



[CHIN ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND, INC.](http://www.chinmd.org)

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Airstrikes Destroy Church, Kill Four Civilians in Lailenpi, Chin State

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Washington, DC --- During the four-day battle for Lailenpi, Chin State, Tatmadaw airstrikes killed four civilians and destroyed a church, a school, and six civilian homes.

The Chin Post reports that on Nov. 19, the Chin National Army, CDF-Thantlang, CDF-Mara, CDF-Matupi, CDF-Lautu, and CDF-Zophei launched a joint attack on the Burmese military post in Lailenpi, a town in Matupi Township near the Indian border.

On Nov. 20, the Tatmadaw bombed Lailenpi indiscriminately, destroying the Mara Evangelical Church. This operation was overseen by Commander Major General Than Hteik of the Northwestern Regional Military Command, based in Monywa, Sagaing Region. The European Union previously sanctioned him in 2022 for conducting arson attacks on civilian homes in Sagaing Region.

By November 24, Chin resistance forces were able to occupy the Lailenpi military post and take control of the town.

CAM issues the following statement:

1. Condemning the Burmese military's killing of Chin civilians and destruction of Christian churches.
2. Calling on the administration to determine that these continued military atrocities against Christians in Burma constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity.

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The Chin Association of Maryland (CAM) is a non-profit organization based in Ellicott City, Maryland with an office in Washington, DC. CAM advocates for Chin and other refugees and internally displaced persons in Burma, religious freedom, and human rights. CAM also works to empower the local Chin community in Maryland to successfully integrate into American society.