

EU 25-01-2009

Dear Fellow Sri Lankans,

I am writing this email on behalf of Brigadier Shavendra Silva.

As there has been some confusion, among Sri Lankans in the Netherlands, about the exact status of Brigadier Silva and the 58<sup>th</sup> Division, herewith a small note to all Sri Lankans living abroad.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2009 Mullaittivu, a strong hold of the Ltte was totally captured. Also a part of Vishwamadu has been recovered.

This area has been a strong hold of Ltte since inception of the war in Sri Lanka.

In the early hours of the operations around Mullaittivu, the LTTE has blown the tank of Kalmadu to flood the towns and drown the soldiers. Fortunately all soldiers have found safety before the flooding reached them. Not one single soldier of the 58<sup>th</sup> division was killed during this action.

Blowing up of the tank has unfortunately caused flooding of several towns. The town Dharmapurum was flooded up to 9 feet.

Brigadier Silva was surprised to learn about rumours claiming that many solders have been killed and that the 58<sup>th</sup> division had been captured. I would like to reemphasize that this rumour is very untrue. It was probably spread to demoralise people believing that this war will soon be over.

Via this email I wish to inform you all that both his troops and Brigadier Shavendra Silva himself, are well.

Brigadier Silva asked me to thank you all for your kind concern and your moral support.

Best regards to all,

Sanjika Hengst Mendis

on behalf of Brigadier Shavendra Silva,