Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	721
Land:	Myanmar
Kilde:	Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED)
Titel:	Momentum from Operation 1027 Threatens Military Rule
Udgivet:	1. februar 2024
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	3. april 2024

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Myanmar: Momentum from Operation 1027 Threatens Military Rule

Posted: 1 February 2024 | Region: Asia Pacific | Category: Infographics

Momentum from *Operation 1027* Threatens Military Rule

KEY FIGURES 27 October 2023 - 1 February 2024 | Since launching Operation 1027 on 27 October 2023, the Brotherhood Alliance, alongside anti-coup forces, has made some of the most significant territorial gains since the 2021 coup, seizing military and police positions in Chin, Rakhine, northern Shan, and Mandalay. Failing to sup-More than a third of all post-coup military attacks on civilians in Chin, Rakhine, northern Shan, and Mandalay have occurred during the three months of Operation 1027. Number of townships Operation 1027 press Brotherhood gains, the military has turned to indiscriminate airstrikes and artillery shelling on civilians. Nonetheless, *Operation 1027* has given momentum to other armed groups across the country, representing the most significant threat to the military junta since the 1 February 2021 coup. fighting has Chin (1 township), Rakhine (14), northern Shan (17), and Mandalay 3), with the Brotherhood Ethnic armed groups and anti-coup forces are now engaged in large-scale offensives, including Operation 1027, across all states and regions in the country, except Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, and Ayeyarwaddy. THE BROTHERHOOD ALLIANCE Myanmar National Truth and Justice Party/ Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNTJP/MNDAA) Palaung State Liberation Front/Ta'ang National Liberation Army (PSLF/TNLA) United League of Arakan/Arakan Army (ULA/AA)

CHIN AND RAKHINE
The ULA/AA began operations in Rakhine state in November. In January, they seized control of Paulktaw and Minbya in Rakhine, with fighting shifting towards the Bangladeshi border in Maungdaw. The military has retailated to these gains with heavy bombardment of civilian populated areas in Rakhine state, hitting exclusively civilian targets more than a hundred times since the beginning of ULA/AA's offensive. In Chin state, ULA/AA gained control of Paletwa township, which borders Rakhine state to the south and India's Mizoram state to the west. Advances along the Bangladeshi and Indian borders with Chin and Rakhine states provide the ULA/AA control over strategically important trade routes.

The PSLF/TNLA and its resistance allies clashed with the military in Mogoke, Madaya, and Pyrionolowin townships, strategic chokepoints on the route to northern Shan state from central Myanmar, where the largest military bases are. In December, the Mandalay People's Defense Force, an ally of the PSLF/TNLA, secured a stretch of the Mandalay-Lashio National Road, a strategic route used to transport weapons and troops. used to transport weapons and troops

NORTHERN SHAN

NORTHERN SHAN
Operation 1027 originated in the north of Shan state, where the Brotherhood Alliance launched a military campaign with the aim of restoring the border town
of Laukkaing to MNITIP/MNDAA rule. Laukkaing, whose fall in 2009 served as a
launchpad for Min Aung Haliang's ascension to the head of the military, was eventually recaptured by the MNITIP/MNDAA on 5 January. The military has responded
to Brotherhood Alliance's advances with intense strikes on civilians. In one of their
most deadly attacks, the military killed at least eight civilians and injured dozens
when they shelled a hotel in Ton Chein ward, Laukkaing, on 25 December. Early
successes in northern Shan have also served as a springboard for the expansion of
Operation 1027 aims, as well as resistance offensives in other parts of the country.



Visual produced by Christian Jaffe and Christina De Paris

For more, see our recent report Myanmar: Resistance to the Military Junta Gains Momentum from our 2024 **Conflict Watchlist**

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