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National Unity Govt army claims it arrested 16 Myanmar policemen

A resistance group in central Myanmar arrested 16 junta policemen after capturing their police station, the people's defense force told Radio Free Asia.

The group captured a Sagaing police station after more than an hour of fighting, the leader said on Saturday, adding that they also seized a large number of weapons and ammunition. The People's Defense Army, under the command of the civilian shadow National Unity Government, instigated the battle on Tuesday in Wetlet township's Shwe Pan Kone village.

"We had to prepare for a long time to take this camp," the People's Defense Army leader said, asking to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals. "The camp was seized, and so far, the military council has not returned or been stationed there."

The junta carried out airstrikes twice during the battle, the group said on Saturday, adding that they had confiscated a significant number of weapons from the police station.

Over the course of the clash, the People's Defense army claimed it seized over 6,400 different types of ammunition, 32 grenades, 38 magazines, 31 small firearms, and six landmines in addition to 900,000 kyat (US\$428).

One resistance fighter and three junta soldiers were killed during the battle, according to a statement on Saturday by the National Unity Government's Military Regional 1, which oversees the People's Defense Army and its local divisions.

Resistance groups have targeted junta outposts frequently in November,

with people's defense forces reporting heavy junta losses during battle.

On Nov. 12, a fire set by allied people's defense forces killed four policemen, including a police outpost officer and three junta soldiers, in Salingyi township's Kyar Tet town in Sagaing region.

The junta has not released any information regarding the alleged arrests. Calls by RFA to Sagaing region's junta spokesperson Naing Naing Kyaw went unanswered.

Translated by RFA Burmese. Edited by Mike Firn.

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ecoi.net description:

Sagaing region, Wetlet township: The People's Defence Force, a resistance group, captures a police station and arrests 16 military junta policemen

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