

Api Wenuwen Api

Medical attention at Pudumatalan battlefield

Pudumatalan saw some of the bloodiest fighting of the war. The LTTE, meanwhile, was holding civilians as hostages, and shooting them when they tried to flee. Men, women and children therefore braved the perilous journey at night. Some never made it. Others, wounded and exhausted, staggered into the Government lines. We will never know the terrors of the night journey, nor the exact words that may have been spoken between the civilians and the soldiers when they first met. What these pictures have fortunately captured, however, is the basic humanity of one such scene, and the tenderness and courtesy with which the civilians were greeted.



The armed forces were the doctors and nurses to civilians injured by LTTE violence.



LTTE did not spare women or children. An infant injured in LTTE gunfire treated by service personnel.



An army medic attends to a leg injury of a civilian.



A wounded civilian helped by another civilian who fled the LTTE.