

## And the border war continues...

In the southern Shan State, fierce fighting between the Shan State Army and Burmese Army military units, augmented by Wa proxies, is being [reported](#). [The Irrawaddy](#) has a solid overview of events.

This fighting is occurring in areas not far from the Thai border - close to both Mae Sai and Tachilek. I imagine *The Irrawaddy* will continue to update their coverage of what is but the latest episode in decades of skirmishes and pitched battles.

In one style of interpretation, this is just *another* classic "[dry-season offensive](#)".

Given the sometimes problematic delineation between the relevant areas of Chiang Rai's Mae Fah Luang district, and adjacent parts of the Shan State - and the chaotic nature of these battles - there is always a chance that fighting will spill into Thailand. This is one reason that [Western governments](#) still [discourage](#) their citizens from travelling to most places along the Thai-Burma border.

Such "spillover" happens [every](#) now and [again](#).