



Myanmar Situation Update (16 - 22 August 2021)

Summary

Myanmar's parallel National Unity Government (NUG) Vice President Duwa Lashi La said the date for the start of fighting (“D Day”) has been decided and they are preparing to fight for the protection of the lives and property of citizens. The date will be submitted to the NUG cabinet for a decision. The NUG also reported last month’s massacres of civilians by junta forces in Sagaing Region to a meeting of the UN Security Council, saying the report provided clear evidence that the junta is committing war crimes. In addition, the NUG lodged a declaration with the registrar of the International Criminal Court, accepting the Court’s jurisdiction with respect to international crimes committed in Myanmar territory since 1st July 2002, which is the earliest date permitted by the Statute of International Criminal Court (Rome Statute).

Myanmar’s junta is continuously targeting members of the National League for Democracy (NLD), including its leaders and dozens of lawmakers. The former Mayor and Chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Dr. Myo Aung, former Vice-Mayor U Ye Min Oo, former members of the committee U Min Thu and Daw Sabei Htwe were charged under anti-corruption law. Since July, more than 100 prominent figures in Myanmar including prominent politicians, artists, technocrats, journalists, architects and physicians have died from COVID-19 and from the wider collapse of the public health system following the February coup¹.

Around 1,500 soldiers have now defected from the Myanmar military to join the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) against the junta, a former military captain who is helping fellow deserters said². During this week, around 80 junta’s troops defected from the military with their weapons after the People's Defense Force called them to collaborate with citizens and committed to protect their safety. Junta has denied the news and told the people not to trust these news outlets, which were often misrepresented.

The 42nd session of the ASEAN Inter Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) allowed its approval of military junta personnel to be an observer and excluded the parliamentary delegation from the NUG of Myanmar. The Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) of Myanmar’s ousted government released a statement condemning the action of AIPA.

¹<https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-loses-over-100-leading-figures-from-covid-19-juntas-poor>

²<https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/around-1500-soldiers-have-defected-and-joined-the-civil-disobedience>

Two more journalists were detained, bringing the number of Myanmar journalists/media staff arrested since the coup to 95. Freelance journalist and outspoken regime critic U Sithu Aung Myint and a reporter from BBC Media Action, the corporation's international development charity, Ma Htet Htet Khine were arrested on August 15 from a hideout in Yangon.

The junta cut off all mobile data and wifi in Hpa-Kant township of Kachin State to shut down the information after the killing of a policeman in Lone Khin Zay Gone village of Hpa-Kant township³. As of Sunday, the connection was still down and only phone calls were available.

Around 30 IDPs from Mindat township in Chin state died within the last 3 months. The number of IDPs is still rising due to the recurrence of intense fighting in Mindat and they are in shortage of medical supplies, said an activist who helped IDPs. IDP camps in Kachin, Rakhine, Shan, Karen and Kayah states have also reported food and medical supply shortages.

Protests continue in different parts of Myanmar despite the crackdown by the junta. The clashes between the junta forces and the civil resistance fighters or Ethnic Armed Organizations also emerged across Myanmar particularly in Shan, Kayin, Kachin, Chin, Kayah, Mon, Rakhine States and Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway Regions.

According to the information compiled by ANFREL, at least 32 bomb blasts happened across Myanmar in the past week. It was reported that at least 9 people were injured and 5 people died⁴.

The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) reported that, as of 21 August, 1,009 people have been killed by the junta. 5,787 people are currently under detention and 255 are sentenced. 65 have been sentenced to death and 1,984 are evading arrest warrants.

Colour Code and its Categories

Political updates	Repression by the junta	International community	CRFs and EAOs	Humanitarian situation	Media	Other

³ <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/391616329024561>

⁴ Annexure I

Timeline of events

August 16

Myanmar's detained National League for Democracy (NLD) vice-chairman Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, who is also Mandalay Region's chief minister, is in intensive care with COVID-19 in Mandalay. The veteran politician, who also has blood cancer, was coping calmly despite being on oxygen support, a relative said⁵.

Myanmar's junta is targeting members of the deposed National League for Democracy (NLD), including its leaders and dozens of lawmakers, in a bid to disband the party and secure its tenuous hold on power, ousted lawmakers and analysts said⁶.

Junta's spokesperson Major-General Zaw Min Tun said that they hope to produce COVID-19 vaccines at the government's pharmaceutical factories in collaboration with local experts, their Chinese and Russian counterparts this year⁷.

National Democracy Force (NDF), one of 28 pro-military political parties, announced that they would take legal action concerning the assassination of their CEC member and chair of advocacy in Kayah State, U Han Thar⁸.

The Myanmar ambassador to London, Kyaw Zwar Minn, has formally complained to the police about security threats and intimidation against him, 10 days after a plot to violently attack Kyaw Moe Tun, Myanmar's permanent representative to the United Nations in New York⁹.

According to family members, a 30-year-old man was allegedly beaten to death by guards at No (20) ward's administration, Hlaingtharyar (West) township, Yangon region while passing in front of the administrator's office in the early hours of the morning to go to work¹⁰.

A youth leader from the Mandalay Protest Alliance Force, was arrested by the junta's forces while driving near Mandalay University according to an eyewitness¹¹.

⁵ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/ousted-mandalay-chief-minister-in-intensive-care-with-covid-19.html>

⁶ <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/dissolve-08162021192931.html>

⁷ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-targets-local-covid-19-vaccine-production-this-year>

⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/NdfPartyMyanmar/posts/4206588269456782>

⁹ <https://asiatimes.com/2021/08/myanmars-former-diplomats-under-threat-in-us-uk/>

¹⁰ <https://www.mizzima.com/article/young-man-allegedly-beaten-death?>

¹¹ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/military-arrests-leader-of-mandalay-protest-alliance>

The junta's Central Bank instructed all banks, financial companies and service providers of mobile money to take action with coordinated efforts so that they could trace financial transactions related to the sales of Spring Lottery of Myanmar's ousted government (NUG)¹².

In Bago Region, a Member of Parliament of No. (1) Constituency in Bago Township and chair of Bago Township NLD, had been unjustly arrested by the junta armed forces. Reportedly, he was infected with COVID-19 and passed away on Monday¹³.

The former Chief Minister and Chair of Parliament of Magway Region were infected with COVID-19 in Magway prison, said a person close to the prison¹⁴.

Junta troops arrested 5 villagers of Demoso, Kayah state including a 15 years old child and a woman. They took them to the battle's front line as hostages, said one of their relatives¹⁵.

Junta forces arrested 5 family members of a person (parents, 2 of his sisters and 1 brother) as they couldn't find him, in Taungdwingyi¹⁶.

Myanmar junta's spokesman Major-General Zaw Min Tun said that Myanmar has received over 400,000 COVID-19 vaccines donated by the Chinese, Indian and Russian armed forces. And China's "The People's Liberation Army" (PLA) will give another 400,000 doses next week¹⁷.

Civilian resistance fighters of the People's Defense Force-Mogoke and troops from the ethnic armed group, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) ambushed the troops from the military's Battalion 148 near Ho Weit Village in the east of the township. Six junta soldiers were killed and many others wounded in the attack¹⁸. Also, around seven junta soldiers were reportedly killed by landmines planted by the civilian resistance fighters from Shan and Kayah states while junta's troops were inspecting a destroyed power cable in Shan State¹⁹.

A member of the Union Solidarity and Development Party(USDP) died of a stab wound in Asin Village, Yay Township, Mon State, according to local sources²⁰.

¹² <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1273170216453655>

¹³ <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/900140937254247>

¹⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1273433226427354>

¹⁵ <https://burma.irrawaddy.com/news/2021/08/16/245216.html?>

¹⁶ <http://burmese.dvb.no/archives/481821?>

¹⁷ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/china-india-and-russia-donate-covid-19-vaccines-to-myanmar-military>

¹⁸ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/civilian-fighters-kia-troops-kill-six-myanmar-junta-soldiers-in-mandalay>

¹⁹ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-resistance-landmines-kill-junta-troops-after-attack-on-power>

²⁰ <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/usdp-member-dies-of-stab-wound-in-yay-township>

An administrator of Thahtaygon Village, Myaung Township, Sagaing Region, who was a member of Pyu Saw Htee, was killed, local villagers reported²¹.

In Tantsi township of Sagaing Region, the owner of a pharmacy in Myitta Myein Ward who was shot dead by three buyers²².

In the northwest of Tantsi, Sagaing Region, a convoy of military trucks entering Daunggyi village was attacked with mines. According to local sources, there casualties were reported²³.

The spokesperson for Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS) blamed the conflict in northern Shan State on the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and the Shan State Progress Party (SSPP), claiming that the two EAOs were attacking their troops, who had suspended operations during the rainy season²⁴.

A combined force of 6 local People's Defense Forces(PDFs); SS-PDF in Shan South, Phekone PDF, Moebye PDF, Loikaw PDF, Dimawso PDF, (the ones from Karenni area) and Naypyidaw PDF, established an alliance. They announced that they, in cooperation with EAOs, would fight against the military²⁵.

There was fighting between Karen National Union's Regiment (2) and the junta forcers near Kachingwe on Taungoo-Bawgali road between Bago Region and Kayin State. According to residents, 4 junta soldiers died, no less than 10 others were injured and 4 military trucks were damaged²⁶.

The number of IDPs has increased by 100 at a refugee camp in Kyaukme Township, northern Shan State, making a total figure of over 1,600 in this area including Hsipaw township due to armed clashes among local armed groups, and more relief items are needed at IDP camps in the area²⁷.

The Catholic Church has stepped up testing to detect Covid-19 in IDP camps in Myanmar's conflict-torn Kachin state. Aid groups said the situation inside the crowded IDP camps is extremely worrying as maintaining social distance is very challenging and access to health care is unavailable²⁸.

²¹ <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/village-administrator-beheaded-in-myaung-township>

²² <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/900210400580634>

²³ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1273302783107065>

²⁴ <https://english.shannews.org/archives/24128>

²⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1966540376837287>

²⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/191574990881009/posts/4612264792145318/>

²⁷ <https://www.mizzima.com/article/more-relief-items-needed-idp-camp-shan-state?>

²⁸ <https://www.ucanews.com/news/church-steps-up-covid-19-testing-in-myanmar-camps/93729>

Media reported that the villagers who recently fled fighting in northern Shan State are running out of food due to junta's forcers are preventing supplies from reaching their camp in Muse District on the Chinese border²⁹.

A woman was killed and a 80-year woman was wounded during a landslide in Maga Yang internally displaced persons (IDPs) camp, located southeast of Myitkyina, in Kachin Independence Organization controlled territory³⁰.

Sithu Aung Myint, whose political commentary is regularly featured in media outlets including Frontier Myanmar and VOA, was arrested by soldiers on the evening of August 15 from a Yangon apartment where he had been hiding. No one has been able to communicate, his lawyer and family members said³¹.

Myanmar Journalism Association (MJA) announced that the MJA's summit which conducts every 3 years, will be temporarily postponed due to the COVID-19 situation in Myanmar and the incumbent positions will continue to be appointed till its 4th summit³².

August 17

The president of Myanmar's NUG said officials are constantly preparing to fight for the protection of the lives and property of citizens at the regular meeting of the National Unity Government³³.

Local environmental watchdogs said that illegal logging is out of control since the military's coup, they have also witnessed rampant illegal logging in Sagaing Region's Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park, Myanmar's oldest and largest national park, which is listed as one of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations heritage parks³⁴.

The junta is trying to fill 200 positions in the country's internal revenue department by seeking out family members of police officers and military personnel according to a leaked internal letter revealing to tax office staff to spread the news about the vacancies so that adult children of non-striking employees, police officers and military personnel could apply³⁵.

Rohingya refugees expelled from Myanmar in a bloody crackdown are to testify in court for the first time to urge a full judicial investigation into allegations of war crimes committed against them.

²⁹ <https://kachinnews.com/2021/08/16/idps-in-muse-district-running-out-of-food/>

³⁰ <https://kachinnews.com/2021/08/16/landslide-kills-woman-in-idp-camp-in-kachin-state/>

³¹ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/myanmar-columnist-sithu-aung-myint-detained-in-interrogation-centre>

³² <https://www.facebook.com/popularnewsjournal/posts/5050833028265785>

³³ <https://mizzima.com/article/nugs-president-says-preparations-are-underway-fighting-imminent>

³⁴ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-juntas-coup-gives-greenlight-to-timber-traffickers.html>

³⁵ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/military-council-tries-to-replace-striking-internal-revenue-staff-with>

Proceedings against Myanmar and its leaders are already under way at the International Criminal Court and the United Nations' International Court of Justice³⁶.

According to an eyewitness, a man was shot in the head at point-blank range afternoon in Mingin, Sagaing Region by soldiers who appeared to be drunk³⁷.

Myanmar's shadow National Unity Government (NUG) reported last month's massacres of civilians by junta's forces in Sagaing Region to a meeting of the UN Security Council, saying the report provided clear evidence that the junta is committing war crimes³⁸.

Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen has acknowledged Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as the head of state in Myanmar in an open letter sent to the junta chief pledging to help control a deadly third wave of the coronavirus that has ravaged the country amid the political unrest of a coup d'état³⁹.

The Australian company that was the largest investor in the Bawdwin lead, silver and zinc mine in northern Shan State's Namtu Township announced that it had sold all of its shares in the project and would be existed Myanmar⁴⁰.

The ethnic Karenni Army (KA) marked the 73rd anniversary of its founding vowing to "fight to the end" to rid Myanmar of its military dictatorship and create a Federal Union with like-minded groups in the multi-ethnic country⁴¹.

A shooting took place inside the 57th ward administration office in South Dagon Township. A 100-household administrator was shot dead in the shooting⁴².

The Karenni Nationalities Defense Force (KNDF) has confirmed that they will go on fighting against the military junta under the guidance of the Karenni Army, an alliance known as the United Karenni States Independence Army, message sent on the 73rd anniversary of the Karenni Army⁴³.

Two senior commanders of the Karen National Defence Organisation (KNDO) have admitted that security forces under their control detained and later killed 25 men in June in its territory near Myanmar's border with Thailand, human rights group Fortify Rights has said⁴⁴.

³⁶ <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/asia/rohingya-first-testimony-court-myanmar-2118186>

³⁷ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/drunken-soldiers-taunt-kill-civilian-at-sagaing-region-ferry-port>

³⁸ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmars-shadow-govt-reports-juntas-massacres-of-civilians-to-un>

³⁹ <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/letter-08182021190726.html?>

⁴⁰ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/australian-company-divests-from-bawdwin-mine-in-northern-shan>

⁴¹ <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/anniversary-08172021184416.html>

⁴² <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1966722466819078>

⁴³ <https://mizzima.com/article/kndf-vows-continue-fighting-military>

⁴⁴ <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/8/17/ethnic-karen-commanders-in-myanmar-admit-massacre-of-25-men>

In Minkin Township of Sagaing region, the junta armed forces killed 3 civilians from Kyaukkedat village. Reportedly, they threw their dead bodies into Chindwin river⁴⁵.

In Chin State, 5 Paletwa residents, who had been forced to attend warfare training conducted by the Arakan Army (AA), ran away. Consequently, thorough investigations were made in near-by villages, threatening local residents with weapons⁴⁶.

5 unknown armed men broke the house of Padin village administrator of Maungdaw township, Rakhine State and arrested him⁴⁷.

A junta's informant from Thein Zayat of Kyaik Hto, Mon State was shot dead by 2 gunmen on a motorbike⁴⁸ and an another alleged informer in Kamayut township, Ward (3) in Yangon, was shot dead⁴⁹.

Myanmar teachers who joined the civil disobedience movement following the military coup in February have set up a school for children displaced by conflict in a temporary camp in a rebel army-controlled area of eastern Kayah state near the Thai border⁵⁰.

A man and woman from IDP camps were injured after stepping on a landmine concealed in a tea plantation in Kyaukme Township where several ethnic armed organisations (EAOs) are fighting in northern Shan State⁵¹.

August 18

The National Unity Government of Myanmar (NUG) announced that they will broadcast "Radio NUG" at 8:00 am and 8:00 pm, starting on 20th August at 16/17.71 MegaHertz on shortwave to keep in touch with the public⁵².

Junta's newspaper announced that former Mayor and Chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Dr. Myo Aung, former Vice-Mayor U Ye Min Oo, former members of the committee U Min Thu and Daw Sabei Htwe were charged under anti-corruption law⁵³.

11 Pa-O youth organizations released a statement condemning PNO/PNA (Pa-O National Organization/Pa-O National Army) for their invasion in cooperation with the military junta and

⁴⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1274908659613144>

⁴⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/chinworldmedia/posts/4425868974141111>

⁴⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/dmgnewsagency/posts/2087448434740890>

⁴⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/thanlwintimes9/posts/3021895014601661>

⁴⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1274019116368765>

⁵⁰ <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/idp-children-08172021180705.html?>

⁵¹ <https://english.shannews.org/archives/24131>

⁵² <https://www.facebook.com/pvtvmyanmar/posts/171514435070658>

⁵³ <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6678#4>

attacking People's Defense Forces (PDF), Karenni Army (KA) and the Karenni Nationalities Defense Force (KNDF) on the Shan-Kayah border in Karenni State⁵⁴.

Junta troops raided the homes of three elected National League for Democracy (NLD) parliamentarians in Sagaing Region's Depayin Township arresting members of their families when the MPs themselves could not be located and seized the party-related materials⁵⁵.

In Gangaw Township, the junta armed forces raided Hnanka village. Media also reported that the forcers stole valuable things and destroyed houses. Moreover, they kicked and beat an old man aged 72⁵⁶. The old man died on Saturday due to these injuries⁵⁷.

In Kachin State, the junta army Ka-La-Ya (58) in Winemaw shot mortars at about 8:30 pm Wednesday. Some mortars fell and exploded in a near-by village named Kawan⁵⁸.

Around USD 8 million in monetary pledges and in-kind contributions of medicine, medical supplies and equipment are raised by the Pledging Conference to support ASEAN's Humanitarian Assistance in Myanmar hosted by the Secretary-General of ASEAN Dato Lim Jock Hoi to assist the country in containing the spread and infection of the COVID-19 virus⁵⁹. EU also announced that it is providing through the current EU-SAHA (EU Support to AHA Centre) programme, up to €370,000 for activities related to strengthen the capacity of the AHA Centre and ASEAN Emergency Response Mechanism in Myanmar⁶⁰.

Junta-appointed ward administrator in Chan Aye Thazan Township⁶¹, Nyaung Kan village administrator of Myin Gyan⁶² and Nyaungkan village, In Taungtha Township in Mandalay were shot⁶³ and dead by unknown gunmen. A hundred-household administrator of Kinmonchaung Village, Kyaikto, Mon state also shot dead, according to locals⁶⁴.

In Yegyi Township of Ayeyarwady Region, an alleged informer to the junta in Athoat, was shot by an unknown armed group on Wednesday. Reportedly, he had a gunshot wound in his chest and died at hospital⁶⁵.

⁵⁴ <https://www.mizzima.com/article/eleven-pa-o-youth-organizations-protest-against-pnopna?>

⁵⁵ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/homes-of-depayin-mps-raided-family-members-arrested>

⁵⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1275986709505339>

⁵⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/kachinwavesnews/posts/4616340178379058>

⁵⁸ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/house-in-waingmaw-destroyed-by-army-shelling>

⁵⁹ <https://asean.org/close-to-usd8-million-in-pledges-raised-to-support-aseans-humanitarian-assistance-in>

⁶⁰ <https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/association-southeast-asian-nations-asean/103146/eu-pledges-support->

⁶¹ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/junta-allied-local-administrator-shot-dead-in-mandalay>

⁶² <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1275091789594831>

⁶³ <https://www.facebook.com/mawkunmagazine/posts/4179361245510069>

⁶⁴ <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/village-administrative-member-shot-dead-in-kyaikto>

⁶⁵ <https://www.mizzima.com/article/alleged-informant-shot-dead-ayeyawady-delta-town?>

In Yezagyo Township of Magway, two Pyu Saw Htee members in Min village were shot dead on Wednesday evening⁶⁶. An alleged junta's informer from Shwe Pyi Thit village of Katha township, Sagaing region also killed by unknown men⁶⁷.

Kachin Independence Army (KIA) launched an attack on a junta's ship when it passed the Shwe Ku of Kachin State. Exchange of fire happened between them, said locals⁶⁸.

3 alleged Pyu Saw Htee members were killed in Kyauk Sit village of Saw township, Magway region. No one took their bodies according to the locals⁶⁹.

There were about 1,500 people displaced by the conflict due to the clashes between The Shan State Progress Party(SSPP) and Ta'ang National Liberation Army(TNLA) with the Restoration Council of Shan State(RCSS) in Kyaukme Township of Shan State, said a volunteer⁷⁰.

Myanmar migrant workers from Mae Sot, Thailand, received COVID-19 jabs, according to the sources⁷¹.

Aug 19

Media reported that, around 40 military troops have reportedly fled the military's forces and joined the uprising against the junta; around 15 personnel from a military weapons factory in Thayet Township, Magway Region, have reportedly defected with their weapons on Wednesday and around 25 soldiers based in Dawei Township, Tanintharyi Region, abandoned their posts with their firearms on Thursday⁷².

Arakan Army leader General Twan Mrat Naing said that the junta appeared to be reacting to moves by the armed group and its political wing, the United League of Arakan (ULA), to establish its own judiciary and other administrative functions in the state. The junta is intensifying its activities and posing threats, so AA is carefully monitoring their activities, he said⁷³.

The All Christian Ministers' Association issued an announcement condemning junta forces actions in a church in Taal village of Falam Township, Chin State⁷⁴.

⁶⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1275692152868128>

⁶⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/902085650393109>

⁶⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/389126879273506>

⁶⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1276023612834982>

⁷⁰ <https://english.shannews.org/archives/24146>

⁷¹ <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/myanmar-migrant-workers-receive-covid-vaccine-in-thailand>

⁷² <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/around-40-myanmar-junta-troops-abandon-posts-with-weapons.html>

⁷³ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/aa-leader-says-group-is-monitoring-myanmar-military-as-fears-of>

⁷⁴ <https://www.mizzima.com/article/christian-ministers-association-condemns-junta-forces-actions-chin-church?>

Junta's Minister of Immigration said that the E-ID Population Registry would be implemented systematically for the process of issuing household lists and national registration cards via Pankhin project⁷⁵.

In Kayah State (Karenni area), a large number of the junta armed forces had been conducting an invasion. They arrested local residents and used them as human shields along their way. Reportedly, 29 villagers have suffered such violence so far, said by Karenni Human Right activist⁷⁶.

In Mindat of Chin State, the junta armed forces put restrictions on rice transportation. For the transportation from other towns, they allowed only a limited amount of rice for each person, thus making the shortage of rice in Mindat⁷⁷.

Myanmar's junta beat and arrested at least 15 young people during night raids in Yangon on Thursday, while also looting shops and offices, according to eyewitnesses and local sources⁷⁸.

One of three survivors of a fall from a downtown Yangon apartment building during an August 10 junta raid was released from a military hospital and sent to the Shwepyitha interrogation centre⁷⁹.

After an alleged junta informer was killed in Athoat of Ayeyarwady Region, the junta armed forces raided the houses of NLD members in charge of wards and arrested them for no apparent reason⁸⁰.

A convoy of over 40 military trucks was attacked with mines by local PDFs near Kan village as they were on their way to Kalay on Kalay-Gantgaw road. Reportedly, 2 military trucks were damaged and about 30 junta soldiers died in the incident⁸¹.

The dead bodies of 2 USDP members and allegedly Pyu Saw Htee members in Kapaunggya village were found In Tantsi Township of Sagaing region⁸². In Dagon Seikkan Township of Yangon, a couple, allegedly informers to the junta in Aunglan street, were shot. According to local residents, the woman died in the incident⁸³.

⁷⁵ <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6681#4>

⁷⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1275793446191332>

⁷⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4682397091795159>

⁷⁸ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-regime-troops-detain-youths-and-loot-shops-in-night-raids>

⁷⁹ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/injured-survivor-from-yangons-44th-st-raid-sent-to-military-interrogatio>

⁸⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1968922433265748>

⁸¹ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1275871529516857>

⁸² <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1275827179521292>

⁸³ <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1968121953345796>

According to local residents of Kyaukse, an alleged Pyu Saw Htee member was stabbed to death near Yepyitgyi village cemetery⁸⁴. A junta's informant from Pyapon of Ayeyarwaddy Region also shot dead by men on motorbike⁸⁵.

A police officer was shot dead by 3 gunmen on motorbike while they were patrolling in Lone Khin Zay Gone of Hpa-Kant, Kachin State⁸⁶.

Eight COVID-19 cases have been reported in two internally displaced persons (IDP) camps sheltering 20,000 refugees in Mae Hong Son Province in northern Thailand, according to the chairman of the Karen Refugee Committee⁸⁷.

Two more journalists were detained bringing to 95, the number of Myanmar journalists/media staff arrested since the February coup to continue crackdown on journalists with arrests and lawsuits to silence independent coverage of its daily atrocities⁸⁸.

Although COVID-19 infection decreased significantly in Rakhine State, the United League of Arakan (ULA) extended the stay-at-home period for one more week as an effort to reduce infection⁸⁹.

Junta-run newspaper *Global New Light of Myanmar* said that the second batch of anti-COVID-19 equipment donated by the Indian government arrived at the Yangon International Airport⁹⁰.

Aug 20

The Acting President of the National Unity Government of Myanmar (NUG) officially submitted a statement of agreement to the ICC, with regard to the jurisdiction of the court where Min Aung Hlaing and the military junta would have to face charges for their war crimes, including genocide on Rohingya people in Rakhine State and ethnic people in other states⁹¹.

The junta extended another week of Public Holidays from 23-31 August with the reason to curb COVID-19 pandemic exception for the banks⁹².

⁸⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/902712396997101>

⁸⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1968060483351943>

⁸⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/theKachinNews/posts/3745997495499966>

⁸⁷ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/covid-19-hits-myanmar-refugees-in-thai-idp-camps.html>

⁸⁸ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-continues-to-detain-journalists.html>

⁸⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/risenewsmyanmar/posts/4872814392733019>

⁹⁰ <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6685>

⁹¹ <https://www.facebook.com/NUGmyanmar/posts/173294128224560>

⁹² <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6685>

Junta's Ministry of Information made an announcement in its own newspaper that "The Radio NUG" aired on trial basis today isn't an official radio station licensed by them. Anyone in operating or assisting processes without permission will be taken actions in accordance with the existing laws⁹³.

Myanmar's Junta is working to block the flow of funding to the National Unity Government (NUG) and other anti-junta organizations by shutting down mobile banking accounts and forcing private lenders to submit daily reports on account activity⁹⁴.

Two detained Mandalay doctors, who treated those wounded in junta crackdowns on protesters and COVID-19 patients, have been infected with coronavirus while in custody. They will be relocated to Obo Prison next week, said the Mandalay doctor⁹⁵.

Myanmar's junta is confiscating radios from shops and planned to restrict imports after the National Unity Government (NUG) launched a radio station, "Radio NUG" ⁹⁶.

Lawyers who helped detainees said over 100 prisoners in Mon State were infected with COVID-19 and 2 were dead, but the prison's authorities of Mon State denied the news is not correct⁹⁷.

In Shwe Pyi Thar Township of Yangon, 30 junta soldiers raided a hostel on Thursday. In the incident, one youth was shot dead on the spot besides, two more young people died in the investigation on Friday⁹⁸.

Junta troops arrested the parents, wife and children of a police officer as hostages as the sergeant defected from the military carrying his weapons in Yinmabin township of Sagaing Region⁹⁹.

Japan delivered lifesaving ambulances to healthcare facilities in Myanmar to assist the emergency transport of COVID-19 patients; the ambulances were procured as part of a grant project (worth US\$5.18 million) formed last year¹⁰⁰.

Singapore's foreign minister Vivian Balakrishnan said the progress by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in Myanmar has not been as effective as hoped¹⁰¹.

⁹³ <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6685#2>

⁹⁴ <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/mobile-08192021195158.html>

⁹⁵ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/detained-myanmar-doctors-catch-covid-19-in-custody.html>

⁹⁶ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-confiscates-radios-to-silence-shadow-government>

⁹⁷ <https://thanlwin.com/2021/08/20/>

⁹⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1277594072677936>

⁹⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/myithmautkhith/posts/315850980229929>

¹⁰⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/eoj.mm/posts/1706176512917649>

¹⁰¹ <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/singapore-says-asean-not-effective-hoped-myanmar-2021-08-20/>

Around 100 junta soldiers raided the base camp of Yezagyo People's Defense Force (PDF) in Magway Region. PDF members managed to escape from them and there were no casualties but some weapons and other belongings were confiscated by the junta's troops¹⁰².

In Muse Township of Shan State, there were battles between the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) reported and the junta armed forces at some places, including Pansai police station¹⁰³.

A woman who is a village organizer of People's Pioneer Party (PPP) was shot dead at her home in Pale township of Sagaing region¹⁰⁴.

A military truck was attacked with a planted mine by Pale and Myaing People's Defense Force in Pale township of Sagaing Region. At least 20 junta's troops died in the incident¹⁰⁵.

Tens of thousands of Myanmar migrant workers remain trapped in China and Laos long after they lost their jobs when host countries shut down factories and businesses to fight the coronavirus pandemic¹⁰⁶.

Around 30 IDPs from Mindat township of Chin state have died within the last 3 months. The number of IDPs are still rising due to the recurrence of intense fighting in Mindat and they are in shortage of medical supplies, said an activist who helped IDPs¹⁰⁷.

A camp's incharge said that IDPs from 2 camps of Theinni township of Northern Shan State are in dire need of food and medical supplies¹⁰⁸.

Junta cut off all mobile data and wifi in Hpa-Kant township of Kachin State to shut down the information after the shooting dead of a policeman in Lone Khin Zay Gone of Hpa-Kant¹⁰⁹. As of Sunday, the connection still went down, phone calls were only available.

Aug 21

The junta has issued an order to its unit commanders and other senior officers to be combat ready and the crackdown on its opponents is expected to intensify in the coming days. The order seen by

¹⁰² <https://www.facebook.com/theirrawaddyburmese/posts/4785912018119579>

¹⁰³ <https://www.facebook.com/shwepheemyaynews/posts/1016731799142951>

¹⁰⁴ <https://voiceofmyanmarnews.com/news/2021/08/21/>

¹⁰⁵ <http://burmese.dvb.no/archives/482597?>

¹⁰⁶ <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/myanmar-migrants-08192021194057.html>

¹⁰⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/aveyarwaddytimes/posts/1969022243255767>

¹⁰⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/shwepheemyaynews/posts/1016811332468331>

¹⁰⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/391616329024561>

The Irrawaddy was sent out to commanders last week and issued directly by the military's top command in the capital, Naypyidaw¹¹⁰.

36 military troops have reportedly fled from Magway Air Base with their weapons and joined the uprising against the junta, said a member of local Guerrilla Force¹¹¹.

Mon State Chief Minister Dr Aye Zan, who was arrested by the coup junta, was infected with COVID-19 while in prison and did not receive medical treatment, sources close to the prison confirmed¹¹².

Junta has ordered its subordinates to record and report on all NUG radio broadcasts by the National Unity Government¹¹³.

Arakan People Party (ANP) conducted its central executive committee meeting today via video conferencing and approved the resignation of U Htun Aung Kyaw, the lead member of policy affairs of the party¹¹⁴.

Junta allegedly used civilians as human shields in Loikaw, Kayah State. According to locals, they saw some civilians who were forced to wear military uniforms and tied their hands on the back on and they took them along Fruso-Demoso-Loikaw Road¹¹⁵.

Exchange of fire happened between junta's troops and People's Defense Forces (PDF) at the Bayintnaung Bridge of Yangon. According to locals, 1 junta's troop died at the scene and 2 were severely wounded, the PDF on the vehicle managed to escape¹¹⁶.

Locals reported that junta's troops abandoned their base camp in Kyar Inn Seik Gyi of Karen State taking all their weapons in the early morning and Karen National Union(KNU) had come at the noon, burned the base and made area clearance¹¹⁷.

A pro-military 100-household administrator from Taung Dwin Gyi of Magway Region was shot dead in his office¹¹⁸.

¹¹⁰ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-tells-troops-to-be-combat-ready-at-all-times.html>

¹¹¹ <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4688627937838741>

¹¹² <https://thantwintimes.com/2021/08/21/>

¹¹³ <https://thantwintimes.com/2021/08/21/nug->

¹¹⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/narinjara.info/posts/4608820992463275>

¹¹⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/KantarawaddyTimes/posts/4228812463903898>

¹¹⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1278195675951109>

¹¹⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1969862599838398>

¹¹⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1277405006030176>

Myaung People's Defense Force (PDF) called on other local armed groups to take action while they had to move quickly as hundreds of junta soldiers blocked off the area¹¹⁹.

There was a fighting between Chinland Defense Force-Thantlang and junta's troops between Hakha and Thantlang of Chin State, at least 5 junta's troops died¹²⁰.

Hundreds of Muslim IDPs from Rakhine State are facing shortage of food supplies as they couldn't get support since June and it has been 3 months, said a camp incharge¹²¹.

August 22

The Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) made an announcement condemning the exclusion of its parliamentary delegation from the 42nd session of the ASEAN Inter Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) and allowing the approval of unrepresentative military junta person to be an observer¹²².

A secret military program that began in January, used soldiers to test an unapproved vaccine, the Covaxin produced by Indian pharmaceutical company Bharat Biotech and continued for three months, according to army sources¹²³.

Japan has refused to issue visas for two Myanmar military-appointed diplomats who the junta is seeking to send to Tokyo in place of two it fired in March, according to Japanese government sources¹²⁴.

A junta-appointed village administrator of Pateegone village, Myo Thit township, Magway region was shot dead¹²⁵.

Junta's troops from No (30) Police base of Kawng San village of Hpa-Kant township, Kachin had left their base on Sunday, a person who left behind at the base was arrested by Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and KIA burned down the area¹²⁶.

There was fighting between the junta's army with the Karenni army (KA) and the Karenni National Development Army (KNDA) between Bawlake town and Matsalaung mountain in Kayah State. 3 junta's troops died and 2 were injured¹²⁷.

¹¹⁹ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/mm/news/7872>

¹²⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/chinlanddefenseforce/posts/182120044023982>

¹²¹ <https://burma.irrawaddy.com/news/2021/08/21/245367.html?>

¹²² <https://www.facebook.com/crph.official.mm/posts/253629043429741>

¹²³ <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/covid-19-vaccine-was-tested-on-myanmar-military-personnel-without>

¹²⁴ <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/east-asia/article/3145928/japan-wont-issue-visas-myanmar-envoys->

¹²⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1278324072604936>

¹²⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1970377769786881>

¹²⁷ https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=137060175268573&id=100670325574225

Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) brigade (6) fought with junta's troops in the north-west of Myawaddy township, Karen State. At least 3 junta's troops died in the fighting¹²⁸.

Clashes in Pang Hsai of Kachin State between Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) and junta's army had been going on for three 3 days since August 20 and residents were afraid to leave homes as they could hear gunfire every day¹²⁹.

Mae Lay Yone village's head of USDP party was shot dead on his way home in Kyaik Hto, Mon¹³⁰.

Hundreds of villagers from Kyaukme's villages of northern Shan State fled to the safer area as there was fighting between Restoration Council of Shan state (RCSS) and the combined force of Shan State Progressive Party (SSPP), Ta'ang National Liberation Army(TNLA)¹³¹.

Myanmar black market retailers are selling the Indian-manufactured Covishield vaccine online at a mark-up of up to 25 times the original price, 2 million kyat (\$1,215), as the public desperately attempts to protect themselves and their families from the Covid-19 crisis that has unfolded since the coup¹³².

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Annexure I: Information on the Blasts Reported Across Myanmar from 16 - 22 August, 2021

Date	Region/State	Incidents	Source
16 Aug	Yangon	Two blasts were heard near the Sanchaung Township Court on the corner of Bagayar and Baho roads in Yangon on Monday.	Irrawaddy
	Sagaing	A blast was reported near Alone ward's Checkpoint in Monywa township. At least 3 junta troops were injured.	Nowadays
	Sagaing	3 timing bombs were triggered by local PDF at junta's food supply warehouse, local command and Myoma police office of Kalay	Khit Thit

¹²⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/KICNewsPage/posts/1757472364437577>

¹²⁹ <https://english.shannews.org/archives/24150>

¹³⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/904101023524905>

¹³¹ <https://www.facebook.com/shwepheemyaynews/posts/1018164225666375>

¹³² <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/brokers-sell-covishield-vaccine-on-myanmars-black-market-for-millions>

	Magway Sagaing	township. 2 bombs succeeded as planned but one bomb exploded on the way and 1 PDF member died in the blast. A blast occurred at No (7) Myoma police office in Yesagyo, Magway region. Injuries were unknown. A blast was reported at the Internal Revenue Office of Monywa and injuries were unknown.	Khit Thit Nowadays
17 Aug	Magway Sagaing	A junta's security checkpoint in Magway Region's Salin Township was bombed on Tuesday, killing one police officer at the scene and 2 died on later day, according to local sources. A blast was reported at the Monywa's sport compound where vaccinations were conducted.	Myanmar Now Voice of Myanmar
18 Aug	Yangon	A timing bomb was exploded on Mekong road of Shwe Pyi Thar township and a by-passer man was injured.	Burma Associated Press
19 Aug	Mandalay Magway	A bomb exploded at a prayer hall in Mya Yi Nanda ward, Chan Mya Tha Zi township, Mandalay, as a large group of people were registering their stay in the community. A person died in the incident and at least five people were injured. In Yesagyo Township of Magway Region, two bombs exploded in the compound of the General Administration Department on Thursday.	Mizzima Ayeayawaddy Times
20 Aug	Yangon Bago Yangon	Three bombs exploded near the Tatmadaw Textile Factory at the corner of Insein and Parami Road in Hlaing township, Yangon. 3-5 military logistic vehicles were destroyed and casualties could not be known. A blast was reported at the Bago Mytel office, which is the junta - owned operator. 3 blasts occurred near the police office of East Hlaing Thar Yar and a vehicle was burned due to the blast.	Mizzima Mizzima Voice of Myanmar
21 Aug	Magway	2 blasts were reported at the Yesagyo township electricity office and PaKhan Gyi police office of Magway region. Injuries could not be identified and YSO- PDF declared that they are its act.	Khit Thit
22 Aug	Yangon Sagaing	Locals reported that a blast occurred at the South Okkalapa administrative office, one vehicle and the building were damaged. The casualties and injuries could not be identified. Locals said that there were 3 blasts reported at 109 miles of	Khit Thit Voice

		Monywar-Ye Oo Road, Butalin township, Sagaing State. 1 motorbike was destroyed due to blasts.	ofMyanmar
	Yangon	A blast was reported at the Bayint Naung Bridge (2) on the side of Mayangone township.	Ayeyarwaddy Times
	Yangon	A blast was reported at the Thilawa Industry zone of Kyauk Tan.	Voice of Myanmar
	Mandalay	A blast occurred at the Min Ta Tar ward of Mogkoke township. A police's vehicle was damaged.	Than Lwin Khet

