

Hundred soldiers feared killed in surprise attack by Tigers

Fighting flares in Pooneryn

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ABOUT 100 soldiers were feared killed or wounded in a massive Tamil Tiger attack on the Pooneryn army camp on the West of Jaffna lagoon early this morning.

"We have heard that nearly 100 troops had been wounded or killed. But, nothing could be confirmed" a military official told *The Observer*.

He added that fierce fighting was raging between the troops of all three services and the Tigers.

"But we are unable to say how many Tigers were killed or wounded.

The Tigers had waded through the lagoon around 2

a.m. and mounted the attack, according to sources in the North.

Over 500 Tigers had taken part in this attack, sources added.

During the recently concluded 'Yal Devi' operation troops stationed at Pooneryn helped to corner the attacking Tigers.

Tigers could not freely operate their money - earning boat service across the lagoon because of army presence at Pooneryn.

The military had a complex of camps at Pooneryn.