Uncertain Ground:

Landmines in eastern Burma



KHRG Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

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The Karen Human Rights Group
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Front cover photo: Dry leaves beside a foot path in Toungoo District hide an unknown number of landmines planted by Tatmadaw troops after a KNLA ambush at this site on Maw Thay Der mountain in 2010. According to the community member who took this photo, no one knows how many landmines remain beside the path because they were not marked at the time they were planted. *[Photo: KHRG]*

Back cover photo: Three villagers in Noh Kay village tract in Pa'an District wear prosthetic legs after being injured by landmines. 33-year-old Ma Nu--- (right) was seven months pregnant when she stepped on a landmine in January 2012 while looking for firewood; she later gave birth to a healthy baby girl. All three villagers attended a community meeting in April 2012 to request the urgent de-mining of areas in Noh Kay village tract that continue to be contaminated by mines. *[Photo: KHRG]*

The Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG) was founded in 1992 and documents the situation of villagers and townspeople in rural Burma through their direct testimonies, supported by photographic and other evidence. KHRG operates independently and is not affiliated with any political or other organisation. Examples of our work can be seen online at **www.khrg.org**, or printed copies may be obtained subject to approval and availability by sending a request to **khrg@khrg.org**.

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Preface

Analysis of KHRG's field information gathered between January 2011 and May 2012 in seven geographic research areas indicates that, during that period, new landmines were deployed by government and non-state armed groups (NSAGs) in all seven research areas. Ongoing mine contamination in eastern Burma continues to put civilians' lives and livelihoods at risk and undermines their efforts to protect against other forms of abuse. There is an urgent need for humanitarian mine action that accords primacy to local protection priorities and builds on the strategies villagers themselves already employ in response to the threat of landmines. In cases where civilians view landmines as a potential source of protection, there is an equally urgent need for viable alternatives that expand self-protection options beyond reliance on the use of mines. Key findings in this report were drawn based upon analysis of seven themes, including: New use of landmines; Movement restrictions resulting from landmines; Marking and removal of landmines; Forced labour entailing increased landmine risks; Human mine sweeping, forced mine clearance and human shields; Landmine-related death or injury; and Use of landmines for self-protection.

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Terms and Abbreviations

BPHWT	Backpack Health Worker Team
CBO	Community-based organisation
DCA	Dan Church Aid
DKBA	Democratic Karen Buddhist Army
HRW	Human Rights Watch
IB	Infantry Battalion of the Tatmadaw
IDP	Internally-displaced person
ICBL	International Campaign to Ban Landmines
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMAS	International Mine Action Standards
KDHW	Karen Department of Health and Welfare
KHRG	Karen Human Rights Group
KNLA	Karen National Liberation Army
KNDO	Karen National Defence Organisation
KNU	Karen National Union
KPF	Karen Peace Force
LIB	Light Infantry Battalion of the Tatmadaw
LID	Light Infantry Division of the Tatmadaw
MOC	Military Operations Command of the Tatmadaw
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRE	Mine-risk education
MTC	Mae Tao Clinic
NSAG	Non-state armed group
SHA	Suspected hazardous area
SLORC	State Law and Order Restoration Council
SPDC	State Peace and Development Council
VPDC	Village Peace and Development Council

Currency and measurements

baht	Thai currency; US $1 equals approximately 30 baht at market rate (March 2012)
basket	Unit of volume used to measure paddy, husked rice and seeds; one basket of paddy equals 20.9 kg. / 45.08 lb. in weight; one basket of husked rice equals 32 kg./ 70.4 lb. in weight.
big tin	Unit of volume used to measure paddy, husked rice and seeds; one big tin of paddy equals 10.45 kg. / 23.04 lb. in weight; one big tin of husked rice equals 16 kg./ 35.2 lb. in weight.
kyat	Burmese currency; US $1 equals (at time of writing) 6.4 kyat at official rate, approx. 795 kyat at market rate
viss	Burmese standard unit of weight measure; one *viss* equals 1.6 kg / 3.5 lb.

Burmese language terms

Bo Hmu	'Major', referring to the rank of a Tatmadaw officer
Bo Gyi	'Captain', referring to the rank of a Tatmadaw officer

Longyi	Sheet of cloth widely-worn by men in Burma, wrapped around the waist or sewn into a cylindrical tube; worn by women, it is called a *htamein*
Taik bomb	Trip-wire bomb or landmine
shay twet	'Forward-exploding', referring to a directional landmine; claymore mine
Tatmadaw	Collective term used to refer to the Burma government armed forces

Karen language terms

bpoh klee	'Turtle shell bomb', referring to a large remotely-detonated explosive device
gher der	'Home guard' groups organised by local villagers to undertake armed self-protection activities
Poe lee	*'Little one',* meaning son or daughter
Thara	'Teacher', a term of respect

Figure 1: Locally-defined Karen districts (Kayin and Mon states; Bago Region)



Figure 2: Locally-defined Karen districts (Tanintharyi Region)



I. Introduction

"I have known about the farms that we don't dare to go across. We don't dare to go along the riverbank or cross the farms. Also we don't dare to go to collect vegetables in the forest, because people planted ta su htee hkaw htee [in Karen literally: 'hit hands hit legs', meaning landmines]*. We still don't dare to go, we only stay in our garden. We just cut the mango tree branches. … We just want this problem to be solved in peace. … I mean taking out those landmines for us so we can work on our farms. We want to request that."*

Kw---, (female, 33), village head, Thaw Waw Plaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)[1]

"In the past, soldiers planted landmines when they stayed here but people weren't hit by them. I thought people travelled back and forth every day along this path, I went along it and I was hit by the landmine on the way home. … I was seven months pregnant. I didn't know the reason why those people [my nephew and aunt] cried a lot because I thought the landmine blew up very far away. I was wrong because actually it hit my leg when I looked at my leg."

Ma Nu---, (female, 33) Noh Kyaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)[2]

Eastern Burma is one of the most landmine contaminated places in the world,[3] putting civilians' lives and livelihoods at risk and undermining their efforts to protect against other forms of abuse. Villagers frequently voice concerns or raise issues related to living with the threat of landmines, but they are not the passive victims of an indiscriminate weapon: villagers employ a range of strategies to avoid dangerous mined areas and otherwise address their concerns. The strategies villagers employ in response to the threat of landmines are also not always sufficient, however, and there is an urgent need for humanitarian mine action that accords primacy to local protection priorities and builds on the strategies villagers themselves already employ in response to the threat of landmines. At the same time, local perspectives on landmines are not uniform. Depending on the local dynamics of abuse and the actor employing landmines,

[1] For Kw---'s previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/4.

[2] Ma Nu--- (shown in the back cover photo, right) subsequently gave birth to a healthy baby girl. She stepped on the landmine during January 2012 and, although part of her right leg had to be amputated, she now walks using a prosthetic leg. Her previously unpublished testimony, received by KHRG in May 2012, is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2012/January/Pa'an/1.

[3] KHRG research areas include some of all or parts of government-delineated Kayin and Mon states and Bago and Tanintharyi regions. The Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor has noted that Kayin state and Bago region are suspected to contain the heaviest landmine contamination in Burma and have the highest number of recorded victims. The Monitor also identified suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) in every township in government-delineated Kayin state; in Thanbyuzayat, Thaton, and Ye townships in Mon state; in Kyaukkyi, Shwekyin, and Tantabin townships in Bago region; and in Bokpyin, Dawei, Tanintharyi, Thayetchaung and Yebyu townships of Tanintharyi region; see *Country profile: Myanmar Burma*, ICBL Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor. Similarly, Dan Church Aid (DCA) which currently operates mine-risk education (MRE) programs and a prosthetic clinic in eastern Burma, has noted that, while verifiable data is difficult to gather due to infrequency of access, Burma experiences some of the highest mine accident rates in the world. DCA also notes that no de-mining programs are currently being pursued as new mines continue to be deployed by both government and NSAGs; see DCA Mine Action: *Burma/Myanmar*.

civilians may also view landmines as a potential source of protection. In these cases, there is an equally urgent need for viable alternatives that expands self-protection options beyond reliance on the use of mines.

This report focuses on information gathered between January 2011 and May 2012, documenting the challenges and responses of communities in landmine contaminated areas across seven geographic research areas in eastern Burma. The enduring crisis of landmines means that concerns raised prior to the reporting period continue to devastate communities today, even in places where conflict has subsided. Villagers are seeking their own solutions, but they are also explicitly requesting outside support. On May 12th 2012, some 37 residents of a village in Noh Kay village tract, Pa'an District[4] submitted their names and requested that KHRG make known the fact that landmines are preventing them from accessing a total of 13 flat paddy fields and 23 cash-crop plantations. These villagers requested that KHRG share publicly their names and village name in order to encourage urgent de-mining of this area.[5] Eight residents of a neighbouring village in the same village tract who were interviewed by KHRG also described being unable to access agricultural areas and explicitly requested mine removal.[6] On the very same day that this information was provided to KHRG, a community member in the area reported that two more landmines had just exploded, injuring two livestock animals. Since the beginning of 2012, this village tract and two others have recorded the detonation of at least 36 landmines, killing or injuring five villagers and 31 livestock animals.[7]

In order to encourage strong action to address villagers' landmine concerns that is also cognisant of the complex local dynamics of abuse in eastern Burma, this report aims to inform stakeholders of the range of specific landmine concerns expressed by villagers, as well as the self-protection strategies they use to address these and other related human rights concerns. Strong mine action should build upon the strategies villagers living amongst landmines already employ. In cases where villagers believe that a mine presents less harm in their community than military or economic activities, focus should be on providing villagers with viable alternatives to protect themselves beyond the use of landmines. Humanitarian actors must also recognise the interrelated nature of abuse in eastern Burma, and address the fact that landmine removal may facilitate other forms of abuse, where it serves to enable the pursuit of military or economic activities undertaken to the detriment of rural ethnic communities.

For the purposes of this report, seven KHRG staff analysed English translations of a total of 603 oral testimonies and written pieces of human rights documentation received between January 2011 and May 2012,[8], as well as 141 sets of images. 119 of the documents raised concerns or

[4] Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District.

[5] An uncensored list of these Thaw Waw Thaw villagers names is provided below in Section III: Source Documents: 2012/May/Pa'an/1.

[6] Interviews with these eight villagers are provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/2 – 9.

[7] For three previously unpublished incident reports written by a community member working with KHRG and describing landmine casualties in Noh Kay and Htee Klay village tracts, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1 – 3. . For photos of villagers and livestock injured by landmines since the start of 2012, see photos below in Section II: B *Movement restrictions resulting from landmines* and Section II: F *Landmine-related death and injury*.

[8] Due to the volume of information received by KHRG, an additional 916 documents were received by KHRG in the reporting period but have not yet been processed and translated from the original Karen and so were not included in analysis for this report. KHRG information-processing involves the assessment of each individual piece of

dealt with issues related to the use of landmines in eastern Burma, 55 of which have also been published on the KHRG website in their entirety. Relevant excerpts from all 119 of these documents are included in *Section III: Source Documents*.

Key findings

- Landmines were deployed by government and NSAGs in all seven KHRG research areas and ongoing mine contamination continues to place civilians' lives and livelihoods at severe risk. No significant mine action has been undertaken and landmine removal by armed actors has been incomplete, unsystematic and not necessarily motivated by a desire to protect civilians.

- Local perspectives on landmines are not uniform and, depending on the geographic area and the actor employing landmines, civilians viewed the use of landmines as a threat to their safety and/or potentially as a source of protection.

- Humanitarian mine action must be undertaken as soon as possible and must include consultation that accords primacy to the priorities and concerns of communities living with the threat of landmines.

- Villagers employ a variety of self-protection strategies designed to address the risks presented by landmines. While local responses alone are insufficient to protect villagers in many cases, humanitarian mine action will be most effective where it builds on these already existing strategies. Government, funding bodies and NGOs should continue to support actors that can consistently access populations at risk to help them better address their own landmine concerns.

- Landmines present added risks to villagers facing other forms of abuse, including forced labour and displacement. This must be taken into account during any discussion of refugee repatriation. Military and civilian officials must immediately cease forced labour demands and take active steps to prosecute offenders who continue to issue them.

information prior to translation in order to determine quality and facilitate follow-up with community members where necessary.

Executive summary

Based on an assessment of KHRG field information received during the reporting period, this report identifies trends of different types of landmine-related events and issues in seven geographic research areas in eastern Burma, which stretch across four of the country's 14 states and regions: all or portions of Mon and Kayin states and Bago and Tanitharyi regions. Divided into seven parts, *Section II: Analysis,* below, presents KHRG's documentation and analysis on each of the following themes:[9]

A. New use of landmines;
B. Movement restrictions resulting from landmine contamination;
C. Marking, fencing and removal of landmines;
D. Human mine sweeping, forced mine clearance and human shielding;
E. Forced labour entailing increased landmine risks;
F. Landmine casualties (death or injury);
G. Landmine use as a self-protection strategy.

Section II: A indicates that, throughout the reporting period, new landmines were deployed by both government and NSAGs in all seven KHRG research areas, while Section II: B illustrates concerns raised by affected communities about ongoing landmine contamination as a threat to their safety, a barrier to free movement and an obstacle to the pursuit of livelihood activities.

Section II: C raises villagers' concerns that armed actors were unwilling or unable to remove mines. Where landmines were removed by government and NSAG forces, documented occurrences of this were *ad hoc,* sporadic and not necessarily motivated by a desire to protect civilians. In some cases, armed forces or groups were unable to systematically remove landmines, because they could not recall the locations of all mines planted or because multiple armed actors had mined a given area. In Noh Kay village tract in Pa'an District, for example, a cooperative effort by local Tatmadaw Border Guard and KNLA forces to remove landmines in was called off after one Border Guard soldier among the party was injured by a landmine.

Section II: D describes how, in three of the research areas, government forces responded to landmine threats by forcing civilians to sweep for, remove or otherwise shield them from landmines. Section II: E outlines the ways in which civilians facing other forms of abuse, such as demands for forced labour in service as porters, guides or messengers were also subject to an increased risk of death or injury from landmines, where compliance required them to work in close proximity to troops or travel in unfamiliar areas. As of May 2012, forced labour orders from military and civilian officials continued to be issued in at least four KHRG research areas[10] and no prosecution of offending officials has yet been reported.[11]

[9] Two of these themes, namely *B. Movement restrictions resulting from landmine contamination* and *G. Landmine use as a self-protection strategy* were identified by KHRG; the other five were identified by the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) which, in March 2012, requested field information received by KHRG since January 2011 relating to landmine incidents fitting within one of those categories.

[10] KHRG has received as-yet-unpublished documentation of forced labour incidents in Pa'an and Thaton districts during March and April 2012. Published reports describing forced labour in Toungoo and Dooplaya districts during 2012 can be found on the KHRG website; see "Ongoing forced labour and movement restrictions in Toungoo

Section II: F outlines landmine casualties described in KHRG field documentation in four research areas. Treatment data provided by local community-based health organisations meanwhile confirmed additional new landmine casualties in all seven research areas during the reporting period. Displaced villagers, returning refugees or villagers travelling in unfamiliar areas while complying with forced labour demands were subject to increased risks of death or injury from landmines. These increased risks underscored the way that local knowledge of mine-affected areas continued to be a key tool for villagers seeking to protect themselves from harm, although even detailed knowledge or cooperation from the armed actor responsible for the landmines was not always sufficient.

Section II: G explains that, in one research area, villagers described landmines as a source of protection that impeded attacks by government troops and facilitated access to agricultural areas. The viewpoint of individual villagers was in all cases shaped by the specific local dynamics of abuse and the villager's own opinions about the protective intent of the actor employing the landmines, whether government, NSAG or *gher der* home guards.

Throughout all seven sections, particular attention is paid to the strategies villagers adopted to respond to their landmine-related concerns. Strategies included: removing, deactivating or marking landmines; sharing information regarding areas known to be mined; pursuing alternate livelihoods activities outside of mined areas; using alternate travel routes or methods of travel; and requesting armed actors to remove old mines or refrain from planting new ones. Landmine victims and their families sought and received medical assistance, food and financial support from other villagers and from non-state actors, including local community-based health and humanitarian organisations.

District," KHRG, March 2012; and "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012.

[11] Plans for the development of a strategy to eliminate all forms of forced labour in Burma by 2015 were made explicit in the 2012 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by both the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Government of Myanmar on March 16th. Media groups subsequently reported statements by ILO officials suggesting that senior Tatmadaw commanders have indicated offending soldiers would be prosecuted under the penal code, rather than within martial law; see "Soldiers using forced labour to be prosecuted," Democratic Voice of Burma, May 9th 2012. For the full text of the MOU, see ILO Governing Body 313th Session, Geneva, 15–30 March 2012GB.313/INS/6(Add.).

Methodology

Field Research

KHRG has gathered testimony and documented individual incidents of human rights violations in eastern Burma since 1992. Research for this report was conducted by a research network of community members working with KHRG, some drawing salary and other material support, and some working as volunteers. KHRG trains local people from all walks of life and a variety of backgrounds to document the issues that affect their community. KHRG's recruitment policy does not discriminate on the basis of ethnic, religious or personal background, political affiliation or occupation. We train anyone who has local knowledge, is motivated to improve the human rights situation in their own community and is known to and respected by members of their local communities. Recognising that in all cases, no one is truly 'neutral' and everyone has competing viewpoints and interests, KHRG seeks always to filter every report through those interests and to present evidence from as many sources and perspectives as possible.

Community members who submitted information contained in this report were trained and equipped to employ KHRG's documentation methodology, including to:

- Gather oral testimony, by conducting audio-recorded interviews with villagers living in eastern Burma. When conducting interviews, local people working with KHRG are trained to use loose question guidelines, but also to encourage interviewees to speak freely about recent events, raise issues that they consider important and share their opinions or perspectives on abuse and other local dynamics.
- Document individual incidents of abuse using a standardised reporting format. When writing or gathering incident reports, local people working with KHRG are encouraged to document incidents of abuse that they consider important, by verifying information from multiple sources, assessing for potential biases and comparing incidents to local trends of abuse.
- Write general updates on the situation in areas with which they are familiar. When writing situation updates, local people working with KHRG are encouraged to summarise recent events, raise issues that they consider important, and present their opinions or perspectives on abuse and other local dynamics in their area.
- Gather photographs and video footage. Local people are trained by KHRG to take photographs or video footage of incidents as they happen when it is safe to do so or, because this is rarely possible, of victims, witnesses, evidence or the aftermath of incidents. Local people are also encouraged to take photographs or video footage of other things they consider important, including everyday life in rural areas, cultural activities and the long-term consequences of abuse.
- Collect other forms of evidence where available, such as letters written by military commanders ordering forced labour or forced relocation.

Verification

KHRG trains community members to follow a verification policy that includes gathering different types of information or reports from multiple sources, assessing the credibility of sources, and comparing the information with their own understanding of local trends. KHRG information-processing procedure additionally involves the assessment of each individual piece of information prior to translation in order to determine quality and facilitate follow-up with community members where necessary.

This report does not seek to quantify a total number of landmine-related incidents across research areas; where provided, figures indicate only those occurrences that were described in KHRG field documentation. KHRG reporting is designed primarily to share the perspectives of individuals and communities, rather than to focus on incident-based reporting or to quantify a number of confirmed incidents. Rather, emphasis is placed on locating concerns raised by communities, rather than seeking to disqualify testimony; because community members may not always articulate things clearly or keep exact records of landmine-related incidents. In many cases, villagers raised concerns about issues not tied to a specific time or place, or described events which were not discussed elsewhere in KHRG documentation. This report seeks to emphasise the cumulative weight of the large data set analysed for this report, and the consistency with which landmine-related concerns were raised by communities across a wide geographic area.

Every piece of information in this report is based directly upon testimony articulated by villagers during the reporting period or by documentation and analysis written by other community members living and working in the same area. In order to make this information transparent and verifiable, all examples have been footnoted to either 55 published KHRG reports or 64 previously unpublished source documents, which are also available in Section III of this report. Wherever possible, this report includes excerpts of testimony and documentation to illustrate examples highlighted by KHRG. In all cases, the testimony comes from people who have themselves directly experienced issues including movement restrictions and physical security threats arising from the use of landmines in eastern Burma.

Analysis for this report

This report focuses on field information received between January and December 2011. Key updates relating to the use of landmines in 2012 were also included, however due to the sheer volume of information that KHRG regularly receives, all field information received since the beginning of 2012 has not yet been closely analysed. For example, during 2011 alone, community members working with KHRG collected a total of 1,270 oral testimonies, sets of images and documentation written by villagers, including: 523 audio-recorded interviews, 220 incident reports, 84 situation updates, 125 other documents written by villagers, 111 sets of photos and video amounting to a total of 12,517 images, and 207 written orders issued by civilian and military officials. Interviewees included both village leaders and persons not in positions of leadership, as well as men, women and youths. KHRG is committed to interviewing villagers from all ethnic groups within its research areas. The majority of villagers interviewed belong to different sub-ethnicities of Karen, however interviews were also conducted with other ethnic groups, including Burman, Pa'O, Mon, Chin, Karenni, Arakan and Shan villagers.

In order to systematically analyse data and draw conclusions regarding the use of landmines in eastern Burma, seven KHRG staff analysed English translations of a total of 603 oral testimonies and pieces of written human rights documentation received between January 2011 and May 2012, as well as 141 sets of images.[12] Of these, 119 described events, raised concerns or dealt with issues related to the use of landmines in eastern Burma. Relevant

[12]Due to the volume of information received by KHRG, an additional 916 documents were received by KHRG in the reporting period but have not yet been processed and translated from the original Karen and so were not included in analysis for this report. KHRG information-processing involves the assessment of each individual piece of information prior to translation in order to determine quality and facilitate follow-up with community members where necessary.

excerpts from all 119 of these documents are included in *Section III: Source Documents* below, namely 70 interviews and 49 other written reports received by KHRG since January 2011 and prior to the middle of May 2012, of which 55 have also been published on the KHRG website in their entirety.

KHRG analysed these documents for seven themes: The new use of landmines by government forces and non-state armed groups (NSAGs); Movement restrictions resulting from landmines; Marking and removal of mines; Human mine sweeping, forced mine clearance and human shields; Forced labour entailing increased landmine risks; Landmine-related death and injury, and; Use of landmines for self-protection. Special attention was given to note local strategies for addressing concerns related to all of these themes. The results of this analysis are summarised in *Table A.1* below, while more detailed analysis of each theme makes up the bulk of this report in *Section II.*

Landmines are uniquely difficult to research, particularly when it comes to attributing the use of landmines to specific actors, for two reasons. First, unless an individual witnesses a specific actor place a landmine, it can be difficult to conclusively determine which actor is responsible for a given landmine. Nonetheless, local people are often able to identify with credible accuracy what actor is responsible for a given landmine based upon other factors, including their own often detailed knowledge of the activities and territory of specific armed actors, as well as statements made or information provided by such actors. Second, an individual's own perspective on the legitimacy of landmine use by a given actor is likely to be impacted by whether they view that actor as generally a threat or a protector of their well-being. This, as well as personal security concerns, may also impact an individual's willingness to speak about landmines or attribute their use to a specific actor. In response to obstacles such as this, community members working with KHRG are taught to, wherever possible, determine why villagers believe a certain armed actor was responsible and to seek out multiple sources of information. In this report, KHRG attributes the use of landmines to a specific actor only where there is a credible basis for identifying this perpetrator.

Research areas

In order to classify information geographically, KHRG organised landmine-related information according to seven research areas: Thaton, Toungoo, Nyaunglebin, Tenasserim, Papun, Dooplaya and Pa'an. These seven research areas are commonly referred to as "districts" and are used by the Karen National Union (KNU), as well as many local Karen organisations, both those affiliated and unaffiliated with the KNU. KHRG's use of the district designations to reference our research areas represents no political affiliation; rather, it is rooted in KHRG's historical practice, due to the fact that villagers interviewed by KHRG, as well as local organisations with whom KHRG seeks to cooperate commonly use these designations. The seven districts do not correspond to any demarcations used by Burma's central government, but cover all or parts of two government-delineated states and two regions. Toungoo District includes all of northwestern Kayin State and a small portion of eastern Bago Region, while Nyaunglebin District covers a significant portion of eastern Bago Region. Papun, Pa'an and Dooplaya districts correspond to all of northern, central and southern Kayin State, respectively. Thaton District corresponds to northern Mon State, and Tennasserim corresponds to Tanintharyi Region. In order to make information in this report intelligible to stakeholders more familiar with government designations for these areas, the maps in *Figure 1* and *Figure 2* include both the government demarcation system of states and regions, and the seven research areas, or "districts," used when referencing information in this report. When transcribing Karen village names, KHRG utilizes a Karen language transliteration system that was developed in

January 2012 in cooperation with fourteen other local Karen community-based organisations and NGOs to ensure the consistent spelling of place names.[13]

Censoring of names, locations and other details
Where quotes or references include identifying information that KHRG has reason to believe could put villagers in danger, particularly the names of individuals or villages, this information has been censored, and the original name has been replaced by a random letter or pair of letters. The censored code names do not correspond to the actual names in the relevant language or to coding used by KHRG in previous reports, with the exception of excerpts taken from previously published KHRG reports. All names and locations censored according to this system correspond to actual names and locations on file with KHRG. Thus, censoring should not be interpreted as the absence of information. In many cases, further details have been withheld for the security of villagers and KHRG researchers. Note also that names given by villagers have been transliterated directly, and may include relational epithets, such as mother, father, as well as terms that imply familiarity but are not necessarily indicative of a familial relationship, such as uncle or aunt.

Independence, obstacles to research and selection bias
Though KHRG often operates in or through areas controlled by armed forces and groups including the Tatmadaw, Tatmadaw Border Guard battalions and NSAGs, KHRG is independent and unaffiliated. Access to certain contexts has sometimes been facilitated by the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA), particularly in cases where documentation activities required crossing vehicle roads or entering villages that the Tatmadaw had burned or were likely to be mined. Other groups were not willing to facilitate research by KHRG; Tatmadaw, Tatmadaw Border Guard and Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA) forces were the chief obstacles to safely conducting research in eastern Burma during the reporting period. Local people documenting human rights abuses did so with the understanding that they risked potential arrest or execution should perpetrators of abuse learn of their activities.

Because of the obstacles described above, it has only previously been possible for local people collecting testimony to interview civilians who are not likely to report documentation activities to authorities in a way that would place those people in danger. This does not represent a research constraint in areas where whole communities are in hiding, view authorities perpetrating abuse as a threat, and as such are likely to flee rather than risk encountering them. In other areas, however, security considerations mean that interviews cannot always be conducted openly. Civilians most likely to compromise the security of those working with KHRG may also be those who are most likely to present a positive view of the Tatmadaw, and express critical opinions of NSAGs that have been in conflict with Burma's central government.

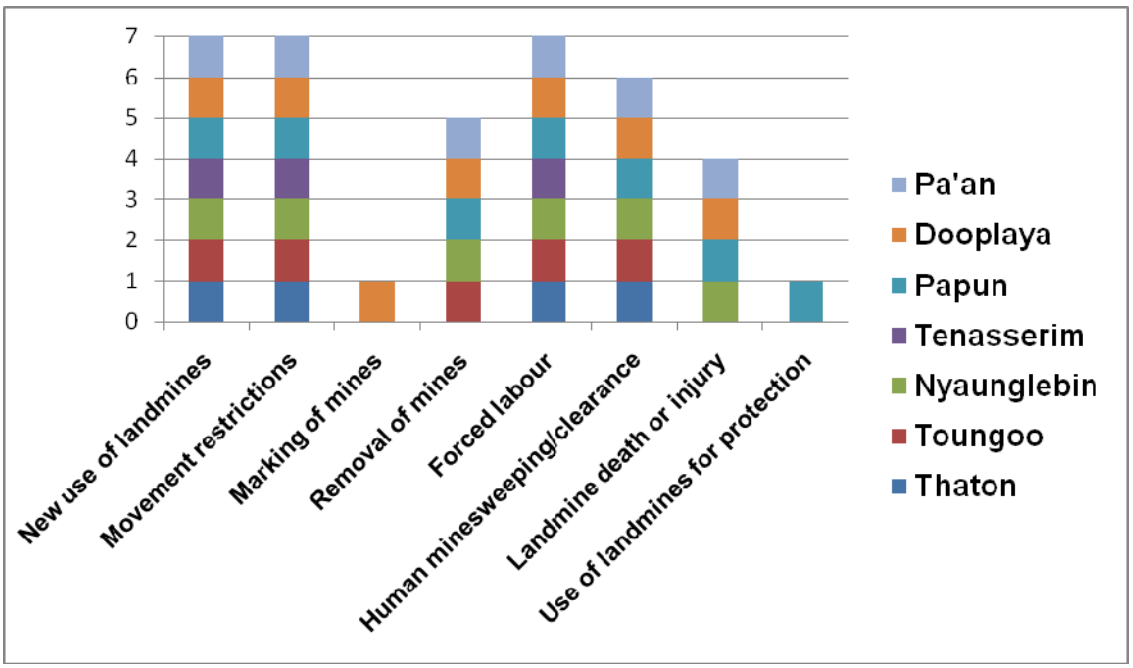
It is important to acknowledge that these limitations have restricted KHRG's ability to make conclusions about all aspects of operations by opposition NSAGs or about potentially positive activities conducted by government actors. For this reason, this report avoids making conclusions that would be unsupported by the data set, including practices of government actors in areas where research was not conducted. Instead, this report focuses on sharing

[13] Note that this transliteration system differs from the previous system used by KHRG, and as such the spelling of location names may be different. Note also that organisations developing the system agreed to continue using the spellings in common-usage for districts and townships, even where they do not match the new transliteration system.

concerns raised by villagers that relate to events they experienced during the reporting period, and analysing those experiences in light of patterns previously identified by KHRG.

It is equally important to acknowledge that these research limitations do not call into question the veracity of documentation regarding practices by the Tatmadaw or other groups. While there is always a risk that individuals interviewed by KHRG might hold personal biases that cause them to provide exaggerated or inaccurate information, the verification practices described above are designed to prevent such inaccuracies from being reported by KHRG. Furthermore, the sheer volume and consistency of information gathered by KHRG during the reporting period, as well as over the last 20 years, minimises the potential for inaccurate or incorrectly identified patterns. Ultimately, the constraints faced by KHRG mean that there are unanswered questions about issues not present in the data set, on which further research needs to be conducted.

Table 1: Geographical spread of landmine incidents, May 2012 – January 2011



II. Analysis

A. New use of landmines by government forces and NSAGs

During the reporting period, community members raised concerns about the planting of new mines by government forces including Tatmadaw and Tatmadaw Border Guard battalions, and by NSAGs, including KNLA and DKBA troops, in all seven KHRG research areas.

Government forces

Despite the inherent difficulties in identifying perpetrators responsible for planting mines, information received from Thaton, Toungoo, Tenasserim, Papun, Dooplaya and Pa'an districts indicated that government forces stationed there during the reporting period deployed new landmines.[15]



The photo above, taken in April 2012, shows a 30-year-old farmer in Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District indicating the areas near Thaw Waw village where landmines were planted by Tatmadaw Border Guard and KNLA troops during 2011.[14] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[14] Note also that 37 Thaw Waw Thaw villagers provided their names and requested that KHRG publish them without censoring to expedite urgent mine-removal; they are currently unable to travel to their plantations and farm fields due to ongoing mine contamination. For the uncensored list of 37 Thaw Waw Thaw villagers, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/1. On May 12th 2012, a community member reported the detonation of two new landmines, injuring livestock. For previously unpublished incident reports written by a community member working with KHRG describing 31 animals and 5 villagers killed or injured by mines in this area since the beginning of 2012, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1 – 3. For photos of villagers and livestock injured by landmines in the Thaw Waw Thaw area since the start of 2012, see photos below in Section II: B *Movement restrictions resulting from landmines* and Section II: F *Landmine-related death and injury.*

[15] For example: In January 2011, a Backpack Health Worker Team (BPHWT) medic treating civilians who fled from a village in Te Naw Th'Ri Township that was shelled in January 2011 said that, after shelling the village, Tatmadaw LIB #224 and #349 troops planted landmines and, as of August 2011, villagers did not dare to return to their homes. For the full published transcript of this interview, see "Tenasserim Interview: Saw K---, August 2011," KHRG, September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Tenasserim. A Tatmadaw deserter from LIB #357 who was based in Kawkareik Township during January 2011 for 15 days before he deserted denied personal responsibility for planting landmines, but confirmed that government troops stationed there in 2011 were both trained and equipped to do so. For an excerpt from his previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/2. In April 2011, a different Tatmadaw deserter from LIB #452 in Toungoo District said that Tatmadaw soldiers planted landmines that were marked on a map and later removed. For an excerpt from his previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/2. In July 2011, a community member trained by KHRG to document human rights abuses photographed command-detonated directional claymore mines planted outside the Border Guard Battalion #1015 camp in R--- village, Dta Greh Township; see four photos below at end of Section II: A *New use of landmines by government forces and NSAGs*. For the full published report, see "Pa'an Situation Update: June to August 2011," KHRG, October 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/July/Pa'an. In August 2011, according to a previously unpublished report written by a community member, Tatmadaw Border Guard troops in Bu Tho Township planted 200 to 300 landmines; see Section III: Source Document: 2011/August/Papun/1. In October 2011, a villager in

In T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District the planting of new mines by Tatmadaw Border Guard troops was described in October 2011 in three different village tracts: Noh Kay, Htee Klay and Htee Wa Blaw.[16] The first two are located near Kawkareik Town on the western side of the Dawna mountains, while Htee Wa Blaw is located on the eastern side of the Dawna mountains near Htoh Kaw Ko.[17] According to a community member, Tatmadaw Border Guard Battalion #3, based in Kyaint Paung at Ka La Gone under the command of Sergeant Ky---, Battalion Commander My---, Deputy Battalion Commander Maung Ng--- and Border Guard private Saw Tw---, as well as KNLA troops, were all responsible for the planting of landmines in this area during 2011.[18] Communities in this area have since registered serious concerns about ongoing landmine contamination, with at least 36 landmines detonating since the beginning of 2012, killing or injuring at least five villagers and 31 livestock animals.[19]

> *"Pwar! Landmines are a big problem in this village because you don't dare to go out anywhere else. If you have cows, they will be hit. If you have goats, they will be hit and the villagers also get hit, so we don't dare to go beside the farms. We just stay in the hut on the farm. Even by the hut they told me that they planted landmines in the area that I cultivated.*
>
> Lh--, (male, 56), farmer, Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
> (Interviewed April 2012)[20]

Tatmadaw deserters elsewhere have also confirmed the new use of landmines by government forces during the reporting period.

Thaton District raised concerns about the planting of landmines around the Tatmadaw camp in Yo Kla, Bilin Township, which prevented villagers from collecting firewood in areas that were previously accessible; see photo below at top of Section II: C. *Marking and removal of landmines*. Section III: Source Document: 2011/October/Thaton.

[16] For a previously unpublished interview describing this new planting of mines, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/March/Pa'an/3.

[17] Htoh Kaw Koh is the headquarters of the KNU/KNLA Peace Council, which is also called the Karen Peace Council (KPC). The KPC is an armed group which split from the Karen National Union (KNU) in 2007 and subsequently refused to comply with orders from the then-SPDC government to transform its forces into Tatmadaw Border Guard; see: "KNU/KNLA Peace Council," Mizzima News, June 7th 2010 and "KPC to be outlawed if it rejects BGF," Burma News International, August 30th 2010.

[18] While it is unclear how many mines were planted in the Noh Kay and Htee Klay village tract areas, or how many remain now, in May 2012, a community member working with KHRG noted that an inebriated Tatmadaw Border Guard Commander described taking 1,000 landmines from the Tatmadaw Border Guard base at Shwe Ko Ko during 2011 and planting them all. KNLA troops are also known to have deployed landmines in this area during the same time; see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1.

[19] For three previously unpublished incident reports written by a community member describing landmine casualties in Noh Kay and Htee Klay village tracts, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1 – 3. Note also that in the two days before this report went to print, information was received on May 12th 2012 that two new landmines exploded in Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract. 37 Thaw Waw Thaw villagers have provided their names to KHRG to request mine removal; see Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/1. For photos of villagers and livestock injured by landmines since the start of 2012, see Section II: B *Movement restrictions resulting from landmines* and Section II: F *Landmine-related death and injury.*

[20] For Lh---'s previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/6.

"Yes, they [Tatmadaw soldiers] did [plant landmines]. … They planted landmines in the road that people travel along."

Kyaw Ny---, (male, 23), Tatmadaw LIB #425 deserter, Mo--- Camp, Toungoo District (Interviewed April 2011)[21]

"Yes, they taught us how to set up landmines. … They gave me one MA1 and one bomb and one landmine. … For landmines, they gave us but I never planted."

Kyaw Be---, (male, 18), Tatmadaw deserter LIB #357, based in the Palu area, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District (Interviewed August 2011)[22]

Government forces appeared to use landmines to target opponent armed groups and for defensive purposes. Examples documented by KHRG include the use of landmines to construct defensive perimeters around military camps and bases,[23] in civilian areas through which NSAGs were suspected to travel or near camps used by NSAGs,[24] and in new conflict areas in which government forces were attempting to regain control.

Now, Border Guard soldiers have begun to plant landmines on the hilltops, in the forest and at the bottom of the mountains. Those are close to villagers' flat fields because the flat fields are close to the bottom of the mountains. They planted landmines in places, and along the paths, where KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army] soldiers could come back along.

Situation update written by a community member, Myawaddy and T'Nay Hsah Townships, Pa'an District (Received October 2011)[25]

The landmines were planted by [Tatmadaw] Border Guard Battalion #1017 Corporal Saw Bpa Mi Hsaw and his soldiers. They planted the landmines and sharpened bamboo stakes around the village.

Situation update written by a community member, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District, (Received September 2011)[26]

[21] For an excerpt from this previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/2.

[22] For an excerpt from this previously unpublished interview conducted by a community member trained by KHRG to document human rights abuses, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/2.

[23] In July 2011, a community member photographed command-detonated directional claymore mines planted outside the Tatmadaw Border Guard Battalion #1015 camp in R--- village, Dta Greh Township; see four photos below at end of Section II: A *New use of landmines by government forces and NSAGs*.. For the full published report, see "Pa'an Situation Update: June to August 2011," KHRG, October 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/July/Pa'an. In October 2011, a villager in Thaton District also raised concerns about the planting of landmines around the Tatmadaw camp in Yo Kla, Bilin Township, which was preventing villagers from collecting firewood in areas that were previously accessible; see photo at top of Section II: C. *Marking and removal of landmines* and Section III: Source Document: 2011/October/Thaton.

[24] For details about the planting of mines on paths in civilian areas through which NSAGs were suspected to travel see Section III: Source Documents: 2011/October/Pa'an/6; for more on the planting of mines in civilian areas near an NSAG camp, see Section III: Source Documents: 2011/September/Pa'an/3;

[25] For the full published report, see "Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011," KHRG, May 2012; an excerpt is also included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/6.

"Border Guard Battalion #1015 from the R--- camp used the landmines in the photos below.[27] They placed them at the back of the grounds near the [R---] camp gate. The SPDC Army supplied them with these landmines. The Border Guard force there was controlled by the SPDC Army, and they did as they were ordered."

Situation update written by a community member, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District (Received September 2011)[28]

While the motives behind the use of landmines by government forces cannot be conclusively deduced, some inferences can be drawn based on the areas in which mines were planted. For example, in September 2011, KHRG documented the laying of approximately 100 new landmines in Pa'an District by Tatmadaw Border Guard #1017 soldiers following a raid on a KNLA camp in the area.[29]

On September 23rd 2011, Border Guard troops [from Battalion #1017] raided a KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army] camp on Sh--- hill slope. After they raided [the camp], they began to plant one hundred landmines around Sh--- village near the villagers' huts. They also planted landmines in K--- village tract, but I don't know how many.

Situation update written by a community member in Htee Lone Township, Pa'an District (Received January 2012)[30]

It is reasonable to infer from the laying of mines both in an armed opponent's camp and in civilian areas near that camp, that government forces may have been using mines to target opponent forces. Nonetheless the planting of mines in areas through which civilians, and not just NSAGs, travel creates serious risks for civilian populations. Villagers may be less cautious or less able to identify potentially dangerous mined areas than members of NSAGs who may expect to encounter landmines during patrols and have more knowledge about Tatmadaw troop movements.

*One [Tatmadaw Border Guard] soldier said: "*We [Tatmadaw Border Guard Soldiers] will be allowed to come back after we finished up planting 500 landmines*." … One of the villagers told him: "*If you plant 500 landmines [along paths where KNLA soldiers could easily come back along], will they hit soldiers [KNLA soldiers]?*" … "*They will hit villagers*." The soldier replied to the villager: "*I have no idea, this is the order from Dih Dih and Maung Chit Thu and there is nothing else we can do*."*

Situation update written by a community member, Myawaddy and T'Nay Hsah Townships, Pa'an District (Received October 2011)[31]

[26] For the full text of this previously-published situation update written by a community member, see "Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011," KHRG, November 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/1.

[27] See photos below at end of Section II: A *New use of landmines by government forces and NSAGs.*

[28] For the full published situation update written by a community member, see "Pa'an Situation Update: June to August 2011," KHRG, October 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/July/Pa'an.

[29] For the full published situation update written by the community member who reported this information, see "Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011 to January 2012"; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/3.

[30] For the full published situation update, see "Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011 to January 2012"; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/3.

Non-state armed groups (NSAGs)

The new use of landmines by NSAGs, specifically the KNLA and the DKBA, was documented in four research areas: Toungoo, Papun, Dooplaya and Pa'an districts.[32] Landmines were documented in areas where NSAGs engaged in guerrilla-style attacks[33] on government forces or where they sought to deny government forces access to territory.

Ambushes by NSAGs that make use of hand-made mines, tripwire mines or *bpoh klee* ('turtle shells' in Karen) remote-detonation devices continued to have often-deadly impacts on government troops. On January 9th 2011, DKBA and KNLA soldiers planted large remote-detonation devices near Oo Kray Hta village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District, killing four Tatmadaw soldiers and injuring seven more when the mines detonated.[34] On October 29th 2011, a KNLA landmine ambush near M--- village in Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District killed one Tatmadaw Sergeant and injured seven others,[35] while in Papun District, during November 2011 alone, 18 Tatmadaw soldiers were reported to have been killed or injured by landmines.

> *"While the LIB #218, TOC #3, was staying in H---, eight of their soldiers were killed by landmines, and ten of them were injured, meaning that altogether 18 soldiers [were killed or injured]. The ten people who got injured were far away from the camp [at the time they were injured] and there was not enough medicine… ."*
>
> Situation update written by a community member in Bu Tho Township, Papun District (Received November 2011)[36]

[31] For the full published situation update, see "Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011", included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/6.

[32] For example: In January 2011, local sources in Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District told KHRG that DKBA troops had warned villagers that they had planted new mines in and around U Kray Hta village; see Update No.54 "Landmines planted near Oo Kreh Htah village," February 15th 2011, January 2011. [*Note that the difference between the current spelling of 'U Kray Hta', compared with 'Oo Kreh Htah' used in past KHRG reports, follows the adoption of a new KHRG transliteration key in January 2012, which was developed in cooperation with fourteen local NGOs and CBOs to ensure the consistent spelling of place names.*] In May 2011, a community member working with KHRG described the ongoing use of landmines by the KNLA in Toungoo District; for an excerpt from their previously unpublished situation update, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/May/Toungoo/2. In August 2011, a community member working with KHRG described the ongoing use of landmines by KNLA and KNDO troops in Bu Tho Township, Papun District; for an excerpt from their previously unpublished situation update, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/August/Papun/1. In October 2011, following a KNLA landmine ambush of Tatmadaw troops near M--- village in Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District, that killed one Tatmadaw Sergeant and injured seven soldiers, some M--- villagers were ordered to carry Tatmadaw soldiers injured by the mine; see "Villagers used as human shields in Pa'an District, October 2011," March 2012.

[33] The KNLA formally adopted the use of guerrilla tactics in 1998 at a military conference in Mae Hta Raw Tha, Dooplaya District and frequently uses remotely-detonated landmines to target approaching Tatmadaw columns. For information about a KNLA landmine ambush in October 2011, see "Villagers used as human shields in Pa'an District, October 2011,"March 2012.

[34] For a published description of this incident, see Update No.47 "Thai army burns temporary refuge site, forces villagers fleeing fighting deeper into hiding," January 14th2011.

[35] For a published report of this incident written by a community member working with KHRG, during which villagers were used to shield troops and carry injured Tatmadaw soldiers following the ambush, see "Villagers used as human shields in Pa'an District, October 2011," March 2012.

[36] For the published situation update written by a community member working with KHRG which describes this incident, see "Papun Situation Update: Bu Tho Township, November 2011," KHRG, February 2012.

NSAGs frequently used hand-made mines due to the difficulty of obtaining factory-produced landmines; these types of mines are usually made out of simple materials, such as PVC piping, bamboo, wood or repurposed bottles and cans.[37] Villagers and members of NSAGs have expressed the belief that hand-made mines degrade or are destroyed relatively quickly, due to factors including water damage and natural or deliberately set fires, while mine experts have noted that even hand-made mines can last for longer periods or may only be destabilized, rather than destroyed, by fires.[38]

> *"Home guards used landmines. … They get it from the KNU [KNLA]. … They get gunpowder from other people. They just take gas and gunpowder. For the rest they created by themselves. They make it up with* wab bpaw *[a piece of bamboo]."*
>
> Saw He---, (male, 45), Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
> (Interviewed March 2011)[39]

> *"[Home guards] use machine guns and muskets and landmines. The landmines were given by KNU [KNLA] because they are not free all the time to patrol and watch. We used a lot but some landmines exploded and some were destroyed. The landmines can be destroyed over a short period of time. There are about one hundred [landmines]. But those are just for protection.*
>
> Saw Ne---, (male, 40), Kay Bpoo village tract, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
> (Interviewed March 2011)[40]

The KNLA also continues to use landmines to defend some of the larger hiding sites for displaced villagers, to keep its own supply lines open, as well as to hinder or deter the movements of government troops. *Section II: B, D and F* below provide information on the risks these landmines pose to villagers. However, in some areas, villagers reported that the KNLA's use of landmines, as well as the use of landmines by *gher der* home guard groups, provides protection by facilitating safe access to agricultural areas for villagers in some areas and by deterring Tatmadaw activity.[41] In all cases, villagers' own perspectives were shaped by the specific local context in their area. Analysis of these views is included in *Section II: G* below.

[37] For a previously unpublished description of the production of homemade landmines, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/October/Papun. For additional background analysis on the construction of homemade landmines by NSAGs, see "Insecurity amidst the DKBA - KNLA conflict in Dooplaya and Pa'an districts," KHRG, February 2009.

[38] In April 2011, a Tatmadaw deserter from LIB #452 in Toungoo District said that Tatmadaw soldiers started fires deliberately in an attempt to clear landmines from overgrown roads; see Section III: Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/2. For further analysis on landmine use by the KNLA, see *Enduring Hunger and Repression: Food Scarcity, Internal Displacement, and the Continued Use of Forced Labour in Toungoo District*, KHRG, September 2004.

[39] For a longer excerpt from this previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/3.

[40] For a longer excerpt from this previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/8.

[41] A published situation update written by a community member working with KHRG described the use of landmines by KNLA to hinder Tatmadaw troops from accessing villagers' agricultural areas; see "Papun Situation Update: Bu Tho Township, August 2011," KHRG, October 2011.

As for KNLA soldiers, they currently take security [measures] for us to be able to [sustain our] livelihoods in the areas that SPDC Army and Border Guard soldiers are active. … It [planting landmines] caused problems for the SPDC Army and Border Guard soldiers because they could not advance quickly.

Situation update written by a community member in Bu Tho Township, Papun District (Received August 2011)[42]



The photos above show a 30-year-old farmer in Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract indicating the site where a landmine exploded on March 8th 2012 (top) injuring a cow, and the areas near Thaw Waw Thaw village where villagers are afraid to travel for fear of stepping on landmines. 37 villagers from Thaw Waw Thaw village provided their names to KHRG and requested that KHRG publish their urgent request for mine-removal. [43]*[Photo: KHRG]*

[42] For the full published situation update written by a community member working with KHRG, see "Papun Situation Update: Bu Tho Township, August 2011," October 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/1.

[43] For the list of 37 Thaw Waw Thaw villagers who are currently unable to access their plantations and fields due to ongoing mine contamination, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/1. For previously unpublished incident reports written by a community member working with KHRG and describing 31 animals and 5 villagers killed or injured by mines since the beginning of 2012, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1 – 3. For photos of villagers and livestock injured by landmines in Noh Kay village tract since the start of 2012, see end of Section II: B *Movement restrictions resulting from landmines.*



These four photos were taken in September 2011 in Bu Tho Township, Papun District. The top photos show a Burmese-made MM-1 stake fragmentation mine planted beside a flat field paddy farm, close to Boh Hta village. According to a Boh Hta village representative, the landmine was planted by Tatmadaw LIB #240 soldiers during September 2011. The owners of the flat field next to which the mine was planted (shown in the bottom two photos with a child) told the community member who took these photos that they worried that their cows and buffalos would step on the mine and, as a result, had to keep an especially close watch on them.[44] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[44] These photos were received in April 2012 and have not been previously published on the KHRG website.




The photo above left was taken in April 2011 and shows Kyaw Ny---, a 23-year-old Tatmadaw LIB #425 deserter from Mo--- camp, Toungoo District who confirmed that his troops planted landmines while on patrol; he said that the landmines were marked on a map and later removed.[45]The photo above right, taken in August 2011, shows 18-year-old Kyaw Be---, a Tatmadaw deserter from LIB #357, who was based in the Palu area of Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District during January 2011 for 15 days before he deserted. He denied personal responsibility for having planted any landmines, but confirmed that government troops stationed there in 2011 were both trained and equipped to do so.[46] *[Photo: KHRG]*





[45] For Kyaw Ny---'s previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/2.

[46] For an excerpt from Kyaw Be---'s previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/2.





The four photos above, taken in July 2011, show factory-produced command-detonated claymore mines; the community member who took these photos reported that these mines were provided by the Tatmadaw to Border Guard Battalion #1015, which planted the mines near the gate of Battalion #1015 camp at R---. In the photos above, the Burmese inscription '*yan thu bet*' translates as 'enemy side' or 'side facing enemy'; in the photos below, the inscription '*shay twet maing a saing 36/11*' means 'forward-exploding' or 'directional' mine with a width of 36/11.[47] *[Photos: KHRG]*

[47] These photos have been previously published on the KHRG website along with a situation update written by the same person who took the photos; see "Pa'an Situation Update: June to August 2011," KHRG, October 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/July/Pa'an.

B. Movement restrictions resulting from landmines

During the reporting period, community members working with KHRG in all seven research areas raised concerns about ongoing landmine contamination in spaces known to have been previously mined. While the deployment of new mines can be interpreted as defensive or otherwise aimed to target opposition forces, the location in which mines were planted in many cases served to control the movement of civilian populations by preventing access to their homes or agricultural areas.

> *"The village problems are that the villagers don't dare to go out and they don't dare to let their cows or buffalos out. … Also people don't dare to find food or vegetables in the forest. … Pwar! You have to be afraid of the landmines."*
>
> Hm---, (male, 51), farmer, Thaw Waw Plaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)[49]



This photo, taken in March 2012, shows a boy travelling along the Maw Thay Der mountain path in Toungoo District (see cover photo) that is contaminated with an unknown number of landmines, after the KNLA ambushed Tatmadaw troops during 2011 and Tatmadaw soldiers subsequently mined the area beside this path.[48] *[Photo: KHRG]*

New information received by KHRG in the week before this report was printed suggests that the planting of landmines in T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District during 2011 is currently having severe impacts on a total of 19 villages spread across three village tracts on both the eastern and western sides of the Dawna mountain range.[50]

Residents of Noh Kay, Htee Klay and Htee Wa Blaw village tracts have described a spike in landmine casualties for both animals and civilians, during the last two months of 2011 and the first four months of 2012 and, according to information provided by a community member, two more landmines exploded in Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, on May 12th 2012.

[48] For notes about this photo written by a community member, please see Section III: Source Document: 2012/March/Toungoo; photos of the same area are included below in Section II: B and on the front cover.

[49] For Hm---'s previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/5.

[50] The villages affected are as follows: in Htee Klay village tract: Htee Klay, K'Ser Klo, Kaw Pway Koh, Kaw Pa La, Ler Puh, Hkaw Ka Law, Kaw Hklee and Kaw Toe villages; in Noh Kay village tract: Tha Waw Thaw, Noh Kay, Noh Kyaw, Thee Wah, Paw T'Koo Mee, Noh Hsaw Mee, and Noh Yaw Thaw villages; and in Htee Wa Blaw village tract: Htee Wa Blaw, Htee Law Thee, Paw Baw Koh village, and P'Naw Kleh Hkee villages. This information was received from a local community member in May 2012.

"Border Guard and KNLA planted landmines beside Thee Wah village, so cattle and goats were hit [by the landmines] and then villagers could not go to their flat field farms, plantations and the mouth of the channel. Plus people [villagers] were hit [by landmines], so this is now a serious problem happening in this village."

Incident report written by a community member, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an DIstrict
(Received May 2012)[51]

Impacts on livelihoods

Villagers in all seven KHRG research areas raised concerns that landmines were placed, or were believed to have been placed, around or inside villages, in pastoral and agricultural areas, in areas through which villagers had to travel to access fields and plantations and along the more easily-navigable paths and roads which armed actors also used for travel.[52]

They planted it on the fields and beside the well and beside the house. … Border Guard planted it. They planted it besides our flat fields and our houses.

Hs---, (male, 63), Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an
(Interviewed April 2012)[53]

Villagers in Ta--- and villagers' from the Thai side who own a large corn plantation dare not to go and harvest their corn. They were told by the Ta--- village head, who heard from the DKBA, that landmines were planted so don't go to the west of the vehicle road, further away than two yards. It is time to harvest corn. The corn plantation is located close to the bridge between Ta--- and Wa---.

Situation update written by a community member in Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
(Received October 2011)[54]

On September 13th 2011, a Gk--- villager named Saw P---, 30, had gone to his farm to replant his rice paddy which had died. He returned to his village in the evening and on the way, at 6:30 pm, he stepped on a landmine outside his farm. His farm is far from Gk--- village, about a 20-minute walk. He stepped on the landmine along the La--- River bank outside his farm. His left foot was torn apart when the landmine exploded.

Situation update written by a community member, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District,
(Received September 2011)[55]

[51] For this previously unpublished incident report written by a community member working with KHRG and received in May 2012, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1.

[52] See for example, further details about the planting of mines in a village from which residents were forcibly relocated: "Papun Situation Update: Dweh Loh Township, May 2011," KHRG, September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/May/Papun. For further details about the planting of mines in villagers' agricultural areas, see Update No. 74: "*Dtaing* bomb planted beside villager's plantation in Dooplaya District," KHRG, May 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/May/Dooplaya/1. Note that the Burmese language transliteration of "*dtaing*" used at that time is inaccurate; it should read "*taik*."

[53] For Hs---'s previously unpublished testimony, see Section III: Source Documents: 2012/May/Pa'an/3.

[54] For photos of Maung D---, a 36-year-old Lay Ghaw Kyo villager whose left leg was destroyed by a landmine while he was going to cut wood, see photos below in Section II: *F. Landmine-related death and injury*.

The physical security threats posed by landmines prevented villagers pursuing livelihoods activities, contributed to food insecurity or had an otherwise deleterious effect on villagers' livelihoods. In some cases, villagers were forced to abandon cultivable agricultural areas, pastoral land and crops that were ready to be harvested, or risk landmine-related death or injury. In other cases, villagers' livestock animals were lamed when they stepped on landmines and had to be butchered immediately.

> *"That's why we have to tie up our cows and buffalos. Otherwise they will get hit by the landmines. We have to worry for the cows and buffalo that are left untied."*
>
> Hs---, (male, 63), Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an
> (Interviewed April 2012)[56]

> *"[Problems are] like the villagers don't dare to travel, don't dare to find vegetables, don't dare to find firewood. Yesterday, we just ate coconut branch buds. Now the people have gone to tell [about this] so maybe there will be unity and we will have enough food now."*
>
> Kw---, (female, 33), Thaw Waw Plaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
> (Interviewed April 2012)[57]

> *"We don't dare to go even beside the farm and the road. Following on the only road, we couldn't get any firewood, so don't dare to do that [make charcoal] … without trees we can't make charcoal. … For me I sold all of them [buffalos] … [there is] no benefit from keeping them."*
>
> Lh--, (male, 56), farmer, Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
> (Interviewed April 2012)[58]

Community responses

Despite the grave threat to their physical security, villagers responded to the restrictions that landmines imposed on their ability to move freely by adopting strategies to avoid mined areas, pursue livelihoods activities and maintain normality in their daily lives. In order to facilitate greater access to areas in which villagers pursue their livelihoods, some told KHRG that they passed information about mined areas to other villagers, or sought to identify areas in which it was deemed safe to travel.

> *"I dare not [go to that area.] People only use the truck road that was constructed by the SPDC. … Yes, I did [already warn the villagers]."*
>
> Saw M---, (male, 36), Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
> (Interviewed June 2010)[59]

[55] For the full published report, see "Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011," KHRG, November 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/1.

[56] For Hs---'s previously unpublished testimony, see Section III: Source Documents: 2012/May/Pa'an/3.

[57] For Kw---'s previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/4.

[58] For Lh---'s previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/6.

"The KNLA will plant the most landmines around their camp or area and the DKBA will plant the most along the border but we don't know clearly who planted the landmines and where they are planted. So we, the villagers, dare not to go anywhere. … We announce that we don't take responsibility for the people who are travelling beyond the village. Everyone will walk only in the street when they travel. We told them not to go far from the village for collecting vegetables in the jungle."

Saw Gk---, (male, 42), P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
(Interviewed June 2010)[60]

Villagers also used alternate travel routes to avoid areas known to be mined or attempted to adopt precautionary measures while travelling, including sweeping the ground with sticks ahead of them, walking on stones, and avoiding areas in which the ground was obscured by leaves or bushes.[61]

"Now, if this is the path [gestures] *we have to go along it and we have to go along it without fail because it goes to our flat field farm. If we have to go, we have to avoid the path that goes across through the bushes and we step on stones instead."*

Th---'s mother, (female, 60), farmer, Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
(Interviewed April 2011)[62]

"None of the people dare to go to their durian plantations. I have a betelnut plantation at the mouth of the river but I daren't to go there because the betelnut trees are in amongst the bushes. Maybe, I will be able to go to there in the future."

W---'s mother, (female, 55), farmer, Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)[63]

In this way, local knowledge constituted both a vital source for villagers' self-protection and facilitated villagers' ability to access agricultural areas. Villagers not only shared information amongst themselves, but also sought to maintain cordial relations with armed actors that enabled them to gain warnings about mined areas. As a result, villagers described receiving warnings in some cases about certain paths or areas after government or NSAG troops had planted landmines.

[59] For the full published transcript of Saw M---'s interview, see "Pa'an interviews: Conditions for villagers returned from temporary refuge sites in Tha Song Yang," May 2011; a relevant excerpt is also provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2010/June/Pa'an/1.

[60] For the full published transcript of Saw Gk---'s interview, see "Pa'an interviews: Conditions for villagers returned from temporary refuge sites in Tha Song Yang," May 2011; a relevant excerpt is also provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2010/June/Pa'an/4.

[61] A community member working with KHRG described sweeping the area ahead of him with a stick while taking photographs in mined areas of Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District; see photos below inthis section.

[62] For an excerpt from Th---'s mother's previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/May/Pa'an/7.

[63] For W---'s mother's previously unpublished testimony, see Section III: Source Documents: 2012/May/Pa'an/8.

"Yes, the KNLA always lets us know [when they plant landmines]. … Yes [the SPDC lets us know], the last time the SPDC Army let the villagers know that they had planted two landmines."

Saw Ca--- (male, 45), Je--- village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
(Interviewed September 2011)[64]

Community engagement with armed actors yielded positive results on another occasion in which villagers sought to address landmine concerns by requesting that actors refrain from using them. In Thaton District, villagers complained to Tatmadaw soldiers regarding the use of landmines by DKBA troops and the Tatmadaw subsequently ordered the DKBA soldiers not to use landmines, because it would put Tatmadaw soldiers at risk.

"They [DKBA soldiers] said that they will come and plant landmines if people [KNLA soldiers] do something to them. They asked us to plant [landmines] at that time but we informed the Burmese Army [Tatmadaw] and they haven't allowed the DKBA to plant landmines because the Burmese soldiers also have to travel [in that area].

Saw My---, (male, 34), Up--- village, Bilin Township, Thaton District
(Interviewed October 2010)[65]

No warning

In many other cases however villagers complained they were not warned of dangerous mined areas by armed forces, or about the planting of new mines. Where villagers were unsure whether an area had been mined or where there was uncertainty as to the particular locations of existing landmines, this seriously undercut their ability to protect themselves by choosing to avoid certain areas.

"They didn't inform us. People wouldn't step on them if they informed people. People were hit by them [landmines] suddenly. … They came here [to Thee Wah village] in the summer and informed after people had already stepped on them but they didn't inform us the specific area where they planted landmines. … Then, we haven't gone anywhere after they told us don't go to that area."

W---'s mother, (female, 55), farmer, Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
(Interviewed April 2011)[66]

"But the KNLA reminds us of one thing: if the SPDC [Army] do column operations people shouldn't travel around. In the past they didn't warn us, and when the SPDC [Army] were traveling around, we also traveled around. When they [the KNLA] planted landmines, we traveled and stepped on their landmines. Those landmines had been planted by the KNLA but they hadn't warned us."

Saw Lw---, (male, 27), Ar--- village, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District
(Interviewed December 2010)[67]

[64] For the full published transcript of Saw Ca---'s interview, see "Dooplaya Interview: Saw Ca---, September 2011," February 2012; a relevant excerpt is also provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/August/Dooplaya.

[65] An excerpt from this previously unpublished interview is provided in Section III: Source Document: 2010/October/Thaton.

[66] For W---'s mother's previously unpublished testimony, see Section III: Source Documents: 2012/May/Pa'an/8.

However, the KNLA plants the landmines around their army camp, and when they plant the landmines they tell the villagers where they plant them. Border Guard Battalion #1017 soldiers use the villages at their army camp and they also plant landmines to protect themselves, but they do not let the villagers know where they plant them.

Situation update written by a community member, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District, (Received September 2011)[68]

Even in cases where villagers received general warnings of areas that had been mined, they nonetheless remained at risk when they were not informed of the specific locations of all mines planted. Villagers who see KNLA forces as protectors, for example, have stepped on KNLA landmines, as have KNLA soldiers who forgot where they had been planted. This is also true of landmines used by *gher der* home guards.[69]

"Yes, Home Guard landmines have [injured] several people because they don't have precise training. Some get injured. Sometimes, when they thought it is not necessary [to have the landmine] anymore, they go and take out the mine and accidentally the mine explodes."

Saw Ne---, (male, 40), Kay Bpoo village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District (Interviewed March 2011)[70]

*"According to KNLA soldiers, if they planted the landmines, they let all villagers know the places where they planted the landmines, such as, which mountain. But, they did not tell us certain places like the specific place where they planted landmines. They did not tell us certainly. They just told us: "*Do not go to that road, landmines are there and do not go to that mountain, landmines are there." *They informed us like this. Each village informs each other always [regarding landmines]. …. By the reason of using landmines, SPDC soldiers dare not go through the forest."*

Situation update written by a community member in Toungoo District (Received May 2011)[71]

"My brother-in-law stepped on a landmine and he's not getting better yet. … [It happened] last month. … [It was] the KNLA's landmine, and he knows because the KNLA let everyone know. It was just bad luck. … Everyone knew that there were two landmines left. It was just bad luck. … He was cutting bamboo."

Saw Ca--- (male, 45), Je--- village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District

[67] A relevant excerpt from this previously unpublished interview is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2010/December/Toungoo/2.

[68] For the full text of this previously-published situation update written by the community member working with KHRG, see "Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011," KHRG, November 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/1.

[69] Two former *gher der* home guard soldiers injured by landmines were interviewed by a community member working with KHRG in July and August 2010; excerpts from their previously unpublished interviews can be found in Section III: Source Document: 2010/May/Papun/4 and Section III: Source Document: 2010/July/Papun/3 respectively. Photos of both men are also provided below in Section II: *F. Landmine-related death and injury.*

[70] For this previously unpublished testimony, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/8.

[71] A relevant excerpt from this previously unpublished situation update written by a community member working with KHRG is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/May/Toungoo/4.

(Interviewed September 2011)[72]

Preventing safe return

Increased knowledge of mined areas thus improved, to a degree, villagers' ability to protect themselves by making informed decisions about areas in which it is safe to travel. Conversely however the existence of mined areas served to seriously limit villagers' options for responding to abuse with temporary strategic flight, or prevented them from returning to their homes following episodes of displacement or refuge. A medic who fled along with other residents during an attack on a village in Tenasserim by Tatmadaw LIB #224 and #349 troops during January 2011 explained to KHRG that landmines left in the village by departing Tatmadaw forces continued to prevent residents from returning to their homes eight months later.[73] Similarly, villagers forcibly relocated from the Meh Gkleh area of Papun District during August 2010, remained unable to evade the relocation order and return home, as of April 2011. They told the community member working with KHRG that they could not return because their home areas had been mined by the Tatmadaw-allied DKBA troops who had forcibly relocated them.[74]

> *It happened when I was staying at P--- village [IDP hiding site] and looking after patients. The SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] soldiers came and fired mortars at the place we stayed. At that time, during the mortar attack, we all ran up to the mountain, including the children… When the [Tatmadaw] soldiers attacked and we ran away, the SPDC Army soldiers came and burned down the villagers' houses and rice barns in P--. … They [villagers] didn't dare to go back [after Tatmadaw soldiers left] because the SPDC Army soldiers had placed landmines. Even me, I didn't dare to go back… KNLA soldiers returned and inspected the village because fighting had happened there… The soldiers notified us not to go back because the SPDC Army soldiers had placed landmines.*
>
> Saw K--- (male, 30), Backpack (BPHWT) medic,
> (Interviewed August 2011)[75]

[72] For the full published transcript of Saw Ca---'s interview, see "Dooplaya Interview: Saw Ca---, September 2011," February 2012; a relevant excerpt is also provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/August/Dooplaya.

[73] For the full published transcript of this interview, see "Tenasserim Interview: Saw K---, August 2011," KHRG, September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Tenasserim.

[74] Beginning in late 2009, the (DKBA strengthened its presence in south western Dweh Loh, Township, Papun District, increasing troop levels and camps, commencing gold mining operations on the Bilin River, and enforcing movement restrictions on the civilian population.By March 2010, DKBA soldiers from Battalions #333 and #999 were occupying more than 28 camps in Wa Muh, Meh Choh, Ma Lay Ler and Meh Way areas in western Dweh Loh Township; SPDC soldiers from Infantry Battalion (IB) #96 and Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #704, under Military Operations Command (MOC) #4 Tactical Operations Command (TOC) #1, were also active in the same area. For further background on DKBA activities in this area, see, "Southwestern Papun District: Transitions to DKBA control along the Bilin River," April 18th, 2010, KHRG. For more background on DKBA activity in Dweh Loh Township, see: "Southern Papun District: Abuse and the expansion of military control," KHRG, August 2010; "Central Papun District: Abuse and the maintenance of military control," KHRG, August 2010; "Southwestern Papun District: Transitions to DKBA control along the Bilin River," KHRG, August 2010. For the full published report written by the community member who described the planting of landmines by the DKBA in August 2010 and ongoing landmine contamination in Meh Gkleh as of April 2011, see "Papun Situation Update: Dweh Loh Township, May 2011," KHRG, September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/May/Papun.

[75] For the full published transcript of this interview, see "Tenasserim Interview: Saw K---, August 2011," KHRG, September 2011; an excerpt is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Tenasserim.

When DKBA soldiers[76] dug for gold in the Meh Gkleh Law River on August 15th 2010, the villagers who lived in villages around the Meh Gkleh area were forced to live in [relocated to] the place called Meh Gkleh Nee [literally 'along the Meh Gkleh riverbank']. [Currently] they do not dare to go back and live in their old villages even though the DKBA soldiers are not there [any more], because landmines are [still] there. Therefore, they keep living in the relocation site.

Situation update written by a community member in Dweh Loh Township Township, Papun District
(Received May 2011)[77]

[76] This planting of landmines could also have been included below in the section on use of landmines by NSAGs, but has been included in the section on new uses by government forces due to the long-standing nature of DKBA and Tatmadaw cooperation, and the previously-reported manifestation of that cooperation in the provision to DKBA troops of factory-produced landmines and other weaponry. Additionally, while not all DKBA troops in Papun District have been formally incorporated into Tatmadaw command structure as 'Border Guard' battalions, the fact that the DKBA operations along the Meh Gkleh River were abandoned in early 2011 suggests that, as newly-transformed Border Guard battalions, they may have rotated back to larger towns, as was reported to have occurred elsewhere in Papun in early 2011; see Section III: Source Document: 2010/November/Papun. For more on the supply of landmines to DKBA troops by government forces, see "Insecurity amidst the DKBA - KNLA conflict in Dooplaya and Pa'an districts," KHRG, February 2009. For further background on DKBA activities in Dweh Loh Township, see, "Southwestern Papun District: Transitions to DKBA control along the Bilin River," April 18th, 2010, KHRG.

[77] For the full published report, see "Papun Situation Update: Dweh Loh Township, May 2011," KHRG, September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/5.



The top photos above show a goat injured by a landmine near Thee Wah village in Noh Kay village tract on April 6th 2012. In the photo below right, the man carrying the goat on the right (only left hand visible) is the owner. According to the community member working with KHRG who accompanied these men and took these photographs, the goat owner has already previously lost one goat and one cow in the same area because of landmines. The photograph below left shows the mined area, which is covered with dry leaves. The community member who took these photos said that when the three men walked here, they swept the ground in front of them with a long stick.[78] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[78] For incident reports written by a community member describing at least 31 other livestock injuries in this area since January 2012, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1 – 3.




The photo above left, taken on April 10th 2012, shows a site near Thaw Waw Thaw village in Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District where Saw Hn--- stepped on a landmine while going fishing. On the same day that these photos were taken, the cow (above right) stepped on another landmine within twenty feet of the location where Saw Hn--- was injured. [79]*[Photo: KHRG]*




The photos above, taken on April 17th 2012 in Htee Klay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District show a cow being butchered after stepping on a landmine that same day; the owner of the cow is holding the cow's dismembered leg in the photo at left. Since the beginning of 2012, residents of only one village in Htee Klay village tract recorded a total of 17 livestock animals injured by landmines, and five human casualties, including one who subsequently killed himself.[80] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[79] For the previously unpublished testimony of Saw Hn--- that was received by KHRG in May 2012, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/March/Pa'an/1.

[80] For the previously unpublished incident report written by a community member working with KHRG describing landmine casualties (animal and human) in Htee Klay village tract, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/2. See also the unpublished testimony of Maung H---'s wife who described how her husband hung himself on a tree branch after stepping on a landmine; see Section III: Source Document: 2011/December/Pa'an/2.






The photos above, taken on April 18th 2012, show a cow in the forest between Htee Klay Kee and Kaw Toe villages in Htee Klay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District that stepped on a landmine on the same day that these photos were taken by a community member working with KHRG. As is visible in the photos above, the cow's two forelegs were both destroyed. The cow's owner (wearing the purple *longyi*) killed the cow and then the men butchered it and carried the meat to their hand tractor.[81] *[Photo: KHRG]*




This photo, taken in March 2012 shows the area next to the Maw Thay Der mountain path in Toungoo District (left, see also front cover photo) that is contaminated with an unknown number of landmines after a KNLA ambush of Tatmadaw troops (see cover photo) here. According to a local community member, the mines are planted in the area to the left of the path and are hidden underneath the leaves. The photo at right shows a local woman travelling along the path carrying betelnuts back from her plantation.[82] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[81] For three incident reports written by a community member describing at least 31 livestock injured in this area by landmines since the beginning of 2012, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1 – 3.

[82] For more information on this photo, please see Section III: Source Document: 2012/March/Toungoo as well as referencing the photo above at the beginning of Section II: B and on the front cover.




The two photos above, were taken on January 15th 2011 in Ca--- village, Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District. According to the community member working with KHRG who took these photos, former-DKBA #777 soldiers previously based in Ca--- left the village when they transformed to Tatmadaw Border Guard battalions, but did not remove the landmines that they had previously planted. The photos above show the site at which a landmine detonated, hitting two buffalos belonging to Ca--- villagers.[83] *[Photo: KHRG]*




These photos, taken on March 11th and 12th 2011, show abandoned former-DKBA #777 sentry huts (left) and camp (right) in Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District. According to the community member working with KHRG who took these photos, starting from early 2011 following the transformation of DKBA #777 to Tatmadaw Border Guard Battalions, the soldiers left the camp and have not come back again. However, landmines previously planted around the camp were not removed when the soldiers left the area.[84] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[83]These previously unpublished photos show the site where a landmine detonated killing a cow as described in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/6.

[84]These previously unpublished photos show the abandonment of former DKBA camps described in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/7.





These pictures, taken on April 8th 2011, show Khaw Klaw village, which is located beside the Meh Gkleh Law River. The researcher who took these photos reported that villagers living in areas adjacent to the Meh Gkleh Law River were relocated to Khaw Klaw village on the Meh Gkleh Law riverbank after August 2010, when the DKBA commenced gold-mining activities in the river. Even though the DKBA mining operation in the Meh Gkleh Law River is no longer active, landmines laid in their original village mean that they have not been able to return, and continue living in Khaw Klaw.[85] *[Photos: KHRG]*

[85]These photos have been previously published on the KHRG website along with a situation update written by the same person who took the photos; see "Papun Situation Update: Dweh Loh Township, May 2011," KHRG, September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/5.

C. Marking and removal of landmines

In all seven KHRG research areas villagers continued to raise concerns that mines were not removed by armed forces and groups but remained unmarked and without any protective barriers or fencing. In response, villagers employed a variety of strategies to remove landmines or mark their presence, to notify others about mined locations, and also to engage with local military actors to request that they remove old mines and refrain from planting new ones.



This photo, taken on October 16th 2011, shows the Tatmadaw camp at Yo Kla in Bilin Township, Thaton District (centre). According to the community member who took this photo, villagers are afraid to look for firewood close to the camp because the Tatmadaw soldiers plant unmarked landmines around the camp for their security.[86] *[Photo: KHRG]*

> *"The one [Border Guard soldier] who came back said that he planted 300 landmines. He told many people. At first, I didn't believe. His brother said that he asked him and it was really 300 landmines. … I want to tell the one who came and planted the landmines to take of all the landmines back then we can do farming by using cows or buffalo."*
>
> Lh--, (male, 56), farmer, Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
> (Interviewed April 2012)[87]

Marking of landmines

During the reporting period, the marking of landmines was documented in only one research area, Dooplaya District. A community member trained by KHRG photographed the planting of warning signs in Burmese, Karen and English languages in one area of Kawkareik Township in February 2012.[88] This was the only such report received by KHRG during the reporting period.

In one case in the Bplaw Ta Bpoh area of Palu Poe village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District, villagers notified government military authorities to request mine removal after they spotted a trip-wire mine in a plantation. No action was taken by government troops to mark or remove the mines, despite a previous assurance by LID #22 troops that they would do so if

[86] The previously unpublished note for this photo as written by a community member working with KHRG is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/October/Thaton.

[87] For Lh---'s previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG,see Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/6.

[88] Community members reported that DKBA Warrant Officer Maw Keh Keh, now Company Second-in-Command, informed the villagers that he had ordered the warning signs to be posted in January 2012. For further details on the planting of warning signs, sporadic landmine removal and ongoing landmine contamination in Kawkareik Township, see "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012. Photos of the warning signs are included below in this section.

notified. Villagers subsequently took steps themselves to mark the landmine by cutting a warning sign into the trunk of the tree under which the mine was planted.[89] About four months later, a 40-year-old male Palu Poe villager was injured by a landmine in the same area in Bplaw Ta Bpoh.[90]

Removal of landmines

During the reporting period, the attempted removal of mines by government troops was documented in Toungoo, Papun, and Dooplaya Districts; in all three of these areas, this included/involved government troops ordering civilians to perform landmine-removal duties using rudimentary implements.[91]

> *"*"The KNU placed the landmines, so you have to clear them.' *After that, they gave us a rake and we started to clear landmines. … They didn't tell us anything. They ordered us to go with their soldiers, so we went. We had to rake for landmines, and we raked."*
>
> Maung Y--- (male, 32), T--- village, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District (Interviewed February 2011)[92]

In Toungoo District, a Tatmadaw deserter described the removal of landmines by Tatmadaw troops after they had been planted.

[89] According to local sources, Tatmadaw LID #22 soldiers deployed in the area around Bplaw Ta Bpoh had told villagers to inform them if they saw any landmines, and said that they would safely remove them for the villagers. As of May 13th 2011, an LID #22 officer had been aware of the location of the bomb for seven days, but no action had been taken to remove the bomb. For the published report of this incident, see Update No.74: "*Dtaing* bomb planted beside villager's plantation in Dooplaya District," May 17th 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/May/Dooplaya/1. Note that the Burmese language transliteration of "*dtaing*" used at that time is inaccurate; it should read "*taik*."

[90] It was not confirmed that this was the same landmine above which a warning sign was cut into the tree. 40-year-old L---, a Burmese villager from Palu Poe village, stepped on the landmine at approximately 1:30 pm when he was returning to Palu Poe after gathering mushrooms with a friend. He stepped on the landmine in the Bplaw Ta Bpoh area, close to a corn plantation belonging to T---, a resident of Bplaw Ta Bpoh village. Bplaw Ta Bpoh is approximately five kilometers, or 45 minutes on foot, from Palu Poe village, between Palu and K'Hsaw Waw Lay villages. When L---- stepped on the landmine, part of his left foot and three fingers on his left hand were blown off. For the published report of this incident, see Update No. 86: "Villager injured by landmine in Palu Poe village," October 4th 2011; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/September/Dooplaya/1.

[91] Tatmadaw Border Guard #1013 troops used civilians to sweep for and remove landmines along the vehicle road between Mae Kae Kyaw in Kho Wah Lay to T'Ray Pa Baw in Papun District. For the full published transcript of an interview with a villager who had to do so see "Papun Interview: Maung Y---, February 2011," September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/February/Papun/3. Convict porters serving in Dooplaya District in January 2011 reported that they were forced to sweep for landmines using basic tools and that many porters were injured or died as a result; see the testimony of nine escaped convict porters who served in Dooplaya District in January 2011 in *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011. In Toungoo District, a Tatmadaw deserter from LIB #425 said that government troops removed their own landmines, however instances in which villagers were forced to walk at the front of rations re-supply operations to clear mines planted by NSAGs were also documented. For an excerpt from his previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/2.

[92] For the full published transcript of this interview, see "Papun Interview: Maung Y---, February 2011," September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/February/Papun/3.

"They informed [villagers]. … They marked in the map about the places where they planted landmines. They then removed those landmines."

Kyaw Ny---, (male, 23), Tatmadaw LIB #425 deserter, Kho Yay Thah Camp, Toungoo District
(Interviewed April 2011)[93]

Villagers also described requests to armed actors to remove old landmines or desist from planting new ones.[94] The removal of mines by KNLA and KNDO soldiers in response to community requests was documented in Papun District on three occasions during September and October 2011, in Nyaunglebin District in December 2010 and by a joint party of KNLA and Tatmadaw Border Guard soldiers in March 2012 in Pa'an District.[95] At the request of villagers in Noh Kay and Htee Klay village tracts in T'Nay Hsah Township, a party of KNLA, Border Guard soldiers and local residents attempted to remove landmines previously planted by both sides during 2011 and villagers in the area have since described a spike in landmine casualties due to the fact that all of the mines were unmarked.[96]

Underlining the dangers of unsystematically attempted mine removal, the joint party removed approximately 20 or 30 landmines before Saw Tw---, a Tatmadaw Border Guard soldier, stepped on a landmine. Plans to remove the mines were subsequently cancelled and a villager was later injured in that area.

"There are many landmines in that area. I didn't know really well. But Hsaw Tat [Border Guard soldiers] *went to that area one time before I went and they also got injured by a landmine. After they were injured by landmine, they came back. The place that I went was not very far from the place that they went. I just went a little further than them. … Yes, I lost my foot at the same time I stepped on a landmine. The bone was broken and only the skin was attached."*

Saw Hp---, (male, 36), Tha Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, Ta Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
(Interviewed March 2012)[97]

In other cases, villagers have asked armed forces or groups to remove mines or notify villagers of mined areas in cases where they were unwilling or unable to do so. In Dooplaya District, villagers asked the DKBA to remove unmarked landmines that they had previously planted inside the village. The DKBA soldiers said that they could not do so because the landmines

[93] An excerpt from this previously unpublished interview is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/2.

[94] For an excerpt from a previously unpublished interview describing a community complaint to Tatmadaw troops about DKBA use of landmines, see Section III: Source Document: 2010/October/Thaton.

[95] This information was received by KHRG during 2011. For photos of *ad hoc* mine removal by KNLA and KNDO forces taken by a community member working with KHRG and received during the reporting period, see photos below in this section.

[96] While it is unclear how many mines were planted in the Noh Kay and Htee Klay village tract areas, or how many remain now, in May 2012, a community member working with KHRG noted that an inebriated Tatmadaw Border Guard Commander described to him how he took 1,000 landmines from Shwe Ko Ko during 2011 and planted them all. KNLA troops are also known to have deployed landmines in this area during the same time; see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1.

[97] For this previously unpublished interview, see Source Document: 2012/February/Pa'an/1.

were planted by many different soldiers, some of whom had since died, and the exact locations of the mines were no longer known.[98]

> *"We told them but they said they also dug out their landmines but the other group didn't dig theirs out yet. So, we are not sure which landmine it was. They planted them and the other [army] also planted them. … They knew that the other army didn't take theirs out so they don't feel good about this. So, they just took out only some of the landmines that they planted."*
>
> Hs---, (male, 63), village head, Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an
> (Interviewed April 2012)[99]

> *"They also had difficulty telling the villagers where they put the landmines because even their group didn't know. For example, one group came and put the landmine, and if they went back they didn't take it out and they also didn't tell their new friend who replaced their place. They didn't know all the places and they sometimes step on their own landmines."*
>
> Saw Pa---, (male, 26), Ny--- village, Waw Mu village tract, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
> (Interviewed April 2011)[100]

In response to the threat landmines posed to themselves and their livestock, villagers in Noh Kay village tract in Pa'an District told KHRG that they removed landmines whenever they saw a freshly-dug mound of earth, using a stick to dig out the mine, which was then deactivated by removing the wire and gunpowder. According to a community member working with KHRG, in at least one case the gunpowder was subsequently used to make a rudimentary explosive device for fishing. The same community member who described this, also noted that he swept the ground in front of him with a long stick while taking photos in forested areas of Noh Kay and Htee Klay village tracts in Pa'an District. [101]

Consequences of complete or partial mine removal

Landmines pose an equal barrier to armed actors, thus mine removal facilitates soldiers' access to civilian populations, and may lead to an increased risk to civilians of other abuses, such as forced labour or arrest and detention.[102] In Toungoo District, a Tatmadaw deserter from LIB

[98] This community request to the DKBA took place in U Kray Hta village in Kawkareik Townhip, Dooplaya District; see "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012.

[99] For Hs---'s previously unpublished testimony, see Section III: Source Documents: 2012/May/Pa'an/3.

[100] A relevant excerpt from this previously unpublished interview is provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/April/Papun/2.

[101] This information was provided verbally to KHRG during May 2012. For photos of the dismantled and destroyed landmine, see photos in Section II: C *Marking and removal of landmines*.

[102] Such abuses do not disappear when active armed hostilities end; even since the initial ceasefire agreement between KNLA and government forces in January 2012, KHRG has continued to report abuses not stemming from armed conflict but from residual mistrust and attempts to exert control over and extract resources from civilian populations. Recent abuses have included demands for forced labour, movement restrictions, and the arbitrary detention and violent abuse of civilians by Tatmadaw troops and supporting NSAGs; see "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012; "Ongoing forced

#425, who was interviewed during April 2011 soon after his desertion, told KHRG that troops on patrol burnt areas that they suspected to be mined because they believed this would destroy homemade mines of the type planted by NSAGs.[103] During the same period that LIB #425 burned roads, KHRG documented that same unit made repeated forced labour demands from villagers in Toungoo District to porter rations during re-supply operations.[104] The burning of large sections of land proximate to roads in this way negatively impacted villagers livelihoods where adjacent agricultural land was destroyed by fire.[105]

> *"Beside villages, landmines were there, so they cleaned landmines by burning down with fire. And, cardamom plantations were burnt too."*
>
> Kyaw Ny---, (male, 23), Tatmadaw LIB #425 deserter from Kho Yay Thah Camp, Toungoo District
> (Interviewed April 2011)[106]

While government forces have undertaken *ad hoc* landmine removal, this appeared to be motivated by a desire to facilitate military operations rather than to ensure civilian protection. KHRG documented one case in which a request to Tatmadaw troops to remove a mine was ignored and a villager was subsequently injured in that area.[107] In another case documented in February 2012 in Dooplaya District, the Tatmadaw used bulldozers to clear landmines from a vehicle road in U Kray Hta village; meanwhile, villagers continued to complain that the U Kray Hta school compound and agricultural areas surrounding the village remained contaminated by landmines.[108] The incomplete clearance of landmines in this way may serve to heighten physical security risks to villagers, when it creates the false impression that an area has been de-mined and is safe to enter.

labour and movement restrictions in Toungoo District," KHRG, March 2012. For further analysis of enduring human rights abuses even after the cessation of armed hostilities, see KHRG's commentary *Safeguarding human rights in a post-ceasefire eastern Burma*, KHRG, January 2012.

[103] The same deserter also noted that Tatmadaw soldiers planted landmines, that they marked on a map and which were later removed; see Section III:Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/2.

[104] For the full published report describing this incident, see "Toungoo Incident Reports: March and April 2011," May 2011; a relevant excerpt is provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Toungoo/2.

[105] For a description of cardamom plantations proximate to a path known to be mined in Toungoo District, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/March/Toungoo. In May 2012, KHRG also received information about the destruction of cardamom plantations in Toungoo District by fire during the first half of 2012; this information is currently being processed and will be available on the KHRG website soon.

[106] Mines of the type typically employed by NSAGs may only be destabilized, rather than destroyed by fire, a fact which Tatmadaw military expert de-mining units would presumably be aware. It is unclear whether the Tatmadaw troops that burned roads in an attempt to clear landmines were accompanied by trained military de-mining units, although the same deserter from LIB #425 reported that landmines were planted, marked and subsequently removed by his column, suggesting that specialist military landmine units accompanied this column. An excerpt from this previously unpublished interview is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/2.

[107] This incident is described in detail above in Section II: C *Marking of landmines*. See also the following published reports about the same incident: Update No.74: "*Dtaing* bomb planted beside villager's plantation in Dooplaya District," May 17th2011; and Update No.86: "Villager injured by landmine in Palu Poe village," October 4th 2011; excerpts from both are included below in Section III as respectively Source Document: 2011/May/Dooplaya/1 and Source Document: 2011/September/Dooplaya/1. Note that the Burmese language transliteration of "*dtaing*" used at that time is inaccurate; it should read "*taik*."

[108] For further details about incomplete mine clearance in U Kray Hta village during February 2012, see "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012.

*"We went back along an overgrown shortcut. We came back on the old road. They [the Border Guard soldiers] said: "*You don't need to worry, we already cleared that road*." K--- stepped on the landmine at 7:00 am."*

Saw H--- (male, 34), N--- village, Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District (March 2011)[109]

"We never let children go anywhere. I have to go alone sometimes and you don't know where the mines were planted. You can't go blindly."

Lh--, (male, 56), farmer, Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)[110]

The removal of landmines may also be fuelled chiefly by economic considerations, rather than civilian protection or the pursuit of military objectives. Highlighting the strong economic incentives that can drive de-mining operations, concerns were raised about one case of landmine removal funded by a private individual for commercial logging purposes in Pa'an District in June 2011.[111] According to Saw Bw---, a 25-year-old logger in the Eg--- area,[112] local Eg--- villagers do not know the real name of this individual but he is known as *Maw Bu* or *Tee Dah*, which means 'Uncle' in Pwo and Sgaw Karen languages respectively and is around 60 years old. At that time, the man called *Maw Bu* or *Tee Dah* paid DKBA soldiers 1,000,000 kyat[113]to remove the landmines that had been previously planted by the KNLA and to obtain permission from the DKBA to do logging business in the area. He also paid Border Guard #1017 troops to avoid the area and to permit his logging business to operate. KNLA soldiers informed the DKBA where they had previously planted landmines in the Eg--- area and the DKBA found the landmines and removed them.[114]

"For the east side, he asked them to remove the landmines and paid them 1,000,000 kyat (US $1,298.70). I heard [this happened] only once. He told us this even though we hadn't asked him."

Saw Bw---, (male, 25), Eg--- village, Lu Pleh Township, Pa'an District

[109] For the full published transcript of Saw H---'s interview see "Papun Interview: Saw H---, March 2011," KHRG, February 2012; relevant excerpt included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/8.

[110] In his interview, Lh--- estimated that villagers avoided 20 to 30 different agricultural fields or plantations due to landmines planted near Thee Wah; for his previously unpublished interview see Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/6.

[111] An excerpt from a previously unpublished interview with Saw Bw---, a 25-year-old logger in the Eg--- area who spoke to a community member working with KHRG is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/2

[112] A community member working with KHRG interviewed Saw Bw--- in September 2011 and subsequently spoke to him again in May 2012 to request further information about the removal of landmines in Eg--- village.

[113] Approximately US $ 1,222 according to the rate of exchange of US $1 = 818 kyat reflecting new measures taken by Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) on April 2nd 2012 to initiate a managed float of the kyat, replacing the previous fixed rate of 6.5 kyat to US $1; see "Myanmar starts new currency regime, 818 kyats per dlr," *Reuters*, April 2nd 2012.

[114] A community member working with KHRG noted that, prior to June 2011, the area from which landmines were removed was controlled by the KNLA. In June 2011, Border Guard troops led by Battalion Commander *Bo* Bih defected from the Border Guard and changed back to DKBA and, at that time, *Bo* Bih stayed with the KNLA and DKBA Company Commander Daw Bo, under *Bo* Bih, began to operate in the Eg--- area. This information was provided verbally in May 2012.

(Interviewed September 2011)[115]

During that same period in Pa'an District after June 2011, villagers complained that they had to comply with forced labour orders attendant to commercial logging operations, specifically to saw and transport timber, produce and deliver palm leaves, make thatch shingles and build shelters at logging sites.[116] Local people trained by KHRG in Pa'an and other areas simultaneously documented severe impacts on rural livelihoods resulting from natural resource extraction such as logging and mining, which was undertaken without regard for negative consequences, and while denying villagers opportunities for engagement, negotiation or compensation for loss of land or degradation of the natural environment.[117]

> *If there is more logging in the future, there will be deforestation. The river will dry up, the trees will decrease, the heat will increase and animals in the forest will decrease. Because of lower water levels and less shade, it is very important to be aware. It is very important for the armed groups to maintain the forest.*
>
> Situation update written by a community member in Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
> (Received March 2012)[118]

Ongoing contamination

In spite of these sporadic incidents of mine removal, villagers continued to complain that mines were not removed when troops rotated out of an area, when military camps were abandoned or when military objectives were no longer being pursued. For example, following the transformation of DKBA troops to Tatmadaw Border Guard battalions, former DKBA #777 troops abandoned camps in Papun District and moved their base to Myaing Gyi Ngu in January 2011. Landmines planted around the camps near Meh Mweh and Bu Loh for example were not removed.

> *"In the past, they [DKBA] built their place [camp] in Meh Mweh near my village. The distance was only 10 minutes. They left that place in January 2011. They told us that*

[115] A longer excerpt from this previously unpublished interview with Saw Bw--- is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/2

[116] For the full published report written by a community member working with KHRG and photographs documenting this forced labour incident, see "Pa'an Situation Update: April 2011," KHRG, September 2011.

[117] KHRG has also noted that the cessation of armed hostilities in eastern Burma as of January 2012, while presenting an unprecedented opportunity for lasting peace, may also lead to a sharp increase in resource extraction, development and industrial projects which, if undertaken without input from local communities, would have devastating consequences on villagers livelihoods and ability to support themselves; see KHRG's commentary *Safeguarding human rights in a post-ceasefire eastern Burma*, KHRG, January 2012. For previously published reports written by community members working with KHRG about gold-mining and logging operations documented during the reporting period, see "Pa'an Situation Update: April 2011," September 2011and "Papun Situation Update: Dweh Loh Township, May 2011," KHRG, September 2011; a landmine-related excerpt from the latter is also included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/May/Papun.

[118] This is an excerpt from a situation update written by a community member working with KHRG raising concerns about increased logging in Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District since the November 2011 ceasefire between DKBA and government troops. For further details about recent logging fees levied by DKBA troops in that area, see "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012.

there were landmines in that place so we did not go. So, we always have to be careful of our cows and buffaloes, and we, villagers, also dare not to go. Because, it [a landmine] already hit one cow."

W---, (male, 53), Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District.
(Received August 2011)[119]

On January 1st 2011, DKBA soldiers became part of the [Tatmadaw] Border Guard battalions and they went back [rotated to a different location] but they did not remove the landmines that they had planted and, since then, the villagers have not dared to go to work in their hill fields or travel. The villagers have faced these problems of not being able to work in their hill fields or travel. Not only villagers, but also animals [could not go to those areas]; the animals could not eat grass [graze] along the mountains. The landmines still exist to the west of the Bu Loh River.

Situation update written by a community member, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
(Received May 2011)[120]

Villagers also reported that mines were not removed from civilian areas to which refugees were returned from Thailand,[121] nor from civilian areas in which landmines were planted during active hostilities between government forces and DKBA troops in Dooplaya and Pa'an Districts during to November 2010 to 2011.[122]

"They [landmines] will be planted on the hills. … We only dare to travel to the places that are close to the village. We dare not to travel to the far places."

Saw P---, (male, 38), P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
(Interviewed June 2010)[123]

[119] An excerpt from this previously unpublished interview is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/7.Photographs of the site where a landmine detonated killing a cow in Meh Mweh Hta village are included below in Section II: B *Movement restrictions resulting from landmines*.

[120] For the full published situation update written by the community member working with KHRG, see "Papun Situation Update: Dweh Loh Township, May 2011," KHRG, September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/May/Papun.

[121] A previously published interview described an incident in which a 14-year-old boy stepped on a landmine in an area to which residents had been repatriated from Tha Song Yang in Thailand prior to June 2010. See the testimony of Saw M--- in "Pa'an interviews: Conditions for villagers returned from temporary refuge sites in Tha Song Yang," May 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2010/June/Pa'an/1.

[122] Between November 7th 2010 when breakaway DKBA units under Brigadier-Genral Saw Lah Pwe attacked government troops stationed in Myawaddy and November 2011 when DKBA signed a ceasefire agreement, KHRG published a total of 88 short updates that dealt with fighting between armed actors, use of landmines, displacement of civilians and human rights violations, including arbitrary arrest, detention, forced labour and sexual violence; see "Displacement Monitoring: Regular updates on protection concerns for villagers in Dooplaya and Pa'an districts and adjacent areas in Thailand," October 2011. For more on the origins of the post-election conflict and the conclusion of the DKBA ceasefire agreement in November 2011, see: "Protection concerns expressed by civilians amidst conflict in Dooplaya and Pa'an districts," KHRG, November 2010; and "DKBA Brigade 5 reaches ceasefire with Naypyidaw," *The Irrawaddy*, November 5th 2011.

[123] For a full published interview with Saw P--- who was repatriated from Tha Song Yang in Thailand prior to June 2010, see the testimony of Saw M--- in "Pa'an interviews: Conditions for villagers returned from temporary refuge sites in Tha Song Yang," May 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2010/June/Pa'an/2.

I guess there are about 30 unexploded bombs[124] or more in my village. I saw three unexploded bombs in the lemon plantation. Yesterday, we went and harvested paddy in my friend's farm and we saw two unexploded bombs in his farm. We didn't dare to go near. We just harvested around it. Next year, I think people won't dare to plant in Hsee Cour. Now it is the time for us to clean [brush] in our lime, lemon and rubber plantations. But some people don't dare to clean their plantations. Some people rely on their fate. They went and cleaned their plantation at the same time they checked [for bombs].

Situation update written by a community member, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
(Received January 2011)[125]





The photo above left shows villagers meeting in Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, on April 7th 2012, the day after a goat (photographed above in Section II: B *Movement restrictions resulting from landmines*) was injured by a landmine. A local monk named Bh--- arranged the meeting and villagers discussed wanting to request an external mine-removal group to come and remove mines planted in the area by Tatmadaw Border Guard and KNLA troops after a joint mine-removal attempt by both groups in March 2012 ended with one Tatamadaw Border Guard soldier stepping on a mine. Underlining just how endemic a problem mines are for villagers in this area, 10 livestock animals from this village alone have been injured by landmines since the beginning of 2012.[126] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[124] The Karen language term '*bpoh*' or 'bomb' can refer either to landmines or to unexploded ordnance (UXO).

[125] An excerpt from this previously unpublished situation update is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/7.

[126] For three previously unpublished incident reports written by a community member describing landmine casualties in three village tracts in T'Nay Hsah Township, including Noh Kay village tract, during the first four months of 2012 and during 2011, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1 – 3. For photos of villagers and livestock injured by landmines in the Thaw Waw Thaw area since the start of 2012, see photos below in Section II: B *Movement restrictions resulting from landmines* and Section II: F *Landmine-related death and injury*. Note that Thaw Waw Thaw village, where 37 villagers have provided their names to KHRG to request urgent mine removal, is in one of the same three affected village tracts; see Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/1.




The photo above left shows two male villagers from Noh Kay village tract, one of whom was injured in 2005 (left) and one of whom was injured in 2010 (centre). The woman on the right, Ma Nu---, 33, stepped on a landmine near Noh Kyaw village while she was looking for firewood. In the photo at right, all three villagers are indicating an area near Thee Wah village that continues to be contaminated by mines.[127] *[Photo: KHRG]*




The photo above left shows a landmine removed and destroyed by Thee Wah villagers in April 2012 in response to threats to local villagers and livestock. According to the community member working with KHRG who took these photos, Thee Wah villagers dug out this mine, and approximately 20 others, using a long stick wherever they saw a mound of freshly-turned earth. They then deactivated the mine by removing the wire and cutting off the cap with a machete to remove the gunpowder inside, which was used to make homemade bombs attached to a remote-detonation device for use during fishing. The gunpowder removed from the landmine is being stored inside the blue plastic bag (above left). The photo at right shows a landmine of the type planted by Tatmadaw Border Guard troops in T'Nay Hsah Townhip that was removed by Tatmadaw Border Guard soldiers at the request of local villagers in March 2012, along with about 20 or 30 others, before a soldier was injured by a landmine and plans to remove the mines were abandoned. In the photo above right, the detonation trigger button is visible in the middle of the mine.[128] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[127] An excerpt from Ma Nu---'s previously unpublished testimony is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2012/January/Pa'an/1.

[128] For photos of villagers and livestock injured by landmines in Noh Kay village tract since the start of 2012, see photos below in Section II: B *Movement restrictions resulting from landmines* and Section II: F *Landmine-related death and injury*. Note that Thaw Waw Thaw village, where 37 villagers have provided their names to KHRG to request mine removal, is in the same village tract as Thee Wah village; see Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/1.





The photos above, taken in March 2012, show the Tatmadaw camp beside U Kray Hta village in Dooplaya District and three bulldozers parked in front of the camp. These three bulldozers were used to clear landmines planted in U Kray Hta village and on the vehicle road. According to the community member working with KHRG who took these photos, the clearing of the landmines was not systematic or complete, and at least some landmines still remain in and around the village, including in the U Kray Hta school compound. The vehicle road from which some mines were cleared by the bulldozers is visible in the foreground in both photos.[129] *[Photo: KHRG]*

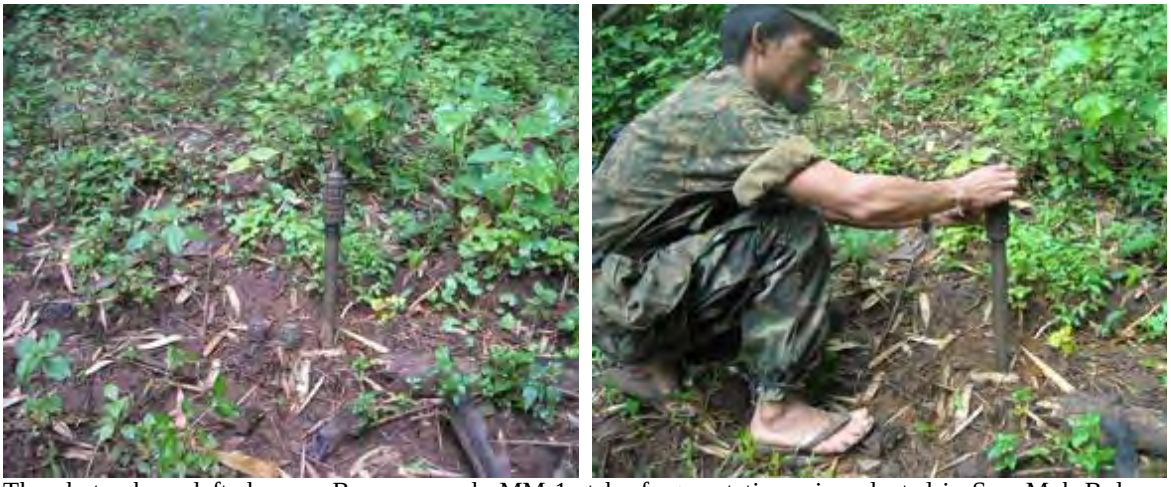




[129] These photos have been previously published on the KHRG website; see "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012.



These four photos were taken in February 2012 about 30 minutes on foot from Oh Koh Nee, an agricultural area of Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District. According to the community member working with KHRG who took these photographs, the photo above left shows a warning sign for landmines between two corn plantations belonging to Saw B---, while the photo above right shows a landmine sign underneath a banana tree between the same corn plantations. The photos below show two different warning signs about landmines in the same area, one of which (left) has fallen down. According to the villager who took these photos, the mines were planted by the DKBA during post-election conflict and the signs were ordered put up in January 2012 byDKBA Warrant Officer Maw Keh Keh, now Company Second-in-Command.[130] *[Photo: KHRG]*



The photo above left shows a Burmese-made MM-1 stake fragmentation mine planted in Saw Muh Bplaw village tract, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District. This type of mine is mounted above-ground on a stake to maximise destructive effect, and is often rigged to a tripwire, which can be easily hidden on an overgrown forest footpath. In the photo at right a KNDO soldier is de-activating and removing the mine. These photos were taken in early October 2011.[131] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[130] These photos have been previously published on the KHRG website; see "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012.

[131] The villager who took these photos also included information about other mine removal activities by KNDO troops in Lu Thaw Township, namely the removal of three wired landmines in Pah Ghaw Loh on September 20th 2011. For the previously unpublished note about these photos written by the community member who took them see Section III: Source Document: 2011/October/Papun/2.



These four photos, taken in December 2010, show KNLA soldiers de-activating and removing a landmine in Kyaw Pyah village tract, Mone Township, Nyaunglebin District, which was placed by Tatmadaw LIB #599 and IB #48 soldiers, after they patrolled in the area and burnt down a KNLA camp. *[Photo: KHRG]*

D. Forced labour entailing increased landmine risks

During the reporting period, community members working with KHRG provided information indicating that forced labour continued to be the most widespread abuse experienced by residents in rural areas of eastern Burma. During 2011, villagers in all seven research areas reported being forced to serve as porters, 'guides' or messengers, or to clear brush around military camps and along roads in areas experiencing armed conflict.[133]

> *"The SPDC forces villagers [to work], such as carrying their loads. Also if they see us on the way, they call us to become a guide and to do forced labour like cleaning the road."*
>
> Saw Pa--- (male, 29), Pl--- village, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District (Interviewed December 2010)[134]



This photo, taken on November 30th 2011, shows Saw Br---, a 30-year-old No--- villager from Day Wah village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District who was forced to carry Tatmadaw LIB #218 soldiers killed or injured by landmines during November 2011.[132] *[Photo: KHRG]*

In July 2011, villagers in Thaton District were ordered to clear brush from roads for Tatmadaw Border Guard Battalion #1014.[135] While in Toungoo District during the same period, a villager described being ordered to guide Tatmadaw troops.

> *"When I was a guide for them, the officer told me not to use the path. I said to him: "*Officer, I can't walk through the bushes, I can walk only on the path*". … The officer said: "*We are going to Than Daung Kyi so use an alternative route for us*". I tried to avoid the path for them but again [the route] still followed the path. He yelled at me to go a different way because they were afraid to step on landmines. I didn't know the way through the bushes so later they let me go home."*
>
> Saw E---, (male, 56), Kaw Law Gka village, Daw Pah Koh Township, Toungoo District (Interviewed September 2011)[136]

[132] For a previously unpublished description of this incident written by a community member working with KHRG see Section III: Source Document: 2011/November/Papun/1.

[133] See, *All the information I've given you, I faced it myself': Rural testimony on abuse in eastern Burma since November 2010*. KHRG, December 2011. See, also 207 translated order documents issued by civilian officials and officers of the state army, the Tatmadaw, as well as the DKBA and KPF and, since September 2010, by Tatmadaw Border Guards in *Civilian and Military order documents: March 2008 to July 2011*, KHRG, October 2011.

[134] For the full published transcript of Saw Pa---'s interview, see "Toungoo Interviews: November 2010 to April 2011," KHRG, June 2011; included below below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/February/Toungoo/1.

[135] For the full published situation update written by a community member trained by KHRG to document human rights abuses in which this information is provided, see "Thaton Situation Update: June to October 2011," November 2011; included below below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/August/Thaton/1.

[136] A relevant excerpt from Saw E---'s interview is included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/June/Toungoo.

Forced labour demands such as this entail increased exposure to landmine risks, both by forcing villagers to work in areas likely to be mined and by requiring them to travel to and work in unfamiliar areas where they may not be aware of dangerous mined areas and are thus less able to protect themselves. In an incident documented in January 2011 in Meh Mweh village tract in Bu Tho Township, a 23-year-old man was killed by a landmine while returning from forced porter service for Tatmadaw Border Guard soldiers based at Mae Bpa.

> *"His name was K---. … He was about 23 years old. … He had two children. … His children became ill. She [K---'s wife] can't work. The [youngest] child was a month old when he went [to porter for the Border Guard] and got injured. His youngest child was only a month old. The older child is a year old. … It took an hour and 45 minutes [before he died]. … He was injured at Ny---, in the jungle on the old road. He was returning [to N---village] when he was injured."*
>
> Saw H--- (male, 34), N--- village, Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District (Interviewed March 2011)[137]

Furthermore, requiring that villagers work in close proximity to troops, during military operations or at military camps, exposed villagers to an increased chance of landmine-related death or injury, as NSAGs continued to target government troops using landmines.[138]

> *"When we were on the way to Naw Dee [village] four people stepped on landmines. Some people had to carry the injured people and when we arrived at #913's place [camp] it was around 9:00pm at night. We stayed there for about 20 days. The Captain's name is Win Tin Soe. He had to go on active duty somewhere, so I had to follow him. When we went [there] it took four days. The commander lied about the distance and the areas that they entered, like [the area under the responsibility of] #986. They didn't want to enter anywhere else because he knew there were landmines and we slept in the jungle for three nights."*
>
> Ya---, (male, 37), originally from Thoo K'Bee village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District (Interviewed July 2011)[139]

> *On August 5th 2011, Tatmadaw LIB #216 led by Battalion Commander Naing Tin Hla entered W--- army camp and [then] went to E--- village in Bilin Township on August 7th 2011. He forced one person from each household [in E---] to go with his troops and guide them to A---. He ordered villagers to walk between his soldiers [one villager between two soldiers]. Even though the villagers were afraid to go, they had to go.*
>
> Situation update written by a community member, Pa'an Township, Thaton District (Received November 2011)[140]

[137] For the full published transcript of Saw H---'s interview see "Papun Interview: Saw H---, March 2011," KHRG, February 2012; relevant excerpt included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/5.

[138] In a meeting with ILO in Yangon during April 2012, the ILO agreed with KHRG that this conclusion is accurate, namely that the risk factor of mine-related death or injury for civilians increases during forced labour.

[139] A relevant excerpt from Ya---'s interview is included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/July/Dooplaya/2.

[140] For the full published situation update, see "Thaton Situation Update: June to October 2011," November 2011; included below below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/August/Thaton.

Additionally, demands that villagers provide materials, such as thatch shingles, bamboo, timber or firewood often necessitate delivery to military camps and travel through areas in which villagers are unfamiliar. Compliance with such demands may also require villagers to venture further outside of their village to areas with which they are not familiar, and which they would not otherwise enter, in order to procure the goods or perform the labour demanded.

> *"Last time they demanded each house has to cut one log for them, and later villagers had to clean the road in the place called Meh Aw where the landmines exploded."*
>
> Saw Pe---, (male, 30), Ra--- village, Maw Nay Pwa area, Tantabin Township, Toungoo District
>
> (Interview date unknown; received May 2011)[141]

> *On 16th November 2010, LIB #702 officer Tun Tun Myit order Htee Saw Meh army camp to force and demand villagers in Pah Loh Poh village, to make a bridge for trucks in Nya Bpaw Nee, and forced 20 men and women and two people on a bicycle. When they went over Nya Bpaw bridge, the bicycle was hit by a Karen soldiers' landmine. The two people were hit with shrapnel so were very bad injured.*
>
> Situation update written by a community member, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
>
> (Received February 2011)[142]

Community responses

Villagers respond to the threat of landmines while performing forced labour by taking longer or more difficult routes to avoid mined areas or by choosing to pay money in lieu of providing forced labour service.

> *"On March 13th 2011, villagers had to carry food for the SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] starting from Kaw Day camp to T'Aye Hta camp. At this time, 30 villagers had to go, including 10 women. The villagers had to carry rice and milk. It took three days for the villagers to carry that. … Because there are landmines along the way, it took a long time because we had to avoid them."*
>
> Incident report written by a community member, Thandaung Township, Toungoo District
>
> (Received March 2011)[143]

> *"I faced problems when the Border Guard ordered villagers to porter, but we were scared that villagers might get injured or die on the path while portering, so we paid money instead of letting the villagers porter."*
>
> Saw B---, (male, 30), A--- village, Bu Tho Township, Papun District
>
> (Interviewed March 2011)[144]

[141] A relevant excerpt from Saw Pe---'s interview is included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/May/Toungoo/3.

[142] A relevant excerpt from this previously unpublished situation update is included in Section III: Source Document: 2010/November/Papun.

[143] For the full published text of this and 14 other incident reports, see "Toungoo Incident Reports: March and April 2011," May 2011; a relevant excerpt is provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Toungoo/2.

[144] A longer excerpt from this previously unpublished interview is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/2.

Even in cases where villagers know that complying with an order for forced labour may expose them to added risks from landmines, they may comply after weighing the risk of landmines with the risk of punishment for non-compliance with an order.[145] Because demands for forced labour are often backed by implicit, and occasionally explicit, threats against non-compliance, villagers may in some cases be forced to choose between the perpetration of violence if they fail to comply and the possibility of landmine-related death or injury if they do.

> *"If they see us, we can't stay without guiding them. They're angry, and will push or beat us so we're afraid and we send [guide] them."*
>
> Saw Pa--- (male, 29), Pl--- village, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District (Interviewed December 2010)[147]

> *"They had to hire people with money when they couldn't go. It was ordered. They had to go when their turn comes by. … If you are unlucky and step on a landmine, your legs will blow up. So they should have to pay* ta ya ta kyay *[compensation]."*
>
> Gl---, (male, 48), Na--- village, Meh T'Raw village tract, Papun Township (Interviewed March 2011)[148]





The photo above left was taken on November 25th 2011 in D---, Tantabin Township, Toungoo District, and shows a truck belonging to Po--- villagers that was used to send road-building equipment and food to soldiers at Kh--- between November 16th and mid-December. The photo above right shows a truck returning from Kh--- to Po--- in Tantabin Township, Toungoo District having transported road-building equipment and supplies and spent approximately five days there; that photo was taken as the truck arrived back in D--- village on November 25th 2011.According to the community member working with KHRG who took these photos, villagers delivering rations to troops at Kh--- were ordered to drive motorcycles in front of road-building vehicles in landmine-contaminated areas.[146] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[145] For more on the threats of violence inherent in demands for forced labour, see *'All the Information I've Given You, I Faced It Myself': Rural testimony on abuse in eastern Burma since November 2010*, KHRG, December 2011; see also *Civilian and Military order documents: March 2008 to July 2011*, KHRG, October 2011.

[146] For further information about this incident, see "Ongoing forced labour and movement restrictions in Toungoo District," KHRG, March 2012.

[147] For the full published transcript of Saw Pa---'s interview, see "Toungoo Interviews: November 2010 to April 2011," KHRG, June 2011; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/February/Toungoo/1.

[148] A relevant excerpt from Gl---'s previously unpublished interview is included in Section III: Source Document: 2011/ March/Papun/1.



The photos above, taken in November 2011, show four residents of M--- village in H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District. Saw El---, 23 years old, (above left) and Uncle En---, 40 years old, both told a local person trained by KHRG about an incident that occurred on October 29th 2011, during which a Sergeant from Tatmadaw LIB #230 was killed and seven other Tatmadaw soldiers were injured by a KNLA landmine ambush near M--- village. The photos below show 45-year-old Saw Y--- (left) and 33-year-old Ng--- (right) who were forced to carry the injured Tatmadaw LIB #230 soldiers from M--- to T--- village following the landmine ambush by the KNLA on October 29th 2011 near M---.[149] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[149] This incident is described in detail by a community member working with KHRG in the published incident report; see "Villagers used as human shields in Pa'an District, October 2011," KHRG, March 2012. It is also described by another M--- villager; see the full published interview transcript in "Pa'an Interview: Naw D---, November 2011," KHRG, March 2012.

E. Human mine sweeping, forced mine clearance and human shields

Mine sweeping

During the reporting period, community members working with KHRG documented human minesweeping in three research areas, namely Toungoo, Papun and Dooplaya.[151] Tatmadaw and Tatmadaw Border Guard troops used civilians, including villagers and convicts, to walk in front of patrols in mined areas for the purpose of protecting soldiers from landmine-related injury and to drive motorcycles, carts or vehicles in front of troops or military vehicles in mined areas during rations re-supply or road-building operations for the purpose of detonating mines.



This photo shows a group of convict porters who escaped from LID #22 troops in Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District in January 2011. 'Matthew' (back row, far right) told KHRG that he heard soldiers discussing their plan to force porters to walk at the front of Tatmadaw patrol columns after some soldiers were injured by landmines, while 'Ko Kyaw Htun' (back row, centre) said that he saw porters killed and injured by landmines when they were forced to walk in front of soldiers.[150] *[Photo: KHRG]*

> *On February 4th 2011, [the Border Guard soldiers] ordered the villagers to carry things. … so they [Border Guard soldiers] arrested as many of them [villagers] as they could, and forced them to carry things for about one month. In addition, they forced these villagers to walk at the front [of the Border Guard column] and step on landmines along the road. Among the villagers, some of them stepped on landmines and their legs were blown off.*
>
> Situation update written by a local person, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District (Received September 2011)[152]

[150] For the testimony of nine escaped convict porters who served in Dooplaya District during January 2011 and described instances of human mine sweeping, see *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011. For a joint report by KHRG and HRW on the use of convict porters, see *Dead Men Walking: Convict porters on the front lines in eastern Burma*, July 2011. Note that HRW use pseudonyms in all of their reports, thus for the purposes of this report, KHRG also assigned pseudonyms to all convicts, which are included in this report in quotation marks to differentiate them from censored code names.

[151] For details about an incident in which villagers in Toungoo had to walk in front of military trucks carrying rations, see "Toungoo Situation Update and Interviews: May 2010 to January 2011," May 2011; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/January/Toungoo. For the testimony of a villager ordered to sweep for landmines while portering for Tatmadaw Border Guard troops in Papun, see "Papun Interview: Maung Y---, February 2011," September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/February/Papun/3. For the testimony of convict porters who served as human minesweepers in Dooplaya District, see *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011.

[152] For the full published situation update written by the community member working with KHRG, see "Papun Situation Update: Dweh Loh Township, May 2011," KHRG, September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/5

The practice of using villagers as human mine sweepers has most often been reported to KHRG in the months after the rainy season, between October and January, when Tatmadaw forces use roads to transport troops and supplies, often facing ambush attacks by KNLA forces using landmines. In January 2011, KHRG interviewed nine escaped convict porters, who provided information on the use of civilian convicts to sweep for landmines by walking at the front of patrol columns.[153]

> *"The soldiers said 'Many of our soldiers were hit by mines. We will keep the porters at the front. If they don't go, we will shoot them in the back. We will shoot them if they don't go in the front. We will order them to clear up mines.'"*
>
> 'Matthew', 27, Dooplaya District
> (Interviewed January 2011)[154]

> *"Most of my friends [porters] were hit by mines and their legs were blown off. The soldiers said they would send them back and they called them behind the troops and shot and stabbed them with knives and kicked them down to the valley. Those things happened."*
>
> 'Ko Kyaw Htun', 28, Dooplaya District,
> (Interviewed January 2011)[155]

The use of civilians as human mine sweepers on roads was also documented in Toungoo District during January and February 2011, when villagers in Tantabin Township were forced to walk in front of military trucks during rations re-supply operations by troops under MOC #9. The same practice was again documented during road-building operations by Tatmadaw MOC #9 in November and December 2011.[156]

> *They asked these villagers to go before them and they followed the villagers at behind. Therefore, when there is a landmine, the villagers will get injury first and it will not cause the injury to their troops.*
>
> Situation update written by a community member in Toungoo District
> (Received May 2011)[157]

[153] Full transcripts and further analysis of these nine interviews from 2011, as well as 50 other interviews with convict porters conducted during 2009-2010, see *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony* 2009 – 2011, KHRG, July 2011. Analysis of this and other abuses against convict porters can also be found in a joint report released in July 2011 by KHRG and Human Rights Watch. See, *Dead Men Walking: Convict Porters on the Front Lines in Eastern Burma*, HRW & KHRG, July 2011.

[154] See testimony of 'Matthew' in *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011. Photos of 'Matthew' and other convict porters provided below in this section..

[155] See the testimony of 'Ko Kyaw Htun' in *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011. Photos of 'Ko Kyaw Htun' and other convict porters provided below in this section.

[156] Photos of three groups of villagers who had to drive motorcycles in front of MOC #9 road-building vehicles during November and December 2011 are included below in this section. Further details about this incident, as well as information about five villages that had to provide motorcycles to transport rations for MOC #9 in February 2012, is provided in "Ongoing forced labour and movement restrictions in Toungoo District," KHRG, March 2012; included below in Section III: Source Documents: 2011/November/Toungoo.

[157] A relevant excerpt from this previously unpublished situation update written by a community member is included in Section III: Source Document: 2011/February/Toungoo/2.

Forced mine clearance

The forcible use of civilians to search for or remove landmines using rudimentary equipment such as rakes was documented in three research areas, namely Toungoo, Papun and Dooplaya districts. Escaped convict porters from Dooplaya District who spoke to KHRG in January 2011 reported being forced to lift leaves, clear camp sites and strike the ground to look for landmines,[158] while in February 2011, Tatmadaw Border Guard #1013 soldiers arrested nine villagers in Dweh Loh Township, Papun District and forced them to porter supplies and use a rake to clear landmines planted by the KNLA.[159] During August 2011, in Toungoo District a community member trained by KHRG to document human rights abuses also raised concerns about the use of civilians to clear landmines from areas adjacent to Tatmadaw camps.[160]

> *"It happened when we took a rest. They called you to go and pluck us this leaf and that leaf. He carried the mine sweeping equipment. He ordered us to go and climb up the tree and pluck from the tree for no reason. We dared not step down. We said, we dare not go after* Sa Ya Gyi *swept the mines.*
>
> 'Win Naing' (male, 27) escaped convict porter with LIB #208 in Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
> (Interviewed January 2011)[161]

> *On August 27th 2011, the SPDC LIB #375 called on all the Wi--- villagers to attend the meeting. Only one person could stay at home, and they called the villagers outside the village [too]. Some were in the betelnut fields and some were beside the school. They called some villagers to the betelnut bushes beside the village and forced them to clear the landmines, and also to clear the bushes around their army camp.*
>
> Situation update written by a community member in Wi--- village, Toungoo District
> (Received October 2011)[162]

Human shielding

Human shielding, that is, the use of the presence or movement of civilians to render certain points, areas or military forces insulated from attack, exposes civilians to an increased probability of landmine-related death or injury by requiring civilians to walk with or in front of soldiers in frontline conflict areas. In October 2011, for example, following a KNLA landmine

[158] See, for example, the testimony of 'Win Naing' (male, 27), 'Thi Ha Soe' (male, 23) and 'Win Win Naing' (male, 17), three escaped convict porters in *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011. Note that the testimony of 'Thi Ha Soe' and 'Win Win Naing' was also published by KHRG in a short field update on February 8th 2011 as that of Maung B--- and Maung C--- respectively; see Update 52: "Three former convict porters confirm serious human rights abuses in the current conflict in Dooplaya District," KHRG, January 2012.

[159] For the full published transcript of an interview with one of the villagers who was forced to clear landmines using a rake, see "Papun Interview: Maung Y---, February 2011," September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/February/Papun/3.

[160] For the full published situation update written by a community member, see "Toungoo Situation Update: August to October 2011," KHRG, April 2012; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/August/Toungoo.

[161] For the full published transcript of an interview with 'Win Naing', age 27, see *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011.

[162] For the full published situation update written by a community member, see "Toungoo Situation Update: August to October 2011," KHRG, April 2012; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/August/Toungoo.

ambush which killed one Tatmadaw LIB #230 Sergeant and wounded seven other soldiers near M--- village, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District, male members of M--- village were arrested and ordered to carry the injured Tatmadaw soldiers, while women and children from M--- village were forced to walk in front of and accompany the troops back to their base in order to deter further KNLA attacks.[163]

> *"It still happens, until now, that they call for forced labour. They call four or five villagers when they need them, when they travel [patrol from] village to village. We have to carry their backpacks and they let [force] you to go at the front [walk in front of patrolling soldiers]. They do that so that the KNLA won't dare to shoot them. If the KNLA shoots, it will hit the villagers first. They patrol with 20 or 30 soldiers and they include 10 villagers with them. You have to walk between them [villagers have to walk interspersed with soldiers]."*
>
> Saw B--- (male, 31), Ta--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District (Interviewed May 2011)[164]





These photos were taken in January 2011, as military trucks were returning from rations re-supply operations to Buh Hsa Kee, Naw Soh, Th'Ay Hta and Gko Day (48-mile) Tatmadaw camps in Toungoo District. According to a community member working with KHRG who submitted a report about this incident, 20 M--- villagers were arrested and forced to walk in front of these trucks during the re-supply operations in order to act as human minesweepers. Illustrating the very real threat landmines posed to these villagers, the photo at right shows part of a bulldozer that has been damaged by a landmine and is being brought back to the city.[165] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[163] This incident is described in detail in the published incident report; see "Villagers used as human shields in Pa'an District, October 2011," KHRG, March 2012. See Section III: Source Documents 2011/October/Pa'an/1-5 It is also described by another M--- villager; see the full published interview transcript in "Pa'an Interview: Naw D---, November 2011," KHRG, March 2012 in Section III: Source Documents 2011/October/Pa'an/1.

[164] For the full published transcript of Saw B---'s interview, see "Nyaunglebin Interviews: May 2011," KHRG, June 2011; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/May/Nyaunglebin/1.

[165] This incident of forced minesweeping using a civilian's vehicle is described in the published report "Toungoo Situation Update and Interviews: May 2010 to January 2011," May 2011; a relevant excerpt is included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/January/Toungoo.



The four photos above taken in November 2011 in Tantabin Township, Toungoo District, show motorcycle drivers who had to transport supplies and equipment to support Tatmadaw MOC #9 road-building activities using their own motorcycles. According to the community member working with KHRG who took these photos, the motorcycles were ordered to drive in front of the bulldozer in areas suspected to be mined during the construction of the new vehicle road from Kaw Thay Der to Naw Soe, leading the motorcycle drivers to suspect they were being used to clear landmines from the intended course of the new road.[166] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[166] The two photos at the top of this table were previously published in the KHRG report "Ongoing forced labour and movement restrictions in Toungoo District," KHRG, March 2012; the two photos below relate to the same incident, but were sent to KHRG by a different community member from Toungoo District trained by KHRG and have not been previously published.







This photo, taken on February 14th 2011, shows Maung Y---, 32, a married hill field farmer from Papun District. Maung Y--- told KHRG that he was arrested at gunpoint by soldiers from Border Guard Battalion #1013 and detained for fifteen days, during which time he was forced to porter military rations and sweep for landmines.[167] *[Photo: KHRG]*



This photo, taken in January 2011, shows 'Matthew', a 27-year-old ethnic Chin escaped convict porter with LID #22 troops in Dooplaya District. He escaped after hearing soldiers discussing their plans to force the convicts to walk at the front of the column after several soldiers stepped on mines.[168] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[167] For the full published transcript of an interview with Maung Y---, see "Papun Interview: Maung Y---, February 2011," September 2011; included below in Section III: Source Documents 2011/February/Papun/3.
[168] For the full published transcript of an interview with'Matthew', see *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011.



This photo, taken in January 2011, shows 'Ko Kyaw Htun,' 28, an escaped convict porter with LIB #208 troops in Dooplaya originally from Yangon. He said: "*In their mind, if the mine explodes, the mine will hit us first. It won't hit them. They ordered us to go first with this objective*."[169] *[Photo: KHRG]*



This photo, taken in January 2011, shows 'Laing Oo,' 43, an escaped convict porter with LIB #208 troops in Dooplaya. He said: "*The point section is the porters who walk at the front. One of the people [porters] from the point section ran. He ran and stepped on a mine.*"[170] *[Photo: KHRG]*





These photos were taken in January 2011 in Toungoo District and show 'Soe Htun' (left) and 'Chit Lwin' (right), both escaped convict porters. 'Chit Lwin' said: "*After we left the village, the point team [at the front of the column] was hit by the landmine. We heard the sound "DOH" [explosion]. Two porters were hit.*"[171] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[169] For the full published transcript of an interview with 'Ko Kyaw Htun', see *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011.
[170] For the full published transcript of an interview with 'Laing Oo', see *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011.
[171] For the full published transcripts of interviews with'Chit Lwin' and 'Soe Htun', see *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011.

F. Landmine-related death and injury

KHRG research areas include those with the highest number of recorded landmine casualties in Burma.[174] During the reporting period, community members working with KHRG described a total of 43 different cases in which civilian death or injury was caused by landmines in Nyaunglebin, Papun, Dooplaya and Pa'an districts.[175]

> *"When I saw the people, I didn't dare to approach them because I thought they are DKBA soldiers. So, I didn't turn back but kept working around that place then, I heard some explosion and I didn't know what was going on. … If no one had helped me, I wouldn't have been able to survive."*
>
> Saw Hn---, (male, 25), Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed March 2011)[176]



This photo, taken in January 2012, shows Naw C---, 47-years-old, who was injured by a landmine near Oh Koh Nee before warning signs[172] were posted in January 2012. Her left leg was destroyed and she received treatment in Thailand. She has six children. Her eldest child is 30 years and the youngest is 7-years-old.[173] *[Photo: KHRG]*

Landmine casualty figures collected by local medical assistance groups that treat civilians in KHRG research areas indicate that the casualties described by community members working with KHRG represent only a part of the total number of landmine-related casualties that occurred during the reporting period. The Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) reported treating a total of 34 new landmine injuries during 2011,[177] while Backpack Health

[172] Photos of the warning signs available above in Section C. *Marking and removal of landmines.*

[173] This photo was previously published on the KHRG website; see "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012.

[174] Specifically the townships in government-delineated Kayin state and Kyaukkyi, Shwekyin, and Tantabin townships in Bago Region; see *Country profile: Myanmar Burma*, ICBL Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor.

[175] For example: A set of photos from Nyaunglebin District received by KHRG in May 2011 document the injuries sustained by a villager who stepped on a landmine while returning from hunting in the forest, see photos in this section below. A villager in Papun described an incident in which his friend was killed by a landmine while they were returning from serving as forced porters for Tatmdaw Border Guard troops; see "Papun Interview: Saw H---, March 2011," KHRG, February 2012; a relevant excerpt from Saw H---'s interview is also included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/5. An incident in which a villager in Pa'an District was injured by a landmine while returning from planting rice paddy in his field was described by a community member trained by KHRG to document human rights abuses in the previously-published situation update "Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011," KHRG, November 2011; a relevant excerpt from this is also included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/1.

[176] For the previously unpublished testimony of Saw Hn--- that was received by KHRG in May 2012, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/March/Pa'an/1. Photos in this section below.

[177] Of these, 20 were treated in Papun District, eight in Nyaunglebin, four in Dooplaya and one each in Thaton and Toungoo districts; figures provided to KHRG courtesy of KDHW in May 2012.

Worker Team (BPHWT) reported treating a total of seven new landmine injuries in 2011.[178] Mae Tao Clinic (MTC) reported treating a total of 13 new landmine injuries in 2011 and, during the first four months of 2012, had already treated eight new landmine cases.[179] Note that figures collected by health groups would only reflect incidents in which an individual was injured by a landmine and sought treatment; land-mine related fatalities that received no medical treatment are excluded.[180]

> *"I got hit when I came back from burning the woods for coal. They planted it beside the road not on the road. I didn't know it while I was walking so I got hit. It's also hit one of my testicles. … I got hit the whole body so, the wounds is everywhere on my body. Now, some of the wound already healed. If you saw when I got hit, you wouldn't dare to look at it."*
>
> Saw Ht---, (male, 25), Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
> (Interviewed March 2012)[181]

Since the beginning of 2012, a community member estimated that, in Noh Kay and Htee Klay village tracts in Pa'an District, at least 36 landmines have detonated, killing or injuring at least five villagers and 31 livestock animals.[182] This is not in an area in which villagers are currently displaced from their homes. Rather, it is an area in which a number of armed groups operated and which experienced active armed conflict during 2011, particularly after June when some former Tatmadaw Border Guard troops defected back to the DKBA, and from which landmines previously planted by multiple armed groups have not yet been removed.[183]

Increased risk

Villagers displaced from their homes by armed conflict, temporarily or permanently, were the most at risk of landmine injury. Landmine injuries were concentrated in areas of Papun and Nyaunglebin in which large numbers of internally-displaced civilians continued to evade contact

[178] Of these, five were treated in Toungoo District and one each in Nyaunglebin and Dooplaya districts; figures provided to KHRG courtesy of BPHWT in May 2012.

[179] Of the 13 new casualties treated in 2011, nine were men and four were women; nine resulted in below-the-knee amputations and four required above-the-knee amputation. Of the eight casualties treated during the first four months of 2012, all were men, seven of whom had part of their leg amputated below-the-knee and one of whom had above-the-knee amputation. These figures were provided to KHRG courtesy of MTC in May 2012.

[180] At least one unidentified man was killed by a landmine between Htee Klay Kee and Kaw Toe villages in March 2012; see photos below in this section.

[181] For the previously unpublished testimony of Saw Ht---, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/March/Pa'an/2. See photos in this section.

[182] This is a conservative estimate based on three previously unpublished incident reports written by a community member working with KHRG describing landmine casualties in Noh Kay and Htee Klay village tracts, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1 – 3. The community member who wrote these incident reports estimated that around 50 landmines had detonated. In the two days before this report went to print, information was also received that on May 12th 2012 two new landmines exploded in Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract. For photos of villagers and livestock injured by landmines in the Thaw Waw Thaw area since the start of 2012, see photos in Section II: B *Movement restrictions resulting from landmines* and Section II: F *Landmine-related death and injury.*

[183] For further details and photographs about armed activities in Pa'an District during June 2011, see: Pa'an Situation Update: June to August 2011," KHRG, October 2011.

with government troops, as well as in areas of post-election conflict in Dooplaya and Pa'an districts.[184] Prior to the DKBA ceasefire with government troops in November 2011, KHRG reported seven incidents in which villagers staying at refuge sites in Thailand to protect themselves from armed conflict and related abuses near their homes were killed or injured by landmines or other unexploded ordnances while attempting to return to their homes or to pursue their livelihoods.[185] These cases included one in which a 7-year-old girl suffered injuries to both legs when her father's bicycle, on which she was accompanying him, hit a landmine,[186] and another in which a civilian was killed by a landmine planted near his home.[187]

Injuries to villagers during displacement highlight the serious risks faced by villagers who return to areas of ongoing or recent conflict in eastern Burma, in which landmines have been planted, but from which they have not yet been removed. The occurrence of injuries during displacement also speaks to the importance of local knowledge regarding dangerous areas; villagers may be more familiar with landmine risks in their home areas and thus better able to limit these risks. This familiarity is likely to be lost during displacement. Similarly, landmine risks increase in areas where control by different armed actors is in flux; when a previous relationship with armed actors that enabled communities to maintain awareness of mined areas is disrupted. Villagers may be at increased risk as different military actors attain precedence or gain new control of territory.

> *"We didn't dare to go there. They had planted landmines there and they again planted more landmines there because they were ambushed at the hill fields. The number of landmines increased."*
>
> Saw T--- (male, 74) Ae--- village, Bu Tho Township, Papun District
> (Interviewed August 2011)[188]

Villagers not experiencing displacement are also at risk of injury as they pursue daily livelihoods activities. Villagers described stepping on landmines while on their way to their fields, and while attempting to support themselves by hunting, fishing or foraging in forested areas outside of larger towns.

[184] For a review/ of short field updates dealing with landmine-related issues in post-election conflict areas, see "Displacement Monitoring: Regular updates on protection concerns for villagers in Dooplaya and Pa'an districts and adjacent areas in Thailand," KHRG, October 2011.

[185] See for example: Update No. 71: "Landmine injures two villagers in Oo Kreh Htah", KHRG, May 2011; Update No. 70: "Landmines planted around Waw Lay and Palu villages kill one villager, injure two", KHRG, April 23rd 2011; Update No. 62: "7-year old girl injured by landmine in Shwe Aye Myaing village", KHRG, March 5th 2011; Update No. 86: "Villager injured by landmine in Palu Poe village," KHRG, October 2011; Update No. 79: "Villager injured by landmine near Shwe Aye Myaing village," KHRG, June 2011; Update No.78: "Villager injured by landmine in Gklaw Ghaw village," June 2011.

[186] For the published report of this incident, see Update No. 62: "7-year old girl injured by landmine in Shwe Aye Myaing village", KHRG, March 5th 2011; included below Section III: Source Document: 2011/February/Dooplaya/2. Photos of the 7-year-old girl injured are provided below in this section.

[187] For the published report of this incident, see Update No. 70: "Landmines planted around Waw Lay and Palu villages kill one villager, injure two", KHRG, April 23rd 2011; included below Section III: Source Document: 2011/April/Dooplaya/1.

[188] For the full published transcript of Saw T---'s interview see "Papun Interview: Saw T---, August 2011," KHRG, January 2012; excerpt included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/August/Papun/2.

"People [villagers] went every evening for fishing and I never usually went because people said they dare not go. Other people went and they got fish to eat. For me I did not go and I did not have fish to eat. Except the evening that I stepped on the landmine, I decided to go and then I was injured. If we want to eat [fish] we have to buy it. But to buy fish I didn't have money all the time. I couldn't think what to do."

Saw Hp---, (male, 36), Tha Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
(Interviewed March 2012)[189]

In January 2011 in Mone Township, Nyaunglebin District, a Ho--- villager in his thirties stepped on a landmine between We--- and Ho--- villages while returning from hunting near We---, along a path that had been recently created by a patrolling column of Tatmadaw soldiers. We--- is the site of a jungle market where villagers living outside government control engage in covert trade with villagers living in government-controlled areas.[190]In this case, a friend who had been hunting with him returned to Ho--- village, approximately three hours from the site of the incident to summon help. The man survived the incident.

After landmine injury

The lack of available or affordable healthcare throughout much of eastern Burma, coupled with the mountainous terrain, created obstacles to travel and to rapid access to medical treatment for landmine casualties, who typically must be carried, on foot and over arduous terrain, to often-distant medical facilities.

"He was injured at Ny---, in the jungle on the old road. He was returning [to N---village] when he was injured. … I don't think we can reach the hill [at Ny---] in a day from our village. … [The hole of the blast was] about one cubit around. … He died on the way when we were carrying him back [to N---]."

Saw H--- (male, 34), N--- village, Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District (March 2011)[191]

KHRG did not document any instance in which compensation was provided to landmine victims or their families by government agencies, although villagers have mentioned receiving support from family members, other villagers and non-state actors, specifically from local health organisations and, in one case, from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as reported to KHRG in May 2012[192]

"There is no support. I just have to work for my life. I can't go and work as before. There is no support. Just my poe lee *[son or daughter] has to look after me."*

Saw Le---, (male, 48), Luthaw Township, Papun District

[189] For this previously unpublished interview, see Source Document: 2012/February/Pa'an/1.

[190] For more on the use of jungle markets by villagers hiding in upland areas, see *Village Agency: Rural rights and resistance in a militarized eastern Burma*, KHRG, November 2008.

[191] For the full published transcript of Saw H---'s interview see "Papun Interview: Saw H---, March 2011," KHRG, February 2012; relevant excerpt included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/8.

[192] For the previously unpublished testimony of Saw Hp---, who was injured while he was going fishing and said that he subsequently received treatment from the ICRC, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/February/Pa'an.

(March 2011)[193]

"Thara Saw Hl---, he is working with Cheh Chay Nee *[ICRC]. He supported me for the treatment cost. He is not from BGF and not from KNLA. … When I first arrived [at the hospital] I had to pay the cost by myself for the operation because the Red Cross hadn't arrived yet. It cost me more than 200,000 kyat[194] already."*

Saw Hp---, (male, 36), Tha Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, Ta Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
(Interviewed March 2012)[195]

"We had no money. We didn't have money because people just lended money to us urgently. My older sister sent money to me when my injury recovered. I said: "We are so lucky because we have a sister who lives away from us and if my sister didn't live away from us [and send money], I would have died'*."*

Ma Nu---, (female, 33) Noh Kyaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)[196]

Villagers left in straightened financial circumstances after the cost of medical care face the additional challenge of attempting to support themselves and their families while coping with debilitating injuries. While villagers in some cases wear prosthetic legs and find alternative means of making a living,[197] in other cases the trauma of landmine injury is too much to bear.

Saw U--- aged 37, from Ny---, stepped on a landmine when he went to his farm, but couldn't deal with the pain so he shot himself with his musket.

Situation update written by a community member, Htee Lone Township, Pa'an District (Received January 2012)[198]

"He [my husband] went around too much. I couldn't stop him. At every morning he could stay at home but on that morning he saw a beehive and he couldn't stay at home anymore. … When he stepped on the landmine… his friend came back and told me and I directly ran up to the place. Along the way the area I ran through is full of landmines and other villagers worried for me a lot. … I did not worry for myself. When I arrived at the place that he got injured, I shouted out loud and called him. I went up the hillside and till I reached on top of the hill I was calling him. … the distance between the place that he stepped on the landmine and the place that he hung himself is a little far. … There was no bruise on his neck only a small bruise on his jaw. The tree branch that he hung himself with is not so high. …people were surprised how he could walk to that area with

[193] Saw Le--- is pictured in photographs in this section below and an excerpt from his previously unpublished interview with KHRG is included below in in Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/4.
[194] Approximately US $ 244.50.
[195] For this previously unpublished interview, see Source Document: 2012/February/Pa'an/1.
[196] Ma Nu---'s previously unpublished testimony, received by KHRG in May 2012, is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2012/January/Pa'an/1. See photos in this section below.
[197] See photos below of a villager in Mone Township who lost both of his legs after stepping on a landmine and now looks after cattle using a wheelchair.
[198] For the full published report, see "Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011 to January 2012", KHRG, May 2012; included below Section III: Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/3.

no foot. I think, he must have thought that if he stayed alive, his situation would not be like it was before."

Maung H---'s wife, Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)[199]



The photos above were taken on April 18th 2012 between Htee Klay Kee and Kaw Toe villages. According to the community member who took these photos, the photo at left shows a human leg bone belonging to an unknown male landmine casualty from March 2012. Because the local villagers did not know who the man was when they found the body, according to custom, they could not bury him. The site of the detonation is visible in the photo at right. *[Photo: KHRG]*



The photo above left shows Da---, 51, from Noh Kay village tract. He stepped on a landmine planted in between Htee Klay Kee and Kaw Toe villages in January 2012 while he was looking for food to feed his pig.[200] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[199] For this previously unpublished interview see Section III: Source Document: 2011/December/Pa'an/2.

[200] Da---'s previously unpublished testimony, received by KHRG in May 2012, is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2012/January/Pa'an/2.




The photo above left, taken in April 2012, shows Ma Nu---, 33, from Noh Kay village tract who was injured by a landmine when she went to look for firewood. She was seven months pregnant at the time and subsequently gave birth to a healthy baby girl.[201] *[Photo: KHRG]*




The photo above left shows Wh--- from Noh Kay village tract who was injured in November 2011 by a landmine planted near his paddy field.[202] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[201] Ma Nu---'s previously unpublished testimony, received by KHRG in May 2012, is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2012/January/Pa'an/1.
[202] Wh---'s previously unpublished interview, received by KHRG in May 2012, is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/November/Pa'an.




The photo above left shows Saw Ht---, 25, from Noh Kay village tract in T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District, who stepped on a landmine planted near a flat paddy field while he was on his way to make charcoal in the woods. He told KHRG that the mine blast injured one of his testicles; scarring is visible on both of his legs in the photo above right. [203] *[Photo: KHRG]*




The photos above, taken in March 2012, show Saw Ng---, 32, from Noh Kay village tract in T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District. Saw Ng---, sawing wood in the photo above right, stepped on a landmine while going fishing.[204] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[203] For the previously unpublished testimony of Saw Ht---, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/March/Pa'an/2.
[204] For the previously unpublished testimony of Saw Ng--- that was received by KHRG in May 2012, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/4.




The photo above left shows Saw Hn---, 25, from Noh Kay village tract in T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District. Saw Hn--- said that he stepped on the landmine while going fishing. His left leg did not require amputation although it was re-joined with a steel bar and he suffered deep lacerations to his upper thigh. He told KHRG that, while he was receiving treatment, his wife also gave birth to their baby daughter in the hospital.[205] *[Photo: KHRG]*



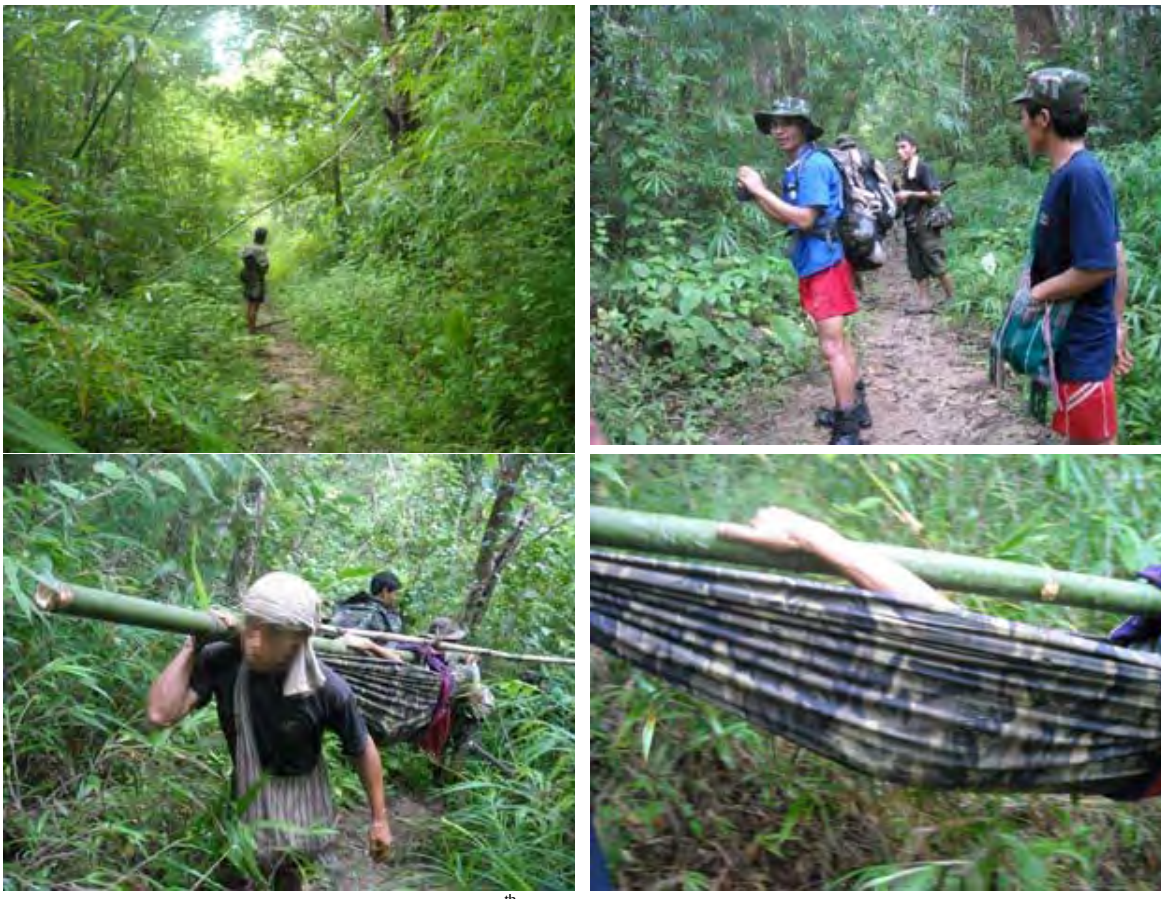

The two photos above, taken in January 2012, show Maung D---, a 36-year-old logger and resident of Lay Chaw, who was injured by a landmine on Lay Chaw hill while going to cut wood. His left leg was amputated below the knee.[206] *[Photo: KHRG]*

These photos, taken on October 16th 2011, show a Pa'o villager in Mone Township, Nyaunglebin District who lost both of his legs when he stepped on a landmine and now looks after cattle for other villagers to support his livelihood.[207] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[205] For the previously unpublished testimony of Saw Hn--- that was received by KHRG in May 2012, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/March/Pa'an/1.

[206] For this case and one other recent landmine casualty in Kawkareik Township, see "Abuses since the DKBA and KNLA ceasefires: Forced labour and arbitrary detention in Dooplaya," KHRG, May 2012.

[207] For the previously unpublished note written by the community member who took this photo, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/October/Nyaunglebin.



The photos above were taken on September 11th 2011. They show villagers in Lu Thaw Township crossing the Kyaukkyi – Saw Hta vehicle road, while carrying a 45-year-old Am--- villager named Saw Mu--- who stepped on a landmine near his hill field in Hee Oo Htaw on August 30th 2011, at approximately 1:50 pm.[208] *[Photo: KHRG]*

[208] For the previously unpublished note written by the community member who took this photo, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/August/Thaton/2.





These photos, taken on February 25th 2011, show Naw S---, a 7-year-old-girl from Shwe Aye Myaing Village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District, was injured by a landmine while returning to her village with her father. Naw S--- was injured in both of her legs when the bicycle her father was driving triggered a landmine that had been placed on a path near the village. The injury to her left leg is more serious, according to a doctor that treated the girl, and Naw S--- was hospitalized for at least 20 days. Naw S--- accompanied her father back to their village, because her father was worried that he would be accused of being a DKBA soldier if he was seen travelling alone by Tatmadaw soldiers active near Shwe Aye Myaing. Naw S---'s family had been staying in a discreet refuge site to protect themselves from physical security and human rights risks to civilians caught in the middle of the continued Tatmadaw – DKBA conflict in Dooplaya District.[209] *[Photos: KHRG]*





[209]This incident is described in the previously published report Update No. 62: "7-year old girl injured by landmine in Shwe Aye Myaing village," KHRG, March 2011; included below Section III: Source Document: 2011/February/Dooplaya/2.



These photos were taken on January 23rd 2011 and show Saw Ra---, a Ho--- villager in his thirties who stepped on a landmine between We--- and Ho--- villages in Mone Township, Nyaunglebin District, as he was returning to Ho--- after hunting near We---. According to a community member working with KHRG who submitted information to KHRG concerning this incident, Saw Ra--- stepped on the mine approximately 45 minutes on foot from We--- while he was travelling along a path that had been recently created by a patrolling column of Tatmadaw soldiers; a friend who had been hunting with him returned to Ho--- village, approximately three hours from the site of the incident, and summoned help. The community member working with KHRG who submitted this information told KHRG that We--- is the site of a jungle market where villagers living outside government control engage in covert trade with villagers living in government-controlled areas.[210] *[Photos: KHRG]*

[210] These photos were received in May 2011, along with 110 other photos taken by a community member in Nyaunglebin District. For more information about strategies villagers living in areas outside government control adopt in response to human rights abuse, see *Village agency: Rural rights and resistance in a militarized Karen State*, KHRG, November 2008; *Self-protection under strain: Targetting of civilians and local responses in Karen State*, KHRG, August 2010.





The photo on the left, taken in Papun District in August 2010, shows Saw Kr---, 23 years old, a *gher der* Home Guard serving for a one-year term in Pla Koh village tract, Lu Thaw Township. He stepped on a landmine on July 2nd 2010. The photo on the right, taken on August 8th 2010, shows Saw We--- (centre), who also stepped on a landmine while serving as a *gher der* home guard, along with two friends who also stepped on landmines.[211] *[Photo: KHRG]*



This photo, taken on January 26th2011 in Papun District shows Naw Htee K'Pru Wah, 13 years old (left) and Naw Paw May Ra, 10 years old (right).



This photo, taken on July 24th 2010, shows Saw Gy---, an 18-year-old sixth standard student, who stepped on a landmine while guiding villagers across the Bu

[211] Both Saw We--- and Saw Kr--- were interviewed by a community member working with KHRG in August 2010; relevant excerpts from their previously unpublished interviews can be found in Section III: Source Document: 2010/July/Papun/3 and Section III: Source Document: 2010/May/Papun/2 respectively.

Their father, a KNLA soldier, was killed by a landmine eight years ago. They are currently receiving support from family members to attend school.[212] *[Photo: KHRG]*

Hsa Kee vehicle road in Lu Thaw Township, Papun District on May 31st 2010. At that time, he was replacing his father as gher der home guard, because his father was sick.[213] [Photo: KHRG]

[212] An excerpt from the previously unpublished incident report written by a community member describing this event is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/4.

[213] This incident is described in the previously unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on March 7th 2011 included in Section III: Source Document: 2010/May/Papun/2 &3. Testimony from Saw Gy--- is also included in Section III: Source Document: 2010/May/Papun/4.

G. Use of landmines for self-protection

During the reporting period, KHRG received information about the use of landmines by *gher der* home guard groups in five village tracts in northern Lu Thaw Township, Papun District.[215] According to villagers interviewed by KHRG in these five village tracts, namely Kay Bpoo, Nah Yoh Htah, Saw Muh Bplaw, Ler Muh Bplaw and Yeh Muh Bplaw, the risks attendant to pursuing agricultural activities and living near Tatmadaw camps, and risking attacks, has caused some communities in this area to form loosely-organised *gher der* home guard groups that monitor troop movements, operate independently of control by any organized NSAG and use landmines and other weapons for self-protection.[216]



This photo, taken on March 7th2011, shows the Ler Mu Bplaw village head Saw Kh--- and Saw Le---, 48-years-old. Saw Le--- lost the lower part of his right leg when he accidentally stepped on a landmine planted by a Karen armed group: '*I was hit by our people's landmine, not the SPDC Army's landmine. … I went with the home guard and they knew but they forgot. Accidentally I was hit.*'[214] *[Photo: KHRG]*

> *"They [home guards] monitor the situation and come back and inform the villagers or warn the villagers. … Sometimes, they give warning by firing a gun three times to the villagers so that the villagers know and can flee in advance. ... They use the landmines to help us do our work and to prevent the SPDC daring to come anymore."*
>
> Saw Ky---, (male, 48), Yeh Muh Bplaw village tract, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District (Interviewed March 2011)[217]

Historical context

Some villagers in northern Lu Thaw Township told KHRG that the use of landmines by *gher der* home guard groups facilitates villagers' travel and allows villagers to access and work in agricultural areas without fearing attack by government troops. Villagers who expressed positive opinions about landmine use in Lu Thaw Township have experienced decades of displacement, and physical and food insecurity, due to long-running conflict between the KNLA and Tatmadaw, and Tatmadaw attacks targeting civilians. In these mostly upland areas, civilians

[214] An excerpt from Saw Le---'s previously unpublished interview is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/4.

[215] Kay Bpoo, Nah Yoh Htah, Saw Muh Bplaw, and Ler Muh Bplaw village tracts are all located to the north of the Kyaukkyi – Saw Hta vehicle road, while Yeh Muh Bplaw is located to the south of the road.

[216] Further detailed background about the use of landmines by armed *gher der* home guard groups is available in *Self-protection under strain: Targeting of civilians and local responses in northern Karen State*, KHRG, August 2010, pp.82-100.

[217] For an excerpt from Saw Ky---'s previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/1.

have experienced Tatmadaw attacks, chronic displacement and an entrenchment of both KNLA and Tatmadaw presence for decades.[218]

Importantly, these five village tracts are located in an area that has been effectively cordoned off by the establishment of new Tatmadaw camps since 2006, the presence of which have steadily reduced the amount of arable land that villagers can safely access. During a major offensive[219] that ran continuously from 2005 until the end of 2008, KHRG documented the widespread displacement of villagers, and the expansion of military camps and transport infrastructure, primarily in Papun, Nyaunglebin and Toungoo Districts,[220] as well as the systematic commission of acts constituting violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. Documented violations included, the destruction of houses and crops, enforced disappearances, the laying of landmines, forced labour, torture and extrajudicial killings of civilians.[221] Community members trained by KHRG have continued to document attacks on civilians by government troops throughout the years since, including during 2011.[222]As a result, severe food shortages in 2011

[218] Further background on attacks against civilians in KHRG research areas is available in *Attacks on Health and Education: Trends and incidents from eastern Burma, 2010-2011'*, KHRG, December 2011; *All the information I've given you, I faced it myself': Rural testimony on abuse in eastern Burma since November 2010*, KHRG, December 2011; and *Self-protection under strain: Targeting of civilians and local responses in northern Karen State*, KHRG, August 2010.

[219] KHRG uses the noun 'offensive' to indicate coordinated military activity by 10 or more battalions operating in concert. This usage is distinct from 'offensive' as an adjective, which contrasts military operations designed to obtain control over new territory, as opposed to 'defensive' military operations designed to hold a particular position. Distinguishing between usages of the term, particularly the former, is important so that activity during the period 2005-2008 is understood differently from the day-to-day targeting of civilians by Tatmadaw battalions, a practice which remained ongoing in 2011; see "Tatmadaw attacks destroy civilian property and displace villages in northern Papun District," KHRG, April 2011; "Joint Tatmadaw patrol burns field huts and seed stores, displace six villages in Toungoo District," KHRG, June 2011; "Tatmadaw soldiers shell village, attack church and civilian property in Toungoo District," KHRG, November 2011..

[220] These are the three northernmost districts of KNU-delineated Karen State, giving rise to the common name for this period as the Northern Offensive. See, for example, "Burma Army attacks and civilian displacement in northern Papun District," KHRG, June 2008; "SPDC Army atrocities in Ler Muh Bplaw village tract in the words of a local resident," September 2007; and "SPDC Attacks on Villages in Nyaunglebin and Papun Districts and the Civilian Response," KHRG, September 2006. For background on the Northern Offensive and an update on Tatmadaw operations in Papun district since the withdrawal from forward positions in December 2008, see *Acute food shortages threatening 8,885 villagers in 118 villages across northern Papun District*, KHRG, May 2011; and Self-*protection under strain: Targeting of civilians and local responses in northern Karen State*, KHRG, August 2010 , especially pp.15-22.

[221] For additional background on the 2005-2008 Offensive see, *inter alia*: *Crimes Against Humanity in Eastern Myanmar*, Amnesty International, June 2008; "Burma: Army Forces Thousands to Flee," HRW, November 2006; "Shoot on Sight: The ongoing SPDC offensive against villagers in northern Karen State", Burma Issues, December 2006; "Campaign of Brutality", Free Burma Rangers (FBR), April 2008; "State of Terror", Karen Women's Organisation, February 2007.These acts were confirmed and condemned by numerous international observers; see "Myanmar: ICRC denounces major and repeated violations of international humanitarian law," ICRC, June 29th 2007, News Release 82/07. See also *Crimes Against Humanity in Eastern Myanmar*, Amnesty International, June 2008; "Burma: Army Forces Thousands to Flee," HRW, November 2006; and "Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Tomás Ojea Quintana," UN Human Rights Council (HRC), September 5th 2008, A/HRC/63/341 paras. 56-58.

[222] Although KHRG dates the end of the Northern offensive to December 2008, marked by a decrease in the frequency and intensity of coordinated multi-battalion attacks and a withdrawal of soldiers from 30 camps across Toungoo, Nyaunglebin and Papun districts, during 2011, KHRG documented such attacks on civilians in six of seven research areas, including Toungoo, Nyaunglebin, Tenasserim, Papun, Dooplaya and Pa'an districts. See, *'All*

impacted a total of at least 1,246 households from 118 villages in nine village tracts in northern Papun District.[223]

> "*We have to go back and work close to the SPDC Army, and if we didn't use landmines, they could come and arrest us. If people come and the mine explodes, people will stay alert*."
>
> Saw Lu---, (male, 54), Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
> (Interviewed March 2011)[224]

> *"So we can work in our fields well, we use landmines for the SPDC. If they come, they will get hurt with the landmines and for us when we hear landmines explode, we will ready ourselves and come back to our houses."*
>
> [Name not provided], (male, 51), Mu--- village, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
> (Interviewed March 2011)[225]

Pressures on survival

Long-running militarization and attacks on civilians by government forces has created pressures on civilian survival. Villagers in Lu Thaw Township who spoke about landmines as providing protection now live in areas in which the ever-increasing proximity and longevity of Tatmadaw camps from which attacks can be launched has diminished safe cultivable areas.[226] Pressure on food production caused by shrinking access to agricultural areas, has led some villagers to view landmines as serving a protective function, in that they facilitate villagers' access to agricultural areas and prevent access by potentially harmful armed actors.[227]

> *"They use landmines to protect themselves and to be able to do their livelihood work. They use [landmines] to prevent the SPDC Army from coming and destroying their*

the Information I've Given You, I Faced It Myself': Rural testimony on abuse in eastern Burma since November 2010, KHRG, December 2011 pp. 23-29. These attacks included deliberate targeting of civilians, civilian settlements and their food resources in areas beyond established or consolidated Tatmadaw control. For details of specific examples, see "Tatmadaw attacks destroy civilian property and displace villages in northern Papun District," KHRG, April 2011; "Joint Tatmadaw patrol burns field huts and seed stores, displace six villages in Toungoo District," KHRG, June 2011; "Tatmadaw soldiers shell village, attack church and civilian property in Toungoo District," KHRG, November 2011.

[223] For detailed analysis and further background see *Acute food shortages threatening 8,885 villagers in 118 villages across northern Papun District*, KHRG, May 2011.

[224] For a previously unpublished excerpt from Saw Lu---'s interview with a community member working with KHRG, see: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/5.

[225] For an excerpt from this previously unpublished interview, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/2.

[226] See reports previously published on KHRG website, for example, "Villagers displaced as SPDC offensive expands into Papun district," KHRG, May 2006; "SPDC military begins pincer movement, adds new camps in Papun district," KHRG, August 2006; "Increased roads, army camps and attacks on rural communities in Papun District," KHRG, November 2007; and "SPDC and DKBA road construction, forced labour and looting in Papun District," KHRG, 2009.

[227] The Landmine Monitor has also noted this, with reference to the ways in which the prevalence of mine use in these areas "has resulted in the spread of military weapons and thinking into the civil realm of society;" see *Country profile: Myanmar Burma*, ICBL Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor.

farms. … We don't use [landmines for anything else]… People use it for the SPDC Army, not for other [purposes].

Saw Ma---, (male, 40), Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
(Interviewed March 2011)[228]

"Yes, we [home guards] used landmines. We didn't plant landmines inside the SPDC Army's fence [within the perimeter of their camp]. We just planted landmines around our village. If the SPDC Army came, they would step on landmines and withdraw. Then, we would carefully flee to another place."

Saw Ap---, (male, 45), Fo--- village, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
(Interviewed October 2011)[229]

Some villagers in Lu Thaw Township, Papun District interviewed by KHRG during 2011 in this way clearly articulated the belief that landmines support their own self-protection strategies, both by promoting sufficient security for communities fearing attacks to pursue basic livelihood activities, and by increasing the time civilians have to escape an attacking column of soldiers.

"The SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] is still close to the place where we live. The SPDC Army occupies a camp in Htaw Mu Bplah Meh and it is one hour on foot from us. We do not have places to farm hill fields close to our village. At the place where we farm hill fields, the SPDC Army can see us and can shoot at us with small weapons [guns]. But the gher der *[home guards] and Army [KNLA] take security. They plant hundreds of landmines to frighten and prevent the SPDC Army from coming here easily. We can do our own work year by year."*

Naw R--- (female, 35), Wa--- village, Ler Muh Bplaw village tract, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
(Interviewed January 2011)[230]

Especially in Lu Thaw Township we see there is less SPDC movement. When SPDC soldiers attack, mostly they get hit by landmines so they do not follow their orders anymore and just move around near their living place [camp].

Situation update written by a community member in Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
(Interviewed March 2011)[231]

Villagers expressed a variety of reasons for viewing landmines as providing protection and, while individual motivations cannot be accurately identified in every case, the tendency amongst residents of hiding sites to view landmines as providing an element of security, may be the product of past experiences with violent uprooting, displacement, and uncertainty of living location, generating a desire for a fixed base. In this way, the use of landmines creates uncertainty which keeps others out and vitiates the need for further episodes of displacement.

[228] A longer excerpt from this previously unpublished interview is included below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/6

[229] For an excerpt from Saw Ap---'s previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/October/Papun/1.

[230] For the full published text of this and 11 other incident reports, see "Papun Incident Reports: November 2010 to January 2011," August 2011 in Section III: Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/4.

[231] For an excerpt from this previously unpublished situation update, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/9.

Nonetheless, reliance on landmines to facilitate access to agricultural lands is inherently contradictory and contributes to the creation of a stasis. People hemmed in on all sides by military camps have no means of expanding to new agricultural lands; access is facilitated by landmines which, by their very nature, are restrictive of free movement.

> *"They [home guards] use [landmines], but not too much. … Maybe around ten [landmines]. Just to protect our residences and plantations. … We do not dare to go and work because of landmines. Our area becomes smaller. If we want to enlarge our area, the enemy is active. We do not dare to go and work if we don't have landmines. If you go and work [without planting landmines], the SPDC Army will come and arrest you, so you can do nothing."*
>
> Saw Me---, (male, 54), Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
> (Interviewed March 2011)[232]

"If there is no worry, the landmines would not be used"

While KHRG did not document the tendency to view mines as protection amongst communities facing similar protracted physical and food security threats in adjacent areas of Nyaunglebin and Toungoo districts,[233] it is conceivable that villagers who have experienced decades of militarization and attack, and no longer perceive flight or evasion of attack as a viable option, might similarly regard landmines as having a protection value or as a deterrent for Tatmadaw military activity. Villagers in Lu Thaw however told KHRG that, while they support the use of landmines for defensive purposes, they would prefer not to have them in their communities.

> *"[Landmines are used] to go and work in front line that close to SPDC army. For the SPDC army to step on landmine when they come and they will go back after they were hit by mine or we will turn back. We do it for alertness. … If there is no worry, the landmines would not be used."*
>
> Saw He---, (male, 45), Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
> (Interviewed March 2011)[234]

> *"In my opinion,* gher der *[home guards] exist because the Burmese Army has been based in our area. If they were not based here and moved back to their own place, we would stay like the level of villagers who are farm workers."*
>
> Saw To---, (male, 50), Ap--- village, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
> (Interviewed September 2011)[235]

[232] For an excerpt from Saw Me---'s previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/7.

[233] KHRG avoids standard questionnaires when conducting field research and instead trains local people to conduct interviews using loose question guidelines, and also to encourage interviewees to speak freely about recent events, raise issues that they consider to be important and share their opinions or perspectives on abuse and other local dynamics. For this reason, analysis of testimony from other areas indicates that villagers in Nyaunglebin and Toungoo Districts were not asked targeted questions about civilian use of landmines. For further information on KHRG documentation methodology, see Section I above.

[234] For an excerpt from Saw He---'s previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Section III: Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/3

[235] For a previously unpublished excerpt from Saw To---'s interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Source Document: 2011/September/Papun.

It is likely that, if given the option, civilians in other areas experiencing a similar armed context would prefer flight and evasion over using landmines to stay in a given area. As outlined above in Sections B and F, landmines planted near villages, in agricultural areas or along paths frequented by civilians disrupt villagers' ability to travel freely, prevent access to crops or other natural resources, and cause death or injury to civilians and livestock, with no other perceived benefit.

> *"Two years ago, my two cows were hit [by landmines]. **...** I didn't eat them for the reason that I didn't dare to go and look at them. … Other people's children ate them but I didn't dare to do anything. People asked me to have a look but I didn't dare to look [at them]. They looked very pitiful because I raised them and I wasn't happy to look at them."*
>
> Th---'s mother, (female, 60), farmer, Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2011)[236]

It is also important to note that civilians not living under comparable security pressures are more likely to view landmines as a threat rather than as serving a protective function. For civilians not facing deliberate military attacks by the Tatmadaw, landmines do not facilitate self-protection activities, by delaying armed patrols. Instead, landmines present security risks and, if they injure government troops, are also likely to trigger reprisals against neighbouring villages or against civilians who happen to be in the area at that time.

> *The SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] came to La--- village and abused villagers. When they came to the village, they heard a landmine explode and they said that the villagers planted landmines. They burned the villagers' houses and, moreover, if they see the villagers go somewhere, they ask a lot of different questions.*
>
> Situation update written by a community member in Bu Tho Township, Papun District (Received November 2011)[237]

> *"The SPDC bulldozer came to make [repairs to] the road, and was damaged by a landmine between Klay Soh Kee and Kaw Thay Der in September [2010]. Since this event, we saw that wherever they saw villagers they arrested them and took them to the Kler La army base. Therefore the villagers who live in Klay Soh Kee village and Kler La villages were disturbed and were arrested when they came back from their betelnut plantations."*
>
> Incident report written by a community member working with KHRG in Toungoo District (Received May 2011)[238]

> *"Two people [villagers] were killed. A bomb exploded beside their sentry hut. It was their turn to go and do sentry duty, so they went and did sentry duty. The bomb exploded.*

[236] For Th---'s mother's previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG, see Section III: Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/7.

[237] For the full published text of this and 14 other incident reports, see "Toungoo Incident Reports: March and April 2011," May 2011; a relevant excerpt is provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/1.

[238] For the full published situation update written by a community member working with KHRG, see "Toungoo Situation Update: April 2011," June 2011; a relevant excerpt is also provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2010/December/Toungoo/1.

The Burmese [Tatmadaw soldiers] came to the village and asked who was on duty. People told them the guys' names. The Burmese Army went and arrested them and killed them. They accused them of doing it [detonating the bomb]. They asked no questions. … I know one. His name was M---. He was a Gy--- villager. He was Karen. He was around 60 years old. I don't know the other one. They stayed in the same village. … They were accused of making the explosion. … But they've disappeared since they were arrested. We think they were killed. They've disappeared since then, until now. I just guess. If something happened like this before, they [people who disappeared after being arrested] were killed."

Saw L--- (male, 53), T--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District
(Interviewed May 2011)[239]

Landmine casualties amongst villagers in northern Lu Thaw, particularly those serving as *gher der* home guards further bear out villagers' desire not to have to resort to landmine use. For example, on August 30th 2011, a 45-year-old Am--- villager named Saw Mu---, who had been serving as a *gher der* home guard, stepped on a landmine near his hill field.[240] During 2010, 23-year-old Saw Ke--- and 18-year-old Saw Gy--- also stepped on landmines while serving as home guards. All three men had to have part of their leg amputated as a result.[241]

"Some were hit by Karen landmines, Burmese army landmines and their own that they have set up. Two people were hit by their own landmines. … They planted and it exploded by itself. Maung Ch--- was hit by a landmine [but he didn't die directly] and he shot himself. Kyaw De--- and Ta A--- were killed by landmines."

Saw Gk---, (male, 40) Pla Koh village tract, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
(Interviewed February 2011)[242]

[239] For the full published transcript of Saw S---'s interview, see "Nyaunglebin Interviews: May 2011," June 2011; a relevant excerpt is also provided below in Section III: Source Document: 2010/September/Nyaunglebin

[240] Photos of Saw Mu--- being carried in a hammock stretcher following his landmine injury are included above in Section II: *F. Landmine-related death and injury.*

[241] Both men were interviewed by a community member working with KHRG in August 2010; relevant excerpts from their previously unpublished interviews can be found in Section III: Source Document: 2010/July/Papun/3 and Section III: Source Document: 2010/May/Papun/2 respectively. Photos of both men are provided above in Section *F. Landmine-related death and injury.*

[242] For an excerpt from Saw Gk---'s previously unpublished interview with a community member working with KHRG Section III: Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/2.

III. KHRG Source Documents: May 2012 – January 2011

This section includes landmine-related excerpts from 119 pieces of field information, namely 70 interviews and 49 other written reports received by KHRG since January 2011 and prior to the middle of May 2012, when this report was published. These documents all describe events, raise concerns or deal with issues related to the use of landmines in eastern Burma. Although all of the information included in this section was received by KHRG during 2011, in some cases it concerns older incidents which took place during or prior to 2010. Effort has been made to, wherever possible, determine the date of any landmine incidents documented. Where this information is not known or where the information provided is general, the date the interview was conducted or the date the report was submitted to KHRG was used to categorise the information and this is clearly noted. 55 of these documents have been published on the KHRG website in their entirety and, where relevant, this is also indicated below.

May 2012

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished report written by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing May 12th 2012
Details:	The 37 villagers from Thaw Waw Thaw who dare not to go to their plantations because of landmines: 1. Hpah Dih's one plantation 2. Puh K'Hsaw's one plantation 3. Naw Pee Poo's one plantation 4. Mee Thaw Nyoh's one plantation 5. Hpah Wah's one plantation 6. Kyaw Kuh's one plantation 7. Hpaw Day *Pa*'s father one plantation 8. Nyay Lay *Moh*'s mother one plantation 9. Taw Bay's one plantation 10. May Thah's one plantation 11. Poh Dwa's one plantation 12. Poh Kyoh's one plantation 13. Poh Khay Lah's one plantation 14. Mee Meh Aw's one plantation 15. Hpaw T' Day *Pee*'s grand mother one plantation

	16. Kyaw Kwa's one plantation 17. Mee Htay Yay's one plantation 18. Kyaw Kuh's one plantation 19. Doh Kwee's one plantation 20. Kyaw Kay's one plantation 21. Ay Wah *Moh's* mother one plantation 22. Taw Bay's one plantation 23. Hpuh Hser's one plantation 24. Hpuh Leh Boo's one plantation Flat field farms those are unable to be farmed anymore 1. Lah Kyay Pah's one flat field farm 2. T' Ay Hsghay's one flat field farm 3. Meh Baw Kee one flat field farm 4. T' Ree *Pah's* father one flat field farm 5. Ka Mway's one flat field farm 6. Naw Kw---'s one flat field farm 7. Tee Buh's one flat field farm 8. Hpuh Ha *Pah's* father one flat field farm 9. Poh Koh Kyeh's one flat field farm 10. Hpuh Hsoo La's one flat field farm 11. Poh Loh Cheh's one flat field farm 12. Hpah Haw *Hpah*'s father one flat field farm 13. Kyaw Koo's one flat field farm
Remark:	On May 12th 2012, a local village head called a community member to report that two more landmines had just exploded in Thaw Waw Thaw village.

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/2**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing May 2012
Details:	**What is your name?** Uncle W---. **How old are you?** 40 years old. **What are the problems while you are living here?**

Problems are last one or two month ago, you couldn't do anything anymore, you had to be scared and frightened also you had to run with fear under the houses.

Why did you have to be like that?

Because, people are shooting in the village but now it is a little better.

How about now any problems that you have to face?

For now, I didn't hear anything. Only landmines they didn't take out those yet, we are afraid to go around. If they take out, it will be easy for us to go in the forest.

Did you hope that so?

We hope so, we already inform verbally and also written in letter to do this for us then for us it will be better to go around and collecting vegetable in the forest.

What is your objective for the villagers as you are in the village head position?

The villagers also have a lot of problems because they couldn't go for working or finding food. There are also no incomes for them. They will be happy, If they have some incomes.

Why can't they go to hunting or collecting vegetable?

They don't dare to go, if they go in a minutes, the leg will be hit. Go one pace you will be hit, if someone dares to go in the forest, try it but I won't. Even my son got hit yesterday, I asked the people to go to carry him, if a lot of people go there, I think some people will be hit also. I want to tell more about obstacles that the villagers can't do animal farm like cows and buffalo.

Why can't you do that or can't look after? Like that?

We can't raise them; we dare not to look after them. We live under the mountain so the animals (cow or buffalo) usually go to eat grasses on the mountain. As a result, we can't raise, can't look after them, we don't dare to go anymore. They sell all the animals and buy hand tractor then just worked with hand tractor.

So you don't need to feed anymore?

Sure don't need to feed the tractor haha.

So you have to find gasoline, can you find then?

If you don't have money, you can't get it.

	What did the villagers in the village work on? They can't work on anything, here they just do farming. They can't do any other business. **How about in the summer, they can't do farming?** In the summer, the villagers usually do making charcoal, but now they can't do that anymore. Can't look after the cows and the buffalo so just bought hand tractor, later Kh--- [KNU leader] will come to ask taxes he does this then the civilian can't afford anymore and we can't stand anymore, here we can't do anything. **Do you want to tell anything else to add perfectly?** Nothing…. I already told you everything. - Uncle W---, (male, 40) farmer, Thaw Waw Thaw village, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)
Remark:	Although this interview was conducted in April 2012, follow up with the community member who conducted it in May 2012 confirmed that movement restrictions due to mine contamination were ongoing in Thaw Waw Thaw village. On May 12th 2012, Uncle W--- confirmed that two new landmines had just exploded, injuring two livestock animals.

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/3**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Received May 2012)
Date of landmine incident:	Received in May 2012
Details:	**How do people address you?** People called me Hs---. **How old are you?** I'm 63 years old. **Where do you live?** I live in Thaw village.

	What are the problems in the village as a village tract head? The problem is that, some of the villagers don't get enough food. I want them to get enough food. Because they don't get enough food, they have to work as a hired person by other people. Some villagers don't even have flat field. **What is the problem for the villagers who has flat field but still has to work for other?** The problem is that people came and plant landmines here. They planted it on the fields and beside the well and beside the house. **Who planted the landmines?** Border Guard planted it. They planted it besides our flat fields and our houses. **Which Border Guard is it?** It was Dee Kyaw Naw's soldiers. Dee Kyaw Naw is the highest rank for those soldiers who come here. **What is his rank?** I'm also not sure about his rank. I think he is the Battalion commander at *Taung Thone Lone* [Three Mountains camp]. **Didn't you tell them not to plant beside your flat fields and house?** We told them but they said they also dug out their landmines but other didn't dig out it yet. So, we are not sure which landmines was it. They also planted and other [army] also planted it. **Did they also afraid to take out their landmines that they have planted?** Yes. They knew that the other army didn't take it out so, they don't feel good about this. So, they just took out only some of the landmines that they planted. **So, do you think will the landmines hit the cow and buffalo later?** Yes, for sure, in this situation, it'll definitely hit the cow and buffalo. **How can it hit your cow and buffalo because I saw you tie them up?** That's why we have to tie up our cows and buffalos. Otherwise they will get hit by the landmines. We have to worry for the cows and buffalo that are untied. **Did they warn you not to go to those places that landmines are planted?** They warned us. They told me to tell the villagers and I warned the villagers. I told them even though you see they dig out their landmines; don't be so happy because they just dig out some of them. We heard that they planted a lot. But,

	as a villagers so, we want to go to the forest for hunting or finding the vegetables to eat. So, it hit them. **What do you think of their planting of landmines? Do you think they planted it for their enemy or for the villagers?** In my opinion, I don't think they planted it for their enemy but I think they plant it for the villagers. **I heard that the villagers are a bit naughty?** Yes, villagers from Noh Kay are a bit naughty. They also lie to me. When you ask them something, they won't tell you. **Did you see anything that Border Guard does to support you?** They also asked us about this. And we answered them that, because of them we have schools, the roads are repaired now and we also have monastery. We just said what they want to hear. **Did they really build the school and the monastery or the villagers build it?** The villagers built it. The DKBA soldiers also helped us. **Did they help with their strength or with money?** They gave us money. **Where did Boh K' Doh get the money?** I also don't know about that. They planted the plantation and asked the villagers to go and helped so, I think they will get the money from their plantation. **I heard that Boh K' Doh recruit so many soldiers and now he becomes a rich man so, is it true?** I don't think he becomes rich because of this reason. Because we give the recruitment fees to the soldiers who are being recruited. We don't give to him. **Did you have to give him the fees?** No, we just have to give the soldiers who we hire [to go as recruits]. **Does Border Guard also recruit their soldiers?** No, they don't. Actually, they asked us once, but we didn't give him any villagers. **Do you think KNU [KNLA] ever benefits you, the villagers?**

	Yes, we have benefited. Sometimes, we also send the food to them secretly. Boh K'Doh also ordered us once, but we didn't give him any. So, they told us, if you want to give food to the KNU [KNLA], give it when [the Border Guard] don't see. If they see us giving the food to the KNLA, we will not be able to live here anymore. **So, you also have to afraid when you send the food to KNLA?** Yes, we are afraid and we have to give them secretly. - Hs---, (male, 63), Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an (Interviewed April 2012)
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/4**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thaw Waw Plaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Received May 2012)
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in May 2012
Details:	**What is your name?** I was called Kw---. **How old are you?** 53 years old. **Where do you live?** Tha Waw Plaw. **What are the problems in Tha Waw Plaw that the villagers faced that you have known?** I have known about the farms that we don't dare to go across. We don't dare to go inside the channel or to go along the farm. Also we don't dare to go to collect vegetable in the forest, because people planted *su htee hkaw htee* [in Karen literally: 'hit hands hit legs', meaning landmines]. **What is *su htee hkaw htee*?** Landmines.

Who planted the landmines?

Who planted the landmines are not other ethnic groups, they are our kind BGF which are Karen but they stay under the Burmese government controlled so they have to plant.

Did the Burmese government ask them to do this?

Yes, the Burmese government asked them.

How do you know?

I know it because I guess so. The problem we got is, we don't dare to go or to come and to go fishing or finding frogs. Moreover, we don't dare to find firewood in the forest.

Does it include with your farm?

Yes, all along the riverbank.

Did they tell you or someone else about all along the riverbank?

Border Guard told me don't go there.

Why did they do that planting along the river, beside the river, and on the riverbank? What do you think?

They thought that their enemy will come back, I think.

Who is their enemy?

Only KNU, I think.

Did KNU also plant the landmines?

I don't know about KNU.

So, they [Border Guard] told you when they planted?

They told me that they planted in my farm. Don't go in your farm also the riverbank.

Do you think they planted a lot?

Before they went back, they said a lot starting in the farms along the way to the mouth of the river.

What are the problems following from landmines that will affect the villagers? I mean the resulting problems [consequences].

	[Problems are] like the villagers don't dare to travel, don't dare to find vegetables, don't dare to find firewood. Yesterday, we just ate coconut branch buds. Now the people have gone to tell [about this] so maybe there will be unity and we will have enough food now. **How will you find firewood due to having landmine problem? This year I mean.** We still don't dare to go, we go only in our garden. We just cut the mango tree or mango branches. **Do you want to add any other thing that I didn't mention in the interview?** We just want this problem to be solved in peace. **What do you mean by that?** I mean taking out those landmines for us so that we can work on our farms. We want to request that. - Kw---, (female, 33), Thaw Waw Plaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/5**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thaw Waw Plaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Received May 2011)
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in May 2012
Details:	**What is your name?** I am called Hm--- **How old are you?** 51 years old. **Where do you live?** Tha Waw Plaw.

I heard that village has problems, what are they?

The village problems are that the villagers don't dare to go out and they don't dare to let their cows or buffalos out. They have to keep them. Also people don't dare to find food or vegetables in the forest. Everyone has faced these problems.

Why can't they search food in the forest?

Pwar! You have to be afraid of the landmines.

Just guess, how many cows or buffalos have already been hit by the landmines? Ten?

[Someone said] at least ten. I guess more than that. I am not sure because I didn't record about it.

How many landmines have already exploded, I mean how many explosions its can be something like- people can be or may be not and animals can be hit or maybe not, how many of landmines explosions that you heard, just guess all together how many you think?

I think more than ten.

20?

Yes, can be. It won't be different.

Who planted the landmines? Border Guard or KNLA?

Both were involved. KNU planted landmine in the jungle. Border Guard planted them around beside the village.

Why do you think that they planted landmines for? In your thoughts?

I think the [Border Guard] planted landmines for KNU.

Did KNU stay around here in this area?

They just come sometimes.

Didn't they [Border Guard] think that will cause problem for the civilians? Affecting civilians' property like now?

I don't think that they think about this. If they did think about this, they wouldn't plant. Maybe they think that it will not cause problems for the villagers and they think only to defeat KNU.

I just want to know, did any of KNU stay beside the village?

KNU just stay in the jungle. Maybe Border Guard think KNU will come back

	to find something to eat in the village. **How many times does KNU come back in a year?** I don't know about that. **I mean in the past, did KNU come back to find something to eat all the time?** They just come back beside the village to find something to eat. **How about villagers? Do more KNU soldiers go beside the village to find things to eat or more villagers go there to find things to eat?** More villagers than KNU because all of the whole village people go in the areas beside the village. **Did you see anyone from KNU step on the landmines?** No. **How about the villagers, properties are these affected? How many?** I saw people, I know Wh--- and Ma Nu---. **Are they injured?** Hit by the landmines. **Do you want to say more to improve this situation that you want to mention which I didn't ask yet?** We need but we don't dare to do. Nobody dares to take those [landmines] out. **Anything else?** No more. - Hm---, (male, 51), farmer, Thaw Waw Plaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/6**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG,*

source:	*received May 2012]*
Location:	Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Received May 2011)
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in May 2012
Details:	**What is your name?** I am called Lh---. **How old are you?** 56 years old. **Where do you live?** Living in Thee Wah village. **In Thee Wah village, I heard the landmines are a huge problem for the villagers, can you tell me more about that?** Pwar! Landmines are a big problem, in this village because you don't dare to go out anywhere else. If you have cows, they will be hit. If you have goats, they will be hit and the villagers also get hit, so we don't dare to go beside the farm. We just stay in the hut on the farm. Even by the hut they told me that they planted landmines in the area that I cultivated. We have to stay only in the hut or on the road so it is a big problem. **Who planted the landmines, BGF?** Yes. Border guard force. **You said they planted beside your farm?** Beside the area I cultivated. **How about for the villagers with their livelihood like finding or hunting?** It is not easy anymore. We don't dare to go even beside the farm and the road. Following on the only road, we couldn't get any firewood. We have to do other thing. **How do you plan to do like finding firewood and making charcoal?** Don't dare to do that, only working in the garden beside your house, without tree we can't make charcoal. **How about cows or buffalos how many of those have already been hit? Can you think off?**

May be sixty, some people lost 10, some 2, for me I sold them all, if I didn't I can't do anything no benefit keeping them as we are the villagers who faced difficulties because human didn't know his man kinds.

Do you hear about planting landmines?

The one [BGF] who comes back said that he planted 300 landmines. He told many people. At first, I didn't believe. His brother told that he asked really 300 landmines.

Here how many places?

Tha Waw Thaw, Noh Kyaw opposite this road started Htee Klay and Gho Toh.

They planted, as you are a villager, what do you think their objectives are? Do they plant for KNU or Villagers?

Included all I think because they plant as they like. They suspect villagers or KNU also as enemy, because the villagers didn't cooperate with them.

Didn't the people cooperate with them when they come? When they ask the people give them right?

We gave them when they asked things from us, but people didn't care them much.

You told me that villagers were hit by the landmines, how about KNU, how many of them are hit by the landmines? Lots of the villagers were hit and their properties were lost, did you hear that KNU were hit by their [BGF] landmines.

I heard one or two, nothing worse happened to those two soldiers. For us, we are not expert but KNU knew about landmines very well, they were hit but not died just blind.

Do you want to say anything that I didn't ask you yet?

I want to tell the one who came and planted the landmines to take of all the landmines back then we can do farming by using cows or buffalo. If you still have goats then they will be also hit. There are all along beside the village.

Do you many will be lost more if they don't take these off?

Sure there will be worse. Many go hit already.

How many landmines explosion happen already all generally?

Things were hit?

	Hit, means landmines always hit when it is exploded. Sometimes exploded itself, sometimes it's exploded due to the tree branch hit it. All the explosions? 60-70 explosions, not even one third other the landmines quantities yet. **So its left now over 100 or over 200?** That is the amount that only one man planted, other people also planted the landmines too. **Anything else?** Nothing left, I don't want to say it anymore this is an eternal discussion, never ending. **We can talk the whole day. Anything else you want to share?** Many difficulties, travelling, careers and properties all are affected. We never let children go anywhere. I have to go alone sometimes and you don't know where the mines were planted. You can't go blindly. **You guess how many agricultural farms that people don't dare to go?** People don't dare to go most places. **How many?** There will be 20 or 30 agricultural places. **Betel nut plantations, durian plantations, rubber plantations, and farms all together how many? You think 20?** 20 or 30. - Lh---, (male, 56), farmer, Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2011)
Remark:	On April 18th 2012 Thee Wah villagers attended a community meeting at which they discussed the urgent need for mine-removal. See photos on page XX.

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/7**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Received May 2011)

Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in May 2012
Details:	**In your village, what problem do your children [villagers] have?** In Thaw Waw Thaw village? **Yes.** We have a lot of problem. **Have a lot of problem. What kind of problems are they?** The problems are; we daren't go travel back and forth, we daren't go and get the firewood [get the firewood from outside of T' Waw Thaw village] and we daren't go anywhere. **Why don't you dare to go anymore?** We don't dare to go [anywhere] as a result of they had planted landmines. **Who planted the landmines?** I don't know exactly. Border Guard planted landmines but I don't know whether the other side [KNLA] planted the landmines or not. Maybe, both sides [KNLA and Border Guard] planted the landmines. **It mean there are many steps [many armed groups]?** Yes, many steps [many armed groups]. Both sides planted them, so we can do nothing. **As the consequence, does it [planting the landmines] impact flat field farms due to planting them by many steps [many armed groups]?** We don't dare to go to the flat field farms anymore. Flat field farms just remain like that [villagers don't farm them anymore]. We collected firewood [in the flat field farms] after we planted the paddy but we haven't dared to carry them [back to homes]. We just try to get firewood from small trees and bamboos beside our houses due to being afraid to carry back that firewood. **[You] just collect the branches of coconut trees and palms?** We just have to collect the branches of coconut trees and palms. **Anything else would you like to report?** I don't have any other things to report but we want both side of them [KNLA and Border Guard] to sort it out fairly and to be peaceful and it will be better. If they keep on doing things like this, villagers won't be able to keep living well and this will impact on villagers much more. We want them to hold hands [cooperate]

	together, if they can sort this [landmine problem] out, villagers can live more peacefully. **IF they can sort it out, how do you want them [Border Guard and KNLA] to do?** To clear up these things. **What kind of things?** They are landmines. Can they do [clear up] this? Do they dare to do this? **You mean; you want them to remove them [landmines]?** Yes, we want to ask them to remove them. Do they dare to remove them? If they dare to remove them, we really want to ask them to remove them in order to travel freely [safely]. Now, if this is the path *[gestures]* we have to go along it and we have to go along it without fail because it goes to our flat field farm. If we have to go, we have to avoid the path that goes across through the bushes and we step on stones instead. Cows don't dare go close to [path]. Cows can't go the same way as the people because people go through with short cut way. **Could you estimate that how many cows and buffalos were hit by them [landmines]?** I couldn't estimate because I haven't recorded them. Two years ago, my two cows were hit [by landmines]. **Did you eat them?** I didn't eat them for the reason that I didn't dare to go and look at them. **Have you kept any piece of meat?** I don't know. Other people's children ate them but I didn't dare to do anything. People [other villagers] asked me to have a look but I didn't dare to look [at them]. They looked very pitiful because I raised [fed] them and I wasn't happy to look at them. **In the future, do you think landmines those were put by people will hit things [livestock and people] more or less?** I don't know. I don't know whether it will hit more things or not. I can't predict if it [landmine problem] isn't solved. If they [KNLA and Border Guard] can sort it out, they [landmines] will hit things a bit lesser. If not [if landmine problem can't be solved], they will hit things more and more in the future. **Could you estimate how many had blown up already such blowing up without hitting things [villagers and livestock] or hitting things?** Around 40 or 50 landmines blew up already, some hit things and some not.

	Some of them blew up when the wind come and branches of trees fell down on them and some hit wild animals. **How about landmines those hit guests [people from other villages]? Do you recognize them they didn't hit anything?** Landmines those hit guests; we don't recognize them as they didn't hit anything but our villagers didn't dare to go and check. Then, we went and brought them back and sent one them to a hospital. People [villagers] sent that person to a hospital well. **Who were they?** They are from Kawkareik [town] and Thaton [town]. Again, one person was hit but we didn't dare to go and brought that person back due to many people [some guest stepped on landmines already and one more person was hit by landmine, so I mentioned 'due to many people]. If we go, we will be hit [by landmines], so we don't dare to go [to the place where a person stepped on landmine] anymore. **Anything else would you like to report?** I have nothing more to tell you. - Th---'s mother, (female, 60), farmer, Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2011)
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/8**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Received May 2011)
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in May 2012
Details:	**Later, what were the problems that happened and could you explain me some?** We haven't dared travel because of landmines. The owner [Border Guard who planted landmines] came here but they didn't scold us and we haven't dared to travel. They [landmines] hit people's cows and again hit people's buffalos. **Have people dared to go to their plantations?**

	They haven't dared to go. None of the people dare to go to their durain plantations. I have a betelnut plantation at the mouth of the river but I daren't to go there because the betelnut trees are in amongst the bushes. Maybe, I will be able to go to there in the future. **Did they [Border Guard] inform you when they planted landmines?** They didn't inform us. People wouldn't step on them if they informed people. People were hit by them [landmines] suddenly. They didn't inform people [villagers] after they planted them early. They came here [Thee Wah] in the summer and informed us [about landmines] after people [villagers] had already stepped on them but they didn't inform us the specific area where they planted landmines. They just informed us don't go to that area. Then, we haven't gone anywhere after they told us don't go to that area. **Did people step on landmines already at that time?** People were hit already and many cows were hit already. They just said that don't go to there anymore. People informed us, the ones who told us are Border Guard. **Who are their officers?** I don't know who led them. Previously, they traveled back and forth here [Thee Wah village]. They are Maung La Gyi [an soldier from Border Guard]. They didn't scold at us. They just said that don't travel around. I don't meet with Hpah Maw Koh [a Border Guard] very often. As for Maung La Gyi, he used to stay at my house and I told him that we can't suffer anymore because of you and KNLA and a monk said that cats fight each other without dogs. He replied me that you are telling the right thing. He said that whatever I do, it harmful for Karen people. - W---'s mother, (female, 55), farmer, Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2011)
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/9**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Received May 2011)
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in May 2012
Details:	**I heard people suffer from landmines in your village?**

	There are many landmines around my village. **Can you tell me a bit about that?** How do I have to tell you? **For example, tell me about that information.** We are afraid of the Border Guard landmines. We don't dare to go to our field hut. **The Border Guard informed villagers about the landmines they came and planted?** They didn't tell. They didn't tell me. They saw me but they didn't tell me. **Do they tell village leaders that they planted landmines around by the village and in the middle of the village or on the *kaw bo koh* [mud wall separating paddy fields, used to dam water inside the field and also for paddy farmers to walk on to access their field]?** They didn't tell. **How many animals of you were hit [by landmine]?** Total of [my] animals are ten. **Goats or cows?** Not goats. It is cows. **All are cows?** Cows and buffalos. **You already lost ten?** Already lost ten. **When that was happen?** Since 2009 until 2011 and 2011 to 2012. **Was it last year?** I calculated all. In 2011 to 2012, I lost six cows and buffalos. **Do you still any now?** My cows?

	Yes. Only two cows still left. One of the cows had two calves and both of the calves were hit by landmines. **Didn't you tell and complain to KNLA that your cows were hit by landmine?** Like that my cows were hit by landmines, I can't do anything, Help us. How can I tell them that? Even you tell them, they don't listen. They said: "I didn't plant any [landmines]." One day, I told Tee Nyo. I never see Pa Maw Ko. They told us they didn't plant any and if they planted them, we wouldn't have any cows. **How many people were hit [by landmines]?** People hit include Pa Mu Pah, Ma Nyo Aye, Pwah Noh Kyaw, Tay Wah and Taw Maw Byu. **Were they hit [by landmine] around by rice field?** It was a bit distant from the village where they were hit. It was in the mountains. **What about hit [by landmine] around by rice field or village?** My cows were hit [by landmines] around by rice field. **Included any humans hit?** Not include. Only from Tha Waw Thaw village. **Is there anything you want to say more that you want people to help you?** I don't know. If people hear [about this issue] and if they are willing to help us, they can help us. **Is there anything that I haven't asked you and you wanted to say more?** They are already uniting right? We are happy if they unite. They have never come and take out their mines. It is not going well for the landmine issue? They don't come and take them out. They said they will come and take them out but I haven't seen them come and take out. I have to look after my cows *daw su daw yaw* [in the rain and sun]. I am fed up with this. **Can't you let them go free?** No, you have to tie them. I worry that they will be hit more [by landmines]. - T---'s mother, (female, 60) Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay

	Hsah Township (Interviewed April 2012)
Remark:	

April 2012

- **Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/1**

<table>
<tr><td>Relevant Categories:</td><td>Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines</td></tr>
<tr><td>KHRG source:</td><td>[Unpublished incident report received May 2012]</td></tr>
<tr><td>Location:</td><td>Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District</td></tr>
<tr><td>Date of landmine incident:</td><td>List of incidents April 2012 – October 2011</td></tr>
<tr><td>Details:</td><td>Border Guard and KNLA planted landmines beside Thee Wah village, so cattle and goats were hit [by the landmines] and then villagers could not go to their flat field farms, plantations and the mouth of the channel. Plus people [villagers] were hit [by landmines], so this is now a serious problem happening in this village.

Landmine incidents in the 3rd Township [T' Nay Hsah Township]: Noh Kay village tract, above Thee Wah village, beside Noh Kyaw pond:

<table>
<tr><th>No</th><th>Date</th><th>Name of casualty or name of owner of animal</th><th>Livestock</th><th>Sex</th></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>November 11th 2011</td><td>Auntie Gh---</td><td>buffalo</td><td>Female, with small puppy</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>November 20th 2011</td><td>Auntie Gh---</td><td>bull</td><td>young cow</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td>November 27th 2011</td><td>Auntie Gh---</td><td>bull</td><td>One cow</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td>February 9th 2012</td><td>Auntie Gh---</td><td>bull</td><td>One cow and one ox</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td>November 14th 2011</td><td>Naw Lo---</td><td>bull</td><td>One small young cow</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td>November 15th 2011</td><td>Uncle S---</td><td>bull</td><td>one ox</td></tr>
<tr><td>7</td><td>October 5th 2011</td><td>Auntie Gh---</td><td>bull</td><td>one young cow</td></tr>
<tr><td>8</td><td>February 9th 2012</td><td>Saw Pr---</td><td>bull</td><td>one young ox</td></tr>
<tr><td>9</td><td>March 20th 2012</td><td>L---'s father</td><td>bull</td><td>one young ox</td></tr>
<tr><td>10</td><td>April 6th 2012</td><td>Uncle S---</td><td>goat</td><td>One young male goat</td></tr>
<tr><td>11</td><td>March 19th 2012</td><td>Naw Lo---</td><td>goat</td><td>One young female goat</td></tr>
<tr><td>12</td><td>[day is missing] April 2012</td><td>Ah---</td><td>buffalo</td><td>Old female buffalo</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
</table>

	13	April 5th 2010	Maung Kh---, 43 years old, village, hit by landmine, male		
	14	March 2011	Py---, 23 years old, villager, hit by landmine, male		
	15	March 14th 2011	Thee Wah village, Uncle Ky--- [buffalo owner], beside Noh Boh Kloh village [the place where this buffalo stepped on landmine]	buffalo	One female [buffalo]

We knew that Border Guard planted landmines 300 landmines above Thee Wah village and at the bottom of the mountain. [As far as] we knew, about 50 landmines blew up already. [Landmines] hit two men, cows, buffalos and goats those were hit by landmines [were reported] as we wrote up and reported. This is the true information and this is all information that villagers have got.

Remark:	For photos of cows and other livestock injured by landmines near Thee Wah village, see photos in Section II: B above.

- **Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report received May 2012]*
Location:	Htee Klay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	List of incidents April 2012 – December 2011
Details:	***Htee Klay village tract***

Kaw Hka Law, Kaw Toe and Kaw Hklee village area

No	Names of owners	Type of the animal	Type	Date
1	Uncle U---	A cow	F	12/12/2011
2	U My---	A cow	F	---/12/2011
3	Daw Gy---	Baby cow/ox	UNK	---/12/2011
4	U K---	Male buffalo	M	---/2/2012
5	U P---	A cow	F	16/4/2012

K'Ser Hklo village

No	Owner names	Animal and type landmine victims	Date
1	*Thara* W---	Female buffalo	16/4/2012
2	Gw---	A cow	15/3/2012
3	Maung J---	A cow	---/3/2012
4	Uncle	Male buffalo	---/3/2012

	H---		
5	*Thara* Y---	Male buffalo	---/2/2012

No	Date	What stepped on landmine:	M/F
1	14/1/2012	One of Ki---'s buffalo	M
2	14/1/2012	One of Bu---'s buffalo	F
3	15/1/2012	One of Ay---'s mother's cow	F
4	10/1/2012	One of Po---'s ox	M
5	28/1/2012	One of Ch---'s buffalo	F
6	28/1/2012	Saw Hp---	M
7	28/1/2012	One of Pi---'s cow	F
8	1/2/2012	One of Ma My---'s ox	M
9	6/2/2012	One of Oh---'s buffalo	F
10	7/2/2012	One of Ma My---'s ox	M
11	19/2/2012	One of Naw Sh---'s cow	F
12	12/3/2012	Saw Ht---	M
13	12/3/2012	Saw F---	M
14	19/3/2012	Saw Hn--- (three in the same day)	M
15	31/3/2012	One of Uncle D---'s cow	F
16	30/3/2012	One of Gr---'s cow	F

No	Villagers who were landmine victims	Date
1	Landmine exploded and hit Eh---'s leg and is destroyed then he committed suicide by shooting himself.	---/---/2011
2	Saw Hk--- steped on landmine and committed suicide by shooting himself.	---/-3/2012

Remark: For photos of cows and other livestock injured by landmines near K'Ser Klo village, see photos in Section II: B above.

- **Source Document: 2012/April/Pa'an/3**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report received May 2012]*
Location:	T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	List of incidents March 2012 – December 2011
Details:	**December 2011** 1) 15/12/11, Border Guard demanded for a hand tractor in Kwee Maw Law village and if the villagers don't give them, they will burn the village. 2) 14/1/12, one of Ki---'s buffalo was injured by the bomb in Kwee Maw Law at 3pm.

January 2012

3) 14/1/12, one of Bu---'s buffalo was injured by the bomb in Kwee Maw Law at 10 pm.

4) 15/1/12, one of Ay---'s mother's cows was injured by the bomb in Kwee Maw Law at 8pm.

5) 10/1/12, One of Po---'s cow was injured by the bomb upper the flat field at 9pm.

6) 23/1/12, a cow of Bo---'s was injured by the bomb in Htee Klay Hkee at 10pm.

7) 28/1/12, Saw was injured by the bomb upper the flat field at 6pm.

8) 28/1/12, a cow of Pi--- was injured by the bomb at Doh Ner Plaw, 12pm.

February 2012

9) 1/2/12, a cow of Ma My--- was injured by the bombat Htee Klay Hkee , 9pm.

10) 6/2/12, a buffalo of Oh--- was injured by the bomb at Htee Klay Hkee, Kwee Maw Law at 9pm.

11) 7/2/12, a cow of Ma My--- was injured by the bomb at Htee Klay Hkee at 11pm.

12) 19/2/12, a cow of Naw Sh--- was injured by the bomb above Law Nyoh Luh Lake at 9pm.

March 2012

13) 12/3/12, Pah Ht--- was injured by the bomb on the hill of Kwee Maw Law at 6pm.

14) 12/3/12, Saw F--- was injured by the bomb at Kwee Lay, Pah Hpoh River at 11 pm.

15) 12/3/12, three cows were injured by the bomb at Noh Kyaw, 12 pm.

16) 12/3/12, in Thee Wah village, a cow and an ox of Auntie Gh--- was injured by the bomb at 3pm and after that in Noh Kyaw village, a cow of Ar--- was injured by the bomb. It happened in the same date as Auntie Gh---. Both of them cows and ox were injured by the bomb of Border Guard [BGF].

17) 25/3/12, in Thee Wah village, a cow of Er--- was injured beside Meh Boh Hkee flat field at 1 pm by the Border Guard [BGF] bomb.

Remark:	For photos of cows and other livestock injured by landmines near Thee Wah village, see photos in Section II: B above.

- **Source Document: 2012/May/Pa'an/4**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Noh Kay village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Received in May 2012
Details:	**How did you get hit by the bomb?** I got hit when I went out for fishing. **How did people address you?** People call me Ng---. **How old are you?** I'm 32 years old. **Whose bomb did you get hit by?** I also don't know about that. **Was it *Kaw Thoo Lei* [KNLA] bomb or the Tatmadaw bomb?** I also don't know because it was planted beside the road. **Was it close to the village?** No, it was not close to the village. **So, was it on the hill?** Yes, it was on the hill. **Did the any of the villagers' cow and buffalo get hit by the bomb?** Yes, we have some people whose cow and buffalo got hit by the bomb. **Which village did you live?** I live in this village, Noh Kay.

	You got hit when you went out for fishing right? Yes. **Which hospital did you go after you got hit by the bomb?** I went to Kawkareik hospital. After, I'm healed the nurse discharged me and I came back to my village. **How many months did you stay in the hospital?** I was in the hospital for one week. - Ng---, (male, 32) Noh Kay village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed March 2011)
Remark:	For a photo of Saw Ng---, see page XX. While it is not clear when Saw Ng--- stepped on the mine, the community member who interviewed him confirmed it was during the first three months of 2012.

March 2012

- **Source Document: 2012/March/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished photo notes, received May 2012]*
Location:	Maw Thay Der, Tantabin Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	Photos taken in March 2012
Details:	These photos were taken in the same area at the top of Maw Thay Der mountain, you will see *IMG-7736* and *IMG-7737* show the two sides pf the path were landmines planted by Tatmadaw; its have seemed nobody places any footsteps on the border edge of the road. When we took this quite close landscape images, we would like to try to take a photo of the location of one mine that we know the exact place, it is planted under the dust below the trees but we were afraid because one of the old men who was traveling with us said that people even KNLA soldiers were not sure how many landmines were planted and where the other places they were planted were so we lost our eagerness to find out around there because we don't even dare to step on those dry leaves except on the dusty road because of the warning of the local peoples. It is also very dangerous for the new travelers as there wasn't a warning board. According to the true event and oral information, there was a small ambush happened between KNLA and Tatmadaw. After KNLA ambush of Tatmadaw ended, then the Tatmadaw left. However, before the Tatmadaw soldiers left that area, they planted landmines on purpose. When the KNLA came back to clean the area they noticed the landmines were planted but unfortunately they also didn't dare to remove the landmines because the reason is also they didn't know how many of those dangerous items were under the ground. *IMG-7736 and IMG-7737* This head of the mountain includes public use road between Kaw Thay Der and Maw Thay Der called Maw Thay Der Mountain. It was planted with an unknown number of landmines. *IMG-7738 and IMG-7753* Travelers, villagers, betel nut gardeners, hill agricultural farmers and all ages of civilians have used this road. *IMG-7743* You can see the cardamom gardens join along this long way road.
Remark:	Photos of villagers travelling along the Maw Thay Der mountain path are

	included above in Section II: B above. The Maw Thay Der path is also pictured on the cover of this report.

- **Source Document: 2012/March/Pa'an/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Interviewed March 2012
Details:	**How do people address you?** People call me Hn---. **Is it Pah Hn---?** Saw Hn---. **How old are you?** I'm 25 years old. **Where do you live?** I live in Thaw village. **How did you get hit by the bomb? Was it when you went for hunting?** It was when I came back from fishing. I was walking down in the stream and I heard people were talking. I thought I'll go and check it. **You want to go and check what they were talking about?** Yes, I went to check but I didn't see yet so, I kept going on and didn't want to turn back. When I saw the people, I didn't dare to approach them because I thought they are DKBA soldiers. So, I didn't turn back but kept working around that place then, I heard some explosion and I didn't know what was going on. **Has your wound healed already? Did it happen already a year?** Not a year yet. It happened only three months ago. **Did you injured in the end of this harvest year?**

Yes. During when people reap the paddy

Was it last year [2011] when people were reaping the paddy?

Just this year [2012].

This year? This month is only March for this year.

Yes, I got injured three months and a half ago.

So was it the end of last year?

Yes, it happened at the end of last year. I was in the hospital for two months and I came back here already one month and a half. Yes, it has happened already three months and a half.

Which hospital did you go to?

I went to Kawkareik hospital.

Did anyone help you?

If no one had helped me, I wouldn't have been able to survive.

Who helped you?

I also don't know but I think it is was *Kaw Lah Wah* [white people]. They helped everyone who got injured by the bomb. There is still a person who got injured by the bomb in the hospital and hasn't been discharged yet.

Are you married?

Yes.

How many children do you have?

I have one child. My wife gave birth in the hospital when I was there for the medical treatment.

Is it a girl or boy?

It is a girl.

Do you join your leg back together with steel?

Yes.

- Saw Saw Hn---, (male, 25), Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2011)

Remark:	Photos of Hn--- available in Section II: F above.

- **Source Document: 2012/March/Pa'an/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thaw Waw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Interviewed March 2012
Details:	**How do people call you?** People call me Ht---. **Where do you live?** I live in Thaw village. **Whose bomb did you get hit by?** I got hit by Border Guard [BGF] bomb. **Why did you get hit by the bomb?** I was hit when I'm on the way to burn the woods to make coal. **Was it very far from your village to the place when you went to burn the woods for coal?** They planted the bombs beside the flat field. **Did you cow and buffalo also got hit?** No, they didn't. But other people cow and buffalo got hit. One of the cows of my mother in law's got hit. **Are you married?** Yes, my wife just passed by here a minute ago. **How many children do you have?** I have two children but one died so, only a girl left. **Did anyone help you when you got hit by the bomb?**

	Yes. **Did the villagers carry you to the hospital when you get hit by the bomb?** No, I went back to myself to the village and my friends sent me to the hospital. **Can you tell me about the process of how you got hit?** I got hit when I came back from burning the woods for coal. They planted it beside the road not on the road. I didn't know it while I was walking so, I got hit. It's also hit one of my testicles. **Did you have to pay the hospital bill by yourself?** No, they paid the hospital bill for us. **Did you also spend any money for the hospital bill?** Yes, I don't have money so, I borrow from others. I have my debt so, I have to pay it back. **Did Border Guard [BGF] come and give any support to you?** No, I didn't see any of them come. **So, they didn't help you?** Yes, they didn't. They didn't help anyone who got hit by their bombs. It was so boring to stay in the hospital for 23 days. **How many wounds did you get?** I got hit the whole body so, the wounds is everywhere on my body. Now, some of the wound already healed. If you saw when I got hit, you wouldn't dare to look at it. - Saw Ht---, (male, 25), Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed May 2011)
Remark:	Photos of Saw Ht--- are available above Section II: F.

- **Source Document: 2012/March/Pa'an/5**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines
KHRG	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with*

source:	*KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Interviewed March 2012
Details:	Dee Kyaw Naw planted the bombs. **So, Did Dee Kyaw Naw group plants all of the bombs in this area?** Yes, if he planted it in the forest that couldn't hit the cows and buffalo, I wouldn't complain anything. **Did he plant the bombs around the flat fields?** Yes. They didn't even plant it around the flat fields. They just planted it under our tent and even in the stove. But, later they [BGF] said that KNLA soldiers came and cooked in our tent so, they planted it. How could that be. None of the KNLA soldiers came back and cooked here. **Have the KNLA soldiers ever come back here?** No, they didn't. **When did they plant it?** Before the season when we finish reaping the paddy. **So, during the villagers reaping the paddy?** Yes, it was during the villagers reaping the paddy. **Which month was it?** I don't know. I don't know which month we reap the paddy. Probably, October. They also planted so many bombs in the forest. **Did the villagers reap the paddy earlier or later?** They reap it late. We didn't even finish reaping but we had to rush to finish it. Later, we didn't even dare to go to our flat field because they planted the bombs around the flat fields. **How many people direct [guard] them the way?** I also don't know. But I see they came into our village only once. **Did they plant all the bombs that they have?** Yes, they planted all; they even ordered other soldiers to bring more for them.

	Did you see that? No, I didn't. **Did the people who guard them see those bombs?** They let the person who guard them go in front of them. The guard didn't need to carry anything. - [Name not known], T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Received May 2011)
Remark:	

February 2012

- **Source Document: 2012/February/Pa'an**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Tha Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Incident occurred February 2012; interviewed March 2012
Details:	**What is your name?** People called me Saw Hp---. **How old are you?** 36 years old. **What is your village name?** Tha Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, Ta Nay Hsah Township. **Whose landmines did you step on?** At the place I stepped on landmine was not a *Hsaw Tat* [Border Guard] bomb. It was a *Kaw Thoo Lei* [KNLA] bomb. **Where did you stepped on landmine? Is it bottom of the mountain?** Not bottom of the mountain; it is above the pagoda because we already live at bottom of the mountain. At that places it will not be a *Hsaw Tat* bomb. There are many landmines at that area. I didn't know really well. But *Hsaw Tat* went to that area one time before I went and they also got injured by a landmine. After they got injured by a landmine, they came back. The place that I went was not very far from the place that they went. I just went a little further than them. **Is the bomb is big?** I don't know they are big or small. I never saw the bomb, whether it was a big or small bomb. **Who help you after you stepped on landmine?** My friends who went together with me because we went for fishing. We went many people. About 10 people. They brought me back. People [villagers] went

	every evening for fishing and I never usually went because people said they dare not go. Other people went and they got fish to eat. For me I did not go and I did not have fish to eat. Except the evening that I stepped on the landmine, I decided to go and then I was injured. If we want to eat we have to buy. But to buy fish I didn't have money all the time. I couldn't think what to do. *[One villager sit beside talking]* We do not have money to buy fish. We have to look for ourselves. If we look for fish, we have to be afraid. **Who help you after you got injured, who give you treatment?** Thara Saw Hl---, he is working with *Cheh Chay Nee* [ICRC]. He supported me for the treatment cost. He is not from BGF and not from KNLA. **Does your leg cut off right after you stepped on landmine?** Yes, I lost my foot at the same time I stepped on a landmine. The bone was broken and just only the skin was attached. I went to Kawkareik hospital for medical treatment. When I first arrived I had to pay the cost by myself for operation cost because the red cross didn't arrived yet. It cost me more that two hundred thousand kyat already. It did not include food cost yet. **When did you step on landmine?** I do not note down this one. It was almost two months ago. *A woman interjects: He stepped on the landmine on month is Ta Pone Twel 4 [English calendar February 12th 2012.]* *Interviewee continues:* I stepped on a landmine in this year because the wound is not totally cured yet. Saw Hp---, (male, 36), Tha Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, Ta Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Received May 2012)
Remark:	

January 2012

- **Source Document: 2012/January/Pa'an/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Noh Kyaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Received in May 2012
Details:	**How long time ago have you stepped on the landmine? Whose landmine did you step on?** [It was] Border Guard's landmine. **Border Guard's landmine?** Yes, Border Guard's landmine. **What did you look for and what did you do?** I went to cut fire wood because people went to cut bamboo every day and I thought I would look for some vegetable then I came back. **You came back?** People, Maung W--- and his son in-law travel back and forth along this path everyday but they didn't step on them [landmines]. When went [along the path], I saw a man on river bank, wore a *longyi* [man sarong] on his waist without shirt and with beard. **Was it the period when you went to check your charcoal?** While [I] was looking for firewood. In the past, soldiers planted landmine when they stayed here but people weren't hit by them. I thought people travelled back and forth every day along this path, I went along it and I was hit by it [the landmine] on the way home. I was hit by landmine but I didn't know. **Did you leg blow off right away?** No, I saw people cried a lot, including my nephew. **Did you go with many people?** [I went] with my aunt and nephew. **Were you pregnant at that time?**

	I was seven months pregnant. I didn't know the reason why those people [my nephew and aunt] cried a lot because I thought the landmine blew up very far away. [I was] wrong because actually it hit my leg when I looked at my leg. **Didn't you know? Not hurt?** No, I didn't know then I came back. I couldn't do anything when it [her leg] was hit earlier because the blood bled out *ra ra* [the sound of her blood bled out]. **Was it hurt?** No, it wasn't. I came back forward to other people [her nephew and aunt]. **Could you come back?** I came back. Came back, and it [my leg] was hurt when it was hit [by a landmine while she was walking]. **Was it hit [by something]?** Yes. **[You leg] blew off?** No. **Which part of your leg blew off?** I lost all of the [flesh on my] toes. When I touched it with my hand, there was no more flesh. None of my toes blew off because all toes remained but people [doctors] amputated it. **Then, which hospital did you go?** I went to Kawkareik hospital. I asked people to send me to *kyaw thah* [student] clinic [Mae Tao clinic] but people didn't dare to send me. **How did people help you?** Border Guard helped [gave] 50,000 kyat. **Who were they? Maung Ng---?** Saw Ba--- gave it [money] to me but I didn't know exact person who gave it to me. **Did they give 50,000 kyat for the prize of medicine [treatment fee]?** It wasn't for the prize of medicine because it was just for food cause. **Did people help you when you went to there [Kawkareik hospital]?**

Their teacher [an officer from Border Guard] gave 100,000 kyat to me.

Anybody else help you?

Nobody. Just my relatives helped me.

So, you had to spend you own [money] for the rest of [the treatment fee]?

I had to spend for the rest of it.

How much did it cost?

Almost 700,000 kyat was spent for round trip fee and food cause. People [doctors] didn't injected many medicine due to being pregnant. People said that it would affect the kid [the kid who is inside this pregnant women], so people had to [look after] me the whole night..the whole night [she repeated this word twice]. Four people stayed at the hospital.

Four people?

I told you that four of us stayed at the hospital. I stayed at the hospital for two week but people [doctors] just cured it [her injured leg] twice then we came back.

Did they cut off your leg very long?

Don't talk about cutting off it. I had to hire people to throw the part of leg [a part of her leg which was cut off] away by paying for 10,000 kyat. If didn't hire [someone] with10,000 kyat, nobody would throw it away.

The part of your leg?

I had to hire people with 10,000 kyat. If I didn't hire, nobody would throw it away and people [doctors] didn't allow me to throw it away by myself.

You were at Kawkareik hospital at that time?

Yes.

The part of leg which was cut off from your leg?

The part of leg which was thrown away by people.

The part of leg which was thrown away by people?

Yes, I had to hire the person who threw my leg away by paying 10,000 kyat. My son's father [my husband] said, "*don't throw it away if we need to hire, I will eat it*" because he was angry.

	Due to no money [as well]? We had no money. We didn't have money because people just lended money to us urgently. My older sister sent money to me when my injury recovered. I said: "*We are so lucky because we have a sister who lives away from us and if my sister didn't live away from us [and send money], I would have died*". **Where did you step on it [landmine]?** Pler Baw Kee [a place in a plantation]. **Is it close to the flat field?** It is quite far away from the flat field. Now, people go to there every day. **Is it located in people's plantation?** Yes, it is in people's plantation. In the past, I went to there every day. The person who planted the landmine is Kyaw Wah. **Kyaw Wah?** Yes, he suicide himself by gun already. *A man interjects:* He retired himself already. - Ma Nu---, (female, 33) Noh Kyaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)
Remark:	Follow-up in May 2012 with the community member who conducted this interview confirmed that Ma Nu--- stepped on the landmine in January 2012 and that, despite being seven months pregnant at the time, subsequently gave birth to a healthy baby girl. She is included in the photo on the back cover of this report (right) and other photos of her are included above in Section II: F.

- **Source Document: 2012/January/Pa'an/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished report written by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	January 2012
Details:	**What is your name?** Da---.

	How old are you? I can't remember. *[Someone interjects: He's 57 years old.]* **How did you hit by landmine? Did you go fishing?** Going to cut carol stems and to tie up the cows. **You stepped on the landmine in the field? They planted the mine in your field?** They just planted in the land, beside the field hut, in the field. **You were going to cut the carol stem beside that hut. Did you step on the landmine while you came back? Whose landmine is that you stepped on?** I don't know. **Do you think it was an SPDC landmine or KNU landmine?** It is mine [now]. **After you were hit, who saw you?** One woman did fishing there. **She saw you, did she carry you back?** No, she come back to call the people. **Could you come back?** No, I couldn't. **Which hospital did you go for treatment?** Kawkareik hospital. **Did people help your treatment cost?** Yes, people helped. **How about your family, how much money did you have to pay? Now have you got anything like a crutch to walk?** No, nothing yet. **Did they ask to go to take one? Did you know the organization look**

	after you? No. They didn't ask. I don't know. **Did you get enough food in the hospital?** Yes, I have. **After you step on the landmine, was there anyone to do fake leg [prosthetic] for you?** Yes, in the western part of the town if we go. **So you didn't go yet. Is it cured yet?** Almost cured. I don't want to do it now, because it is just recent incident. **In which month did it happen?** I don't remember. **So how many months already now?** Not this month, starting since last month. **So would it be January? At the time of rice harvesting?** After collecting rice. So three and a half months ago. - Da---, (male, 57) farmer in T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)
Remark:	

December 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/December/Pa'an/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	"Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011 to January 2012," May 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b40.html**
Location:	Htee Lone Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	December 2nd 2011
Details:	On December 2nd 2011, one of the At--- villager's legs was cut. I don't know her real name but people call her Aa--- Mother and she is 32. In Noh Kay village tract nine villagers were injured. They are: 1). Ce---, aged 35, from Uk--- village; 2). Bi---, aged 28, from Uk--- village; 3). Saw Bo Lah Bo, aged 48, from Uk---village; 4) Pi---, aged 36, from Eh---; 5). Saw Gi---, aged 37, from Ni---; 6). Gu---, aged 37, from Eh---. Gu--- stepped on a landmine when he went to his farm, but he couldn't deal with the pain so heshot himself with a musket; and 7). Do---, aged 8, from Eh--- village. Two Muslim people were also killed but I don't know their names and the villagers just left their bodies in the place where they died. These two Muslim people had stepped on the same landmine and were killed together. Received January 2012
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/December/Pa'an/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview received May 2012]*
Location:	Tha Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	December 2011
Details:	**What is [your husband's] name?**

	His name is Maung H---. **Where does he live?** He lives in this village [Thaw Waw Thaw]. **How old are you?** I am 41 years old. **Where did he step on landmine? How did he step on landmine?** I don't know. He went around too much. I couldn't stop him. At every morning he could stay at home but on that morning he saw a beehive and he couldn't stay at home anymore. He went and looked for other behive at a place called Kwee Leh Pa beside people plantation. He step on landmine a little upper Kwee Leh Pa in a small stream. **Whose landmine?** I don't know [whose landmine] but according to people talking it is like the bomb planted by people above [KNLA]. People said that. But we couldn't say that exactly KNLA landmine because at that place Border Guard also could reach to that area. There are many bombs planted and you can't say exactly whose landmine. **Does his leg get cut by landmine?** No, it is not. He still has toes. When I have landmine explode, I directly went to that area. Before he also still at our hut and I also stay at hut. It was almost noontime. I should tell him not to go and everyday I told him to go and look for fish but that day I do not remember to tell him to look for fish. So he went out with one of his friend. When he stepped on the landmine, his friend couldn't help him. His friend told him to wait but he didn't wait. He said: "*I will only live up to here*". I went up to the place called Ler Gaw Hkee and his friend came back and told me and I directly ran up to the place. Along the way the area I ran through is full of landmines and other villagers worried for me a lot. I just ran through the area full of landmines. I did not worry for myself. When I arrived at the place that he got injured, I shouted out loud and called him. I went up the hillside and till I reached on top of the hill I was calling him. But I forgot to go on the side that he went. If I went to that area I would have seen him. When I came back, I only thought that my husband is not alive. When I arrived at my hut and I saw many villagers come up and they said that other people stepped on landmines and no one follow them like this. But this time a lot of people come. People are full of one hand tractors only men. Later another five hand tractors come up. When I arrived that they hold me and I couldn't follow them because they are men and I couldn't escape. But the men villagers went up, when they saw him, he already die by suffocation. People who went and check him said that the distance between the place that he stepped on landmine and the place that he

	suffocated himself is a little far. He didn't bleed to death. People did not see his footprint. There is no bruise on his neck only a small bruise on his jaw. The tree branch that he suffocated himself with is not so high. His toes touched the ground. All his children had to see how their father suffocated himself. Before he suffocated himself, he kept his back on the stone wall and people are surprised that how he could walk to that area with no foot. I think, he must have thought that if he stays alive, his situation would not be like it was before. There will many other reasons why he suffocated himself. For me, since I got married with him, every year we have to look for food to eat. For him he look for beehive and sell and we could by food. **How many villagers animals injured by landmines?** There are many. Recently people note it down. **Do you hear how many landmines explode**? Can't count how many. People just note it down the landmine that injured villagers and villagers' animals. -Maung H---'s wife, Thaw Waw Thaw village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)
Remark:	

November 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/November/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Mine sweeping; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Ongoing forced labour and movement restrictions in Toungoo District," March 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12f1.html**
Location:	Tantabin Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	After November 16th 2011
Details:	Starting on November 16th, villagers in the Po--- area were ordered to provide unpaid labour to support the construction of a new road from Kaw Thay Der to Naw Soe. Tatmadaw MOC #9 soldiers based in Po--- ordered villagers in the surrounding area to transport petrol and spare machinery parts, as well as supplies for soldiers who were taking security for the bulldozer during the construction of the new road, to Kh--- Camp. One truck and five motorbikes were ordered to transport the supplies and equipment at a time. Although it only takes three hours to drive from Po--- to Kh---, the villagers driving the truck and the five motorcycles were ordered to stay in Kh--- for five days before returning to Po---. During this time, according to one of the villagers trained by KHRG who provided information contained in this report, the soldiers at Kh--- ordered the motorbikes to drive in front of the bulldozer as the road was being constructed, leading the motorcycle drivers to suspect they were being used to clear landmines from the intended course of the new road. Each group of five motorcycles and one truck were ordered to stay in Kh--- for five days, before being permitted to return to Po---, at which point a different truck and a new group of five motorcycles was sent to replace the previous group. According to the same villager who provided this information, this cycle of forced labour repeated itself approximately every five days until mid-December.
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/November/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on January 12th 2012]*

Location:	Bu Tho Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	November 15th2011
Details:	In the beginning of November,on the 1st and 2nd, Thein Sein's government [Tatmadaw] soldiers from LIB [Light Infantry Battalion] #218, under the command of TOC [Tactical Operations Command] #3,LID [Light Infantry Division] #11, from K'Ter Htee army camp,were active on the banks of the Khoh Loh Kloh [river] , at Su Mweh Hta place. They came into, and stayed, in the KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army] controlledarea so the Thein Sein government soldiers had to face the KNLA soldiers and fight against them. LIB #218 came and stayed in the KNLA soldiers place so they stepped on landmines which had been planted there by the KNLA. A lot of LIB #218 soldiers were killed or injured. In Nl---monastery, where the Monk Kr--- already rebuilt the old monastery, a bomb exploded, immediately hitting 18 of the Thein Sein government's soldiers. Eight of them were killed directly. Because [soldiers from] LIB #218 were injured and killed, they had to send the people who were injured to Ob--- army camp. [In order] to sent back their injured people, they forced villagers who live beside the Ob---and Bi--- road [to carry the injured soldiers]. They forced villagers in this way. After we had arrived in No--- village, we met with Saw Br--- who had had to carry the injured Burmese Army soldiers. We interviewed him about the Burmese soldiers from LIB #218 who forced him to carry the injured soldiers. Saw Br--- had to carry the injured Thein Sein government's soldiers from Mi--- place to Lw--- village. It took one day and he received no payment. Furthermore, there was no one to change with so he had to carry [the soldiers] by himself alone. Reported November 30th 2011
Remark:	See photo of Saw Br---, [forced labour section above] one of the villagers who was ordered to carry backpacks belonging to some of the 18 Tatmadaw LIB #218 soldiers that were injured or killed by landmines.

- **Source Document: 2011/November/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Papun Situation Update: Bu Tho Township, November 2011," February 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b16.html**
Location:	Day Wah village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District

Date of landmine incident:	November 2011
Details:	The villagers had to porter when some of the SPDC soldiers got injured. One group of soldiers from LIB [Light Infantry Battalion] #218, TOC [Tactical Operations Command] #3 from K'Ter Tee camp were active in W---, Pw---, L---, and they went forward from one village to another until [they reached] H---. The group of soldiers from LIB #218, TOC #3 were active here for the purpose of making the villagers afraid. While the LIB #218, TOC #3, was staying in H---, eight of their soldiers were killed by landmines, and ten of them were injured, meaning that altogether 18 soldiers [were killed or injured]. The ten people who got injured were far away from the camp [at the time they were injured] and there was not enough medicine, so [in order] to carry them to K'Ter Tee hospital, the soldiers forced villagers to porter their loads [that the soldiers had been carrying]. The villagers who had to porter are from L--- and they went [to porter] on November 15th 2011. The villagers portered from H--- to K'Ter Tee, and it took one day. The incident was caused by the LIB #218, TOC #3 and their purpose was for the injured people [soldiers] to get good treatment. The victims were L--- villagers. The incident [of forced labour] happened in L--- village, Day Wah village tract, Bu Tho Township. I got the information on November 30th 2011. Reported November 30th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/November/Pa'an**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties; movement restrictions; new use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview conducted by a community member working with KHRG, received May 2012]*
Location:	Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Received in May 2012
Details:	**You went to paddy field [flat field farm]?** Before I arrived in paddy field [I stepped on the mine]**.** **Did you leg blow off after you was hit by landmine?**

	I lost my foot. ***Taik* bomb?** [It] was hit by a piece of it. **Was it close to you flat field farm?** It was close to my flat farm field. One flat field farm is here and the other one is above it. **How many people did you go with?** [One women beside him said that] there other people went before him. I don't know because nobody harvested them [paddy in flat field farms]. **How long time ago did landmine hit you?** Just six months ago. - Wh---, (male), Thee Wah village, Noh Kay village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District (Interviewed April 2012)
Remark:	Photos of Wh--- are included above in Section II: F.

October 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Thaton**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Movement restrictions
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished photo notes, received by KHRG in November 2011]*
Location:	Yo Kla Camp, Thaton District
Date:	October 16th 2011
Details:	Photo #118-09 Yo Kla army camp and close to the place where villagers find firewood. Villagers are afraid landmine because the Burmese army plant landmine.
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Situation Update: July to October 2011," November 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b49.html**
Location:	Le--- village, Tantabin Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	October 8th 2011
Details:	In 2011, there was so much rain so the roads were damaged. Because of the rain, the vehicle road in Le--- area at the lower part of Ki--- was damaged and cars could not go. So, the SPDC officers based in Le--- ordered villagers to go and repair the road. The road was damaged on October 8th 2011. Villagers had to go and repair the road as the SPDC ordered them. On October 10th 2011, the SPDC ordered 43 villagers from Le--- village to go and rebuild the road. The names of the villagers who had to go and rebuild the road are: Saw E---, Saw L---, Saw Ka---, Saw Z---, Saw Bp---, Saw Gk---, Saw E---, Naw Y---, Saw Wi---, Saw Re---, Saw L---, Naw Ny---, Saw S---, Saw Ba---, Saw Ka---, Naw Ga---, Saw Po---, Saw K---, Saw Z---, Naw Ky---, Saw Tu---, Saw Hte---, Saw Bp---, Saw Do---, Saw Eh---, Saw Pw---, Saw Gk---, Saw Za---, Saw Kh---, Saw T---, Saw Kw---, Saw Tw---, Saw Lw---, Saw Aw---, Saw Wa---, Saw Ah---, Saw Ma---, Saw Bo---, Saw De---, Saw Se---, Saw Si---, Saw Ra---, Naw La---, Saw Ay---, Saw Ni---, Saw Bw---, Naw Ta---, Saw Ku---, and Saw Lw---. These villagers who had to go and rebuild the road had to bring their own food when they went to rebuild the road. The SPDC soldiers did not provide any food to the villagers. One of the Le--- village

	heads told us [the above information] about the Le--- villagers who had to go and repair the road. Received November 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Nyaunglebin**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished photo notes, received by KHRG on November 9th2011]*
Location:	Fe--- village, Mone Township, Nyaunglebin District
Date of landmine incident:	October 16th 2011
Details:	Photo note- 0109-0111 Date of photo- October 16th2011 Place- beside the Fe--- village The information about- the Fe--- villager who stepped on landmine and lost both of his legs and now he looks after cattle for other people for his livelihood.
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Civilian use of landmines; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on November 8th2011]*
Location:	Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in October 2011
Details:	**As for the villagers who took [responsibility for] security, were any of them injured by SPDC [Tatmadaw] soldiers or landmines?** None of them were injured by SPDC soldiers and none of them died. **Did they [home guards] use landmines?** Yes, we used landmines. We didn't plant landmines inside the SPDC Army's fence [within the perimeter of their camp]. We just planted landmines around our village. If the SPDC Army came,

they would step on landmines and withdraw. Then, we would carefully flee to another place.

Did your villagers attack the SPDC Army soldiers?

They didn't attack them.

Did the villagers who used landmines step on any of them?

They didn't step on landmines.

What kind of landmines did they use?

We bought back and white gunpowder, pounded and mixed it [the white gunpowder] with the black gunpowder. We just made them [landmines] ourselves.

You made them by yourselves?

Yes, we made them ourselves but we took detonators from other people.

In the area where you live, how many landmines were used?

If we needed them, we used them and we didn't use them, we prepared them

When they were needed, how many landmines did you plant at one time?

When they were needed, we planted at least six, seven or ten landmines.

Didn't you plant them all the time?

No.

What would happen if you planted them all the time?

If we planted them all the time, we would worrythat villagers' pets would step on them. We informed the villagers straight away when we planted landmines.

Did any villagers who took [responsibility for] security in other places step on landmines because they were using them?

The villagers who took [responsibility for] security in other places didn't step on landmines when they came to our village.

- Saw Ap---, (male, 45), Fo--- village, Lu Thaw

	Township, Papun District Interviewed October 10th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished photo notes, received by KHRG in November 2011]*
Location:	Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date:	October 3rd 2011
Details:	Phtoto#105-108 On 3rd October 2011, I took the photos of SPDC army's landmine and a person who removed the landmine. He is a KNDO soldier from Company#1. In Wah Gklay Tuh, Saw K'T--- removed two M-16 bullets on 15th May 2011 and he removed three wired landmines in Pah Ghaw Loh on 20th September 2011.
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Dooplaya**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on October 18th2011]*
Location:	Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to October 2011
Details:	Several villagers in Ta--- and villagers' from the Thai side who own a large corn plantation do not dare to go and harvest their corn. They were told by the Ta--- village head, who had heard from the DKBA [Democratic Karen Buddhist Army], that landmines had been planted so they were not to go more than two yards to the west of the vehicle road. It is time to harvest the corn. The corn plantation is located between two villages, close to the bridge between Ta---and Wa---. The researcher talked to the Ta--- village head.
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); New use of landmines; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Villagers used as human shields in Pa'an District, October 2011," March 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b29.html**
Location:	M--- village, H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	October 29th 2011
Details:	In November 2011, I visited M--- village and asked the villagers for information about the incident. The villager named Naw K--- told me that two weeks ago the SPDC Army had entered the village. They forced villagers, including women, to go with them. Some male villagers were forced to carry SPDC [Army] soldiers who had been injured by landmines planted by the KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army]. The mines were planted to make it difficult for the SPDC Army to travel along their usual routes. Saw Y--- was with the villagers who carried the SPDC [Army] soldiers. At the time of the incident in October 2011, the sound of landmines and guns could be heard in the area beside M--- village. It was fighting [between the KNLA and Tatmadaw]. 45-year-old Saw Y--- from M--- village said gunshots could be heard at around 10:00 am. After that, at around 11:00 am, the SPDC Army entered M--- village and arrested the men in the village including Saw Y--- [to carry the injured Tatmadaw soldiers]. The SPDC looted some of the villager's money, husked rice, chickens and a book containing a list of medicines. One villager who sells food, called Saw E---, had two cans of fish, one packet of Mama noodles, one kilo of dry fish, eight chicken eggs and one torch stolen from him. [As mentioned above] the soldiers also arrested a few of the [male] villagers in order to carry the soldiers who had been injured. They also forced the women and children to go with them for protection to prevent the KNLA from shooting at them. When Saw Y--- carried the SPDC Army's injured soldiers to T--- village, he had to sleep with the SPDC Army soldiers in the same place as the women and children. The SPDC Army had no less than 30 people [soldiers]. They slept there for one night and they let the villagers go home between 9:00 am and 10:00 am the next morning, after eating rice with the SPDC Army. Reported November 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury

KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on November 24th2011]*
Location:	M--- village, H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	October 29th 2010
Details:	*Pee* Eh--- gave this information [to the KHRG researcher] and talked about what she had experienced, it was true and specific [in detail]. The SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] cooked and ate their food in M--- village. They then arrested villagers so that they could carry the injured soldiers who had been hurt by the landmines. This was going to take them a long time. The SPDC Army troop left the village at 1:00 pm and they headed straight to T--- village. Furthermore, because they [the Tatmadaw soldiers] were afraid that fighting might happen on the way [to T---] they forced women and children [from M--- village] to go with them; some women had to carry their young babies with them. There were about 30 villagers that went with the soldiers. Some children had to go with their mothers, and other children were left behind in their houses alone. The fathers of these children did not dare to come back and see them immediately [because they were afraid of being arrested]. Reported November 15th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/3**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on November 24th2011]*
Location:	M--- village, H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	October 29th 2010
Details:	On October 29th 2011, around 10:00 am, the KNLA soldiers' ambushed [Burmese] Army troops close to M--- village with a landmine when the government troops were coming back from Ga---. As a result of the mine attack, a sergeant from the Burmese Army died, and seven [soldiers] were injured. Six soldiers were injured seriously. Then, the Burmese Army troops fired a 60mm mortar to M---village and the mortar fell and hit a tree close to the villagers' houses. About one hour after they fired the mortar, Burmese Army troops entered the village and found men [villagers] whothey then asked to carry the injured soldiers.

	- Saw El---, (male, 23), M--- village, H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District Reported November 15th2011
Remark:	

Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/4

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on November 24th2011]*
Location:	M--- village, H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	October 29th 2010
Details:	Uncle En--- doesn't see things and he is deaf. He got this information from what people have told him. He doesn't hear gunfire or mine explosions from far away. He just heard a mortar fired by the Burmese Army explode close to his village. *Guns were fired and bombs exploded. KNLA soldiers ambushed a troop of Burmese Army soldiers. However, the people who have to suffer are the villagers from M---. In the fighting, the Burmese Army soldiers were injured by a KNLA mine. A Burmese Army sergeant died immediately and seven of their soldiers were injured, six seriously. The incident took place close to M---village so the Burmese Army troops went to M---village and arrested men in village to carry the injured soldiers.* - Uncle En---, (male, 40), M--- village, H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District Reported November 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/5**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG on November 24th2011]*
Location:	M--- village, H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	October 29th 2010

Details:	On October 29th 2011, at around 11:00 am, Burmese [Army] soldiers arrested a person named Kyaw Ub---.He was 33 years old and from M--- village. After they arrested him, he was ordered to carry injured Burmese soldiers who had been hurt by landmines to the Border Guard Army's T--- camp. On October 29th 2011, at around 11:00 am, Burmese soldiers entered M--- village and arrested 45 year-old Kyaw As---. [He was told] to carry the injured Burmese soldiers, who had been hurt by the landmines, to the Border Guard Army's T--- camp. On 29th October 2011, at around 11:00 am, the Burmese Army entered M--- village and arrested Kyaw As--- so that he could help carry and transport the injured Burmese soldiers. Reported November 15th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/6**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	"Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011," May 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b41.html**
Location:	Myawaddy and T'Nay Hsah Townships, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	October 4th 2011
Details:	Now, Border Guard soldiers have begun to plant landmines on the hilltops, in the forest and at the bottom of the mountains.Those are close to villagers' flat fields because the flat fields are close to the bottom of the mountains. They planted landmines in places, and along the paths, where KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army] soldiers could come back along easily. One [Border Guard] soldier said: "*We will be allowed to come back after we finished up planting 500 landmines*."One of the villagers told him: "*If you plant 500 landmines, will they hit soldiers [KNLA soldiers]? They will hit villagers.*" The soldier replied to the villager: "*I have no idea, this is the order from Dih Dih and Maung Chit Thoo and there is nothing else we can do*." On October 4th2011, a villager who was hired by people to serve as a Border Guard soldier for two years named Kyaw Ac---, 28 years old, stepped on a Border Guard soldiers' landmine. That person's legs were blown off. This villager said that the landmines that the Border Guard soldiers had planted would mostly hit cows, buffalos, dogs and goats. Wait and see if you do not believe this. Received October 12th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/7**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on November 24th2011]*
Location:	M--- village, H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	October 29th 2010
Details:	**In the present or in the past has the Burmese Army done anything harmful to the villagers or to you? Have you suffered from anything? Could you please explain to me a little bit?** Two or three weeks ago, on October 29th 2011, I saw a group of Burmese Army [soldiers].They were based in Ga--- village and active in this area.They were faced with the KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army] when they were coming back. Their people [Burmese Army soldiers] were injured. They then found things in people's [villagers'] houses, ate people's things, and beat people. They beat women because we [men] were afraid of them; we had fled and didn't dare to meet with them. When they were injured [during that incident], one soldier died and seven soldiers were injured. After they were injured, they were so aggressive when they came to the village. I understand exactly what the Burmese [Army] soldiers are like because they previously ate people's things in the village even they hadn't been injured. **You said that they were attacked when they came back along the road. How were they attacked?** The KNLA attacked them with a bomb beside our village, not very far away. **Did people [KNLA soldiers] shoot at them?** People didn't shoot at them. People just attacked them with a bomb. **Whatis the distance between the place where the incident happened and your village?** I would take 7 or 8 minutes if you started walking from here. **Did the Burmese Army come back to the village right after the incident happened or did they come back after they stayed there [at the site of the incident] for a long time?**

They reached the village a while after the incident took placebecause they were injured.

Why did they come back and beat villagers? Did they find anything?

Their plan was that they would order villagers to carry them [the injured soldiers]. All the men in the village fled so only the women were there [in the village]. People [men] were scared so they fled.

What time did the incident happen? Morning, evening, ornoon?

It was in the morning, about 10:00 am.

As you said, they came back to order villagers to carry them [the injured soldiers]. Did the village head organize villagers for them or did they arrest people themselves?

The village head wasn't there when they came back as the village head didn't dare to meet with them because they had fired guns. They arrested people themselves. They ordered women [to carry the injured soldiers] and the beat them when they couldn't order them. They beat and punched women.

How many women did they punch?

There were about two or three women.

Why did they punch the women?

I have no idea about that. They [Burmese Army soldiers] said that there were no men and they couldn't order [women to carry the injured soldiers], so they punched them.

How did they punch them and how do you know about it? Could you explain it to me a little bit?

They beat them with bamboo slats.

Do you think the bamboo slats were new or old?

The bamboo slats were old, but they were hard and it would hurt if you used them to beat people.

If they were new bamboo slats, they would be harder. If they were old, they would be rotten. You thought that they were hard?

I thought they were hard.

How many times did you hear that they beat each of them?

Each of them was beaten once or twice.

Where do those women currently live?

They live in the village. They didn't beat one woman because they punched her at the back of her neck and her smoking pipe fell down.

How many times did they punch her?

They punched only once at back of her neck.

Did their officers punch people or did the privates punch people?

I thought they were privates because they do whatever their officers order them to do.

You said that seven soldiers were injured and one soldier died. How do you know about that?

I saw people carrying them. I also saw them [the injured soldiers] when they put them in the car. Six soldiers couldn't walk and one soldier was injured a little bit.

You said that one soldier died, right?

Yes.

Where did they keep the dead soldier? Did they take him with them?

They didn't take him with them. They buried him beside the village.

What is the distance between the place where the incident took place and the place where they buried him? Or did they bury him at the same place [where the incident occurred]?

They buried him where the incident took place.

Didn't they take him with them?

No, they didn't take him with them.

The person who died, was he a private or an officer?

I heard people say that he was a sergeant.

	Who carried them to T---? They were villagers from M---Village. **You said that the men weren't there [in M---village] and that only women were there. How could they arrest people? Where did those people live?** With regards carrying them [the injured soldiers], they arrested three villagers [men] from M---village. **Only three people carried the patients. Who carried the rest of the patients?** They carried some of them themselves. - Saw El---, (male, 23), M--- village, H--- village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an Township Interviewed November 15th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/October/Pa'an/8**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	"Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011 to January 2012," May 2012 http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b40.html
Location:	Htee Lone Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	October 2011
Details:	In Eh--- village a 28-year-old villager named Saw Ad--- stepped on a landmine. I don't know the [exact] day but it was in October 2011. Received January 2012
Remark:	

September 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/September/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Interview: Saw T---, September 2011," February 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b19.html**
Location:	Near N--- Tatmadaw camp and near the Play Loh river on the Ma--- Road, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	One incident reported took place in August or September 2011
Details:	The vehicle road that went to T--- wasn't built at that time and we had to cut down the bamboo and trees [for the Tatmadaw]. If people stepped on a landmine, they just stayed like that [received no treatment]. All the people [villagers] had to porter [for the Tatmadaw] whilst I was living in D---. [Whilst portering] one villager stepped on a landmine and was injured. The Burmese soldiers also shot and killed a villager. I wasn't happy when I heard about the death of the villager. Meanwhile, we had to keep going and one more person was killed by a landmine. We suffered in this way until the army had set up their camp in N---. I began taking the responsibilities [of village head] when I started living in N---.The soldiers [Tatmadaw] ordered me to meet with them. I had no idea where they would go [next]. Later, they ordered me to take them to D--- [as a guide], so I went with them. The soldiers were attacked by a remote-controlled explosive device above the village when we were coming back. Soldiers were injured, and they blamed me. … They [the Tatmadaw] blamed me for the fighting occurring. The *k'rer hkoh* [KNU commanding officer] told me that they [the Tatmadaw] would detain me in a cell. They didn't detain me but when I went to meet with them they criticised me for planning to go on a trip [to meet them] but then not going. I replied that I didn't go because I didn't have any friends to go [with me]. They accused me of being in contact with the *Ng'Bpway*. I told them that I didn't have any contact with the *Ng'Bpway* and that that was how I lived. **Did you say that the Burmese Army shot and killed one person in Bh---?** It wasn't in Bh---. It was by the Play Loh river on the Ma--- Road. **What was the name of the person who was killed?** He was my younger brother.

	What was his name? Saw Sh---. **How old was he?** At that time, he was over 30 years old. **Why did they shoot and kill him?** They ordered him to carry food. He wasn't able to keep on carrying things [as he had no more energy] and so he ran away. There were two Tatmadaw troops who went with them [the porters]. He fled into the middle of the two troops. Other troops [at the rear] had stepped on landmines and they were waiting to treat the injured soldiers. Saw Sh--- ran away when he saw the soldiers [who were waiting to treat the injured soldiers]. He didn't know that the other troops were there and they shot him as he ran away and he got hit. - Saw T--- (male, 46),H---village, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District Interviewed September 2011
Remark:	The date of the first incident described, during which villagers were killed and injured by landmines while portering before N--- Tatmadaw camp and the vehicle road to T--- were established, is not provided. The date of the second incident described, during which Tatmadaw soldiers stepped on landmines and a villager was shot trying to escape from portering, was not provided in the original interview, but according to additional information provided in February 2012 by the villager who conducted this interview, that incident occurred in either August or September 2011.

Source Document: 2011/September/Papun

Relevant Categories:	Civilian use of landmines; Landmine casualties (death or injury); Areas known to be mined; New use of mines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on November 8th 2011]*
Location:	Ap--- village, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in September 2011
Details:	**How did you dare to clear [the vegetation from] your hill field and the fields that are close to your hill field? How did you organize that?** We dared to clear the grass because we watched them [villagers did sentry duties].Sometimes, we protected ourselves with landmines.

	Did you plant landmines beside your hill field? We planted them in front of the hill fields and in places near to our hill fields. **How many landmines were near to your hill field?** In our area, there were over 20 landmines. **Where did you get the landmines that you planted? Did you find them by yourself or did you ask for them from the KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army]?** We asked for landmines from the KNLA. **What kind of guns did the villagers [home guards] have?** They had some machine guns and some muskets. **Did they buy any guns by themselves?** They had some guns [muskets] for hunting and so they used them. The KNLA supported us [by providing] machine guns. **Did the KNLA and the home guards stay separately or did they cooperate together?** We had an understanding and sometimes we cooperated closely. **As you are a home guard, did you contact them [the KNLA] by yourself or by walkie talkie?** We used their walkie talkies to contact each other when they were staying close to us. If they weren't staying close to us, we had to contact them in person. **You had to go and talk with them in person?** Yes. **What is your opinion and knowledge on the home guard; will this [home guard] exist always or will they return to being civilians, like farmers, if there are no more SPDC Army activities?** In my opinion, *gher der* [home guards] exist because the Burmese Army has been based in our area. If they were not based here and moved back to their own place, we would stay like the level of villagers who are farm workers. **Does this mean that villagers couldn't protect themselves andas they had security concerns, you gathered together toprovide the**

security?

Yes, they [villagers] couldn't provide security completely, so the home guards helped them as much as they could.

Home guards planted landmines beside the hill fields to protect you [all]. Did any villagers step on the home guards' or SPDC Army's landmines?

On August 30th this year, a home guard stepped on his landmine.

Where?

The place was in front of our hill fields, to the east of En---.

What time was it?

1:40 pm.

In the early morning or evening?

Evening.

Did you know that he had stepped on landmine?

We knew that the landmine had exploded and we heard a sound when he shouted loudly. We then went to him.

Could you tell us which part of his body was injured by the landmine, such his hands or legs?

Yes, his left leg had been blown off, the middle finger of his right hand was broken and his jaw had turned blue from the gunpowder.

How did it happen? Didn't he know [the location of] his landmines?

He planted it a long time ago and the grass had grownlonger, so he couldn't recognize the location of the landmine and he stepped on it.

Actually, he planted landmines for protection and for doing hill fields bravely. If the SPDC Army came, the landmines would explode and he would hear the sound, right?

Yes, for this reason.

How many children does he have?

He had seven children.

What is his name?

Saw Hs---.

How old is he?

55 years old.

Was he a home guard?

Yes, a home guard.

You said, "he has seven children", right?

Yes, seven children?

How many girls and how many boys?

Three boys and four girls.

How old is his eldest child?

22 years old.

How about the youngest child?

Nine years old.

Did you think his family's livelihood situation has become weak?

I hink that when one man has an injury, the weakness is because he isn't able to keep working. She [his wife] has to look after her injured husband. This creates difficulties for his homeThey [his family] couldn't [afford to] miss the time from work work properly.

It meant that a [*ta law hoh*] took place [literally 'blank', meaning that Saw Hs--- hasn't been able to work since he was injured]?

Almost half of a [*ta law hoh*] has been created.

Where did people send him?

People sent him to On--- hospital.

[People sent] him to there for treatment so he could recovercarefully?

Yes.

- Saw To---, (male, 50), Ap--- village, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
  Interviewed September 23rd2011

Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/September/Dooplaya/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	Update No.86: "Villager injured by landmine in Palu Poe village," October 4th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#86**
Location:	Blaw T'Bpoh, near Palu Poe village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	September 28th2011
Details:	On September 30th 2011, a local villager in the Palu area reported to KHRG that, on September 28th, he witnessed a villager who had been injured by a landmine being carried to the riverbank on the Burma side of the Moei River, opposite the Thai village of K---. According to this local source, 40-year-old L---, a Burmese villager from Palu Poe village, stepped on the landmine at approximately 1:30 pm when he was returning to Palu Poe after gathering mushrooms with a friend. He stepped on the landmine in the Bplaw T'Bpoh area, close to a corn plantation belonging to T---, a resident of Bplaw T'Bpoh village. Bplaw T'Bpoh is approximately five kilometers, or 45 minutes on foot, from Palu Poe village, between Palu and K'Hsaw Waw Lay villages. When L--- stepped on the landmine, part of his left foot and three fingers on his left hand were blown off. The local source reported witnessing local villagers sending L--- across the Moei River to receive medical treatment in Thailand directly after the incident occurred on September 28th. According to this witness, Tatmadaw battalions from Light Infantry Division (LID) #22 have remained active in the Blaw T'Bpoh area where L--- stepped on the landmine, and DKBA battalions led by Commander Kyaw That operated in the area prior to the 2011 rainy season; the same source reported that KNLA troops are not currently active in that area. KHRG has previously reported that, on May 13th 2011, villagers in Bplaw T'Bpoh noticed a *taik* [tripwire] landmine planted under a tree near a corn plantation and subsequently informed soldiers from Tatmadaw LID #22, who had assured villagers that they would remove any mines reported in the area. Reported on September 30th 2011
Remark:	**The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.**

- **Source Document: 2011/September/Dooplaya/2**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined

KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on September 28th 2011]*
Location:	Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to September 2011
Details:	**Do they [Tatmadaw] rape the women?** Before they did but not this year. Since the Four Cuts campaign and also since the Border Guard [was formed] it has got worse. They didn't kill people [directly] but they planted landmines and villagers were killed. **Did they plant landmines in your village?** No, they didn't. - Saw Sk---, (male, 60),El--- village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District Interviewed September 28th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Marking, fencing or removal of landmines; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	"Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011," November 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b43.html**
Location:	Gk--- village, T'Nay Hsah Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	September 13th 2011
Details:	On September 13th 2011, a Gk--- villager named Saw P---, 30, had gone to his farm to replant his rice paddy which had died. He returned to his village in the evening and on the way, at 6:30 pm, he stepped on a landmine outside his farm. His farm is far from Gk--- village, about a 20-minute walk. He stepped on the landmine along the La--- River bank outside his farm. His left foot was torn apart when the landmine exploded. After the landmine exploded, [Tatmadaw] Border Guard Battalion #1017 Corporal Saw Bpa Mi Hsaw went to investigate and brought him [Saw P---] back to Gk--- village. The landmines were planted by Corporal Saw Bpa Mi Hsaw and his soldiers. They planted the landmines and sharpened bamboo stakes around the village. After the Border Guard soldiers took Saw P--- to the village, a medic named Saw B--- treated his injuries. Thara Saw B--- provides medical training in Gk--- village.

	In the Gk--- area, the active armed groups are Border Guard Battalion #1017, the KNU-KNLA [Karen National Union-Karen National Liberation Army] Peace Council and KNLA Battalion #101. Gk--- village is located in T'Nay Hsah Township near Ky---, Na---, N---, M--- and Dt--- villages. The villagers also reported that the armed groups which are most active in this area are the Border Guard and KNLA, and that they plant landmines. However, the KNLA plants the landmines around their army camp, and when they plant the landmines they tell the villagers where they plant them. Border Guard Battalion #1017 soldiers use the villages as their army camp and they also plant landmines to protect themselves, but they do not let the villagers know where they plant them. The Gk--- village head also mentioned that because of the landmines, dogs, goats and a herd of cows have also been killed. No one knows exactly how many cows or dogs have been injured or killed [by landmines]. The dogs were mating [when they were killed by landmines] and no one knows who their owners were. The [Gk---] village head also said that the Border Guard soldiers living in Gk--- and Ky--- villages mostly use *dtaing* [tripwire] mines. The Border Guard [Battalion #1017] commanders are Gk--- and Ky--- villagers, so they [Battalion #1017 soldiers] live in those villages and they have not built a separate army camp. Border Guard Battalion #1017 Company Commander Captain Saw Hsa P'lee and Section Commander Corporal Saw Bpa Mi Hsaw live in Gk--- village. Because the Border Guard soldiers are based in the village, the villagers live in fear as they worry that a battle might occur in the village. The [Gk---] village head also said that Border Guard Battalion #1017 left [Ky---] on September 19th 2011 and removed all the landmines that they had planted. Received September 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/2**

Relevant Categories:	Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on November 8th 2011]*
Location:	Eg--- village, Lu Pleh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	September 2011
Details:	**If we compare that place with the place where we live [Eg---], how different is the situation?** If we compare the places, the place where we live is a bit better. In the

	past, one or two years ago, people said that nothing happened and that it was peaceful there. Only this year, people have had to flee from the village. **Do you think you will go and do logging there? How [do you think] the situation will be?** I don't think about that at present. **Will it be easy or not?** Not easy. If the boss asks us to go, we will go. So far, it has not been easy. **Where does your boss come from?** He is from Ek---. **[Is he] Burmese or Karen?** Karen. **Does he serve anywhere [as a soldier]?** He doesn't serve anywhere. **Is he a civilian?** Yes. **When went and worked, so who did your boss pay tax to? Did you hear about that?** I didn't hear about it. For the east side [KNLA], he asked them to remove the landmines and paid them 1,000,000 kyat (US $1298.70). I heard [this happened] only once. He told us this even though we hadn't asked him. **You didn't even know that he paid it [tax] to the west side [Tatmadaw or Border Guard]?** He didn't tell us.We didn't know. **You went there and came back. Is this all the information that you have?** This is all that I know. **How many days ago did you arrive back here [to Eg]?** Four days ago.

	- Saw Bw---, (male, 25), Eg---village, Lu Pleh Township, Pa'an District Interviewed September 27th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/September/Pa'an/3**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	"Pa'an Situation Update: September 2011 to January 2012" **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b40.html**
Location:	Htee Klay, Noh Kay, and T'poh Kyaw village tracts, Htee Lone Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	September 2011
Details:	Border Guard Battalion #1017's use of forced labour On September 26th 2011, Border Guard Officer Dih Dih and Second Officer Kyaw Naw, of Battalion #1017, which is based in Za Ya Phyu [village] beside Meh Breh village, forced the villagers of Th---, Sh---, G--- and M--- to work. The people of these four villages had to harvest corn. There were two hundred villagers, including women and children, who had to work. On September 27th 2011, all two hundred villagers went to work for them, but the next day less than two hundred villagers went, so they [Border Guard soldiers] forced the villagers to stand in the sun for two hours, and then made them work. The villagers said that Officer Dih Dih was very aggressive. He made the villagers work like the SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] does, ordering villagers to harvest beans and corn. Whenever they come, they force the villagers to carry bullets, landmines, and rice and other food. When they [the Border Guard soldiers] were planting landmines, they ordered villagers to carry the landmines for them. They order villagers [to porter] every day because their camp is on Kler Law Seh hill slope. The villagers have to carry water and cook food for them, and five villagers have to go every day. They force the villagers to repair their camp, to cut firewood and build a fence around their camp. Villagers who are not available have to hire other villagers to go for them and they have to pay them 3,000 kyat (US $3.67)[4] per day. The Border Guard planted landmines, which caused problems for the villagers, and their buffalos and cows On September 23rd 2011, Border Guard troops [from Battalion #1017] raided a KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army] camp on

Sh--- hill slope. After they raided [the camp], they began to plant one hundred landmines around Sh--- village near the villagers' huts. They also planted landmines in K--- village tract, but I don't know how many. In Th---village, a 28-year-old villager named Saw Gk--- stepped on a landmine. I don't know the exact day, but it was in October 2011. On December 2nd 2011, a Sh--- villager's legs were cut off. I don't know her real name, but people call her Naw R--- and she is 32-years-old. In K--- village tract, seven villagers were injured: (1) Saw Y--- aged 35, from M--- village; (2) Saw N--- aged 28, from M--- village; (3) Saw H--- aged 48, from A--- village; (4) Saw E--- aged 36, from Ny---; (5) Saw L--- aged 37, from T---, (6) Saw U--- aged 37, from Ny---, who stepped on a landmine when he went to his farm, but couldn't deal with the pain so he shot himself with his musket; and (7) Naw P--- aged 8, from Ny--- village. Two Muslim people who came to buy cows were also killed. The two Muslims' names and villages were unknown so their bodies were left in the place where they died. These two Muslim people had stepped on the same landmine and were killed together.

The Border Guard landmines injured the villagers' livestock

Naw S---lives in Ny--- village, and one of her buffalos and one cow [were killed by landmines]. Two cows [belonging to] Saw T---, and one goat and one cow belonging to Saw W--- [were killed by landmines]. Many of the other villagers also lost their cows and buffalos, but they do not know if it was because of the landmines or something else. They heard explosions, sometimes once a day, and sometimes twice, and sometimes even four times a day. Because Border Guard [Battalion #1017] planted landmines the villagers have to keep their cows in a cattle pen and their animals don't get enough food to eat.

The Border Guard planted landmines in K---, M--- and N---village tracts

Officer Dih Dih of Border Guard Battalion #1017 is based near Meh Preh Bridge at Za Ya Phyu camp. The name of Battalion #1017's second officer is Kyaw Naw. They are responsible for the region of P---, and K--- and M--- [village tracts]. On September 4th 2011, Second Officer Kyaw Naw ordered the villagers to recruit more soldiers. In these three areas [of P---, K--- and M--- village tracts], is the KNLA Battalion #101 and DKBA [Democratic Karen Buddhist Army] soldiers [commanded by] Na Kha Mway[5]. The KNLA and DKBA soldiers have stopped the villagers from giving [their villagers to serve as soldiers] to the Border Guard because they have become 'Burmese dogs': "*Pgha k'kyaw may aw twee nuh htee nay a'tha law twee say kaw law*" [literally 'if a human drinks dog milk their heart also becomes like that of a dog']. They [KNLA and DKBA soldiers] also told [villagers from] S---, K--- and L--- village tracts not to give any people to them [the Border

	Guard]. As a result, the Border Guard planted a lot of landmines beside the village, near people's farm huts, where the villagers collect leaves [for making thatch shingles], and beside wells. … The KNLA, DKBA, KPF [Karen Peace Force] and the Border Guard cooperated and called the villagers to a meeting On January 2nd 2012, KNLA Battalion #101, the DKBA, Border Guard and KPF made peace and gathered the villagers and village heads from Htee Klay and Noh Kay village tracts at Meh Pah Leh monastery to tell them that they would not fight anymore and that they would live in peace. One of the village heads stood up and said "*If so, could you remove all the landmines that you have planted beside our village, in our farms and the places we collect leaves? I beg you. We don't dare to go and work on our farms anymore; we don't dare to let our cattle out or collect leaves. Please remove the landmines for us*." As the village head mentioned this in the meeting, they [representatives from the armed groups mentioned] agreed to remove the landmines, but ten days have passed already and they have not come to remove them yet, and it's causing problems for the village. Received January 2012
Remark:	

August 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/August/Thaton**

Relevant Categories:	Mine sweeping; forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Thaton Situation Update: June to October 2011," November 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b44.html**
Location:	K---, Y--- and G--- villages, Pa'an Township, Thaton DIstrict
Date of landmine incident:	August 5th 2011
Details:	On August 5th 2011, Tatmadaw LIB #216 led by Battalion Commander Naing Tin Hla entered W--- army camp and [then] went to E--- village in Bilin Township on August 7th 2011. He forced one person from each household [in E---] to go with his troops and guide them to A---. He ordered villagers to walk between his soldiers [one villager between two soldiers]. Even though the villagers were afraid to go, they had to go. Received November 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/August/Thaton/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished photo notes, received by KHRG in November 2011]*
Location:	En---, near Am--- village, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	August 30th 2011
Details:	Photos #4-7 On September 11th 2011, I took the photos for people who guided the road, including people who carried the patient named Saw Hs---, he is 45 years old and lives in Am--- village. He got injured by landmine in En--- [the place name where he got injured], beside his hill field on August 30th 2011, at 1:50 pm.
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/August/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Mine sweeping; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury

KHRG source:	"Toungoo Situation Update: August to October 2011," April 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b36.html**
Location:	A--- village, Tantabin Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	August 27th 2011
Details:	On August 27th2011, SPDC LIB #375 called all the A--- villagers to attend a meeting. One person [from each household] had to stay at home. They ordered all of the other villagers to follow them outside of the village to the betelnut plantations [for forced labour] and left some at the front of the school. They ordered some villagers to [clear] the vegetation beside the village and to clear the landmines, and also forced them to clear the bushes around their army camp. When the villagers went with them, the villagers had to walk in the rain and they didn't give them any food. Received November 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/August/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); New use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG in November 2011]*
Location:	Bu Tho Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Incident involving landmine casualties occurred August 15th to 18th 2011; landmine use ongoing in August 2011.
Details:	The information [on the things] that havehappened here is included completely below. This year, from January 2011, the Border Guard office is led by Ba Yoh. There are 30 soldiers that came and were active near the Ac--- to Nl--- area. When Border Guard soldiers went to live in the Nl---area, their soldiers travelled back and forth along the road to Ab--- village, Lw--- village in the Nl--- area. When the Border Guard soldiers travelled in these areas they planted landmines beside the road they were travelling on. Even their soldiers who moved to Nl--- still planted landmines. The Border Guard planted landmines [and there are] still 200 or 300 landmines.We got this information from the Lw--- village head. Because the Border Guard soldiers planted the landmines, four of the villagers were killed when they stepped on the landmines between August 15th and 18th 2011. The villagers who stepped on the landmines were: 1. Saw Ce---, 40 years old. He lived in Ed--- village, Kyaw Bpa village tract, in Bu Tho township, Papun District.

	2. Saw We---, 35 years old. He lived in Do--- village, Bu Tho township, Papun District. 3. Bo---, 35 years old. He lived in K--- village, Meh Mwee village tract, Bu Tho township, Papun district. 4. Saw Htoo Kleh Say, 35 years old. He lived Lw---village, Kyaw Bpa village tract, Bu Tho township, Papun district. The list of names that I have mentioned show the villagers who were killed by the Border Guard's landmines. The [Burmese] Government Army, Border Guard soldiers and KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army] [also] planted landmines in Ad--- village, K'Ter Htee tract, Dweh Loh Township, Papun district. The KNDO [Karen National Defence Organisation] security guard in K'Ter Htee village tract also planted landmines for security so the Ad--- villagers' buffalos stepped on the landmines that were planted by the KNDO. ReceivedNovember 9th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/August/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Landmine casualties (death or injury); Mine sweeping; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	"Papun Interview: Saw T---, August 2011," January 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b9.html**
Location:	Ae--- village, Bu Tho Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in August 2011
Details:	**Did they [the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and the Tatmadaw] face each other in the village? Have any battles taken place in this village?** Battles have never taken place. They [the KNLA] ambushed them with a bomb. **Did they ambush them with a bomb near the village?** They ambushed them in the eastern part of the village. **Why did they [villagers] die?** Maybe there wasn't enough medicine. **What happened to them?**

They stepped on landmines.

Were they villagers?

Yes, they stepped on landmines.

How many of them?

Only two people.

Did they die because the Burmese Army didn't look after them well or because they kept them like that [without treatment]?

They died when they reached there [Eb--- village] because, they stepped on landmines at the hill peak and there was no medicinethere. They [Tatmadaw soldiers] had buried them by the time they reached Eb---village.

Did the SPDC [Tatmadaw] soldiers come to the village and behave angrily to the villagers after the attack?

They didn't behave angrily to people but they ordered people to serve as guides in order to clear landmines.

Where did they have to clear landmines?

They had to clear landmines along G--- Road.

Did any villagers get injured from the landmines?

They [villagers] weren't injured. Only them [Tatmadaw soldiers] wereinjured.The villagers went beyond the landmines and they [Tatmadaw soldiers] stepped on them behind the villagers. When I previously went [to guide Tatmadaw soldiers], once 42 [soldiers from the] SLORC [State Law & Order Restoration Council] came. One of them stepped on a landmine in the stream but we had crossed over it already.

Some people had crossed over that already but he then stepped on it?

Yes, he stepped on it.

So, we could say that the villagers were very lucky?

Yes.

Did they plant any landmines outside of the village whilst checking for security?

	They didn't, but the Border Guard planted landmines because they [the Tatmadaw & Border Guard] were the same group. **Did they inform the villagers after they had planted landmines?** They informed [villagers] after they had planted landmines. **Did they inform you that they had planted landmines in your area?** They informed us. **Didn't they remove them after they had informed you?** They didn't remove them. They didn't dare to remove them. **Currently, the landmines are still in place there?** The landmines are still there. We don't dare to go there. **A lot of landmines?** A lot. About 100 landmines. **There are about 100 landmines?** Yes, about 100 landmines. **Did they plant landmines from here [Ae---village] to G--- or to Al---?** To Al---. **Did they plant landmines beside the road?** On the other side of the Meh Nyaw River. **The Border Guard planted about 100 landmines. What [problems] did the villagers face as a result of the 100 landmines?** The problems were that we couldn't find food freely and the places where we could find food were reduced. **How about flat fields? Didn't they plant landmines close to the fields?** [They planted] landmines close to hill fields. Three hill fields couldn't be harvested.

Could people find those landmines?

We didn't dare to go there. They had planted landmines there and they again planted more landmines there because they were ambushed at the hill fields. The number of landmines increased.

Only the Border Guard planted landmines? [Was the] Burmese Army included?

The Burmese Army ordered them [to plant landmines].

So actually they [landmines] were planted by the Burmese Army?

The Burmese Army planted them. They [the Border Guard] are the Burmese Army's people and the Burmese Army ordered them [to do so].

The Burmese Army planted landmines from Ae---village to Al---. There were about 100 landmines?

There were about 100 landmines.

Haven't they removed them?

Not yet.

Do buffalos go to that area?

One buffalo has stepped on a landmine already.

One buffalo has stepped on landmine already. If other buffalos go there, will they step on them?

We don't dare to go there. None of the villagers go there along the hill field road We can't go to that side anymore.

When KNLA arrived here, did they plant any landmines around the village like that?

As for them, they just planted landmines when they ambushed the Burmese Army with a bomb.

Did they remove them after they [the Border Guard and Tatmadaw] went away?

Yes, they did. They had previously planted some of them in this area. They then removed them even though they had planted them.

Why were they [the Tatmadaw] the most difficult for you?

	When they came, they ordered us to clear landmines. Villagers have faced a lot problems. **Does the clearing of landmines [by using villagers] still continue?** Yes. **Have any villagers stepped on landmines whilst clearing them?** No one. When we carried things [for the Tatmadaw] in the past, two people stepped on landmines because they walked the wrong way. **As you mentioned a moment ago?** Yes, one [villager] was from Ag--- and one was from El---. **No other people stepped on landmines after that?** One [villager] from An---did. **One [villager] from An---. [Were they] male or female?** Male. - Saw Bl---, (male, 74), Ae---village, Bu Tho Township, Papun District Interviewed August 2011
Remark:	The date of the incident during which villagers were ordered to clear landmines, as well as the dates of the landmine casualties, were not provided by the interviewee.

- **Source Document: 2011/August/Papun/3**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished photo notes, received by KHRG in November 2011]*
Location:	En---, near Am--- village, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	August 30th 2011
Details:	Photo#4-7 On September 11th 2011, I took photos of people who were serving as

	guides along the road, including the people who carried the patient named Saw Hs---.He is 45 years old and lives in Am--- village. He was injured by a landmine in En---, beside his hill field at 1:50 pm on August 30th 2011.
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/August/Dooplaya**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Marking, fencing or removal of landmines; Areas known to be mined
KHRG source:	"Dooplaya Interview: Saw Ca---, September 2011," February 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b11.html**
Location:	Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	August 2011
Details:	**Do you have anything [else] to say about how you feel?** I have many things [to say about] the [DKBA] #999 era. **[During] which year?** It was ten years ago. My buffalo was killed by a landmine. **Do any army troops plant landmines beside your village?** No, they don't. **Do they [soldiers] let the villagers know when they plant landmines?** Yes, the KNLA always lets us know. **How about the SPDC? Do they let you know?** Yes, the last time the SPDC Army let the villagers know that they had planted two landmines. **Have any villagers stepped on landmines?** Yes, my brother-in-law stepped on a landmine and he's not getting better yet. **How long ago?** Last month.

Whose landmine?

The KNLA's landmine, and he knows because the KNLA let everyone know. It was just bad luck.

Your brother-in-law?

Yes, my sisters' husband.

Is he living in your village?

Yes, he lives in my village. He just came back from the clinic.

Do you remember the date [when he stepped on the landmine]?

No, I don't remember the date.

Do you know his name?

His name is Maung Ng---.

How old is he?

He's my older brother [in-law] so he's about 50 years old.

Was his leg blown off?

Yes, he had to [have it] cut it off from his knee.

Was it both legs or only one leg?

Only one leg. Everyone knew that there were two landmines left. It was just bad luck.

What was he doing [at the time he stepped on the landmine]?

He was cutting bamboo.

How many children does he have?

He has five children. One has gone to a third country, one has joined the KNLA, and the other three live with him.

How many sons and daughters does he have?

He has three sons and two daughters.

Where did he go to the clinic?

He went to the Tr--- hospital and he slept in Oh--- one night. I heard that

	he has to go back again because his wound is *a htee law* [literally 'watering', meaning infected and oozing pus]. **What did he need the bamboo for?** To catch fish. He travelled on that path two or three days [before] and didn't step on a mine. **Can we publish the information that you've given me?** You can publish [this information] but don't mention my name. If you mention my name, we'll face problems. **Do you have anything [else] to mention before we finish the interview?** No, but in *Bo* Moe Kyo's time, he planted a landmine beside my house, and people who went to collect dogfruit stepped on it. They [the soldiers] didn't plant it for the KNLA, they planted it for the villagers to step on. - Saw Ca--- (male, 45), Je--- village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District Interviewed September 2011
Remark:	The interviewee mentions the casualty incident having recently taken place approximately one month before the interview, meaning that it likely occurred in August 2011. The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

July 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/July/Thaton**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Thaton Situation Update: June to October 2011," November 2011 http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b44.html
Location:	K---, Y--- and G--- villages, Pa'an Township, Thaton DIstrict
Date of landmine incident:	July 21st 2011
Details:	On July 21st 2011, soldiers under the command of Aung Kyaw Soe, Column #2 and Deputy Battalion Commander of Tatmadaw LIB #215 and Tin Win, a Company Commander of Tatmadaw Border Guard Battalion #1014, forced two villagers [per household] from K---, Y--- and G--- villages to go and clear the road from G--- monastery to the foot of the large limestone outcropping at G---. He ordered two people per household from these three villages to go and clear the road. Received November 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/July/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; Retaliation against civilians for mine use by NSAGs
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG on August 18th2011]*
Location:	Toungoo Town, Bago Division
Date of landmine incident:	July 1st 2011
Details:	On July 1st 2011, a landmine exploded in Toungoo town.After that, Company Commander Soe Tun of the Southeast Command headquartersordered his solders to oppress the civilians in town or outside the town. Moreover people who came back from Kler Lah were not allow to bring rice, and they checked every woman and man. On July 9th 2011, SOC [Strategic Operations Command] Commander Tin Sanwho lives in Kler Lah and is under the control of MOC [Military Operations Command] #9, ordered the closure of all the transportation [routes] between Kler Lah and Toungoo and Klaw Mee Der, and Pleh Wah to Toungoo. The villagers, cars and motorcycles are not allowed to travel. We are not sure how long they will close the transportation [routes] for.

	Received August 18th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/July/Nyaunglebin**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Nyaunglebin Situation Update: Ler Doh Township, May to July 2011," November 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b45.html**
Location:	H--- Tatmadaw camp, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District
Date of landmine incident:	July 22nd 2011
Details:	On July 22nd 2011, Company Commander [Captain] Thet Zaw Win based at H--- camp ordered villagers to procure 1,500 [empty] fertiliser bags to build the army camp's defences. He ordered [villagers from] L--- and B--- village tracts to deliver these and to build the army camp defences. Received August 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/July/Dooplaya/1**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	Update No.84: "IB #24 orders forced labour in Tn---, issues movement restriction in Ht---," August 5th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#84**
Location:	Tn--- and Ht--- villages, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	July 17th 2011
Details:	On July 17th, soldiers from Tatmadaw Infantry Battalion (IB) #24 ordered villagers from Tn--- village to transport six military backpacks to Sh--- village; three villagers from Tn--- used their tractors to transport the backpacks, accompanying the column of IB #24 soldiers as it proceeded to Sh---. According to the local sources, the column was ambushed by a KNLA force near Ht--- village, and during the ensuing clash the three tractor drivers from Tn--- fled the area, and the six backpacks belonging to the IB #24 soldiers were taken by the KNLA. Reported on July 18th 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/July/Dooplaya/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG in August 2011]*
Location:	Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to July 2011
Details:	**How many years you were in prison?** I lived in prison for 8 years. **How many years of your sentence were left?** There were 19 years left. … **Where did they take you to?** They took us to Kyeh Pyaung Gone Kwin in LIB [Light Infantry Battalion] #913's area. I stayed with Captain Win Tin Soe for about 20 days. **What are the company, division and column name?** The Division is #22, the battalion column is #22, and the company is also # 22. **Which places did you go to?** I went to Ce--- from Pa'an and we slept in Ce---temple for one night. In the morning we left to go to Wo--- village. When we were on the way to Wo--- [village] four people stepped on landmines. Some people had to carry the injured people and when we arrived at #913's place [camp] it was around 9:00pm at night. We stayed there for about 20 days. The Captain's name is Win Tin Soe. He had to go on active duty somewhere, so I have to follow him. When we went [there] it took four days. The commander liedabout the distanceand the areas that they entered, like [that belonging to] #986. They didn't want to enter anywhere because he knew there were landmines and we slept in the jungle for three nights. When we were going back, two soldiers were injuredby landmines and there were only seven people left. **What was the village name?** The village is separate from the Wo--- village but no one livedthere.They said this village was a *Pwa Gk'Nyaw Ywa* [Karen

	village]. Two of the SPDC soldiers went into a villager's house. When they wentto the house they didn't step on a landmine, but when they left the house both of them stepped on a landmine. After a few days one of the DKBA [Democratic Buddhist Army] soldiers also stepped on a landmine in that area. We were withdrawn because Captain Win Tin Soe had to go to do training at Klaw. When they withdrew, I also went with them and I had to porter with four [other] people. - Ya---, (male, 37), Su--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District Interviewed July 2011
Remark:	While the interviewee did not provide the dates during which he served as a convict porter, many details he mentions accord with the testimony of other escaped porters interviewed by KHRG in January 2011, who also mentioned passing through Pa'an Town, going to Kyeh Pyaung Gone Camp and to LIB #913's area of operation. See for example the testimony of 'Matthew' in *From Prison to Front Line: Analysis of convict porter testimony 2009 – 2011*, KHRG, July 2011. **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg1102.pdf**

- **Source Document: 2011/July/Pa'an**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	"Pa'an Situation Update: June to August 2011," October 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b40.html**
Location:	R--- Camp, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	June to August 2011
Details:	Border Guard Battalion #1015 from the R--- camp used the landmines in the photos below. They placed them at the back of the grounds near the [R---] camp gate. The SPDC Army supplied them with these landmines. The Border Guard force there was controlled by the SPDC Army, and they did as they were ordered. Received September 2011
Remark:	See photos in Section II: A. The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

June 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/June/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Interview: Saw E---, September 2011," April 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b34.html**
Location:	Re--- village, Daw Pah Koh Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	June 12th to 15th 2011
Details:	**Have the SPDC Army come to your village before?** They came to my village between June 12th and 15th 2011. **Did they enter the village?** Yes, they entered the village and then rested for one or two hours. **What did they do when they were in the village?** This time they came and they didn't take our livestock because I told the officer "*sauk yan ma lote neh"* [don't do stupid things]. I went to see him [the officer] at the school and I explained to him that as I understand things, everyone has rights."*When you arrived in our village we welcomed you. As we also have rights, we want you to understand us*," I told him. **How many soldiers did they have in one troop?** There were 40 to 50 soldiers. **You said that they stayed in the village for two hours. Did they arrest any of the villagers?** Only myself. I had to be a guide for them. **Can you tell me what happened when you were a guide for them, step-by-step?** When I was a guide for them, the officer told me not to use the path. I said to him: "*Officer, I can't walk through the bushes, I can walk only on the path*". We went quite far away from the village and he told me again: "*Don't walk on the path, you might step on a landmine*"and so I tried to bypass it. After I went around the path, we heard an explosion. The officer asked me: "*What's that noise?*" I lied to them, saying that it was a gunshot from the Than Daung KyiMonastery, and we continued to go ahead. When we arrived at

	the betelnut fields, he told me again: "*Don't walk on the road, we might step on a landmine*". I tried to bypass the path and then we took a rest. Whilst we were resting, he asked me againwhat the noise was. I said: "*Don't worry it was the sound of a firework or a gunshot from Than Daung Kyi Monastery*". After resting we [continued to] go ahead. He told me again not to use the path but I continued to use the path anyway. The officer said: "*We are going to Than Daung Kyi so use an alternative route for us*". I tried to avoid the path for them but again [the route] still followed the path. He yelled at me to go a different way because they were afraid ofstepping on landmines. I didn't know the way through the bushes, so later they let me go home. - Saw Pl---, (male, 56), Re--- village, Daw Pah Koh Township, Toungoo District Interviewed September 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/June/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on November 9th2011]*
Location:	Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	June 6th 2011
Details:	"*I am Naw Ra---. I am 27-year-old and I have three children and the youngest one is seven months old. On June 6th 2011, at 7:00 am, it was raining. I fed my child breastmilk and when my child fell asleep, beside my village, there were flat farms and there were frogs so I lit my* may gkay der *[lantern] and went to catch frogs. It took about two hours. And then, I realized that my child would be awake and crying, and my frogs also, I had enough and could eat for one time so I came back home. I arrived at my house garden and was about to enter. I didn't know that the SPDC Army were coming. I entered to my garden and it was dark and I didn't see anything and immediately, my mouth was covered, my lamp blew out and they said "*don't talk*" and they arrested me to porter and follow them.* *It was very difficult for me following the SPDC. It was raining, I couldn't see the way and, sometimes, I fell over. When we arrived in Sa--- at about 10:00pm, I saw a light. Ye--- and his friend Kyaw Po--- were carrying beef and the SPDC shot at them directly. The two people were villagers and even the SPDC Army shot at them,*

	they didn't run away. They lied down on the mud with their beef. No one got hit. And then, the SPDC called them to porter and follow them. *For me, at that night, I couldn't sleep. I missed my child, my breast became bigger and milk came out. My breast was in pain and I cried the whole night. We arrived in Te--- and before it was day time, I discussed with Kyaw Po--- and we looked when the soldiers were sleeping and we two escaped. If we looked, we two were lucky. The places where we went through had landmines but they didn't hit us. At daytime, we arrived in So--- and we ate rice and we arrived to our houses. I saw my child was crying and my child's grandmother also was crying. The SPDC control makes me very sad*." - Naw Ra---, (female, 27), Se--- village, Waw Muh village tract, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District Reported June 20th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/June/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on November 9th 2011]*
Location:	Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	June 6th 2011
Details:	"*We walked all night long to Te--- and when we arrived at Te--- it was almost morning. The SPDC soldiers slept beside me and I turned myself and I saw the Se--- woman named Naw Ra--- and I told her we have to go too far away so let's run, and we ran. The way we ran is where they planted the landmines but we did not step on it and they had shot at us but no one got injured. We got to So--- village at in the morning Naw Ra--- who lived in Se--- village, she has a small baby and her breasts were hurting and she cried non-stop. After we had breakfast, Naw Ra--- went back to her village Se---*." - Kyaw Po---, (male, 26), So--- village, Meh Chaw village tract, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District Reported June 20th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/June/Dooplaya/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	Update No.79: "Villager injured by landmine near Shwe Aye Myaingvillage," June 27th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#79**
Location:	Shwe Aye Myaing village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	June 23rd 2011
Details:	On June 23rd 2011, a KHRG researcher reported that U Ke---, a 72-year-old resident of Oo Kreh Htah village, had been injured by a landmine outside Shwe Aye Myaing village, Kawkareik Township. According to the researcher, the mine had been planted on a road connecting Shwe Aye Myaing with corn plantations cultivated by local residents. On June 23rd U Ke---, who makes a living by logging and selling wood, planned to return to a site outside Shwe Aye Myaing to check on logs that another villager told him might have been stolen. At approximately 12:20 pm, U Ke--- stepped on the landmine and his right foot was blown off. Local sources told KHRG's researcher that villagers working in a nearby corn plantation heard the explosion and brought U Ke--- to a Tatmadaw camp in Oo Kreh Htah village, where soldiers wrapped his wounded leg before the villagers carried him on to Ta--- Clinic in Thailand's Phop Phra District. A medic at Ta--- then sent U Ke--- on to Sa--- Hospital for further treatment. Local sources could not confirm which armed group had planted the landmine. KHRG's researcher reported that both DKBA and Tatmadaw forces are active around Oo Kreh Htah and Shwe Aye Myaing village, and KHRG has documented the use of landmines and civilian landmine casualties in both villages in 2011. Reported June 23rd 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/June/Dooplaya/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	Update No.78: "Villager injured by landmine in Gklaw Ghaw village,"June 23rd 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#78**
Location:	Gklaw Ghaw village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	June 20th 2011
Details:	On June 20th 2011, a local source told a KHRG researcher in Dooplaya

	District that Yi---, 21, had been injured by a landmine earlier that day in Gklaw Ghaw village, Kawkareik Township. Yi---, who is originally from Toungoo District, had come to Gklaw Ghaw in May 2011 to work in a sweet corn plantation owned by a resident of Waw Lay village in Thailand's Umphang District. According to the source that spoke with KHRG's researcher, at approximately 10:30 am on June 20th Yi--- stepped on the landmine while spraying weeds in the plantation, severely injuring his right leg. The source helped to send Yi--- to Umphang District for medical attention, where his right leg was amputated. Yi--- is the third son of six children in his family. The source that reported this information believed that the mine that injured Yi--- was an M-14 anti-personnel mine that had been planted during conflict between DKBA 5th Brigade and KNLA forces in 2008. According to the source, both DKBA and KNLA forces planted landmines around Gklaw Ghaw in 2008; in 2009, the DKBA removed most of the mines its forces had planted when farmers from Thailand were allowed to develop land in the area for agricultural use. The soldiers informed residents of Gklaw Ghaw, however, that they were unable to locate and remove three M-14 anti-personnel mines deployed by DKBA forces the previous year. One of the remaining mines was subsequently discovered when a Thai farmer was clearing a plot of land using mechanised equipment, in order to prepare a sweet corn plantation. The local source stated that Gklaw Ghaw residents believe that Yi--- stepped on one of the two remaining mines, rather than a more recently-deployed mine, because no armed groups have been based in Gklaw Ghaw since the DKBA withdrew its forces in 2009. The source added that Gklaw Ghaw villagers are now concerned that at least one landmine may remain active somewhere in the area, and a threat to civilians. Reported June 20th 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

May 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/May/Toungoo/1**

Relevant Categories:	Mine sweeping;Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Situation Update: May to July 2011," October 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b42.html**
Location:	Klaw Mi Der (Yay Dta Gone), Play Hsa Loh, Yeh Loh, Lay Ahoh Loh, Plaw Baw Der, Bpaw Pa, Shah See Bo, Yay Shah, Taw Gkoo, Zee Pyu Gone, Kler La (Bawgali Gyi), Gkaw Thay Der (Yay Tho Gyi), Gklay Soh Kee, Maw Pah Der, Gkaw Soe Koh, Ker Weh and Ka Thaw Pwe villages, Than Daung and Tantabin Townships, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	May to July 2011
Details:	At the places where SPDC Army bases are close to Karen villages, they [Tatmadaw soldiers] order villagers to serve as *set tha* [messengers]. Every day, each village has to send one person to serve as a messenger. Moreover, whenever they need help, they force villagers to go and carry things for them from where the vehicle road ends to their army camps. During the SPDC Army columns' patrol operations they force villagers to go [with them] and show them the way. Villagers have to walk in front of them. They also use villagers to walk in front of them as landmine sweepers. For example, Klaw Mi Der [Yay Dta Gone], Play Hsa Loh, Yeh Loh, Lay Ahoh Loh, Plaw Baw Der, Bpaw Pa, Shah See Bo, Yay Shah, Taw Gkoo, Zee Pyu Gone, Kler La [Bawgali Gyi], Gkaw Thay Der [Yay Tho Gyi], Gklay Soh Kee, Maw Pah Der, Gkaw Soe Koh, Ker Weh and Ka Thaw Pwe are those villages that always face forced labour demands by the SPDC Army, because those villages are close to SPDC Army bases. Received August 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/May/Toungoo/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); New use of landmines
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Situation Update: April 2011," June 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b13.html**
Location:	Previously-reported incidents in Wo--- village, Tantabin Township, Toungoo District; general information about Toungoo District
Date of landmine	Previously-reported incidents from March 2010; general information reported to KHRG in May 2011

incident:	
Details:	About landmines in Burma, we know the Burmese government and the KNU have not signed the *Baw Muh Ser Pwoh Gk'Rer* [UN] Treaty on landmines. Landmines are the biggest danger to our civilians' lives. We see that, in our Toungoo District, Burmese government [Tatmadaw] troops have come and are active here and, moreover, they plant landmines and villagers get hurt. We see that many people get injured by landmines and become handicapped in Toungoo District. Landmines are the most dangerous kind of weapon to our lives. Furthermore, it [a landmine] is a thing that can damage the human body. Landmines are not good for people and they destroy people's lives. Burma is included in the countries that use the most landmines. Civilians in Burma don't want the government to use landmines. Toungoo District is close to the Burma government's headquarters [in Naypyidaw] so the SPDC troops have come and built their camps in our Toungoo area in many different places. Not only do the SPDC soldiers use landmines, but also they don't let civilians know whenever they plant landmines. Furthermore, they plant landmines around and beside the villages, so the landmines hurt villagers' pigs and other animals. We can say that because villagers don't know where the landmines are, when they go to the wrong place where the SPDC has planted landmines, villagers surely can step on landmines by accident. Wo--- village is close to an SPDC Army camp. Last year, SPDC soldiers planted landmines close beside the village and two of the Wo--- villagers stepped on the landmines. One was a man and one was a woman. One of the villagers who stepped on the landmines is a woman named Naw Le---, who is 40 years old. She stepped on the landmine when she went to collect firewood in front of the village beside the vehicle road. The second one is Saw Pu---, who is 46 years old. He stepped on a landmine in the A--- area. If we look in our Toungoo District, people of our own ethnicity who work for revolution [KNLA soldiers] use landmines too, and the landmines that they use are made by hand. One of the Toungoo District [KNLA] leaders who didn't want to give his name, said: "*We know that landmines aren't a good thing. We know they damage the human body. Because of this reason, we don't want to use them but it's also impossible if we don't use them because we don't have enough weapons. Also, we're an armed group against the SPDC military [Tatmadaw] oppression so we use them to protect our people, civilians and ourselves. In Burma, we're the biggest ethnic revolution group in the country. We use landmines and, wherever we plant landmines, we let the villagers know. We tell the villagers: '*Don't go to that place because we planted landmines, so if you go you'll step on a landmine and it'll hurt you. If you have some important reason to go [to an area mined by the KNLA], come and let us know and we'll go and send you*.' If our people don't listen to us and go, it depends on their*

	luck because we already informed them." Reported May 2011
Remark:	For more information on the two landmine casualties, Naw Le--- and Saw Pu---, mentioned here, see "Villagers injured by landmines, assisted by neighbours in southern Toungoo," KHRG, October 2010. **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2010/khrg10b10**

- **Source Document: 2011/May/Toungoo/3**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on May 6th2011]*
Location:	Oo---, Pa--- and Pu--- villages, Maw Nay Pwa area, Tantabin Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to May 2011
Details:	**In the last one or two months, has the SPDC asked you to do something for them?** Yes, last time they demanded each house has to go and cut one log for them, and later villagers had to go and clean the road in the place called Oo--- where the landmines exploded. … People who stepped on the SPDC landmines from Pu---village are Saw Gk' Bpleh and Saw Gleh Dee. The Pa--- villagers who stepped on landmines are Saw U--- and Saw Pu---. - Saw Pe---, (male, 30), Ra--- village, Maw Nay Pwa area,Tantabin Township, Toungoo District (Exact interview date unknown; received by KHRG in May 2011 with other interviews conducted in April 2011, therefore likely conducted at a similar time)
Remark:	The interviewee did not explain why he suspected the landmines had been planted by the Tatmadaw.

- **Source Document: 2011/May/Toungoo/4**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Movement restrictions; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG on May 6th2011]*
Location:	Toungoo District
Date of	Ongoing in May 2011

landmine incident:	
Details:	Burmese soldiers built up the city [Nay Pyi Daw] in Toungoo District, 2nd Brigade area. Therefore, SPDC soldiers came, took security [control], and sent more troops. From 2005-2006, when SPDC soldiers cleaned out 2nd Brigade, responsible people [Karen leaders] and villagers suffered from SPDC soldiers' serious attacks. SPDC soldiers were active more, so KNU/KNLA had fewer soldiers and they used landmines in order to protect themselves and villagers. If they [KNLA soldiers] did not use landmines, all land in 2nd Brigade would be taken by SPDC soldiers. In Toungoo District, a 42-year-old villager who lives in a hiding place said: "*Landmine is one thing that I'm afraid of the most. Whenever it explodes, it never misses the target. It certainly injures the people. If people do not die but their legs are cut out. Burmese soldiers shoot us but sometimes miss the target*. *Landmines certainly hit the people*."*Two and three years ago, the SPDC came through the forest and planted the landmines along the road where we went to plantations and they planted the landmines between each village. Too fearful. Escaped porters told us Burmese soldiers planted the landmines but we did not know where. We went to cardamom plantations and we had to go through the forest.*" According to KNLA soldiers, if they planted the landmines, they let all villagers know the places where they planted the landmines, such as which mountain. But, they did not tell us certain places like the specific place where they planted landmines. They did not tell us certainly. They just told us: "*Do not go to that road, landmines are there and do not go to that mountain, landmines are there. They informed us like this*." Each village informs each other always [regarding landmines]. In Toungoo District, landmines have been used until now. By the reason for using landmines is so SPDC soldiers dare not go through the forest. Received May 6th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/May/Nyaunglebin/1**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Retaliation against civilians for mine use by NSAGs
KHRG source:	"Nyaunglebin Interviews: May 2011," June 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b15.html**
Location:	Ta--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in May 2011

Details:	**Did the SPDC [Tatmadaw] order you to go and work when you lived in the relocation site?** They called ten people [from the village], or one person from each house, to go and carry things for them when they went into the forest. Sometimes, it took six or seven days. They went around [patrolled] in the area [near the relocation site]. **Did fighting happen when you went and portered for the soldiers?** They said they would kill us if fighting happened, so the KNLA didn't shoot at them. They had said it, and the KNLA heard it so the KNLA didn't do anything. They couldn't do anything until now. The SPDC [Tatmadaw] soldiers said *'You [villagers] will have to die if a landmine explodes beside your hut and you don't escape*.' **Were there landmines in your area?** There were no landmines. They [Tatmadaw soldiers] threatened the villagers, so the KNLA couldn't do that [plant landmines]. If they did that [planted landmines], we'd have been harmed. They [the Tatmadaw] told us we'd have to move if fighting happened beside our village. **…** **Do they still call for forced labour since you came here [returned to your village]?** It still happens, until now, that they call for forced labour. They call four or five villagers when they need them, when they travel [patrol from] village to village. We have to carry their backpacks and they let [force] you to go at the front [walk in front of patrolling soldiers]. They do that so that the KNLA won't dare to shoot them. If the KNLA shoots, it will hit the villagers first. They patrol with 20 or 30 soldiers and they include 10 villagers with them. You have to walk between them [villagers have to walk interspersed with soldiers]. - Saw B--- (male, 31), Ta--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District Interviewed May 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/May/Papun**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; movement restrictions; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines;
KHRG source:	"Papun Situation Update: Dweh Loh Township, May 2011," September 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b26.html**

Location:	West of the Bilin River, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Since 2009;ongoing in May 2011.
Details:	In addition, the DKBA planted landmines along the valleys and mountains to the west of the Bu Loh [Bilin] River. The villagers did not dare to go to work in their hill fields [to the west of the Bu Loh River]. This year, those villagers did not get to harvest their rice. … Between 2009 to 2010, DKBA soldiers came to dig gold and took care of their security by planting landmines on the mountains, along the mountain ranges, and in the valleys along the west side of the Bu Loh River. On January 1st 2011, DKBA soldiers became part of the [Tatmadaw] Border Guard battalions and they went back [rotated to a different location] but they did not remove the landmines that they had planted and, since then, the villagers have not dared to go to work in their hill fields or travel. The villagers have faced these problems of not being able to work in their hill fields or travel. Not only villagers, but also animals [could not go to those areas]; the animals could not eat grass [graze] along the mountains. The landmines still exist to the west of the Bu Loh River. … The DKBA soldiers went back [rotated to a different location] in 2011, but they did not remove landmines that they had planted in the places where people have hill fields. The villagers can not go there and do not dare to work in their fields in the forests. Received May 2011
Remark:	This information was received by KHRG in May 2011 and is taken from an update on the situation in Dweh Loh Township, Papun District between January to April 2011. The villager who wrote this report noted that the landmines to the west of the Bilin River were planted in 2009 by DKBA troops but, between January to April 2011, continued to restrict villagers' access to agricultural land and harvest of their paddy crops.

- **Source Document: 2011/May/Dooplaya/1**

Relevant Categories:	Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	Update No.74: "*Dtaing* bomb planted beside villager's plantation in Dooplaya District," May 17th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#74**
Location:	Blaw T'Bpoh, near Palu Poe village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	Since May 4th 2011; ongoing as of May 13th 2011
Details:	On May 13th 2011, a KHRG researcher reported that on May 4th 2011 villagers from Bplaw Ta Bpoh village, Kawkareik Township, spotted a *dtaing* bomb [a trip-wire landmine] planted under a tree beside a plantation belonging to Naw So---, a 23-year-old resident of Bplaw Ta Bpoh. The villagers were on their way to work in their plantations

	between 7:00 and 8:00 am when they noticed the bomb. Naw So---'s plantation is located along the Moei River inside Burma, near Palu Poe village, between Palu and K'Hsaw Waw Lay villages. According to KHRG's researcher, after they saw the *dtaing* bomb, the Bplaw Ta Bpoh villagers informed their village head. In order to warn people in the area, the villagers cut a marker into trunk of the tree under which the bomb had been planted. As of May 13th 2011, however, residents of Bplaw Ta Bpoh had not yet dared to clear weeds to prepare their fields to plant corn and beans because they were afraid that more explosive devices might have been planted around their plantations, in addition to the *dtaing* bomb discovered near Naw So---'s plantation. KHRG has not confirmed which party to the current conflict was responsible for laying the dtaing bomb in Bplaw Ta Bpoh village. According to local sources, Tatmadaw LID #22 soldiers deployed in the area around Bplaw Ta Bpoh had told villagers to inform them if they saw any landmines, and said that they would safely remove them for the villagers. As of May 13th 2011 an LID #22 officer had been aware of the location of the bomb for seven days, but local sources said that no action had been taken yet to remove the bomb. Reported May 13th 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/May/Dooplaya/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Marking, fencing or removal of landmines; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	Update No.71: "Landmine injures two villagers in Oo Kreh Htah," May 5th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#71**
Location:	Oo Kreh Htah village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	May 2nd 2011
Details:	On May 4th 2011, a resident of Oo Kreh Htah village, Kawkareik Township currently in hiding to avoid ongoing armed conflict between the Tatmadaw and Karen armed groups, reported the following incident to a KHRG researcher. At around 7:00 pm on May 2nd 2011, two villagers from Oo Kreh Htah village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District, stepped on a landmine placed near civilian residences when they returned to Burma from discreet refuge sites in Thailand to check on their homes. One of the men had been seeking refuge in Thailand with his family since December 6th 2010, to protect themselves from ongoing conflict and conflict-related abuse. The source that spoke with KHRG's researcher identified one of the injured villagers as U P---, 57, a married Oo Kreh Htah villager, but was unable to identify by name the other villager who was injured. According

	to the same source, U P--- had returned to check on his house on previous occasions since fleeing to Thailand on December 6th 2010. On this occasion, he and the unnamed villager were walking in land adjacent to his house compound when U P--- stepped on the landmine; the blast seriously injured the lower part of U P---'s left leg and mine fragments injured the other villager's eye. Both men are currently receiving treatment in L--- hospital in Thailand. KHRG has not yet been able to confirm the details on the two villagers' current medical condition, and could not confirm who had planted the landmine that injured U P--- and the unnamed villager who accompanied him. Local sources told the KHRG field researcher that they suspected the landmine had been planted by Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA) soldiers, because the DKBA is currently the most active armed group in the Oo Kreh Htah village area. In a previous landmine incident in the Oo Kreh Htah area reported by KHRG on February 15th 2011, a local source told KHRG that DKBA soldiers had previously warned villagers that they had planted landmines near Oo Kreh Htah in order to prevent Tatmadaw troops from entering the village. Previous KHRG reports this year have documented five separate incidents in which villagers staying at refuge sites in Thailand to protect themselves from armed conflict near their homes have triggered landmines while attempting to return to their homes or to pursue their livelihoods inside Burma. Three cases in which civilians, including a 7-year-old girl, were seriously injured by landmines, and one case in which a civilian was killed by a landmine, have been reported by KHRG since March 5th 2011 alone, highlighting the serious risks faced by villagers who return to areas of ongoing or recent conflict in eastern Burma. Reported May 4th 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

April 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/1**

Relevant Categories:	Civilian use of landmines
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Incident Reports: March and April 2011," May 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b9.html**
Location:	La--- village, Thandaung Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to April 2011
Details:	The SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] came to La--- village and abused villagers. When they came to the village, they heard a landmine explode and they said that the villagers planted landmines. They burned the villagers' houses and, moreover, if they see the villagers go somewhere, they ask a lot of different questions. Reported April 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/April/Toungoo/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Marking, fencing or removal of landmines; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on May 6th 2011]*
Location:	Mo--- Camp, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	March and April 2011
Details:	**Have any soldiers on your side been injured when you fought with the KNU [KNLA] army?** According to injury, I know of one time. [One person] stepped on a landmine. One soldier's legs were cut off. **What was his name?** His name is Maung Nu---. He was an ethnic person, Naga [ethnicity]. **He was a single or married?** He was single.

	When did it happen? It happened in March [2011] when we built the vehicle road. **When the battle was happening, did your people arrest any of their enemies?** [We] did not arrest anybody. **Did soldiers [SPDC soldiers] plant any landmines?** Yes, they did. **What kind of places did they plant?** They planted landmines in the road that people travel along. **Did they inform the villagers when they planted landmines?** Yes, they did. They informed [the villagers]. **Did they mark anything on the map about the places where they planted landmines?** They marked on the map about the places where they planted landmines. They then removed those landmines. **What experiences did you have by coming to the front line?** The [my] experiences in the front line [have included] people stepping on landmines and battles happening. I had these experiences. … **Cardamom plantations and durian plantations are villagers' careers. Did they [SPDC soldiers] not know that plantations were there and they burnt things down or they knew but they burnt them anyway?** Beside villages, landmines were there, so they cleaned landmines by burning down with fire. And, cardamom plantations were burnt too. - Kyaw Ny---, (male, 23), Tatmadaw LIB #425 deserter from Mo--- Camp, Toungoo District Interviewed April 5th 2011
Remark:	For photos of Kyaw Ny---, see Section II: A.

- **Source Document: 2011/April/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined;Movement restrictions
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished photo notes, received by KHRG on May 6th2011]*
Location:	Ne---, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	April 9th 2011
Details:	Picture #375 to #378 taken on April 9th2011when we were crossing the road. This road goes to Kay Bpoo. The place we are crossing now is called Ne---. It is very dangerous to cross this road because [there is] always SPDC movement in this area and moreover SPDC has planted landmines there too.
Remark:	See photos in Section II: B.

- **Source Document: 2011/April/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on April 29th2011]*
Location:	Ny--- village, Waw Mu village tract, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to April 2011
Details:	**Why were they not allow to go and do hill field [farming] in Western Waw Mu?** In Western Waw Mu, starting from when DKBA came and stayed, and after they left they put landmines in the ground. **Did you know which DKBA group and the number?** Last year, they combined two groups [battalions], and they are Batallion #333 and Batallion #999 in 2010. **Where did they put landmines? Did they put [them] in the villagers' farms?** They didn't put them in the villagers' farms, but they told us that not to go in the Western part, so we dare not go. Sometimes, if dogs went to find food, they stepped on landmines so our villagers dare not to go.

	Didn't they tell the villagers where they put the landmines? They also had difficulty telling the villagers where they put the landmines because even their group didn't know. For example, one group came and they put [planted] the landmine, and if they went back they didn't take it out and they also didn't tell their new friend who replaced their place [location]. They don't know [do not remember] all the places and they sometimes step on their own landmines. - Saw Pa---, (male, 26), Ny--- village, Waw Mu village tract, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District Interviewed April 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/April/Papun/3**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	Update No.70: "Landmines planted around Waw Lay and Palu villages kill one villager, injure two" April 23rd 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#70**
Location:	Waw Lay and Palu villages, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	April 19th 2011; April 10th 2011
Details:	On April 22nd 2011, a KHRG field researcher reported that U T---, a 52-year-old resident of Waw Lay village, Kawkareik Township died on April 19th after stepping on a landmine near Htee Ther Leh village. Sources close to U T---'s family told KHRG's researcher that the family had been seeking refuge at a discreet location in Thailand to protect themselves from ongoing conflict between the Tatmadaw and Karen armed groups in the Waw Lay area since November 2010. To support his family while displaced, U T--- regularly crossed back into Burma to perform day labour, earning 200 Thai baht per day for logging in the forest around Waw Lay for his elder brother, U M---, who then sold the trees to one of the five local saw mills in Waw Lay. On April 19th at approximately 10 am, U T--- travelled with his brother and his 18-year-old son to a forest between Waw Lay and Htee Ther Leh villages to fell trees. When they reached a hillside above Htee Ther Leh, U T--- stepped on a landmine; the blast severed his right leg below the knee, and injured his left foot. His brother and son carried U T--- back to Way Lay and sent him on to Phop Phra hospital in Thailand, where he later died from his injuries. Local sources told KHRG's researcher that they could not confirm who planted the landmine that killed U T---, because the forest between Waw Lay and Htee Ther Leh villages is regularly accessed by Tatmadaw, KNLA and DKBA forces.

	According to KHRG's researcher, U T--- was married with five children, including twin girls who were exactly one month old on the day he was killed. In a separate incident, reported to a KHRG researcher on April 10th 2011, two villagers from Palu village, Kawkareik Township were injured by a landmine that had been planted on a path in the forest outside Palu in December 2010. A source close to the family of Saw L---, a 40-year-old resident of Palu, said that on the morning of December 15th Saw L--- was taking shelter in his field hut with another farmer, Saw La---, 45, during fighting between Tatmadaw and DKBA forces in the Palu area. Saw L--- and Saw La--- both cultivate corn to support their livelihoods and the field hut is located near their fields outside of Palu. During the fighting, the men heard an explosion in the forest nearby and went to investigate what had happened. According to the source that spoke with KHRG, the two men checked with KNLA soldiers camped at the edge of the forest whether any mines had been planted on the forest path. The source said that the soldiers told the men that they did not know of any mines along the path, and informed them of the areas that the KNLA had mined; one of the soldiers accompanied the men as they proceeded into the forest. At approximately 10 am, as the men returned along the path after failing to find the location of the explosion, Saw L--- stepped on a landmine. According to KHRG's researcher, Saw L--- lost his left leg and his testicles as a result of his injuries. Saw La--- was injured in his back by mine fragments; the accompanying KNLA soldier was not injured. Local sources told KHRG's researcher that on December 15th most residents of Palu had fled the village due to the fighting in the area, but a woman who had remained in the village helped Saw L--- and Saw La--- cross into Thailand to access medical treatment for their injuries. Reported April 22nd 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

March 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Toungoo/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Interviews: November 2010 to April 2011," June 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b11.html**
Location:	Sho Koh village, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	Interviewed in March 2011; incident took place in May 2008
Details:	**Do you want to report anything else that we haven't asked you?** I want to report the information that, in May 2008, one of the villagers who's a girl got injured by a landmine. Her name is Naw Yu---. She stayed in Than Daung, and came back and got injured by a landmine in Gkay Wa Mu Htaw, outside Sho Koh village. Now, she has only one leg left. **How old is she?** She is 28 years old. **Is she staying in Than Daung?** No, she stays in Be---. **Is she a simple villager or does she have any duty?** She is a simple villager. **Who are her mother and father?** I don't know her mother, I know only her father. Her father's name is Saw Ly---. Nothing else, I know only this. - Saw No--- (male, 28), Be--- village, Thandaung Township, Toungoo District Interviewed March 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Toungoo/2**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Incident Reports: March and April 2011," May 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b9.html**

Location:	Ko Day (Kaw Day) and Th'Ay Hta (T'Aye Hta) villages, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	March 13th and 15th 2011
Details:	"*On March 13th 2011, villagers had to carry food for the SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] starting from Kaw Day camp to T'Aye Hta camp. At this time, 30 villagers had to go, including 10 women. The villagers had to carry rice and milk. It took three days for the villagers to carry that. We started from our village and had to sleep in Gh--- village, and the second day we took things from the SPDC Army camp which is located in Ko Day. To go from the SPDC Army camp at Ko Day to Th'Ay Hta camp takes three hours. Because there are landmines along the way, it took a long time because we had to avoid them. On our journey, no SPDC soldiers came with us, we went by ourselves. If we look now, no cars travel and there are only motorbike taxis [on the road between Ko Day and Th'Ay Hta]. The SPDC Army asked the villagers who have motorbikes to carry for them also. On March 15th 2011, the SPDC Army asked villagers with motorbikes to carry food. In our village, they called five motorbikes and we carried rice and, on each motorbike, there were three sacks of rice (150 kg. / 330 lb.) starting from Kler La to Kaw Day camp. If we look at this, the SPDC always forces us to porter.*" - Saw F---, (male, 40) M--- village, Thandaung Township, Toungoo District Interviewed March 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Civilian use of landmines; Areas known to be mined; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th2011]*
Location:	Me--- village, Yeh Muh Bplaw village tract, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in March 2011
Details:	**Do these villagers use landmines for security?** Yes. **Have they been hurt back by their own landmines?** No. **When was the home-guards' group formed?**

	I think it was formed almost 10 years. **What do the home-guards do?** They monitor the situation and come back and inform the villagers or warn the villagers. They come back and inform the villagers where the SPDC Army is. Sometimes, they give warning by firing a gun three times to the villagers so that the villagers know and can flee in advance. … **How many landmines do you think those who take [use them] for security use in your areas?** I think it is almost 100 landmines. **Why do you think they use landmines?** They use the landmines to help us do our work and to prevent the SPDC dare not to come anymore. We can flee if the SPDC Army steps on landmines. But, they [the villagers] will not use these landmines anymore when there is no SPDC Army. **Where do Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) soldiers get these landmines?** They make by themselves. They make the landmines [by putting] gunpowder and battery [powder] together into bamboo. - Saw Ky---, (male, 48), Me--- village, Yeh Muh Bplaw village tract, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District Interviewed March 4th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Civilian use of landmines; New use of landmines; Notification to civilians
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th2011]*
Location:	Mu--- village, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in March 2011
Details:	**Do they [Home Guard or *gher der*] use landmines also?** Yes, they use a few.

Where do they get [the landmines] from?

They get some from a[KNLA] battalion, so they use landmines for on the frontline [before the village or the area that the SPDC soldiers will cross to enter the village].

In your area, how many landmines do they use?

Itis[determined] one year by one year; I think for one year they use about 10 landmines.

What is the purpose of using landmine?

So we can work in our fields well, we use landmines for the SPDC. If they come, they will get hurt with the landmines and for us when we hear landmines explode, we will ready ourselves and go back to our houses.

Do you think after the SPDC goes back to their home place, [and there is] no SPDC activity, will they [the villagers] still use landmines?

No, we won't use.

From using landmine, it is become a very big problem for villagers too right? So after using [planting] the landmines, do they let villagers know early?

Yes, they let villagers know that they can go [walk] to [until] there, stop there, and in front of the stopping place they do not go [further] because there are landmines.

Because the [villagers] are using landmines, do SPDC soldiers die more or do villagers die more?

They haven't come to us [to our village], so they haven't [been hit by landmines], and for villagers, one villager got injured. He said he forgot the place or didn't remember the place.

Do the villagers have to leave their fields or farms to plant landmines?

No, no one has had to leave their field or farm from us using landmines, but if the SPDC comes we have to leave our fields or farm.

- [Name not provided], (male, 51), Mu---village, Luthaw Township, Papun District
  Interviewed March 6th2011

Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/3**

Relevant Categories:	Civilian use of landmines; New use of landmines; Notification to civilians
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th 2011]*
Location:	Ler Mu Bplaw village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in March 2011
Details:	**Do they [the SPDC Army] plant landmines when they were active [in your village]?** Yes. They planted landmines when they were active. **[Was] Anyone of your villagers hit by the SPDC Army's landmines?** None of my villagers was hit or got injured by the SPDC Army's landmines. Normally, those responsible [KNLA] go and check and most [landmines] are seen. … **Do home guards use landmines?** Yes. Home guards used landmines. **Where do they get landmines?** They get them [landmines] from the KNU [KNLA]. **Where do they get landmines, from other countries or hand made?** For gunpowder, they get it from other people. They created by themselves. They just take gas and gunpowder [from other people]. For the rest they make it by themselves. They make it up with *wab bpaw* [a piece of bamboo]. **How many landmines do they use in your area?** In our area, over one hundred landmines were used. **What are the purposes of using landmines?** To [be able to] go and work in the front line, that is close to SPDC Army. [Second], For the SPDC Army soldiers to step on a

	landmine when they come [to our village], and go back after they were hit by a mine or we will turn back. [Third], We do it for alertness. **If there are no SPDC Army activities, will the landmines be used?** If there is no worry, the landmines would not be used. - Saw He---, (male, 45), Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed March 7th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/4**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th2011]*
Location:	Ler Mu Bplaw village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to March 2011
Details:	**What happened to your leg?** I went back and did hill field [farming] in the front line and stepped on a landmine. I was hit by our people's landmine, not the SPDC Army's landmine. I can say that [it was not] SPDC landmines because if there are no SPDC Army activities, there is no landmine and it won't hit anyone. **Didn't they let you know or did you forget where the landmine is?** I didn't know. I went with home guard and they knew but they forgot. Accidentally I was hit. **You were hit by landmine and you have lost one of your legs. Is there any support for you?** There is no support. I just have to work for my life. But it [the landmine injury] has become a big problem to work. We can't go and work as before. There is no support. Just my *poe lee* [son or daughter] has to look after me. - Saw Le---, (male, 48), Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed March 7th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/5**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Civilian use of landmines; Areas known to be mined
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th2011]*
Location:	Ler Mu Bplaw village tract,Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in March 2011
Details:	**Do they [Home Guard or *gher der*] use landmines?** Yes, they use landmines. **How many landmines do they use?** I think there are 20 or 30 landmines. **Why did they use landmines?** We have to go back and work close to the SPDC Army, and if we didn't use landmines, they could come and arrest us. If people come and the mine explodes, people will stay alert. **It means using landmines to protect villagers while they areworking?** Yes. **Do you think landmines will be used if there are no SPDC Army activities?** No, people will not use it. - Saw Lu---, (male, 54), Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed March 7th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/6**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Civilian use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th2011]*
Location:	Naw Yo Hta village tract, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District

Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in March 2011
Details:	**Do people use landmines in your area and how many groups' [use] landmines?** Yes, people use [landmines] to protect themselves. They are KNU [KNLA] and the Home Guard. **How do they use landmines?** They use it to protect themselves and to be able to do their livelihood work. They use [landmines] to prevent the SPDC Army from coming and destroying their farms. **Will the landmines be used if there were no SPDC Army?** We don't use [landmines for anything else]. You use [them] and what are you going to do with that? People use it for the SPDC Army, not for other [purposes]. … **Where do they get landmines from?** They make it by themselves. **What do they make it with?** They make landmines with dynamite [gunpowder], battery and they put [both] in *wab bpaw* [a piece of bamboo]. We don't put landmines in our village tract. We just put [them] in the place where the SPDC Army is close to us. **Do villagers get injured or killed by landmines?** People let villagers know where they putlandmines. They went but they were not hit. **Did villagers have to leave their farms because of using landmines?** No. [Villagers had to leave their farms] because of SPDC landmines. **Do landmines cause trouble for traveling?** No. - Saw Ma---, (male, 40), Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed March 8th2011

Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/7**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Civilian use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th 2011]*
Location:	Ler Kee village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in March 2011
Details:	**Do villagers or the Home Guard use landmines in your area?** They use [landmines], but not too much. **How much do they use it?** Maybe around ten [landmines]. Just to protect our residences and plantations. **Do you think [the villagers or the Home Guard] will use the landmines if there are no SPDC Army activities?** No, people will not use it. **What kind of landmine do they use? Where do they get it from?** They make it by themselves. **Is there awareness to villageswhen landmines have been planted?** Yes, they let villagers know. For example, they told villagers not to go to the area where they put a landmine. **Do anyone get injured or killed by landmine?** In the past, villagers got injuries. **Which landmine, the SPDC or Home Guard's landmine?** Our own landmine [Home Guard]. **How did it happen?** Sometime, they forget and the accident happens.

	Who takesresponsibility for things like medical treatment when this kind of accident happens? The KNU [KNLA] do it. **What are the consequences to the family [of the injured person] after this kind of accident happens?** It becomes a problem for the family to find food. **Has anyone been injured by a landmine in your village?** Yes. **Do people organize and look after their [the injured person's] family?** Yes. We help them by [giving] food or work even if it is not fully enough. **Do people have to leave behind their farms because of landmines?** Many. We do not dare to go and work because of landmines. Our area becomes smaller. If we want to enlarge our area, the enemy is active. We do not dare to go and work if we don't have landmines. If you go and work [without planting landmines], the SPDC Army will come and arrest you, so you can do nothing. **Does the SPDC Army plant landmines when they are patrolling?** In the past, people have been injured but I don't hear anything now. **Because of landmines, do villagers have to face any problems when they are traveling to trade, work or find food?** Yes, sometimes; we don't let them go very far or [they] ask responsible people before they go. The responsible people will send them if they go. - Saw Me---, (male, 54), Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed March 8th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/8**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Civilian use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th2011]*
Location:	Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in March 2011
Details:	**What kind of weapons do they [Home Guard or *gher der*] use?** They [Home Guards] use the weapons people usually use. They use machine guns and muskets and landmines. The landmines were given by KNU [KNLA] because they are not free all the time to patrol and watch. So they put landmines to protect themselves. Less [time] patrolling and watching and the villagers can give more time to their work. **How many landmines were used in your area?** We used a lot but some landmines exploded and some were destroyed. The landmines can be destroyed overa short period of time. There are about one hundred [landmines]. But those are just for protection. **Do you think the landmines will be used if there is noSPDC Army movement?** No, the landmines will not be used if there is no movement. **Have any Home Guards been injured by their [own] landmines?** Yes, Home Guard landmines have [injured] several people because they don't have precise training. Some get injured. Sometimes, when they thought it is not necessary [to have the landmine] anymore, they go and take out the mine and accidentally the mine explodes. **Who gives medical treatment after they are injured?** [The] KNU [KNLA] give medical treatment. **Is there any support to them?** There is as much support given as we canif they are seriously injured, but if not serious, there is no support. **How many home guards have been injured by landmine?** One is in Na--- and another is *[unclear].*

	Is there special support for them? No. **Have any villagers been injured by KNU [KNLA's] landmines?** KNU [KNLA] put landmines when they know there will be SPDC Army movement. They don't put landmines if there is no SPDC Army movement. For the travelers, security guys send [escort] them. They dare not go by themselves. - Saw Ne---, (male, 40), Kay Bpoo village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed March 9th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/9**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG on March 7th 2011]*
Location:	Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in March 2011
Details:	About areas, especially in Lu Thaw Township we see there is less SPDC movement. When SPDC soldiers attack, mostly they get hit by landmines so they do not follow their orders anymore and just move around near their living place [camp]. Received March 7th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/10**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Civilian use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th2011]*
Location:	Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in March 2011
Details:	**Afterthe SPDC came this time, do you think any one of them**

[SPDC soldiers] planted landmines?

I heard people said, they planted [landmines] but now security people have checked, but they didn't see yet. I think they planted.
…

Do your have any villagers who go and do hill field [farming] close to the SPDC [Army camp]?

They want to go [and do hill field farming] very much, but it's impossible for them to go because the SPDC Army destroyed the paddy so they cannot work close to [the SPDC Army camp].

It means you don't have any villagers working close to the SPDC Army camp, right?

Some people work close a little; they have to work secretly.

What is the distance between villagers farming hill field and the SPDC Army camp?

The distance between is about half an hour to walk.

Dothe villagers handle security on their own, or are people [KNLA] handling security for them?

Yes, only the KNLAis handling security for them.

For villagers handling security by themselves, do they use landmines?

Yes, they use some.

Where do they get it?

They ask KNLA to make some for them and ask KNLA to handle security and by themselves also they handle security.

Where does the KNLA get landmines?

KNLA makes [the landmines] by themselves.

How do they make them?

I think they make it [the landmines] on their own, but we don't observe what they make them with.

- [Name and age not provided], Ml---, Ler Muh Plaw tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District
  Interviewed March 2nd2011

Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/March/Papun/11**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 7th 2011]*
Location:	Na--- village, Meh T'Raw village tract, Papun Township
Date of landmine incident:	Frequently, until 2009
Details:	**What did people do when they couldn't go and carry rations for the SPDC Army?** They had to hire people with money when they couldn't go. It was ordered. They had to go when their turn comes by. They had to hire like others people pay. If other people pay 1,500 or 3,000 kyat, they have to pay the same price. Carrying rations is also a kind of repayment. If you unlucky and step on landmine, your legs will blow up. So they should have to pay for the *Ta Ya Ta Kyay* [compensation]. - Gl---, (male, 48), Na---village, Papun Township Interviewed March 2011
Remark:	

February 2011

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Thaton**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Thaton Interview: Naw L---, February 2011," January 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b1.html**
Location:	Bilin Township, Thaton District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in February 2011
Details:	**In your village, is forced labour demanded once a month or twice a month?** We're asked to do forced labour once a month. Sometimes we're asked to do forced labour twice a month. Sometimes we're asked to do forced labour four times a month. Sometimes soldiers come and we have to do work. Sometimes they don't come. Now the situation isn't like before because KNLA soldiers don't disturb them anymore and so they [Tatmadaw soldiers] don't disturb us anymore either. One time, Tatmadaw soldiers took security along the road and KNLA soldiers ambushed them. This happened one morning when the Tatmadaw soldiers had run out of rice and had ordered me to porter their rations. I left to return [to the village after delivering the rations] at 3:00 pm and there was an explosion, "Boom!" as a mortar hit the ground beside us. We were two [villagers] there. She [the other villager] called to me: "*Sister, sister*!" like this. If we were hurt, no one would've paid us any money for the value of our lives. Why were they shooting? Because, the Tatmadaw soldiers stayed along the road, so the KNLA soldiers attacked them. Nobody would attack them if they'd stayed in their own army camp. However, they couldn't blame us because I warned them: "*In the past, when the Tatmadaw soldiers were sending rations, they were attacked, so you need to be careful. In addition, KNLA soldiers won't only attack you with guns, they'll also attack you with* bpoh klee *[literally 'tortoise shell bombs', meaning large remote-detonation devices]. They'll plant* bpoh klee *and they'll attack you with guns. Therefore, you need to be careful. If they attack you, don't make any problems for the villagers or village head. If you cause problems, I'll become a KNLA soldier and I'll fight you*." They replied: "We won't make any problems for you." [I said to them:] "*If they [KNLA soldiers] do something to you, don't harm us. Tatmadaw soldiers have been attacked in the past, but I currently can't say whether they'll attack you or not. I'm advising you like this because people who steal things, will steal things*." I can protect my village like this. Interviewed February 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Toungoo/1**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Interviews: November 2010 to April 2011," June 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b11.html**
Location:	Da--- and Ht--- villages, Maw Koh Der village tract, Thandaung Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	February 14th 2011
Details:	**Do you want to tell us about other SPDC oppression?** The SPDC forces villagers [to work], such as carrying their loads. Also if they see us on the way, they call us to become a guide and ask us to do forced labour like cleaning the road. **If they see you on the way and they call you to become guide but if you don't go, what will they do?** If they see us, we can't stay without guiding them. They're angry, and will push or beat us so we're afraid and we send [guide] them. **In the past few months in 2011, did you have to carry loads for the SPDC soldiers?** Yes, one time. We had to start from Da--- to Ht---. **How many people [had to porter]?** In our village, it was more than 20. **Did it include men and women?** Yes, it did. **…** **Do you remember the date?** Yes, it was on February 14th 2011. - Saw Pa--- (male, 29), Pl--- village, Maw Koh Der village tract, Thandaung Township, Toungoo District Interviewed December 2010
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Toungoo/2**

Relevant Categories:	Mine sweeping; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG on May 6th 2011]*
Location:	Ku Pler Der, Bpeh Gkaw Der, and Der Doh villages, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	February 23rd 2011
Details:	On February 23rd2011, the SPDCArmyLIB [Light Infantry Battalion] #336, led by Battalion Commander Kyaw Htay,which is under the control of MOC [Military Operations Command] #9, led by Operations CommanderAung Win, forcibly asked Ku Pler Der villagers to carry (15) sacks of rice; Bpeh Gkaw Der villagers to carry (25) sacks of rice; and (25) villagers from Der Doh to go and carry rice, and to do so while also clearing landmines that had been planted on a vehicle road. They asked these villagers to go [travel] before them [the LIB #336 soldiers] and they followed behind the villagers. Therefore, if there were a landmine planted, the villagers would get injured first and it would not cause injury to the [SPDC Army]troops.
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Nyaunglebin**

Relevant Categories:	Retaliation against civilians for mine use by NSAGs
KHRG source:	"Nyaunglebin Interviews: May 2011," June 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b15.html**
Location:	Wo--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District
Date of landmine incident:	February 2011
Details:	In February 2011, the SPDC Army wanted to arrest me. They said I had contacted the KNU. … They came and arrested my eldest son, who's 21 years old. They tied him up and took him back [to the Tatmadaw camp]. They told him, *'Your father cooperates with the* koh per thoo *[KNLA soldiers]. He sends bullets [to the KNLA] and keeps* may bpo *[grenades or landmines] and walkie-talkies*,'. But my son told them that there were no such things: 'My father doesn't do those things. My father is a farmer.' They said: *'That's not true, don't lie. If you'll lie, we'll kill you*.' They tied him up and dragged him [to the Tatmadaw camp]. - Saw So--- (male, 52), Wo--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District Interviewed May 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th 2011]*
Location:	Ka--- village, Pla Koh village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	February 2011
Details:	**How many people have had to die because of the SPDC Army?** I know. There are several people. Ca--- [single]. He was hit by landmine. - Saw Maung Ro---, (male, 45), Ka--- village, Pla Koh village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed February 24th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Civilian use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th 2011]*
Location:	Pla Koh village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior toFebruary 2011
Details:	**How many of your villagers were shot by the SPDC army? Can you tell us their name?** Yes, Da---. He was shot by Burmese army. Saw De---. He was hit by a landmine. Saw A---. He was hit by a landmine. E---. He was hit by a landmine. Kyaw Gh---. He was hit by a landmine. **Which armed groups' landmine were they hit by?** Some were hit by Karen landmines, Burmese army landmines and their own [landmines] that they have set up. Two people were hit by their own landmines. **They were hit because the Karen and Burmese armies planted landmines?** No. They planted [the landmine] and it exploded by itself. Maung Ch---

	was hit by a landmine [but he didn't die directly from it]and he shot himself. Kyaw De--- and Ta A---werekilled by the landmine. For Kyaw Da---, the Burmese army shot him. He is single. - Saw Gk---, (male, 40), Pla Koh village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed February 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/3**

Relevant Categories:	Mine sweeping; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	"Papun Interview: Maung Y---, February 2011," September 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b28.html**
Location:	Between K'Hter Htee and Mae Bpa, Bu Tho Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	February 5th 2011
Details:	**Where did they take you?** They took us to K'Hter Htee and in the morning we portered loads and went to Mae Bpa [in Bu Tho Township]. **Can you [describe what happened] step by step, from the time the Border Guard soldiers arrested you until you came back?** We went [to K'Hter Htee] and they told us: 'You were very disobedient, so we had to go and arrest you.' They also called us the people of Lieutenant Steel. We had to clear the landmines that Lieutenant Steel placed. When we came back we each had to pay 31,000 kyat (US $42)[5] [to be released]. **Where did you have to start portering loads, and to where?** We started to porter loads from K'Hter Htee to Mae Bpa. **…** **When you carried loads did anyone get killed or step on a landmine?** No one was killed in our porter group. … **How did you clear landmines? Can you explain it to us?**

	They said: *'The KNU placed the landmines, so you have to clear them*.' After that, they gave us a rake and we started to clear landmines. **Did you get hurt?** No, no one got hurt. **How many days did it take to clear the landmines?** We started from Mae Kae Kyaw in Kho Wah Lay and cleared [mines] to T'Ray Pa Baw. It took two days. **How many people had to go [each] day?** They didn't tell people [to go]. We stayed near them, so we had to [were forced to] go. **Did their soldiers have to clear mines?** Yes, their soldiers had to clear mines. **What would they [Battalion #1013 soldiers] have done if you hadn't gone?** They didn't tell us anything. They ordered us to go with their soldiers, so we went. We had to rake for landmines, and we raked. Furthermore, we also had to cut and sweep [trees and brush] to maintain [clear] a road. **After you had cleared the way, what did they do with the road?** They used it to transport their food [rations] to T'Ray Pa Baw, and then they would cross the river to Noh Day. **While you were clearing the landmines, did anyone get injured by a landmine?** In our group, no one got injured by a landmine, neither villagers nor Border Guard soldiers. - Maung Y--- (male, 32), T--- village, K'Hter Htee village tract,Dweh Loh Township, Papun District Interviewed February 2011
Remark:	Photo of Maung Y--- available in Section II: E.

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/4**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)

KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on March 7th 2011]*
Location:	Saw Muh Plaw village tract,Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Information received February 2011; concerns an old incident from eight years ago
Details:	Naw A--- is 13-years-old, and Naw B--- is 10-years old. These two sisters' father's name is Saw Kl---. He was a Karen soldier who took [responsibility for] the security of civilians who had fled to Ko---. Eight years ago, when he was taking responsibility [for security], he stood on a landmine and so he died. His wife Naw C--- and his two daughters were left in a difficult living situation. After Naw C---'s husband, Saw Kl---, died a few years ago, she got married again and her second husband is a widower and he has three children. After they got married they had another three children, so in total they now have eight children; including the wife and husband in their family there are 10 people. These two sisters' stepfather does hill field farming, but they have food shortages and he doesn't have the energy to send them to school, and also doesn't want to send them to school. These two sisters show like [represent] their stepfather as not nice to them, as they cannot attend school. Their grandfather found a way for them, so now they can attend school. I met with Saw La---, who is Naw A--- and Naw B---'s grandfather, and I asked him the information. Also I asked civilians in Saw Muh Plaw tract about their occupations and the area situation. Reported February 12th 2011
Remark:	Photos of Naw A---, 13-years-old, and Naw B---, 10-years-old, included above in Section II: G.

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/5**

Relevant Categories:	Mine sweeping; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	"Papun Situation Update: Dweh Loh Township, May 2011," September 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b26.html**
Location:	Wa Muh and K'Hter Htee village tracts, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	February 4th 2011
Details:	Border Guard Battalion #1013 soldiers based in Baw Kyoh Leh and K'Hter Htee, led by Company Commander Maung Soe Myay, also had to send rations to Khoh Nee on February 4th 2011. [The Company of Battalion #1013 under the command of Maung Soe Myay] had to go to Manerplaw [in northern Pa'an District] as reinforcements, so they asked the villagers living in the Baw Kyoh River valley to go and carry things for them as porters. On February 4th 2011, [the Border Guard soldiers] ordered the villagers to carry things. [They demanded] three villagers

	from M--- village, ten villagers from K---, eight villagers from L---, three villagers each from N--- and Gh---, seven villagers from Th---, two villagers from S---, four villagers from B---, two villagers from P---, and three villagers from A---. They demanded those villagers but the village heads would not give them, so they [Border Guard soldiers] arrested as many of them [villagers] as they could, and forced them to carry things for about one month. In addition, they forced these villagers to walk at the front [of the Border Guard column] and step on landmines along the road. Among the villagers, some of them stepped on landmines and their legs were blown off. … When DKBA soldiers dug for gold in the Meh Gkleh Law River on August 15th 2010, the villagers who lived in villages around the Meh Gkleh area were forced to live in [relocated to] the place called Meh Gkleh Nee [literally 'along the Meh Gkleh riverbank']. [Currently] they do not dare to go back and live in their old villages even though the DKBA soldiers are not there [any more], because landmines are [still] there. Therefore, they keep living in the relocation site. Received May 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/6**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined
KHRG source:	*Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th2011]*
Location:	Saw Muh Bplaw village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to February 25th 2011
Details:	**Did the SPDC Army plant landmines when they came?** In the Dteh Neh area, I think they did not plant landmines, but I do not know. **How about in other neighboring areas?** In the past, they planted landmines. **How about when they came recently?** I do not know whether they planted landmines or not when they recently came. **Did the authorities tell you something about the SPDC Army's operation before they recently came?**

	I have not heard about it. But, the villagers came back and informed us when they saw the path that the SPDC Army had used during their patrolling. - Saw Hl---, (male, 30), Pe--- village, Saw Muh Bplaw village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District - Interviewed March 1st2011
Remark:	This interview relates to an incident which occurred on February 29th 2011, during which Tatmadaw LIB #252 troops based near Plah Koh entered Dteh Neh village in Saw Muh Bplaw village tract after residents of 14 villages in the area had fled sustained mortar fire, and burned down at least one house and two rice barns, destroyed agricultural equipment, poured out stores of paddy grain, and ransacked and dismantled five houses. See "Tatmadaw attacks destroy civilian property and displace villages in northern Papun District," KHRG, April 2011. **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b4.html**

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Papun/7**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 17th2011]*
Location:	La--- village, Yeh Muh Bplaw village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to February 2011
Details:	**Have any villagers been injured by landmines?** Yes. There was a child. He did not die. His name is Ka--- and the other [villager's names] areKy---and Ge---. **…** **How do villagers who get wounded by landmines do [work]?** It is very difficult for them to work because they have only one leg left while others have two. - Saw Bpay Htoo, (male, 21), La--- village, Yeh Muh Bplaw village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed February 24th2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Dooplaya/1**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines
KHRG source:	"Man seized by Tatmadaw soldier in Thailand, beaten unconscious in Burma," March 19th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#64**
Location:	Bler Doh area, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	February 19th 2011
Details:	"The KHRG researcher active in the area where Saw H--- was attacked noted that on February 19th, the day before the incident with Saw H---, a Tatmadaw patrol from Bler Doh was ambushed in an attack in which remote-detonated landmines were used, adding that this was not the first such attack in the area." Reported March 9th 2011
Remark:	Sources interviewed by KHRG did not know which group was responsible for the attack. The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/February/Dooplaya/2**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Landmine casualties
KHRG source:	Update No.62 "7-year old girl injured by landmine in Shwe Aye Myaing village," March 5th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#62**
Location:	Shwe Aye Myaing village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	February 12th 2011
Details:	"On February 12th 2011 Naw S---, a 7-year-old-girl from Shwe Aye Myaing Village, Kawkareik Township, was injured by a landmine while returning to her village with her father. Naw S--- was injured in both of her legs when the bike her father was driving triggered a landmine that had been placed on a path near the village. The injury to her left leg is more serious, according to a doctor that treated the girl, and Naw S--- has now been hospitalized for more than 20 days." Reported March 5th 2011
Remark:	Sources interviewed by KHRG did not know who had laid the landmine; Photos of injuries sustained by victim available at: **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/photo_updates_dooplaya.html#a45** The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

January 2011

- **Source Document:2011/January/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Mine sweeping; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Situation Update and Interviews: May 2010 to January 2011," May 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b8.html**
Location:	Buh Hsa Kee, Naw Soh, Th'Ay Hta and Gko Day villages, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	January 2011
Details:	In January [2011], they sent more troops from three MOCs: MOC #4, MOC #7 and MOC #9. They also send rations, with 70 trucks. They will come and be more active in the Toungoo area. The SPDC Army[243] closed the road, and didn't let civilians travel while they sent rations. They transported the rations by truck, but they ordered 20 villagers from M--- village to go with them. These 20 villagers had to walk in the front, as landmine sweepers. If there are landmines and one explodes, it will hit those villagers and their trucks would not be hit. On January 15th 2011, they sent rations to camps at Buh Hsa Kee, Naw Soh, Th'Ay Hta and Gko Day (48-mile). They also force villagers in relocation sites to work for them. Because of the oppression from the SPDC Army, civilians have no time to do their own work. … The SPDC Army will punish people who refuse to go to porter. Villagers have to go to porter with fear because there are landmines on the way. … A landmine is a dangerous thing for humans. It is something that can kill and destroy people. A lot of landmines are still used in Burma. This is a kind of human rights abuse. Landmines are not good for humans, but they are still being used. We can say that there is no peace in our country because the government uses landmines. At the same time,

[243]The villager who conducted this interview and the interviewee used the term *Na Ah Pa* (State Peace and Development Council, or SPDC) to refer to Burmese military authorities. Many Karen villagers continue to use the phrase *Na Ah Pa* to refer to military or civilian government officials, despite the official dissolution of the SPDC in March 2011; see: "Mission Accomplished as SPDC 'dissolved'," *Myanmar Times*, April 4-10th 2011. Similarly, older villagers may still use the phrase *Na Wa Ta* (State Law and Order Restoration Council, or SLORC) to refer to the Burmese government, even though the SLORC has not officially existed since 1997. In order to ensure clarity in KHRG translations, the terms *Na Ah Pa* (SPDC) and *Na Wa Ta* (SLORC) are translated as 'Tatmadaw' when referring to the state military or 'Burma government' when referring to the national government.

	landmines are also used among our Karen armies. They use landmines because the SPDC government army attacks. There would be more oppression by the SPDC Army if they [Karen armed groups] didn't use landmines. They use landmines for this reason. Some [KNLA] leaders report that they don't want to use landmines. ReceivedFebruary 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Tenasserim**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; movement restrictions
KHRG source:	"Tenasserim Interview: Saw K---, August 2011," September 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b30.html**
Location:	P--- village, Ma No Roh village tract, Te Naw Th'Ri Township, Tenasserim Division
Date of landmine incident:	Around January 27th 2011
Details:	**After they went back, didn't the villagers go back [to the village]?** They didn't dare to go back because the SPDC Army soldiers had placed landmines. Even me, I didn't dare to go back. **So the SPDC Army soldiers placed landmines in the village?** Yes, they placed landmines. **Who told you this?** We heard the [KNLA] soldiers say this. **Did the KNLA soldiers return to and inspect the village?** Yes, the KNLA soldiers returned and inspected the village because fighting had happened there and the [KNLA] soldiers stayed active in the area. The soldiers notified us not to go back because the SPDC Army soldiers had placed landmines. **So the villagers didn't dare to go back?** Yes, they didn't dare to go back. - Saw K--- (male, 30), Backpack (BPHWT) medic, Interviewed August 2011 -
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Marking, fencing or removal of landmines; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	"Papun Situation Update: Bu Tho Township, August 2011," October 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b35.html**
Location:	Bwa Der village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	January 2011
Details:	As for KNLA soldiers, they currently take security [measures] for us to be able to [sustain our] livelihoods in the areas that SPDC Army and Border Guard soldiers are active. They [KNLA soldiers] planted landmines in order to disrupt SPDC Army and Border Guard soldiers' movements. It [planting landmines] caused problems for the SPDC Army and Border Guard soldiers because they could not advance quickly. KNLA soldiers are active to [ensure] security for the villagers' livelihoods in the area. If villagers did not have any rice to eat, the KNLA soldiers could not keep living [in the area the villagers live]. … SPDC Army and Border Guard soldiers active [in the area] also use many landmines and plant them but do not inform the villagers [of the locations of the mines]. In addition, they order villagers to porter things. They demand money if the villagers do not come to porter things. Received August 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, receivedby KHRG on August 19th 2011].*
Location:	A--- village, Meh Mweh village tract, Bu ThoTownship, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing since January 2011
Details:	**What have you faced as the village head?** I faced problems when the Border Guard ordered villagers to porter, but we were scared that villagers might get injured or die on the path while portering, so we paid money instead of letting the villagers porter. **How much did your village have to pay for all of the villagers?** We had to pay 180,000 kyat for all of the villagers, but this month they

asked for 200,000 kyat and we haven't given them [the money] yet.

When did the Border Guard start [ordering the villagers to porter]?

I think the Border Guard started in January 2011, and I had to pay 180,000 kyatat one time [instead of] portering for the Border Guard.

How much money did you collect from each house?

I collected 12,000 kyat from each house.

Did you collect [money] from all of the households in your village?

I collected [money] only from the ones that have a little bit of money; I collected from 17 households.

What is the name of the active Border Guard battalion in your village?

[Border Guard] Battalion #1013 is active and the battalion [Officer's] name is *Bo [Officer]* Toe Noh.

Who leads Battalion #1013?

[He] is Saw Maung Chit; he is the Battalion Commander.

Is [Battalion] Commander *Bo [Officer]* Maung Chit Thu from a different battalion?

Yes, I think, [before] he was from [DKBA] Battalion#666.

Where is the [Border Guard] active?

They are active [operating] in B---village but they came to my village.

How longfrom B---village to your village?

It takes about four hours for villagers to walk, but the soldiers might not take that long. They are also active inC--- village.

[When they came to your village] were SPDC Army soldiers included?

Yes, the SPDC Army also joined them.

What is the SPDC Army battalion name?

They are Battalion#120; the battalion commander's name is U Kyaw.

What is the division #?

LID [Light Infantry Division] #11.

You said they are active in B--- village, so are there others villages in that area?

Yes, thevillage names are F---village and D--- village.

Do they [the Border Guard] have a village further than the B--- village?

No, they [don't] have any villages there, between G---and B---, they don't have any villages.

Have you ever gone in that path?

Yes, I went in the path between F--- village and D--- village. It takes 40 minutes.

Abouthow long does it take [to travel] from B---, over the mountain, to G---village?

To [travel] over the mountain to G---[village] *Hoh Nee Koh* [the path beside the Buddha] it takes about six or seven hours.

Do they allow villagers to travel?

Yes, in this area we can travel without complications, but [villagers in the] B--- area are not allowed to travel easily because the Border Guard planted the landmines.

Because of the landmine problem, you did not let your villagers porter?

Yes, we only gave money to them [Border Guard].

Who did you give the money to?

We gave the money to Pa Taw Plo to give to Battalion Commander Maung Chit.

Who is Pa Taw Plo?

Pa Taw Plo is a villager who is a *set tha* [sentry].

Which village does Pa Taw Plo live in?

Pa Taw Plo is an H--- villager.

Is he a *set tha* all the time?

No, he only did it sometimes.

Why did he do *set tha*? Because why?

He doesn't have enough food and we pay money if someone is not afraid to be a *set tha*. I do not dare go to be *set tha* so I have to pay money.

Has Battalion#120 enteredyour village?

No, they have not come to my village; they only stayed in K--- village.

How long does it take from your village?

It takes two hours.

Has the Border Guard ever entered your village?

No, they haven't; they only stay at Taw B--- village only.

Did you note down the date that you collected money from villagers?

No, I didn't note it down.

How many times did you have to give the money?

[In the] Last few months and this month, we had pay only two months.

How often did you have to pay money to the Border Guard?

Every month and a half [every 6 weeks] we have to give [money].

Did they go to the villagers store and take snacks? Do you have to pay money for that?

No, we don't, but when we went to see them they asked for smokes [cigarettes] and also they asked for one pig.

Did you give it to them?

Yes we collected the money give to them.

How long ago and which date?

It was five days ago, on March 10th 2011. Ba Yu Ghay demanded the pig; he is the company commander in Battalion#1013.

Which company is he in?

He is in Company#3.

How much money did he demand for the pig?

Only eight houses gave money from my village, and we gave 20,000 kyat for one village, but one pig costs 50,000 kyat. We had to combine three villages to get 50,000 kyat, including the big curry pot.

Did you give them money or buy them the pig?

I bought them the pig because they demanded the pig. They demanded a goat, but we couldn't find [a goat] anywhere, so instead of a goat I gave them a pig.

Which village did you have to send the pig to?

I sent the pig to Ng--- village. The village names areN--- and Ng--- but I bought the pig in my village.

When they [the Border Guard soldiers] lived there did it include SPDC Army soldiers?

No, [the Border Guard] did not include SPDC Army soldiers; only Border Guard soldiers were based in N--- and Ng---villages.

Did they allow the villagers to travel freely?

Yes, they allowed us to travel freely.

Did he have another name?

I don't know. I only heard people called him Ba Yu Ghay.

Did they steal and loot?

Before they did, but now I haven't seen anything yet.

When they were active here, did they hurt any villagers?

Company#3 didn't hurt any of the villagers, but the other army troops which stay in the front line hurt the villagers.

Who hurt the villagers?

The Battalion Commanders Tin Win and Pla Kyo.

Who did they hurt? Do you know?

He hurt the G---villagers, but I don't know the name and do not remember. I only heard from other people, nothing in detail. Last year Battalion#545 abused [the G---villagers] a lot.

Did he hurt any villagers in 2011?

In 2010, on the way [road] his car drove on a landmine and he got angry and he shot [fired his weapon] two times to threaten the people.

Did any villagers die because they stepped on a landmine?

In [the village which is near the town] people do not step on landmines and die, but the areas under KNU, SPDC, or Border Guard control [in the jungle] people step on landmines and die.

Did anyone die because of a landmine?

Yes, one villager stepped on a landmine while portering in L--- village.

Do you know him?

Yes, I know his name was Maung D---.

Was he married?

Yes, he was.

How many children does he have?

He has one child.

How old was he?

He was over 20-years-old.

Who did he porter for?

He portered for the Border Guard.

When did he step on a landmine?

He stepped on a landmine on the way back home.

Did the Border Guard look after him?

No, because he died at the time he stepped on a landmine.

Were you included to porter?

No, I did not go with them; only my villagers went with them.

Did your villagers see when he stepped on a landmine?

Yes, they saw because they came back the same time.

Did the Border Guard plant the landmines?

Yes, they planted a lot of landmines.

Who is their target?

They target the [Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA), but the KNLA never step on landmines. Only villagers and buffalo stepped on the landmines.

Did buffalo step on a landmine during this year?

No, they only stepped [on a landmine] last year; a few buffalos [stepped on landmines].Not this year but last year – 2010– there were many buffalos and cows that step on landmines.

In 2010 what was the *kyaw ta kar pu daw* [donor of the temple's] name?

His name is KyawA---.

How old is he?

He is over 70-years-old.

How many times they shoot and threaten [to shoot]?

They shot and threatened for two shots.

Did they threaten anyone else?

Yes, the other was C---'s father. They threatened that he would have to look for his children. He was afraid and ran away and went to live in another place. The other one was the village head, Naw Ga---, who was beaten by Bo Tan.

Was anyone killed?

No one was killed at that time.

Did the villagers go to porter?

No. From the time one of the villagers was killed by landmine, our villagers did not go to porter anymore. We only gave money to hire the porters.

Is any army camp based near your village?

Yes, before the DKBA Army based their camp [near our village] but not

	anymore. **How long ago did the DKBA move from your village?** It was about three or four months ago. **Do they have a plan to come back and base [their camp]?** Yes, I heard that they will come back, but we don't know when they will come back. **Do you ever visit their army camp?** No, I never go. **Why don't you go?** Because they planted many landmines. **Does the landmine ever explode?** Yes, two landmines exploded and two buffalos were killed. **Did the buffalo die?** Yes, one died and I don't know about the other one. **How much [money] would [one] get for selling one buffalo?** They will get 50,000 kyat or 60,000 kyat. If they sell the owner will get some money. - Saw B---, (male, 30), A--- village, Bu Tho Township,Papun District Interviewed March 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/3**

Relevant Categories:	Civilian use of landmines; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on May 23rd 2011]*
Location:	Te---, Ler Mu Bplaw village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to January 31st 2011
Details:	"*To be able to do our work, we plant landmines to protect ourselves. It is very helpful to villagers to do their work*."

	- Saw G---, (male, 51), Te---, Ler Mu Bplaw village tract, Luthaw Township, Papun District Reported January 31st 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/4**

Relevant Categories:	Civilian use of landmines; Areas known to be mined; New use of landmines
KHRG source:	"Papun Incident Reports: November 2010 to January 2011," August 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b25.html**
Location:	Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing as of January 31st2011
Details:	"*The SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] is still close to the place where we live. The SPDC Army occupies a camp in Htaw Mu Bplah Meh and it is one hour on foot from us. We do not have places to farm hill fields close to our village. At the place where we farm hill fields, the SPDC Army can see us and can shoot at us with small weapons [guns]. But the* gher der *[home guards] and Army [KNLA] take security. They plant hundreds of landmines to frighten and prevent the SPDC Army from coming here easily. We can do our own work year by year. In the past, in our village [Lo---] and wherever we fled and stayed, the SPDC Army came and burned down our village and our shelters. They ate our pigs and chickens. They shot our buffalos. They took our property, like shirts and blankets, if they saw them in our hiding places in the jungle. They broke our* gk'tee *[clay pots used to store water] and cooking pots. They took our* kla *[a kind of machete] that we use to cut grass in our hill fields, and made them ler hsaw [the soldiers used the machetes in the same manner that villagers use stones to support a cooking pot in a fire, burning them and thus weakening the blades]. We are reporting this and we hope that there will be an arrangement for us to be able to stay in peace*." - Naw R--- (female, 35), Wa--- village, Ler Muh Bplaw village tract, Lu Thaw Township, Papun District Reported onJanuary 31st2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/5**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Landmine casualties (death or injury); Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	"Papun Interview: Saw H---, March 2011," February 2012 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2012/khrg12b14.html**

Location:	N--- village, Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	January 2011
Details:	**Was it your wish to become village head or did the villagers or an organisation appoint you?** When I started [as village head] in 2011, the Border Guard demanded [villagers] to go and porter. We went and, after we'd come back and had slept two nights, I was asked to take over the position [as village head]. The previous village head was afraid to continue in the position after a villager suffered an injury when we were returning [from portering]. **How'd he get injured?** He got injured by a landmine. His name was K---. **Did he die and how old was he?** Yes, he died. He was about 23 years old. **Did he have a family?** Yes, he had a family. He had two children. **Did he get injured on the Border Guard's hands [under their responsibility]?** Yes. **Did the Border Guard take care of him?** No, they didn't take care of him. **So his wife and children will be in big trouble now?** Yes, very big trouble. **Don't the Border Guard look after them [K---'s wife and children]?** No. **Do the villagers look after them?** Yes, the villagers look after them. **Do the three of them rely on anyone or does anyone support them?** She [K---'s wife] relies on her parents.

How many days has it been since he died?

It's been three months.

What problems have you seen K---'s family face since he died?

His children became ill. She [K---'s wife] can't work. The [youngest] child was a month old when he went [to porter for the Border Guard] and got injured. His youngest child was only a month old. The older child is a year old.

Did he die instantly when he stepped on the landmine?

No, it took an hour and 45 minutes [before he died].

Where was he injured?

He was injured at Ny---, in the jungle on the old road. He was returning [to N---village] when he was injured.

Where did he have to porter [the supplies for the Border Guard]?

To Meh Bpa [Border Guard camp].

How many people did he go with?

He went with three [other] people, slept for seven days and came back.

Did people [the Border Guard soldiers] hire [pay] him to go and porter?

No.

Did you go too?

Yes.

Did any fighting take place along the way when you were portering?

No fighting occurred.

What did you have to porter?

We went to porter and guard baskets of gklo tha [bullets and mortar rounds].

How heavy was [each basket]?

About ten viss (16 kg. / 35.2 lb.)[3] and over.

Were bullets the only [things you carried]?

Bullets and [cooking] pots.

Do you know the Border Guard unit's battalion number?

It was Company #5 led by Ba Yoh.

Were any Burmese [Tatmadaw] soldiers with you when you portered?

No.

Did they arrest you to get you to porter or ask permission from the village head?

They asked several village heads to each send four villagers [to porter] from their villages.

Did the Border Guard come and send you back [to N--- village]?

No, they didn't send us back. We started to head back by ourselves and went back to get them [after K--- stepped on the landmine] and then they came.

How far is it to where the incident took place [at Ny---] from the Border Guard [camp at Meh Bpa]?

It's a two hour walk.

How far is it to where the incident took place from your village?

I don't think we can reach the hill [at Ny---] in a day from our village.

Do you know who planted the landmine he stepped on?

I don't know, but they [the Border Guard soldiers] accused the KNU [Karen National Union].

Didn't you come back by the same way when you went?

We went back along an overgrown shortcut. We came back on the old road. They [the Border Guard soldiers] said: "*You don't need to worry, we already cleared that road*." K--- stepped on the landmine at 7:00 am.

How large is the hole of the blast?

About one cubit around.

Which of his legs was injured?

His right leg.

Did the Border Guard provide medical treatment when he got injured?

Not right away, but they did after one and a half hours. About ten minutes after he started to receive treatment, he died. He died on the way when we were carrying him back [to N---].

Did you bury him along the way or when you reached your village?

We buried him [along the way] at C---.

How far is it from where you buried him to your village?

Maybe a ten or eleven hour walk.

Why didn't the Border Guard come back along with you?

I don't know.

Do they work together with the Tatmadaw and get their salaries from the Tatmadaw?

Yes.

How much do they get paid per month?

I heard [someone] say an officer will get over 400,000 kyat (US $519.48) starting from this month [March 2011].

How much did they get before?

Before, they got 360,000 kyat (US $467.53).

How much do privates get?

A private got 66,000 kyat (US $85.71) before, but now they get 160,000 kyat (US $207.79).

What about a position of *Thra* [non-commissioned officers in the army]?

I don't know. I just heard what I know from other villagers when I went and portered.

How many people [soldiers] were there when you went and portered?

The group we went and stayed with didn't have a lot of people [soldiers].

There were about 20 or 25 Border Guard soldiers.

Did they [the Border Guard soldiers] tell you what their objectives were, where they would go and what they would do?

They said they had to go and guard the [Burma-Thailand] border. They said they'd set up checkpoints and collect taxes. Then, they said, KNU [activities] will decrease [become weaker or halt].

There wasn't any fighting when you went to porter?

No.

Did they provide you with food when you portered for them [the Border Guard]?

Yes, they did, like pork and goat meat.

Did they buy it [the food]?

Yes, they bought [the food] when I portered for them. I don't know about after, whether they bought or not.

Did they let you sleep in a good place?

Yes, they did.

Did [Border Guard] soldiers follow you back after you went to porter?

No, they [Border Guard] soldiers didn't follow us back. We went on our own. I don't know about *set tha*[7] this month. [They] said they'll stop [demanding *set tha*]. I won't hire [other people to go as set tha instead] whether they stop [demanding] or not. I can't afford to [pay other people to go] anymore.

Have you gone [to porter] for them [the Border Guard] since that person stepped on the landmine?

No.

What did you do instead?

I hired other people [to go instead].

How much do you have to pay [in lieu of portering]?

They said we could pay 200,000 kyat (US $259.74) per month.

How much does your village have to pay per month?

	My village pays [to avoid sending] three people. **Just your village?** We pay together with another village, so it costs a total of 400,000 kyat (US $ 519.48). **How much does your village pay?** 130,000 kyat (US $168.83). **How many households are there in your village?** There are seven households. **How much money do you collect from each household?** 13,000 kyat (US $16.88). No, not 13,000 kyat, because there are just seven [full] households. There are ten households [if you] include those of widows. **I want to ask you more about the person killed by the landmine. What's the biggest problem his family's now facing after he died?** The biggest problem they face is [lack of] money. They also don't have enough food and can't even afford things like salt and chilli, but there's nothing they can do. **Does the Border Guard not provide any support to the family after he died?** No. **Do active [armed] groups in the area use landmines a lot?** I don't know about that. **What about the areas around you? Are there many places that you were told not to go?** I dare not to say anything about the other side of T--- because T--- is a different [area], but around here, we can still move about [freely]. Neither black nor yellow [Karen National Liberation Army, KNLA, nor Democratic Karen Buddhist Army, DKBA] use [landmines]. We can still travel. They let us know if they plant [landmines]. So far they've said nothing. - Saw H--- (male, 34), N--- village, Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District Interviewed March 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/6**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Landmine casualties (death or injury); Areas known to be mined;Movement restrictions
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on April 27th2011]*
Location:	Ca--- village, Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	January 2011
Details:	**When you had to carry, what did you have to carry [for Border Guard soldiers]?** We had to carry bullets, we had to cook rice for them, and we had to follow them. **How heavy [a load] have you carried? How much weight was it for one packet [of things that one person had to carry]?** Over ten viss. **Did you get enough rice to eat when you carried things for them?** We got enough rice to eat. **If you were sick, did they look after you well regarding [providing] medicine?** They looked after us about [providing] medicine. **Then?** They then let us come back and did not look after us anymore. People stepped on landmines, so people did not dare to go and they hired other people to go by paying money. **The villagers here [in Ca--- village],did any of them step on landmines when they were following the Border Guard [soldiers]?** None of us stepped on landmines. Other village [villagers in other villages] stepped on landmines because there are many village tracts. **Which village?** L--- village. **[Did a L---villager] Step on a landmine and did he die?**

He died.

What is his name?

Maung D---.

How old was he?

20-years-old.

How long ago did it happen?

January [2011].

Did you get any payment when you carried things for them?

We did not get [any payment].

Did you carry for free?

We carried for free.

Did they [the Border Guard soldiers] scold and beat any people?

People said that they do not scold people anymore, but they force people to do too much.

Did you have to go [travel] in front of them in order to clean up the landmines?

We did not have to clean [up the landmines]. They did not clean the landmines for us when they let us come back [home].

They did not care whether the landmines were there or not when they let you go back?

They did not know [they did not care whether the landmines were there or not].

Have the SPDC soldiers ever arrived in your village or have they arrived in your village very often?

They did not come very often, but they have come before, and it was one month ago.

What did they do when they arrived in the village?

They stole things.

Did they harm any villagers' lives?

Yes, they did. They punched [the villagers].

Did they plant any landmines beside the village?

They did not. They planted landmines before they left their military camp.

Which military camp?

Nyaw Moe camp.

Where did they plant the landmines?

They said that they planted landmines on the mountain.

Around their camp?

Around their camp. They said, "*Don't go*", so we did not dare go.

Did they tell you that they planted the landmines?

They told us. Buffalos went there.

Buffalos went there?

Buffalos went there and stepped on landmines.

How many buffalos stepped on landmines?

Two buffaloes.

How much kyat for one buffalo?

Over 200,000 kyat.

For one buffalo?

Yes.

So, all [two buffalos]will be over 200,000 kyat?

Yes.

Who was the owner of buffalos?

K---.

Where does he live?

Ca--- village.

	Who is the other one? N---. **Where does he live?** Th---. - Saw P---, (male, 30), Ca--- village, Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District Interviewed February 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/7**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined;Marking, fencing or removal of landmines;Movement restrictions; Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on November 8th 2011]*
Location:	Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Since January 2011
Details:	In the past, they [the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA)] built their place [camp] in Ca--- [village] near my village. The distance was only 10 minutes. They left that place in January 2011. They told us that there were landmines in that place so we did not go. So, we always have to be careful of our cows and buffaloes, and we, villagers, also dare not to go. Because, it [a landmine] already hit one cow. - U W---, (male, 53), Meh Mweh village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District ReportedAugust 21st2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Papun/8**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Movement restrictions
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on April 27th2011]*
Location:	Ma--- village, Meh Nyoo village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing as of January 20th 2011
Details:	**Did they plant landmines when they left the village?**

	They have planted [landmines] in our village. They went and planted [landmines] in the school. Children can't go to school. That was in 2009 and 2010. Currently, children still can't go to school but they can go if people help us for the coming year. Now, children can't go to school. - Daw Gk---, (female, 52), Ma---village, Meh Nyoo village tract, Bu Tho Township, Papun District Interviewed January 20th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/1**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Areas known to be mined; Movement restrictions
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on January26th 2011]*
Location:	Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing January 2011
Details:	- R---, (male, 60), married Karen Christian hill field farmer from De--- village - Kyaw S---, (male, 40), married Karen Buddhist hill field farmer from E--- village - Saw T---, (male, 37), married Karen Buddhist hill field farmer from O--- village - Y---, (male, 58), married Karen Buddhist hill field farmer from Dt--- village - Saw Ba---, (male, 30), married Karen Buddhist hill field farmer from Gh--- village These people are named above because they are afraid of fighting; they fled and some went to live in a different village and some fled to Thailand. They cannot go back to their living place anymore. They said they are afraid of landmines and afraid of Burmese soldiers and of being forced to porter. They said they can't go back. Reported January 19th 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/2**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines
KHRG	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG in August 2011]*

source:	
Location:	Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	January 2011
Details:	**Did they teach you how to set up landmines?** Yes, they taught us how to set up landmines. … **What weapons did you have to carry?** They gave me one MA1 and one bomb and one landmine. … **Have you ever planted landmines?** They gave us landmines but I never planted [them]. - Kyaw Be---, (male, 18), Gk---, 21 Section, Yangon Interviewed August 2011
Remark:	This is an excerpt from an unpublished interview conducted in August 2011 with a Tatmadaw deserter who was based with LIB #357in the Palu Poe area of Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District in January 2011 for 15 days before he deserted; the interviewee said that he had been forcibly recruited during Thingyan water festival in April 2010 and was in military training for a total of four-and-a-half months after that. While the interviewee denied personal responsibility for having planted any landmines in Kawkareik Township, it is nonetheless apparent that government troops stationed there in January 2011 were both trained and equipped to do so.

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/3**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Landmine casualties
KHRG source:	Update No.54 "Landmines planted near Oo Kreh Htah village,"February 15th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#54**
Location:	Oo Kreh Htah village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	January 28th 2011
Details:	"On January 28th 2011, a group of residents of Oo Kreh Htah village, Kawkareik Township, who had fled fighting between DKBA and Tatmadaw LIB #403 troops between January 8thand 10th 2011, attempted to return to their village homes after observing that Tatmadaw troops had vacated the area. As they approached the village, one of the villagers' dogs stepped on a landmine that

	had been planted along the path on which the group was travelling, and the dog's front right leg was blown off. The dog is currently being cared for by its owner. A local source told KHRG that the villagers didn't know which armed group had planted the landmine, but that they thought it was the DKBA because the DKBA had previously warned the villagers that they had planted landmines near Oo Kreh Htah in order to prevent Tatmadaw troops from entering the village."
Remark:	Photos of dog injured available at: http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/photo_updates_dooplaya.html#a37 The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/4**

Relevant Categories:	Mine sweeping
KHRG source:	Update No.53 "Villagers used as human shields by Tatmadaw troops," February 15th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#53**
Location:	One hour on foot from Kyaikdon Town, Kya In Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	January 27th 2011
Details:	"On January 27th 2011, at around 3:00 pm, KNLA troops in Kya In Township, Dooplaya District ambushed troops from Tatmadaw LID #22, while the latter were sending rations and supplies to other Tatmadaw troops on the front line of the current conflict in Dooplaya. The attack happened near Y--- village, which is approximately an hour on foot from Kyaikdon Town. During the attack, some Y--- villagers sought refuge in holes that they had specifically constructed near their homes as shelters to protect themselves and their families, in case fighting occurred in the area. While the KNLA attack against the Tatmadaw soldiers was taking place, the Tatmadaw soldiers came to the holes where the villagers were sheltering, and forced them to come out into the open at gunpoint. The villagers were then ordered to walk on either side of the column of Tatmadaw soldiers. The Tatmadaw practice of using civilians as human shields has been previously documented by KHRG; the practice serves both to mitigate death or injury to Tatmadaw soldiers from ambush or landmine attacks while traveling in the forest, as well as to force Karen armed groups to refrain from attacking, or limit attacks, to avoid causing death or injury to villagers. " Reported February 4th 2011
Remark:	Photo of one family forced to serve as human shields available at: http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/photo_updates_dooplaya.html#a36 The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/5**

Relevant	Mine sweeping; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury**;** Landmine

Categories:	casualties (death or injury)**;** New use of landmines
KHRG source:	Update No.52 "Three former convict porters confirm serious human rights abuses in the current conflict in Dooplaya District," February 8th2011 (Appendix) **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#52**
Location:	Palu village area, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	Between January 1st and January 10th 2011
Details:	***Where did you have to go from the Kawkareik military camp?*** *From there, we had to come to Myawaddy and then to Palu Gyi [Palu Pa Doh]. We had to carry equipment and cross over mountains. We also had to sweep for landmines during the trip.* ***When did you leave from the Kawkareik military camp?*** *We started leaving there on January 3rd 2011 and went to the front line.* *…* ***Which camp on the front line did you stay in after you left the Kawkareik military camp?*** *From Kawkareik military camp, we came to Myawaddy directly. As our battalion walked before the other battalions, we had to dig trenches, sweep landmines and carry packages [loads of military equipment]…* *…* ***Were there any porters who stepped on landmines?*** *In my group, none of the porters had stepped on landmines yet. But I am not sure about the porters in other groups. When I carried things on the front line, I did not see any porters step on the landmines yet. But the SPDC [Tatmadaw] soldiers stepped on the landmines. It is their fate because they do bad things, in dereliction of their duty. Before we deserted, one of the corporals lost his arm and got seriously injured. On the next day, another corporal stepped on a landmine…* *…* ***How did they ask you to walk on the front line?*** *They did not ask us to walk in the same position because sometimes we had to sweep landmines with a kind of tool that has prongs. It is like a pitchfork. We used it to scrape the ground and found the landmines. We did not know anything about landmines, but we had to scrape the ground and find landmines. We were very lucky that we were not killed by the landmines.* ***Did you find any landmines?***

I did not see any landmines. But other porters found landmines.

Did the landmines explode and cause injury to the porters?

No. None of the porters stepped on landmines or got injured by landmines up until now. All were lucky. But the army [Tatmadaw soldiers] got injured by landmines. One of the corporals lost his leg that day. It is fate as a result of doing evil things.

Did the porters have to walk in front of the soldiers or behind?

They divided the porters. For example, there were ten porters and they divided three porters into each group. Each soldier walked after three porters.

-Maung A--- (male, 28), former convict porter with LIB #231, operating in Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Interviewed January 14th 2011

…

Did any soldiers or porters get injured by landmines?

One stepped on a landmine. He was a corporal. He marched to the front and stepped on a landmine and his right leg was blown off. Another one was a two-star officer, a Lieutenant. His leg was blown off by the shooting of heavy weapons [artillery] from the DKBA side. That is all that I saw. One was dead and five got injured. No porters stepped on landmines.

Did soldiers ask the porters to sweep for landmines?

Yes, we had to. I couldn't find any. Other people saw them. I couldn't find any mines. Every porter had to do it. Sometimes people in the front had to do it. For people behind, they didn't need to do it. But sometimes the people behind had to go to the front. They changed porters' places. They didn't keep us in the same place. They ordered porters in the front to find mines, clean the road and dig the holes [trenches].

-Maung B--- (male, 23), former convict porter with LIB #231, operating in Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Interviewed January 14th 2011

…

When did the fighting happen?

The fighting happened in the morning. For the Burmese army [Tatmadaw], they didn't even see people [the DKBA]. They [the

	Tatmadaw] shelled mortars in the morning. The Karen army [the DKBA] came and attacked them at 2:00 pm. They shot them one by one. If the Burmese army shelled ten mortars, the Karen army shelled just one. The Burmese soldiers got injured. The Karen army shelled and an officer with two stars, one of his hands was blown off and his stomach and face were injured. The same [Tatmadaw] soldiers mistakenly shot at each other and one died directly. Another one's leg was broken, another one's hand was blown off and another one got injured to his head. Four got injured. Just one died. Another one stepped on a landmine that was planted by the Karen army [DKBA] and his leg was blown off. ***Did you have any experiences with landmines?*** *No.* ***Did the porters have to sweep for landmines?*** *Yes, we had to clean. The soldiers ordered us to clean and find landmines at the place where they were going to put their base. For them, they could take a rest but for us, we couldn't take a rest. We had to find [sweep for] landmines. But no one got injured from the mines.* -Maung C--- (male, 17), former convict porter with LIB #231, operating in Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District Interviewed January 14th2011
Remark:	Porters arrived at Pa'an Prison January 1st, escaped on January 10th; this date range is therefore given for the incidents described above. Because the men all portered for the same group of Tatmadaw soldiers, the casualties they describe likely refer to the same incidents. Photos of porters available at: http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/photo_updates_dooplaya.html#a33 The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/6**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); New use of landmines
KHRG source:	Update No.47 "Thai army burns temporary refuge site, forces villagers fleeing fighting deeper into hiding," January 14th 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11f1_update.html#47**
Location:	Oo Kreh Htah village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	January 9th 2011
Details:	On January 13th2011, a KHRG researcher in Kawkareik Township reported that fighting had occurred between DKBA and Tatmadaw forces in Oo Kreh Htah

	village, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District on January 9th 2011. According to the KHRG researcher, there is a DKBA base in the forest near Oo Kreh Htah village and, on January 9th 2011, between 60 to 70 Tatmadaw soldiers of LIB #403 planned to attack this base. However, DKBA and KNLA soldiers in the area were aware of the planned attack and planted large remote-detonation devices. The KHRG researcher reported that four Tatmadaw soldiers died and seven more were injured when these mines detonated. In response, the Tatmadaw shelled mortars into the Oo Kreh Htah village area throughout the day on January 9th 2011, continuing into January 10th 2011. At least some shells were reported to have landed in the village. *"On January 9th 2011, there was an incident that happened in Oo Kreh Htah. The Burmese army [Tatmadaw] wanted to go and take over the DKBA camp. They [Tatmadaw forces] went and the DKBA ambushed them and hit them with bpoh klee [remotely detonated landmines]. Four of them [Tatmadaw soldiers] died and seven were injured. We couldn't get pictures because we didn't dare go there, but it is exact information. On the same day that they were attacked, they buried their friends there [where they were attacked] and, the next morning, on January 10th 2011, in the morning at about 8:00 am, they came back to Waw Lay. They [the Tatmadaw] sent seven of their soldiers who got injured to the Thai side [of the Moei River] and some people, maybe the Thai authorities, sent the injured [Tatmadaw] soldiers to Myawaddy."* - KHRG researcher, Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District Reported January 13th 2011
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

- **Source Document: 2011/January/Dooplaya/7**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Areas known to be mined;Movement restrictions
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG on January 14th 2011]*
Location:	Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in January 2011
Details:	I guess there are about 30 unexploded bombs or more in my village. I saw three unexploded bombs in the lemon plantation. Yesterday, we went and harvested paddy in my friend's farm and we saw two unexploded bombs in his farm. We didn't dare go near them. We just harvested around it. Next year, I think people won't dare to plant in Hsee Cour [plantation]. Now it is the time for us to clean [brush] in our lime, lemon and rubber plantations. But some people don't dare to clean their plantations. Some people rely on their fate. They went and cleaned their plantation at the same time they checked [for bombs]. Received January 2011

Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document

Incidents prior to 2010

December 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/December/Toungoo/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Retaliation against civilians for mine use by NSAGs; Mine sweeping; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Situation Update: April 2011," June 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b13.html**
Location:	Kler La, Gkaw Soe Koh, Ler Koh, Wa Thoh Koh, Gklay Soh Kee and Gkaw Thay Der, Klaw Mee Der, Maw Koh Der, Ko Day and Th'Ay Hta villages, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	September to December 2010
Details:	On September 15th 2010, SPDC soldiers forced [the following] villages to go and carry food from Ko Day to Th'Ay Hta camp: Wa Thoh Koh, Gklay Soh Kee, Klaw Mee Der, Maw Koh Der, Gkaw Soe Koh, Kler La and Ler Koh villages. … In October 2010, they [MOC #9] came and changed places with MOC #7. They sent their food by trucks and they forced villagers to go and porter from the road to villages such as Kler La, Gkaw Soe Koh, Ler Koh, Wa Thoh Koh, Gklay Soh Kee and Gkaw Thay Der. Those villagers had to go and cut bushes to clear the road between Kler La and Gkaw Thay Der. The SPDC bulldozer came to make [repair] the road, and was damaged by a landmine between Gklay Soh Kee and Gkaw Thay Der in September [2010]. Since this event, we saw that wherever they saw villagers they arrested them and took them to the Kler La army base. Therefore the villagers who live in Gklay Soh Kee village and Kler La villages were disturbed and were arrested when they came back from their betelnut plantations. When the SPDC sends food to the Buh Hsa Kee army base they ask for villagers' trucks and, more than this, they ask for the villagers' trucks to go in front of them. The SPDC soldiers force the villagers' trucks to go and send food, and every year we see villagers' trucks are damaged by landmines. On December 22nd 2010, a truck belonging to Kler La villager Ga--- went and took SPDC soldiers' food to the Naw Soh and Buh Hsa Kee army camps and when he was coming back, the truck was damaged by a landmine in old Le--- village [where Le--- village used to be]. They [the Tatmadaw] did not help [to fix] this truck, and the villager had to repair it and pay for it on his own. These are the things that villagers in Toungoo District have to face. Because of the SPDC activities such as transporting the soldiers' food and changing their

	places [rotating]. Villagers have to do this every year. Received May 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2010/December/Toungoo/2**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG in January 2011]*
Location:	Than Daung Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	December 2010
Details:	We sleep in Than Daung Gyi and buy the medicine then we come back. If they [the Tatmadaw] are doing column operations, the road is closed to us. When the SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] do column operations then the KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army] is there, and if there is an attack they plant landmines.It means that when we travel there it's dangerous for us. In the past, we traveled like that. In 2004, there was an attack and when we traveled it took a long time because they planted landmines and one hit one of our villagers. So since then I'm afraid because if we are hit and we become disabled, I think who will provide for us? **What is the name of the person who was hit by the landmine?** The person who was hit by the landmine was called Naw Ag---. **How old was she?** She was 18 years old. **Is she dead?** Yes, she is dead. At that time we didn't know anything. We went to Than Daung Gyi to sell cardamom. In our group there were 10 or 15 people. Whilst we were on the way there she stepped on it. We bought her back but there was no medicine, and we also didn't know of any [medical] organisation at that time and we hadn't made contact with the KNU [Karen National Union] so we couldn't call them. There was also no medic and no healthcare teacher in the village. All they have in Ho---is a mother and nun who are of my religion. However, she died before we reached the village. **Where was she hit by the landmine?**

	At the edge of Lu--- village. **How many hours did you have to walk from Ar---?** We had to walk for one-and-a-half hours. **Which armed group planted [the landmine]?** It was the SPDC Army. They planted [landmines along] the whole of the vehicle road to Than Daung Gyi. The Rope Bridge which we crossedis made with rope but they had destroyed it all and planted landmines the whole way. The vehicle road hasbeen closed for two or three years. They said that their mines are good and original so they can work [still be active] even after two or three years, but they don't dare to clear them themselves. We heard that they said this. So, the KNLA, was in a difficult position, and they asked some of their fellows to clear the mines. When they cleared the mines some of their soldiers and captains [were injured and] became disabled, and some of them were killed. **What happened later?** Because they were in front, the citizens followed them one by one, and later the road became better. **So people can travel now?** Yes, people can travel now. But the KNLA reminds us of one thing: if the SPDC [Army] do column operations people shouldn't travel around. In the past they didn't warn us, and when the SPDC [Army] were traveling around, we also traveled around. When they [the KNLA] planted landmines, we traveled and stepped on their landmines. Those landmines had been planted by the KNLA but they hadn't warned us. Saw Lw---, (male, 27), Ar--- village, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District Interviewed December 2010
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2010/December/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury); Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG on February 7th2011]*
Location:	Htee Th'Blu Hta village tract, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	~~Prior to~~ December 2010

Details:	**How many days ago [did they order porters]?** It was in December 2010. **What were they going to do with the five people they ordered?** When they ordered the five people they said that they would order them to porter to Khoh Nee Hkoh. [This is the] very worst because the last time two people were injured when portering for them. **Who were the people [who were injured]?** The one who died was [called] H---, and the injured one is a W--- villager. **Where did they start to porter?** They started portering in W--- [village], but I haven't asked where they were going and we don't know. **Was there an attack or did they [the Border Guard] kill them?** They didn't kill them. They were hit by a landmine when they were portering because they ordered the villagers to go to a place that the villagers shouldn't go to [as it had landmines]. So the villagers were hit. … **Are there any landmines beside the road?** We are not sure about that so we can't tell you. We heard that they planted landmines near Taw Thoh Loh, beside their army camp. **Have they planted them on the road that the villagers travel?** No. - U L---, (male, 48), Y--- village, Htee Th'Blu Hta village tract, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District Interviewed January 2011
Remark:	Note that the interviewee clearly specifies the perpetrator only in the case of the December 2010 order for five porters, namely former DKBA #777 Tatmadaw Border Guard Battalions based at Baw Kyoh Leh. In the case of the previous forced labour order involving two landmine casualties and the planting of landmines near Taw Thoh Loh, neither the date of the incident nor the perpetrator is clearly identified by the interviewee.

- **Source Document: 2010/December/Papun/2**

Relevant	Areas known to be mined; Movement restrictions

Categories:	
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG on May 23rd 2011]*
Location:	Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in December 2010
Details:	We discussed about the first main thing, the villagers gave their ideas and opinions and the main and most [common] problem that the villagers had to suffer and face was [when] the SPDC Army came and took the villagers' village livelihoods and food supply places.The villagers had to face the consequences of the problem because [they] had to flee and leave their villages or farms, got sick, lost property, or became poor, so it caused problems. They didn't have farm [land], so they didn't get enough food. Farms that were near the SPDC Army area, some villagers went and farmed, so they died or got injured by the landmines that the SPDC Army had put there. They couldn't look after every time and in fearness it caused the loss of their life [dead]. Reported between December 24th and 31st2010
Remark:	

November 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/November/Papun**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Movement restrictions; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received February 7th 2011]*
Location:	Waw Muh, Meh Choh, Gk Ter Dtee and Ma Lay Ler village tracts, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	November 2010
Details:	Landmines In our Dweh Loh Township area, from October 25th2009 to the end of 2010, the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) and Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA) companies have combined together. Officer Chit Thu leads fourDKBA brigades (#999, #333, #777,and #555); all together there are over 600 people. [The DKBA Brigades ##999, #333, #777, and #555] came for gold-miningin Baw Bpaw Kloh village and Meh Gkleh Kloh village. They divided the soldiers to take [handle] security and plant landmines close to civilians work places, way, mountains, hill, and valley.In 2010, the civilians who traveled, went to work, or did hill field farming could not go and cut trees and bamboo anymore. Civilians faced problems with their livelihood options, as there was not enough rice or many kinds of food. Moreover, animals, cattle, buffaloes, pigs, goats and humans were hit by landmines a lot. This was because after the cattle and buffaloes were hit by landmines a lot, they could not go and find food to eat anymore, and the owners had to take their animals to another place to find food. On November 30th2010, the DKBA finished mining gold and they went back. Because they planted landmines without taking them out, in Waw Muh tract, Meh Choh Tract, Ma Lay Ler tract, in the coming year 2011 they will not be able to cut trees, cut bamboo for doing hill field farming, and civilians face problems with their livelihoods as always. Because civilians face this and as they won't starve, they can make a living by going and doing labour in the companyfor their livelihood. Since the DKBA planted landmines and they did not take them out, in 2011, human, cattle, buffalos, pigs, goats, can not travel anymore. So right now now they have not been hit by landmines yet. … 5. Demand, Rape Since October 1st2010 untill now, in Dweh Loh Township area, Baw Kyoh Traw side road in Gk Ma Moh to Papun, each year the SPDC has sent food by truck and they have demanded and forced

	villagers in Baw Kyoh Traw to go and make a bridge carried load, demand thatches and villagers always. On November 16th2010, LIB [Light Infantry Battalion] #702 leader Tun Tun Myit lived in Gk Ser Ther Pleh (Tdaw Thoh Loh) army camp.Officer Tun Tun Myit ordered Htee Saw Meh Army camp to force and demand villagers in Ke--- village and Kl---village to go and make a bridge for a truck in Nya Bpaw Nee, and forced20 male and femalepeople and one bicycle with two people. When they went to Nya Bpaw bridge, this bicycle was hit by Karen soldiers' landmine; two people who cycled on bicycles were hit with shrapnel so they got very bad injuries. When the landmine was directly exploding, all 20 villagers who were going to make the bridge could not go to do this anymore, so ran back to their villages. Villagers who got injured are: 1. Saw Ha--- 36 years; 2. He---, 40-years-old and lives in Ke--- village. After that LIB #702 battalion Commander Tun Tun Myit again orderedKl--- villagers and Ke--- villagers to go and make bridge. On November 17th2010, Htee Saw Meh Army camp as Army camp commander, ordered 20 soldiers to again go and arrest Kl--- villagers, Ke--- and Ha--- villagers. In total there were 40 male and femalevillagers who were called back to Nya Bpaw Nee to make the bridge. Some villagers heard that the Burmese Army would come to arrest people and so they fled. [They fled] Because [after] the battalion Commander Tun Tun Myit made demands from the village head, the village head did would, he could and asked villagers to run. [The village head] he did give anyone to the soldiers so they [the soldiers] came and arrested villagers on their own. This information about Gk Ter Dtee tract,Ke--- village, and the SPDC was reported by the village head when he met with me in January 2011 in Hl--- village. … 7. Problem for food, livelihood Since October 25th2009 untill now, civilians have been facing livelihood problems. OnOctober 25th2009, the DKBA attacked in Wa Muh Tract. Ma Lay Tract, Meh Choh Tract for mining gold and lead by officer Chit Thoo and he had over 600 soldiers.He ordered his soldiers to plant landmines in mountains, valleys, around out side of the villages. Villagers could not go to work; villages' hill fields were not done; plantations were not done; and civilians have faced rice and food problems. Reported February 2011
Remark:	

October 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/October/Thaton**

Relevant Categories:	Retaliation against civilians for mine use by NSAGs; Civilian use of landmines; Areas known to be mined; Movement restrictions; Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on February 7th2011]*
Location:	Up--- village, Bilin Township, Thaton District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in October 2010
Details:	**Do you have something to tell me that I haven't asked you about? Do you want say more about their activities and how the DKBA [Democratic Karen Buddhist Army] treats villagers?** I don't have anything that I want to tell more about but we are the same, Karen, and if they consider us with regards their operations and fighting, we can live with peace and freedom. However, if they cause [the fighting] we will have difficulty with food. They said: "*If people [the KNLA] come and shoot me, I will plant landmines around here*." They haven't planted them yet. Now Bp'Da Daung is in our village tract. People [DKBA] planted landmines on the other side and the villagers can't go to the jungle. They can't go and find bamboo shoots in the jungle. So they come to this side. They come and find food and cut trees and bamboo on this side. We thought it will be good if one side was difficult and another side wasn't. **You mean Bp'Da Daung is in the same village tract as you?** Yes. **And you heard that the DKBA haveplanted landmines around villages. Have you heard about villagers or animals being hit by landmines?** No one has been injured but people said that their cows ran away when they were brought to *Tun Bo*. The cows ran away and two were injured. **Was the landmine planted by the DKBA?** Yes, it was the DKBA. **What about other villages?** I haven't heard about theother villages. But they planted

	[landmines] along the road, from Hser Koh Hser La Poe to Ya Kone. **So your village has had to worry about the landmines that the DKBA planted?** They said that they will come and plant landmines if people [KNLA soldiers] do something to them. They asked us to plant [landmines] at that time but we informed the Burmese Army [Tatmadaw] and they haven't allowed them to plant landmines because the Burmese soldiers also have to travel [in that area]. - Saw My---, (male, 34), Up--- village, Bilin Township, Thaton District Interviewed October 12th 2010
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2010/Toungoo/October**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines
KHRG source:	"Toungoo Situation Update and Interviews: May 2010 to January 2011," May 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b8.html**
Location:	O--- village, Thandaung Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in October 2010
Details:	**Do you have a Burmese village head in your village?** No, we all run when the Burmese army [Tatmadaw] comes. No one stays in the village. We come back when we hear the Burmese army has gone back away. We have to worry about them planting landmines when we come back. We have to worry about that. **Do they plant landmines when they come to your village?** Yes, they plant them. - Saw M--- (male, 17), O--- village, Thandaung Township, Toungoo District InterviewedOctober 2010
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document.

September 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/September/Nyaunglebin**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Retaliation against civilians for mine use by NSAGs
KHRG source:	"Nyaunglebin Interviews: May 2011," June 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b15.html**
Location:	T--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District
Date of landmine incident:	August 2010; September 2010
Details:	**Yesterday, you said that two villagers were killed. Can you explain to me about the incident?** It was in August 2010. Two people [villagers] were killed. A bomb exploded beside their sentry hut. It was their turn to go and do sentry duty, so they went and did sentry duty. The bomb exploded. The Burmese [Tatmadaw soldiers] came to the village and asked who was on duty. People told them the guys' names. The Burmese Army went and arrested them and killed them. They accused them of doing it [detonating the bomb]. They asked no questions. **Do you know these two people's names?** I know one. His name was M---. He was a Gy--- villager. He was Karen. He was around 60 years old. I don't know the other one. They stayed in the same village. **Why did the Burmese Army kill them?** They were accused of making the explosion. **How do you know that those people [the Tatmadaw] killed them?** I don't know. But they've disappeared since they were arrested. We think they were killed. They've disappeared since then, until now. I just guess. If something happened like this before, they [people who disappeared after being arrested] were killed. **Have any other incidents like this happened?** In September, a man was killed by a landmine. We don't know who made the explosion. Villagers were arrested. **Do you know the guy's name?** No, he was a Hs--- villager. It was in September 2010. He also

	disappeared. I don't know whether he was killed or not. Another was in Ga---. He went and worked in A---. His parents-in-law went and had treatment in N---. His wife is a [occupation censored for security]. He brought medicine and money for his parents–in-law to pay the treatment costs. People [Tatmadaw soldiers] saw the medicine and arrested him. He was arrested, and we didn't know how to find him. He disappeared. They detained him and didn't let us see him. They harmed him on the same night [he was detained] and they didn't dare to show us. We heard he was killed. We held a worship ceremony [funeral] for him. - Saw L--- (male, 53), T--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District Interviewed May 2011
Remark:	

August 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/August/Nyaunglebin/1**

Relevant Categories:	Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury
KHRG source:	"Nyaunglebin Interview: Saw My---, May 2011," August 2011**http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b22.html**
Location:	T--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District
Date of landmine incident:	August 2010
Details:	**An uncle [older male villager] said two villagers were killed. Do you know where this happened? Do you know their names?** There was an incident when a mine exploded close to their [the villagers'] sentry hut. That's the only case I know. Interviewed May 2011
Remark:	This incident was also mentioned by Saw L---, a 53-year-old villager from Ler Doh Township who was interviewed in May 2011. Saw L--- said that the villagers in question were detained by Tatmadaw soldiers in August 2010 after a '*bomb*' was detonated near a hut where they were performing forced labour as sentries for the Tatmadaw, and that the men had *'disappeared since they were arrested*.' See next incident described below.

- **Source Document: 2010/August/Nyaunglebin/2**

Relevant Categories:	Retaliation against civilians for mine use by NSAGs
KHRG source:	"Nyaunglebin Interview: Saw Th---, May 2011," August 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b20.pdf**
Location:	Bo--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District
Date of landmine incident:	August 2010
Details:	**Did the SPDC force other villages to move to the relocation site?** There were four village tracts at the relocation site in Ler Doh Township. But, if there were Burmese villages, the SPDC just passed them [allowed them to stay where they were]. They [the Tatmadaw] called a meeting at their base in

	the Na Thar Poe area. The SPDC Army threatened the villagers stating: 'If we hear that you welcome KNLA soldiers [into your villages], we'll kill all of you.' After a few days, something happened next to their army camp: a bomb exploded. They asked villagers to take responsibility for what had happened. If something happened beside our houses, we'd take responsibility, but this incident happened next to their army camp. Who should take responsibility for that? We talked about this with our villagers, but we didn't mention anything to them [the Tatmadaw]. If we had gone and asked them that [who should take responsibility], they had guns and they'd have killed us. - Saw Th--- (male, 37), Bo--- village, Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District Interviewed May 2011
Remark:	

July 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/July/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on March 7th 2011]*
Location:	Pwo Mu Day, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	July 2nd 2010
Details:	23-year-old Saw Ke---, lives in Es--- in Pla Koh village tract. He had to be a Home Guard for one year in 2010. When he was [serving as a] home guard, he had to take responsibility for sending the villagers along the vehicle road by Bpaw Mu Der and Yeh Mu Plaw. On July 2nd 2010, he was guiding the villagers across the road from Bpaw Mu Der, but whilst the villagers were crossing the road he stepped on a landmine whichhad been planted by the SPDC Army [Tatmadaw] in Pwo Mu Day. The villagers carried him to Lah Eh Der, then went along To Bpaw vehicle road to send him to Haw Der Clinic. Later they sent him to Day Bu Noh Clinic [Ta Shar Khee]. As he mentioned, the SPDC Army knew that they travelled on this road and so they planted the landmine. A few villagers went past but didn't step on the landmine. When the home guard went past, he stepped on it. Reported August 8th 2010
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2010/July/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished photo notes]*
Location:	Pwo Mu Day, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	July 2nd 2010
Details:	Photo #0072. On August 6th 2010, [I met with] 23-year-old Saw Ke---, was [serving as] village tract home guard in Pla Koh village tract. When he was guiding villagers along the road, he stepped on a SPDC [Army] landmine. That date was July 2nd 2010, and the place was Pwo Mu Day. The villagers sent him to Bpaw Mu Der and after that to La Gheh Der. They went along the Ta Kaw To Baw road to Ta Aoh hospital,

	and after that to Day Pu Noh hospital. He was serving as a home guard for one year.
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2010/July/Papun/3**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 7th 2011]*
Location:	Pwo Mu Day, Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	July 2nd 2010
Details:	**How did you get injured by a landmine?** I was a *gher der* [Home Guard]. **Where is your *gher der* [Home Guard] office?** It is in Et---. **Where did you get injured by the landmine?** In Kaw Mu Day. **How long does it take from Kaw Mu Day to Waw Mu Der?** It takes one hour. **Why did you go there?** I went to guide people. **Where were the people going?** I don't know. They were travelling. **Were they crossing the road?** Yes. **Were they villagers?** Yes, they were villagers. **Did the SPDC [Army] plant the landmine in Kaw Mu Day?** I don't know if the SPDC [Army] planted that landmine. The SPDC

	[Army] came and put landmines along the way. **So the SPDC [Army] soldiers don't walk on the road, they walk beside the road?** Yes, they walk beside the road and put landminesin the place where people walk. **When did you get your injury?** On Friday, after people measured out the paddy. **How many *gher der* [home guard] went with you?** We went with four people [home guard members]. **How many villagers?** Over ten villagers. **Where did you send them?** To the other side of the road. **Did people use this way rarely?** No, people always use this way. **How many people walked in front of you and behind you?** Two people walked in front of me. **How many people got injured by the landmine?** The landmine was very small. It was only the size of two torchlights. **Who took care of you after you injured your leg?** One of my friends and one villager. **Who carried you back?** They carried me to Bplaw Day. **Who carried you?** One of my friends and one villager. **What did the villager do? Did they carry you?**

	They went in front and carried me for a while. **Where were you sent?** They sent me directly to Ta Ho Der. **Where did you have to cross the road?** Ta Kaw Toe Baw. **Where they send you to after you arrived in Ta Ho Der hospital?** They sent me to Day Pu Noe. **How long have you been in Day Pu Noe?** Already over two months. **How many days were you injuredfor before coming here?** I slept in Ta Ho Der for two days. **What about the situation now?** It became good. **What will you do after you get your false leg?** I will leave. **I mean, what work will you do?** I will farm. I won't do *gher der* [home guard] anymore. **For what reason did you join the *gher der* [home guard]?** The people called. They called another guy but his parents didn't allow it so they asked me. Everybody has to do this job. **Is this a one year *gher der* [home guard] position or is it permanent?** It's only for one year. **What will you do after you are cured?** I will go back to my village. **How long did you work in the *gher der* [home guard before you were injured?**

	Only three months. **Do the SPDC [Army soldiers] hurt the villagers?** Not only do the SPDC [Army soldiers] [hurt the villagers], the Karen villagers also hurt the SPDC [Army soldiers] to protect themselves. **Did anybody get injured before now?** There are a lot of people who got injured before me. **Is fighting inside the country good?** That is not good. **Do you want there to be fighting in your country in the future?** I don't want fighting. I want it to become good. **Do you have anything else you wish to report?** I don't have anything to tell. **You said you will get a false leg. What will you do then?** I will farm and work on hill fields. **Do you think it will be easy for you to work or run?** That is not easy but I want to go. - Saw Ke---, (male, 23), Nu--- village, Luthaw Township, Papun District Interviewed August 2010
Remark:	

June 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/June/Pa'an/1**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Landmine casualties (death or injury); Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	"Pa'an interviews: Conditions for villagers returned from temporary refuge sites in Tha Song Yang," May 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b5.html**
Location:	N--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to June 2010
Details:	**Did you hear anything about villagers detonated by landmines or injured by bullets or mortars?** Yes, there are many people who have been injured in my village. **What did they get injured by?** They got injured by landmines. **Did they lose their legs or hands?** No, but they were injured on their abdomen and other parts of their body because they detonated a mine that planted using a small thin string. **Were there any who died?** No, but there was one who was seriously injured and he went to S--- hospital [Thailand] for the treatment. **Where did they detonate mines?** They detonated mines when they are carrying loads for the SPDC. **Did the SPDC take care of him after he was injured?** I think the SPDC will not take care of him but he went with many friends and they carried and took care of each other. For the Burmese soldiers, they ran up to their military camp. **Where was that place nearby?** It is near Bp---. **Was there any incident from landmines in your village after you came back?**

No, not yet.

What is the plan for villagers to protect themselves from landmines?

We let them know not to go to the place that we were warned about by the soldiers.

Which group of soldiers are telling you about the place not to go to?

It is DKBA.

…

How many children stepped on landmines?

One child in my village stepped on a landmine when he was looking after his buffalos.

How long had it happen?

It happened one or two months after we fled to Thailand. Some children still were looking after their animals in the Mae La Ah Hta village area and then stepped on a landmine. After that, they sold their animals to other people.

How old was that child?

He was around 13 or 14 years old.

Is the child male or female?

He is male.

Where had he stepped on that landmine?

It is just nearby Mae La Ah Hta village.

Who saw that happen?

His other two friends ran back to the village and told a woman to go and get the injured child and bring him home.

Was that woman also staying in the village because she was looking after her buffalo?

No, she just stayed with those children to look after them. For us, we already arrived to Oo Thu Hta. Only three or four of them were left behind to look after their animals.

	How is the situation of that injured child now? He lost one of his legs and now he has already recovered from the injury. **Can he still work now?** No, he can do nothing. **Does he have parents?** Yes, he has. **Who planted that landmine?** I don't know and nobody else knows either. **Do you dare to go to that area now?** No, I dare not. People only use the truck road that was constructed by the SPDC. **Did you already warn the villagers?** Yes, I did. - Saw M---, (male, 36), N--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District InterviewedJune 13th 2010
Remark:	

Source Document: 2010/June/Pa'an/2

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Movement restrictions
KHRG source:	"Pa'an interviews: Conditions for villagers returned from temporary refuge sites in Tha Song Yang," May 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b5.html**
Location:	P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in June 2010
Details:	**What kind of difficulty did you have to continue your livelihoods after you arrived back to the village?** I have no idea. We have a lot of difficulties. We had to clean bushes that were growing in our fields and hire other people's machines on credit.

	Are there any landmines near your paddy field? I think not too many. They will be planted on the hills. **Do you dare you travel beyond the village?** Yes, we only dare to travel to the places that are close to the village. We dare not to travel to the far places. - Saw P---, (male, 38), P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District InterviewedJune 18th 2010
Remark:	

Source Document: 2010/June/Pa'an/3

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines; Movement restrictions
KHRG source:	"Pa'an interviews: Conditions for villagers returned from temporary refuge sites in Tha Song Yang," May 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b5.html**
Location:	P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in June 2010
Details:	**Are there any landmines planted around the village?** I think landmines will be planted on the hill in the jungle. **Did the village head tell you anything about not traveling to the places where those landmines were planted?** Yes, people said not to travel far away beyond the village. We only travel around to our paddy fields, which are close to the village. People will not travel outside a lot due to the lack of cows and buffalos. - Naw D---, (female, 37), P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District Interviewed June 18th 2010
Remark:	

Source Document: 2010/June/Pa'an/4

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Marking, fencing or removal of landmines; Movement restrictions

KHRG source:	"Pa'an interviews: Conditions for villagers returned from temporary refuge sites in Tha Song Yang," May 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b5.html**
Location:	P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	Ongoing in June 2010
Details:	**Are there many landmines planted around your village and who planted them?** There are many landmines planted around our village. The KNLA will plant the most landmines around their camp or area and the DKBA will plant the most along the border but we don't know clearly who planted the landmines and where they are planted. So we, the villagers, dare not to go anywhere. **How do you plan to protect the villagers from injury or incident?** We announce that we don't take responsibility for the people who are traveling beyond the village. Everyone will walk only in the street when they travel. We told them not to go far from the village for collecting vegetables in the jungle. - Saw Gk---, (male, 42), P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District Interviewed June 18th 2010
Remark:	

May 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/May/Papun/1**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	"Papun Incident Reports: November 2010 to January 2011," August 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b25.html#ftn_3**
Location:	Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	May 2010; reported to KHRG in May 2011
Details:	"*Two people got injured by SPDC [Tatmadaw] landmines. The first one was Saw Mo---, 15 years old. He lived in Lo--- [village]. The other one was Saw T---. He was killed [by the landmine]. He was 40 years old. He lived in Ba--- village. He was hit at Thay Kah Bper on May 10th 2010. And the other villager was hit on May 25th 2010 in Yay Gho Kee. So, we always have to be alert."* - Naw D--- (female, 43), Ht--- village, Ler Muh Bplaw village tract, Lu Thaw Township ReportedDecember 2010
Remark:	This information was received by KHRG in May 2011 and is taken from an incident report written in December 2010 by a villager trained by KHRG. Naw D--- did not explain how she knew that the landmines that injured the two villagers had been planted by the Tatmadaw. Note that while Naw D--- said that Saw Mo--- was 15 years old and was injured on May 25th 2010, in fact Saw Mo--- told the villager who documented this incident that he was 18 years old and that the incident occurred on May 31st 2010; this information is recorded in an interview with Saw Mo---, on an incident report form and on notes accompanying photographs of Saw Mo---.

- **Source Document: 2010/May/Papun/2**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on March 7th2011]*
Location:	Lu Thaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	May 31st 2010
Details:	18-year-old Saw Gy---, lives in Li--- village. His father Saw Mi--- was working as a home guard and he had to go along the SPDC [Tatmadaw] vehicle road [from Pwa Haw Su to Bu Hsa Kee] Saw Gy--- was a student when he became a home guard member. It was

	because his father was sick, and he had to take the responsibility instead of his father to guard the road for villagers because he knows the road. However, the home guard had planted a new landmine but he didn't know about it and when he crossed the road with the villagers he stepped on the landmine. The villagers carried him and sent him to Bp'Na Ay Bper Koh Clinic. He studied at Er--- school and he was at sixth standard. He stepped on a landmine on May 31st 2010 and they took him to Ta Haw Der Clinic, and from there they sent him to Day Bu Noh Clinic. If his legs get better, he wishes to study again. Reported September 6th 2010
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2010/May/Papun/3**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished situation update, received by KHRG on March 7th2011]*
Location:	Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	May 31st 2010
Details:	Photos #0023-0024, 8th August 2010 show Gy---, 18-years-old, from Or--- village. He was a sixth standard student. His father was a home guard. His father had to guide the villagers across the SPDC vehicle road. His father was sick so on May 31st 2010he had to take his father's place. He stepped on his father's friend's landmine because he didn't know it was there. He was sent to Pa Ner Ay Per Koh hospital, then to Ta Aoh hospital, and after that to Day Pu Noh hospital. In 2011 he will continue studying. Received March 7th 2011
Remark:	

- **Source Document: 2010/May/Papun/4**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 7th2011]*
Location:	Luthaw Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	May 31st 2010
Details:	**How did your leg get injured by a landmine?**

I was guiding people.

Which way?

To Sl---.

Where did you have to cross the SPDC [Army's] area?

Lh---.

Which SPDC [Army] camp isLh--- near?

It's near Ok---.

Where did you guide them to?

To the Un--- part.

So the people [villagers] stayed in Or---and were going to Un---? How many people were guiding them?

Only me, I sent them.

How many villagers went with you?

20 villagers.

You guide people so you should know where the landmines are. Why were you injured by a landmine?

They planted the landmine behind me and they didn't tell me.

When did you guide the villagers?

On May 31st; it was a Monday.

Tell us about you got injured by the landmine. Did the villagers return or go on? What did they do?

Some came back but some went on.

You went.What happened to you?

I thought I would go a little outside the [usual] way and I got injured.

In Af---?

Not in Af---. In Gl---.

Who carried you back?

At---, *Bo* Ee--- and *Pa Dee* [Uncle].

Which hospital were you sent to first?

To Bp'Na Aye Per Koh.

Can you travel from Gl--- to Bp'Na Aye Per Koh in one day?

We arrived in the evening.

How many days did you stay in Bp'Na Aye Per Koh hospital for?

Three days.

Was your leg cut off there?

Yes.

How many days was it following your injury before you got to Day Pu Noe hospital?

Five days.

Did they have to cut your leg again when you got there?

No.

Now has your injury healed?

Yes, it has healed.

What is your plan?

They plan to send me [to get a prosthetic leg].

Where do they plan to send you?

I have to have a false leg made in Oo Dah.

Can't you continue to study this year?

No, I can't.

Do you have a plan to continue to study next year?

Yes, I have that plan.

- Gy---, (male, 18), Or---village, Luthaw Township, Papun District

	Interviewed July 2010
Remark:	

April 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/April/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Movement restrictions; Areas known to be mined
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview received by KHRG on May 6th 2011]*
Location:	Fi--- village, Tantabin Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	Prior to April 6th 2010
Details:	*"If I have to speak honestly about the villagers' occupations, before if they farmed hill fields and the hill field used five baskets of paddy grain, they were able to get enough food for their familieswhen the time was good. There are less working places [suitable agricultural land], the Tatmadaw enters and plants landmines, and there is an army camp located close to their place [village] so they [the villagers] can't farm their hill fields as they did before. They can use just one, two, or three baskets of paddy grain for their hill fields. For this reason they are facing a food crisis in their lives."* - Saw Mk---, (male, 37), Fi--- village, Tantabin Township, Toungoo District Interviewed April 6th 2010
Remark:	The context of the quote suggests that the interviewee believes that the Tatmadaw plants landmines after they have entered and patrolled in an area.

January 2010

- **Source Document: 2010/January/Papun**

Relevant Categories:	New use of landmines; Forced labour entailing risks of mine injury; Landmine casualties (death or injury); Marking, fencing or removal of landmines
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on March 7th 2011]*
Location:	Ba--- village, Dweh Loh Township, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	January 2010
Details:	**When did you have to build in the road?** In the New Year month [January 2010]. **How long did it take?** Two months. **Did they release you after two months?** After two months, they asked me to porter for them. They gave me the punishment to porter on the frontline. **Which team did you have to porter with?** In [the Democratic Karen Buddhist Arm (DKBA) Brigade] #999. **What Battalion?** [DKBA] Battalion #6. **Do you know their leaders' name?** I know their leaders' name. **Who is their leader?** Their leader is Pu Lay Ghaw. **How many soldiers [are there] in Battalion #6 [of DKBA] Brigade #999?** 45 soldiers.

	Where are they? They are in Ba--- [village]. **What did they do in Ba--- [village]?** They built their camp and stayed there. **I heard that they put landmines near their camp?** Yes, they put landmines. **While they were shooting [on patrol], didn't you get injured by landmines?** They marked them. **Did Karen [KNLA] soldiers put landmines?** I don't know. I never saw. **Didn't the DKBA soldiers get injured by landmines?** Yes, they did. **Did they get injured by their own landmines?** I don't know whose landmines they were. **How many [people] do you know about who got hit by landmines?** I know only one. **Did he die?** No, he didn't die but he lost half of his leg. **Where did they send him?** They sent him to Shwe Ko Ko. - Saw M---, (male, 19), Be--- village, Papun District Interviewed January 2010
Remark:	The name of the village tract was not provided in the original document

October 2009

- **Source Document: 2009/October/Pa'an**

Relevant Categories:	Areas known to be mined; Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	"Pa'an interviews: Conditions for villagers returned from temporary refuge sites in Tha Song Yang," May 2011 **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2011/khrg11b5.html**
Location:	P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District
Date of landmine incident:	October 2009
Details:	**Have you ever heard that other villagers were detonated by a landmine?** No, I have not heard about any incident here. We have one named Saw M---. **What happened with him?** He was detonated by a landmine. **When was he detonated?** It was in October 2009. **Where was he detonated?** He was detonated at a place near the paddy field. **How do you think who planted this landmine?** I can't guess because I have not seen it for myself. **Do you think the DKBA planted this landmine?** I think it would be planted by one of these two groups [DKBA or KNLA]. We don't know exactly and they also didn't let us know when and where they plant those landmines. We dare not travel outside the village. **Did this villager die or get injured?** He died at once. **Did anyone see him when he detonated it?** Yes, someone saw him looking for the cows and he was detonated at that time.

	Did he stay alive for some days? No, he didn't. He died after he crossed the river. **What is the plan for the village people to avoid landmine incidents?** For the KNLA, they told us not to go to the place that they planted landmines and then we can avoid that place. **How about the DKBA?** The DKBA told us nothing because we are not together with them. **Is it any other special plan for the villagers to avoid landmines?** No, we have no special plan. - Saw B---, (male, 50), P--- village, Wah Mee Gklah village tract, Dta Greh Township, Pa'an District Interviewed June 2010
Remark:	

March 2008

- **Source Document: 2008/March/Papun**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished incident report, received by KHRG on March 7th 2011]*
Location:	Htee Baw Kee village, Saw Muh Bplaw village tract, Lu ThawTownship, Papun District
Date of landmine incident:	March 2008
Details:	Naw D---, 16-years-old, stays in P---. Three years ago, she stepped on a SPDC landmine; and we had already sent this information. The human rights group sent information to find a way for her to go to school. Before she was injured by a landmine, she never went to school. Now [since the injury] she has been eager to go to school, so people searched for some rice and money and gave it to her. When she was already 16-years-old, she started to study in KGA in S--- School. Naw F---, 10-years-old, stayed in P---. A human rights group reported that she needed help going to school. Her mother died and she stayed with her father and one of her older brothers. Her father's work was not good so he couldn't send her to school, so she went and attended school at Saw Mu Bplaw.human rights group. Because of the country's conflicts there were problems for children to go to school and [they] needed help. Reported June 24th 2010
Remark:	Note that this is an update on an incident from March 15th 2008 that was previously reported to the Landmine Monitor in 2009. The victim was Naw D---, 16 years old, from Htee Baw Kee village, Saw Muh Bplaw village tract, Lu ThawTownship, Papun District. See "Burma Army attacks and civilian displacement in northern Papun District", June 2008. **http://www.khrg.org/khrg2008/khrg08f6.pdf**

2006 [Month not specified]

- **Source Document: 2006/Toungoo**

Relevant Categories:	Landmine casualties (death or injury)
KHRG source:	*[Unpublished interview, received by KHRG on May 16th 2011]*
Location:	Lo--- village, Day Loh Muh Nuh, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District
Date of landmine incident:	2006
Details:	**Were any of the villagers hurt because of the shooting?** In 2006, #124 [not specified whether Battalion or Division] came and planted landmines. One of our villagers stepped on the landmine and lost his leg. He is a singer. - Saw Law Reh Htoo, (male, 37), Lo--- village, Day Loh Muh Nuh, Than Daung Township, Toungoo District Interviewed March 31st 2011
Remark:	