



## Incident Report

November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 / KHRG # 25-248-I2

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## Dooplaya District Incident Report: SAC air strikes and shelling caused casualties, destruction, and displacement in Kaw T'Ree Township (May 2025)

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*This Incident Report describes events occurring in Kaw T'Ree (Kawkareik) Township, Dooplaya District, in May 2025. On May 25<sup>th</sup> 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC) conducted an air strike on Ab--- village, Thay Baw Boh village tract, Kaw T'Ree Township, causing no casualties. Later that day, SAC soldiers fired an unknown number of mortar shells in the village, injuring two siblings. Similarly, on May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025, an SAC fighter jet dropped around four or five bombs in front of Ab--- village's primary school and damaged the school building and dormitory. On the same day, an SAC fighter jet also dropped eleven bombs in Aa--- village, Thay Baw Boh village tract, despite the absence of fighting or soldiers in the village. This attack injured four villagers, including three underage students. One student with a severe injury on his thigh was sent to a hospital in Thailand, while the other two were treated at a clinic run by the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA). The bombs also damaged several buildings in the village, including a school, a monastery, and villagers' houses. As a result of the air strikes and shelling, many villagers were displaced to the forest, their plantations, or other villages. Displaced villagers faced many challenges, as they could not bring many belongings with them and have only received limited support. Moreover, the school was closed due to security concerns, and children have to study in the forest. Villagers also face many healthcare difficulties, as there are no clinics or hospitals in the village, nor enough medicines, and it is not easy to contact health workers when someone is in need of urgent treatment.<sup>1</sup>*

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### Part 1 – Incident Details

Type of Incident	Air strikes [and shelling].
Date of Incident(s)	May 25 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup> 2025.
Incident Location (Village, Township and District)	Aa--- and Ab--- villages, Thay Baw Boh village tract <sup>2</sup> , Kaw T'Ree Township, Dooplaya District.

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<sup>1</sup> The present document is based on information received in June and July 2025. It was provided by a community member in Dooplaya District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several reports received with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #25-248-D2, #25-248-A3-I1, #25-248-A4-I1, #25-248-A4-I1, #25-248-A5-I1, and #25-248-A6-I1.

<sup>2</sup> A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

Victim(s) Information						
Name	Saw <sup>3</sup> A---	Saw B---	Saw C---	Saw D---	Saw J---	K---
Age	14 years old	15 years old	16 years old	28 years old	[Unknown]	[Unknown]
Gender	Boy	Boy	Boy	Man	Man	Woman
Ethnicity	Karen	Karen	Karen	Karen	[Unknown]	[Unknown]
Marital Status	-	-	-	Married	[Unknown]	[Unknown]
Occupation	Student	Student	Student	Daily worker	[Unknown]	[Unknown]
Religion	Animist	Animist	Animist	Buddhist	[Unknown]	[Unknown]
Position	-[Student]	-[Student]	-[Student]	[Villager]	[Unknown]	[Unknown]
Village	Ad--- village, Noh Hpoh village tract, Kaw T'Ree Township	Ac--- village, Noh Hpoh village tract	Ac--- village, Noh Hpoh village tract	Aa--- village, Thay Baw Boh village tract	[Ab--- village, Thay Baw Boh village tract]	[Ab--- village, Thay Baw Boh village tract]

Perpetrator Information (Armed Actors)			
Type of aircraft	Unit	Base	Commander's Name
Fighter jet	Burma [State Administration Council (SAC) <sup>4</sup> ] Air Force	Unknown	General Htun Aung serves as the Commander-in-Chief of the Burma (SAC) Air Force

## **Part 2 - Information Quality**

### **1. Explain in detail how this information was collected.**

I [the KHRG researcher] received the information from a local authority [named Saw I---, who is a village secretary in Aa--- village] and went to take photos in person [to Aa--- and Ab--- villages, Thay Baw Boh village tract]. Then, I conducted interviews with a teacher [named Saw L---, who is the Aa--- school vice principal,] and with a victim's family member [: Naw<sup>5</sup> E---, wife of Saw D---]. [Later on, the KHRG researcher also interviewed a school committee member from Ab--- village].

### **2. Explain how the source verified this information.**

Naw E--- (the wife of Saw D---, who was injured), Saw I--- (the village secretary of Aa--- village), and Saw L--- (the vice principal of Aa--- school) told me [the KHRG researcher] that

<sup>3</sup> 'Saw' is a S'gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person's name.

<sup>4</sup> The State Administration Council (SAC) is the executive governing body created in the aftermath of the February 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021, and is composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name in July 31<sup>st</sup> 2025 to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

<sup>5</sup> 'Naw' is a S'gaw Karen female honorific title used before a person's name.

the incident caused casualties and damages in the village. I also interviewed a committee member from Ab--- village school named Ma<sup>6</sup> G---. [The information is verified as the interviewees are either victims of the attack or witnessed it.]

### **Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident**

**Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.**

**May 25<sup>th</sup> 2025: SAC air strike and mortar shelling injured two villagers in Ab--- village, Thay Baw Boe village tract:**

On May 25<sup>th</sup> 2025, an [SAC] fighter jet dropped around five bombs in Ab--- village, Thay Baw Boe village tract [but caused no casualties].

Following the air strike, [on the same day,] [Burma Army<sup>7</sup>] soldiers fired [an unknown number of] mortar shells into the village, injuring two siblings. The names of the injured are Saw J--- and K--- [unknown ages]. A school committee member from Ab--- village said that villagers believe the mortar shelling came from [Burma Army's] Ghaw Lay army camp, in Ghaw Lay village tract, Kaw T'Ree Township.

**May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025: SAC air strikes in Ab--- village causing damage:**

Again, on May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025, a [Burma Army] fighter jet dropped around four or five bombs in Ab--- village, one of which remained unexploded. [An unknown number of bombs] landed in front of a primary school and damaged the school building and a dormitory. [This school is administered by the Karen Education and Culture Department (KECD)<sup>8</sup>.] The explosions also damaged four houses [unknown owner].



<sup>6</sup> 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

<sup>7</sup> The terms Burma military, Burma Army, Tatmadaw, SAC, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe Burma's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time -since the 2021 coup, the State Administration Council (SAC)

<sup>8</sup> The Karen National Union's Education and Culture Department is the education department of the Karen National Union. Its main goals are to provide mother tongue education services to rural Karen populations in Southeast Myanmar, as well as to preserve the Karen language, culture and history. Despite being an important education provider in the region, it is not officially recognised by the Myanmar government.



These three photos were taken in May 2025 in Ab--- village, Thay Baw Boh village tract, Kaw T'Ree Township, Dooplaya District. The two photos on the top row show the place where a bomb from an SAC fighter jet exploded, damaging a KECD primary school in Ab--- village on May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025. The photo on the left shows an unexploded bomb also dropped by the SAC fighter on May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025. [Photos: KHRG].

**May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025: SAC bombardment injured four villagers in Aa--- village, Thay Baw Boe village tract:**

On May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025, between 6:46 and 7 pm, an SAC fighter jet dropped 11 bombs on Aa--- village, Thay Baw Boe village tract, Kaw T'Ree Township, Dooplaya District.

Three bombs landed on a pine forest [outside the village], including one that did not explode.



KHRG received this photo from a villager on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2025, from Aa--- village, Thay Baw Boh village tract, Kaw T'Ree Township, Dooplaya District. The photo shows an unexploded bomb, dropped by an SAC fighter jet on May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025 in a pine forest outside the village. [Photo: Local villager].

A bomb landed near a shop owned by a teacher named H--- and destroyed it. One also landed on a house owned by a villager named Naw E---, damaging the house, her belongings, and a tractor [used for farming], as well as injuring her husband [named Saw D---]. [Another] one landed beside a house owned by the school vice principal [Saw L---], and exploded on some trees, damaging the roof of his house. [Similarly,] one bomb landed in front of a girls' dormitory [in Aa--- school compound, administered by the KECD], damaging the dormitory and two school buildings, one for primary students and one for middle school students. The remaining four bombs exploded in a monastery, causing damage to three buildings and a pagoda.



These six photos were taken in May 2025, at Aa--- village, Thay Baw Boh village tract, Kaw T'Ree Township, Dooplaya District. On May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025, an SAC fighter jet dropped 11 bombs on Aa--- village, destroying and damaging several buildings and injuring four villagers. The two photos at the top show that the roof and a pillar of the monk's quarter inside a monastery were damaged by the explosions. The photo in the middle left shows that a pagoda was also damaged by the explosions. The photo in the middle right shows the place where a bomb exploded in front of a house owned by a villager named Naw E---. The explosion injured her husband and damaged her tractor, house, and belongings. The two photos on the bottom row show that the explosions also destroyed a shop owned by a teacher named H---. [Photo: KHRG].

[Furthermore,] four people were injured by the air strike. A 28-year-old man named Saw D---, husband of Naw E---, from Aa--- village, was injured by the shrapnel from [one of the] bomb

explosions. After the incident, he was accompanied by Commander Da Baw, of the KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army]<sup>9</sup> Cobra Column<sup>10</sup>, to Ae--- military clinic, in Thay Baw Boh village tract, for treatment.

Three students were also injured by the bombs, although it is unclear which [specific] bomb caused the injuries. Fourteen-year-old Saw A---, who is a Grade-7 student from Ad--- village, Noh Hpoh village tract, Kaw T'Ree Township, sustained serious injuries on his thigh and was sent to Ag--- hospital in Thailand [s Tak province]. Fifteen-year-old and 16-year-old Saw B--- and Saw C---, who are Grade 7 students from Ac--- village, Noh Hpoh village tract, were also injured by the shrapnel and sent to Ae--- military clinic, as both of their wounds were not serious. These three students go to the same school in Aa--- village.



The two photos on the top row were taken in May 2025 in Aa--- village, Thay Baw Boh village tract, Kaw T'Ree

<sup>9</sup> The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

<sup>10</sup> The Cobra Column is one of eight armed resistance forces that have emerged since March 2022 under the joint command of the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and the People's Defence Force (PDF). The Cobra Column operates largely under KNLA Company #1, Battalion #27 of KNLA's Brigade #6.

Township, Dooplaya District. On May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025, an SAC fighter jet dropped 11 bombs on Aa--- village, destroying and damaging several buildings and injuring four villagers, including three children. The top left photo shows the place where a bomb exploded next to the girls' dormitory in a KECD school compound, damaging the dormitory and two school buildings. The top right photo shows that the foundation of one of the school buildings was damaged by one of the explosions. The two photos on the bottom row were received from a villager on October 30<sup>th</sup> 2025, and show a student named Saw A---, who was injured by the shrapnel from one of the bomb explosions, getting treatment at a hospital in Thailand. [Photo: KHRG/Local villager].

During the treatment, the three students could not go to school. [As of June 27<sup>th</sup> 2025,] they had not recovered yet. The parents of the students were worried about their children, as they were far away from each other [the three students are from other villages and moved to Aa--- village to go to school].

A [Karen National Union (KNU)<sup>11</sup>] local leader warned villagers that an aircraft would come, but the villagers did not believe it, as it [air strike] had never happened before in the village. According to the village secretary, named Saw L---: *"There are no soldiers or army camps in the village, and nearby the village. They [SAC] just target directly to villagers"*. [The KHRG researcher updated in November 2025 that the students had already recovered.]

As of November 2025, children do not dare to go to school in the village due to security concerns, and they have to study in the forest. According to Saw L---, the school vice principal: *"There will be families of soldiers [KNLA] living among the villagers in the village, so an aircraft conducted an air strike. Sometimes, Burmese [workers] also come to work in the village; we don't know if there will be a spy among them. Then, they will know where the houses of soldiers' families are and send the information to [the SAC]."* This does not mean that soldiers are based in the village, only their relatives.

### **Challenges faced by Aa--- and Ab--- villagers during displacement:**

Due to the air strike, most villagers from Aa--- and Ab--- villages have been displaced to other villages, to the forest, or to their plantations. They do not dare to return to their village to work for their livelihood. Those who are displaced in the forest experience many challenges, as they cannot work and they could not bring many belongings with them. While they are living in the place where they have moved to [the displacement site], they receive some support, such as mosquito nets, from local organisations [including the Committee for Internally Displaced Karen People (CIDKP)], but it is not enough for everyone. Those who remain in the village worry that an aircraft will conduct another air strike.

[Moreover,] villagers from Aa--- village do not have enough medicine for patients, and there is no clinic or hospital in the village, only health workers. However, if the situation is not good, they [health workers] flee to their huts for security, as they are also villagers. The biggest problem is the lack of connection [internet] when someone needs urgent health [medical treatment]. According to the village secretary, Saw L---: *"When someone is seriously sick, we look for a health worker, but if they are not at their home, no one takes care of the patient. It is very difficult because we cannot do anything when someone is really sick and needs urgent treatment"*.

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<sup>11</sup> The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

## **Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details**

**Did the victim(s) provide permission to use this information? Explain how that permission was provided.**

KHRG can use all of the information reported. Naw E---, wife of one of the victims; Saw I---, the Aa--- village secretary; Saw L---, vice principal from Aa--- village; a brother of Saw A---, one of the injured students; and a school committee member from Ab--- village allowed KHRG to use this information for publication.

Further background reading on the situation on attacks on schools in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [\*Stolen Childhoods: Violations of children's rights, urgent needs, and local agency in rural Southeast Burma during the conflict\*](#), October 2025.
- [\*Community spaces under fire : Attacks and destruction of community buildings and cultural events in Southeast Burma by the State Administration Council \(SAC\) \(January - June 2025\)\*](#), August 2025.
- [\*"Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: An SAC air strike on a school injured a villager in Hsaw Htee Township"\*](#), May 2025, November 2025.
- [\*"Hpa-an District Short Update: SAC drone strikes and shelling injured four villagers and damaged a school and houses, in T'Nay Hsah Township \(February and March 2025\)"\*](#), July 2025.

### **About KHRG**

Founded in 1992, Karen Human Rights Group is an independent local organisation committed to improving the human rights situation in Southeast Burma. KHRG trains local people to document and gather evidence of human rights abuses, and publishes this information to project the voices, experiences and perspectives of local communities. More examples of our work can be seen online at [www.khrq.org](http://www.khrq.org).

