

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Unity Government Ministry of Human Rights

 $\underline{https://mohr.nugmyanmar.org/}$

Announcement no (3/2023) (28 January 2023)



Release of report on Crimes committed by the Light Infantry Battalion Nos. 361, 368 and 369 under the military's Sagaing Region-based No. 10 Military Operations Command Headquarters from November 2022 to January 2023

- 1. The Ministry of Human Rights (MOHR) has documented many evidences of murders and destruction of property committed by the so-called security forces of the military junta during the past two years of the attempted coup.
- 2. This report documents the serious human rights violations and international crimes committed by Sagaing Region-based LIB Nos. 361, 368 and 369 under the command of No. 10 Military Operations Command Headquarters (MOC-10) in past three months from 1 November 2022 to 22 January 2023. Since this report could only cover the cases verified with witnesses and survivors, most of whom with limited access to communications, the actual number of crimes committed by these terrorist troops could be higher. Our documentation indicates that there is a growing trend in number of crimes committed by these battalions from November 2022 and January 2023. All these cases indicated that these crimes were targeted against civilians with brutal murders and burning down of thousands of houses, forcing tens of thousands of civilians to flee their villages in Sagaing Region. The evidence indicate that the crimes committed by these three battalions may constitute crimes against humanity and war crimes. This report marks as a first step to prosecute perpetrators, both commanders and offenders, with international crimes.
- 3. The report will be shared with international mechanism including UN agencies. MOHR will explore any possible arena to seek justice for grave human rights violations of genocides, crimes against humanities and war crimes committed against the people of Myanmar.

Ministry of Human Rights
National Unity Government



Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Unity Government Ministry of Human Right



Crimes committed by the Light Infantry Battalion Nos. 361, 368 and 369 under the military's Sagaing Region-based No. 10 Military Operations Command Headquarters from November 2022 to January 2023

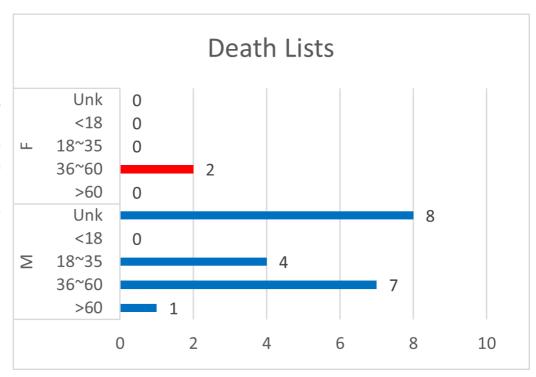
This report is about human rights abuses and international crimes committed by the Light Infantry Battalion Nos. 361, 368 and 369 under the military's Sagaing Region-based No. 10 Operation Command Headquarters from November 2022 to January 2023. Crimes actually committed by the military may remain unreported in this report due to communication difficulties. According to the investigated cases, the crimes committed by the three regiments became worse between November 2022 and January 2023. It is obvious that the military's these three battalions targeted the civilian population on purpose, brutally killing the civilian population and burning down thousands of homes.

Tens of thousands of civilians in Sagaing Region were forced to flee from their houses due to the crimes committed by the three battalions. It is clear that the crimes committed by the military's three battalions amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes. Those responsible for ordering and committing these crimes should be prosecuted under international criminal law. The Ministry of Human Rights under the National Unity Government (NUG) will attempt to prosecute those who order the three battalions to commit crimes and the perpetrators.

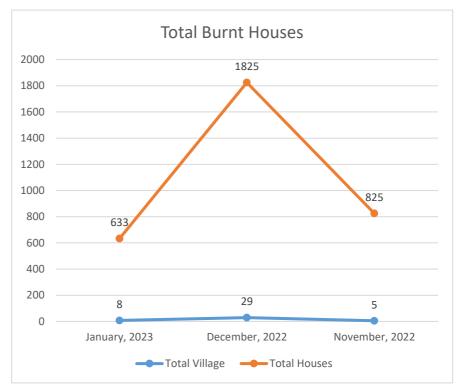
Brigadier General Soe Hlaing (Alatha-21) currently serves as the commander of the No. 10 Military Operations Command Headquarters. The LIB No. 361 is based in Kalay. The military's LIB Nos. 358 and 369 are based in Phaungpyin and Homalin.

Name of battalion	Location	Command	Commander	Intake
LIB No. 361	Kalay	MOC-10	Brig-Gen Soe Hlaing	(Alatha-21)
LIB No. 358	Phaungpyin	MOC-10	Brig-Gen Soe Hlaing	(Alatha-21)
LIB No. 369	Homalin	MOC-10	Brig-Gen Soe Hlaing	(Alatha-21)

Those who were murdered in all incidents
A total of 22 civilians
-20 men and 2 womenwere killed by the military's three battalions between November 2022 and January 2023.

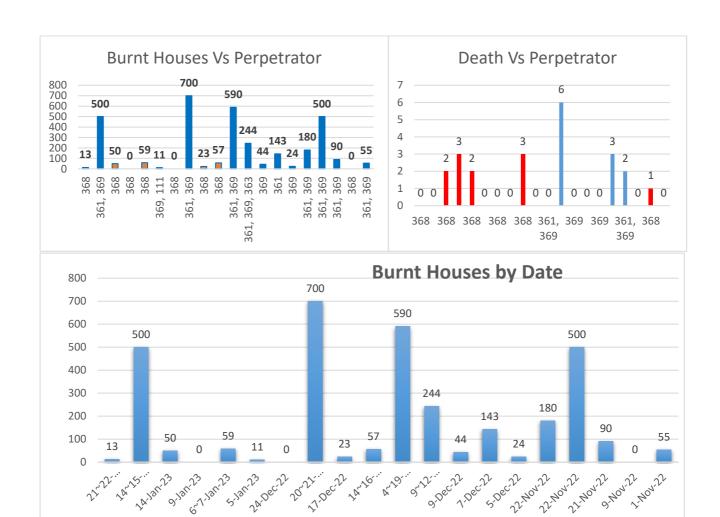


Number of villages and homes destroyed More than 3,000 homes from about 40 villages were burnt to ashes.



LIB Nos. 368, 361 and 369

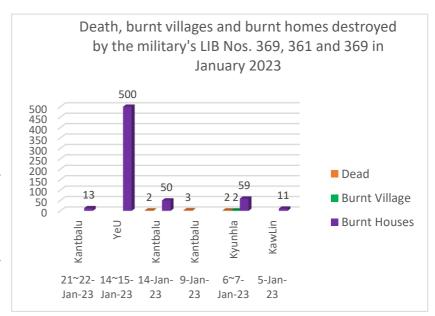
It was found that most of the crimes committed by the military's LIB No. 368 included not only arson, but also the arrest and torture of innocent people, and a joint column consisting of the military's LIB Nos. 361 and 369 are the most causeless arson, as shown in the following figures.



Month-wise crimes committed by the military's three regiments are as follows:

January 2023

- Junta soldiers from the military's LIB No. 368 and Pyu Saw Htee members stormed Innma Village in Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region on January 21, looted valuable things, and torched 14 homes and about 300 baskets of paddy. In addition, three oxen were shot dead.
- A 180-strong military contingent comprising of junta soldiers from the LIB Nos. 361 and 369 raided

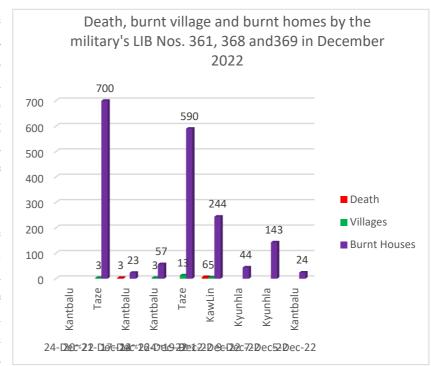


Chan Thar Village in YeU Township at around 8 am on January 14 they were then stayed overnight in Assumption Church, a historic Catholic church. Junta troops torched several buildings including Roman Catholic prayer hall, recently renovated priests' house, historic century-old convent, a hall, Buddhist religious building, and a bell tower overlooking Ye-U Township.

- Junta soldiers and Pyu Saw Htee members raided Nyaunggon Village in Kanbalu Township on January 14, 2023 and set fire to some homes in the village. They burned U Than Lwin, 55, a resident of Palutha Village, who was arrested to serve as a guide, and U Ngwar Tin, 77, who was trapped in Nyaunggon Village, to death and Three women trapped in the village were also tortured by the junta soldiers, one of whom suffered a cut throat injury, and the other two suffered stab wounds to the abdomen.
- A joint military column of the junta soldiers and Pyu Saw Htee members raided Taepin and Shangon Villages on January 9, 2023 and arrested and killed three local men. Charred bodies of three villagers were discovered on January 10 and 11.
- A 150-strong column of the military and Pyu Saw Htee members torched 59 homes in Htanpingon Village and some homes in Kyartakan Village in Kyunhla Township, Sagaing Region on January 6 and 7, 2023. The junta troop arrested U Tun Hla, 58, and Nyi Nyi Aung from Kyartakan Village to serve as guides. Junta soldiers burned U Tun Hla to death, tied Nyi Nyi Aung's hand back, shot until half of his head came out, and brutally killed him.
- A 60-strong military contingent of the LIB No. 111 and Homalin-based LIB No. 369 spent one night in Myaunggyi Village in Kawlin Township, Sagaing Region on January 5, 2023 and burned down 11 homes in the village.

December 2022

- A joint force of the military's LIB No. 368 and Pyu Saw Htee members raided Gargalaw Village in Kanbalu Township for the second time on the morning of December 24, 2022 and torched several homes in the village.
- The military's LIB Nos. 361 and 369 stormed three villages in Taze Township, Sagaing Region on December 20 and 21. The junta soldiers burned down total of about 700 homes in three villages 450 homes



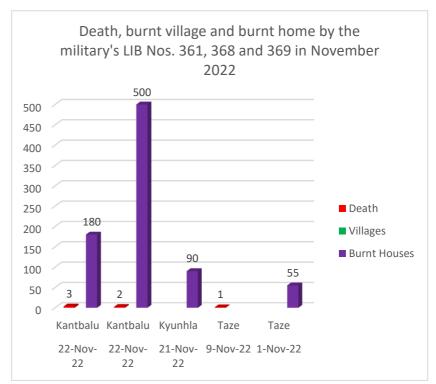
in Ngatan Village, 150 homes and Kalazin Village and 91 homes in Shwehlan Village—in two days.

- Junta soldiers from the military's LIB No. 368 and Pyu Saw Htee members fired heavy weapons into Gargalaw Village in Kanbalu Township on December 17 2022 and destroyed 23 homes, the village's monastery and a rural healthcare center. Two local men were brutally killed and two local women went missing after being arrested by the junta soldiers.
- A 120-strong contingent of the military's LIB No. 368 and Pyu Saw Htee members fired heavy weapons into Hlweseik, Letkhatkon and Baw Villages in Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Regon on December 14, 15 and 16, 2022 and destroyed 57 homes in the villages.
- The military's LIB No. 361 and LIB No. 369 torched 590 homes in thirteen villages—76 homes in Tharkhaunggyi Village, 40 in Kanphyu Village, 17 in Wettoe Village, six in Putee Village, 97 in Paychaung Village, 75 in Htankongyi Village, 73 in Mukyinsu Village, 41 in Thargala Village, 117 in Thargaya Village, 29 in Htanpingon Village, six in Ywarshay Village, 10 in Gwaygon Village and a rice mill and an oil mill in Phalanchaing Village—in Taze Township in Sagaing Region from December 4 to 19, 2022.
- A joint military column of the LIB Nos. 369, 363 and 361 killed five local men from Paypinchaung Village and a resident in Shawbyugon Village in Kawlin Township, Sagaing Region on December 11, 2022.
- A joint military column of the LIB Nos. 369, 363 and 361 destroyed 224 homes in Kokkugon, Nyaungbingon, Zeephyugn and Shawbyugon Village in Kawlin Township, Sagaing Region from December 9 to 12, 2022.
- A Pyu Saw Htee column in military uniforms torched 44 homes and three rice barns in Wetthainn Village in Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region at about 7:30 am on December 9, 2022.

- About 200 junta soldiers and the military's LIB No. 361 and Pyu Saw Htee members stormed Intaing Village, Kyunhla Township on the morning of December 6, 2022, by firing heavy weapons into the village. They set fire to 143 homes in the village and looted the valuables.
- Around 100 junta soldiers from the military's LIB No. 369 and Pyu Saw Htee members raided Pinttha Village in Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region on the morning of December 5, 2022 and burned down 24 homes.

November 2022

- Around 120 junta soldiers from the military's LIB Nos. 361 and 369 and Pyu Htee members Saw destroyed about 180 homes **Kyauktaing** Village, Kanbalu Township in Sagaing Region November 22, 2022. They handcuffed a 92-year-old woman who was unabe to walk and a 35-year-old man and burned the duo to death.
- Around 120 junta soldiers from the military's LIB Nos. 361 and 369 and Pyu Saw Htee members raided



Kyisu Village in Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region at about 2:30 pm on November 22, 2022 for the second time, torched over 500 homes and murdered Daw Thaik Shwe, 55 and Ko Kyaw Min Oo, a 43-year-old mentally-ill man.

- Around 120 junta soldiers from the military's LIB Nos. 361 and 369 and Pyu Saw Htee members stormed Khawarthae Village in Sagaing Region's Kyunhla Township and set fire to more than 90 homes.
- A 150-strong military contingent from the military's LIB No. 368 killed Kalarlay aka Maung Kyaw, a 2-year-old mentally-disabled man from Kanhtooma Village, Taze Township in Sagaing Region and looted the vaulables from homes and shops in the village on November 9, 2022.
- A joint military column of the military's LIB No. 361 and LIB No. 369 raided Great Village in Taze Township, Sagaing Region for the second time on November 1, 2022 and reduced 55 homes to ashes.