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Army Commander briefs US Ambassador

US Ambassador Robert O. Blake last morning met Commander of the Army Lt. Gen. Sarath Fonseka at the Army Headquarters and received an update on the status quo, related to the near completion of military offensives in the deep north and east of Puthukkudiyiruppu in the Vanni.

Lt. Gen. Fonseka, giving a brief outline of the latest military achievements, loss of so many LTTE terrorist leaders in offensives, the situation inside the No Fire Zone (NFZ) and probably future scenarios told the visiting diplomat that the remaining exodus of trapped civilians could be expected at any moment in view of the prevailing ground realities in the NFZ.



Army Commander Lt. Gen. Sarath Fonseka meeting US Ambassador Robert O. Blake at the Army Headquarters last morning.

A considerable number of middle-rung Tiger leaders are dead and their organisation virtually paralysed, unable to sustain the military onslaught any longer, the Ambassador was told.

The Army Commander further opined that Tiger supremo, Prabhakaran, despite the loss of so many of his chieftans, might still be hiding, either inside the NFZ or in an underground hideout. He also told the visiting diplomat that the troops are well-prepared to receive more civilians into the cleared areas.

The diplomat was accompanied by the Defence Attache at the US Embassy.

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