

## Refinery gear taken by troops

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**Rangoon (AFP)** — Troops have taken and sold off equipment and oil from a strike-bound refinery outside Rangoon, a state-run newspaper reported on Tuesday.

The losses and damage to vital machinery could cause difficulties when the plant reopens, the *Guardian* quoted a statement from the Petrochemical Industries Corporation as saying.

Warrant officers arrived on August 28 at the refinery, which has been at a standstill because of strikes by anti-government protesters, and started operating the plant, saying they were running tests, the *Guardian* said.

### SECURITY

At the same time, troops from the 33rd Division and the 19th Regiment arrived at the site across the river from Rangoon saying they were taking up security duties.

But they sold off machinery, parts and machinery oil, the corporation statement cited local residents as saying.

There are now 760,000 litres of petrol and 1.3 million litres of diesel at the Duneedaw central depot and 2.3 million litres of petrol and 760,000 litres of diesel oil in tankers stranded along the Rangoon river, the *Guardian* said.

The army is drawing some 114,000 litres of diesel and petrol daily, the *Guardian* said.

The *Guardian* did not indicate how much gasoline might be stocked elsewhere.

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