

# Fortnightly Update *for* Humanitarian Responders

8 - 21 MAY 2025

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## IN FOCUS

### SAC Strikes IDP Site

SAC airstrikes in northern Mandalay Region highlighted limitations of resistance actor healthcare facilities, and the challenges responders face in moving injured civilians to SAC-controlled areas.

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**LEGEND**

STATE

TOWNSHIP



CONFLICT



DISPLACEMENT



FOOD SECURITY



MEDICAL



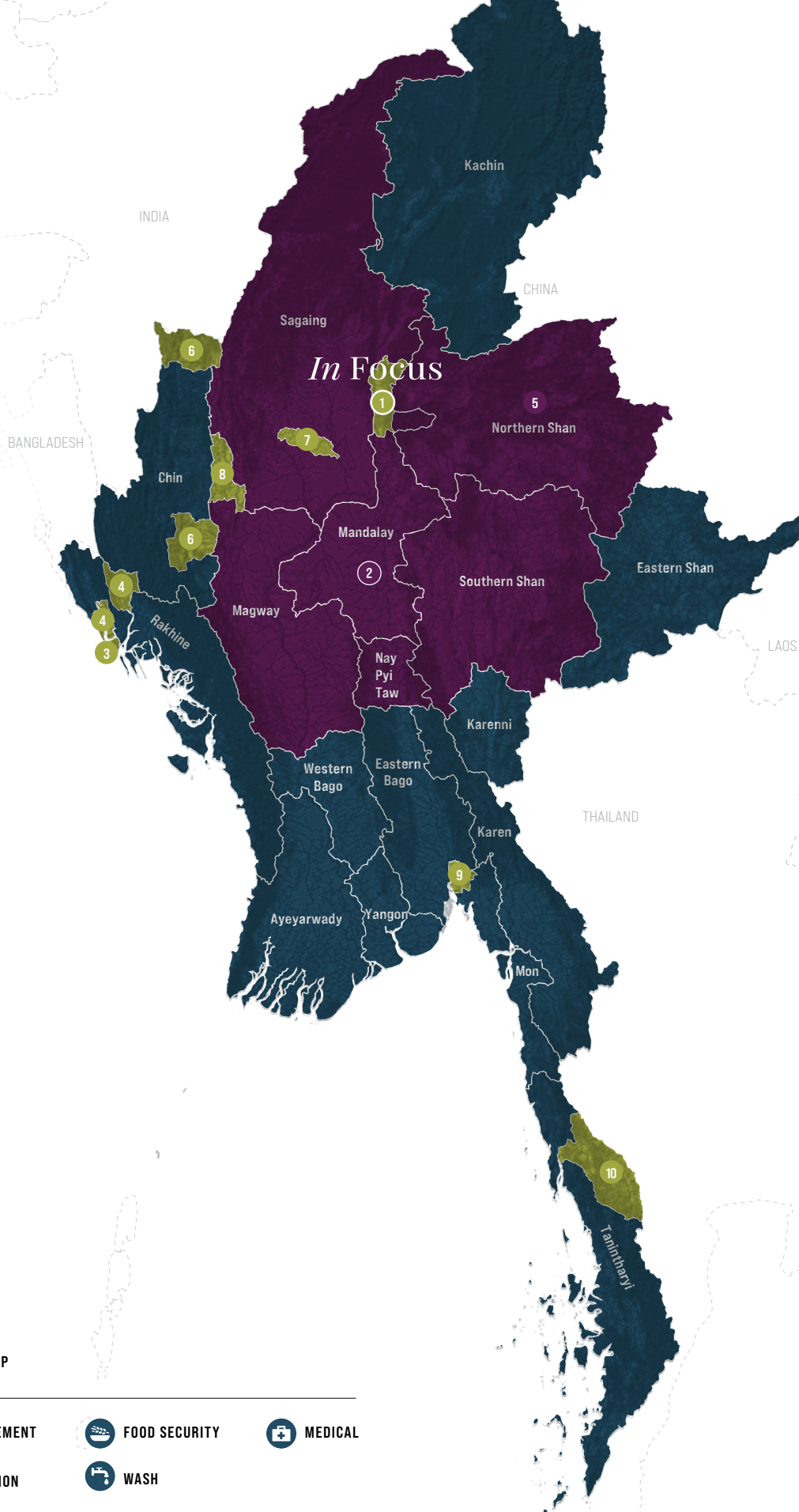
POWER DYNAMICS



PROTECTION



WASH





## 1 – SAC STRIKES IDP SITE

Thabeikkyin Township, Mandalay Region

On 15 May, State Administration Council (SAC) airstrikes reportedly hit an IDP site between 9-Mile and Lan Lal Kyit villages in Thabeikkyin Township, killing two civilians and injuring nine others — including four children. According to Thabeikkyin residents who spoke to this analytical unit, people injured from the 15 May airstrikes were not able to receive adequate medical care in resistance-controlled areas, but also could not easily travel to Mandalay city hospitals. Since April, SAC airstrikes in northern Mandalay Region have reportedly intensified, despite the SAC's announcements of a 2 April humanitarian ceasefire to aid the earthquake response and a 22 April extension. In May, SAC airstrikes reportedly hit Thabeikkyin Township on a near daily basis. According to monitoring by this analytical unit, SAC airstrikes have killed 54 people in Thabeikkyin, Singu, and Madaya townships since 2 April. According to the Myanmar Defense and Security Institute — a think tank formed by former soldiers now part of the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) — SAC airstrikes could intensify in 2025. According to this think tank, the SAC has shifted its airstrike authorisation from a single, centralised command to regional and local commands, increased its military budget for production and purchase of weaponry, and expanded its access to Chinese military technology. Moreover, sources close to the Mandalay People's Defence Force (PDF) told this analytical unit that the SAC is also expected to initiate major ground operations in the coming monsoon season, and that the intensity of the airstrikes may be designed to weaken resistance defensive posts.

### Inadequate access to healthcare

The recent uptick in SAC aerial bombardment has brought into sharper relief the limitations of resistance actor healthcare facilities in Thabeikkyin Township. In particular, the facilities are said to have limited equipment and medical supplies. At the same time, there are barriers to injured airstrike victims accessing medical care at better equipped facilities in Mandalay city: moving injured airstrike victims is reportedly a significant challenge due to the threat of detention at SAC checkpoints; and ongoing fighting in Madaya Township (located between Mandalay city and Thabeikkyin Township) makes it more difficult and potentially take more time. The 15 May SAC

airstrikes were also among the few times SAC airstrikes reportedly hit displacement sites in northern Mandalay, introducing new concerns for civilians in areas they may have perceived as safer than their homes. Resistance actors in northern Mandalay Region will likely continue to struggle to deliver medical services to civilian populations due to limited medicine, equipment, and supplies, as well as prevalence of rudimentary makeshift treatment centers. This inability to provide healthcare or safe travel could fuel further displacement, with civilians fleeing at-risk resistance controlled urban areas into rural and forested areas; the fear of SAC airstrikes on more densely populated resistance-controlled areas may outweigh the benefits (e.g. access to healthcare services) in those areas. The harms of continued SAC airstrikes could likely be alleviated by humanitarian support in the form of medicine, equipment, supplies, emergency mobile medical units, and training for local volunteers.

### Further disruption to earthquake affected zone

The intensity of aerial bombardment in northern Mandalay Region — an area already severely impacted by the March earthquakes — has likely not only increased humanitarian needs but complicated the ability of local responders to procure and move earthquake relief supplies while navigating multiple and competing emergency needs. SAC airstrikes had reportedly already hit resistance-controlled emerging market hubs in northern Mandalay Region in months prior, a phenomenon also seen in Rakhine State this month (see “SAC airstrikes hit AA-towns” in Western Myanmar). Since the SAC began receiving supplies from foreign governments for earthquake relief, including sizable quantities from China, resistance actors have accused it of diverting assistance — allegedly including jet fuel, foreign currency, and other supplies — for military operations. At the same time, the humanitarian response will likely have to continue navigating structural violence from the SAC, whose forces are unlikely to allow goods to flow north from SAC-controlled Mandalay city. Similar dynamics were seen following damaging floods in central and southeastern Myanmar in September-October 2024, with restrictions in SAC-controlled areas and difficulties getting support to non-SAC-controlled areas.

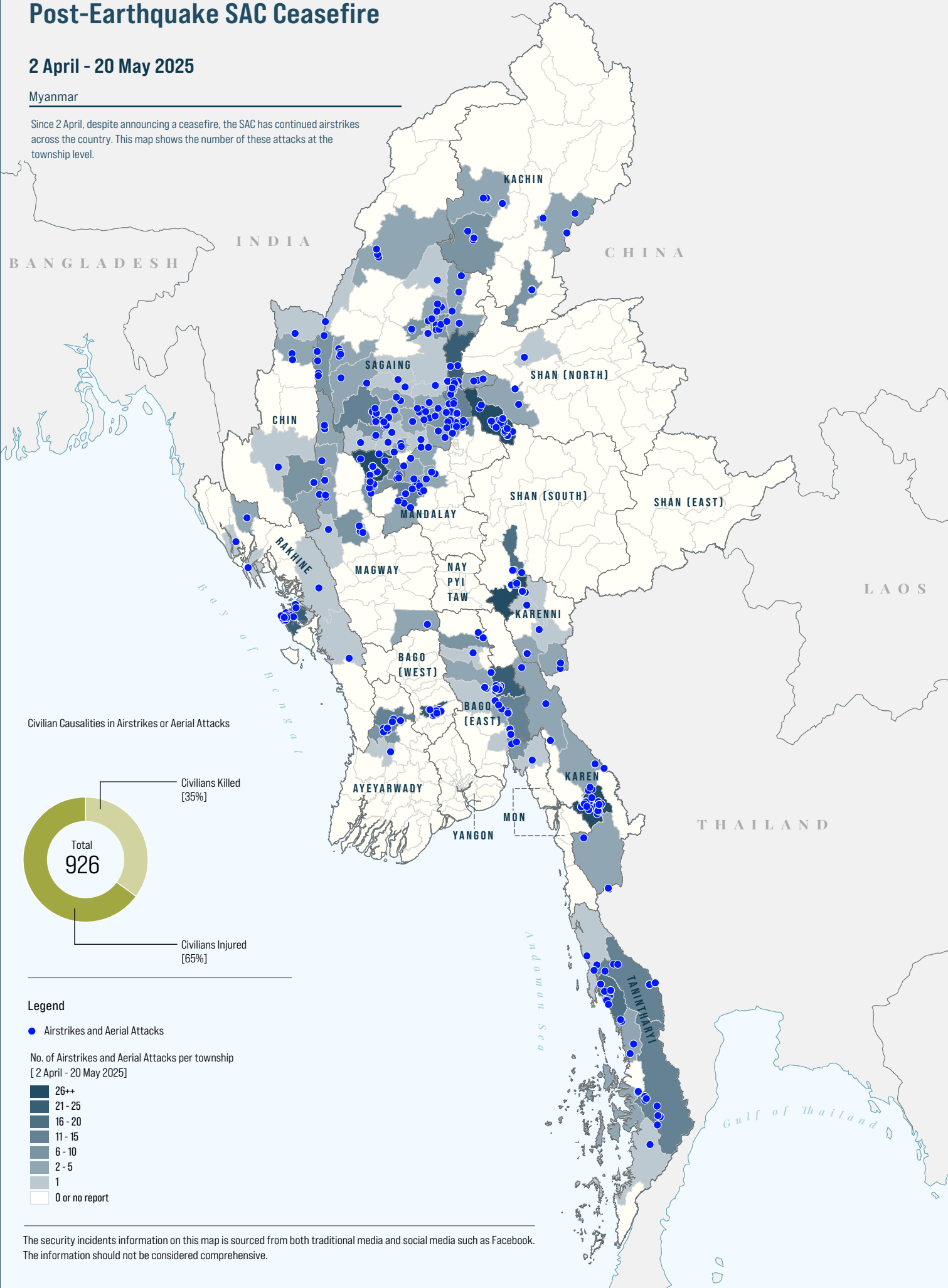


# Aerial Attacks During Post-Earthquake SAC Ceasefire

2 April - 20 May 2025

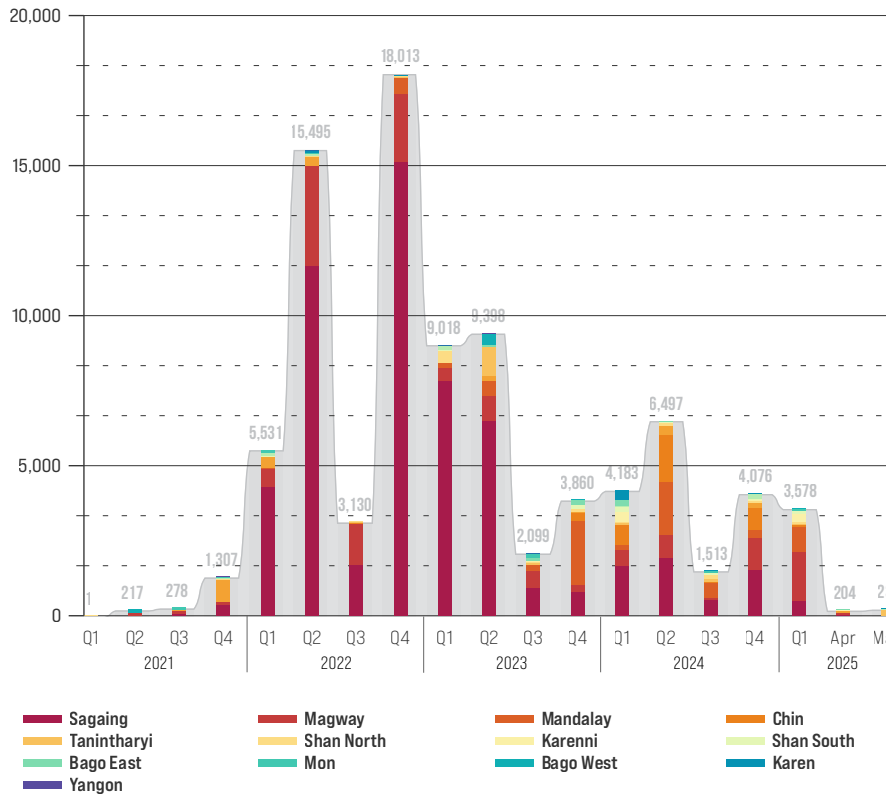
Myanmar

Since 2 April, despite announcing a ceasefire, the SAC has continued airstrikes across the country. This map shows the number of these attacks at the township level.

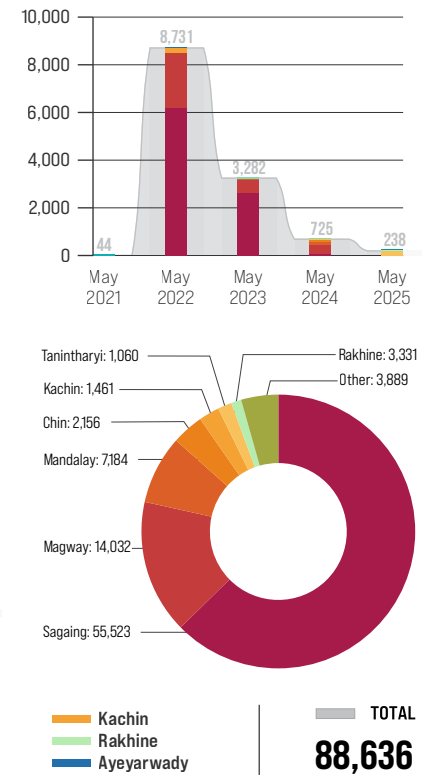


## HOUSES DESTROYED BY ARSON ATTACK

(1 JAN 2021 - 20 MAY 2025)



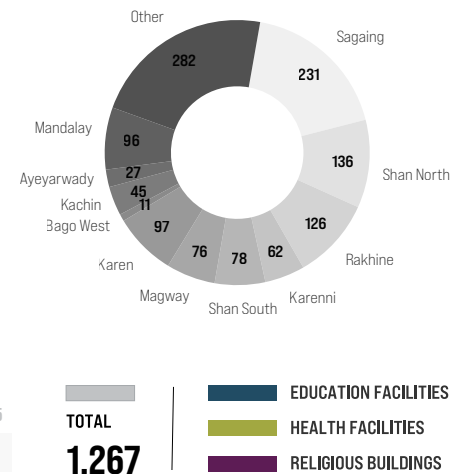
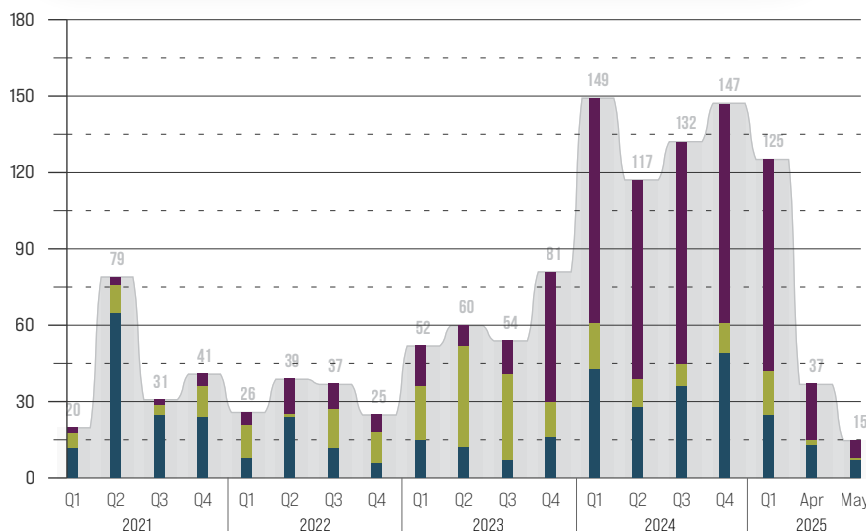
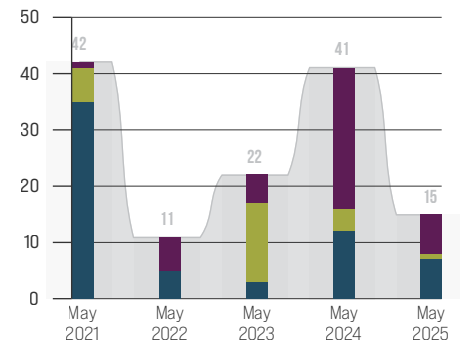
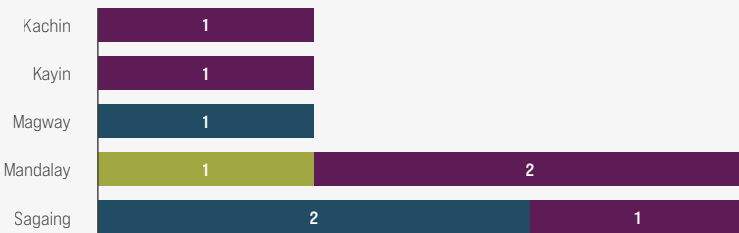
## YEARLY COMPARISON OF CURRENT MONTH



## CIVILIAN OBJECTS DAMAGED OR DESTROYED BY ARSON OR ARMED VIOLENCE

(1 JAN 2021 - 19 MAY 2025)

### This Fortnight Focus



# Central Myanmar Myanmar Central



## PRIMARY CONCERNS



### 2 – CEMENT PRICE RISES AMID EARTHQUAKE RECONSTRUCTION

#### Central Myanmar

On 17 May, local media reported on the increasing unaffordability of cement for post-earthquake reconstruction in Sagaing and Mandalay regions. Myanmar has around 19 cement factories, though five – one in Naypyidaw and four in Mandalay – were reportedly damaged by the March earthquakes and remained closed, with nationwide production reportedly dropping by 40 per cent. The State Administration Council (SAC) has attempted to set wholesale prices and create lists of consumers to manage demand, but locals reportedly say that the lists are not compiled transparently and favour administrative officials, including those whose houses may not have been damaged in the earthquakes. One Sagaing resident was quoted as saying, “When I went to buy [cement], they said I wasn’t on the list. But I never even knew when they collected the names”. According to locals who spoke to this analytical unit, the shortages in Mandalay city and Sagaing town have increased the price of cement to between 36,000-40,000 Myanmar per bag, with most people also facing delays in construction work. In order to stem price gouging, the SAC has reportedly shut down nine construction material shops selling cement at increased prices since the end of April. Meanwhile, in Mandalay Region and Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, some shops reportedly only allow the purchase of 20 to 30 bags per person per day, and stocks frequently run out.

#### Shaky reconstruction

Increasing numbers of Sagaing and Mandalay region residents may be unable to afford suitable earthquake reconstruction materials if cement prices continue to climb. In such a scenario, residents may attempt to reinforce damaged structures rather than demolishing and rebuilding, leaving them exposed to unsafe living conditions which are likely to be exacerbated during the incoming monsoon season. Cement shortages in Myanmar have been an ongoing issue since the military coup in 2021, with cement factory output disrupted by ongoing fighting, power cuts, and import restrictions on spare parts. When the Ta’ang National Liberation Army and other armed actors seized cement factories during Operation 1027, this reportedly squeezed production lines further. The recent earthquakes introduced even greater challenges to cement supply. For example, in Sagaing Region, supplies from Mandalay city are likely impacted by restrictions to using heavy-duty trucks on the new Sagaing-Mandalay bridge (the old bridge collapsed in the March earthquakes), with cement transported across the Irrawaddy River on barges, prolonging delivery and increasing transport costs. These costs will similarly be felt by humanitarian responders trying to buy cement, making it even harder for earthquake affected communities to recover.

# Western Myanmar in Myanmar Myanmar Western

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## KEY TRENDS

Sittwe residents expressed fear that food shortages could get even worse, and elsewhere disease and water shortages appeared to be worsening for displaced persons in AA territory. SAC airstrikes intensified in AA-controlled urban areas.

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

MAY

Sittwe Township

It was reported that the SAC was prohibiting distributions of goods (shipped from Yangon) to ethnic Rakhine villages within the township, but allowing distribution to Muslim villages.

Ponnagyun Township

It was reported that there were outbreaks of diarrhea and hepatitis A at IDP camps near Ga Nan Taung village.

Pauktaw Township

It was reported that at least five villages continued to experience water shortages, with increased demand from displaced persons sheltering in those villages.

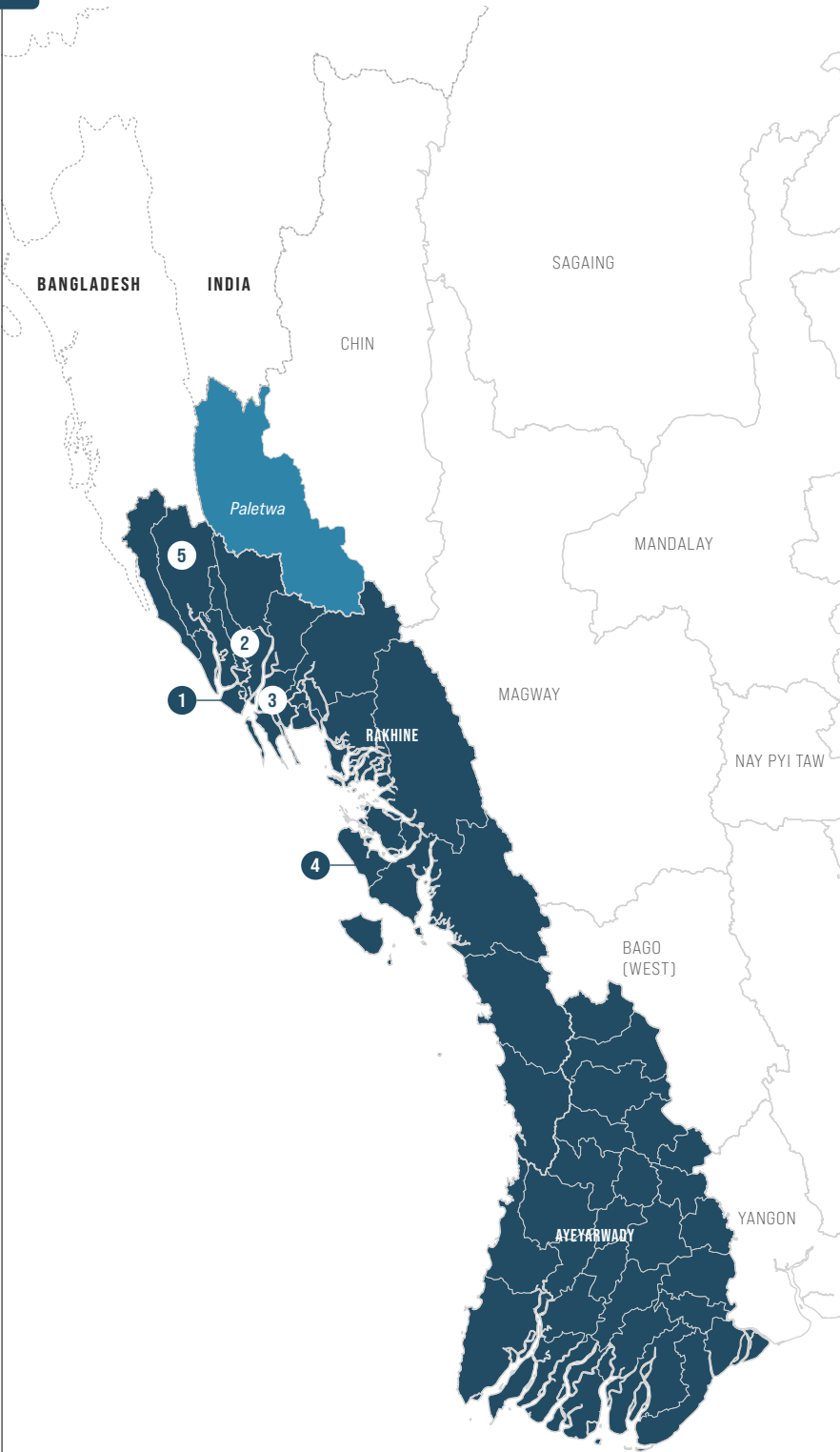
Kyaukpyu Township

A 5.1 magnitude earthquake reportedly occurred, with its epicenter approximately 29 miles off the coast of Kyaukpyu.

Buthidaung Township

The AA reportedly freed over 300 relatives of SAC troops to mark one year since it captured Buthidaung town.

Fortnightly Update for Humanitarian Responders



\* Any event included in this timeline without an embedded source link has either been reported to this analytical unit directly by a reliable source, or drawn from private/limited-circulation material.



## Summary

Rohingya people confined to displacement sites in Sittwe Township are suffering from increasingly severe food shortages, leading to a rise in mental health issues and civilian-related protection concerns. Food insecurity at the sites — since global humanitarian funding diminished earlier this year — is being compounded by a lack of job opportunities for residents and shortages of goods due to Arakan Army (AA) and State Administration Council (SAC) troop activity in Sittwe Township. Local responders will likely have to navigate multiple urgent concerns, including social tensions. Meanwhile, SAC airstrikes on urban areas in Rathedaung and Kyauktaw townships have intensified, suggesting SAC targeted attempts to disrupt economic activity, the safety of displaced people, and ultimately the AA's emerging governance in central and northern Rakhine State.

### PRIMARY CONCERNS



#### 3 – SITTWE FOOD SHORTAGES

Sittwe Township, Rakhine State

Local media reported in early May that Rohingya people in displacement sites in Sittwe Township had been facing severe food shortages since a large intergovernmental organisation suspended its food assistance program in March 2025. According to residents in Sittwe displacement sites, food insecurity since the funding withdrawal has been compounded by lack of job opportunities and goods shortages due to Arakan Army (AA) and State Administration Council (SAC) troop activity around Sittwe Township. According to the same source, food insecurity has also led to a rise in mental health issues — and even suicide attempts — among camp residents. In what locals told this analytical unit was a sign of desperation, a man at the Say Tha Mar Gyi site became mentally unstable and set fire to his own shelter after days of struggling to feed his family and being unable to borrow rice from a neighbor. According to a Rohingya resident who spoke with this analytical unit, the fire destroyed 18 shelters, killed two people, and left 1,000 people without shelter. In Sittwe displacement sites, the price of rice is increasingly unaffordable, soaring to over 3,000 Myanmar Kyat per kilo, with residents reportedly relying on foraging for food such as wild yams, leaves, and vegetables, in order to eat. Meanwhile, many Rohingya people in

the township are likely waiting for intergovernmental organisations to resume aid, but few donors have provided a timeline for the return of food assistance.

#### Rohingya face hunger

Access to food is likely to be a continued challenge for Rohingya camp residents in Sittwe Township. Neither economic conditions in Sittwe Township nor relaxations of movement restrictions for Rohingya people there are likely to improve in the short term, particularly as tensions between the SAC and AA remain high. Meanwhile, residents of the displacement sites are likely to face increasing hunger and food insecurity without external assistance. In a sign of how desperate the situation is becoming, a Say Tha Mar Gyi camp resident told this analytical unit that the wife of the abovementioned man who burned down the shelters requested she and her child — rather than the husband — be taken into custody so that they might be provided food. Although the recent funding cuts are significant, they are exacerbating long-term issues around Rohingya populations dependent on humanitarian assistance for their survival due to SAC- and prior government-imposed restrictions on free movement and employment. The posture of the SAC suggests that Rohingya people will continue to be subjected to such conditions. This could possibly lead to greater mental instability and civilian-related protection concerns. In light of these issues, local responders will likely have to navigate multiple urgent concerns, including social tensions, with those most at risk tending to include the young and vulnerable.

## PRIMARY CONCERNS



### 4 – SAC AIRSTRIKES HIT AA TOWNS

Rathedaung and Kyauktaw townships, Rakhine State

On 13 May, State Administration Council (SAC) airstrikes reportedly hit Htun Ya Wai village, around five kilometres from Rathedaung township, killing two people. Further airstrikes hit Ywar Ma ward, in Kyauktaw town, on 14 and 15 May; the three-day consecutive airstrikes reportedly killed 20 people and injured 37 others. The Arakan Army (AA) captured Kyauktaw and Rathedaung townships from the SAC in February and March 2024, respectively. According to local media, Htun Ya Wai village has recently become a hub for people displaced from Sittwe town – such as the two killed on 13 May. A local from Kyauktaw told this analytical unit that SAC may have been able to target Ywar Ma ward because civilians there had access to the internet through Starlink services, and that the airstrike victims were not AA personnel. There have been accusations from ethnic armed groups – including the AA – that civilian usage of internet and phone services in certain areas exposes the areas to SAC airstrikes. As of 17 May, only a few people were reportedly still staying in Kyauktaw town, mostly to look after property, and local markets and shops were reportedly closed due to widespread community fears of further SAC air attacks. The AA issued a statement condemning the SAC's air attacks carried out during the humanitarian ceasefire and saying it would document and report on the incidents.

### Hubs under fire

The uptick in SAC airstrikes in Rathedaung and Kyauktaw townships may suggest targeted attempts to disrupt economic activity, the safety of displaced people, and ultimately emerging governance of the AA in central and northern Rakhine State. There was reportedly no active fighting in either township this fortnight. Though it lacks ground troops in the area, the SAC is likely inclined to target Kyauktaw town due to its role as a key market for commerce and trade since the AA removed the SAC from most of northern and central Rakhine State in 2024. Kyauktaw town likely emerged as a hub due to its proximity to the Kaladan River, which flows from Paletwa town (and the India border) and connects to other waterway arteries in northern and central Rakhine State. In fact, Kyauktaw town has been one of the most frequently targeted AA-controlled areas for SAC airstrikes. Meanwhile, the latest wave of airstrikes in Rathedaung Township threatens the security of displaced persons in AA-controlled territory and could drive further displacement. Humanitarian response activities may be impacted by disruptions to trade and commerce flows in northern and central Rakhine State, as well as the impact of prolonged displacement on needs.

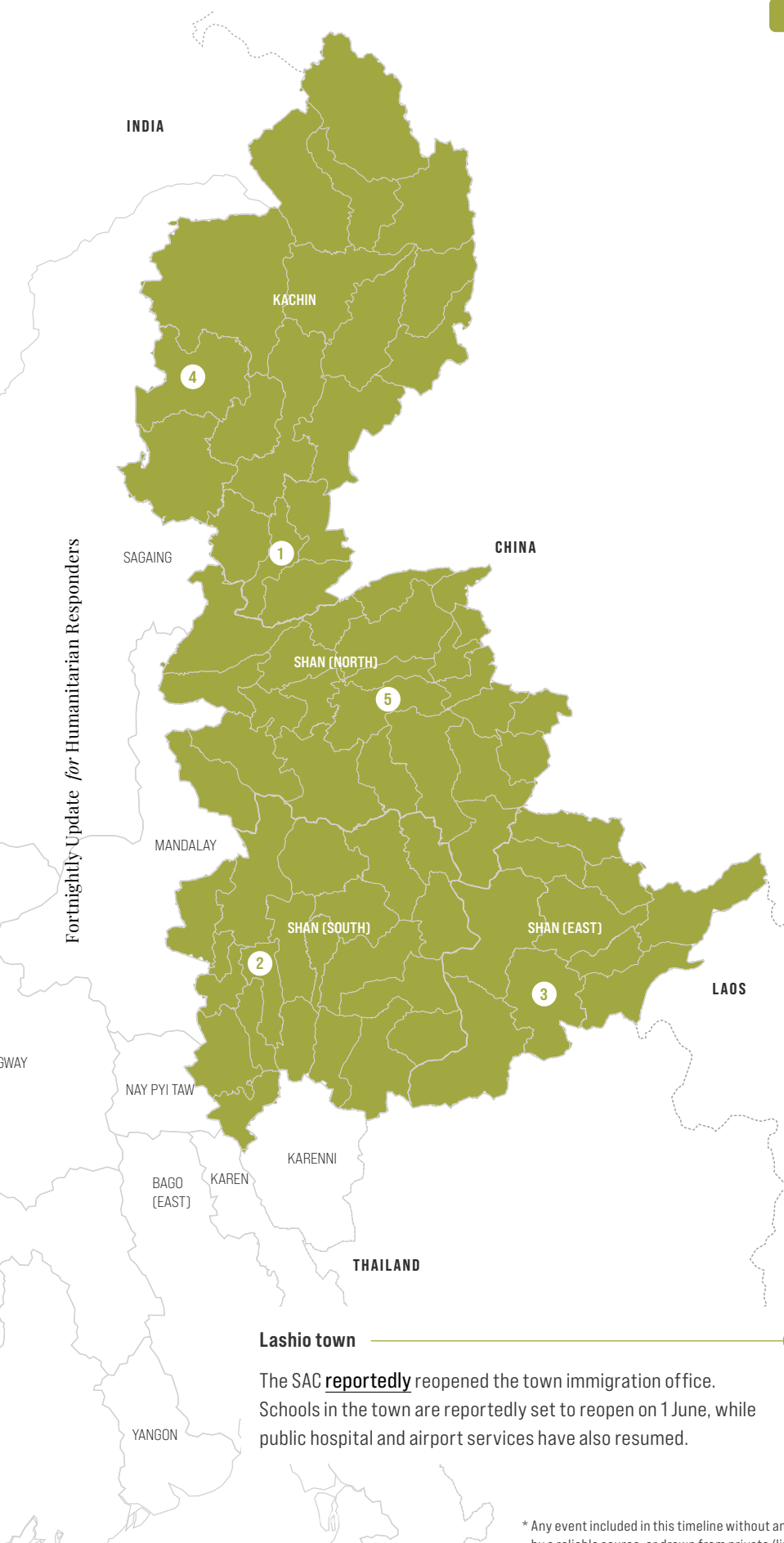
# Northeast Myanmar Myanmar Northeast

Fortnightly Update *for* Humanitarian Responders

## KEY TRENDS

In Shan State, fighting continued between SAC and TNLA troops in Nawnghkio Township, as did SAC airstrikes, and the number of SAC administrators in Lashio crept upward. In Kachin State, KIA and SAC troops continued to fight in Bhamo town and on roads to Hpakant town.





Fortnightly Update for Humanitarian Responders

MAY

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

08

1

## Bhamo town

An SAC airstrike reportedly killed around 30 civilians sheltering in a monastery.

09

10

11

12

13

14

15

2

## Taunggyi town

Heavy rainfall reportedly caused flooding and damaged property. Residents blamed poor drainage due to garbage and raised concerns around continued underground water well drilling.

16

3

4

## Monghsat Township

It was reported that UWSA-controlled rare earth mines near the Thai border were polluting the Nam Khut River.

17

18

## Hpakant Township

It was reported that KIA forces continued to attack an SAC column advancing towards Hpakant town, and that around 1,000 civilians were displaced and in need of aid including sanitation resources.

19

5

## Lashio town

The SAC reportedly reopened the town immigration office. Schools in the town are reportedly set to reopen on 1 June, while public hospital and airport services have also resumed.

\* Any event included in this timeline without an embedded source link has either been reported to this analytical unit directly by a reliable source, or drawn from private/limited-circulation material.

## Summary

Over the past two weeks, fighting continued between State Administration Council (SAC) and Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) troops in Nawngkhio Township, as did SAC airstrikes on TNLA-controlled towns across Northern Shan State. Continued fighting and escalating use of SAC airstrikes on civilian populated towns are likely to worsen displacement and heighten humanitarian risks, and they may also impact the ability of farmers to tend to crops during the planting season, which could further erode livelihood conditions.

### PRIMARY CONCERNS



#### 5 – SAC AND TNLA FIGHTING

##### Northern Shan State

During 8-17 May, State Administration Council (SAC) and Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) forces reportedly continued to engage in intense fighting in Nawngkhio Township, while SAC airstrikes pummelled other TNLA-held towns far away from the frontlines. SAC forces reportedly attempted to attack TNLA positions near Taung Hla and Yar Pyin villages – close to bitterly fought over Tawng Hkam village – and fired artillery shells and launched drones into surrounding civilian populated areas. SAC airstrikes reportedly hit Manton town in Manton Township and Mongngawt town in Kyaukme Township on 12 May, Nawngkhio and Mogoke towns the next day, and across Northern Shan State for five more days. The TNLA reported that SAC troops had launched operations in Nawngkhio Township in April, following the breakdown in Chinese-mediated talks in Kunming, despite repeated calls for a humanitarian ceasefire by the SAC leadership. At the talks, the SAC had reportedly demanded the TNLA withdraw from five towns – Hsipaw, Nawngkhio, Kyaukme, Mongmit, and Mogoke – and return to Namhsan and Manton townships, within the Pa Laung Self-Administered Zone. In anticipation of further SAC attacks, the TNLA reportedly warned civilians in its territory “to remain vigilant, as airstrikes, drone attacks, and artillery shelling continue to occur daily”.

#### SAC and TNLA at loggerheads

Continued fighting between the SAC and TNLA and escalating use of SAC airstrikes on civilian populated towns are likely to worsen displacement and heighten humanitarian risks, while the inability of farmers to tend to crops during the planting season could further erode livelihood conditions. According to locals in Northern Shan State, May falls during the planting season, most fields have been prepared for paddy, and some have already been planted. After planting, farmers will need to regularly tend to their crops through watering, soil care, weed control, fertilisation, and pest management. If farmers are displaced during this season they will likely not be able to take proper care of their paddy, which could result in poor crop yields. In August 2025, the TNLA and SAC are expected to visit Kunming for further Chinese-mediated ceasefire talks. If these talks fail to reach an agreement (or to take place at all), the SAC is likely to continue ground assaults and airstrikes, possibly into November – which overlaps with the crop harvesting season. Moreover, a Kyaukme town resident told this analytical unit that residents are worried they will be displaced again due to airstrikes or future ground assaults, and the resident expressed concern that buildings in Nawngkhio Township had been heavily damaged by SAC airstrikes. Local responders can reportedly still operate in most townships in Northern Shan State, but this may be affected by worsening airstrikes. A humanitarian response will have to grapple with airstrikes and artillery attacks on civilian infrastructure driving displacement, as well as with restricted internet communications.

# Northwest Myanmar Myanmar Northwest

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## KEY TRENDS

SAC bombing — and village raids — across the northwest continued to impact trade and free movement. Amid post-earthquake destruction in central Myanmar — and another 5.7 magnitude earthquake in Mandalay city — rising cement prices threatened to slow reconstruction.



TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

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Yesagyo Township

A resistance coalition reportedly **ambushed** SAC troops near Sin Chaung village, killing 30.

Wetlet Township

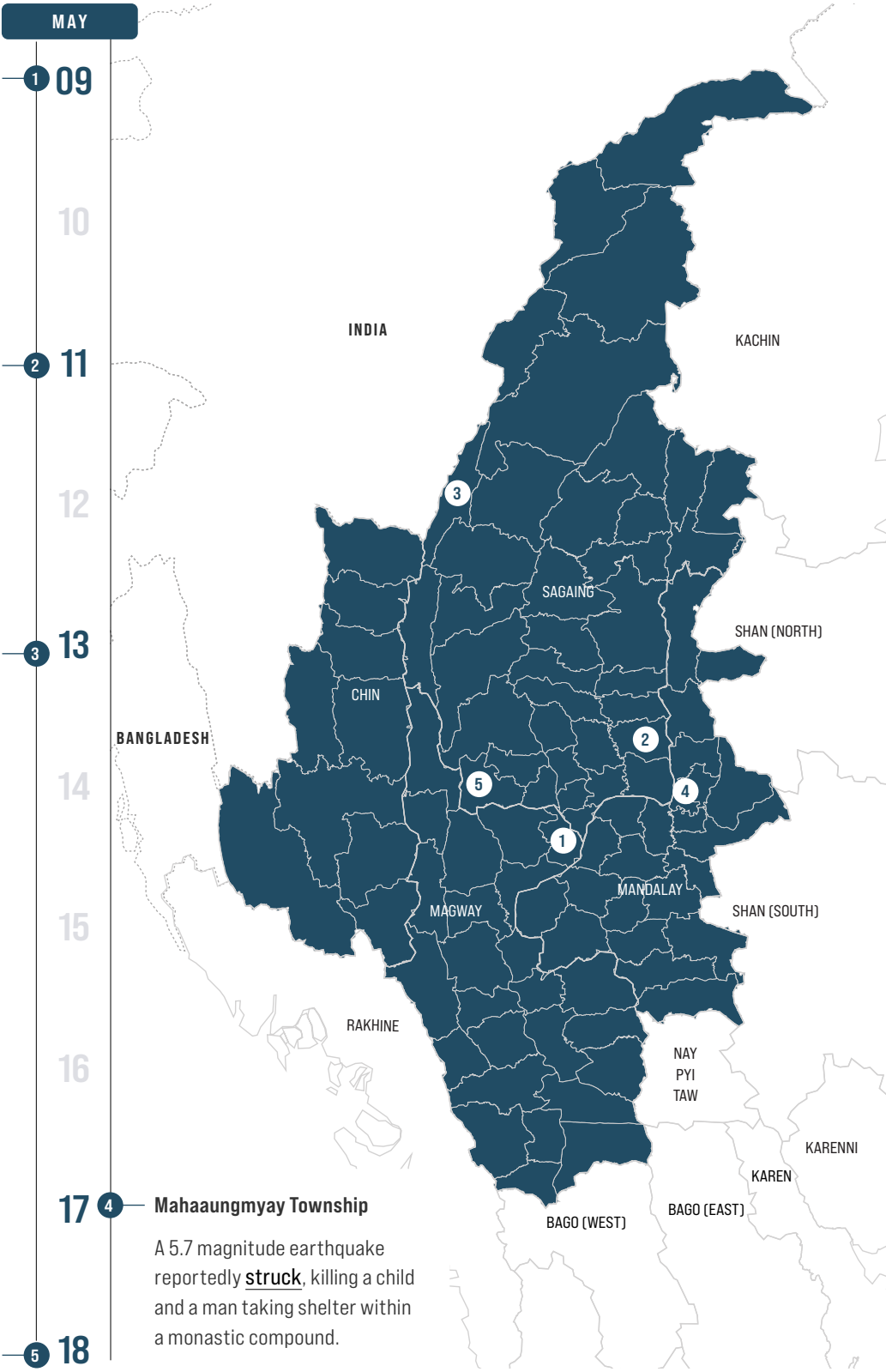
SAC airstrikes reportedly **killed** 16 civilians in Ywar Taw Kone, Shwe Pan Kone, and other villages.

Tamu Township

India's paramilitary Assam Rifles reportedly **raided** a Tamu District PDF base camp on the India-Myanmar border, killing ten PDF troops.

Pale Township

SAC airstrikes reportedly **killed** five people in Nwe Inn village.



\* Any event included in this timeline without an embedded source link has either been reported to this analytical unit directly by a reliable source, or drawn from private/limited-circulation material.

## Summary

State Administration Council (SAC) bombing of towns controlled by Chin resistance actors threatened the security and functionality of these towns and will likely prolong displacement. If airstrikes continue, the humanitarian response may have to navigate limited free movement, impeding assistance and increasing the needs of displaced people and other civilians in resistance controlled towns and townships. In Sagaing, Magway, and Mandalay regions, SAC airstrikes — and village raids — illustrated the limitations faced by resistance medical and education providers amid extreme SAC violence.

### PRIMARY CONCERNS



#### 6 — SAC BOMBS CHIN TOWNS

Tonzang and Mindat townships

On 15, 16, and 17 May, the State Administration Council (SAC) reportedly launched consecutive airstrikes on Mindat Township, in southern Chin State, before hitting a Public Planning Office in Tonzang town (in northern Chin State) on 19 May. Chin Brotherhood forces captured Mindat in December 2024, and there have been intermittent SAC airstrikes since then. According to the Mindat People's Administrative Committee, the SAC bombed Mindat Township around 20 times between 9 April and 15 May, killing 11 civilians and injuring more than 20 others. Chinland Council forces captured most of Tonzang Township in May 2024, but the 19 May airstrikes were reportedly among the first aerial attacks there since SAC troops were expelled from the area. According to Mindat residents who spoke to this analytical unit, the majority of displaced people from Mindat town have not returned home due to the fear of airstrikes, and some returnees have even decided to leave again due to the recent uptick in airstrikes. A source close to the Chinland Defence Force-Matupi — aligned with the Chin Brotherhood — told this analytical unit that more than half the residents of Matupi — a smaller town 160 km west of Mindat — also remain displaced.

#### SAC still in the skies

Despite SAC forces in Chin State being primarily confined to Hakha and Tedim towns, the intensity of airstrikes on other urban areas of the state threatens the security and functionality of resistance-controlled areas. Since the coup, Chin State residents have primarily fled to areas far away from SAC ground forces and front line fighting, including Mizoram State in India. However, due to growing ill-sentiment and restrictive measures towards Chin refugees in India, newly displaced people may increasingly choose to stay in Chin State. According to locals who spoke to this analytical unit, the uptick in SAC airstrikes on urban areas has made displaced persons wary of resettling in resistance-controlled towns that could be hit at any point. Furthermore, Mindat town is a key node in trade and commerce in southern Chin State, partially due to its proximity to central Myanmar. Rural communities and IDPs in Mindat Township rely on a functional Mindat town for supplies of essential goods. If airstrikes continue amid prolonged displacement, the humanitarian response may have to navigate limited free movement, impeding assistance and increasing the needs of displaced people and other civilians in resistance controlled towns and townships. There is also the potential for airstrikes and insecurity to threaten the functionality of non-SAC administrative mechanisms, which could further impede service provision and coordination.

## PRIMARY CONCERNS



### 7 – SAC AIRSTRIKES HIT SCHOOL

Tabayin Township, Sagaing Region

On 12 May, a State Administration Council (SAC) airstrike reportedly hit a National Unity Government (NUG) school in Oe Htein Kwin village in Tabayin Township. Grades 4 and 5 — with students 6-13 years old — were said to be in class at the time. The strike reportedly killed 22 school children and two teachers, and injured over 100 other children, some severely. On 14 May, two more children reportedly died from their injuries. Oe Htein Kwin village is in Shwebo District, where SAC administration is reportedly almost non-existent in rural areas and NUG authority is generally respected and followed by the civilian population. Nonetheless, there had reportedly been few airstrikes in the area before 12 May, and armed actors were not positioned in the school prior to the strikes last week. Local medical facilities reportedly had to conduct amputations on some children but faced lack of surgical equipment, an insufficient number of doctors, and a shortage of medicine. In response to the 12 May incidents, NUG schools across northwest Myanmar were reportedly closed. According to the NUG Human Rights Ministry, SAC airstrikes destroyed over 240 schools between January 2023 and May 2025.

### Shocking attack

Efforts to care for those injured in Oe Htein Kwin again illustrated the limitations faced by resistance medical and education providers. The airstrikes, according to local resistance officials, highlighted the lack of medicine for the injured children. Although some Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) doctors were able to provide treatment, there are concerns that casualties could increase due to the lack of supplies such as blood thinners, bandages, painkillers, and syringes. At the same time, the insecurity experienced during fighting and traumatic incidents such as airstrikes can have long-lasting effects on children's mental and emotional well-being; survivors and relatives

of airstrike victims may be in need of psychological health support and services, but resource limitations may mean that this is less of a priority for local governance actors. Meanwhile, SAC airstrikes and ground assaults in Sagaing Region have regularly disrupted education services and child learning since the coup, but further school closures — due to protection related concerns — will also likely exacerbate these issues, as will SAC-imposed restrictions on internet and mobile phone communication. In any case, these civilians, many of whom are now displaced, face ever-worsening challenges and suffering, and they require greater humanitarian support with food, water, medicine, and shelter.



### 8 – SAC RAIDS VILLAGE

Gangaw Township, Magway Region

On 12 May, around 100 State Administration Council (SAC) soldiers from Infantry Battalion 50 reportedly raided Lel Ma village in Gangaw Township, killing 11 people, including four children, and detaining 23 others. The SAC reportedly later released 11 detained women, while others remain under detention at the Infantry Battalion 50 base. Twenty of the approximately 300 houses in Lel Ma village had already been torched in previous SAC raids, and now most of the village is reportedly fleeing ongoing SAC raids in surrounding areas. One township resident told local media that he saw the bodies of 11 people — who had been killed in the 12 May raid — dumped in a pile nearby and showing signs of abuse. Lel Ma village is approximately eight kilometres south of Gangaw town on the Kale–Gangaw road, close to an SAC artillery encampment. Gangaw Township is a stronghold of resistance actors, with SAC forces there said to often be hemmed into town wards, bases, and Pyu Saw Htee villages. Likely due to this, when SAC forces are able to mobilise in upper Magway Region, it can often be a trigger for acts of extreme violence and civilian displacement.

# South East Myanmar Myanmar Southeast

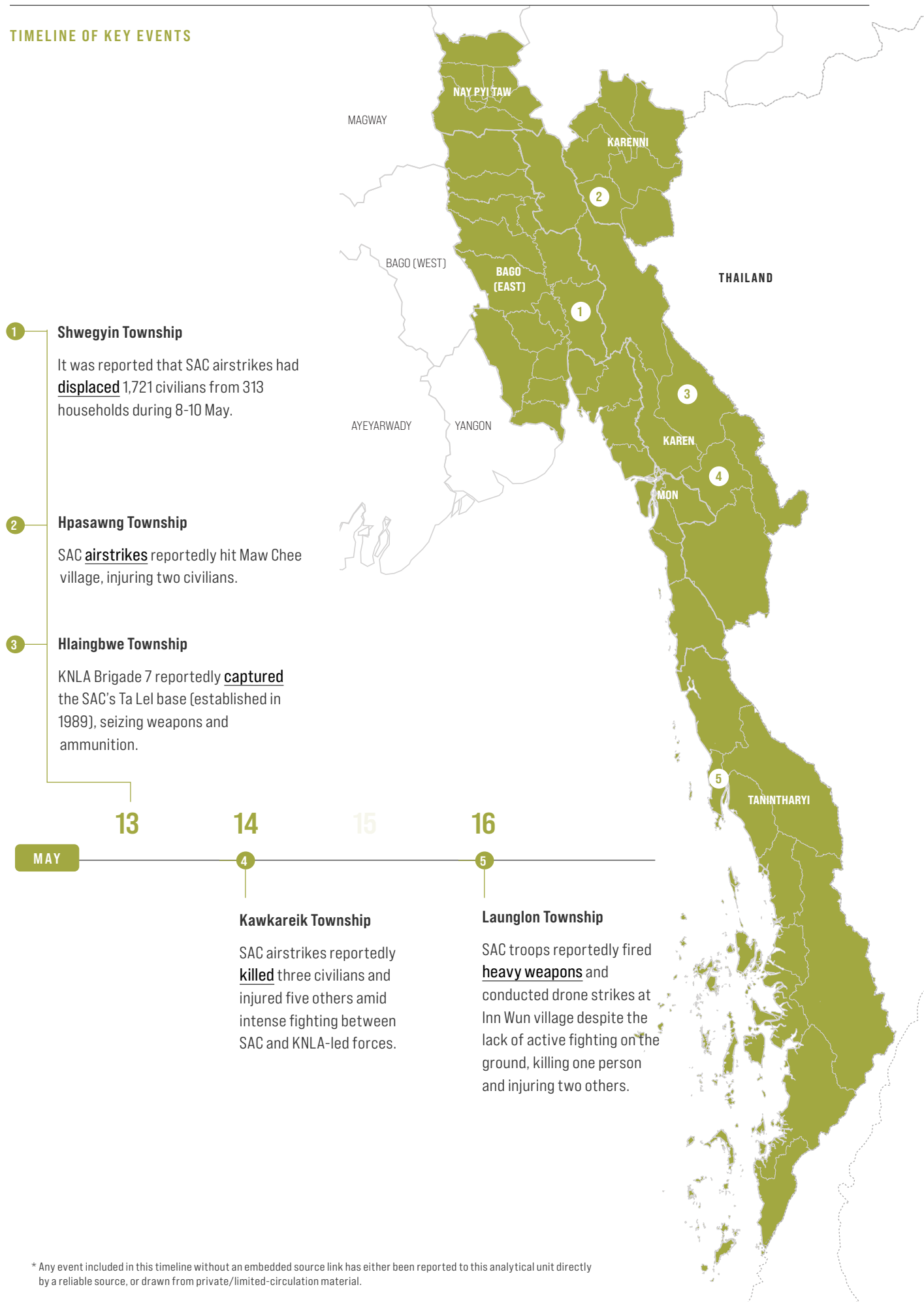
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## KEY TRENDS

KNLA Brigades continued to capture bases on the Thai-Myanmar border in Karen State and Tanintharyi Region. Karenni State IDPs continue to experience artillery shelling and air attacks, while SAC raids displaced additional people in Mon State.

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

Fortnightly Update for Humanitarian Responders



**1 Shwegyin Township**  
It was reported that SAC airstrikes had displaced 1,721 civilians from 313 households during 8-10 May.

**2 Hpasawng Township**  
SAC airstrikes reportedly hit Maw Chee village, injuring two civilians.

**3 Hlaingbwe Township**  
KNLA Brigade 7 reportedly captured the SAC's Ta Lel base (established in 1989), seizing weapons and ammunition.

**13**  
**MAY**

**14**

**4 Kawkareik Township**  
SAC airstrikes reportedly killed three civilians and injured five others amid intense fighting between SAC and KNLA-led forces.

**15**

**16**

**5 Launglon Township**  
SAC troops reportedly fired heavy weapons and conducted drone strikes at Inn Wun village despite the lack of active fighting on the ground, killing one person and injuring two others.

\* Any event included in this timeline without an embedded source link has either been reported to this analytical unit directly by a reliable source, or drawn from private/limited-circulation material.



# Southeast Myanmar

## Summary

In Mon State's Kyaikto Township, State Administration Council (SAC) airstrikes and village raids displaced people from five village tracts, and are likely to continue amid tensions with Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) forces. The sudden displacement of a large number of civilians just as the monsoon season arrives raises concerns around the impact on aid delivery, and displaced persons' access to food, medicine, and adequate shelter. KNLA Brigade 4 captured a valuable border crossing in Dawei Township, with subsequent SAC troop movements suggesting an attempt at recapturing the outpost. If the SAC tries to recapture lost positions, or the KNLA tries to take the remaining ones around Htee Khee, displacement is likely to increase, and may worsen conditions of IDPs already struggling with trade and movement restrictions.

### PRIMARY CONCERNS



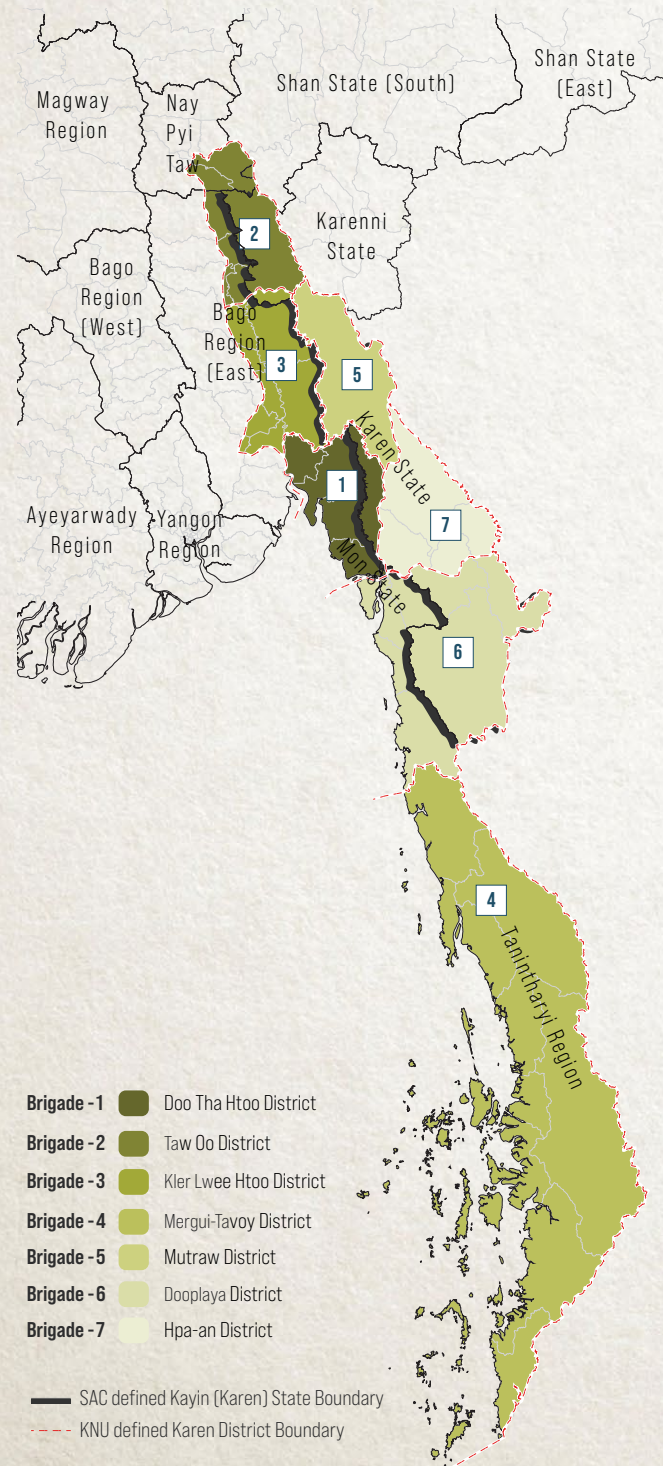
#### 9 – SAC DISPLACES KYAIKTO RESIDENTS

Kyaikto Township, Mon State

On 14 May, around 350 State Administration Council (SAC) troops, from Light Infantry Division (LID) 101 and Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) 207, **reportedly** raided Win Kan, Kha Ywea, Pyin Ka Doe Kone, and Zee Pyaung village tracts in Kyaikto Township. The ground assault was preceded by **airstrikes** and **artillery shelling** on 10-14 May, which had already killed at least one civilian, injured several more, and damaged buildings and croplands. Due to the SAC's ground assaults and continual aerial attacks, Karen National Union (KNU) authorities for District 1 (which includes Kyaikto) reported that 17,602 people had been **newly displaced** from five village tracts in the township. IDPs reportedly fled to relatives' villages and forested areas and are in need of assistance including food, shelter, and medicine. Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) Brigade 1 and Brigade 3 – which operates in nearby Shwegyin Township

### KNU brigades and districts

For purposes of clarity and consistency only, this analytical unit typically utilises geographic terminology adopted by MIMU. However, publications now employ the terms "Karen State" and "Karenni State" preferred by local actors most affected by and most actively responding to the current crises across these states. While this is a neutral analytical unit, a key part of its mission is to amplify local voices. To fulfil this objective and reflect the preferences of local stakeholders, this analytical unit has adjusted its terminology with respect to the names of these states.



Source: Monthly Summary: Security Incidents in Karen State, Karen National Union (KNU) available at <https://tinyurl.com/4dtnfdak>. KNU Brigades and District Area is sourced from KHRG (Karen Human Rights Group) available at <https://www.khrg.org/maps>.



## PRIMARY CONCERNS

— have **reportedly** made significant advances in the region since 2024. On 8 May 2025, KNLA forces reportedly **overran** an LIB 598 base in Kun Seik village in Shwegyin Township — around 13 km from Win Kan village tract, and a villager told local media that the 14 May raids were likely **retaliation** for this. A **spokesperson** from the Committee for Internally Displaced Karen People reportedly said, “needs are really high in KNU Brigade 1. Due to the fighting, there might be continuing displacement, and IDPs will need to be displaced for a long duration. The current assistance [supplies we have] in hand is only meant for the previous displaced persons”.

### Civilians caught on the front line

The sudden displacement of a large number of civilians in Kyaikto Township, just as the monsoon season arrives, is a significant concern. The rains are likely to impact aid delivery, and to impact displaced persons’ access to food, medicine, and adequate shelter — which could in turn lead to an uptick in health issues. Kyaikto Township has reportedly become a key battleground between SAC and resistance actors, likely due to its logistical significance, being in close proximity to the highway connecting Bago Region with Karen State, and next to the Sittaung River which snakes north into Myanmar from the Andaman Sea. Due to the importance of this area for all armed actors, it is likely SAC and KNLA will intensify fighting to re-take or hold on to the territory. At the same time, SAC airstrikes and artillery shelling on civilian infrastructure in the coming weeks and months in northern Mon State and Eastern Bago Region are highly likely, as are ongoing SAC-imposed restrictions on internet and mobile phone communication, which would likely complicate early warning systems, education on safety precautions, and local humanitarian response activities.



### 10 — RESISTANCE CAPTURES THAI-DAWEI BORDER CAMP

Dawei Township, Tanintharyi Region

On 9 May, Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) Brigade 4, supported by the National Unity Government’s (NUG)

Tanintharyi Regional Command, reportedly **captured** the State Administration Council’s (SAC) Htee Khee border camp, following the KNLA-led capture of the nearby Htee Hta strategic base in April 2025. During fighting for the Htee Khee border camp, locals reportedly tried to flee to Thailand, but were unable to enter and set up camp around the border. Since hostilities began in April for control over the Htee Hta strategic base, around 2,000 people from seven villages have reportedly been displaced, according to sources who spoke to this analytical unit. While some displaced persons have returned home, others remain in forested areas and with host communities but face goods shortages due to **restrictions** at the Thai-Myanmar border. On 19 May, the Karen National Union (KNU) **reportedly announced** preparations to open the Htee Khee border trade post, and to tax trade and regulate cross-border movement there.

### IDPs on Thai border in need

Humanitarian needs along this section of the border can be expected to rise. KNLA attempts to capture the remaining SAC bases along this part of the border — Nga Yant Ni, Baudhi, Taung Thone Lone, and Kyauk Mae Taung — will likely lead to further displacement in the area, which could worsen conditions of displaced persons already struggling with trade and movement restrictions. At the same time, the SAC is likely to launch an attack to attempt to regain control of the Htee Khee border camp due to its economic significance; this is the closest border crossing to the economic hub of Dawei, and it is one of only a handful of formal border crossings in southeast Myanmar. According to a local source who spoke to this analytical unit, SAC troops are already increasing activity in Kyauk Me Taung village and reinforcing troops from around 10 battalions in Tanintharyi Region, as a possible staging ground for attacks on the Htee Khee border trade route. In such a scenario, displacement can be expected to rise, as can increased civilian casualties from SAC airstrikes and artillery shelling on populated areas. In eastern Dawei Township, near the Thai-Myanmar border, locals have often relied on food imported from Dawei town and from Thailand. However, during periods of fighting, both these routes have been blocked. This means local responders may have to navigate significant food shortages amid heightened restrictions on roadways.

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## Fortnightly Update *for* Humanitarian Responders

Contributing information sources to this document include public and non-public humanitarian information. The content compiled is by no means exhaustive and does not necessarily reflect the position of its authors or funders. The provided information, assessment, and analysis are designated for humanitarian purposes only and as such should not be cited.

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