EXHIBIT C
PEACEKEEPING IMPUNITY

August 2019
1. IMPUNITY FOR SRI LANKAN SOLDIERS SERVING ABROAD AS PEACEKEEPERS

This document examines impunity for Sri Lankan peacekeepers. These are in two categories:

(a) the commanders in charge of those battalions in Haiti when child sexual exploitation occurred from 2004-7 and,

(b) how combat troops involved in the final phase of the war in areas where alleged war crimes took place, were rewarded with UN peacekeeping jobs after the war.

(a) Haiti

Background
A 2007 confidential inquiry by the UN’s Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS), conducted in conjunction with the Sri Lankan Army, identified 134 Sri Lankan soldiers alleged to have sexually exploited nine Haitian boys and girls from late 2004 to mid 2007, some in return for as little as 0.75 cents. The UN’s report said, “the acts of sexual exploitation and abuse were frequent, occurred usually at night, and at virtually every location where Sri Lankan military were deployed”.

The OIOS report authors state, “The sexual acts described by the nine victims are simply too many to be presented exhaustively”. One girl who was having sex with Sri Lankan soldiers was so young she didn’t even have breasts; a boy said he had both anal and oral sex with more than 100 Sri Lankan peacekeepers. Indeed while the investigators were interviewing one Haitian girl she started receiving calls on her mobile from Sri Lankan soldiers who had been given her number by the departing contingent.

In the 2007 UN inquiry, five of the Haitian children describe having sex on multiple occasions with senior Sri Lankan officers whom they refer to as the “commandants”, either based in the specific camps or visiting to oversee. The OIOS inquiry also included the identification of the alleged perpetrators through photographs and other means. The children were clear that the commanding officers had uniforms with three stars and they could also describe markings on junior ranks’ uniforms.

The contingent commander was responsible for the discipline of his men. The OIOS report says there were “clear indications of red flags” of sexual exploitation and abuse at the Sri Lankan bases but the Sri Lankan commanders failed to take action. The OIOS report is clear the contingent commanders and commandants failed in their duties. In August 2007 for example, a victim says a Commandant came to her house and found a soldier having sex with her; the OIOS report says he merely slapped the soldier and transferred him to another base¹.

Accountability
Not one soldiers was held criminally accountable for raping children, despite the UN investigation that identified suspects. Many of the officers who were deployed in Haiti went on to fight in the final phase of the civil war when it is alleged a wide array of war crimes were committed.

The table below summarises the individuals involved in commanding the six battalions that were stationed in Haiti when, according to the UN, the child sexual exploitation took place. The commanders of the

¹ For more details see ITJP’s report with JDS LANKA http://www.itjpsl.com/assets/press/haiti-FINAL.pdf
contingents present in Haiti from 2004-7 were promoted despite the Haiti scandal which prompted one of the largest repatriations of peacekeepers. Several later received medals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contingents in Haiti</th>
<th>Regiments</th>
<th>Commanders</th>
<th>Current Positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. late 2004 – May 2005</td>
<td>SLLI</td>
<td>Colonel Amal Karunasekera²</td>
<td>Chief Of Army Staff, arrested 2018¹</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2008: “Director of Military Intelligence (DMI) Brigadier Amal Karunasekera is acting as Director (Operations) in addition to his substantive duties⁴”. Army still called him one of its “most illustrious and distinguished military icons⁵”. Before that Commandant at Defence Services Command and Staff College, Sapugaskanda. 15th Colonel of SLLI. Kilinochchi SFHQ commander⁶.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lt. Col. TN Jayasooriya</td>
<td>Promoted to Major General in 2017⁷</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: May 2005¹⁴</td>
<td>Sinha¹⁵</td>
<td>Unknown¹⁶ - 6 officers and 120 other ranks¹⁷</td>
<td>4th SLSR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 31 Nov 2005¹⁸</td>
<td>Gemunu Watch</td>
<td>Colonel J.C.P. Pakshaweera</td>
<td>2016: Commander, Forward Maintenance Area (FMA), North Central and a Major General¹⁹. Given a medal in 2018²⁰ but retired.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The first contingent commander, Amal Karunasekera, went on to rise up the ladder to Chief of Army Staff but then was arrested in connection with the abduction of journalist Keith Noyahar and the 2009 killing of journalist Lasantha Wickremetunge. These are cases in which Gotabaya Rakapaksa has also been a suspect and for which his Wickremetunge’s daughter is also suing him in California.

Nissanka Ranawana who headed the fourth contingent in Haiti was active in the final war in Sri Lanka in which alleged war crimes were committed. The sixth contingent commander Col Chandana Wimalasiri whose troops were repatriated was said by the Government to have been retired as a punishment but he appears to have been promoted first which sends the wrong signal in terms of accountability. In addition one of the members of the 2004 contingent was sent back in 2010 (Lt Col SRK Hettiarachchi) and another from 2006 was sent back in 2009 (Col HHASPK Senaratne).

(b) Those involved in the 2008-9 war sent as peacekeepers as a reward:

Sri Lankan officers deployed as peacekeepers after the war are supposed to have been screened and vetted because of the risk that they might have been complicit in war crimes in 2008-9. A selection of 16 of those who slipped through the vetting process in the past is given below; it is worth noting this is likely an underestimate because it focuses only on the few instances where names of officers are mentioned in the public domain.

2 Jan 2006-13 Jan 2007 Haiti and Jan 2009 – Haiti
Col HHASPK Senaratne, Commando Regiment (CR).
2016-18: Director of Training, Sri Lanka Military Academy chief.
2000-4 CO 1CR. He is described as a commando regiment war hero – awarded medal 2016.

2010 in Haiti as deputy contingent commander. 12 Sri Batt.
Lt Col Kithsiri Liyanage.
2017/18: SLSR Centre Commandant and a Brigadier.
Colonel at Directorate of Media, Army Headquarters.
7 SLSR (Sinha) in 2008 capturing Mallavi in the Vanni. In 2009 his unit was under the 58 Division.
58 Division accused of war crimes in 2008-9.

Sent to Haiti in sribatt in 2004 and then again in
2010 as staff officer.
Lt Col SRK Hettiarachchi 0/61456
2017: promoted to Colonel, 521 Brigade Commander
JAN 2008- FEB 2010 Commandeer 15 SLLI.
15 SLLI was involved in final war

Haiti in 2010 April.
Commander Colonel Jayanath Jayaweera
533 Brigade commander under Kamal Gunaratne in 2009.

Haiti in 2010 April
Lt. Colonel Wasantha Herath
12 SLLI battalions under the command of Lt.Col. Wasantha Herath in Mullivaikkal.
Under 593 BRIGADE OF 59 DIV.

29.07.2011 - 09.02.2012 in Haiti as contingent commander and gets medal.
Colonel WMJRK (Jaliya) Senaratne (now Brigadier).
59 Division accused of war crimes in 2008-9.

2012 second in command of 14 SriBatt in Haiti.
Lt. Col. Sarada Samarakoon (now Brigadier).
581 Brigade of 58 Division in 2008
10 Gajaba Regiment.
58 Division accused of war crimes in 2008-9

Congo Observer Officers 2010
Maj. MSK Salgadu, Gajaba Regiment
1-21 Feb 2009 Commander of 16 GR
16 GR Involved in attack on PTK.

2014 18 Sri Batt in Haiti, Contingent Commander
582 Brigade of 58 Division in 2008 - 9 Gemunu Watch.
58 Division accused of war crimes in 2008-9

2018 to Lebanon, 12th Force Protection Company (FPC) for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).
Lt. Col. Rathnappuli Wasantha Kumara Hewage.
4 SLSR and 14 SLSR in frontline combat in 2008-9 war under 57 Division.
57 Division accused of war crimes in 2008-9 (see itjp dossier)

11th Force Protection Company. Lebanon.
Lieutenant Colonel C.A Rajapaksha of the 1st Gemunu Watch but not the commander till after the war. 1GW involved in final war.

10th Force Protection Company, Lebanon
Lieutenant Colonel Dinesh Udugama (initials UKDDP)
Involved in Attacks on Kilinochchi and Vishwamadu.
3rd Gajaba Regiment under 572 Brigade, 57 Division in 2008-19 June 2010.
9th Force Protection Company, Lebanon
Lieutenant Colonel G.P Kodithuwakku
See dossier on Joseph Camp.
6 Vijayabahu regiment from 2008.07.03 to 2010.04.31 which was active in final war. Furthermore a lawsuit filed by ITJP in August 2017 names this individual as being in charge of military intelligence in Joseph Camp in 2009.

Kalana P. L. Amunupure MINUSMA
2007-10 Second in command of 11 SLLI, which operated under 582 Brigade, 58 Division accused of war crimes in 2008-9.

Police sent as peacekeepers

UNPKF in 2013-14 in Juba in South Sudan
ASP (now DIG) Waruna S E Jayasundera

ASP Waruna Jayasundera (UNPKF in 2013-14 in Juba in South Sudan). He was also reportedly active in the northern conflict in Sri Lanka. He was in 2006 based at the Karaithivu base as intelligence – allegedly involved in covering up a false flag attack. From December 2018, SSP Waruna Jayasundara has been Director of the Terrorist Investigation Division (TID) – the unit previously responsible for the torture of several of the Plaintiffs. Before that he was in Jaffna.

Dafur 2016

Sylvester Jagath Wijesinghe
Currently his LinkedIn page says he is Zonal Commander, Northern Sector for the Special Task Force. From August 2016 Sylvester Wijesinghe was peacekeeping in Dafur for the UN, according to his own social media profiles. He says he has been “Protecting of civilians providing a protective environment to facilitate humanitarian assistance”. This is not the role he played back home in Sri Lanka.

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2 http://www.dailynews.lk/2019/07/20/local/191664/nine‐ssps‐promoted‐digs
3 https://www.tamilguardian.com/content/jaffna‐police‐chief‐appointed‐head‐sri‐lanka's‐terrorism‐investigation‐division
4 https://www.linkedin.com/in/sylvester‐wijesinghe‐6411aa33/?originalSubdomain=lk
5 His Linked In page.
6 Ibid.
From February 2013 to 2016, Wijesinghe was an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) in the Special Task Force (STF) training school. In 2011 he is described in media reports as the newly appointed STF spokesperson. From 1986, he was “in the battle zone for 22 years doing special operations most of the time” for the Special Task Force. The police website also commends him by name: “ASP Sylvester Wijesinghe, who gave leadership to this specialized units carried out several successful attacks” and references his deployment to the Vavuniya area of Northern Sri Lanka in 1998.

In addition Wijesinghe is reported to have commanded a special STF combat unit known as ‘Cheetah’.

Please see the ITJP Report on the STF and the multiple allegations of human rights violations the unit is involved in.

**Alleged Role in Vavuniya Jail incident**

On 29th June 2012, 32 Tamil prisoners in the Vavuniya Prison were brutally assaulted by the STF after an agitation staged by them inside the Prison. Two prisoners later died of their injuries. The then IGP of Police, Illangakoon, arrived in Vavuniya and directed the STF commandant DIG Chandrasiri Ranawana to start the operation. Ranawana directed ASP Sylvester Wijesinghe, the head of Special Weapons Tactics Group, to come to Vavuniya with the STF Trincomalee District Commandant Nihal Gunaratna.

Later reports suggested: “The CID sought permission from the former and the incumbent IGPs to question the main suspect in the murders, STF’s ASP Sylvester Wijesinghe”.

There were calls for an independent investigation into the violence in the prison but instead of holding such an investigation it appears the main suspect has been rewarded by being sent abroad as a peacekeeper.

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7 Linked in and also in media reports such as: https://www.pressreader.com/sri-lanka/daily-mirror-sri-lanka/20151130/281479275334492


11 https://www.police.lk/index.php/special-task-force/-265


14 Media reports say in 1985 when the STF had its first base at Kallady the then ASP N.K. Illangakoon (present IGP), commanded the police commandos. Then “in August 1985, the STF began direct recruitment to meet manpower requirements. As part of its overall deployment, the STF set up a new command structure to cover Batticaloa North and South with the then ASPs, N. K. Illangakoon and Jayantha Gamage, respectively, in command of the two sectors”.

15 How the Vavuniya prisoner rebellion was crushed by the STF, 8 July 2012, DBS Jeyaraj blog reproducing The Nation.


17 Written statement* submitted by the International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status, 2013
One media report described the STF team as led “by one of the most infamous officers in the police, ASP Sylvester Wijesinghe” and alleged “Sylvester’s operation began with the clear motive of starting a clash." 

**STF Intelligence Role**

An ITJP witness has also named and identified Sylvester Wijesinghe from a photograph as the officer in charge of the Batticaloa base camp and STF intelligence in the East of Sri Lanka from 2006-8. He said he was very well known - “if you mention his name to anyone in the armed forces in Batticaloa they will know him”.

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Endnotes


6 http://dbseymaraj.com/dbsi/archives/58730
7 http://www.sundaytimes.lk/081123/Columns/siteport.html
9 http://222.165.180.163/sklinochchi/content/military-troops-assisted-flood-affected-civilians-krishnapuram
10 Maj Gen ALSK Perera RWP RSP USP ndu is newly promoted on 20 June 2017; http://222.165.180.163/lightinfantry/more_details.php
11 All the names are at http://archive.lk/veDRz: ALSK Perera becomes regimental centre commander in 2008 according to :
12 http://web.army.lk/lightinfantry/former_cen_comds.php
13 http://www.pressreader.com/sri-lanka/sunday-times-sri-lanka/20170618/2815780605570
d77
14 Deployment of Troops-UN Peace Keeping Operations/ Mission.

17 6 officers & 120 other rankers who returned to the Island after a stint with the UN Peace Keeping Force in Haiti - http://222.165.180.163/slsr/7slsr_2
18 FIRST CONTINGENT OF GEMUNU WATCH FLEWS TO HAITI, http://www.army.lk/news/first-contingent-gemunu-watch-flies-haiti which says: “The UN contingent consists of 35 Officers and 527 Other Ranks from GW and 14 Officers and 174 Other Ranks from Service and Support Regiments”.
22 Also Security forces, who breached the LTTE defence line on March 16, faced yet another challenge. General Officer Commanding (GOC) 55 Division and his deputy Brig. Nissanka Ranawala, Col. Mahinda Weerasinghe and other field commanders planned the operation. Their target was a stronger defence line about 500 metres interior of the first defence line.
24 http://archives.sundayobserver.lk/2009/02/08/sec04.asp and in March 2009
26 UN decorates Lankan soldiers, The Island Newspaper, cached as removed offline.

Also Lankan peacekeeper dies in Haiti, The Island.

According to the battlefield reports, troops of 12 SLLI; 14 and 15 Gajaba Regiment (GR) have confronted with the terrorists in areas within 2-4 Km range towards east of Ottiyamalai built up on Tuesday (Nov 11). Meanwhile, Army 59 division soldiers who have been marching across the Mullaitivu jungle have entered into a different terrain after crossing over the northern boundaries of the Andankuelam forest reserve. Troops of 6 Gemunu Watch (6GW), 7 Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment (7SLR), 8 GW and 9 GW under command of the 58th Division carry out clearing operations after destroying the LTTE-built earth bund in Devipuram in Puthukudiyiruppu on Tuesday (24).

Pix courtesy of Defence Ministry

http://www.island.lk/2009/02/12/news.html

The Nation, ‘To be or not to be’ week for LTTE, 10 May 2009

MOD Situation Reports, 12 Nov 2008

“According to the battlefield reports, troops of 12 SLLI, 14 and 15 Gajaba Regiment (GR) have confronted with the terrorists in areas within 2-4 Km range towards east of Ottiyamalai built up on Tuesday (Nov 11)... Meanwhile, Army 59 division soldiers who have been marching across the Mullaitivu jungle have entered into a different terrain after crossing over the northern boundaries of the Andankuelam forest reserve. Troops of 593 brigade reached Kumulamunai Thanalnupirupukulum road that marks the northern edge of the Andankuelam forest reserve on Tuesday afternoon (Nov 11) and liberated a western part of the Kumulamunai town. According to the battlefield reports, infantrymen of 15 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (15 SLLI) destroyed 6 LTTE bunkers, while their comrades of 7 Gemunu Watch (7 GW) captured 6 LTTE bunkers. Also, infantrymen of 11 Gamunu Watch (11 GW) entered into the western part of the Kumulamunai built up and captured 15LTTE bunkers.”
Desperate Tigers intensify terror, The Sunday Observer, 1 Feb 2009

“The three battalions under the command of the Colonel Jayantha Gunaratne, 15 Sri Lanka Light Infantry Battalion under the command of Major Sujeewa Hettiarachchi, 12 SLII under the command of Major Wasantha Perera and 7 Gemunu Watch Battalion under the command of Lt. Colonel Chaminda Lamahewa were given different tasks. The 15 SLII was asked to move into the town from the West of Mankulam - Mulaitivu road whilst 12 SLII was asked to move into the Mulaitivu town from the East... A number of soldiers crossed the lagoon and lay ambush inside the town until the troops of the 12 and 15 SLII troops reached the centre of the town although they observed many Tiger movements inside the town. It was around 9.30 a.m. on Sunday when they started firing at the LTTE cadres compelling them to flee Mulaitivu town by sea... It was around 1.00 p.m. the 593 Brigade troops secured the Mullaitivu town with 15 SLII troops and taking control of the Eastern edge of the Nanthikadal lagoon in the West of Mulaitivu town whilst 12 SLII troops taking the control of beach front of the Mulaitivu town. The 7 Gemunu Watch battalion was deployed in the Northern tip of the Mullaitivu town.”

58 Situation Reports on 18th Feb, 2009 shows 533 BDE in Oddusudan.
59 Captive civilians and Tiger cadres may turn guns on LTTE leadership, 11 Jan 2009, The Nation (on file).”

The 53 Division which advanced along the stretch south of A-9 consisted of Air Borne Brigade commanded by Col.
Shantha Dissanayake. Lt. Col. Jayanath Jayaweera led 53-3 Brigade, which included First Gajaba, Fifth Gemunu, Fifth Wijayaba.”

61 MOD Situation Reports, 12 Nov 2008

“According to the battlefield reports, troops of 12 SLII, 14 and 15 Gajaba Regiment (GR) have confronted with the terrorists in areas within 2-4 Km range towards east of Ottiyamalai built up on Tuesday (Nov 11)...”

MOD Situation Reports, 15 Dec 2008

“Sri Lanka Army 14 Gajaba Regiment and Armoured Corps soldiers operating at the 59 Division frontline have foiled an attempted LTTE intrusion...” Also... “According to operational forces, the 20 Singha Regiment (SR) and the 16 Gajaba Regiment (GR) troops have crushed the remaining LTTE resistance and entered the village...” (OLMADU)

Defence blog

“Meanwhile, troops of 592 Brigade operating in the western flank of the 593 Brigade has made further headway on their flanking movement, Infantrymen of 12 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (12 SLLI) and the 14 Gajaba Regiment (14 GR) attacked terrorist groups in the North of Karurelankandal and Kulamuripu areas during daytime yesterday as they extended their forward boundaries further northwards of the A-34 road (Mankulam- Mullaitivu).”

Terrorists to face another shocking maneuver from Army 59 Div, 30 Dec 2008,

https://lankadefencewatch.wordpress.com/2008/12/30/terrorists-to-face another-shocking-maneuver-from-army-59-div/

The bell tolls for LTTE, The Daily News, 30 Jan 2009

Mullaitivu Town: “... The three battalions under the command of the Colonel Jayantha Gunaratne, 15 Sri Lanka Light Infantry Battalion under the command of Major Sujeewa Hettiarachchi, 12 SLII under the command of Major Wasantha Perera and 7 Gemunu Watch Battalion under the command of Lt. Colonel Chaminda Lamahewa were given different tasks. The 15 SLII was asked to move into the town from the West of Mankulam - Mulaitivu road whilst 12 SLII was asked to move into the Mulaitivu town from the East... A number of soldiers crossed the lagoon and lay ambush inside the town until the troops of the 12 and 15 SLII troops reached the centre of the town although they observed many Tiger movements inside the town. It was around 9.30 a.m. on Sunday when they started firing at the LTTE cadres compelling them to flee Mulaitivu town by sea. It was around 1.00 p.m. the 593 Brigade troops secured the Mulaitivu town with 15 SLII troops and taking control of the Eastern edge of the Nanthikadal lagoon in the West of Mulaitivu town whilst 12 SLII troops taking the control of beach front of the Mulaitivu town. The 7 Gemunu Watch battalion was deployed in the Northern tip of the Mullaitivu town.”

The Sunday Observer, 1 Feb 2009, Desperate Tigers intensify terror

“The three battalions under the command of the Colonel Jayantha Gunaratne, 15 Sri Lanka Light Infantry Battalion under the command of Major Sujeewa Hettiarachchi, 12 SLII under the command of Major Wasantha Perera and 7 Gemunu Watch Battalion under the command of Lt. Colonel Chaminda Lamahewa were given different tasks. The 15 SLII was asked to move into the town from the West of Mankulam - Mulaitivu road whilst 12 SLII was asked to move into the Mulaitivu town from the East... A number of soldiers crossed the lagoon and lay ambush inside the town until the troops of the 12 and 15 SLII troops reached the centre of the town although they observed many Tiger movements inside the town. It was around 9.30 a.m. on Sunday when they started firing at the LTTE cadres compelling them to flee Mulaitivu town by sea. It was around 1.00 p.m. the 593 Brigade troops secured the Mulaitivu town with 15 SLII troops and taking control of the Eastern edge of the Nanthikadal lagoon in the West of Mulaitivu town whilst 12 SLII troops taking the control of beach front of the Mulaitivu town. The 7 Gemunu Watch battalion was deployed in the Northern tip of the Mullaitivu town.”

The Daily News, 13 May 2009, Troops consolidating near Waddawakal causeway

“Addressing the media yesterday at the MCNS, Military spokesman Brigadier Udaya Nanayakkara said LTTE cadres confined within five sq km in the new NFZ, are making desperate attempts to hold their position with all means and power they...
possess. He said 6 SLLI and 12 SLLI infantrymen of the 59 division after crossing the LTTE constructed earth bund and ditch North of the Waddawakal causeway yesterday morning advanced further 300m.”

The Daily News, 15 May 2009, **Ground troops brave terrorists’ last-gasp attacks**

“The troops attacked to the 6 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (SLLI) battalion, 11 GemunuWatch (GW) battalion, 12 SLLI battalion and two squadrons of the 4 Special Forcesbattalion attacked to 593 Brigade commanded by Lt. Colonel Sujeeewa Senerath Yapa fought this battle to defend the captured territory. As the LTTE made desperate attempts to stop the troops reaching the southern edge of the No Fire Zone, the 58 Division under the command of Brigadier Shavendra Silva and 53 Division under the command of Major General Kamal Gunaratne also made steady progress having reached towards the newly demarcated Safe Zone in the South of Karayannullivaikkal from the Northern front.”

The Daily News, 17 May 2009, **Tiger leader counts his final hours**

“The troops attacked to the 6 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (SLLI) battalion, 11 Gemunu Watch (GW) battalion, 12 SLLI battalion and two squadrons of the 4 Special Forces battalion attacked to 593 Brigade commanded by Lt. Colonel Sujeeewa Senerath Yapa fought this battle to defend the captured territory.”

The Sunday Observer, 24 May 2009, **Soldiers risked life and limb to save civilians**

“Troops of the 12 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (SLLI) battalion commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Wasantha Herath under the 593 Brigade commanded by Colonel Sujeeewa Senerath Yapa gained control of the causeway.”


The Sunday Observer, 1 Feb 2009, **Desperate Tigers intensify terror**

“The three battalions under the command of the Colonel Jayantha Gunaratne, 15 Sri Lanka Light Infantry Battalion under the command of Major Sujeeewa Hettiarachchi, 12 SLLI under the command of Major Wasantha Perera and 7 Gemunu Watch Battalion under the command of Lt. Colonel Chaminda Lamahewa were given different tasks. The 15 SLLI was asked to move into the town from the West of Manikulam-Mulaitivu road whilst 12 SLLI was asked to move into the Mulaitivu town from East of Alampil Mulaitivu road in the early hours of Sunday morning.”


63 http://222.165.180.163/slamc/centre-commandant


65 http://222.165.180.163/slamc/centre-commandant


67 Bde Command of 593 Bde, 563 Bde, 594 Bde, 595 Bde, 112 Bde, 142 Bde and 223 Bde according to official biography at https://www.facebook.com/senaratnejaliya?lst=679208658%3A100000412536590%3A1539193670


69 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M46CEAx73Es


71 Named and said to be under 581, The Nation Newspaper, 20 Jul 2008


MOD Situation Report, 15 Mar 2009

“10th Gajaba Regiment (10 GR) and 12th Gajaba Regiment (12 GR) troops of the 58 Division led by Brigadier Shavendra Silva seized total control of another LTTE strong point and a rudimentary LTTE run ‘court centre’ located in the Puthukkudiyirippu town today (March 15)”

The Daily News, 22 March 2009

“Infantrymen of 11 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (11 SLLI), 7 Sinha Regiment (7 SR), 10 Gajaba Regiment (10 GR), 9 Gemunu Watch (9 GW), 12, 8 and 20 Gajaba Regiments continued the advance and strengthened their defenses in Iranapalai east amidst heavy LTTE resistance. Infantrymen of 11 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (11 SLLI), 7 Sinha Regiment (7 SR), 10 Gajaba Regiment (10 GR), 9 Gemunu Watch (9 GW), 12, 8 and 20 Gajaba Regiments continued the advance and strengthened their defenses in Iranapalai east amidst heavy LTTE resistance.”

MOD Situation Reports, 15 Nov 2008

“Infantrymen of 12 Gamunu Watch (12 GW) and 10 Gajaba Regiment (10 GR) successfully negotiated the great marshlands south of Pooneryn last night.”

The Nation Newspaper, 1 Mar 2009

“When the 12 Gajaba Regiment (GR) of 58 Division and 1 GR of Task Force VIII, linked up on Thursday (26), Task Force IV was pulled back as a Reserve Support Division. 10 GR and 12 GR that proceeded from Puthukkudiyirippu West to Puthukkudiyirippu East, amidst resistance, from 8 p.m. on Wednesday to 3 a.m. the following day, linked up with Task Force VIII.” https://www.nation.lk/2009/03/01/militarym.htm

The Nation Newspaper, 15 Mar 2009

“No sooner he heard of the attack at 4:00 a.m., Brig. Shavendra Silva, Commander of 58 Division, moved to the command station to personally oversee the counter-attack. The moment the bunkers were captured, Capt. Suranga Jayaweera stormed into the area with his Alpha Company..."
of 20 Gajaba Regiment, stationed nearby. As they moved to clear the area south of Chalai, Capt. Jayaweera became a victim of an LTTE ambush.” https://www.nation.lk/2009/03/15/militarym.htm

Infolanka

“Infantrymen of 10 Gajaba Regiment (10 GR) serving under 58 Division were able to locate the LTTE’s high-tech communication center having modern satellite relaying machines. It was located at west of Puthukudirippu area.” LTTE high-tech satellite communication center captured, http://infolanka.asia/news/general/ltte-high-tech-satellite-communication-center-captured

Military Blog

“The Gemunu Watch (9GW) succeeded in its attempt. In a daring operation, 9GW troops seized a 300 metre section of the earth bund prompting the LTTE to launch 18 counter attacks. The enemy couldn’t dislodge troops, who fought for five days continuously to help the Gajaba Regiment (10 GR) evict the LTTE from another 300-meter segment of the bund. The stage was set for 6 GW and 12 GW, to seize sections of the earth bund. The 582 Brigade brought Vennerikulam under its control on Oct. 20, 2008. The LTTE suffered heavy losses in its attempts to thwart the 582 Brigade. The success at Vannerikulam eased pressure on the 57 Division.” Mission accomplished on western flank, The Island, 26 Nov 2012, http://swaronterror.blogspot.com/2012/11/mission-accomplished-on-western-flank.html

The Nation Newspaper, 22 Feb 2009

“After the capture of Sugandirapuram by the 58 Division last week, the only three towns still under the LTTE were Pudukudiruppu West, Pudukudiruppu East and Ampalawas Pokkanai. The 11th Infantry, Tenth Gajaba, 12th Gemunu, and Seventh Sinha, Regiments that stormed Pudukudyirippu West, captured the area by the evening of February 19, killing 17 terrorists.” https://www.nation.lk/2009/02/22/militarym.htm

Military Matters, The Nation, 9 Feb 2009

“The 7th Sinha, 2nd Commando, 11th Infantry, 17th Gemunu, 12th Gajaba, 9th Gemunu, 10th Gajaba and 6th Sinha Regiments took part in battles launched by the 58 Division. The three Brigades 57-1, 57-2, and 57-4, of the 57 Brigade under Maj. Gen. Jagath Dias were heading for Mullaitivhu from the direction of Ramanathanpuram...Meanwhile, the 57-1 Brigade commanded by Lt. Col. Harendara Ranasinghe was advancing in the direction of Kalmadukulam amid intense fighting. The 9th Gajaba Regiment under Col. Chandana Somaweera, the 4th Sinha Regiment under Maj. Hiran Lokuketagoda, and the 9th Vijeyaba Regiment under Lt. Col. Sisisira Herath are involved in this operation. The 9th Gajaba Regiment that captured the Kalmadukulam tank bund, came under continuous artillery and mortar fire, in an attempt to secure the release of a prominent LTTE leader Raghul and his group entrapped among the SF personnel. Maj. Gen. Jagath Dias instructed the forces to besiege the area, while the LTTE was attempting to save their men...”

72 http://222.165.180.163/gajabaregiment/16-gajaba-regiment
73 The Nation Newspaper, 15 Feb 2009

“62-1 Brigade was instructed to proceed, after the last Tiger obstacle in Pudukudiruppu area was removed by 57-4 Brigade. 57-4 Brigade comprising 8th Gajaba Regiment (GR) under Lt. Col. Chandana Wickremesinghe, 6th Vijayaba Regiment (VR) under Maj. Prabhath Kodituwakku, the 7th Signals under Maj. Dhammika Tilakarante, and the 18th VR under Maj. Laksiri Perera, are proceeding from Pudukudiruppu West to the East, along the South of A-35 highway. The 8th SR and 16 GR of 62-2 Brigade under Lt. Col. Kirthi Gunsasoma are advancing with Task Force IV. It is confirmed that about 70 Tigers were killed in confrontations in these areas over a week. 62-1 Brigade had advanced about another kilometre towards Pudukudiruppu by Friday.”

https://www.nation.lk/2009/02/15/militarym.htm

75 http://www.army.lk/news/central-troops-coordinate-3-day-long-medical-clinic-badulla

The Nation Newspaper, 15 Feb 2009

9th Gemunu Watch (GW) under Lt. Col. Lal Chandrasiri recovered a haul of arms including five 120mm artillery guns, two 81mm mortar launchers, two MPMG weapons, two 60 mm mortar launchers, 25 claymore mines, and several other weapons greased and packed in polythene.”

The Nation, 9 Apr 2009

“9 Gemunu Watch under Lt. Col. Lal Chandrasiri, penetrated a defensive bund of the Tigers, amidst heavy fighting.”

The Nation, 12 Apr 2009

“20 GR under Maj. Kumara Pieris, from the North of the encircled area, 12 GR under Maj. Saliya Amunugama, from the South and 9 Gemunu Watch (GW) under Lt. Col. Lal Chandrasiri from the West, were set to penetrate enemy lines.”

The Daily News, 2 Jan 2009

“The 9 Gemunu Watch battalion under the command of Lt. Colonel Lal Chandrasiri went and cut off the A-9 road from the North of Paranthan... All fronts close in on Kilinochchi; Fall of Kilinochchi imminent, http://archives.dailynews.lk/2009/01/02/sec03.asp

The Nation, 26 Apr 2009

MOD Situation Reports, 13 May 2009

“LTTE’s multi barrel rocket launcher found – Karyalaimullivaikkal. A Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) used by the LTTE terrorists were found by the troops of 9 Gemunu Watch (9 GW) serving under 58 Division conducting a search and clearing operation in general area Karyalaimullivaikkal this morning, 13 May, defence sources said.”

The Island, 26 Nov 2012

“The Gemunu Watch (9GW) succeeded in its attempt. In a daring operation, 9GW troops seized a 300 metre section of the earth bund prompting the LTTE to launch 18 counter attacks. The enemy couldn’t dislodge troops, who fought for five days continuously to help the Gajaba Regiment (10 GR) evict the LTTE from another 300-meter segment of the bund. The stage was set for 6 GW and 12 GW, to seize sections of the earth bund. The 582 Brigade brought Vennerikulam under its control on Oct. 20, 2008. The LTTE suffered heavy losses in its attempts to thwart the 582 Brigade. The success at Vannerikulam eased pressure on the 57 Division.” Mission accomplished on western flank, http://slwaronterror.blogspot.com/2012/11/mission-accomplished-on-western-flank.html

Army at doorstep of last Tiger stronghold, 13 May 200

“On Monday May 11, the Sri Lanka Army’s 53 and 58 Divisions were able to capture the entire Karayamulivaikkal area. And as you are reading this column, Troops from 53 Division and 58 Division are entering Vellamullivaikkal, from the 58 Division, the 9 Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment (9VIR) under Lt. Col. Sisira Herath, gave the flank support along the coastal side, while the 11 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (11 SLLI) under Lt. Col. Kithsiri Ekanayake advanced with his troops from the lagoon side. The middle stretch of the sliver of land area in between, was left for the 10 Gemunu Watch (10GW) under Lt. Col. Lal Chandrasena was advancing from west of the A-35 Paranthan-Mullaitivu road.”

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46GWcCFBtFs

Northern Battle Front: BREAKING NEWS SLA Captures Puthumathalan, 35,000 Civilians Escape Wanni LTTE

“The Ninth Gemunu Watch, Sixth Gemunu Watch, and the Tenth Infantry Regiments that commenced their operation on February 19, captured the 12 square kilometer area with LTTE camps…. After the capture of Sugandirapuram by the 58 Division last week, the only three towns still under the LTTE were Pudukudiruppu West, Pudukudiruppu East and Ampalawan Pokkanai. The 11th Infantry, Tenth Gajaba, 12th Gemunu, and Seventh Sinha, Regiments that stormed Pudukudiyirippu West, captured the area by the evening of February 19, killing 17 terrorists. Intercepted LTTE messages confirmed that 38 LTTE cadres were killed during the previous day’s confrontations.”

The Nation, 17 May 2009

“The During operations conducted by 9 and 12 GW, under Lt. Col. Lionel Chandrasiri, and 11 SLLI, under Col. Kithsiri Ekanayake, on May 12, recovered 30 Tiger bodies and a large number of firearms.” Security forces poised for victory, https://www.nation.lk/2009/05/17/militarym.htm

The Nation Newspaper, 22 Feb 2009

“The Ninth Gemunu Watch, Sixth Gemunu Watch, and the Tenth Infantry Regiments that commenced their operation on February 19, captured the 12 square kilometer area with LTTE camps…. After the capture of Sugandirapuram by the 58 Division last week, the only three towns still under the LTTE were Pudukudiruppu West, Pudukudiruppu East and Ampalawan Pokkanai. The 11th Infantry, Tenth Gajaba, 12th Gemunu, and Seventh Sinha, Regiments that stormed Pudukudiyirippu West, captured the area by the evening of February 19, killing 17 terrorists. Intercepted LTTE messages confirmed that 38 LTTE cadres were killed during the previous day’s confrontations.”

The Nation, 26 Apr 2009


Time running out for LTTE: End in sight Thursday Observer, 22 Mar 2009

“Infantrymen of 11 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (11 SLLI), 7 Sinha Regiment (7 SR), 10 Gajaba Regiment (10 GR), 9 Gemunu Watch (9 GW), 12, 8 and 20 Gajaba Regiments continued the advance and strengthened their defenses in Iranapalai east amidst heavy LTTE resistance. … The LTTE is strongly defending this terrain as they area aware that its loss will be the end of their journey. But the troops attached to 5 Gajaba Regiment, 5 Gemunu Watch, 6 Gajaba Regiment, 18 Gemunu Watch, 15 Sri Lanka Light Infantry Regiment and 1 Gemunu Watch Battalions are heading towards this terrain.”

The Nation, 19 Apr 2009

Re the 57 and 58 Divisions: “The traditional oil lamp was then lit to begin the New Year festivities organised there. A token of the Avurudu gifts brought by the President, was distributed amongst representative Officers of the two Divisions. They were CO 8 SLLI, Lt. Col. Ipshitha Dissanayaka, CO 9 Gemunu Watch (GW), Lt. Col. Lal Chandrasiri and two Platoon commanders and some troops.”


http://www.army.lk/slsr/

Kilinochchi Assault

A media story in the state run paper http://archives.dailynews.lk/2008/12/27/fea03.asp 27 Dec 2008, Troops maintain momentum in all fronts.) on the assault on Kilinochchi and Paranthan Junction says Maj. Gen.Shavendra Silva (58 Division) and Maj. Gen. Jagath Dias (57 Division) have troops aiming for the town of Kilinochchi:
“It was at 5.30 a.m. in the morning on Monday that troops attached to 9 Gajaba Regiment under the Command of Lt. Colonel Chandana Somaweera, 4 Sinha Regiment under the Acting Command of Major Wasantha Hewage and the 12 Sinha Regiment under the Command of Major Weerasinghe (the Second in Command of the Sinha Regiment) launched this massive assault on the Tiger earth bund with Air Force fighter jets and helicopter gunships giving close air support to the ground troops”.

UN 2015 OHCHR Investigation into Sri Lanka [OISL A/HRC.30.CRP.2]
This report is clear that the assault on Kilinochchi town involved attacks on civilian objects including United Nations personnel and sites.

“Between July and October 2008, as the 57th and 58th Divisions of the SLA advanced towards Kilinochchi, the area in and around the Box was subjected to aerial bombardment and shelling”. (para 794)

“Kilinochchi hospital, a long-standing, Government-run medical facility, also came under repeated shelling as the Sri Lankan Armed Forces advanced on Kilinochchi. The hospital came under shelling on 25 October, 24 December and 30 December 2008, causing damage to buildings”. (Para 796)

Holding PTK:
According to the Sinha regiment’s own website Hewage was the commanding officer of the 14th Battalion and present in PTK in the frontline of the war in February 2009:

“On 20th February 2009 Major RWK Hewage took over duties the Commanding Officer. On 23rd February 2009, Pudukudirippu troops recovered an 81mm mortar and a large quantity of munitions. They also found and destroyed a land mine production facility of the LTTE”. 14th Battalion of the Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment, Civilians rescued from the control of the LTTE being offered food and water, http://222.165.180.163/slsr/14slsr_2

“Task Force IV under Lt. Col. Randula Hatnagoda of 64-2 Brigade, this week recovered a submarine and the largest ever cache of arms, in the history of the Eelam War, from Puthkudyiruppu jungles. The weapons, greased, oiled and hidden in a container, were recovered by 14 SR under Maj. Wasantha Hewage, ... 14 SR recovered the submarine, about 17 feet in length and 2 ½ feet in width, capable of carrying two persons, from a boat manufactory in Puthkudyiruppu, south on Thursday”.

Lt. Colonel Randula Hatnagoda presently the Commanding Officer of the 14 Sinha Regiment was appointed as the 642 Brigade Commander http://archives.dailynews lk/2008/12/05/fea03.asp, 5 Dec 2008, Daily News. Also http://222.165.180.163/sfhqmit/642_bde

Fall of the last tiger bastion imminent, The Nation, http://www.nationlk/2009/03/01/militarym.htm


Fall of the last tiger bastion imminent, The Nation, http://www.nationlk/2009/03/01/militarym.htm

ALS0 ITJP Letter to HRCSL, DPKO etc.

81 http://www.itjpsl.com/reports/jagath‐dias‐dossier

82 http://www.army.lk/news/11th‐un‐contingent‐lebanon‐ready‐departure

83 The Sri Lankan Army says the 11th contingent was led by a Lieutenant Colonel C.A Rajapaksha of the 1st Gemunu Watch. The army itself says this unit was involved in the fall of the war and Rajapakse was made the commander of the battalion a few months after the war.

“During the final stages of the Wanni Humanitarian Operations 1GW was intimately involved in all major operations conducted that resulted in the capture of Nandikadal, Puththukudirippu and the A 35 MSR linking Paranthan to Mullaitivu. Which action ultimately brought success in defeating LTTE aims and objectives of creating a separate State of Tamil Eelam. After the Operations conducted in the Wanni 1 GW was engaged in the government’s programme of Reconciliation, Re-settlement, Re-Construction and Rehabilitation in the Puththukudirippu region until 08 August 2010


84 This unit was involved the PTK attack according to its own website.

“The 1st Gemunu Regiment under Lt. Col. Ajantha Wijesuriya and the Alpha Team under Capt. Wickrema erected five bunkers in the direction of Jaffna to escape from LTTE mortar and artillery fire. The next challenge facing them was to erect a bridge to cross the estuary.”

The Nation Newspaper, 22 Feb 2009

PTK: “Meanwhile, the 15th Infantry and the First Gemunu Watch of 68-2 Brigade under Lt. Col. Subhashana Welikala, are advancing across the open space in Nandikadal lagoon. Lt. Col. Welikala had a narrow escape from LTTE gunfire during the tedious operation in the open land area.”

https://www.nation.lk/2009/02/22/militarym.htm

The Nation Newspaper, 25 Jan 2009

“The 1st Gemunu Regiment under Lt. Col. Ajantha Wijesuriya and the Alpha Team under Capt. Wickrema erected five bunkers in the direction of Jaffna to escape from LTTE mortar and artillery fire. The next challenge facing them was to erect a bridge to cross the estuary.”
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The Nation, 15 Mar 2009

“The 15 Light Infantry Regiment ( CLI) under Maj. Sujeewa Hettiarachchi, the 1 Gemunu Watch (GW) under Lt. Col. Ajantha Wijesekara and 18 GW under Lt. Col. Rienzy Fernando, were in the thick of the battle.”

85 http://www.army.lk/news/10th-contingent-bound-lebanon-serve-unifil-leaves
86 The Nation Newspaper, 18 Jan 2009

“Amidst heavy fighting, Lt. Col. Chandana Somaweera commanded Ninth Gajaba and Maj. Dinesh Udagama led Third Gajaba entered the town from several sides situated east of Kilkinocchi, Ramanadhanpuram which is spread over an area of about seven kilometers. The Ninth Gajaba which advanced along the centre of the town recovered the body of an enemy cadre and a machine gun.”

87 The Nation Newspaper, Is Kilinochchi Worth Taking in a Hurry?

“Maj. Dinesh Udagama led Third Gajaba Regiment and Lt. Col. Sisira Herath led Ninth Wijeyaba Regiment from the 57-2 Brigade successfully mounted the Tiger defence line at two points on the southern fringes of the Killinoichchi [sic] Town.”

88 “Maj. Dinesh Udagama led Third Gajaba Regiment and Lt. Col. Sisira Herath led Ninth Wijeyaba Regiment from the 57-2 Brigade successfully mounted the Tiger defence line at two points on the southern fringes of the Killinochchi Town.”

89 The Nation Newspaper, 8 Feb 2009

“572 Brigade under Lt Col Senerath Bandara and 574 Brigade under Senka Wijesuriya were proceeding from the direction of Vishvamadu. They faced stiff resistance from the LTTE, but the 3rd Gajaba, 12th Sinha, 7th Infantry, 8th Infantry and 16 Singha Regiments of the two Brigades, were able to kill more than 80 terrorists during the confrontations.”

MOD Situation Reports, 13 Feb 2009

“Infantrymen of 16 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (16 SLLI) have uncovered 68 claymore mines along with many other mines from general area west of Visuamadu while conducting a search operation... Meanwhile, troops of 3 Gajaba Regiment (3GR) serving under 572 Brigade have uncovered Maruti car from general area Visuamadu.”

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Before that he was in charge of the Jaffna Police Division. “Jayasundara, during his tenure in Jaffna, had played a vital role in busting the sword-wielding ‘Avaa’ gang operating in the Jaffna Peninsula. Apart from this he has been appointed as the Chairman of the Ministers’ Coordination Division”.

http://www.itjpsl.com/reports/special-task-force