



Combatting Terrorism and the Rescue of a People: the Media Evidence

Introduction

1. This submission produces extensive film evidence that is relevant to the scale of the terrorist activities of the LTTE in its 30 years campaign against the Sri Lankan people. This evidence establishes the capability of the LTTE as a ruthless fighting force and the measures it took to kill, maim and destroy innocent people. The methods by which the LTTE controlled and used the Tamil people are revealed in many of the clips that also show how young people were abducted into their forces and indoctrinated to become killers. Some of the issues to which the media and film evidence go are set out below, but the evidence even records occasions when LTTE cadres detonate suicide bombs, and shoot their own people trying to escape from their captivity. The full archive of film material produced for this submission is listed in a spread-sheet annexed hereto, with summaries or transcripts in English of the Sinhala language sections.¹ The evidence reveals the scale of the task that the Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL) faced and its responsibility to bring an end to the activities of the LTTE.

Weapons

2. The LTTE were an advanced, well-equipped terrorist force.² Their equipment included: guns, including automatic weapons, missiles, ammunition, detonators,

¹ Annex 1

² ICLB_V_015; ICLB_V_137; ICLB_V_138; ICLB_V_131; ICLB_V_148; ICLB_V_154; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_251; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_089; ICLB_V_090; ICLB_V_256; ICLB_V_097; ICLB_V_261; ICLB_V_264; ICLB_V_060; ICLB_V_141; ICLB_V_199; ICLB_V_125; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_156; ICLB_V_070; ICLB_V_071; ICLB_V_148; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_253; ICLB_V_107; ICLB_V_176; ICLB_V_181; ICLB_V_184; ICLB_V_275; ICLB_V_081; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_176; ICLB_V_181; ICLB_V_184; ICLB_V_187; ICLB_V_015; ICLB_V_069; ICLB_V_152; ICLB_V_153; ICLB_V_071; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_192; ICLB_V_168; ICLB_V_251; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_090; ICLB_V_107; ICLB_V_256; ICLB_V_097; ICLB_V_261; ICLB_V_264; ICLB_V_054; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_179; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_253; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_275; ICLB_V_248; ICLB_V_062; ICLB_V_057; ICLB_V_139; ICLB_V_058; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_060; ICLB_V_176; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_090; ICLB_V_107; ICLB_V_261; ICLB_V_181; ICLB_V_184; ICLB_V_275; ICLB_V_264; ICLB_V_192; ² ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_251; ICLB_V_098; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_176; ICLB_V_181; ICLB_V_184; ICLB_V_187; ICLB_V_275; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_156; ICLB_V_070; ICLB_V_071; ICLB_V_148; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_253; ICLB_V_107; ICLB_V_176; ICLB_V_181; ICLB_V_184; ICLB_V_275; ICLB_V_081; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_176; ICLB_V_181; ICLB_V_184; ICLB_V_187; ICLB_V_015; ICLB_V_069; ICLB_V_152; ICLB_V_153; ICLB_V_071; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_192; ICLB_V_168; ICLB_V_251; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_090; ICLB_V_107; ICLB_V_256; ICLB_V_097; ICLB_V_261; ICLB_V_264; ICLB_V_054; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_179; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_253; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_275; ICLB_V_248; ICLB_V_062; ICLB_V_054; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_179; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_253; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_275; ICLB_V_248; ICLB_V_062; ICLB_V_057; ICLB_V_139; ICLB_V_058; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_060; ICLB_V_176; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_090; ICLB_V_107; ICLB_V_261; ICLB_V_181; ICLB_V_184; ICLB_V_275;



mortars, mines, cannons, grenades, bombs, including claymore bombs, explosives, including TNT, sniper weapons, RPGs, rockets, artillery vehicles, anti-aircraft weapons, RCL rifles, communication devices, tanks, aircrafts containing C4 explosives, boats containing explosives, fuel stores, anti-aircraft missile launchers, anti-tank weapons, bullet proof vehicles, helmets and bunkers. The LTTE would bury weapons and ammunition in an attempt to hide them from the SLAF. In some cases, the weapons owned by the LTTE were more sophisticated than those of the SLAF.³

3. The SLAF discovered facilities used by the LTTE to manufacture toxic substances and chemicals.⁴ The SLAF seized the main power plant that produced electricity for LTTE bomb-making plants, as well as a factory.⁵ The LTTE had factories to produce death traps and missiles, manufacture claymore bombs and fill bullets.⁶ One such factory containing many claymore bombs had high-powered generators with a special cooling facility enabling the generators to run non-stop. The LTTE would set explosive traps, which included some that were remote controlled.
4. The SLAF uncovered abandoned LTTE camps. In the PTK East area the main LTTE mission coordination centre was hidden amongst civilian homes. The SLAF found LTTE documents, which included town maps, diagrams of naval vessels, instructions on assembling bombs and evidence of LTTE cadres' fitness and weapons training.⁷

Sea Tigers

5. The Sea Tigers were a well-equipped naval force.⁸ The SLAF found concealed boat motors, motor-boat parts, mortars, bombs, life jackets, uniforms and jeeps used by the Sea Tigers. The Sea Tigers had boats that could even evade radar. The SLAF found LTTE factories manufacturing torpedoes used by the Sea Tigers. The Sea Tigers concealed boats within the NFZ at Mullaitivu.
6. In January 2009, the SLAF captured a Sea Tiger vessel hidden in the Murusamudai area, approximately 5km from the sea.⁹ It had bullet proof metal under the fibre-glass and the capacity to be equipped with radar instruments and long range heavy artillery. In April 2009, the SLAF captured a 37ft long Sea

ICLB_V_264; ICLB_V_192;² ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_251; ICLB_V_098; ICLB_V_085; ICLB_V_176; ICLB_V_181; ICLB_V_184; ICLB_V_187; ICLB_V_275; ICLB_V_061; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_098; ICLB_V_176; ICLB_V_248; ICLB_V_074; ICLB_V_134; ICLB_V_264; ICLB_V_273; ICLB_V_141; ICLB_V_156; ICLB_V_194; ICLB_V_093; ICLB_V_126; ICLB_V_264; ICLB_V_123; ICLB_V_248; ICLB_V_266; ICLB_V_168; ICLB_V_093; ICLB_V_098; ICLB_V_089; ICLB_V_074; ICLB_V_094; ICLB_V_096; ICLB_V_082; ICLB_V_086; ICLB_V_122; ICLB_V_125

³ ICLB_V_202; ICLB_V_203

⁴ ICLB_V_054

⁵ ICLB_V_248

⁶ ICLB_V_061; ICLB_V_064; ICLB_V_078; ICLB_V_106; ICLB_V_179

⁷ ICLB_V_087; ICLB_V_183; ICLB_V_133; ICLB_V_152

⁸ ICLB_V_197; ICLB_V_198; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_192; ICLB_V_196; ICLB_V_183; ICLB_V_061; ICLB_V_006; ICLB_V_007

⁹ ICLB_V_052; ICLB_V_052



Tiger boat, with a 200lb bomb in the front. The boat could be operated by remote control and was equipped as a suicide vessel, a particular form of attack at sea employed by the LTTE.¹⁰

7. Sea Tigers would undertake reconnaissance missions and would sometimes disguise themselves in SLAF military uniforms. These cadres would be armed and equipped with GPS and other navigational instruments.¹¹
8. The Sea Tigers operated suicide boats and would regularly launch suicide attacks.¹² In May 2009, the Sea Tigers launched a suicide attack against the front naval defence of the SLAF at Vellamullivaikkal.
9. The Sea Tigers attacked the navy whilst it was assisting civilians escaping from the LTTE.¹³ The Sea Tigers mounted attacks against the SLAF in March 2009 and April 2009. In March 2009, the SLAF repelled an attack by the Sea Tigers near Mullathivu, Chalai and Pudumathalan, including 4 suicide boats and 30 fighter boats.

Suicide Cadres

10. The LTTE launched suicide attacks against both the civilian population¹⁴ and against officials.¹⁵ The LTTE would send suicide cadres to mingle with civilians to prevent them from fleeing.
11. The SLAF found suicide kits and containers used to store cyanide capsules in abandoned camps.¹⁶ In May 2009, the SLAF found a camp used by the LTTE to train suicide cadres, disguised as a Sinhalese Language and Cultural Centre. The camp contained evidence of attacks in Colombo and the suburbs. The SLAF found: 10 suicide kits worn over the chest; 9 suicide kits worn over the waist; 10 unfinished suicide kits buried by the LTTE; and a helmet and female underwear adapted with explosives.¹⁷ The LTTE also found letters used to communicate with suicide bombers operating in the south.
12. The LTTE also launched suicide attacks against the SLAF. The Black Tigers, a suicide group within the LTTE, targeted the SLAF.¹⁸ The LTTE used suicide bombs to prevent the SLAF from entering the NFZ at Mullivaikal.¹⁹
13. The LTTE employed the tactic of suicide attacks throughout the conflict. Suicide attacks included the killing of Prime Minister Rajiv Ghandi and

¹⁰ ICLB_V_266

¹¹ ICLB_V_059

¹² ICLB_V_277; ICLB_V_198; ICLB_V_183; ICLB_V_083; ICLB_V_190; ICLB_V_190

¹³ ICLB_V_083; ICLB_V_102; ICLB_V_121; ICLB_V_124; ICLB_V_120; ICLB_V_171;

ICLB_V_165; ICLB_V_083

¹⁴ ICLB_V_020; ICLB_V_039; ICLB_V_209; ICLB_V_159; ICLB_V_073; ICLB_V_158; ICLB_V_053; ICLB_V_042; ICLB_V_053

¹⁵ ICLB_V_317

¹⁶ ICLB_V_067; ICLB_V_076; ICLB_V_191; ICLB_V_061

¹⁷ ICLB_V_175; ICLB_V_177

¹⁸ ICLB_V_261; ICLB_V_315

¹⁹ ICLB_V_274



President Ranasinghe Premadasa and the wounding of President Chandrika Kumaratunga.²⁰

LTTE Child Soldiers

14. The LTTE conscripted child soldiers in Eelam IV.²¹ The LTTE forced anyone between the ages of 13 and 35 to join them, including young girls. The LTTE also abducted children and parents would prevent their children from attending school due to fears of abduction.
15. The LTTE use of child soldiers was confirmed by civilians fleeing the NFZ, including children,²² and doctors operating in the NFZ.²³ A specific example being the abduction of children from Valayanmadam Church by the LTTE cadres for forcible recruitment into the LTTE forces in Mullaivaikkal.
16. After the conflict, former child soldiers reported that they were trained in gruelling circumstances.²⁴ Sometimes children as young as 13 and 14 would be given only 10 days training. Children were given cyanide capsules, were radicalised and taught to believe in martyrdom as a way of influencing their freedom of thought.²⁵

Attacks on Civilians

17. The LTTE attacked civilians and civilian settlements within NFZs.²⁶ The LTTE also attacked civilians fleeing from the NFZs.²⁷ Civilians, including children²⁸ below the age of 10, were killed and injured in attacks. Such attacks were confirmed by civilians escaping from the NFZ and doctors working in the NFZs.²⁹ Civilians confirmed that the LTTE killed members of their family.³⁰ Sometimes civilians would fight back against LTTE attacks. According to an eyewitness, the LTTE hit the civilians with sticks and if the civilians fought back, the LTTE threatened to bomb them.
18. In February 2009, 400 civilians were injured by LTTE attacks in the Mullaitivu. On 10th February 2009, the LTTE shot at civilians fleeing to the Vishwamadu area, killing ten people and attacked civilians fleeing to Sandarampuram, killing 19 civilians and injuring 69.³¹

²⁰ ICLB_V_315

²¹ ICLB_V_272; ICLB_V_217; ICLB_V_036; ICLB_V_128; ICLB_V_012; ICLB_V_016; ICLB_V_042; ICLB_V_193; ICLB_V_206; ICLB_V_104; ICLB_V_313

²² ICLB_V_195

²³ ICLB_V_216; ICLB_V_206; ICLB_V_213

²⁴ ICLB_V_218; ICLB_V_216

²⁵ ICLB_V_218; ICLB_V_210

²⁶ ICLB_V_008; ICLB_V_009; ICLB_V_128; ICLB_V_200; ICLB_V_314

²⁷ ICLB_V_038; ICLB_V_042; ICLB_V_044; ICLB_V_073; ICLB_V_151; ICLB_V_182; ICLB_V_189; ICLB_V_193; ICLB_V_204; ICLB_V_216; ICLB_V_158; ICLB_V_210;

²⁸ ICLB_V_038; ICLB_V_073; ICLB_V_099; ICLB_V_055; ICLB_V_055;

²⁹ ICLB_V_010; ICLB_V_026; ICLB_V_216

³⁰ ICLB_V_019; ICLB_V_020; ICLB_V_160

³¹ ICLB_V_056; ICLB_V_053; ICLB_V_055.



19. In March 2009, the LTTE laid booby-traps to prevent civilians from escaping from the LTTE at Pudumathalan and crossing into Government controlled areas.³² In March 2009, the LTTE fired shots and used mortar attacks against civilians who were attempting to escape through the Nandikadal lagoon into government controlled areas.³³ In March 2009, eyewitnesses witnessed attacks by the LTTE on a church and the civilian population in Valayanmadam.³⁴
20. Again, in April 2009 there is film evidence recording that civilians were shot dead by the LTTE whilst escaping.³⁵ A 42 year old man and his four year old son were killed when LTTE cadres opened fire on civilians who were trying to escape the Vanni. Children were killed and a woman was shot and burnt by the LTTE. In April 2009, the LTTE used a tank-like weapon to attack civilians leaving the lagoon. In the Valaimadam area, the LTTE set fire to huts where civilians had been sheltered. The civilians were led away at gunpoint and the LTTE fired shots at anyone who chose to stay.³⁶ On 11th April 2009, close to Valaimadam, the LTTE fired heavy artillery on civilians who were trying to cross into Government controlled areas.
21. On 20 April 2009, seven civilians were killed and 200 injured in three suicide attacks carried out by the LTTE on civilians³⁷ and four civilians were killed by LTTE fire in Pudumathalan whilst trying to cross into a Government controlled area.³⁸ On 21 April 2009, around 50,000 civilians arrived at the frontline from the NFZ despite being shot at by the LTTE.³⁹ On 22 April 2009, it was reported that more than 10,000 civilians fled to Thevetti, Pudumathalan North, from the NFZ to escape torture from the LTTE.⁴⁰ Drone images show that the LTTE shooting at the Tamil civilians.⁴¹ On 22nd April 2009, the LTTE targeted civilians fleeing from the Nandikadal area with suicide bombings and beatings.⁴²
22. In May 2009, the LTTE blew up a bus transporting civilians from a hospital in Mullaivaikkal.⁴³ Also in May 2009 another instance of the LTTE killing its own people is witnessed on camera and reveals the LTTE fired on civilians crossing the lagoon at Nanthikadal.⁴⁴

Terrorism

³² ICLB_V_257

³³ ICLB_V_101

³⁴ ICLB_V_213 (Film 1)

³⁵ ICLB_V_160; ICLB_V_267; ICLB_V_269; ICLB_V_164; ICLB_V_151; ICLB_V_272;

ICLB_V_272

³⁶ ICLB_V_270

³⁷ ICLB_V_158

³⁸ ICLB_V_267

³⁹ ICLB_V_161

⁴⁰ ICLB_V_163

⁴¹ ICLB_V_163

⁴² ICLB_V_164

⁴³ ICLB_V_213

⁴⁴ ICLB_V_182.



23. In February 2009, the SLAF shot down an LTTE aircraft carrying 230 kilograms of C4 explosives, which according to intelligence reports was being transported to target Colombo and the suburbs.⁴⁵ The French police apprehended six LTTE cadres who were linked to the murder of a police officer in France.⁴⁶
24. In March 2009 the SSP recovered 280 kg C4 explosives, 28 grenade launchers of 40 mm, 30 grenades of type 82 fire detonators, 2 remote controls components of T56 weapons, 693 rounds of T56 ammunition, 23 magazines, wires and telephones from an underground cell in a house in Colombo.⁴⁷
25. In May 2009, the SLAF found an LTTE intelligence centre containing dossiers on ministers, politicians, army officials and government officials.⁴⁸ These included their photographs, addresses, phone numbers and intelligence on their methods of travel. The LTTE maintained a separate file on President Rajapaksa, from when he was the opposition leader. The LTTE also maintained records of the politicians killed in attacks.⁴⁹
26. The LTTE bombed the Central Bank in Colombo, in a terrorist attack that killed and injured many civilians.⁵⁰

Arbitrary Detention/Hostage Taking/Human Shields

27. The LTTE detained and abused civilians in the NFZs.⁵¹ The LTTE deemed civilians trying to leave the area held by them as traitors. The LTTE prevented civilians from escaping by firing on them, beating them, forcing them to work, taking their money, attacking them with tanks, abducting their children, firing on them with mortars, by bombing them and destroying them with suicide attacks. The President of Sri Lanka called upon the LTTE to release the civilians.⁵²
28. The LTTE concealed weapons amongst the civilian population, including TNT explosives, anti-personnel mines and RPGs.⁵³ In March 2009, the LTTE launched mortar and artillery fire at the SLAF from under the cover of civilians including within the NFZ.⁵⁴
29. The civilians in the NFZ were used by the LTTE as human shields and cadres would dress as civilians.⁵⁵ Senior members of the LTTE, including

⁴⁵ ICLB_V_248

⁴⁶ ICLB_V_249

⁴⁷ ICLB_V_252

⁴⁸ ICLB_V_178

⁴⁹ ICLB_V_178

⁵⁰ ICLB_V_312

⁵¹ ICLB_V_063; ICLB_V_183; ICLB_V_177; ICLB_V_003; ICLB_V_247; ICLB_V_252;

ICLB_V_263; ICLB_V_015; ICLB_V_016; ICLB_V_022; ICLB_V_038; ICLB_V_042;

ICLB_V_073; ICLB_V_128; ICLB_V_189; ICLB_V_101; ICLB_V_042; ICLB_V_038;

ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_151; ICLB_V_016; ICLB_V_042; ICLB_V_050; ICLB_V_193;

ICLB_V_200; ICLB_V_015; ICLB_V_101; ICLB_V_210; ICLB_V_039; ICLB_V_042

⁵² ICLB_V_030

⁵³ ICLB_V_062

⁵⁴ ICLB_V_260; ICLB_V_003

⁵⁵ ICLB_V_037; ICLB_V_103; ICLB_V_001; ICLB_V_314



Prabhakaran, Maduwadani and Charles Anthony hid amongst the civilians to prevent their capture.⁵⁶

Torture, Cruel and Inhuman Treatment of Civilians and Forced Labour

30. Civilians received in the welfare centres gave accounts of how they were mistreated by the LTTE, including the torture of hostages.⁵⁷ Civilians confirmed that hostages were being tortured. The LTTE starved civilians in the NFZs.⁵⁸ Men were reportedly given 2kg of rice to sustain them for a month. Civilians complained that the LTTE stole aid, including food and medical supplies provided to them by the Government.⁵⁹ Sometimes the LTTE would resell the food for profit and used it to build bunkers.⁶⁰ The LTTE also blocked government and WFP food deliveries.⁶¹ Civilians complained that some NGO's were helping the LTTE by providing them with supplies and assistance.⁶²
31. On occasion civilians would revolt against the LTTE.⁶³ The LTTE constructed detention centres, some of which were made of barbed wire, or equipped with cages and underground torture chambers.⁶⁴ One such facility was found in PTK south. Many of the civilians became sick during the last stages of the NFZ in Vanni due to continuing rain and bad weather.⁶⁵ The LTTE obstructed the ICRC in evacuating civilians.⁶⁶
32. The LTTE subjected civilians to forced labour.⁶⁷ This included forcing civilians to construct earth bunds and build bunkers. The LTTE forcibly conscripted civilians aged 13 to 35 to join as cadres and would train them to participate in the fighting. Civilians who objected to being forcibly conscripted by the LTTE were punished.

Rescue of Civilians from the LTTE/NFZs

33. Civilians fled from the NFZ and sought protection from the army.⁶⁸ The SLAF helped civilians escape to government controlled areas by capturing key locations, bridges and roads.⁶⁹

⁵⁶ ICLB_V_150

⁵⁷ ICLB_V_012; ICLB_V_016; ICLB_V_019; ICLB_V_021; ICLB_V_042; ICLB_V_200; ICLB_V_015; ICLB_V_182; ICLB_V_063

⁵⁸ ICLB_V_200; ICLB_V_114; ICLB_V_038; ICLB_V_021; ICLB_V_043; ICLB_V_111; ICLB_V_252; ICLB_V_255

⁵⁹ ICLB_V_103; ICLB_V_118; ICLB_V_037; ICLB_V_043

⁶⁰ ICLB_V_255

⁶¹ ICLB_V_249; ICLB_V_252;

⁶² ICLB_V_016; ICLB_V_247

⁶³ ICLB_V_011; ICLB_V_135; ICLB_V_255

⁶⁴ ICLB_V_063; ICLB_V_064; ICLB_V_183; ICLB_V_067; ICLB_V_063; ICLB_V_184; ICLB_V_067.

⁶⁵ ICLB_V_044; ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_151

⁶⁶ ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_204

⁶⁷ ICLB_V_038; ICLB_V_001; ICLB_V_036; ICLB_V_206; ICLB_V_036; ICLB_V_213; ICLB_V_152; ICLB_V_104; ICLB_V_036

⁶⁸ ICLB_V_015; ICLB_V_034; ICLB_V_017; ICLB_V_018; ICLB_V_129; ICLB_V_017; ICLB_V_036; ICLB_V_038; ICLB_V_257; ICLB_V_265; ICLB_V_101; ICLB_V_104; ICLB_V_267; ICLB_V_017; ICLB_V_128; ICLB_V_252; ICLB_V_043; ICLB_V_014;



34. The humanitarian mission from January 2009 enabled civilians to escape or be rescued from the LTTE and go to freedom.⁷⁰ By April 2009, heavy rain caused the levels in the lagoon to rise, further endangering the lives of the civilians trapped in the NFZ.⁷¹ The SLAF about 100m away from the civilians, constructed pathways to exits from the lagoon using inflated tubes and small boats to which civilians were guided by announcements and music from loudspeakers.⁷²
35. By 2nd April over 62000 civilians had fled from LTTE to Government-controlled areas.⁷³ Thousands of civilians continued to flee.⁷⁴ By destroying an earth bund the SLAF caused civilians to flee from the Nandikadal area.⁷⁵ In the latter stages of the conflict, thousands more civilians crossed the Nandikadal lagoon.⁷⁶ On 2 May 2009, the Military assisted civilians that were fleeing from the LTTE cadres via the sea.⁷⁷ On 8th May 2009, 499 civilians escaped from the NFZ.⁷⁸ On 15th May troops rescued 10,000 civilians in Waddukaval.⁷⁹ On 17th May 2009, approximately 4,568 civilians sought protection from the SLAF.⁸⁰

Hospitals

36. The LTTE used civilian hospitals in NFZs, including Puthumatalan, to treat injured cadres, sometimes excluding sick civilians.⁸¹ In March 2009, the LTTE occupied PTK hospital, using it as a base from which to launch attacks against the SLAF.⁸² The LTTE prevented injured civilians from receiving treatment and left injured civilians by the roadside.⁸³ After the conflict, the Tamil civilian population gave false accounts of SLAF attacks on hospitals and inflated casualty figures.⁸⁴ Doctors operating in the NFZ were pressured by the LTTE to give false accounts of the numbers of injured civilians.⁸⁵

ICLB_V_043; ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_033; ICLB_V_039; ICLB_V_044; ICLB_V_033;
ICLB_V_039; ICLB_V_032; ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_151; ICLB_V_149; ICLB_V_033;
ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_039; ICLB_V_040; ICLB_V_038

⁶⁹ ICLB_V_262; ICLB_V_040; ICLB_V_038; ICLB_V_040

⁷⁰ ICLB_V_022; ICLB_V_022; ICLB_V_050; ICLB_V_073; ICLB_V_055; ICLB_V_259;

ICLB_V_112; ICLB_V_101; ICLB_V_262; ICLB_V_269; ICLB_V_271; ICLB_V_268;

ICLB_V_267; ICLB_V_269; ICLB_V_270; ICLB_V_159

⁷¹ ICLB_V_044; ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_151; ICLB_V_151;

⁷² ICLB_V_146; ICLB_V_149; ICLB_V_038; ICLB_V_146; ICLB_V_151

⁷³ ICLB_V_129

⁷⁴ ICLB_V_146; ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_151; ICLB_V_163; ICLB_V_272; ICLB_V_185

⁷⁵ ICLB_V_164

⁷⁶ ICLB_V_195; ICLB_V_042; ICLB_V_032; ICLB_V_151; ICLB_V_027

⁷⁷ ICLB_V_278

⁷⁸ ICLB_V_189

⁷⁹ ICLB_V_002

⁸⁰ ICLB_V_280

⁸¹ ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_010; ICLB_V_043; ICLB_V_045; ICLB_V_043

⁸² ICLB_V_045

⁸³ ICLB_V_004 ; ICLB_V_004

⁸⁴ ICLB_V_206; ICLB_V_215

⁸⁵ ICLB_V_217



Humanitarian Operation

37. After being received by the SLAF, civilians were relocated to welfare camps.⁸⁶ Civilians were housed in tents and permanent housing.⁸⁷ The SLAF built administration buildings to process fleeing civilians at the start of the operation.⁸⁸ By March 2009, the SLAF were operating welfare centres 24 hours a day.⁸⁹ The SLAF handed out food to IDPs.⁹⁰ The GOSL took steps to provide the IDPs with, electricity, medical facilities and sanitary facilities.⁹¹ The SLAF assisted in reuniting families separated while fleeing from the LTTE.⁹² Some welfare camps provided telephone facilities and established centres for people visiting relatives in the camps.⁹³ The GOSL provided children with education⁹⁴ and adults were given vocational training.⁹⁵ Welfare camps were visited by representatives of the Catholic Church in Sri Lanka,⁹⁶ the High Commissioner of the UK in Sri Lanka⁹⁷ and the Indian High Commissioner.⁹⁸
38. In March 2009, approximately 43,000 civilians were settled in 14 welfare camps established in Vavuniya.⁹⁹ In April 2009 large numbers of civilians fled from the LTTE and the Government prepared itself to support them.¹⁰⁰ Civilians were settled in welfare camps in Settikuluma¹⁰¹ and over 100,000 families were settled in Manik farm.¹⁰²
39. The SLAF provided medical attention and first aid to injured civilians and assisted the ICRC.¹⁰³ Medical units travelled with the SLAF.¹⁰⁴ Civilians received emergency treatment in medical camps and were then transferred to Pulmudai¹⁰⁵, Anuradhapura,¹⁰⁶ Padaviya hospital,¹⁰⁷ Trincomalee hospital,¹⁰⁸

⁸⁶ ICLB_V_018; ICLB_V_022; ICLB_V_053; ICLB_V_135; ICLB_V_200; ICLB_V_105; ICLB_V_103; ICLB_V_265; ICLB_V_026; ICLB_V_016; ICLB_V_119; ICLB_V_250

⁸⁷ ICLB_V_031; ICLB_V_033; ICLB_V_172; ICLB_V_041; ICLB_V_172

⁸⁸ ICLB_V_050

⁸⁹ ICLB_V_253; ICLB_V_115

⁹⁰ ICLB_V_022; ICLB_V_023; ICLB_V_025; ICLB_V_033; ICLB_V_036; ICLB_V_037; ICLB_V_287; ICLB_V_038; ICLB_V_053; ICLB_V_065; ICLB_V_072; ICLB_V_135; ICLB_V_182; ICLB_V_195; ICLB_V_200; ICLB_V_288; ICLB_V_162; ICLB_V_265

⁹¹ ICLB_V_185; ICLB_V_170; ICLB_V_289; ICLB_V_290; ICLB_V_291; ICLB_V_292; ICLB_V_293; ICLB_V_296; ICLB_V_161; ICLB_V_160;

⁹² ICLB_V_129.

⁹³ ICLB_V_129.

⁹⁴ ICLB_V_145; ICLB_V_105

⁹⁵ ICLB_V_105

⁹⁶ ICLB_V_095

⁹⁷ ICLB_V_095

⁹⁸ ICLB_V_116

⁹⁹ ICLB_V_105

¹⁰⁰ ICLB_V_135; ICLB_V_268

¹⁰¹ ICLB_V_172

¹⁰² ICLB_V_172

¹⁰³ ICLB_V_004; ICLB_V_017; ICLB_V_021; ICLB_V_023; ICLB_V_030; ICLB_V_031; ICLB_V_055; ICLB_V_065; ICLB_V_073; ICLB_V_135; ICLB_V_188; ICLB_V_193; ICLB_V_101; ICLB_V_111; ICLB_V_055; ICLB_V_111; ICLB_V_017; ICLB_V_210; ICLB_V_017; ICLB_V_056; ICLB_V_278; ICLB_V_065

¹⁰⁴ ICLB_V_188

¹⁰⁵ ICLB_V_189; ICLB_V_147

¹⁰⁶ ICLB_V_021



Kanthale,¹⁰⁹ Thambalagamuwa¹¹⁰ and Polonnaruwa.¹¹¹ The navy transferred civilians from the NFZ to receive emergency treatment in hospitals¹¹²

40. The President recognised that the GOSL also had an obligation to assist the civilian population remaining in the NFZ and continued to send supplies to LTTE controlled areas.¹¹³ The GOSL regularly sent consignments of food and medicine to the region.¹¹⁴ The WFP assisted in sending over 3,000 metric tonnes of food to civilians between February and April 2009, including rice, milk powder, sugar, soya and oil.¹¹⁵ The WFP said that the government were very supportive in this operation.¹¹⁶ In March 2009, goods were being transported by the A9 to Jaffna.¹¹⁷ By April 2009, goods were being sent to the region by sea,¹¹⁸ under the ICRC flag,¹¹⁹ and by air.¹²⁰ Donations of food, clothes, medicine and supplies were also made by the general public¹²¹ and companies such as Ericsson.¹²²

Conclusion

41. The evidence produced through the media and film footage does not record all the LTTE daily activities but reveals the lengths to which it was prepared to go to achieve its aim of domination of the Tamil people. The media footage demonstrates that the GOSL was not involved in an attack on a civilian population but acted to rescue and liberate a people held under the control of a ruthless and destructive organisation.

Steven Kay Q.C.

28 October 2014

¹⁰⁷ ICLB_V_021

¹⁰⁸ ICLB_V_056

¹⁰⁹ ICLB_V_056

¹¹⁰ ICLB_V_056

¹¹¹ ICLB_V_056

¹¹² ICLB_V_114; ICLB_V_147; ICLB_V_193; ICLB_V_278; ICLB_V_252; ICLB_V_111;

ICLB_V_021; ICLB_V_150; ICLB_V_151; ICLB_V_189; ICLB_V_114; ICLB_V_056;

ICLB_V_066; ICLB_V_151

¹¹³ ICLB_V_118

¹¹⁴ ICLB_V_072; ICLB_V_145; ICLB_V_110

¹¹⁵ ICLB_V_180

¹¹⁶ ICLB_V_180

¹¹⁷ ICLB_V_117

¹¹⁸ ICLB_V_127

¹¹⁹ ICLB_V_127

¹²⁰ ICLB_V_167

¹²¹ ICLB_V_166

¹²² ICLB_V_174