

# MYANMAR WITNESS

A project by



# CEASEFIRE IN NAME ONLY:

Reported Aerial Attacks Continue After Myanmar's Earthquake Truce

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30 July 2025

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# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the 7.7 <u>magnitude earthquake</u> on 28 March 2025, Myanmar entered a period of declared ceasefires to help support and enable humanitarian relief. On 29 March, several resistance groups, including the National Unity Government's armed wing with the People's Defence Force (PDF), declared <u>unilateral pauses</u> in their operations from 30 March and 12 April. The State Administration Council (SAC) subsequently declared a <u>ceasefire</u> from 2 April 2025.

Despite these declarations of peace, Myanmar Witness recorded continued aerial attacks throughout the ceasefire period, including airstrikes and paramotor incidents.

This visual report compares and analyses data from 13 March - 1 April 2025, 20 days before and 20 days after the SAC ceasefire on 2 April. Myanmar Witness's key findings are illustrated through maps, cluster bubbles, timelines, graphs and case study



visuals. The key takeaways are as follows:

- 117 aerial attacks were recorded across the 40 days
  - o 50 before the ceasefire (13 March 1 April)
  - o 67 after the ceasefire (2 21 April)
- Geolocated incidents increased from 22 pre-ceasefire to 34 post-ceasefire.
- The highest number of daily attacks was 12 events recorded on 31 March, three days after the earthquake and two days before the ceasefire.
- Magway and Sagaing Regions recorded the most incidents before the ceasefire, with a total of 13 and 10, respectively.
- Sagaing and Mandalay Regions saw the most aerial attacks after the ceasefire, with a total of 19 and 15, respectively.
- Civilian property and religious buildings were reportedly the most commonly damaged structures, with civilian property accounting for 50% of damage reports post-ceasefire.
- 13 of 15 Regions/States reported at least one aerial attack; only the Yangon Region and the Naypyidaw Union Territory did not.

This report also includes four case studies from Mandalay Region and Shan State illustrating the alleged airstrikes on markets, religious sites, and residential areas. These examples are based on user-generated content (UGC) and satellite imagery analysis to help confirm the extent of damage and the civilian impact during both the pre- and post-ceasefire periods.

While the number of casualties cannot be confirmed, these findings raise serious questions about the SAC's adherence to its previously declared ceasefire and underscore the ongoing humanitarian harm during this period.



# 2 KEY FINDINGS AND HIGHLIGHTS

# 2.1 A TIMELINE

# Ceasefires in Response to the Earthquake: A Timeline





## 13 March - 1 April

Reported Airstrike Count: 50 Incidents

## 28 March: Major Earthquake

A major earthquake strikes northern Myanmar, affecting Chin, Shan, and Sagaing. Humanitarian concern rises, with calls for a ceasefire and deescalation from multiple actors.

## 29 March: PDF Ceasefire

NUG's PDF announces a two-week pause in offensive actions to support quake relief.

#### 30 March - 14 April: PDF Partial Ceasefire

The PDF reinforces its commitment to the pause, effectively enacting a partial ceasefire to facilitate the ongoing humanitarian operations.

# 1 April: Three Brotherhood Alliance Ceasefire

The Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA), Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and the Arakan Army (AA), together known as the 3BA, announce a one-month ceasefire.

## 2 April: SAC Declares Ceasefire

The SAC announces an initial ceasefire from 2-21 April to support relief efforts.

#### 2 - 21 April

Reported Airstrike Count: **67 incidents** (despite SAC-declared ceasefire extentions).

# 22 April: SAC Announces First Ceasefire Extension

Ceasefire extended to 30 April, following ASEAN discussions.

# 1 May: SAC Announces Second Ceasefire Extension

Ceasefire extended through 31 May for reported recovery and election preparations

## 31 May: SAC Announces Third Ceasefire Extension

Ceasefire extended through 30 June.



# 2.2 BAR CHART - REPORTED VS. GEOLOCATED

Figure 1 compares the total number of reported and geolocated aerial attacks before and after the ceasefire. While it appears both reported and geolocated incidents increased post-ceasefire, this rise could be a result of either improved documentation, continued airstrikes, or overlap with earthquake-related reporting during that period.

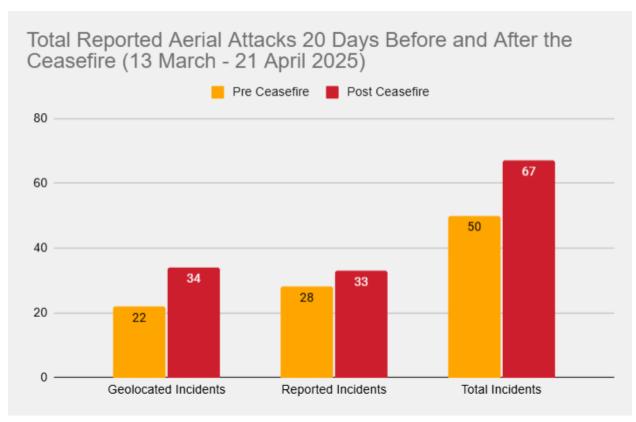


Figure 1: Total incidents are shown alongside the breakdown between geolocated and only reported incidents for both before and after the ceasefire in Myanmar.

# 2.3 DAILY ATTACK TIMELINE (13 MARCH - 21 APRIL 2025)

# Pre-Ceasefire (orange) | Post-Ceasefire (red)

- Highest peak: On 31 March, 12 aerial attacks were recorded. This was just three days after the earthquake and two days before the ceasefire was announced.
- Post-ceasefire days (red) show an increase in reporting overall, indicating a
  potential rise in aerial attacks following the ceasefire declaration.



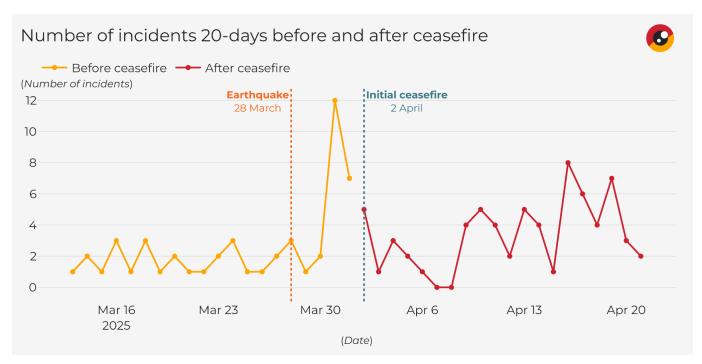


Figure 2: A graph highlighting the distribution of reported and geolocated airstrikes in Myanmar 20 days before and after the ceasefire (2 April 2025).

# 2.4 MAPS - REPORTED & GEOLOCATED INCIDENTS

Map 1: Aerial Attacks Before Ceasefire (13 March - 1 April 2025)

- 22 geolocated (yellow) | 28 reported (red) (total: 50)
- Highest activity in Magway and Sagaing

Map 2: Aerial Attacks After the Ceasefire (2 -21 April 2025)

- 34 geolocated (orange) | 33 reported (red) (total: 67)
- Increased activity shifts in Mandalay and Sagaing.



# Geolocated and Reported Aerial Attacks Prior to the Ceasefire: 13 March - 1 April 2025

# Geolocated vs. Reported Aerial Attacks

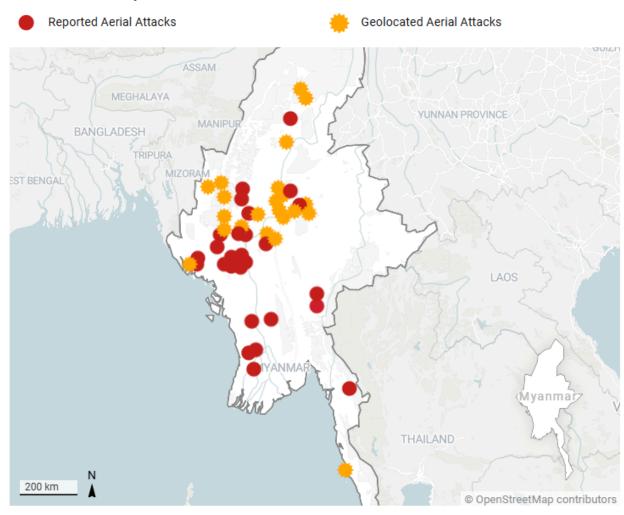


Figure 3: A map highlighting 50 reported (red icons) and geolocated (yellow icons) in Myanmar 20 days before the 2 April 2025 ceasefire agreement (13 March - 1 April 2025) (map created by Myanmar Witness using Datawrapper).



# Geolocated and Reported Aerial Attacks After the Ceasefire: 2 April - 21 April 2025

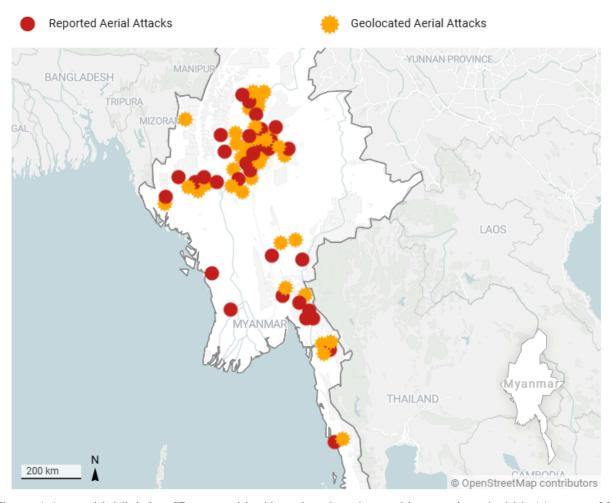


Figure 4: A map highlighting 67 reported (red icons) and geolocated (orange icons) within Myanmar 20 days after the 2 April 2025 SAC's declared ceasefire (map created by Myanmar Witness using Datawrapper).

# 2.5 REGIONAL BREAKDOWN OF ATTACKS

# Before Ceasefire (orange)

• The cluster map shows the highest concentration of reported aerial attacks in Magway and Sagaing Regions. This suggests military activity had likely focused on these established resistance zones

# Post-Ceasefire (red)

- New and expanded clusters of aerial attacks are visible in Sagaing and Mandalay. The emerging pattern in Mandalay suggests that there may be a growing resistance presence in the region
  - This expansion could indicate a potential shift in operational focus for the Myanmar Air Force (MAF)

**Regions/States**: 13 out of 15 regions/states were affected, with at least one aerial attack reported. Only the Yangon Region and the Naypyidaw Union Territory reported no incidents.

**Visual note:** Cluster bubble sizes reflect the number of reported incidents per township.



# Incidents 20 days before ceasefire by township Incidents 20 days after ceasefire by township

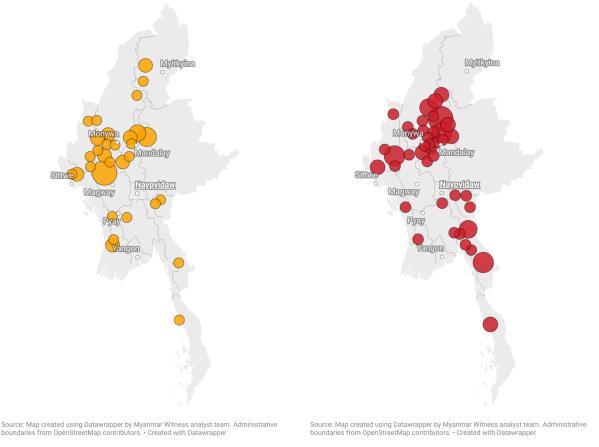


Figure 5: Comparison of clusters and hotspot shifts before and after the SAC's ceasefire declaration. (Source: Map created using Datawrapper by Myanmar Witness analyst team. Administrative boundaries from OpenStreetMap contributors.)

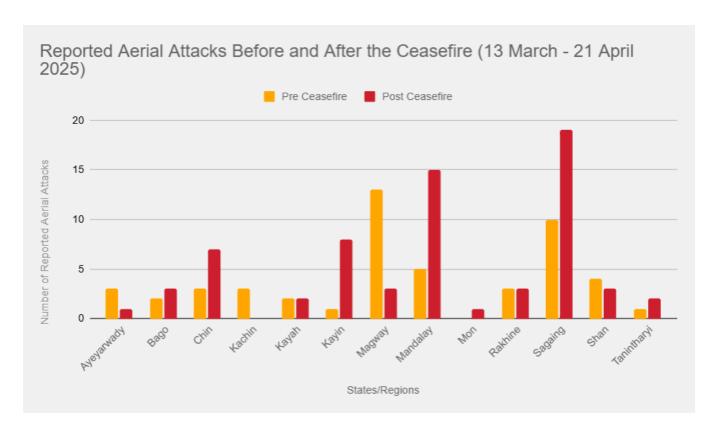


Figure 6: Reported aerial attacks by State/Region during the 20 days before and 20 days after the SAC's declared ceasefire on 2 April 2025.

# 2.6 DAMAGE & INCIDENT TYPE TRENDS

In addition to the recorded number of reported airstrikes, when they occurred and where, Myanmar Witness also analysed the types of infrastructure affected.

- Civilian property and religious sites are the sites with the most reported damage
- An increase in damage to educational facilities was also observed in the post-ceasefire period
- Myanmar Witness could not confirm whether these buildings were deliberately targeted



# Damage to Facilities and Assets Prior to the Ceasefire - 13 March to 1 April 2025

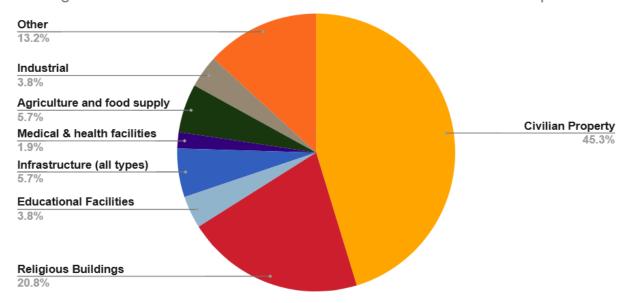


Figure 7: Social Media posts that reported damage to infrastructure are represented in the pie chart above, indicating that civilian property and religious buildings were reportedly the most damaged type before the SAC's ceasefire.

# Other 5.0% Agriculture and food supply 3.8% Medical and health facilities 3.8% Infrastructure (all types) 6.3% Educational Facilities 11.3% Religious Buildings 20.0%

Figure 8: Social Media posts that reported damage to infrastructure are represented in the pie chart above, indicating that civilian property and religious buildings reportedly remained the most damaged type after the ceasefire was announced on 2 April 2025.



# **3 CASE STUDIES**

This report looks at four case studies:

- Let Pan Hla village (လက်ပန်လှ), Singu Township, Mandalay Region
- Nawnghkio town (နောင်ချိုမြို့), Nawnghkio Township, Shan State
- Yae Htwet village (ရေထွက်), Thabeikkyin Township, Mandalay Region
- Myay Taing village (မြေတိုင်), Sagaing Township, Saging Region

# 3.1 LET PAN HLA VILLAGE

On 14 March 2025, the MAF <u>reportedly</u> conducted an airstrike on a shopping street in Let Pan Hla village, Singu Township, Mandalay Region, at approximately 15:00 local time. <u>Myanmar Now</u> claims that between 11 and 27 people were killed, including six children. Satellite imagery and UGC confirm the destruction of the area.

Myanmar Witness geolocated the destruction of the market area [22.555351, 96.066057], shown in the graphic below. Sentinel-2 false colour imagery shows vegetation changes around the market area that was hit between 10 and 15 March 2025. Changes noticed in Sentinel-2 imagery between these dates support the airstrike claims.





Reported Airstrike on Let Pan Hla Village Market, Singu Township, Mandalay Region on 14 March 2025 Location and damage assessed using visual and satellite imagery. Confidence Level: High



Figure 9: (Sources: Google Earth Pro; Airbus © 2024, Sentinel-2 via Copernicus Browser; UGC from Mandalay People's Defence Forces)

10 March 2025



Sentinel-2

15 March 2025

## 3.2 NAWNGHKIO TOWN

On the evening of 16 March 2025, the MAF reportedly dropped three bombs and opened machine gun fire on the Sein Yadana Pariyatti Monastery in Nawnghkio town. According to <u>Shwe Phi Myay News Agency</u>, the attack killed 10 individuals, among them five civilians, including women and children. Nawnghkio town and the surrounding area are allegedly controlled by the Palaung State Liberation Front/Ta'ang National Liberation Army (PSLF/TNLA).

Myanmar Witness geolocated the destruction of the video shared by Shwe Phi Myay News Agency [22.324492, 96.803748] to Sein Yadana Pariyatti Monastery in Nawnghkio town. Sentinel-2 false colour imagery from <u>15 March</u> compared to <u>17 March</u> 2025 shows changes around the monastery's location.

Myanmar Witness analysed the remnants captured in the UGC and assessed that it is a tail section of an air-delivered ordnance. However, at the time of publishing, Myanmar Witness was unable to identify the ordnance's exact model and manufacturer.





# Reported Airstrike on Sein Yadana Pariyatti Monastery in Nawnghkio Town, Shan State on 16 March 2025

Location and damage analysed through multiple open-source methods.

Confidence Level: High



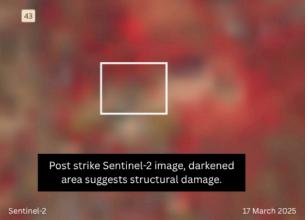














# 3.3 YAE HTWET VILLAGE

On 19 April 2025, the MAF reportedly <u>bombed</u> the central market in Yae Htwet village, Thabeikkyin Township, Mandalay Region, killing dozens of civilians, including women and children. <u>Mandalay Free Press</u> reported that a passenger truck was directly hit, and fires destroyed nearby homes. Additionally, locals stated there were no PDFs in the area at the time, but the MAF had been attacking the area for multiple days. <u>Shwe Phee Myay News Agency</u> reported that at least 30 people were killed in this attack, with 25 more injured.

Myanmar Witness geolocated the damaged area in Yae Htwet village [22.769105, 96.053029], with some buildings showing full destruction, seen in the graphic below. Sentinel-2 false colour imagery from 14 April compared to 24 April 2025 (the next clear day) shows changes around the damaged centre, supporting the claims of an attack.



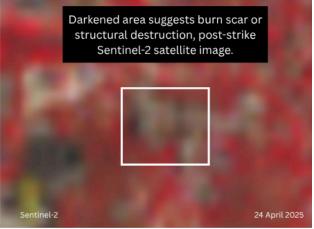


Reported Airstrike on Residential Area in Yae Htwet Village, Thabeikkyin Township, Mandalay Region on 19 April 2025 Substantial damage confirmed through ground footage, satellite imagery, and change detection. Confidence Level: High











# 3.4 AINT DAING VILLAGE

On 21 April 2025, Myanmar Air Force <u>reportedly</u> conducted airstrikes on a monastery in Aint Daing village, Madaya township, Mandalay Region, around 13:30 local time. The airstrike was <u>claimed</u> to have injured one monk and three residents. <u>Red Peacock News</u> mentions that the village was severely impacted by the earthquake. Myanmar Witness geolocated the damage to the monastery building at [22.133330, 95.989360] shown in the graphic below. Sentinel- 2 true colour imagery from 19 April compared to 24 April 2025 shows changes around the geolocated location, supporting the claims that an attack occurred on 21 April 2025.





Reported Airstrike on Monastery in Aint Daing Village, Madaya Township, Mandalay Region on 21 April 2025 Location and damage analysed through multiple open-source methods. Confidence Level: High





# **4 APPENDIX**

A link to the Methodology can be found here.

# Case Study 1: Reported Airstrike on Let Pan Hla Village Market

Figure 9: Geolocation analysis of the 14 March airstrike on Let Pan Hla Village Market, Singu Township [22.555351, 96.066057]

[Top] Ground-level images show fire and structural damage to the market following the strike, with key features (trees, rooftops, debris) annotated for reference.
[Middle] Satellite imagery from October 2024 shows intact market structures.
Colour-coded boxes (blue, orange, red) indicate reference points used to match visual evidence with geographic features.

[Bottom] Sentinel-2 false-colour imagery reveals damage detection between 10 and 15 March 2025, with darkened areas suggesting destruction post-strike. (Sources: Google Earth Pro; Airbus © 2024, Sentinel-2 via Copernicus Browser, UGC from Mandalay People's Defence Forces)

# Case Study 2: Reported Airstrike on Nawnghkio Town

Figure 10: Geolocation analysis of the 16 March airstrike on Sein Yadanar Pariyatti School, Nawnghkio town, Shan State at [22.324492, 96.803748] [Top] Ground-level footage confirms significant damage to the main hall and surrounding buildings.

[Middle] Satellite imagery from before and after the strike shows the structures intact as of 1 Nov 2024, with post-strike destruction aligned with UGC footage. [Bottom] Sentinel-2 satellite imagery indicates structural changes consistent with the timing of the airstrike, with darker areas in post-strike images suggesting damage. (Sources: Google Earth Pro; Landsat/Copernicus, © 2025 Airbus; Apple Maps/Maxar; UGC footage from Shwe Phee Myay News Agency)

# Case Study 3: Reported Airstrike on Yae Htwet Village

Figure 11: Geolocation analysis of the 19 April airstrike on a residential area in Yae Htwet Village, Thabeikkyin Township, Mandalay Region at [22.769105, 96.053029]



[Top] Ground-level footage confirms structural damage to residential buildings, with consistent features visible across images.

[Middle] Satellite imagery from 18 Jan 2025 shows intact buildings; post-strike scenes geolocated to the same coordinates reveal destruction.

[Bottom] Sentinel-2 false colour imagery comparison between 14 and 24 April 2025 indicates darkened areas consistent with fire damage or structural collapse. (Sources: Google Earth Pro; Sentinel-2 via Copernicus Browser; Airbus ©2025; UGC

source: Shwe Phee Myay News Agency)

# Case Study 4: Reported Airstrike On Aint Daing Village

Figure 12: Geolocation analysis of the 21 April airstrike on a monastery in Aint Daing village, Madaya Township, Mandalay Region. [Top Left] Ground-level images show structural damage to the monastery roof, aligned with colour-coded references. [Top Right & Middle] Satellite imagery before and after the strike highlights damage to the main hall (red box), while undamaged structures (white and blue boxes) serve as visual anchors.

[Bottom] Sentinel-2 satellite change detection imagery shows a darkened patch emerging post-strike, indicating destruction consistent with fire or structural collapse. (Sources: Google Earth Pro; Sentinel-2 via Copernicus Browser; Imagery © Apple, Maxar Technologies; UGC from <u>Red Peacock</u>)

