

**SOLDIERS.** As his patriotism is called upon, the soldier draws the short straw. He is lured by promises of mateship and adventure, or at least good pay and a decent professional education. **F**irst, though, the soldier must be trained to kill. This training is merciless. **N**ext our soldier has to pay for his education. He has to endure - and inflict - unspeakable horrors. **T**hen the soldier is returned to society. But the horrors of war are burnt into his mind. **W**ill he cope?

*A soldier, who served for only six weeks, had witnessed an atrocity with a civilian victim and had to listen to the sounds of a man slowly dying, after he shot him.*

*When he returned from his tour of duty he became a drunk and suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder and severe depression. After a few months he suicided.*

Horrors of war too much for soldier, SMH, 1 Nov 2007