

19 LTTE killed, 8 wounded in fighting at Wannu and North

Military reports received claimed that at least 19 LTTE terrorists killed and 8 others injured in fighting at Wannu and North yesterday (March 24). Meanwhile, according to reports troops have also recovered 50 anti-personnel mines during search operations conducted on Monday.

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In the Jaffna front at Nagarkovil troops recovered 30 AP mines following a clearing operation in the area. Meanwhile, a terrorist was reported killed in a SLA sniper attack ahead of LTTE defences in Nagarkovil, security sources said.

In the Vavuniya front intermittent clashes were reported between troops and LTTE in general areas at Karampaikulama, Ramanthankulama and Madhu. 11 terrorists were killed and 3 were reported wounded, during the confrontations. Meanwhile, 7 SLA soldiers were also wounded in the clashes erupted ahead of LTTE defences, security sources said. According to reports, 3 soldiers sustained injuries in an AP mine explosion in general area Ramanathankulama at 12.45p.m. Troops also overran an LTTE bunker defence in general area Madhu, and recovered following items in subsequent search operation conducted.

- a. 01 x I-com radio set
- b. 1000 x T-56 ammunitions
- c. Some civil cloths and dry ration pkts

According to security sources, troops have removed 20 AP mines laid by LTTE in general area Thatchanamarutham.

At the Mannar front, 2 terrorists were reported killed in a SLA sniper attack in separate incidents at general area Kattankulama. In extensive clearing operations conducted in general area Sirikulama, troops found a decomposed LTTE body along with a cyanide capsule and a dog-tag, security sources said.

In general area Mantota, troops recovered 2 hand grenades, 1 60mm mortar bomb and 3 AP mines, sources said. An LTTE terrorist was killed in a SLA sniper attack in the same area yesterday, while 4 others were also reported killed during confrontation with troops, security sources said.

Meanwhile, a soldier has laid his life following a confrontation with LTTE at general area Ittikadal at around 11.20a.m. In general area Parayakulama, troops recovered a 6kg weighing claymore mine while engaged in a search operation at around 2p.m.

In the Welioya front at Janakapura 2 soldiers were reported wounded in an LTTE trapped mine explosion, at around 11.15a.m. Meanwhile, 5 terrorists were confirmed wounded when troops stepped-up an offensive advance into LTTE territory in general area North of Kiriibbanwewa. Troops also recovered a radio communication set and 2 T-56 assault rifles following subsequent search operations conducted in the area.

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