

36 rebels killed in abortive attack. (1995, August 27). *Sunday observer*.

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By Panduka Senanayake

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Thirty six LTTE rebels were killed by the Police Special Task Force (STF) during an abortive attack by the Tigers on the Police Commando detachment at Ambalanthurai, west of Batticaloa on Friday night. More than 400 Tiger rebels are believed to have been involved in the attack, the biggest in recent weeks.

Six STF personnel including an Inspector were also killed and 11 more including a civilian cook wounded during the fighting

which went on from about 11.45 p.m. till 2 a.m. yesterday, a senior STF officer told the *'Sunday Observer'*. Twenty four bodies of the attackers were recovered along with 25 automatic rifles, heavy and light machine guns, a large stock of mortar rounds, communication equipment, over 1000 rounds of ammunition, Bangalore torpedoes and other items the officer said.

"Twelve more bodies have been dragged into the jungles but we believe there to be about 20 to 30 more rebel casualties," said the officer adding that the rebels fought a rearguard action to delay the STF from chasing them following an order that the commandos were to be prevented from recovering more bodies.

He said that the STF personnel giving chase were engaging the Tigers

at the time of going to press.

The rebel attack was launched around 11.45 p.m. on the detachment situated about 10 miles west of Batticaloa bordering the Unnichchi jungles said the officer adding that an Inspector, a Constable and two reservists were killed in the camp during the initial stages when rebels pounded it with 81 mm and 60 mm mortars and rifle grenades.