

“Shot in the Back”: An investigation into killings of civilians in Myinmu (မြင်းမူ)

REPORT BY MYANMAR WITNESS, 7 November 2022

Key Event Details

- **Location of Incident:** North of Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) [22.034370, 95.613166], Myinmu (မြင်းမူ) Township, Sagaing (စစ်ကိုင်း).
- **Date/Time of Incident:**
 - 06 June 2022. ~1330 local time.
- **Alleged Perpetrator(s) and/or Involvement:**
 - The Myanmar military (no further specification at this time).
- **Myanmar Witness Conclusions:**
 - Myanmar Witness geolocated footage of four dead bodies, two with severe injuries consistent with bullet wounds, to the pagoda compound where the incident reportedly took place. The bodies were in civilian clothes; no weapons were visible.
 - The images show possible exit wounds on the fronts of two bodies; consistent with eyewitness testimony that they were shot in the back. The precise details of their deaths cannot be confirmed through open-source methods.
 - Myanmar Witness verified footage showing burnt motorcycles and buildings at the site of the incident, as reported by eyewitnesses. NASA FIRMS shows fires at 13.45 on 6 June – 15 minutes after soldiers allegedly entered the village.
 - Myanmar Witness has pulled together a timeline indicating an active military presence in the area. This includes third party reports of military movements consistent with eyewitness testimony regarding the military presence in Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) on the day of the incident. However, there was no verifiable footage of the military in the area at the time of the incident.

Executive Summary

According to eyewitness testimony reported by [Myanmar Now](#) and [Mandalay Free Press](#), six unarmed internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering in the Myat Saw Nyi Naung pagoda compound near Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) village [22.034370, 95.613166] were shot by military forces on the afternoon of 6 June 2022.

A convoy of around 80 Myanmar soldiers reportedly approached the compound at 13.30 local time. The soldiers asked those present to escort them to the nearby village of Pe Ku (ပဲကူ) [21.973579, 95.522476]. This request was refused. Analysis of PDF posts by Myanmar Witness in the run-up to the incident includes multiple reports of attacks on the roads between Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) and Pe Ku (ပဲကူ). These could explain the request for an escort. This practice of escorting is also consistent with [reports](#) of the use of human shields by the Myanmar military.

After failing to identify the owner of a gun found under a motorbike, the soldiers reportedly herded 30 of those present to the pagoda. They ordered them to run to the monastery, launching a countdown which caused panic. The soldiers then opened fire, killing six individuals as they fled.

The victims were reported to be between 16 and 50 years old, shot in the back and head. Named among the dead were Hla Soe (50 years old) Myint Oo (50 years old), Nezar Aung (a CDM teacher in his 30s), Ko Yu Pa (age not reported), and Aye Min Naing, a 16-year-old boy allegedly suffering from mental illness. 30 people reportedly fled the area following the incident.

Myanmar Witness was able to geolocate images showing four dead bodies to the site of the pagoda compound. Wounds on two of the bodies were consistent with bullet wounds, with possible exit wounds on the fronts of the bodies. The location of these bodies was consistent with people running in the direction described. Footage of one further body could not be geolocated. Myanmar Witness also geolocated images showing a funeral pyre at the same compound.

Using satellite and NASA FIRMS fire data, Myanmar Witness was able to geolocate and chronolocate footage showing burnt motorcycles and buildings to the compound. NASA FIRMS

fire data shows fires at the location at 13.45 on 6 June, 15 minutes after soldiers allegedly entered the area.

While there was no verifiable footage of the military at the site at the time of the incident, there are multiple reports on social media of an active military presence in the area surrounding Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) before and after 6 June 2021. In the months preceding the incident, Myanmar

Witness verified large-scale fire damage in two villages in the area, allegedly set by the military.

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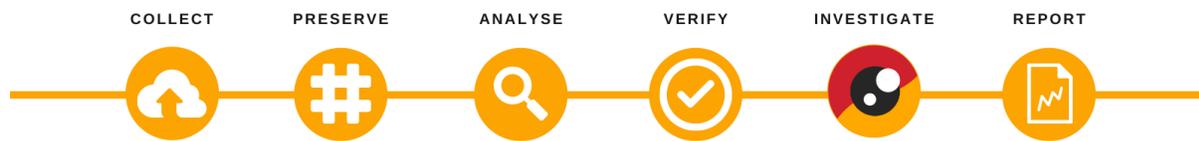
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1. Introduction

The report presents an open-source analysis of the alleged shooting of six individuals by the Myanmar military near Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) village on 6 June 2022. It commences with background and context on the incident, including mapping of social media reports of military activity in the area in the weeks preceding the incident. It then analyses footage of the event and its aftermath, including geolocation and chronolocation of key images. It concludes with a summary of reported military activity in the area subsequent to the incident.

2. Methodology

Myanmar Witness follows a methodology of digital preservation and rigorous, replicable analysis. Digital evidence is collected and archived in a secure database and preserved with hashing to confirm authenticity and prevent tampering.



Myanmar Witness applies a four-tier classification system to describe the extent to which footage has been independently verified by Myanmar Witness. This is as follows:

- **Fully verified:** Footage independently geolocated and chronolocated by Myanmar Witness.
- **Verified:** Footage has been geolocated by Myanmar Witness. Other sources concur on the time and date of the footage, with no evidence following to suggest that the footage was taken earlier or later. However, it has not been possible for Myanmar Witness to independently chrono-locate the footage.
- **Unverified / Under investigation:** Myanmar Witness has not been able to geolocate or chronolocate footage at the present time.
- **Inauthentic:** The geolocation and chronolocation process has shown the location or timing of the footage to be inaccurate.

For the avoidance of doubt, this verification system only refers to Myanmar Witness’ ability to independently geolocate or chronolocate footage. Incidents marked as unverified may still be substantiated by multiple eyewitness reports. Sources are cross-referenced in this report to indicate where this is the case.

This report contains images showing how footage has been geolocated. In these images, white lines are used to represent the left and right arcs of vision. Coloured boxes are show how landmarks or distinguishing details in each piece of footage or data correspond with each other.

Geolocation is conducted using a varied array of open source online tools such as Google Earth to match satellite imagery with visual features identified in the footage or images. Geolocations are cross-checked and peer-reviewed before they are credited as verified.

Chronolocation is typically conducted by analysing UGC timestamps to determine hard end limits for the possible time frame. This is followed with contextual analysis, for example comparing against known indicators such as events or clocks visible, weather, and shadows. Shadow angle is determined after geolocation and its orientation is used to determine the position of the sun and thus time. Chronolocation is included as specifically as possible without incorrectly attributing time in order to account for limitations with some of these methods.

If dealing with unverified information, such as witness testimony or of outside reporting, Myanmar Witness has made known that these inclusions are claims and have not been independently verified by Myanmar Witness. Following ethical standards, Myanmar Witness has obscured identifying information about individuals involved, censored private information and images where appropriate, removed links to private individual accounts and archived said information securely. Where appropriate, Myanmar Witness has also blurred or excluded graphic imagery.

Limitations

The information obtained by Myanmar Witness comes from an area of ongoing conflict so it is assumed that there is a selection bias, due to factors including fear of repercussions for uploading, unavailability of information from official sources and availability, or lack thereof, the internet - which has also restricted the amount of media available to be verified by Myanmar Witness. Myanmar Witness strives to eliminate as much of this bias as possible by using both focussed and broad search terms in multiple languages across open sources as well as identifying media from multiple sources, such as pro and anti-regime news and social media.

While it was alleged that individuals were shot by security forces in the back, Myanmar Witness has only been able to confirm the violent nature of the death of these individuals and the presence of their bodies at the reported scene of the incident. It cannot confirm the allegations of how these individuals died. While Myanmar Witness was able to map reports of the military in the area prior and subsequent to the incident, no footage identified through this report shows the Myanmar military committing the alleged act.

3. Gender Analysis

Based on media reports and image analysis by Myanmar Witness, all those killed in the incident were male. It was not specified in eyewitness testimonies whether the individuals who were forced to run and were shot at by the military were male or female. Men and women are believed to have fled the village following the shooting.

4. Background and Context

Myinmu (မြင်းမူ) is a town in the south-east of Sagaing Division. The area is part of Myanmar’s ‘dry zone’, which has seen a [steep increase](#) in violence since the coup. Conflict in this region can be traced through Myanmar Witness’ [Fire Map](#) and has been compounded by the multiple armed groups that are present in the area.

Myanmar Witness documented multiple reports on social media of incidents involving military and PDF forces around Myinmu township, indicative of an active military presence in the area surrounding Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) in the weeks prior to 6 June. These claims are summarised on the timeline and map below. Analysis of significant incidents of note is in the body of the report, and details in Annex 1.

Map and timeline of events leading up to 6 June (unverified)

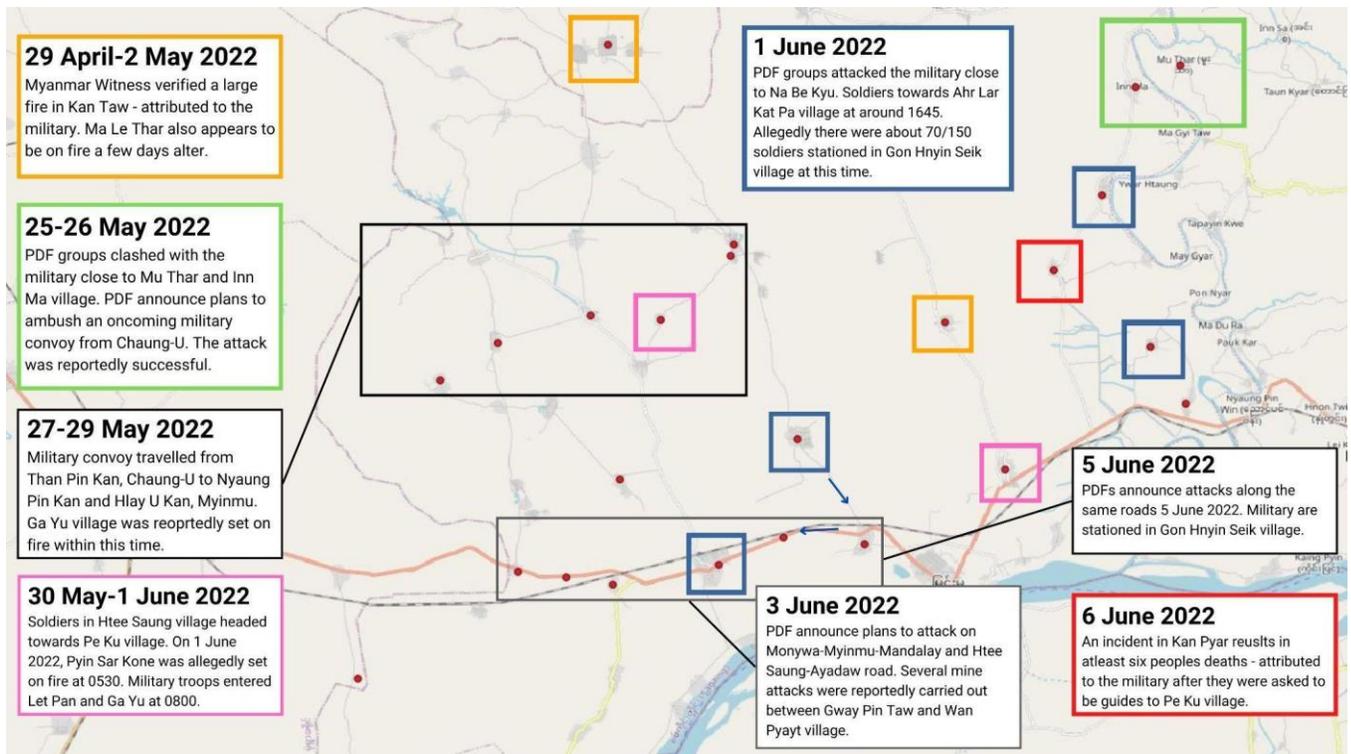


Figure 1: Mapping (above) and timeline (below) of the different events in May and June 2022 around Myinmu Township.



24 MAY 2022

Claimed Internet shutdowns were reported in Sagaing, including Myinmu.

29 MAY 2022

Claims that soldiers from Pe Taung (ပဲတောင်း) village had traveled to Let Pan (လက်ပန်) village.

31 MAY 2022

Claims that 30 soldiers travelled between Htee Saung (ထီးဆောင်း) village and Pe Ku (ပဲကူရွာ) village.

01 JUNE 2022

0530: Claimed that Pyin Sar Kone (ပဉ္စစာကုံး) was set on fire by the military. Soldiers then reportedly entered Let Pan (လက်ပန်) with weapons and joined those stationed at Ga Yu (ဂရု).

04 JUNE 2022

Claimed that 70 military members were stationed in Gon Hnyin Seik (ဂုံညှင်းဆိပ်). There were around 150 by 1500.

04 JUNE 2022

2000: Claimed that 25 soldiers left Gon Hnyin Seik (ဂုံညှင်းဆိပ်) heading north-west.

05 JUNE 2022

PDFs alleged they attacked the military with mines close to Gway Pin Taw (ဂွေပင်တော).

07 JUNE 2022

1100; Claimed that 200 soldiers re-entered Ga Yu (ဂရု) village, raiding homes and leaving at 1800 local time.

08 JUNE 2022

Claimed that 70 soldiers from Pe Ku (ပဲကူရွာ) village arrived in San Tin Kin (စံတင်ကင်း) village and 30 in Ahr Lar Kat Pa (အာလကပ္ပ). They then travelled to Gway Pin Taw (ဂွေပင်တော).

27 MAY 2022

It's claimed that soldiers in Than Pin Kan (သန်းပင်ကန်), Chaung-U, entered Pe Taung (ပဲတောင်း) village in Myinmu.

30 MAY 2022

Claims that soldiers from Taw Chaung U (တောချောင်းဦး) village arrived in Ga Yu (ဂရု) village. It's reported that soldiers began setting fires here.

31 MAY 2022

Claims that soldiers from Ga Yu (ဂရု) left the village in the direction of Nyaung Pin Kan (ညောင်ပင်ကန်) and Hlay U Kan (လှေဦးကန်).

02 JUNE 2022

Claimed that about 24 military members from Pe Ku (ပဲကူရွာ) arrived in Ahr Lar Kat Pa (အာလကပ္ပ) village.

04 JUNE 2022

PDF claims that Myanmar military forces were attacked along the Monywa-Myinmu-Mandalay road by joint PDF groups.

05 JUNE 2022

A villager was allegedly beaten and tortured in Gon Hnyin Seik (ဂုံညှင်းဆိပ်).

06 JUNE 2022

Soldiers allegedly entered Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) and citizens were killed.

07 JUNE 2022

Claimed that two people were killed in Pe Ku (ပဲကူရွာ) village, with the implication that the soldiers had advanced to Pe Ku (ပဲကူရွာ) village.

09 JUNE 2022

Claimed soldiers in Gway Pin Taw (ဂွေပင်တော) had travelled into Ba Lway (ဘလှေ), Chaung-U; shooting at the village.

Burning of villages linked with PDF activity

Destruction of Kan Taw

On 28 April 2022, a [pro-military news channel](#) announced on Facebook that security forces had “cleared the Myinmu terrorist PDF camps” in Htee Saung (ထီးဆောင်း) and Kan Swal (ကန်ဆွယ်) villages in Myinmu (မြင်းမူ) Township . The PDF are alleged, from this post, to have fled to Kan Taw (ကန်တော်) village - located 5 km away from Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) village. On 29 April 2022, Myanmar Witness verified extensive fires in Kan Taw (ကန်တော်). NASA’s Fire Information for Resource Management System ([FIRMS](#)) confirmed heat signatures in the area at the time and [Sentinel-2](#) demonstrated ground changes in satellite imagery, likely due to fire damage. [Mandalay Free Press](#) reported around 800 houses were burned to the ground by the military in Kan Taw (ကန်တော်). Based on available footage, Myanmar Witness can confirm at least 337 structures were fire damaged (Figure 3) and Sentinel demonstrates almost all of the village having been destroyed (Figure 4).



Figure 2: Geolocation of Kan Taw (ကန်တော်) village at 22.015464, 95.572856 using Google Imagery updated between 15 December 2021 and 8 January 2022 compared to an [uploaded image](#).

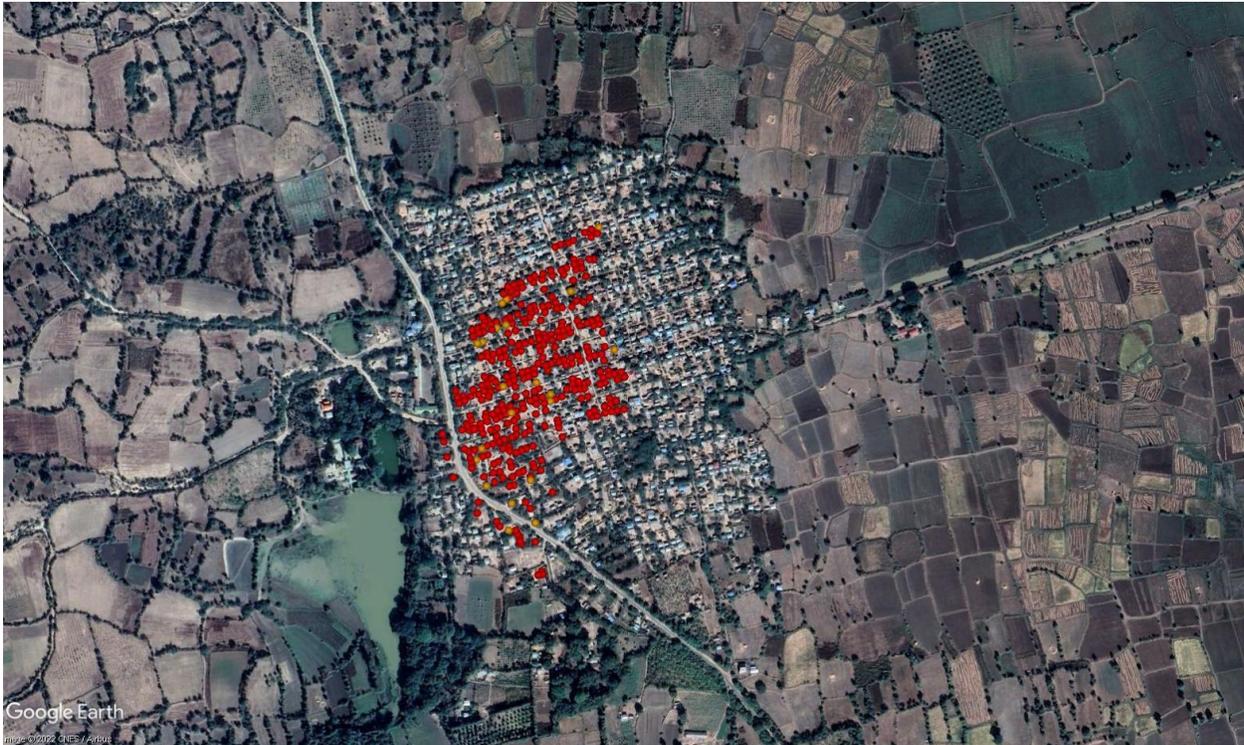


Figure 3: Google Earth imagery of Kan Taw (ကန်တော်), with around 337 structures having been visibly burned and/or damaged as analysed by Myanmar Witness.



Figure 4: [Sentinel-2](#) imagery of Kan Taw (ကန်တော်) taken sometime between 25-30 April 2022. The burn damage (in dark grey on the left) is more significant than photos of the village demonstrate..

Burning of Ma Le Thar

On 2 May 2022, Ma Le Thar (မလဲသာ) village - located 15 km from Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) - was allegedly burnt by the army. [Mandalay Free Press](#) reported 900 houses destroyed. While no FIRMS data can confirm this, [Sentinel-2](#) imagery demonstrates there was similar burn damage in a large portion of the village (Figure 5).



Figure 5: Ma Le Thar (မလဲသာ) village [22.11503029,95.45574188] suffered burning (dark grey on left hand image) between 30 April 2022 - 5 May 2022.

Loss of Internet Connectivity

[Burmese media](#) and PDF groups (link withheld for privacy reasons) noted a lack of internet connectivity in Myinmu Township in May 2022, alleged to be a result of the military cutting communications in the context of ongoing military operations. According to [Mandalay Free Press's report](#) on the events of 6 June, the internet had been shut off by the military in many townships in Sagaing at the time of the incident. Myanmar Witness have not been able to independently verify significant internet or mobile connectivity outages in the regions specified.

5. Individuals Killed in Myinmu (မြင်းမူ) (verified)

[Mandalay Free Press](#) and [Myanmar Now](#) reported that up to 80 soldiers entered the pagoda compound of Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) - located at 22.034370, 95.613166 -from the south at around 1330 local time on 6 June 2022. They requested a guide to Pe Ku (ပဲကူ) village. As detailed in Annex 1, there had been a series of previous PDF attacks and warnings along the roads heading west from Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) to Pe Ku (ပဲကူ) village, which could explain this request.

After allegedly finding a gun near some motorbikes, soldiers kicked and set fire to the motorbikes. In an interview recorded by [Zeyar Times](#), an eyewitness states that SAC troops then tried to move people from Myat Saw Nyi Naung Pagoda into the monastery building. According to the statement, soldiers ordered people to remove their slippers at the base of the Myat Saw Nyi Naung Pagoda and move to the monastery. They then commenced a countdown, which caused individuals to run in fear. As they ran, they were shot in the back. Six people were reported killed in the incident.

According to media reports, the soldiers damaged the monastery, destroying nearly 500 bags of rice and grain and burnt down tents belonging to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

Myanmar Witness was able to verify the following pieces of footage in relation to this event, which are explained in detail below:

- Yellow box: Funeral pyre
- Red box: First group of burnt motorcycles
- Orange box: Corpses
- Blue box: Second group of burnt out motorcycles
- Purple Box: Burnt buildings

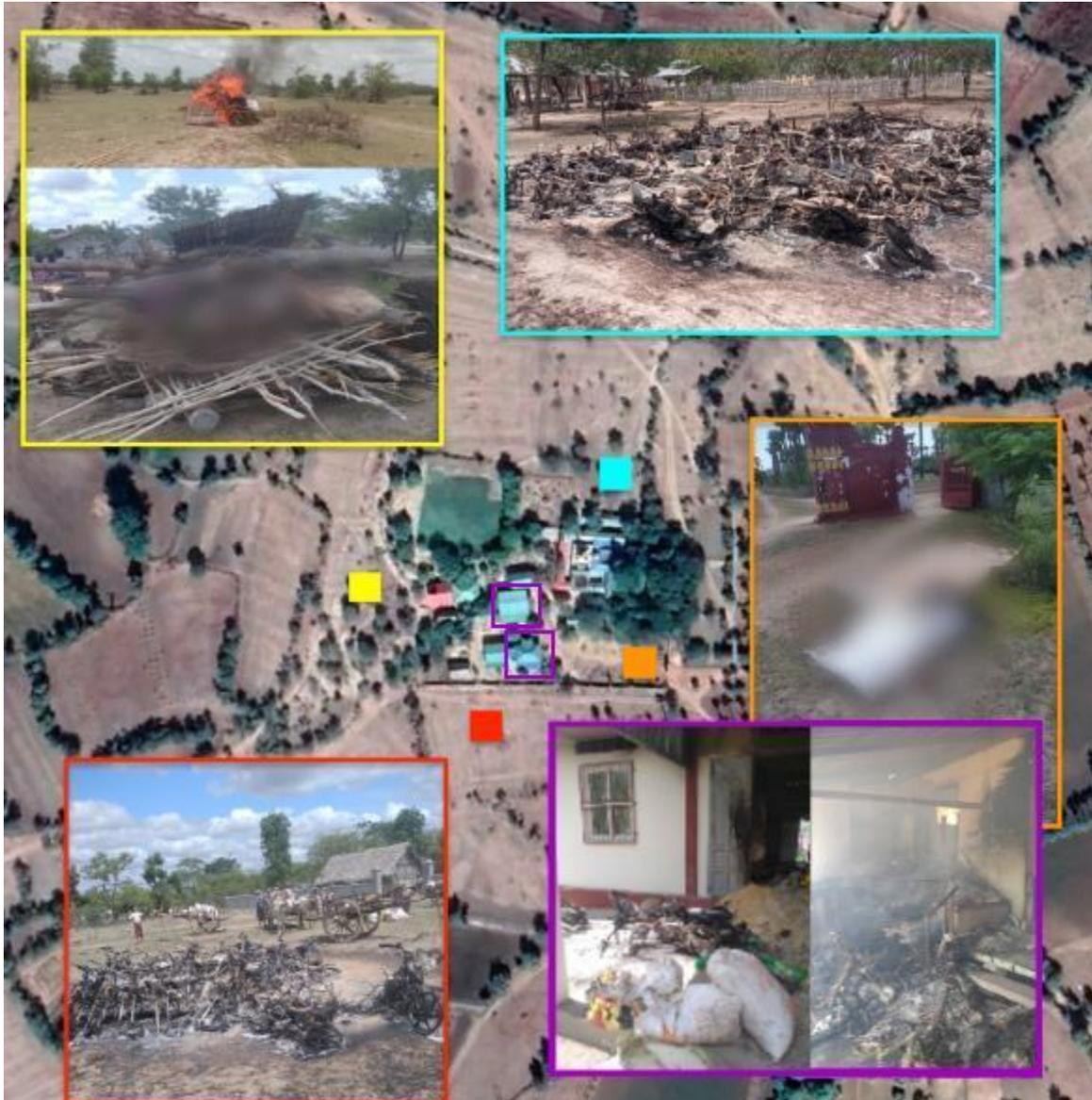


Figure 6: Mapping of the Myat Saw Nyi Naung Pagoda compound near, Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) village. The squares demonstrate images that have been geolocated to these areas. Orange is the location of some of the bodies, purple is the location of burned structures, red and blue corresponds to burned motorbikes and yellow demonstrates the location of the funeral pyre.

Geolocating Imagery

[Warning Graphic] On 7 June 2021, [Myanmar Now](#) posted an article with images showing the aftermath of the incident, including footage of bodies piled into a pyre, burned out motorcycles and graphic images of those who appear to have been shot in their chest. Myanmar Witness geolocated images of this incident to within the Myat Saw Nyi Naung Pagoda's compound [located at 22.043477, 95.610964].

Burnt Motorcycles

Myanmar Witness geolocated footage showing two separate sites where motorcycles were burnt to either side of the Myat Saw Nyi Naung Pagoda compound. The first site was located at around 22.043434, 95.610876 (Figure 7 and 8).



Figure 7: Aftermath of burnt motorcycles.



Figure 8: Location of burnt motorcycles at 22.043434, 95.610876 in relation to Myat Saw Nyi Naung Pagoda.

The second site was located on the other side of the pagoda compound (Figure 9 and 10).



Figure 9: Second group of burnt motorcycles located on the other side of Myat Saw Nyi Naung Compound.



Figure 10: Geolocation of burnt motorcycles on the other side of the pagoda compound.

Burnt Buildings

Myanmar Witness also geolocated images of burnt buildings to the Myat Saw Nyi Naung Pagoda compound (Figure 11).



Figure 11: Geolocation of burned buildings in Myat Saw Nyi Naung Pagoda near Kan Pyar.

Corpses and Funeral Pyre

A graphic image of the cremation of individual alleged shot in Kan Pyar, including bodies on a cremation pyre, uploaded by [WARNING: GRAPHIC] [RFA news](#) on 8 June 2022, was geolocated by Myanmar Witness to the same compound at around 22.043766, 95.611492 (Figure 12 and 13).



Figure 12: Images of the cremation site where villagers cremated the dead, was geolocated to this area [22.043901, 95.610348]. The image has been edited by Myanmar Witness to censor the bodies in the image. No further alterations have been made.



Figure 13: Geolocation of the cremation area using Google Earth satellite imagery.

More graphic images of bodies from [WARNING GRAPHIC] [Myanmar Now](#) could be geolocated to around 22.043901, 95.610348 - close to the main gate of the pagoda compound (Figure 15). Three individuals appear in this footage. A further two bodies can be seen in separate footage uploaded by a PDF group (link withheld for privacy reasons). Myanmar Witness was able to geolocate one of the bodies in this further footage to Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) (Figure 14)



Figure 14: Geolocation of another body at the pagoda compound.

The extensive blood staining on the front of two of the shirts in the images posted by Myanmar Now show a potential exit wound to the front of the chest. This cannot be confirmed as there were no identified images of the same individuals with their backs showing to identify an entrance wound.



Figure 15: Images of deceased individuals located close to the pagoda compound main gate (left covered; right uncovered) showing potential exit wounds.

Time of Event

[Mandalay Free Press](#) reported the military entering the village at around 1330. [FIRMS](#) detected a heat signature in the village at around 1346 local time on 6 June 2021. This could correspond with the burning of either the motorcycles or the buildings; with the cremation reported to have occurred the following day.

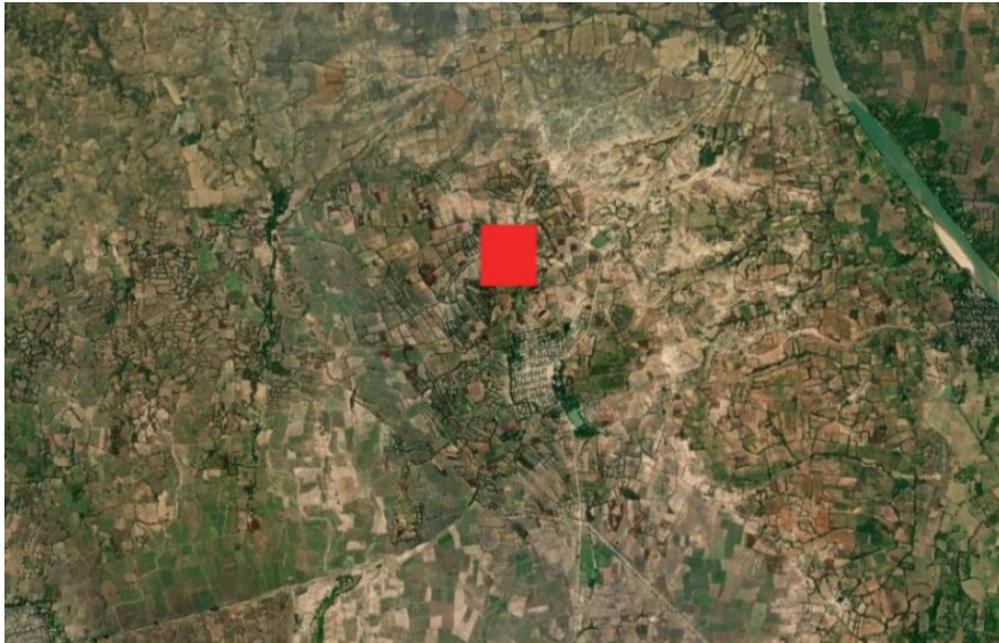


Figure 16: FIRMS in the area of Myat Saw Nyi Naung Pagoda on 6 June 2022.

Images of the burnt motorcycles appear to have been taken in the morning of 7 June. The fire which engulfed the motorbikes in these images has completely burnt out or been doused with water, and the ground is scorched and no longer on fire. The house on the east side has sunlight on it, with analysis of a [shadow](#) in the image indicating this was taken around 1100 local time - with a 0.3 shadow ratio or less.



Figure 17: Image of motorbikes having been burned out with light shining on the east of the building



Figure 18: Active fires captured as a cremation take place close to 22.043901, 95.610348, likely on 7 June 2022.

After the Event (unverified)

According to witness statements from [Zeyar Times](#), many villagers were forced to watch as others were shot at and killed, causing significant psychological damage. The witness statement claims that many felt unable to return to the village after what happened - with some people from Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) moving into IDP camps



Figure 19: Witness testimony shows images alleged to be individuals from Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) having to stay in IDP camps. Myanmar Witness was not able to geolocate these images.

Updates posted in PDF Telegram channels (links withheld for privacy reasons) indicate an active military presence in the areas in the days subsequent to the attack.

- At around 1100 on 7 June 2022 nearly 200 soldiers reportedly re-entered Ga Yu (ဂရု) village and raided homes.
- Also on 7 June 2022, two people were allegedly killed in Pe Ku (ပဲကူ) village – reported to be the destination of the soldiers responsible for killings in Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား)
- On 8 June 2022, soldiers from Pe Ku (ပဲကူ) village reportedly arrived in San Tin Kin (စံတင်ကင်း) village, with around 70 soldiers present in San Tin Kin (စံတင်ကင်း) and 30 soldiers inside the Shwe Gugyi Pagoda in Ahr Lar Kat Pa (အလကပ္ပ) village. Following this, the Pyu Saw Htee and Myanmar military stationed in San Tin Kin (စံတင်ကင်း) travelled to Gway Pin Taw (ဂွေပင်တော).
- On 9 June 2022, soldiers stationed in Gway Pin Taw (ဂွေပင်တော) travelled into Chaung-U Township, specifically Ba Lway (ဘလွေ), where they are claimed to have shot at the village with heavy weapons and small arms.

Myanmar Witness was unable to verify the information associated with these claims.

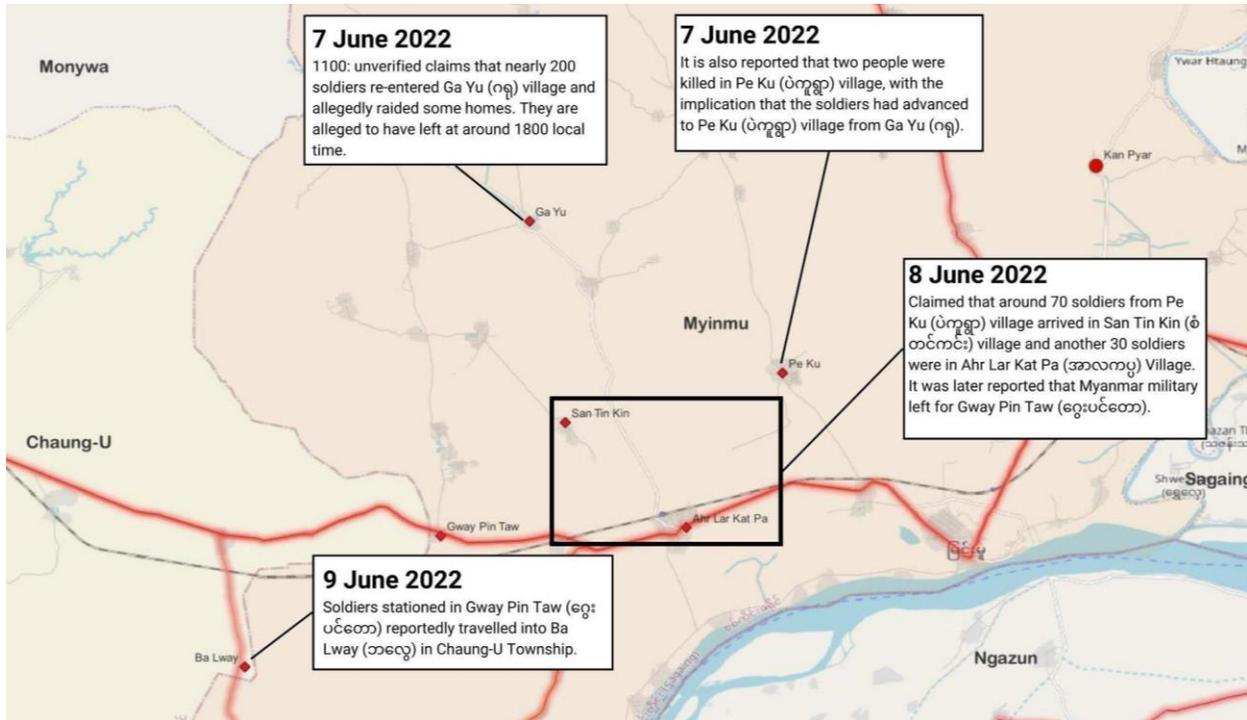


Figure 20: Mapping of events reported by a regional network after the events at Kan Pyar.

Conclusion

Utilising FIRMS data and satellite imagery, Myanmar Witness was able to geolocate and verify fire damage and images of corpses with graphic injuries in Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) on 6 June 2022, consistent with eyewitness reporting of the shooting of those individuals and burning of civilian infrastructure by the Myanmar military. Myanmar Witness identified possible exit wounds in the front of two of the bodies. It was not possible from available footage to confirm they had been shot in the back.

Myanmar Witness did not identify any footage showing military personnel in Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) at the time of the incident. Myanmar Witness has identified numerous reports of a military presence in the local area prior and subsequent to the incident.

This incident is one of many monitored and analysed by Myanmar Witness documenting what is alleged to be security forces targeting civilians. With the addition of PDF activity reported in the area, this incident could also fall within the wider trend of retaliatory attack against communities, as documented in Myanmar Witness' recent [report](#) on trends in north-west Myanmar.

List of Abbreviations

- | | |
|---|-------|
| • State Administration Council | SAC |
| • People's Defence Forces | PDF |
| • Civil Disobedience Movement | CDM |
| • Fire Information and Resource Management System | FIRMS |
| • Internally displaced People/person | IDP |
| • User Generated Content | UGC |

Annex 1 – Detail on military movements in the run up to the event

Note: Links removed from Telegram channels and Facebook groups for privacy reasons, and available on request

On 25 May 2022, Delta News Agency [reported](#) clashes between local PDF groups from Myinmu (မြင်းမှု) and the Myanmar military close to Mu Thar (မူးသာ) and Inn Ma (အင်းမ) villages. On 26 May 2022, a local PDF channel announced that ambushes were planned for an oncoming military convoy from Chaung-U(ချောင်းဦး) Township . A local Chaung-U PDF group reported that this attack was successful.

On 27 May 2022, it was reported by a local PDF channel that Myanmar military soldiers from Than Pin Kan (သန်းပင်ကန်) in Chaung-U (ချောင်းဦး)Township entered Pe Taung (ပဲတောင်း) village in Myinmu Township (မြင်းမှု). On 29 May 2022, it's alleged by a local PDF channel that the soldiers stationed at Pe Taung (ပဲတောင်း) had now entered Let Pan (လက်ပန်), moving into Ga Yu (ဂရု) on 30 May 2022, allegedly setting fire to this village and moving east, towards Nyaung Pin Kan (ညောင်ပင်ကန်) and Hlay U Kan (လှေဦးကန်). This is shown in geographic reference in Figure 21.

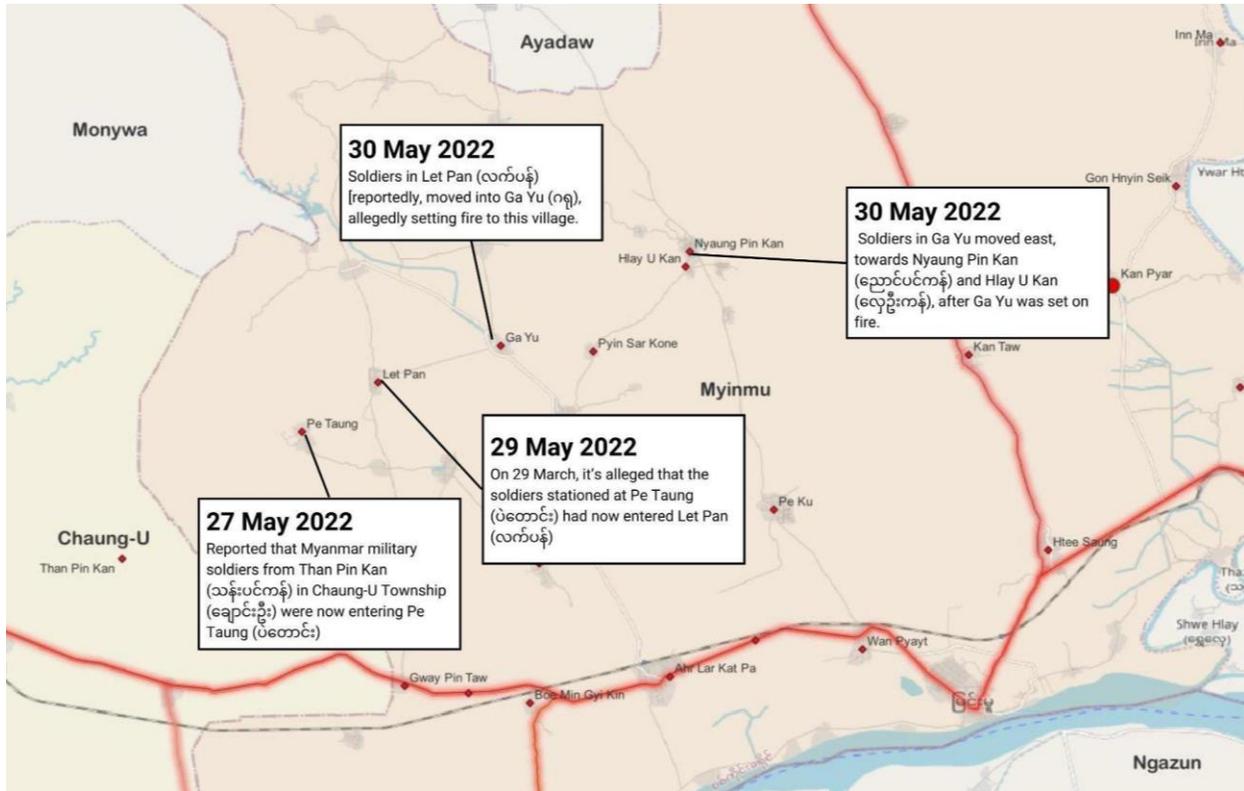


Figure 21: Mapping of some reported Myanmar military troop movements, using OpenStreetMap as the background.

On 30 May 2022, around 30 soldiers were reported in Htee Saung (ထီးဆောင်း) village heading towards Pe Ku (ပဲကူ) village. On 1 June 2022, Pyin Sar Kone (ပုဉ္ဇာကုံး), a village 2.3km from Ga Yu (ဂရု), was allegedly set on fire by military council troops at about 0530 in the morning, with soldiers reentering the village of Let Pan (လက်ပန်) and Ga Yu (ဂရု) village at around 0800 on 1 June 2022. Myanmar Witness could not verify either of these fires had taken place at the alleged time.

On 2nd June, PDF groups allegedly attacked the military close to Na Be Kyu (နာပဲကြူး) in the morning. On this day, it was reported that soldiers moved from Pe Ku (ပဲကူရွာ) village towards Ahr Lar Kat Pa (အာလကပ္ပ) village at around 1645. Allegedly, after leaving Pe Ku (ပဲကူ), there are about 70 out of the 150 soldiers stationed in Gon Hnyin Seik village (ဂုံညင်းဆိပ်).

It was announced by online PDF pages that joint forces would converge to carry out mine attacks on the road beginning on 3 June 2022. In one such announcement, the following roads are specified: the Monywa-Myinmu-Mandalay road and Htee Saung-Ayadaw road

Myinmu Civil Revolution Force reports four separate mine operations on a large convoy passing through the Sagaing-Monywa road. According to another post the attacks began on 3 June 2022 at 1135 local time between Gway Pin Taw (ဂွေးပင်တော) and Boe Min Gyi Kin (ဘိုးမင်းကြီးကင်း) and again, further along the road, at Ahr Lar Kat Pa (အလကပ္ပ) and Wan Pyayt (ဝမ်းပြည့်) village (Figure 22).



Figure 22: Mapping of the Monywa-Myinmu-Mandalay, highlighted in red, whereby military convoys were allegedly attacked with mines planted on the roads by local PDF members between villages.

Another announcement posted by local PDFs states that the same roads were going to be targeted with mines on 5 June 2022. This could contextualise the reasoning that soldiers had entered the village requesting assistance to Pe Ku (ပဲကူ), likely to utilise civilians as guides or guarantees of safe passage through the area against attacks on the road from PDF groups.

A local PDF scout group on Telegram reported the movements of the military in Gon Hnyin Seik village (ဂုံညင်းဆိပ်) around 3 km from Kan Pyar (ကန်ပြား) on 5 June 2022.