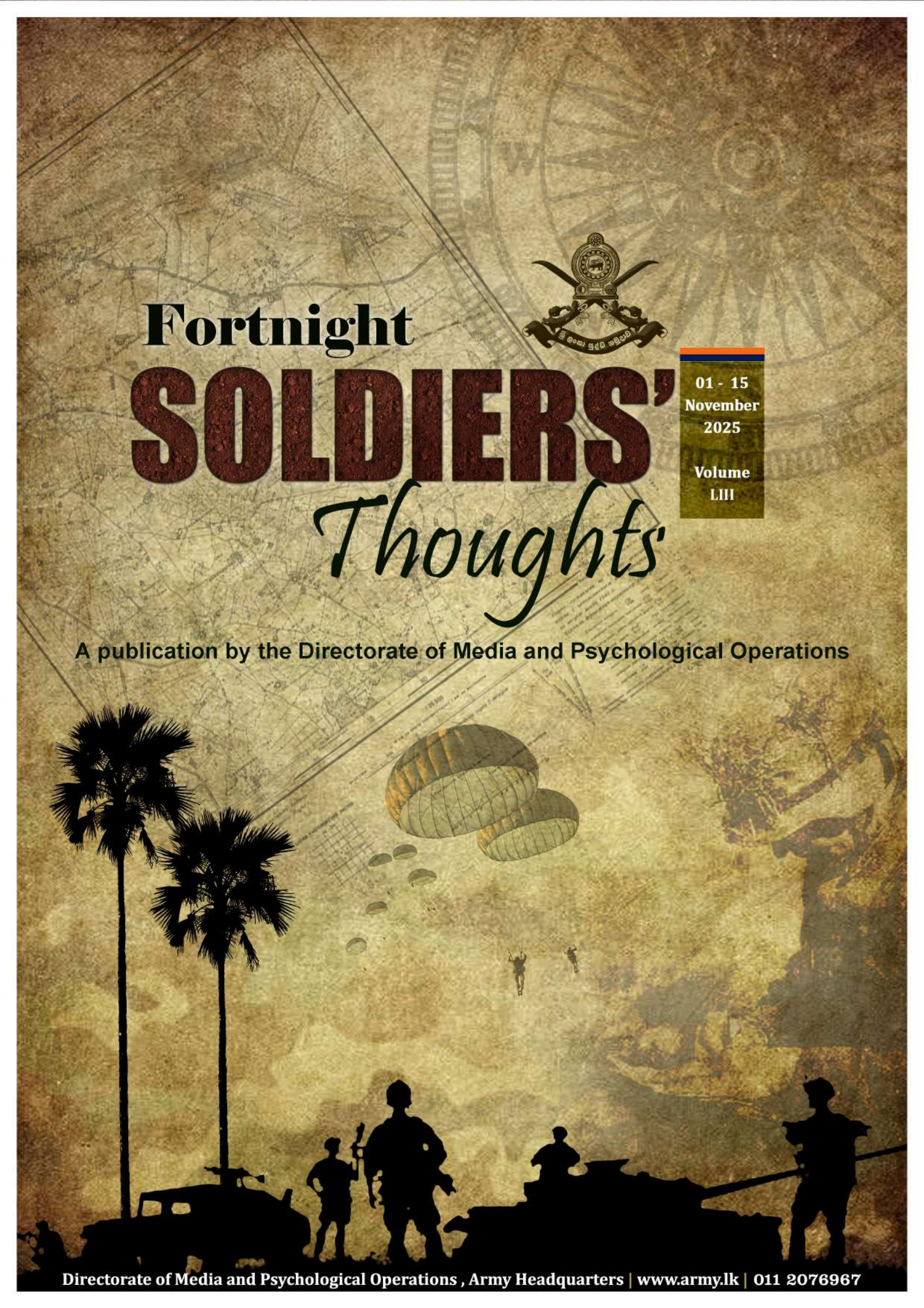


The background of the cover is a textured, aged map with various lines and labels. Overlaid on the map are several military-related images: a large, detailed map of a city or region in the upper left; a military crest with a lion and crossed swords in the upper right; a large, stylized illustration of a soldier in the middle right; and silhouettes of soldiers and a tank in the bottom foreground. The title 'Fortnight SOLDIERS' Thoughts' is prominently displayed in the center-left.

Fortnight **SOLDIERS'** *Thoughts*

01 - 15
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Volume
LIII

A publication by the Directorate of Media and Psychological Operations

Changing World

Like a leaf swept away by the swift current,
Life flows continuously.

The scent that is now, will be gone
Tomorrow will vanish in a moment.

Nothing remains permanent in this world.

A bloomed flower withers, a fertile tree decays,
Youth fades away, as old age tears and separates.
Every bond is ready for the moment of separation.
The change of everything is certain in this world.
We see this world like a dream created by the mind.
When an eye blinks, it disperses like a water bubble.
Holding on brings only sorrow, not happiness.
Let us gain the freedom of letting go,
which guides us to Nibbana

Corporal Esuru Madusanka WK
12 GW

Loneliness

Between the victory and defeat,
Between love and parting,
After a wearying swing,
The beloved heaven
where people find
rest is loneliness.

Corporal Pinsharika WAP
11 SLSC

Soldier's Life

The hero who left home
and was destined for the country,
Soaring through the difficult path,
through dust and sweat.
Even if life is given,
the smile will not vanish.
A soldier's life,
a gift that is never exchanged.

Corporal Shamala T
2(V) SLWC

To Neha with Love

The days when you played
mischievously inside the womb,
Kicking with your tiny hands and feet.
The first feeling I received through you,
That beautiful time of nine months spent.
Though fate was cruel,
Undying love is still in my heart,
for my beautiful dream
that did not get the chance
to see the light.

Lance Corporal Jayathunga KGPC
1 SLWC

33rd Anniversary of the Battalion

Within the eight shadows of the Lion Flag, where we were bound as one,
The story of our Great Heroes' valor is written in a book that brings back memories.

When one sees the might of the Lion, courage still fills the body,
Forever, we preserved the good name of the Lion's Family for the future.
Those great heroes who gave their lives are still within our hearts,
The steadfast great heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice
Even today, that heroic prowess is fearless for this land of Lanka,
Their name, which will never fade, is etched like stone on the bottom of our hearts.

The battlefield does not exist today,
When the flowers of peace bloom, it is your fragrance that the heart perceives.

Mother Lanka smiles, hiding her tears,
The blood smeared by our heroes is still there beneath the sand dunes.
The name of the eight-fold flag waves anew in the sky,
The heroes who sacrificed their lives are remembered in a breeze from the waving flag.

Remembering our heroes, on the path travelled over thirty-three years today,

I commemorate the anniversary by cultivating thoughts of love kindness and merit for all of you.

Sergeant Umesh Kumara RC
8 SLSR

The background of the entire cover is a textured, aged parchment or map. In the upper right, there is a faint, large compass rose with the letters 'W', 'S', and 'E' visible. In the lower half, there is a faint illustration of a military parachute drop, showing several parachutes descending and two soldiers on the ground. A central white rectangular box contains the title and publication information.

Fortnight
SOLDIER's
Thoughts

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