-old girl lost her life. Furthermore, SAC IB 102 battalion, based in Demawso, fired artillery into Htee Poe Kaloe village tract. In this incident, a 60-year-old woman was killed and another 22-year-old villager sustained injuries. At approximately 4 pm on the same day, SAC fired artillery at Mahtaw Khu village in Loikaw township, killing a 45-year-old woman.

On November 10, two SAC fighter jets bombed areas in western Demawso township three times, injuring a civilian.



On November 11, combined resistance groups, comprising KA, KNDF, KNPLF, DMO PDF, Loikaw PDF, Moebye PDF, Pekhon PDF, and Southern Shan PDF, initiated "Operation 1111" at 5:30 am. The operation focused on SAC military checkpoints and camps on the outskirts of Moebye, Demawso and Loikaw town, specifically targeting Htay Ngar Lyar Ward, Chi Kal Ward, Ngar Myaung Ward, and the Loikaw industrial zone. In the course of the one-day operation, seven SAC military camps were seized, and over 100 weapons were seized. Ten resistance soldiers lost their lives, while a significant number of SAC troops were injured or killed. Twelve SAC soldiers were captured alive during the engagement. The SAC used artillery fire and airstrikes to back up its ground troops. In Loikaw, SAC artillery fire and 20 bomb attacks by two aircraft damaged 20 civilian houses. One of the SAC fighter jets was shot down by two soldiers from KA and KNDF using point five machine guns. In Demawso, bomb attacks by two SAC fighter jets at 9 am damaged seven houses, a granary and a generator car.

On November 13, resistance groups launched an attack on SAC LIB 425 troops stationed inside Loikaw University. A significant number of SAC soldiers, including battalion commanders and deputy battalion commander were dead. The following day, on November 14, 32 SAC soldiers who were encamped within the university surrendered their weapons to the resistance groups.

Throughout the intense fighting between November 11 and 13, SAC airstrikes, indiscriminate shooting and artillery fire killed 20 civilians and injured 15 others, in Pekon, Moebye, and Loikaw townships. At least ten 500-pound bombs were dropped by SAC aircraft over Loikaw town, specifically targeting Daw U Khu Ward, Chi Kal Ward, Narnattaw Ward, and Naung Yar Ward. Additionally, over the course of these three days, a total of 15 civilians were captured by the SAC, and their current whereabouts is unknown.

On November 14, within a single day, a total of 19 civilians were killed, and seven others were injured in Karenni State. Nine civilians were killed by artillery shells, six shot on sight and four killed by airstrikes.



A Buddhist temple damaged by SAC shelling, Loikaw town



Houses set on fire by SAC airstrikes and artillery shells, Loikaw town

On November 15, the SAC initiated heavy artillery fire towards the Daw Noe Ku IDP camp located near the Thai-Burma border. This attack forced more than 1,000 IDPs to flee across the border, seeking refuge near the No. 1 refugee camp in Thailand. Meanwhile, SAC artillery fire near Loikaw town led to the deaths of a mother and son, while another child suffered injuries. Additionally, on the east side of Loikaw, a displaced person from Nam Kut lost their life due to intense SAC shelling. Further consequences of the SAC's heavy artillery fire included the destruction of a Buddhist monastery in Daw U Khu ward, and the death of an eight-year-old boy in Myaynigon in Loikaw town.

On November 16, due to SAC airstrikes, five civilians from Loikaw town lost their lives. Furthermore, a deceased individual with his hands tied behind his back was discovered near Htay Ngar Lyar village in Loikaw township.

On November 17, resistance groups attacked and captured the SAC military camp at the Loikaw Township Court, subsequently setting the building ablaze and destroying the facilities.

On November 18, seven civilians lost their lives due to heavy artillery shelling by the SAC. On that day, Karenni combined forces, the IEC and NUG organized the safe evacuation of UN and INGO staff, with their families, altogether 228 people, from Loikaw town to Taunggyi town.

On November 19, two novices from Ottayaryone Monastery, located in the middle of Loikaw city, were killed by heavy SAC artillery bombardment. The monastery itself was also destroyed as a result of intense artillery fire. On the same day, SAC aircraft bombed a village in western Demawso township, injuring four civilians, and damaging a granary and some houses.

Contact persons:

Khu Ko Reh Tel: +666 5329 7814 Khu Ruby Tel: +666 3184 2980

Website: www.karennicsn.org

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/kcsnengbur

Email: kcsn2010@gmail.com