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Karenni Civil Society Network

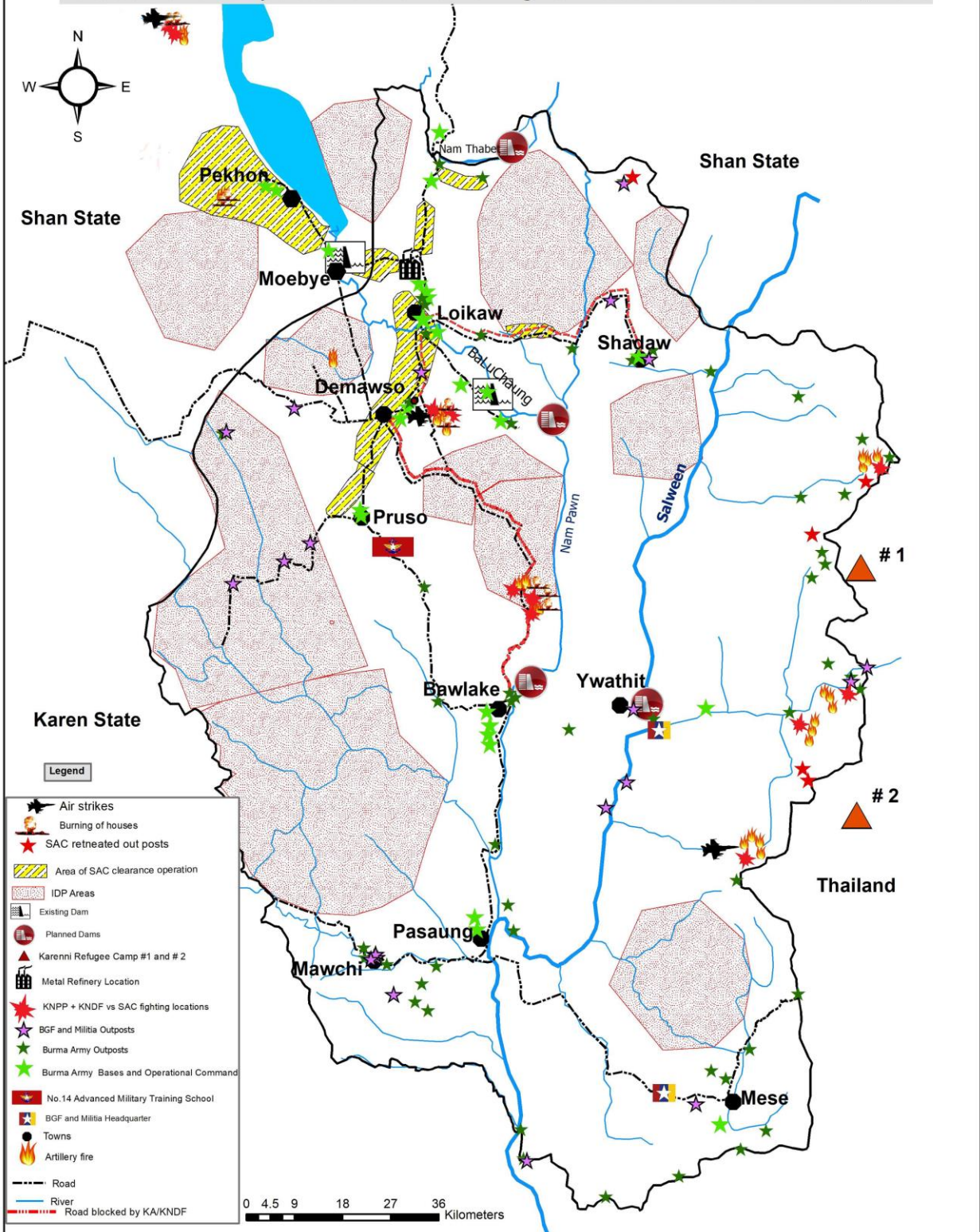
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March 16, 2023

Bi-weekly situation update by the Karenni Civil Society Network, Feb 27 to Mar 12, 2023  
Summary of SAC human rights violations in Karenni State and Pekhon Township

No		1 Feb 2021 – Feb 26 2023	Feb 27 – Mar 12, 2023	Total
1	People killed	298	41	339
2	People arrested	334	14	345
3	People injured	342	9	351
4	<b>Buildings damaged/destroyed</b>			
	Loikaw township	157		157
	Demawso township	423	42	465
	Pekhon township	285	2	287
	Pruso township	62	3	65
	Bawlake township	2		2
	Shadaw township	1		1
5	<b>Dismissal of CDM education staff</b>			
	Pruso township	526		526
	Demawso township	1,123		1,123
	Mese township	78		78
	Pasaung township	152		152
	Shadaw township	54		54
	Pekhon township	648		648
	Bawlake township	42		42
	<b>Total dismissed</b>	<b>2,623</b>		<b>2,623</b>
<b>Summary of displacement</b>				
No	Township	Estimated no. of IDPs by Feb 26, 2023	New IDPs Feb 27-Mar 12, 2023	Total displacement
1	Loikaw	52,311		52,311
2	Demawso	78,265	5,000	83,265
3	Pruso	4,403		4,403
4	Pasaung	4,000		4,000
5	Pekhon	56,000		56,000
6	Shadaw	2,395		2,395
7	Mese	1,000		1,000
8	Bawlake	3,741		3,741
	<b>Total</b>	<b>202,115</b>		<b>202,115</b>

# Location of SAC operations and human rights violations Feb 27-Mar 12, 2023



## **5,000 newly displaced as SAC launches operation in Demawso and commits fresh atrocities against civilians**

During the past two weeks, SAC has launched a major operation to try and take back control of the Dawtamagyi area between Demawso and Bawlake, but has met fierce resistance from combined Karenni forces, who have stepped up attacks on SAC outposts along the Thai-Burma border. SAC troops have responded with airstrikes, indiscriminate shelling, torching of houses, and extrajudicial killing – including the massacre of 30 civilians and 3 monks in Nam Nay village, Pinlaung township, on March 11. The latest SAC operations have caused fresh displacement of about 5,000 villagers in Demawso township.

On February 27, at 6:30 am, KA and KNDF launched an attack on a SAC outpost at Point 1441, BP 12 near the Thai-Burma border, where SAC troops of LIB 135, LIB 54 and Artillery Battalion 360 were stationed. KA and KNDF were able to seize 120 mm, 9 mm and RPG shells and other ammunition from the artillery outpost. KA and KNDF then prepared to attack a nearby outpost, but the SAC sent five fighter jets to bomb around the outposts, killing 10 of the Karenni combined forces and injuring 15. On the same day, SAC indiscriminately fired artillery shells in eastern Demawso, causing civilian casualties in two locations. In one location, a 70-year-old man was dead and two other civilians were injured. In another location, a 30-year-old woman was dead and two other civilians were injured; and in Kaung E village, Phekon township, a 40-year-old man was injured in the stomach, an 8-year-old child was injured in the ribs, and a house was damaged. On the same day, two civilians were injured by SAC artillery shelling in western Pekhon.

On February 28, at 7:30 pm, SAC fired artillery shells into a village in Kaung Ei village tract, Pekhon township. A mortar exploded in a temple, killing a grade 10 student and his 15-year-old sister, while they were studying in the temple. The temple shrine and a rest house were also damaged.

On March 6, a Karenni commando force launched an attack on the SAC LIB 54 and BGF Huay O front line outpost on the Pai River east of the Salween River, killing 6 SAC soldiers and seizing some ammunition.

On March 7, 70 SAC soldiers from Bawlake tactical command patrolled into Dawtamagyi village, Demawso township, arresting 14 civilians in a farm, and using them as human shields. One woman and two children were released the next day. They had been forced to guide the troops to a water source and to where resistance forces were located; some had been tortured by SAC troops.

On March 9, at 10 am, two Daw Seh villagers from Demawso township were shot at by SAC troops while travelling to Sosale village in Lawpita village tract by car; one escaped and one is still missing. On the same day, SAC LIB 510 troops taking security for outposts and military supplies in Dawtakhe were attacked by Karenni forces. This was the third clash involving these troops, with earlier clashes taking place on February 26 and March 6. During the clashes, 8 SAC soldiers were killed and one KA soldier was injured. Due to an operation by three SAC columns into eastern Demawso township, about 5,000 villagers fled to nearby jungle.

On March 10, at 6 am, there was a clash between SAC troops and combined KA and KNDF forces in Daw Seh village, Demawso township, killing 14 SAC soldiers and injuring several others. In retaliation for the attacks, SAC fired shells indiscriminately into Daw Theh village, setting fire to two houses. On the same day, SAC troops patrolling in the east of Daw Ta Myay village were ambushed by combined Karenni forces in Demawso township, and two SAC soldiers were killed. On the same day, the SAC indiscriminately fired artillery shells and launched airstrikes on Nan Nay village, Pinlaung township, killing one civilian.

On March 11, at 7 am, 20 SAC troops burnt down an IDP camp in eastern Demawso township, causing all the IDPs to flee. At 9 am, combined Karenni forces clashed with SAC troops in Daw Ngay Khu village, Dawtamagyi village tract, Demawso township, causing several SAC casualties. At 10:30 am, combined Karenni forces and Pekhon PDF clashed with SAC LIB 429 in Ku Yin village tract, Phekon

township. 19 SAC soldiers were killed and 6 SAC soldiers arrested; some ammunition was also seized. At 4 pm, the SAC attacked an outpost of KA battalion no. 3 near the Thai-Burma border. The attack was repelled, after which the bodies of 2 SAC soldiers were found. On the same day, at 5 pm, the SAC launched three airstrikes on Daw Seh village, Dawklawdu village tract, Demawso township. Also on the same day, at 4 pm, SAC troops raided Nam Nay village in Pinlaung township, killing 30 civilians and 3 monks, and burned down 50 houses.



Villagers fleeing a SAC patrol in Demawso township



Houses burnt down by SAC in Pinlaung township

On March 12, the SAC indiscriminately fired artillery shells in Pruso township, despite there being no clashes at the time, injuring a 30-year-old woman and damaging three houses. Troops of SAC ID 66 patrolled into an IDP camp at the Shan-Karenni border, eastern Moby township, after which two burned corpses were found -- an 81-year-old woman and a 78-year-old man -- as well as the body of a grade 7 student who had been shot dead. On the same day, SAC troops burnt down 30 houses in Daw Ngay Khu village after clashing with combined Karenni forces in Day Ngay Khu village, Dawtamagyi village tract, Demawso township,

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