

# SEQUEL EVENT INVESTIGATION

# Killed in Mindat Township

Civilians, including children, were allegedly hit with artillery in different incidents

**REPORT BY MYANMAR WITNESS, 3 October 2022** 

This report is the sequel to Myanmar Witness' published report <u>Child</u> <u>Injured in M'dat Village, Mindat Township</u>.



### **Key Event Details**

- Location of Incident: Multiple Locations
  - o M'dat (မဒပ်) [21.319900, 93.915766]
  - o Kyam Ain Nu (ကြာအိမ်နူး) [21.320791, 93.892182]
  - o Mui Tui (မ္ဂီတ္ဂီ) [21.428881, 93.920891]
- Date/Time of Incident: 16 June 2022 and 29 June 2022
- Alleged Perpetrator(s) and/or Involvement: Light Infantry Battalion 274
- Myanmar Witness Conclusions:
  - Myanmar Witness was not able to fully verify images of the child alleged to have been killed by artillery fire, but an assessment on injuries on images of a child provided to Myanmar Witness was possible. The alleged scene of the incident is a location in M'dat village - the same house as had already been identified in <u>Child Injured in M'dat Village</u>, <u>Mindat Township</u> - as the home of the injured child. This victim is purported to be his brother.
  - There was no verifiable footage of the attack itself, meaning it was not possible for Myanmar Witness to independently verify how the child was killed. Myanmar Witness has analysed footage of the home with damage indicating an incident had taken place here when debris had penetrated the wall and could have hit the child.
  - Footage of ammunition reportedly found in M'dat village after the attack is consistent with locally produced 120mm mortar rounds known to be used by the Myanmar military. Myanmar Witness verified the presence of a military base within firing range of the village and identified a mortar present at the base, although it was not possible to verify whether it was a model capable of firing the particular rounds alleged.
  - o The artillery incidents in Kyam Ain Nu (ကြာအိမ်နူး) and Mui Tui (မွီတွီ) have less associated footage but provide insight into a possible pattern of attacks on civilian areas in Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်).
  - These incidents are one of many monitored and analysed by Myanmar Witness documenting alleged indiscriminate attacks in civilian areas in Myanmar since the coup.



# **Executive Summary**

Myanmar Witness has investigated reports of civilian damage and deaths in Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်) as a result of artillery fire from the Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) 274 military base.

This included: i) reports of homes destroyed and villagers killed in Mui Tui (ဗိုတ္ဂီ) village on 16 June; ii) the reported death and injury of two brothers, in two separate incidents in M'dat village (မဒပ်) on 23 May and 29 June 2022 and; iii) the destruction of homes in Kyam Ain Nu (ကြာအိမ်နူး) village, also on 29 June 2022. These villages are all located within a 7 or 8km firing range from the Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) 274 military base, located in Mindat Town (မင်းတပ်).

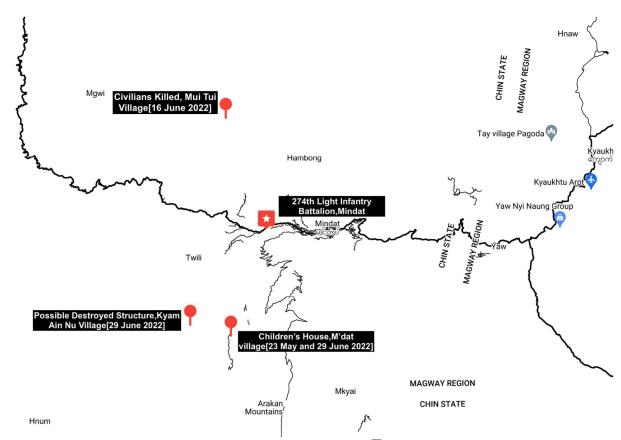


Figure 1: Mapping to demonstrate M'dat (မဒပ်) village, Kyam Ain Nu (ကြာအိမ်နူး) village and Mui Tui (မိုတို) village in relation to Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်) and the LIB 274 base.

On the 16 June 2022, there were reports of villagers killed by artillery fire in Mui Tui (ဗွီတွီ) village, in Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်). No user-generated content (UGC) could be verified of the



dead individuals in Mui Tui (ම්ූ්්ර්), but their images match those described to have died and Myanmar Witness geolocated other images of destruction to the village.

On the morning of 29 June 2022, the <u>Chindwin News Agency</u>, reported that the 274th Light Infantry Battalion in Mindat fired medium artillery mortar rounds at civilian areas in Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်), Chin State (ချင်းပြည်နယ်) killing a 13 year old boy in M'dat village (မဒပ်).

The boy was reportedly the elder brother of a 10-year-old boy who was seriously injured, also by artillery fire, along with his mother on 23 May 2022. This event has been described in more detail in Myanmar Witness' report *Child Injured in M'dat Village, Mindat Township*.

Myanmar Witness was not able to thoroughly verify images of the dead child, but analysed images of a deceased child alleged to be the child in question, with wounds consistent with those described in eye-witness reports provided to Myanmar Witness by a partner.

There was no verifiable footage of the attack itself, meaning it was not possible for Myanmar Witness to independently verify how the child was killed. However, Myanmar Witness has geolocated images alleged to be of the child's home in M'dat ( $\Theta 3\delta$ ) village. The hole in the wooden

wall and the inside structure of the house, as well as some damaged foliage close to the home all indicate a strike of some sort that had caused this destruction. This was the same house geolocated by Myanmar Witness in the incident involving the child's brother (see: *Child Injured in M'dat Village, Mindat Township*)

Images of ammunition reportedly found in M'dat (မဒပ်) village after the attack are consistent with locally produced 120mm mortar rounds known to be used by the Myanmar military. Myanmar

Witness verified the presence of a military base within firing range of the village and identified a mortar present at the base in our last report, although it was not possible to verify whether it was a model capable of firing the particular rounds alleged.

While Myanmar Witness was able to identify a likely location for images of a destroyed home in Kyam Ain Nu consistent with media reporting, it was not possible to confirm this with 100% certainty or independently verify that the home was destroyed on 29 June 2022.

These collective incidents in Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်) are some of many monitored and analysed by Myanmar Witness documenting alleged indiscriminate attacks in civilian areas in Myanmar since the coup which has - in this case - allegedly led to the deaths of civilians.

**[Warning: Graphic]** has been inserted ahead of links to sources that show graphic and distressing images of injured or dead persons.



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# **Background and Context**

Myanmar Witness has been monitoring military movements in Chin State since Autumn 2021.

On 13 May 2022, the Chinland Defence Force (CDF), reported that a convoy of more than 70 military council vehicles transporting weapons and troops arrived at the 274 Light Infantry Battalion military base, located to the east in Mindat Town (Θξισού), Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်), Chin State (ချင်းပြည်နယ်).

On 15 May 2022, a drone image of the 274 Light Infantry Battalion military base was posted by Channel Taunggyi showing a number of military vehicles present at the base. Myanmar Witness geolocated these images to 21.373507, 93.935312, corresponding with the location of the base (Figure 2). There were a number of text reports of military vehicles (Witness Daily, CDF-Mindat) moving around the area on 15 and 20 May 2022.



Figure 2: Military convoy stationed at the LIB 274 base.

According to CDF Mindat, they [CDF Mindat] launched an attack on the Mindat Fire Station, [21.378580, 93.990719] in Mindat Town (မင်းတပ်) on the evening of 22 May 2022 at around 2200.

It is alleged in this post that two military soldiers died during the clash. This could have been the precursor to the artillery strike, which according to the Chindwin Post started the next day, on 23 May 2021 at 0800 and resulted in serious injuries to a woman and child in M'dat (မဒပ်) village.





Myanmar Witness has sought to collect and verify available footage relating to the incident in the precursor to this report, *Child Injured in M'dat Village, Mindat Township*.



Figure 3: High-Quality Satellite imagery showing the military base of the Light Infantry Battalion 274 in Mindat Township.

Since this incident took place, it has been alleged that villages in Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်)

have suffered further artillery shelling, destroying houses and killing civilians. In one such case, the older brother of the child originally reported on by Myanmar Witness was allegedly killed by artillery fire a little over a month after the original incident.

# Methodology

Myanmar Witness follows a methodology of digital preservation and rigorous, replicable analysis. Digital evidence is collected and archived in a secure database and preserved with hashing to confirm the authenticity and prevent tampering.



Myanmar Witness applies a four-tier classification system to describe the extent to which footage relating to a specific incident has been independently verified by Myanmar Witness.

**Fully verified**: Footage independently geolocated and chronolocated by Myanmar Witness to the reported time and location of the incident.

**Verified**: Footage geolocated to the relevant location, sources concur on the time and date of the incident



**Partially verified:** Some footage geolocated to the relevant location, sources concur on the time and date of these incidents. Some footage is not possible to geolocate or chronolocate at the present time.

**Unverified**: Not possible to geolocate or chronolocate footage at the present time.

Geolocation is conducted using a varied array of open source online tools such as Google Earth to match satellite imagery with visual features identified in the footage. A high burden of proof is required to match imagery. Geolocations are cross-checked and peer-reviewed before they are credited as verified and included in Myanmar Witness reporting. In addition to the open-source reporting, Myanmar Witness was sent footage of the incident by sources on the ground, which it has attempted to verify through this report, using the timestamps of the images provided.

If dealing with unverified information, such as witness testimony or the inclusion of outside reporting, Myanmar Witness notes these inclusions as claims not independently verified by Myanmar Witness, but their inclusion may still be relevant to include as context around the investigation. Following ethical standards, Myanmar Witness has obscured identifying information about individuals involved, censored private information and images where appropriate, removed links to private individuals and archived said information securely. Where appropriate, Myanmar Witness has also censored or discluded graphic imagery in our reporting.

#### Limitations

The information obtained by Myanmar Witness comes from an area of ongoing conflict so it is assumed that there is a selection bias, due to factors including fear of repercussions for uploading, unavailability of information from official sources, and lack of internet access - which has also restricted the amount of media available to be verified by Myanmar Witness. Myanmar Witness strives to eliminate as much of this bias as possible by using both focussed and broad search terms in multiple languages across open sources as well as identifying media from multiple sources, such as social media and both pro and anti-regime news media to reduce the effects of this bias and ensure as much information from a range of sources is collected.

User generated footage (UGC) identified in these cases cannot give an accurate chronolocation of any images of destruction identified in these cases. Some of these images provide timestamps but this is not a reliable way of assessing the time in which the images were taken. Hence, Myanmar Witness has been unable to confirm the times associated with the event and has reported these times as claims, not independently verified by Myanmar Witness.

Images of dead civilians themselves cannot be verified to the village alleged. Meanwhile, images of the child who was supposedly killed were provided to Myanmar Witness and his injuries have been analysed. All cases are currently classified as partially verified, as there is only a little amount of evidence associated with each case. This report acts as a furnishing to the original report, following up on investigations in Mindat Township and the possibility of the military using artillery fire on civilian areas.



# Mapping of Report Incidents in Mindat Township

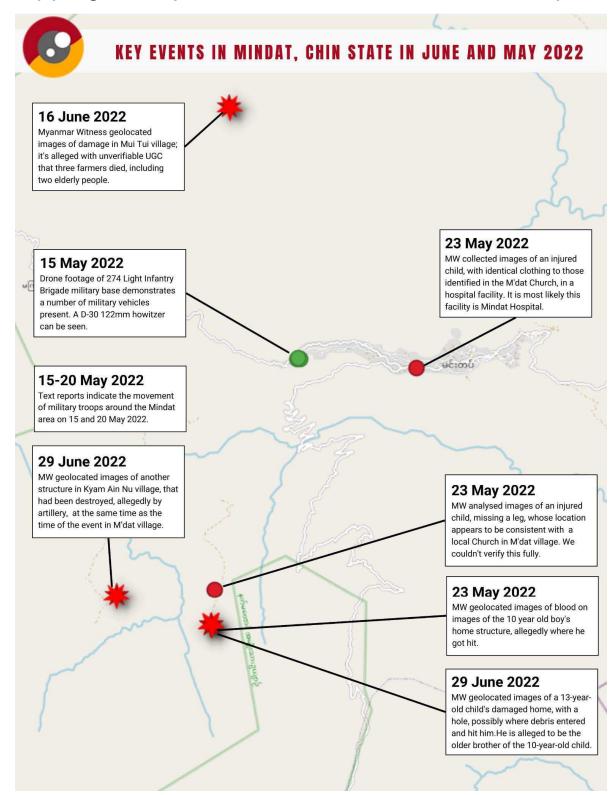


Figure 4: Mapping over <u>Openstreetmap</u>, demonstrating the events recorded by Myanmar Witness to have taken place in Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်), Chin State (ချင်းပြည်နယ်) between 15 May - 29 June 2022.



# Civilians killed in Mui Tui (ප්ර්ථි) village (Partially verified)

#### Background

On the morning of 14 June 2022, <u>CDF Mindat</u> posted their near-daily report describing news of clashes in the area. According to this post - on the morning of 14 June 2022 - the CDF-Mindat launched an attack on Mindat City Entrance Gate [21.378138, 93.994441], resulting in the death of two Myanmar military soldiers and the wounding of three more. It is then alleged that LIB 274 fired artillery in the area, landing around the mountains near Baung Hte(cmccm)Village [21.39349937,93.99173737]. There was no available footage to verify this event.

#### Geolocating the destruction of homes

On the morning of 16 June, <u>The Mindat Post</u> reported on the destruction of civilian houses in Mui Tui ( $\frac{8}{9}$ ) village. One of the photos showing a damaged home could be geolocated to the middle of the village [21.429482, 93.919148] (Figure 5, 6 and 7). The destruction was reportedly a result of artillery use by the 274 Light Infantry Battalion.



Figure 5: Images uploaded by The Mindat Post of homes damaged by alleged artillery shelling.



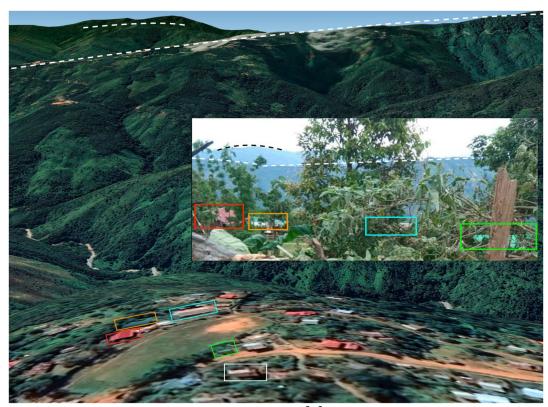


Figure 6: Geolocation of one of the images to Mui Tui (မိုတ္ဂီ) village at around 21.429482, 93.919148.



Figure 7: Satellite Imagery of the area showing Geolocation details of the house in Mui Tui ( $\mathring{\beta} \mathring{\mathcal{O}}_{j}$ ) village.



#### Analysis of reports of casualties

**[Warning: Graphic]** The Mindat Post **[WARNING: graphic]** and <u>The CDF Mindat</u> reported that three civilians were killed in Mui Tui village by artillery fire at around 10.00 on 16 June 2022. Those reportedly killed were two elderly people - both over 60 years old - and a 30-year-old woman who were working on a farm as part of the same incident.

Myanmar Witness analysed footage of the incident reported by the Mindat Post. This shows three individuals - all seriously wounded and presumed dead. Two individuals cannot be identified by age as they are face down, though one of them appears to be a woman while the other has a serious wound on their head. Another woman - who appears to fit the description of a 30-year-old woman - had suffered a serious wound to her stomach. These images could not be geolocated or otherwise verified by Myanmar Witness.



Figure 8: Three Individuals who were allegedly hit with mortar fire and killed while working on a farm in Mui Tui (မွီတွီ) village, Chin State (ချင်းပြည်နယ်).



# Child Dead in M'dat (မဒပ်) Village (Partially verified)

Myanmar Witness analysed images relating the death of a thirteen year-old boy reported killed by artillery fire in M'dat ( $\Theta 3 \hat{O}$ ) village. The boy was reportedly the brother of another child who was injured by artillery fire - detailed in Myanmar Witness' report *Child Injured in M'dat Village, Mindat Township*.

#### Geolocating Imagery of the House

Myanmar Witness has geolocated images reportedly of the boys' damaged home to M'dat (မဒပ်)

village. The coordinates and geolocation imagery have been obscured for privacy reasons. In Figure 9 and 10, Myanmar Witness has highlighted the structure's details and corresponding background features, such as the mountain slope and the small lane to the side of the house, that allowed for this geolocation.



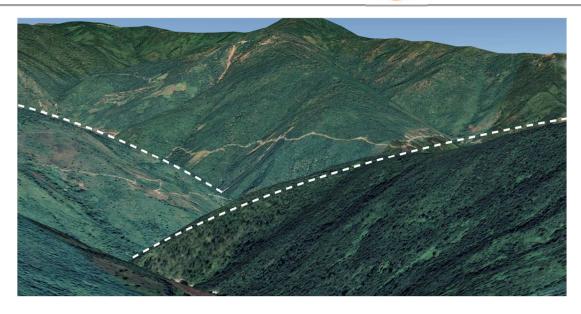




Figure 9: Heavily cropped image of the home of the injured child, where artillery injured him. Other images of this building contain bloodstains.



Figure 10: The small arching, roofing obscured by a tree, and mountain slopes that provided a match on Google Earth.





#### Time of Incident

According to <u>CDF Mindat</u>, the artillery shelling occured at around 1000 local time on 29 June 2022. Due to the continued conflict around the area and also the lack of user-generated content, Myanmar Witness can not fully verify the chronolocation of the incident. The timestamp provided on images of the home was five days later than the actual event on 4 July 2022 (Figure 11).



Figure 11: Image of the child's home, cropped by Myanmar Witness and name obscured for privacy reasons. No other modifications have been made to the image. A timestamp on the bottom left of the image indicates it was taken on 4 July 2022 at 0729 local time.

#### Analysis of the Incident

#### Damage to the Home

**[Warning: Graphic]** Myanmar Witness obtained footage of damage to the home - with a hole on the wooden wall that appears small on the outside but larger on the inside. This pattern of damage could indicate a lot of force upon entering the building to penetrate the wall, with a larger part of the damage from the inside.

Using ballistics and destruction analysis, Myanmar Witness has analysed video footage of the home with damage to the wood. The footage itself cuts out before it can be shown that the two holes featured - from the interior and exterior of the structure - are the same hole from different angles. However, it is possible to see that the wooden planks used to create the wall overlap with one hole just before an overlap on the wall of the interior and slightly overlap on the inside plank, where the plank with the hole overlaps the higher plank (Figure 12).



Based on the new exposed wood colouring - as compared to the rest of the dry grey wood - and the exit splintering on the inside, it does appear that something could have entered through the wood at significant speed. The wood walls appear to have a low density from the video footage, specifically from the interior shot of the entrance hole with wood splintering. From this low-density wood, it is possible the hole could have resulted from the fragments from the blast having penetrated the wood and hit the child alleged to have been inside at the time.

To the right of the initial penetration entry there appears to be another entry penetration, but no second hole inside. The second bit of damage is larger, with no visible penetration into the wood and no second hole visible inside (Figure 13). The fact the second entry penetration, which is much larger, does not have a second exit penetration visible on the inside of the home could suggest that the fragments were, instead, caught by the wooden column to the left of the first hole on the interior of the structure.



Figure 12: Two marks on the child's home, one having penetrated fully (left) and another with no entry penetration (right). The hole shows a small penetration entrance and a larger penetration exit with more splintering and fresh wood, with the rightmost pieces of damage exposing fresh wood on the wall, penetrating it but with no exit penetration on the side of the wall. This could indicate a fairly recent penetration with force into the wood to cause this kind of splintering, as well as multiple markings.





Figure 13: Side-on images of the damage, showing two entry penetration marks, exposing new wood, with one being higher and larger than the other.

Myanmar Witness has also analysed video footage of the inside of the home (available on request). The individual in the footage claims the young boy was eating rice for breakfast when hit and killed. The hole in the wooden wall aligns with the position of the stool in which a child could have been sitting. Footprints on the floor could demonstrate the recent presence of an individual in the home.



Figure 14: Images of the inside of the home, where multiple footprints can be observed which could suggest there was recent activity in the home. The arrow here represents that the hole in the wall potentially aligns with the stool in the image (red box) - where the child could have been seated at the time of this incident - especially if the child was, as reported, eating at this time.



#### The Child's Injuries

**WARNING GRAPHIC CONTENT AND DESCRIPTIONS:** Images provided to Myanmar Witness show a deceased male child - whose green t-shirt with a white pattern has been pulled up to reveal a wound - the wound that reportedly led to his death. Prayer beads are also present in the image, indicating that these beads have been entwined in the hands of the child after death.

The wound present on the individual demonstrates a sharp-force trauma wound that is located on the left-side chest of the child. From the look of the bandage, the wound appears to have produced blood but the t-shirt doesn't appear to have blood on the front of it. It could be possible the shirt was added to the child after their initial injury.

The child also appears to have their nose and mouth covered with cotton wool, with clear streaking of blood visible close to the nose of the child. This implies that the child was bleeding from their nose and potentially mouth; this is likely a result of the injury visible on their body. It is possible to have blood from your mouth and nose if a lung (called hemoptysis), trachea, oesophagus, or stomach were hit. In this case - due to the placement of the sharp-force trauma injury on the child's leftmost side of his upper chest, this indicates the child could have been hit in the lung, hence causing the bleeding observed in these images. The images of the child are of a graphic nature but are available upon request.

Myanmar Witness was also provided with an image of the child while alive. This image and the deceased body appear to share aesthetic facial similarities. Due to the graphic nature of the images, the link to such images are available on request. The child injured in Mindat the month before appears to be wearing the same jacket as the deceased child in these photos allegedly from before death - further indicating they were related (Figure 15). The prayer beads previously mentioned in the deceased child's hands are very aesthetically similar to those in the image of the child alive (Figure 16).



Figure 15: Images of the two boys wearing the same jacket - potentially indicating their relationship as siblings.





Figure 16: Comparison of the aesthetic similarities between prayer beads present in photos of the deceased and those seen being worn by the child while they were alive.

#### Blood in the home

A lack of blood in the home could be explained by a number of factors including the clothing type and absorption rate, the object becoming lodged in the body, speed of moving the body away from the attack zone, or cleaning up of the scene post-event.

There appears to be unusual staining on the ground in the home (Figure 17). This could be related to the spilling of possible liquid or food items or, potentially, blood. Some of the patterns appear to be droplet or splashing type marks, with some being darker than others - which could suggest newer and older stains or potentially different types of staining. The staining on the wood could be pre-incident or from the attack. Regardless, there is not enough evidence from the inside of the home alone to suggest these stains are, in fact, blood.





Figure 17: In a frame of a video of the child's home, there appears to be darker staining on the wood.

#### Identifying potential weaponry used

Myanmar Witness analysed footage of ammunition reportedly found at the scene of the attack to assess if this was consistent with military involvement.



Figure 18: Images provided to Myanmar Witness alleged to be the remnants of the ammunition fired towards the village by the military.



With the help of reference images, Myanmar Witness has compared these images, noting how the threaded tailfin, slanted fins, and overall size of the pictured munitions match with a 120mm locally-produced mortar round (Figure 19).



Figure 19: Two images uploaded to social media alleged to be from the incident [highlighted in green] compared to reference images of 120mm mortar rounds.

An undated official document titled "List of Equipment of the Myanmar Army" obtained and translated by Myanmar Witness shows that the Myanmar military officially employs at least three different types of 120mm mortar rounds (Figure 20).



No	Type of Bullet	Length f Bullet (mm)	Weigh t of a bullet (kg)	Muzzle velocity (meter/ sec)	Quant ity of gunp owder	Maximu m range of the gun (m)	Deadl y Dista nce (m)	PS Type of box	PS Box Dimensions (mm)	PS Weight of a box full of ammuniti on (kg)	Numbers of bullet in the box
5	BA-97, 120 MM mortar bomb	581	12.7	306	8	6250	15	Plywood	692*307*210	36	2
6	120 MM, mortar bomb (long distance)	699	14.6	398	9	8500	15	Plywood	893*307*210	36	2
7	120 MM, mortar bomb (MK-II)	780	15.12	390	12	10000	20	Plywood	921*347*230	45	2

Figure 20: Undated official document titled "List of Equipment of the Myanmar Army" demonstrating the military in possession of three types of 120mm mortar rounds. [Translation by Myanmar Witness].

On the premises of the military base of the 274 Light Infantry Brigade [21.373507, 93.935312] on drone images posted on 15 May 2022 it is possible to spot a mortar, deployed and aimed towards north-west - however, this is not the direction of M'dat ( $\Theta$ 3 $\delta$ ) village (Figure 21). Given the significant distance and limited dimension of the mortar, at this point, Myanmar Witness is not able to identify its exact model and type.



Figure 21: Image of the military convoy in the LIB 274 military base with objects' firing positions highlighted with two white circles.



Information

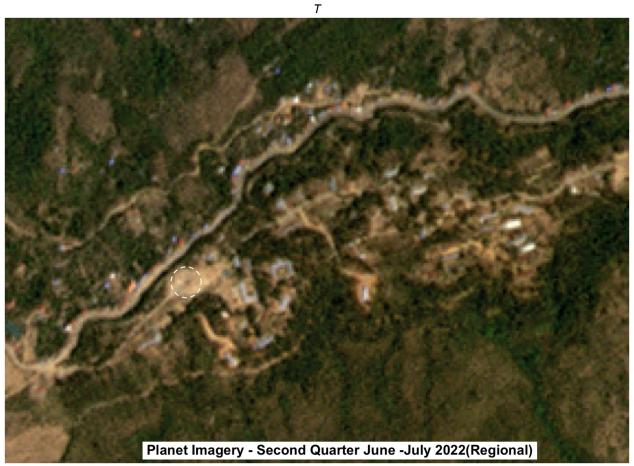


Figure 22: Planet Imagery of the LIB 274 military base taken between June-July 2022. The image shows the Howitzer and Mortar are still in position post-incident. This image has been edited by adding a small dotted white circle to indicate the munition position. No further manipulation was conducted.

The second artillery piece visible on the premises of the firing ground is a Soviet-made D-30 122mm howitzer. Howitzers, however, do not fire shells that look like the one found on the scene of the incident and analysed above.



# Destroyed house in Kyam Ain Nu (ကြာအိမ်နူး) village

# (Partially verified)

Myanmar Witness also documented another house that had been destroyed by the artillery at the same time as the event in M'dat (မဒပ်) on 29 June 2022. This structure is alleged to have been destroyed in Kyam Ain Nu (ကြာအိမ်နူး) village, Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်). Media agency Zalen posted images of a destroyed structure and the mountain line suggests a possible location of the structure. Myanmar Witness also received a file submission which provided images of the same location (Figures 23 and 24).



Figure 23: A structure appears to have been destroyed in Kyam Ain Nu (ကြာအိမ်နှံး) village, there appears to have been a structure destroyed initially and another structure that was part of the original is still standing - likely a toilet or shed.



Figure 24: Unverified damage to a plastic basket that appears to have been melted due to fire or as the direct effects of artillery hit.



#### Geolocating Imagery of the Incident

Myanmar Witness has identified a probable location of the destroyed structure to Kyam Ain Nu (ကြာအိမ်နူး) at around 21.319842, 93.890447 (Figure 25 and 26). The structure is potentially a

home; the image appears to show a smaller, standing structure - likely an outhouse to the original structure - which could be a toilet or shed. Another similar structure can be seen to the right of the image. On Google images, the structures appear to be very close to one another, indicating they are part of the same structure and this destroyed building was potentially a civilian home (Figure 27). While the identified location is consistent with the images, it was not possible to ascertain with 100% certainty that this is the exact location.



Figure 25: A composite image of the photos, demonstrating mountain lines and pathways visible in the background of these images, as well as structures dotted north-west of the structure.



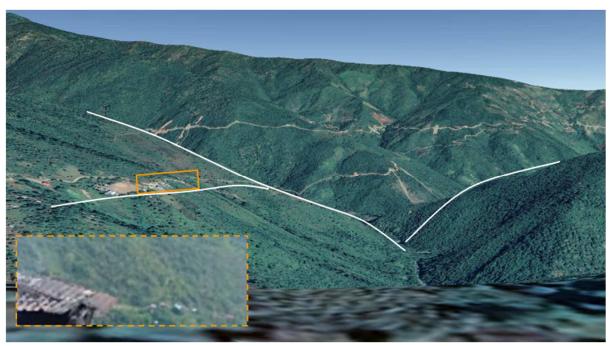


Figure 26: Google Earth imagery demonstrating similarity in the background mountain range, valley, and buildings.



Figure 27: Old Satellite Imagery of the possible destroyed structure area located around Kyam Ain Nu (ကြာအိမ်နူး) Baptist Church.



There is a lack of other details to confirm that this image was taken on 29 June 2022. Due to the weather conditions in the mountainous Chin regions, satellite imagery has been difficult to use in order to confirm damage to the structure in this area or indicate a fire resulting from the alleged artillery shelling.

#### Conclusion

Open source analysis conducted by Myanmar Witness enabled us to locate the possible damaged remains of a home in Kyam Ain Nu as well as a damaged home of a 13 year-old-boy, who was allegedly subsequently killed. This investigation comes just days after initial reports and Myanmar Witness analysis of the young child who was injured by artillery in M'dat ( $\Theta$ 3 $\Theta$ ) village - allegedly the younger brother of the 13-year-old boy in M'dat ( $\Theta$ 3 $\Theta$ ) village.

Coordinates were identified through the comparative analysis of the UGC associated with the incident alongside satellite imagery, Google Maps images, and social media posts of the location.

Myanmar Witness was able to previously verify the location of the Light Infantry Battalion 274 base in Mindat Town (မင်းတပ်), Mindat Township (မင်းတပ်မြို့နယ်), Chin State (ချင်းပြည်နယ်), identify a possible artillery piece capable of firing the 120mm mortar rounds reported to have been found in M'dat (မဒပ်) following the incident and confirm that the village was in firing distance for these mortar rounds. However, attribution is difficult without verified UGC to confirm the munitions were found in M'dat (မဒပ်), their origin, or images of the deceased child.

Regardless, this incident is one of many monitored and analysed by Myanmar Witness documenting alleged indiscriminate attacks in civilian areas in Myanmar, and the second report in M'dat  $(\Theta \circ \circ)$  village. This event is especially of note due to the alleged loss of life of a minor in M'dat  $(\Theta \circ \circ)$  village in June 2022, and other individuals killed in Mui Tui  $(\Theta \circ \circ)$  in June 2022.

#### List of Abbreviations

Light Infantry Battalion
 Chinland Defence Force
 CDF