APPEAL

TO THE

WORLD COMMUNITY

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

STICHTING TAMIL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE – NEDERLAND

FEBRUARY 1988

APPEAL

TO THE

WORLD COMMUNITY

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

STICHTING TAMIL CO ORDINATING COMMITTEE – NEDERLAND

FEBRUARY 1988.

APPEAL TO THE WORLD COMMUNITY.

CONTENTS

SECTION:1 (APPEAL FROM HEADS OF CHURCH ORGANISATIONS,HEADS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND OTHERS IN THE TAMIL AREAS OF SRI LANKA)

page.

1. Letter sent by the catholic clergy to the heads of the Indian and Sri Lankan governments. 1
2. Letter to the President of Sri Lanka from the heads of government departments. 2
3. Letter to the Prime Minister of India from the united religous organisations. 5
4. Letter to the Prime Minister of India from the students assembly. 7
5. Letter sent to the Prime Minister of India by refugees in Sri Lanka..... 10
6. Letter sent to the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches by the Bishop of Vaddukkoddai. 12
7. Letter from the Co-ordinating Committee of citizens' committees in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. 14
8. Appeal from the christian community. 16
9. Letter from the citizens committee Mullaitivu District..... 18
10. Letter from the Bishop of Jaffna. 22

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

SECTION:2 (STATEMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS)

1. Statements from the Amnesty International. 23
2. Letter address, by the "Australian Council for overseas Aid" to the High Commissioner of India. 24
3. "News Release" by the Australian minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade. 26
4. Letter to the Prime Minister of India by Miss.Karen Parker, Attorney at Law and the Non-Governmental representative at the United Nations..... 27
5. Statement by the Tamil Nadu students. 30
6. Letter of the World Council of Churches to the Indian and Sri Lankan Ambassadors to Geneva. 44
7. Telex by National Council of the Churches of Christ to the Indian and Sri-Lankan Ambassadors to Washington D.C. 46
8. Swedish group appeals on Eelam Tamil problem..... 49
9. A communique issued by the Asian Bureau Australia..... 50
10. International conference on Tamils. 51
11. International Alert-an appeal. 55

SECTION:3 (APPEALS IN PARLIAMENTS)

1. Motion in the British Parliament. 57
2. In the Australian Parliament. 58
3. In The Netherlands Parliament. 59

SECTION:4 (EYE WITNESS ACCOUNTS)

1. A sworn account by a medical doctor of the Jaffna Government Hospital..... 61
   The casualities of war in Jaffna between 10th and 16th October 1987..... 62
2. R.Narendran ph.D - Associate professor college of Agriculture-
   King Faisal University.... 63
3. Dr.M.S.Khan.Doctor - Indian National Red Cross..... 67

SECTION:5 (APPEAL FROM THE L.T.T.E.LEADER MR.V.PRABHAKARAN)

1. Letter dated 16th November 1987 to the Secretary General of United Nations.. 70
2. Letter dated 27th November 1987 to the Secretary General of United Nations.. 72

SECTION:6 (APPEAL FROM THE STICHTING TAMIL CO.ORDINATING COMMITTEE.NEDERLAND)

1. Letter sent to the Secretary General of the United Nations..... 74
2. Appeal from the S.T.C.C. Nederland..... 76

SECTION - I

Appeal from Heads of Government Departments, Heads of Church Organizations and others in the Tamil areas of Sri Lanka.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

TEXT OF THE LETTER SENT BY THE CATHOLIC CLERGY TO THE HEADS OF THE INDIAN AND SRI LANKAN GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN JAFFNA

TRUE COPY

Bishop House
P.O. Box no. 2
Jaffna.
15th October '87.

TO

(1) His Excellency,
The Prime Minister of India.
(2) His Excellency
The President of Sri Lanka.

Your Excellency,

We, the catholic clergy of Jaffna, are perturbed and dismayed at the recent turn of events. The last one week has seen the worst of all sufferings of our people. The indiscriminate shelling of the entire area has caused death of more than a 100 of innocent civilians in their own homeland and rendered an unprecedented number injured. The homes of people have been damaged, causing the inmates to flee in panic taking refuge in temples, churches and schools. Though civilians were instructed to take refuge in these specified places, these very same places have been the target of shelling and strafing from the helicopters killing and injuring some of them. The hospitals and private medical centres are now crowded with injured. A section of the teaching hospital in Jaffna has also been shelled. Supply of electricity has been cut-off for the last one week in the entire peninsula and the supply of drinking water has been distrupted. No fuel is available and the transport situation is stand-still, thus causing complete break-down of the essential food and medicine distribution. The sanitary condition in the city has deteriorated and there is imminent danger of spread of infectious diseases The complete ban on sea-faring has not only deprived the fisherman of their livelihood, but has also isolated the dwellers of the neighbouring tiny island from the rest of the peninsula. Even patients transported by boat from one of those islands for emergency treatment has been strafed and killed.

In thishour of desperation of our people, we humbly appeal to you as signatories of the Peace Accord to take immediate steps to stop the random killings, to assure the free flow of the essential supply and make all possible efforts to bring an immediate ceasefire.

Thanking You,

Yours Faithfully,

(1) Very Rev. Fr. S. I. Jebanesan,
Dean, Jaffna District.
(2) Rev. Fr. S. A. Michael Samy O.M.I.,
Administrator, Jaffna Diocese.

COPY OF LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA FROM HEADS OF GOVT.DEPARTMENTS IN JAFFNA.

****

SECRETARIAT
JAFFNA
17th OCTOBER, 1987.

His Excellency J.R.Jayawardane,
President
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA,
Colombo

Your Excellency,

The Senior Public Servants of Jaffna, being heads of Government Departments in Jaffna, wish to bring to your kind notice that the situation has tremendously deteriorated from Saturday the 10th October, 1987, the date on which the Indian Peace Keeping Force commenced its operations and activities with the blasting of the two independent news agencies "Elamursu" and "Murasoli", both registered news papers. It has resulted in the collapse of activities in Jaffna and normal life has totally failed. This led to our being debarred from performing our duties and responsibilities by the Tamil people, inspite of the fact that almost every citizen of Jaffna has been affected by these activities. We would like to state below some of the main subjects which are considered as absolutely urgent:

1. BOMBING AND SHELLING : There is an intermitant and continuous shelling from the permanent army camps of Fort and Navatkuli and the temporary positions established by IPKF in Kopai, Urumpirai, Marudanamadam, Manipay etc. Added to these there have been areal bombing for two or three days and firing from helicopters are a common feature.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

2.CIVILIAN DEATH AND INJURIES: As a result of these shelling and bombing and areal firing almost 200 innocent civilians are believed to have died and death in Jaffna hospital alone is around 76. In many incidntse people have carried out cremation at the respective positions due to non-availability of transport and close to proximity of the hospital.

3.REFUGEE CAMP: With the commencement of the operations three places were declared as appropriate places for refugees. Nallur Kandasamy Kovil, Jaffna Hindu College and Jaffna Hindu Ladies College were named as refugee camps for the total population of 350,000 people engulfed in the entire area. Those three places can only accommodate 2 to 3 per cent of the population referred to. The refugees who have taken shelter in these camps have sufferred death by areal bombing and artillary shelling. It appears that the IPKF is expecting the people of Jaffna to face death at their homes or go to camps to face death or live out of engulfed area. In regard to the third, it is impossible to move out because of the blockade and it is impossible to expect the people of Jaffna to find accommodation else where. There are many citizens who cannot do so unless state found these securities. Though not occupied several people have collected themselves in most of the churches and temples and their lives are in danger due to the shelling and bombing. Apart from that several people have suffered injuries inflected directly by the IPKF and even murders committed by the IPKF.

4. ELECTRICITY :The entire Jaffna District is deprived of electricity supply right from the second day of operation (11.10.87). Even though the Ceylon Electricity Board personnel can restore the supply they are unable to do so due to IPKF not permitting their movement to attend to the defects. The effect of non-availability of electricity to the society can well be imagined and need not be stated.

Cont...

5. WATER SUPPLY: Apart from the failure of the drinking water supply to the municipal area, the domestic water supply system too has failed.

6. FOOD SUPPLY: The food supply situation is very grave. The people are on the verge of starvation due to non- availability of essential food items. Even though rice is available and there is a possibility of the procurement of these items locally, supply cannot be maintained due to total blockade of transport facilities by the IPKF. As a result of the bombing and shelling the traders have been forced to close the shops and flee for security reasons. Flour is not available but if transport arrangements are available this too can be brought. If these are done there would be no necessasity to bring food from outside or even to air drop food parcels.

7. FUEL: There is an accute shortage of fuel and the situation can well be imagined. When there is no electricity supply even mobility is totally affected due to the fuel shortage.

8. DRUG SUPPLY: In view of the fact that heavy admissions took place in the hospitals in the Jaffna District, especially in the teaching hospital of Jaffna, the blood supply has almost failed and there is a possibility of death figure increasing for want of blood and other treatment materials. It may also be mentioned that there is a risk of the operation theatre failing due to the standby generator failing for want of fuel and oxygen cylinders being not available.

9. EDUCATION: The total education system in the area have come to a stand still and all the educational institutions from Jaffna University down to the primary schools remain closed. The biggest tragedy and grave injury inflected on education is tremendous and heavy damages have been caused to the buildings of the university of Jaffna due to the shelling and bombing. It is needless to say that the closures would have very considerable effect on the present younger generation.

10. CURFEW: Great difficulty is caused due to the continued curfew and information regarding time being not available to the public due to the T.V. and Radio not working due to electricity failure which has deprived the livelyhood of average citizen and the denial of the essential services to all of us.

11. HEALTH HAZARD: Scavenging and draining services have come to a standstill and the maintenance of sanitary conditions in the refugee camps have developed into a major problem for want of electricity and water supply. It is strongly feared that there would be an outbreak of epidemic diseases.

We, as responsible public servants, are therefore compelled to appeal to your excellency to intervine in this matter and enable us as public servants to perform our duties by the people of Jaffna. We would like to emphasise the fact that our failure can lead to several adverse effects for which as head of state your excellency and the government would not like to be a party to it.

Cont...

Thanking You,
Your respectfully,

SIGNED. DR. P.S. NATCHINATKINIYAR, DIRECTOR OF GENERAL HOSPITAL.
MR. KANAGARETNAM, CHAIRMAN, M C P .
DR. N. F. VARATHANANTHAN, REGISTRAR, HEALTH DEPARTMENT
MR. PALANITHURAI, CHIEF ENGINEER, R C S JAFFNA.
MR. MANIKAVASAGAR, ASSISTANT GOVERNMENT AGENT, JAFFNA.
MR. R. JEGANATHAN, ACCD, JAFFNA.
MR. C D K SIVAGNANAM MUNICIAL COMMISSIONER
MR. M. M. MUNSOOR, REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, JAFFNA
MR. B. M. PANCHALINGAM, GOVERNMENT AGENT, JAFFNA
MR. SETHUKAVALAR, DIVISIONAL SUPDT., POSTAL DEPARTMENT, JAFFNA
MR. KALYANA....., ASSISTANT GOVERNEMENT AGENT, JAFFNA
MR. GANESHANATHAN, C C F, MUNICIPALITY, JAFFNA
MR. SATKUNAM, ASSISTANT FOOD CONTROLLER, JAFFNA
DR. SIVAGNANASUNDERAM, DEAN MEDICAL FACULTY, JAFFNA

.....

NOTE: The above letter was transmitted over radio link and few minor mistakes may appear due to transmission and audibitlity difficulties

.....

SIMILAR LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA BY:

1. SECREETARY AND PRESIDENT,
STUDENTS ASSEMBLY,
UNIVERSITY OF JAFFNA,
JAFFNA.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

2. SECRETARY,
UNITED RELIGIOUS ORGANISATION,
JAFFNA.

COPIES HAVE BEEN SENT TO SEVERAL CONCERNED PARTIES

.....

United Religions
Organizations.

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka.

16th October '87.

Your Excellency,

We are disturbed by the sufferings of thousands of civilians in the Jaffna peninsula. We appeal to your excellency to take immediate steps to stop the war. The indiscriminate continuous shelling, Strafing and bombardments in the residential areas has caused severe damages to the houses and injured hundreds of innocent civiliants. Even the places where refugees assembled for safety and shelter were not spared. The students in the Jaffna University, many of them preparing for their final examinations, and those who were boarded in the University hostel were compelled to run away to save their lives due to the aerial bombardment which had damaged many section of the Jaffna University.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

Exodus of more the 678,000 people towards the various temples, schools, churches is pathetic. It is very evident that these places lack the basic facilities to provide the basic necessities for the vast number of people for so many days. Thousands of families are facing slow death through starvation.

The non-availability of fuel has paralysed the distributions of food and medical supplis, not to mention other essential items and movement of sick and wounded people.

The ban on fishing has again compelled the fishermen to descend on others for their living and has completely blocked the people living in the Islands the access to the city of Jaffna for food medicine and other major requirement.

The electricity and drinking water supply has been stopped for many days and the people are living under very unsatisfactory sanitary conditions, below human standards.

As responsible members of the various religions we earnestly appeal to you. Your Excellency, to intervene at the earliest for a quick return of peace and normalcy through further and sincere negotiations with all the parties concerned.

Thanking you, and let the eternal one bless you,

Yours Sincerely,

SECRETARY.

P.S.

We express our regret for not giving the name of the signature which is not decipherable.

Copies to :

1. His Excellency President of Sri Lanka
2. Diplamatic Corps.
3. Press.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

Students Assembly,
17th October '87.

Dear Sir,

Appeal for immediate Ceasefire

This appeal is made from the st 's assembly, University of Jaffna requesting your kind interven bring about an immediate Ceasefire. The IPKF was brought int ountry with a special purpose of maintaining peace. The mi eration launched on 10.10.1987 has resulted in disrupting norm life.

I beg your pardon in the pretext of main ng peace the following attrocities have taken place :

1. Pre ses of the University of Jaffna was mad ase of Ind n Forces for offensive operations against th E. As the esult

   a) The buildings of the University including the Library and Laboratories were damaged.

   b) Several civilians including 4 undergraduates of the Jaffna University were killed.

   c) The Indian troops take civilians as hostages when they enter the streets.

   d) The houses in the vicinity of the University has been damaged, over 50 houses have been damaged and severe injuries caused on the civilians.

2. Two National Tamil dailies "Murasoli" and "Eelamurasu" have bee bombed and destroyed by the IPKF on the 10th October 198 and it is interesting to note that the mass media "Ru vahini" "Dhoordharshan", and "AIR" haave reported that these presses were sealed. This is utterly false. This fact can be verified from the Government Agent (GA) Jaffna district, Red Cross, Citizens Committee of Jaffna, University Students Association including the Vice Chancellor.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

3. The fighting continuous despite the appeal made by the various organisations to the Indian High Commission authorities to bring about this to end. As the result of the fighting, many adverse results have happend.

(a) Women, childrens, elderely people totally 152 civilians have been killed as the result of continuous shelling and air raids by JOINT OPERATION OF INDIAN AND SRILANKAN FORCES.

(b) Over 400 civilians have been refugeed.

(c) 350,000 people have been made homeless and have been housed in refugee camps.

(d) Even these refugee camps have been attacked by mortar and artillery shelling 3 civilians died as the result of shelling at the JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE AND JAFFNA HINDU LADIES COLLEGE Campus.

(e) Even the Jaffna General Hospital despite the display of Red Cross flag on its roof has been subjected to attack by the Joint Operation of Indian and Srilankan forces. Even the other essential service organisations like the electricity board have been subject to heavy attack, as a result supply lines have been completely dirupted and the hospital services completely paralised.

(f) Telecommunication Services, Postal Services, Transport Services Supply of Fuel, Food Supply, Banking all these services have come to a grinding halt.

As the result of these difficulties accounted of the refugees in camps are suffering on account of hunger and want of health and sanitation and the people of the refugee camps are likely to be affected by epedemics too.

Generally opinion among the public is that the attacks and attrocities by the joint operations by the Indian and Sri Lankan forces during the last one week is much more severe than what the Sri Lankan government did in the last 4 years.

It is our humble appeal to your honour to intervene on humantarian grounds and ensure that

a) A ceasefire is brought with immediate effect.

b) normal life returns to the North and East.

We remain sir,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary & President.

P.S.

We express our regret for not giving the name of the signatures which are not decipherable.

Copies to :

1) His Excellency J.R. Jayawardene
President of Sri Lanka.

2) GA. Jaffna

3) Leader of the Oppositions
Hon. Anura Bandaranayake

4) C.M. Tamil Nadu
Hon. M.G. Ramachandran

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

5) Leader of the D.M.K.
Hon. M. Karunanidhi

6) Leader of the LTTE
Hon. V. Prabaharan

7) Commander, Southern Section of the Indian Army
Maj.Gen. Dibendar Singh

8) Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha

9) Red Cross Society, Jaffna.

10) Amnesty International.

11) UN Human rights Commission, Geneva.

12) High Commissions of Common Wealth Missions in Sri Lanka.

13) Ambasaddors of all the countries in Sri Lanka.

14) J.N. Dixit
High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka.

LETTER SENT TO THE INDIAN PRIME MINISTER BY REFUGEES IN JAFFNA.

Refugee Camp,
Jaffna,
Sri Lanka.
20th Oct 1987.

Hon. Sri Rajiv Gandhi,
Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.

Sir,

We, the Tamils of Sri Lanka, are undergoing severe hardships because of the continuous and fierce fighting that is going on since Saturday the 10th Oct 87 between the Indian Army and the militants LTTE.

1) Most of the people of Jaffna Peninsula have been displaced from their homes and have taken refuge in Temples, Schools and Public places where the sanitary facilities are not available.

2) This military offensive involves bombing, shelling, helicopter straffing and firing at civilians and as a result hundreds of civilians have died. Thousands have sustained injuries. Scores of houses and business premises have been destroyed. The University of Jaffna Library, Laboratory and Lecture Halls have all been severely damaged. The people in the refugee camps located near army camps have also died as a result of indiscriminate shellings by the Indian Army.

தமிழீழ ஆவணகம்
Tamileelam Archive

3) The electricity, water and food supplies which are essential for the life of the people have been destroyed. The people are experiencing a slow process of death. The Indian Government should accept full responsibility for the state of affairs.

4) The Teaching Hospital of Jaffna, damaged by the fire, is not in a position to render Medical Services. This is the only hospital functioning in the Jaffna peninsula since all other hospitals were put out of commission by the previous military offensive and consequently the supply of essential drugs to the refugee camps have been curtailed.

5) Since 10th of Oct there has been continuous and indefinite curfew in the peninsula and because of this inhuman condition compelled with severe shortage of food, the people both inside and outside the refugee camps are suffering.

6) On Tuesday the 13th Oct quite contrary to the democratic principles of freedom of the press, Two leading Newspaper establishments in Jaffna, namely "Ealamurasu" and "Murasoli" were attacked during the curfew hours and all machineries were destroyed by explosive charges set off by the Indian Army. All present in the premises at that time were arrested by the Indian Army and their whereabouts are not known.

7) In order to blackout the news of these evil incidents in the Jaffna peninsula, the Indian Army and the Sri Lanka Government have deliberately banned the entry of foreign journalists and the observers to the Jaffna District.

8) Above all, the Government controlled media of India and Sri Lanka are deliberately distorting the news. Thereby these two Governments are carrying a false propaganda campaign against the Tamils of Sri Lanka.

9) There is a campaign of genocide of the Tamils of Sri Lanka which was initiated by the Sri Lankan Government and it is now being carried forward by the I.P.K.F. These IPKF personnel are killing, torturing and raping the civilians and also using them as HUMAN SHIELD for their military advance. The Chundukuly Girls College which was earlier declared as a refugee camp by the Indian Army was repeatedly shelled today and as a result SEVEN people were killed and SIXTY were injured.

10) In the presence of all atrocities, few of us will launch a FAST UNTO DEATH campaign and will go on until the military offfensive of the Indian Army is halted. We are surprised to hear the recent press interview you gave in Canada that you were not aware of these evil incidents in Sri Lanka. Your denial is a blow to the cultural heritage and democracy of India.

We eagerly request you to initiate an urgent action.

a) Call an immediate ceasefire unconditionally.

b) Protect the people whom you promised to protect.

c) Appoint a special commission of inquiry consisting of the International Red Cross and the Indian opposition parties.

Tamileelam Archive

d) Allow foreign correspondents and observers to enter Jaffna district.

e) Pay compensation to all families who have lost their breadwinners and also those who have lost properties and business.

The people of Jaffna have decided to accept the food supply because of the above wrong doings of the Indian Army.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,

P.S.

We express our regrets for not giving the names of the signatories as fear of torture and death under the hands of the Army.

True copy

Bishop's House
Vaddukoddai
Sri Lanka
02-11-1987

The Rev. Dr. Emilio Castro
The General Secretary
World Council of Churches
B.O.Box 66
150 Rouie de Fernay 1711
Geneva 20
Switzerland

Dear Dr.Castro.

Let me first thank the W.C.C for taking note of the present plight of the Tamils in Sri Lanka and for releasing a statement a few days ago. We heard it here over BBC. It had rightly urged the Indian Government to pursue a negotiated political settlement. and not adopt the military approach. We are all very troubled and disturbed about the plight of our people and afraid.The facts about the present Indian Army operation are not getting through. A few days ago some leading citizens from the Citizens'Committee met here at Vaddukoddai and sent a memorandum to the Indian Prime Minister.I am listing some facts below based on the memorandum and other facts which I had been able to verify to the best of my ability.

1. The whole of Jaffna peninsula is without electricity for more than three weeks, with all the consequences that follow from it.

2. There has been a perpetual 24 hour curfew in the peninsula from the 15th. october. It has been relaxed only for a few hours a day for the last few days within the Jaffna Municipal limits.This has meant a serious problem for the wounded, the dead canot be given a decent burial or cremation. People are unable to obtain their provisions.There is a standstill of all transport. All communications have been paralysed.

3. The Indian forces contrary to all puplic statements put out by the official media have engaged in indiscriminate shelling and aerial attacks. At least 500 civilians have been killed so far and about 2000 injured. To mention a few instances.

a) The Government Teaching Hospital was attacked by the Indian Army and one of the victims who escaped with serious injuries told us that at least 200 were killed in the hospital. This included a few nurses and few doctors.

b) A refugee camp in Kokuvil Hindu College was attacked and about 30 refugees were killed.

c) Passengers at a jetty trying to cross over to the island on the otherside for safety were attacked by air and about 30 of them were killed.

d) Hospitals including the government hospital at Tellipalai and private hospital and Mission hospital have been shelled and forced to close down, Our own Mission hospital at Manipay was shelled and one staff member was killed.There were more than 300 refugees at the time in addition to the patients and staff. The hospital remains closed for the last few weeks.

4. The indiscriminate shelling has led to nearly 400,000 refugees within the peninsula. The homes, they fled from, have been damaged by shelling and often looted. Because of the curfew, the NGO's including the churches which are trying to help,are unable to get provisions for the refugee camps.

contd...

5. Since Banks and Post offices are closed, there is an acute problem of money transactions.

All these will convince you that the innocent civilians are the victims of these operation. Do not believe that justice and peace can be achieved through this. We trust International Organisations can bring to bear their good influence to bring about a cease fire immediately and urge the parties to work for political solution.

I do not know how Icould have this posted, since we have no postal services to Jaffna for the last few weeks. We continue to pray for peace with justice for all our people. Please share this letter with others on the WCC staff, particularly Nainan, Wesley and Freeman.

I hope you can use your discretion in giving the publicity, that can influence the Indian Government to go for cease fire and a political solution.

This letter will provide the explanation for my inability to attend the ESR,consulation. I am sorry I had to miss it. My presence here was essential.

Please do mention this to Herbert.

With cordial greetings
Yours very sincerely

(signed)
D.J.Ampalavanar

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

LETTER FROM CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE OF CITIZENS' COMMITTEES OF THE NORTHERN AND EASTERN PROVINCES.

Y.M.C.A Building
Jaffna
09-11-1987

The Honourable Shri Rajiv Gandhi
Prime Minister of India
New Delhi

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

This hour of extreme perils and imminent extermination of the Tamil people of Sri Lanka has come as the inevitable consequence to the military operation of the Indian Peace Keeping Force against LTTE. We wish to place before you the following facts for your kind consideration and immediate action.

Your Excellency would have been appraised ofthe indefinite curfew imposed throughout the Jaffna peninsula from the 10th of ? last month by the Indian Peace Keeping Force. This operation against LTTE has brought to a standstill all economic activities of the Tamil people of Jaffna and the entire population faces complete starvation and slow death. All transport have been paralysed cutting off supply lines of food commodities from Colombo and other places and distribution of existing stock of food. There is neither electricity nor lighting fuel. No exchange and flow of money owing to the closure of all Banks and all sections of the people are deprived of their monthly income and daily wages. The continued artillery shelling intermittant, aerial bombing and helicopter straffing have driven the whole population from their homes abandoning all their possessions. There is chaos and utters and other confusion among the entire population and they are in the depth of fear and apprehension, worst of all the people have no place or facilities to take even the gravely wounded for treatment, as all hospitals remain closed. The Jaffna Government Hospital which has been catering day and night for all urgent cases from all parts of the Jaffna peninsula remaining dominantly under the IPKF control and there is no access what so ever to this provincial Hospital to the needy patients.

The Jaffna Hospital came under heavy fire from the IPKF on the Deepawali Day ie.21st October. It is with great regret and grave concern that we are forced to bring to your kind notice that on the attack made by the Peace Keeping Force 3 Doctors, the Matron of the Hospital, 3 Senior Nurses, 2 Overseers, the Ambulance Driver, the Telephone Operator, the Lift Operator, the Store Keeper and 11 minor employees and about 100 patients and their relations were shot dead. Following this attack all the Supervising Medical Officers and all other staff have kept away from work out of fear. The whole hospital administration has collapsed and the hospital remains inaccessible to the public. All the Doctors and staff of the Hospital will give evidence if an impartial inquiry is held. The names of the hospital staff killed are as follows.

contd....

MEDICAL OFFICERS
1. Dr.A.Sivapathasundaram (Paediatrician)
2. Mr. M.J.Ganesharatnam
3. Dr. Parimalalagar

MATRON
1. Mrs. Vadivelu

NURSES
1. Mrs.Leelawathy
2. Miss. R. Ramanathan
3. Miss. Sivapackiam

AMBULANCE DRIVER
1. Mr.V.Shanmugalingam

TELEPHONE OPERATOR
1. Mr. Kanagalingam

OVERSEERS
1. Mr.K.Krishnarajah
2. Mr.K.Selverajah

MINOR EMPLOYEES
1. Mr.R.Sugumar
2. Mr. Sivaloganathan
3. Mr. Marutharajah
4. Mr. John Peter
5. Mr. Markandu
6. Mr. Thurairajah
7. Mr. Sivarajah
8. Mr. Jeganathan
9 Mr. K.Vetharaniam
10.Mr. Ratnarajah
11. Mr.Ratnasingham

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

The above are some of the grave hardships mercilessly imposed on an innocent peace loving people who have been looking forward to your Excellency's help for deliverance from the atrocities and gruesome killings by Sri Lankan armed forces. The entire population of Jaffna has reached that last minute of their power of endurance and we have lost all recourse if your excellency does not come to our rescue immediately.

We therefore appeal to your Excellency to your sense of even justice to your concern for the preservation of Human Rights and your Unfailing faith in the peaceful solution of all problems, to order an immediate cease fire and employ more peaceful and suitable political measures to enforce the acceptance of the peace Accord by the LTTE and the surrendering their arms.

Yours faithfully,

S.Arunachalam
(President)

S.Sivanantharajah
(Secretary)

COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE CITIZENS COMMITTEES.

Christian Community,
St. Joseph's Church,
Thannamunai
Batticaloa. (Eastern province
SRI LANKA.
17 - 11 - 1987

Rev. Dr. Emilio Castro
Gen. Sec. World Council of Churches,
P.O Box. 66,
150, Route De Ferney 1211
Genive - 20
Switzerland.

Rev. Minister,

An Appeal to take anysteps to mediate for peace and settlement

On behalf of the entire Christian and men of good-will, we appeal to the Christian organisations around the world to condemn all kinds of violence from any quarter it comes; especially the violence that prevails in our country (Sri Lanka). The Christian organisations have been always preaching peace and harmony, and consistently maintaining friendly relationship with all cross - sections of people.

The incident that caused twenty or more soldiers from IPKF is very much regretted, and express our sympathies to their kith and kins and to the moarners. At the same time, the behaviour of the IPKF men, that ensued this incident is abominable and not justified by any measure of justice, need to be condemned in the same if not with greater force of detestation.

We who are workers of the Roman Catholic and Methodist churches, received complaints from the victims who have been affected by the behaviour of the IPKF men after the incident on the 15th of October. The IPKF was acting in a manner that was unprecedented against the innocent civilians and against the holy place and its minister. As this group had totally or partially undergone this sad experiance, we try to be as factual as possible. We have also gone to the refugee camps to gather the details and the extent of the havoc wrought by the IPKF.

Within an hour of the land-mine explosion, good many wagons of soldiers were near the site of the explosion. Then in groups they went in different directions covering three adjoining villages viz: Thannamunai, Sathurukondan and Thannamunai colony as well as Sathurukondan colony taking pick-axe, mammoties, thick-poles, knives...etc along with their usual weapons. As they went they were out of control, and began their looting, setting the houses ablaze, molesting the women raping as well as beating the people indiscriminately. They went house to house and were thrilled to inflict all kinds of inhuman activities.

First as they went to the houses, they chased the inmates of the houses and began looting by forcefully opening the almyrahs, cabinets and travel bags. The complaints shows that they were stealing golden ornaments, cash, wrist-watches, calculators, bed alarm clocks ..... etc.

Secondly they poured petrol or oil and set the houses ablaze, big houses, cottages and cattle-sheds or damaged furniture and set the clothes a pile and burnt them.

The mission house which was the mother parish for all the other churches in the north of Batticaloa with all its 150 years of records, parish money and boarding funds and house and personal goods and clothes of the parish priest were set on fire or looted, especially the cash donations received in foreign currency were either looted or burnt.

Thirdly, house-hold utensils and electrical goods like T.V, radio, cookers ... etc were purposely damaged or broken.

Fourthly, the vehicles tractors, cars, motor-cycles, bicycles were burnt. Fifthly, the entire village was indiscriminately and mercilessly beaten and some were cut. Even a few months old babies and pregnant women, sick men and women were beaten in the same way.

One man was beaten to death and two others were assulted and burnt alive. Innocent women and girls were molested and raped. Women who were consecrated were molested and beaten.

Such nefarious and inhuman activities were continued for three consecutive days, even when His Lordship has appealed to the commander in charge to keep the area where the consecrated women(Reverend Sisters) have a fame for training young girls.

It is to be observed that the IPKF from India is acting in a fashion that doesn't become of its purpose. We appeal to men of all ranks of good-will to extend a friendly hand to our nation and help us out from the mire of troubles we have gone through.

Thanking You.

Yours in Christ,

J. Vineganathan

(REV. J. VINEGANATHAN)

SUPTDT: MINISTER
METHODIST CHURCH

for Christian Community.

PARISH PRIEST
ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH,
THANNAMUNAI.
Sri Lanka.

Parish Priest
ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH
CHENKALADY
SRILANKA

IPKF - Indian Peace Keeping Force

CITIZENS COMMITTEE,
MULLAITIVU DISTRICT,
7TH DECEMBER 1987.

THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL,
THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION.

Your Excellency,

SUBJECT: PEACE KEEPING IN THE NORTH AND EAST OF SRI LANKA

It is with great concern and dismay that the people of Mullaitivu district, a part of the Northern region of Sri Lanka, wish to urgently make known to the United Nations High Command and to all people who love democracy, freedom and fairplay about the incidents and intolerable violation of human rights now being perpetrated on our people. The behaviour of the Indian Peace Keeping forces has been highly reprehensible, atrocious and shocking with a far cry from the situation screened up by the Indian Embassy at Colombo. The great Indian democracy today now is increasingly considered by our people of having the greatness for strategic repression of people even beyond its borders. This action is very much in conflict with its declared objective of erasing the miseries affecting the Tamils of Sri Lanka. We give below a few instances to illustrate clearly the present conditions prevailing in the North and East of Sri Lanka and chiefly to draw the attention of the World to the dire and urgent necessity to rescue the Tamil people of Sri Lanka from the present plight. These incidents refer to what has had happened or what is happening in the Mullaithivu district.

Tamileelam Archive

1. The people of the villages of Mulliyavalai, Vattappalai, Thanneetootu, Nedunkerni, Chilawathai, Puthukkudiyiruppu and Oddisuddan were forced to vacate their villages and flee into the jungles and live there for days before they were able to conquer their fear of the IPKF and the commence seeking asylum in other places sometimes as much as forty miles away before caught by the ferocious and inhuman attack of the IPKF on innocent villagers without any notice or even a modicum of provacation. This even raised the fear amongst our people that some of the attacks may have been made while the soldiery were under the influence of drugs as there seems to be no other explanation for their uncivilised and savage onslaught.

Cont...

2. On their search operations, the IPKF drag out people from their homes and march them on the public highway with their hands raised for even as much as 3 miles, in the meanwhile beating and kicking them in effect to cause maximum humiliation. Random groups of people were left gathered on the fear of the moment without even a preliminary inquiry and subjected to the atrocities of the IPKF men. Respectable government servants(teachers included) and even elderly women have had their skulls broken by receiving blows with thick wicker shield blades and similar equipment. Homes were destroyed before the eyes of the inmates and valuables lost. In short the people of the whole villages were terrorised and caused to flee their houses .

3. The people left behind in these villages, the old and the infirm were beaten to death or shot. On one particular day, four of them aged over 60 years were shot. In another incident a patient under treatment for broken leg at Mullaitivu Hospital was forcibly removed from the ward and interned at the IPKF camp.

4. Hospitals at the major population centres have been incapacitated by the IPKF. Though at Mulliyavalai, Nedunkerni and Puthukkudiyiruppu are now not funtional as a result of shelling by the IPKF helicopters. Hospital buildings have been damaged and the medical staff have left for parts unknown. Even private dispensaries are now deserted in these areas. There is a serious dearth of medicine for the control of ravages of Malaria and Diarrhoea now rampant among the displaced people.

தமிழ் ஈழ ஆவணகம் Tamileelam Archive

5. In the meanwhile the IPKF is continuing to shell villages indiscriminately and unnecessarily causing heavy destruction to life and property and their military helicopters are functioning ravingly to judge the havoc and destruction caused.

6. The war torn temple in the district, the Vattappalai Amman Kovil and its immediate surroundings received 17 shells in a single day from the IPKF camp at Mullaitivu causing much damage to the main buildings. Similar damage has also been caused to the Alambil Murugan Kovil, school, market

Cont...

places and other public utilities have also received damage due to the same cause, mortar or artillery shelling.

7. Under the pretext of seeking the weapons of the LTTE, the IPKF have outraged the ordinary civilians with their methods of searching. The old and especially the parents of the youth are subjected to severe methods of search which are disturbing and are very humiliating. It showed the goodwill the IPKF is suppose to have towards the Tamil general population they have come to serve and protect is nowhere to be seen in their action.

8. Transport services have been disrupted with the IPKF firing (the excuse for practice) on even stationary buses. In two instances a bus load of passengers were fired upon with no reason or rhyme. These buses are state owned. Though the President of our country is no longer ruling us he seems to have abdicated the vital function one of which is to safeguard us as citizens of this country with the basic human right to live. Perhaps the IPKF is indulging in these activities to terrorise and ultimately subjugate our people who have already suffered enough. The people of Mullaitivu especially living away from the town are deprived of sufficient food and medicine due to the disruption of the transport services and also due to their having fled far away from their homes from where they are able to seek their basic neccesity of life. An urgent relief operation has to be mounted to save the majority of these people from starvation and possibly death. From the behaviour of the IPKF it is definite that they suspect all people of being in support of the LTTE.(that is any Sri Lankan Tamil is the prime suspect). If though whome are the IPKF trying to save from us or to rescue our people from us? The need to rescue our people from the present climate is for the United Nations to send a representative to study the situation on the spot. The Indian government and its representative in Colombo (as usual they are adept at lying abroad for their country) are acting

Tamileelam Archive

Cont...

and are capable of nullifying our appeal with a fund of make belief propaganda. They are great in these activities. Even before they commenced the inhuman attack on our people they commenced no less than three Radio programmees to deceive our people in the name of love and peace(India's broadcast for our people have been named Nesakkarangal, Anpuvali and Vettimalai). The present real activities of the IPKF are opposed to the Indian declaration of the good faith by the Tamil people of this country. This belies the present premeditated objective (unknown to us and known to them only),if it is the well being of our people it is to take a back seat. Our people are now beginning to believe that the declared intention of the Indian government is purely an eyewash and certainly what they have sent over to our country is no Peace Keeping Force for the IPKF is innocent of anything peaceful. But our people are now appealing for the truly peace keeping force, a body duly approved and appointed by the world body to oversee our rehabilitation and seek what are the necessary and desirable accomplishments as the one imposed though honest do not prevail at present.

Hence we appeal to your honour and to the world organisation to extend a hand of succour and hope to the destitute and hapless section of humanity. Hoping to obtain immediate redress and relief.

We remain yours sincerely,

Signed by.
K.K.KATHIRAVELU
The Secretary of the
Citizens Committee of Mullaitivu.

Bp.D.Deogupillai,

Bishop's House,
P.O.Box 2,Jaffna,
Sri Lanka,
3rd Jan.1988

Dear Mrs.Ruddick,

Thank you very much for sending me the copies of the letter of the Consul General of India and Rajiv Gandhi's speech in Parliament on 9.11.87 and the Remembrance Card of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement.These reached me on 31.12.87. I hope you received my letter of 18.12.87 with my Christmas & New Year Greetings in reply to yours of 5.11.87.Now,for your information I wish to give a few comments on some of the statements made by Mr.Rajiv Ghadhi on 9.11.87.

1."The IPKF were given strict instructions not to use tactics or weapons that could cause major casualties among the civilianx population of Jaffna who were hostages to the LTTE".

This statement is not true.During the month of October the IPKF used all major weapons such as rockets,artillery fire,bombs from the helicopters over the whole of the Jaffna Peninsula and killed or wounded thousands of the civilians.One Indian Army Officer admitted this to me but added that they could not help it.

2."I place on record Govt's very deep appreciation of the dedication and high moral standards with which the Indian Armed Forces have conducted their operations in Jaffna....".

The Indian Armed Forces have resorted to looting and rape in many places. The people,especially the women are now living in moratal fear of them.

3. "Electricity..... had been sabotaged by the LTTE".

This is not true.One the first things the Indian Force did was to blast the Electricity distribution Centre in Chunnakam and some of the Presses that were publishing local Daily Papers.It took more than two months to restore electricity to Jaffna Town.We were living in darkness when even kerosene was hard to get.The Daily News Papers have not been allowed yet to restart publication.Telecommunication had been blasted by the LTTE before the Indian Force came and it has not been restored yet.No foreign reporters are yet allowed to come into the Peninsula and report the events damages and news freely.There is a complete blockage of news to the South of Sri Lanka and to the outside world.The World is believing the news given out by India.There is no way of checking the veracity of it.The people in the South and the Sri Lankan Government seem to be quite unconcerned about what is happening in the North.

4."...this agreement represents the only way of safegurading legitimate Tamil interests and ensuring a durable peace in Sri lanka".

India did not consult the people living in the North & East before making the Agreement with President Jayawardena.The militant groups then staying in India and the TULF members who too were in India were consulted but the the people in general here were not consulted.We feel that this Agreement has been imposed on us for India's own interests:for "meeting our own security concerns in the region" as admitted by Mr.Rajiv Gandhi.This will not solve the problem for us as admitted by Lord Avebury in his analysis of the problem (Ref:Tamil Times,Febr.1987 p.15 - 17).

The Indian Armed Force is rough and rude with everybody including priests and nuns.They do not respect any place of worship.They seem to be angry and frustrated that the people are not cooperating with them against the LTTE and hence they are unable to bring this campaign to a quick conclusion.They seem to have suffered over thousand casualities.

I have writteen these notes for your information because of the keen interest you take in our welfare,for which I thank you very sincerely. Please continue to pray much for our poor people and for our Country.God Bless you.With all Good Wishes for the New Year, Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ D.Deogupillai

SECTION - II

Appeal from Non-Governmental Organizations world over.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

amnesty international

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
1 Easton Street London WC1X 8DJ
United Kingdom

EXTRACT

Our reference:

Direct line:

ASA 37/13/87 (update)

16 September 1987

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN SRI LANKA WITH RESPECT TO THE RETURN OF TAMILS TO SRI LANKA.

Since the 29 July Indo - Sri Lankan agreement, Amnesty International has kept the situation of members of the Tamil community in Sri Lanka under constant review. The agreement incorporates provisions that the Indian and Sri Lankan governments will ensure the safety of Tamils and others living in the north and east.

The accord has not so far been ratified by the Sri Lankan parliament. Consequently, the structure for one administrative unit in the north and east, where most Tamils live, has not yet been put into operation.

Tamileelam Archive

Some provisions of the agreement are now in the process of being implemented but there is delay in the implementation of others. For example, to date, the State of Emergency continues to remain in force all over Sri Lanka, despite a provision in the agreement that it would be lifted in the north and east by 15 August. Furthermore, the release program of prisoners announced by the government has not been fully implemented. Despite a provision in the agreement for the disbanding of the Home Guards, who along with the Special Task Force have been reported responsible for extrajudicial killings and for "disappearances", 600 of which have been recorded by Amnesty International to date, Amnesty International understands that many of its members still continue to operate in eastern Sri Lanka, especially in the Trincomalee area.

In the present circumstances, therefore, it is not clear to what extent the accord's provisions will be implemented and there must be considerable uncertainty about the safety of Tamils in Sri Lanka,

☎ 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working impartially for the release of all prisoners of conscience, fair and prompt trials for political prisoners and an end to torture and executions. It is funded by donations from its members and supporters throughout the world. It has formal relations with the United Nations, Unesco, the Council of Europe, the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of American States and the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

amnesty international

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
1 Easton Street London WC1X 8DJ
United Kingdom

ASA 37/17/87

17 December 1987

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN SRI LANKA WITH RESPECT TO THE RETURN OF TAMILS TO SRI LANKA.

Since the 29 July Indo-Sri Lankan agreement, Amnesty International has kept the situation of members of the Tamil community in Sri Lanka under constant review. The agreement incorporates provisions that the Indian and Sri Lankan governments will ensure the safety of Tamils and others living in the north and east.

Some provisions of the agreement are in the process of being implemented but there is delay in the implementation of others. For example, the State of Emergency remains in force all over Sri Lanka, despite a provision in the agreement that it would be lifted in the north and east by 15 August. Furthermore, the release program of prisoners announced by the government has not been fully implemented. Despite a provision in the agreement for the disbanding of the Home Guards, who along with the Special Task Force have been reported responsible for extrajudicial killings and for "disappearances", 650 of which have been recorded by Amnesty International to date, Amnesty International understands that many of its members still continue to operate in eastern Sri Lanka, especially in the Trincomalee area. At the same time, the current fighting between Tamil militants and the Indian Peace Keeping Force in the north and east of Sri Lanka raises fresh concerns about the safety and security of the Tamil population as a whole.

Tamileelam Archive

In the present circumstances, therefore, it is not clear to what extent the accord's provisions will be implemented and there must be considerable uncertainty about the safety of Tamils in, and returning to Sri Lanka.

In view of the present uncertain situation, Amnesty International considers it is reasonable to conclude that the conditions do not yet exist for the safe return to Sri Lanka of members of the Tamil community now abroad, at least for the time being.

☎ 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working impartially for the release of all prisoners of conscience, fair and prompt trials for political prisoners and an end to torture and executions. It is funded by donations from its members and supporters throughout the world. It has formal relations with the United Nations, Unesco, the Council of Europe, the Organization of African Unity and the Organization of American States.

ACFOA

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR OVERSEAS AID

INCORPORATED IN THE ACT

0167L

21 September 1987

H.E. Mr Mohammad H. Ansari,
High Commissioner for India,
3-5 Moonah Place,
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

Your Excellency,

re Sri Lanka

As you will be aware, ACFOA has taken an active interest in the situation in Sri Lanka and has publicly welcomed the constructive peacekeeping role undertaken by the Government of India. Attached for your information is a copy of the resolution adopted at the recent annual meeting of ACFOA

News of renewed fighting in Tamil areas of Sri Lanka over the past week has renewed our concern for a peaceful settlement in Sri Lanka. The decision by several LTTE leaders to 'fast unto death' will increase tension in the Tamil areas. The four reasons given by LTTE leadership for their action are:

1. the introduction of a police force before the formation of interim administration contrary to the assurances given by Indian Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi;

2. the quick and massive colonisation of Sinhalese settlers in Tamil homeland by the Sri Lankan Government;

3. reluctance and not settlement of Tamil refugees in their homeland contrary to the provisions in the Accord;

4. non-release of Tamil prisoners held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act in Sri Lankan jails. Indo-Sri Lanka Accord provides for the release of all Tamil prisoners held under this category.

These concerns raise several issues regarding implementation of the Indo Sri Lankan Peace Accord.

FIRST FLOOR, BAILEY'S CORNER, EAST ROW, CANBERRA CITY•GPO BOX 1562 CANBERRA ACT 2601
TELEPHONE (062)47 4822 FAX(062)47 5536 TELEX AA61643 HUMANS
Chairperson Neville Ross Executive Director Russell Rollason

ACFOA is the co-ordinating body for some 80 Australian non-government organisations working in the field of overseas aid and development

May I seek your Government's response to these four concerns and what action your Government intends to take to ensure the rights and protection of the people in Tamil areas.

Your early advice would be much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

RUSSELL ROLLASON
Executive Director

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

NEWS RELEASE

No. M153 Date 25 October 1987

COMMUNAL VIOLENCE IN SRI LANKA

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Bill Hayden MP, said today that the Australian Government was deeply concerned about the resurgence of communal violence in Sri Lanka and reiterated Australia's support for the 29 July Peace Accord between India and Sri Lanka.

"Despite the large-scale fighting in Sri Lanka's north and east, if fully implemented, the Accord still offers the best chance of restoring lasting peace to Sri Lanka," Mr Hayden said.

"Australia deplores the loss of life, particularly of non-combatants, including women and children, in the current conflict between Tamil militants and Indian military forces. The tragedy is that inevitably it is innocent civilians who are the real losers."

Mr Hayden said the Australian Government called on all parties to stop the fighting as quickly as possible and to allow the entry to the affected areas of international assistance groups, especially the International Red Cross.

Mr Hayden pointed out that the renewed violence had been provoked by the apparent determination of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam to sabotage the Accord at all costs. This course of action had now led to further suffering for the Tamil people of Sri Lanka.

"We urge all those who are genuinely concerned for the welfare of the Tamil people to reject violence and to work together to give the Accord the chance of success it deserves," Mr Hayden said.

TamilEelam Archive

COPY OF LETTER PASSED ON TO MR.RAJIV GANDHI BY MISS KAREN PARKER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, NON-GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE (HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES AND DISABLED PEOPLES' INTERNATIONAL) AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

.....

17th OCTOBER,1987

His Excellency Rajiv Gandhi
Prime Minister of Republic of India

EXCELLENCY

At the express request of His Excellency K.K.S.Rana, Consul General of the Republic of India in San Francisco, and in my capacity as a non-governmental representative (Human Rights Advocates and Disabled Peoples' International) at the United Nations, I address you regarding the situation in Sri Lanka.
Although the situation of armed conflict between the Indian Peace Keeping Forces and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam has produced widespread accusations of atrocities and civilian hardships, and although my legal work forcuses on the law of armed conflict (the Geneva Conventions and customary humanitarian law), it is not my intention to catalog the events of the last week other than to say that atrocities have been committed by all involved and will be investigated by concerned people the world over.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

This communication is to present issues for consideration so that hostilities can cease forthwith.

I begin by addressing some points of a geopolitical nature. First, I can make no sense out of India's actions: they have appeared uncharacteristically confused and precipitous. The Tamils, and particularly the LTTE, have represented the strongest pro-Indian faction in the whole of the region. It is unreasonable that India would willingly or intentionally discard or betray her traditional friends. Most importantly, the LTTE are indigenous to Sri Lanka. They answer to no other drum than their peoples' aspirations, safty and honor. Others involved in the tragic event of the last years may not be in that position. Finally, while India must weigh many factors in their foreign policy decisions, LTTE cannot and will not put any interest ahead of their people and cause. Ironically, I have always felt that India's interest in Sri Lanka is closely allied to the LTTE's.

It is also true that many forces, including several other nations with perceived high interest in the area, might be extremely unhappy with the Indo-Sri Lankan Agreement, Annexure and Letters of Understanding of 29th July, 1987. I have feared that attempts be

made from outside to derail India and her exemplary foreign policy initiatives in Sri Lanka and elsewhere: South Africa and Namibia, Fiji, humanitarian aid and trade credits to Nicaragua, and the "cuba motion" at the 1987 session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights immediately come to mind. Given the nature of events, I am convinced that these fears are justified in Sri Lanka. While I have been openly sympathetic to India when retaliatory measures such as arming the Sikh terrorists have been taken, I cannot remain sympathetic when apparent retaliation is answered by slaughter of innocent people in Sri Lanka. In my view, neither the LTTE nor the Tamil people are your enemy.

The first serious mistake made in the present crisis was the attempted transport of the LTTE members to Colombo. Given the years of distrust between the Tamils and the Colombo Government, surely some delay until some practical trust could be built would have been wiser. I urge you to analyse closely how, why and by whom that decision was made, particularly since those detainees had publically stated that they would not reach Colombo alive.

The tragic and dramatic suicide was followed by atrocities in the Eastern provinces, supposedly explained as being at the hands of the LTTE in retaliation for the suicides, but reliably attested to have been at the hands of others (Tri-star has been implicated). Surely you must agree with me that it made no strategic sense for the LTTE to engage in that action at that time, yet it made a great deal of sense for elements wishing to discredit the LTTE and the Indo-Sri Lankan Agreement.

Finally, the activities of some elements of the Indian Army clearly do not appear to be in the best of interests of India. Nothing would better serve some elements both inside and outside of India than to disctedit Indian foreign policy at home and outside of India than to weaken Indian international influence. In my view, the continuation of hostilities will lead to a serious if not fatal blow to India's international reputation.

Given the above concerns, I have remained in daily contact with representatives of the LTTE, with your diplomatic personal in San Francisco and elsewhere, and with the Government of Canada. I suggested to the LTTE that another State might be useful to provide direct and reliable communication between them and India. I have maintained to the representatives of India and representatives of the LTTE my willingness to effectuate communication, regardless of whatever role Canada or another state may assume.

The first essential step to prevent actual atrocities and mutual accusations of atrocities is to agree to a cease fire. India's insistance on a pre-cease-fire surrender is not practical given the nature of the LTTE and their perceived role on behalf of all Tamils. If for no other reason, the LTTE will not announce a surrender because they cannot accept what would be viewed as a betrayal of the Tamil cause. While this position may be viewed as unreasonable and intransigent by outsiders, a cease fire can only lead to favourable results if carried out with mutual credibility and full respect for the honor and pride of the affected parties. On this point the situation with the LTTE is not unique. A cease fire is a cease fire and a surrender is a surrender.

Once the cease fire is in effect, the LTTE will meet with Indian officials to arrange an orderly transfer of arms and the rehabilitation of India's role under the Agreement to guarantee the protection of the Tamil population. I have recommended to the LTTE representatives that a third party government such as Canada participate in at least the initial meetings and that the Sri Lankan governmemt not participate untill later stage. The LTTE indicates that they accept the proposal.

Given the degree of mistrust and sensitivity of the LTTE to their perceived role as representatives of the Tamil people, it would not be therapeutic that the LTTE leadership to be viewed as being in the custody of Indian Government. For this reason, I have proposed and the LTTE has accepted in principle that they be sheltered by the International Committeee of the Red Cross,or a combined team of the Indian and Sri Lankan Red Cross during the discussions following a cease fire. Subsequent arrangements would be, of couse, a primary topic of discussion.

Your excellency, I trust you accept my interest and comments in good faith. I remain available in whatever capacity I may serve to the cause of peace and justice for the Tamil people and the restoration of India to its rightful place in international affairs.

Your excellency, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Karen Parker
Attorney at Law
United Nations Representative for
Disabled Peoples' International and
Human Rights Advocates

.....

DEDICATED TO ALL LOVERS OF HUMANITY!

Leadership of the worlds' largest democracy getting out manouvred by Sinhala chauvinist Mr. J.R. Jayawardene.

In the land of Gandhi - a good-bye to **Gandhian ideals** proclaimed by Mr. Rajiv Gandhi.

"Unique Accord" puts Eelam on fire.

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi described the Indo-SriLankan Peace Accord as a unique one with no parallel in the known history. He is perfectly right. This is an accord between not the warring factions but, between an oppressor and mediator, with oppressed group forced to be a silent observer. So it is certainly 'unique' in character. The defacto representatives of the oppressed (LTTE group), gracefully bowed down and gave a chance for the Peace Accord to be implemented in words and also in deeds. Now the turn of events or the machiavillian manouvers by Mr. J.R. Jayawardene has resulted in the Peace Keeping Force, who went in to keep peace, get engaged in hunting the Liberation Fighters by attacking a densely populated civilian town. Alas! In addition to the character, in application and implementation also, the said Accord has become '**unique**'.

Tamileelam Archive

Who is behind the breaches of the accord.

Violation No:1 : Mr. J.R. Jayawardene got the dubious honour of the breacher No. 1, of the Accord to which he is a signatory by openly declaring that he would go to eastern Sri Lanka and canvass against the merger of North & East which is the most fundamental of Tamilians demand for homeland.

At this juncture, even political pundits would be puzzled to know something unique about SriLankan Constitution. By virtue of that the Executive President (of course Mr. J.R. Jayawardene) is above Law and Constitution. His actions, speeches or writing could never be challenged in the Court of Law. Such unique privilage also means, the holder of that position should keep himself aloof of politics, never to mention breaching Accords by declarations.

Violation No:2 : Overnight State-sponsored colonisation of Sinhalese in Eastern province by Mr. J.R. Jayawardene, and schemes to bring Mahaweli river and Sinhala Colonists to ten villages in the Vavuniya & Mullaitivu Tamil districts aimed at bringing a permanent geographical seperation of the Tamil population in North & East.

Violation No:3 : Arming of the aforesaid Sinhala Colonists and also organising the armed forces of Sri Lanka to work hand in gloves and

Violation No:4 : Unleashing arson, looting and untold hardships to Tamilians living in those areas for generations.

Violation No:5 : Force and intimidation used to turn away the innocent Tamilians from settling down in their own land.

Violation No:6 : Opening of Police Stations in Tamil area and planting Special Commando Police personnel who were specially trained in Pakistan and also giving intensive coaching in human torture and attrocities by Mossad of Israel and Kini Mini Service of U.K. (former SAS personnel).

Peaceful Protest by LTTE.

All the above violations of the Peace Accord were brought to the notice of the IPKF and the Indian Government, which miserably fell on deaf ears.

LTTE on the presumption that Gandhi's India governed by Mr. Rajiv Gandhi still cherishes Gandhian principles and ideals (which also most unfortunately proved wrong) started peaceful protests. Their political-wing leader Mr. Thileepan commenced a deathfast without even taking a water. (no parallel to this fast yet in the history of civilised world). One of the peaceful demonstrators was shot & killed by IPKF.

Tamileelam Archive

After receiving firm evidences of Sinhala State-sponsored Colonisation in the East, the IPKF which was hitherto interested in setting up more and more Camps in Jaffna moved over to Trincomalee district. Violations of the Peace Accord by the J.R. Jeyawardene Government quickly continued.

Violation No:7 : Homeguards of Sri Lanka constituted by youths among the Sinhala Colonists, trained and armed by the Sri Lankan government fired at the IPKF. As it was earlier proclaimed by no lesser personality than Mr. J.N.Dixit, the Indian High Commiasioner in Sri Lanka that all the Homeguards have already surrendered their arms, it became necessary for an interrogation. The facts came out. The so called Homeguards not only refrained from surrendering arms but also were given more sophisticated weapons by the China Bay Police Station in Trincomalee and instructed to attack Tamils and IPKF.

Violation No:8 : There were incidents of firing at the IPKF by the Sri Lankan Army. In one instance IPKF was thwarted in its pursuit of chasing a van from which shots were aimed at them, when the van entered into the office premises of the Sri Lankan Joint Services Commander in Trincomalee.

Violation No:9 : IPKF was intimidated and asked to return back by the Sri Lankan Navy when they tried to enter a village where Sinhalese hooligans were brought in to displace the Tamilian population living there for ages.

Violation No:10: : On finding the number of IPKF swelling in the Trincomalee district, the Sinhala Chauvinist Government signaled a clear message to Indian counterpart by getting 3 IPKF Jawans shot dead by the SriLankan Army.

Turn of Events.

In the meantime "Thileepan" attained martyrdom after giving more than 13 days time to India to understand the 5 points, which, though formed the essence of the much publicized Peace Accord, but were conveniently overlooked by the two governments.

Sri Lankan Government hurriedly announced the Interim Administration (which was different in concept and executive power from an Interim Government). Sinhala Chauvinists often led by Buddhist monks started agitations in the east particularly in the North eastern Trincomalee District. The IPKF started joint patrol in affected areas with Sri Lankan Armed Forces who were not supposed to come out of their Barracks as agreed in the Peace Accord.

Mr. Anura Bandaranaike, Sri Lanka Opposition leader made a hue and cry that Sri Lankans (meaning Sinhalese) were being killed by IPKF.

Mr. J.R. Jayawardene perhaps in consultation with hardliner Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali worked out a two-prolonged attack. Violations No. 11 & 12 followed as a result.

Tamileelam Archive

Violation No:11: In a high level security conference held on 4.10.87, Mr. J.R. Jayawardene directed G.O.C. in Chief of Indian Army's Southern Command Lt. Gen. Depinder Singh to work in coordination with Gen. Ranatunga, Chief of Sri Lankan Joint Operations Command. Mr. J.R. Jayavardene also warned IPKF to "Do what I say or quit". Although Indian government denied such utterances by Mr. J.R. Jayawardene in Colombo and in New Delhi strangely much to the shame of mighty India, there were no denials by the J.R. Jayawardene government.

Mr. J.R. Jeyawardene sent in Sri Lankan troopes to the Trincomalee district.

Violation:12: 17 LTTE men on a fishing trawler including two of their former Regional Commanders were arrested off the coast of Point Pedro heading towards South India. Only two weapons were found in their possession, which were allowed for personal protection by the terms of Accord. Mr. J.R. Jayawardene, cunningly decided to use this to provoke the Tigers who were therto low-lying and engaged in Gandhian modes of protest.

Violation No:13 : The request by IPKF to hand over the arrested men to their custody as per provisions of the Peace Accord went unheeded.

Violation No:14 : Sri Lankan Forces interrogated the arrested men.

Violation No:15 : Intimidation and torturning by pricking with Boyanet on Lt. Col. Pulendran and others at Palaly airfield premises itself.

Violation No:16 : Having gauged correctly the weakness of Indian leadership, and the loopholes in the Indian diplomatic strategy, J.R. Jayawardene Government announced that the General Amnesty would not apply to these LTTE men and declared their intention to transport them to Colombo for interrogation. (What this interrogation means in Sri Lankan terminology is well explained in all the annual reports of Amnesty International in this decade).

Violation No:17 : Death in custody of the 12 men out of the 17 shocks the civilised world.

The remaining 5 men undergoing treatment were promptly handed over to IPKF.

However the Sinhala Chauvinist Mr. J.R. Jayawardene succeeded in provoking the LTTE men and the Tamil population of North and East which saw the guiding light of freedom in the leadership of LTTE after four decades of oppression by the progressive Sinhalese Governments themselves being carried away by weak leaders who evidently lacked courage and distant vision.

Further violations by Mr. J.R. Jeyawardene continued.

Violation No:18 : The release of around 2,000 (accurate statistics were never revealed, not even to IPKF) detainees in the Sri Lankan prisons and torture camps, was delayed for no attributable, logical reason.

Violation No:19 : Mr. J.R. Jayawardene declared that some of the detainees would be prosecuted, despite the fact that they also came under the General Amnesty conferred on by the Peace Accord.

Now, even after the IPKF got bogged down in the ill-conceived, no-end-at-sight war against the LTTE which enjoy widespread popular support among people (what really matters), Mr. J.R. Jayawardene continued to issue statements in violation of the Peace Accord.

Violation No:20 : Mr. J.R. Jayawardene unilaterally proclaimed that the General Amnesty would **no longer** (was it ever ?) apply.

Violation No:21 : J.R. Jayawardene's announcement of a Reward of Rs. 10 lakhs for the head of LTTE leader Mr. V. Prabhakaran, from a platform where Mr. K.C. Pant, Indian Minister of Defence was present motivated the IPKF on hot pursuit of capturing the LTTE leader from among the civilian population of Jaffna.

Violation No:22 : Mr. J.R. Jayawardene proclaimed the intention to set up two separate Interim Administration councils for the North and East, turning a blind eye to the clauses in the Peace Accord.

Violation No:23 : Mr. J.R. Jayawardene also declared that LTTE is banned from doing any political or other activities.

Violation No:24 : Also according to Mr. J.R. Jayawardene no place in the said Interim Administration Councils would be offered to LTTE.

Violation No:25 : Mr. J.R. Jayawardene also issued a statement that IPKF would take care of the North and Sri Lankan joint services Command would protect the interests of Sinhalese in the East. He also despatched Sinhalese soldiers to the East and announced that cash, food and other subsidies to all Sinhalese, willing to settle down in the East would be provided under the help of Sri Lankan soldiers and on guarantee that IPKF would not interfere in the mission.

The above 25 violations are crystal clear evidence of the breach of the Peace Accord by one of the joint signatories. It is hard to believe that, the Indian Government lacks the knowledge and perception of the calculated machinations of the veteran politician Mr. J.R. Jeyawardene.

Tamileelam Archive

Instead of declaring war against the Sri Lankan government, why did they choose to do it against the LTTE ?

CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE BREACH OF THE PEACE ACCORD BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

From the days of Thimpu Talks masterminded by Mr. Romesh Bandari, who could never hide his soft corner to the Sinhala Chauvinist government in his words & deeds, Indian mediatory role was always viewed with suspicion and scepticism by the Tamilians. India conveniently chose to treat the LTTE as terrorists rather than freedom fighters and leaders with popular support.

This attitude clearly reflected in the historic accord signed between the mediator and oppressor.

Despite the honourable gentlemen-pact made between Mr.V.Prabhakaran, LTTE leader and Mr. S.S. Puri, Deputy High Commissioner of India that Mr. Padmanaban would be the head of the Interim Administration Council and other two names were a mere formality, India chose to make the request by Mr. V. Prabhakaran to honour the above pact as a **big issue** and a **serious breach** of the Accord. Further at that time the composition of the council was not final as Mr. J.R. Jeyawardene took two more days to decide whom he wanted to nominate for the muslim quota allowed for him.

Also feeling of Tamilians were definitely hurt, when Indian Government failed to protest the nomination of Mr. Jeyakody as the one of the two Sinhala nominees in the council. This Mr. Jeyakody was removed from Madras Mission of Sri Lankan government where he was Deputy High Commissioner only a few months ago on protests by the Indian Government, after his reported indulgences in nefarious activities, aimed at making Sri Lankan Tamils unpopular in Madras and also setting up Tamil groups against each other and also, with charges of spending money lavishly, not to mention other things that went with it to entice a group of Madras based journalists to write against LTTE.

Had IPKF enforced the power and authority conferred on to them by the Peace Accord, they could have saved the lives of those freedom fighters.

India preferred to have a group of "Yes Sir - I am your obedient servant" type men such as the TULF of Mr.A. Amirthalingam to independent, courageous LTTE who cares for the self-respect and aims at a long lasting solution for the grievances of the Tamil Population.

Tamil Heritage Trust
Tamileelam Archive

Soon after the Accord, RAW (Research and Analysis Wing, in which the self confessed mole Mr. Unnikrishnan was holding a key position until recently) set an Army of "3 Stars" comprising PLOTE, EPRLF & TELO groups, and transported them in Indian Air Force planes to Sri Lanka and organised attacks on LTTE cadres, unarmed at that time.

ENDLF group formed by dissidents from PLOTE and EPRLF went to the extent of setting up a camp in the Kilinochi town, tightly flanked on either side by IPKF & Sri Lankan Army Camps. This group openly went out on a man-hunt of LTTE men by stopping all the vehicles to and from Jaffna.

Prabhakaran's LTTE had a secret, gentlemen agreement with India, and thereby it handed over part of their weapons and kept the rest in cold storage, hoping that India which guaranteed the safety of LTTE leaders and cadres would take action in the cared perspective before late.

LTTE lost 28 of their men in these one aided cold war and India should take the responsibility for this carnage.

IPKF also turned a deaf ear to LTTE when they submitted proofs of state sponsored Sinhala colonisation and other breaches of the Peace Accord.

LTTE put forward 5 demands for the immediate attention of the Indian Government. Those are as follows :

1. All the Tamil detenus in the Sri Lankan prisons and Camps must be released.

2. The State sponsored Sinhala Colonisation of the Tamil Homeland in the pretext of Rehabilitation must be stopped, pending the setting up the Interim Administration Councils.

3. Stoppage of opening up Police Stations in North and East in the pretext of setting up civil administration.

4. Sri Lankan Army and allied Services personnel should vacate the Schools and public building where they have set up camps.

5. Disarming of all the Homeguards. In order to press these demands after giving a 24 hour notice Mr. Thileepan went on Death-fast and attains martyrdom.

By saying we were still negotiating (for 13 days) and this tragedy could have been averted, Mr. J.N. Dixit put the blame for that also on LTTE.

Had the IPKF acted with firm hand the lives of 12 men who were compelled to commit mass-suicide could have been stopped.

While the democratic government of India was inactive against the government of Sri Lanka, who breached the Accord (26 instances listed above), it is unfortunate it has now decided to launch the military might, and mass media propaganda.

Tamileelam Archive

On the Alleged breach of Peace Accord by LTTE

Allegation No.1: Mr. V. Prabhakaran is demanding a pre-eminent position in the proposed Interim Administration Council and he is insisting on the total exclusion of the other groups. Mr. V. Prabhakaran is scheming to rise to power with the help of Indian Government as he has no support of the masses.

Explanations: When the IPKF entered the Tamil homeland, it is well known fact that LTTE had the Civil Administration in their control. So naturally his team is the obvious choice to administer the Interrim Council and guard against the manouvres of J.R.Jayawardene government. Pre-eminent position to Mr.V.Prabhakaran was something agreed upon at New Delhi. Also Mr.V.Prabhakaran felt that admission of other militant groups, who were rejected by the people of the land, and who indulged in anti-social activities in Tamilnadu as well as in Tamil Eelam would be

detrimental to the interests of council, as it tantamounts to recognition of their Constitutions (?) to the Tamil Cause.

While Mr. V.Prabhakaran would have been holding 7 out of the 12 seats in the proposed council, and observers from India and Sri Lanka would be present in any would-be elections, it is absurd to presume that Mr. V. Prabhakaran was planning to manipulate the election processes to his benefit and capture power.

Allegation No.2: Mr. V. Prabhakaran is trying to breach the accord by insisting that Mr. Padmanaban alone must be chosen to head the Interim Council whenever we have chosen one among the panel of three proposed by Mr. V.Prabhakaran himself.

Explanation : On request, Mr. V.Prabhakaran handed over a panel of 10 nominees with Mr. Padmanaban from Trinconamalee (S.LA.S equivalent to I.A.S.) for the post of Chief Administration.

Mr. J.R. Jeyawardene, it must be mentioned here is a very shrewd and cunning political veteran. He is in active politics for little over 50 years. He, although elected to power in 1977 for a 5 year term, did machiavillian manouvres, changed the constitution to have a direct presidential election, and carefully enacted ordinances to take away the civic rights of Mrs. Srimavo Bandaranayake who alone can contest him on a national-level, and managed to stay in power for over 10 years and two more years to go. Although in the midway he faced a much criticized referendum, his actions in the capacity as Executive President could not be contested in the court of Law.

தமிழீழ ஆவணகம்
Tamileelam Archive

Mr. J.R. Jeyawardene, of that undisputed calibre now wanted to play a game. He wanted two more names to be suggested for the post of Chief Administrator. Mr. Puri, the Deputy High Commissioner of India even assured that it was merely a formality and Mr.V.Prabhakaran could rest assured that Mr. Padmanaban would be the Chief Administrator, and the members also would be in the order of priority. But to the dismay of LTTE leader Mr. J.R. Jeyawardene announced the names of members to the council (11 out of the 12 names withholding naming his muslim nominee) carefully excluding Mr. Padmanaban , and Kavingar Kasi Ananthan, both from the East. It also must be mentioned here that, the T.U.L.F was requested to give only two names for their quota of two seats in the council. Incidentally, none of the two nominees (Sinhalese) of the President Jayawardene had any bearing in the northern or eastern provinces.

Mr. Prabhakaran quickly sensed the plan of Mr.Jayawardene to keep out men from the eastern province, and use that as a canvassing point in the east and potray LTTE as a pro-north organisation.

Under these circumstances, while still the nomination of the 12th member by Mr. Jayawardene is pending, what is wrong in Mr.Prabhakaran demanding the appointment of Mr. Padmanaban as the Chief Administrator. Even Mr. J.N.Dixit wanted to drive a point by saying that Mr. Padmanaban is too young for the post. Sadly, he failed to realise that Mr. Padmanathan is of comparable age to his own Prime Minister, and also a qualified Administrator (SLAS officer).

In what way did Mr. Prabhakaran breached the accord ?

What is evident is that, it has been decided by the hidden enemies of the accord to project Mr. Prabhakaran as a breacher.

M/s. Rajiv Gandhi and Jayawardene who are deputed as Great leaders with a high degree of understanding, courage and vision in many International arenas have failed to show a fraction of those noble qualities, towards LTTE and its leader Mr. V.Prabhakaran.

Allegation No.3. : LTTE has murdered 200 men including Sinhalese civilians, and thereby breached the accord.

Explanation : This is no doubt a deplorable event. However, it would only a fairplay to analyse the events which preceeded this carnage.

The Tamil speaking people of Eastern province, both Tamilians and Muslims, particularly those in the North-eastern Trincomalee district, are often at the brunt of the attack by the newly settled Sinhala colonists and the Homeguards and Sri Lankan armed forces who comes in to displace the traditional occupants of the land and settle Sinhalese. This colonisation went on in an unprecedented scale in Trincomalee district during the reign of Mr. Jayawardene, aimed at bringing a geographical seperations of north and the east, which forms the Tamil homeland. If not for the spirited attack on those Sri Lankan armymen and Homeguards by the LTTE men, ably led by Lt. Col. Pulendran and Lt. Col. Kumarappa, the whole Tamil speaking population in those border districts, would have been wiped out by the Sinhala chauvinists. Mr. Jayawardene was even capable of erasing all evidences of those people lived there for generations.

So, naturally the people of the east had more than Love, Affection and gratidude to those two leaders, who lost their lives not in action, but due to lack of action by the IPKF. They were also more purturbed to watch the State aided colonisation going on in their lands hurriedly after the peace accord was signed, while the IPKF was a helpless on-looker. So, on hearing the sacrifice of their most reverred leaders, they got agitated and struck hard. It resulted in the slaining of the Sinhalese civilians, mainly those who were recently sent to colonize those areas by the Sri Lankan government, mainly because they did't know which way to run for their safety.

This upsurge of violence by civilians, on the loss of great leaders is similar to the events in New Delhi and elsewhere, on the slaining of Indira Gandhi. Although it is unfortunate that the LTTE decided to execute the 8 Sri Lankan soldiers in their custody, even at this provocative moment they demonstrated their sense of balance by sparing the life of a Sri Lankan Army deserter, who was also in their custody.

It must be noted that these unfortunate incidents have occured only after the LTTE losing the valuable lifes of Mr. Thileepan, Pulendran and Kumarappa and 10 others in Gandhian method of non-violent protests. LTTE was forced to learn the hard way that it always takes longer than possible for their message to reach the Indian Covernment.

It was most unfortunate that the Indian Government was always inactive and lethargic to solve the grievances of LTTE men, but would neverthless turn very active if it is case of issuing a declaration condemning the actions of LTTE, and its sympathisers.

cont.....(40)

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

TRANSFORMATION OF INDIAN PEACE KEEPING FORCE TO INDIAN PEACE KILLING FORCE, IRONICALLY STILL RETAINING THE ABBREVIATION I.P.K.F

Violations, if any by Mr. Prabhakaran are trivial in nature, in comparision with those by Mr. Jayawardene and what are precipitated by the inaction, lethargy and lack of understanding and vision by the I.P.K.F, Indian Government, RAW and other agencies.

However, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi who had the rare honour recently in lecturing at the Harward University, USA on 'India and Democracy', had the last chance and the last say. He has miserably failed in that opportunity, which has resulted in forgoing the very purpose, for which the IPKF went there.

Had Mr. Rajiv Gandhi made bold to assure the LTTE and the Tamilians that the Peace accord would be implemented in words as well as in deeds, without any fear or favour, guaranteed the safety of LTTE leaders and cadres, prevailed upon the President of Sri Lanka with his democratic might, and warned Mr.Jayawardene to refrain from any further cunning manouvres, everything would have worked out desirably.

Instead, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi resorted to issue public warnings to LTTE. Mr. Dixit, the Hight Commissioner in Sri Lanka called Mr.Anton Balasingam and Mr. Mathiah of LTTE for talks. As desired by Mr. Jayawardene, the talks failed because of the tough, biased, unrealistic stand taken by Mr. Dixit.

Lt.Gen.Depinder Singh, GOC in Chief of the Southern Command of the Indian army called for explanation from the LTTE on the reported killings of 200 Sinhalese civilians, Mr. Mathiah, the Deputy Leader of the LTTE, promptly sent a reply, stating that only after receiving explanations from the IPKF on the preceeding events (Arresting of 17 LTTE men by Sri Lankan Navy, which was supposed not to do any patrolling) and also a clarification of the stand taken by the IPKF about the safety of LTTE Leaders and cadres and the stand taken by IPKF regarding the implementation of all the clauses of the peace accord, the leadership of LTTE would be in a position to reply LT.Gen. Depinder Singh.

By sending this reply LTTE clearly demonstrated, that they were still ready and willing to discuss and work with the Government of India in implementation of the peace accord. LTTE also up to that time refrained from harming or attacking the IPKF personnel.

But, unfortunately, the leaders of the world's largest democracy, the preachers of peace and goodwill, the relentless advocates of human rights, the champion fighters against aparthied in South Africa hatched another idea.

Gen. Sunderjee of the Indian army air-dashed to Sri Lanka and had secret conferences with the Sri Lankan Leaders and also

secretly conferred with his colleagues and counterpart. Gen.Sunderjee's visit was quickly followed by Mr. K.C.Pant, the Indian minister of Defence. On 9.10.87, Mr. Jayawardene announced a price of 10 lakhs for the head of Mr. Prabhakaran, from a platform, where Mr. Pant was seated, apparently confirming the notion that, he had the blessings of the Indian Government for that action. Mr. Dixit also announced that, peaceful negotiations are not workable with LTTE.

Even, if we consider these actions by Mr. Jayawardene, Mr.Pant, Mr.Dixit and Gen. Sunderjee as not yet launching on offensive against LTTE, which was still ready to discuss, let us analyse the sequence of events on Saturday the 10th October '87 and see, how true is the Indian media propaganda that it was LTTE which fired the first shot resulting in IPKF retaliation leading to the present war.

On that black Saturday 10.10.87, while an overnight curfew was still on, at 5.00 am, IPKF personnel entered the premises of the two Tamil dailies 'EELA MURASU' and 'MURASOLI' published from Jaffna. IPKF got the employees at work to march out, and set explosives to the printing machines. Still not happy with the "commendable" act in the name of Peace & Democracy, IPKF blasted and brought down the two buildings completely. Almost simultaneously the IPKF entered the premises of 'NIDHARSANAM' the T.V station run for years by LTTE and captured the equipments and arrested the 12 men on duty. It must be mentioned here that, up to now even the Sri Lankan army did not think it proper to attack these places of mass communication.

Tamileelam Archive

After a lapse of further 7 hours or so, at about 2.00 pm on 10.10.87, IPKF claimed to have been attacked from behind by the LTTE and forced to hit back. Indian Government, having throttled the media communications from Jaffna in a "gallant" act went on to claim through the Indian media that, LTTE had started the current offensive.

"Comment is free - But facts are sacred and bold."

The IPKF, Indian and Sri Lankan Governments might have succeeded up to now in throttling the opinion of the Jaffna people. The aim was very clear from their actions of neutralizing (Army terminology for destroying) the news papers, TV Stations which heralded the actual launching of offensive. Up to now they have also succeeded in keeping away international media men from going to Jaffna. How long can India expect the whole world to believe what their unnamed spokesman in the Defence Ministry is saying is correct and beyond contest. The people of India, particularly the Tamilians of Madras have every right to know what actually is happening in Jaffna.?

Indian Media claims that IPKF is killing only LTTE terrorists, and its advance is slow because its concern for the lives of innocent civilians and that it has not done any

indiscriminate shelling and straffing by Helicopters and that Sri Lankan Joint services personnel are not fighting along with it. But, BBC broadcast they have received reports about air attacks and the IPKF is receiving advice on terrain and anti terrorist tactics by a top Sri Lankan officer. Death of a Sri Lankan soldier was reported from Jaffna on 10.10.87. But the IPKF quickly explained that the deceased was only an on-locker and a not a co-fighter.

LTTE, the people know of, is comprised of dedicated disciplined men whose courage, committment and civic sense has no comparison. So we find it rather hard to believe the stories made out in AIR, Doordharsan and the unnamed spokesman of the Ministry of Defence that LTTE fighters are using women, children and old people as human shield and fighting from behind, Indian official media slo claims that there progress is slow because of their concern over loss of civilian lives.

If there is any iota of truth in those claims, why not take some photographs and prove it to us, how the LTTE men are engaged in a cowardly battle. Also prove the height of your concern for human life and compassion for mankind and boost up the image of the Gandhian Nation.

The leader Mr. V.Prabhakaran whom we know of is a Saviour, who braved and saved the Tamilians from the attrocities of the J.R.Jayawardene government when most of other so called militant groups and so called leaders (TULF etc) ran away from the troubled land to safe havens of India. The Prabhakaran we know of is the person who persuaded the mothers who joined Mr. Thileepan in the deathfast to give it up, saying and that it is for the sake of the mothers of Eelam, LTTE was making sacrificer but not the other way round. We cannot even imagine such a heroic person who safeguarded the fundamental right and life of civilian population, using the very civilians as human guard. Therefore we appeal to the leaders to go into the troubled Jaffna and bring out proofs of what is happening over there.

Indian government also reasons out that they destroyed the two newspaper presses because they were helping LTTE in the false propaganda. Will the same Indian government, which, talks of similar false propaganda charges against 'Indian Express' group resort to similar steps of destruction against that news paper group. Indian news paper media, which made such a hue and cry when the Express office was raided, is keeping silent after a such a scandalous, barbarious act of destroying newspaper presses done by the Indian Forces which went to bring out peace in that land.

In the history of the world, this is the first time a Peace Keeping Force is engaged in a battle with the people, to protect whose interests, they mainly went in. No other leader of India has brought such disgrace to India by putting Indian forces under the command of Chauvinistic leader of another country.

Suggested Solution.

1. IPKF must stop the offensive without any pre-condition.

2. The proposed Interim Council with pre-eminent position to LTTE, and with Mr.Pathmanathan as the Chief Administrator must be set up.

3. As per the assurance given by Mr. Rajiv Gandhi to Mr.Prabhakaran, a police force must be set up with LTTE men.

4. No sooner the Interrim Administration Council is set up the LTTE must hand over all the weapons to IPKF.

5. India must stop all false propoganda and accept LTTE members as freedom fighters.

6. Biased officers who lacks the tact and vision such as Mr.J.N.Dixit must be removed from the scene.

7. Strong leadership with untarnished image must replace the Current Command of IPKF.

8. India should boldly put out enough pressure on Mr. J.R.Jayawardene courageously to bring peace to that troubled land.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

Madras. 21.10.87.

TAMIL NADU STUDENTS.

ATTN CLEMENT JOHN HONGKONG
ATTN DR SANS JUNG PARK SINGAPORE
ATTN DWAIN EPPS NCCCUSA NEW YORK
ATTN ANWAR BARKET CCIA UN HQ LIAISON OFFICE NETWORK
ATTN PAX ROMANA, M.RASJKUMAR GENEVA
ATTN JOH PACE TOM MC CARTHY UN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS GENEVA
ATTN CI GENEVA
ATTN A ESTY INTERNATIONAL HQ LONDON ASIA DPT AND GEN SECRETARIAT
ATTN ICJ GENEVA

10.11.1987

FOLLOWING LETTER HAS BEEN SENT SEPARATELY TO H.E.AMBASSADOR RODRIGO PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SRI LANKA GENEVA AND H.E.AMBASSADOR TEJA PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDIA GENEVA
QUOTE
Your excellency, You may recall the statement issued by the world council of churches on 15th October 1987 in which we expressed our concern on the situation in the Jaffna peninsula in Sri Lanka.
We have now received the following information from sources which we fully trust. The information was sent on 2nd November but it reached us only the last week-end:

1. The whole of Jaffna peninsula is without electricity for more than three weeks, with all consequences that follow from it.

2. There has been a perpetual 24 hour curfew in the peninsular from the 15th October. It has been relaxed only for a few hours a day for the last few days within the Jaffna Municipal limits. This has meant a serious problem for the wounded. The dead cannot be given a decent burial or cremation. People are unable to obtain their provision. There is a standstill of all transport. All communications has been paralysed.

3. The Indian forces, contrary to all public statements put by the official media, have engaged in indiscriminate shelling and aerial attacks. At least 500 civilians have been killed so far and about 8000 injured. To mention a few instances:

a) The Government hospital was attacked by Indian army and one of the victims who escaped with serious injuries told us that at least 200 were killed in the hospital. This included a few nurses and few doctors.

b) A refugee camp in Kokuvil Hindu College was attacked and about thirty were killed.

c) Passengers at a jetty in Araly travelling to cross over to the island on the other side for safety were attacked by air and about 30 of them were killed.

d) Hospitals including the Government hospital at Tellipalai and private hospital and mission hospitals have been shelled and forced to close down. Mission hospital at Manipay was shelled and one staff member was killed. There were more than 300 refugees at that time, in addition to the patients and staff. The hospital remains closed for the last few weeks.

4. The indiscriminate shelling has led to nearly 400,000 refugees within the peninsula. The homes they fled from have been damaged by shelling and often looted. Because of the curfew the NGO's including the churches which are trying to help are unable to get provisions for the refugee camp.

5. Since banks and post offices are closed, there is an acute problem of money transaction.

Tamileelam Archive

All this will convince you that the innocent civilians are the victims of this operation.

We request you to be kind enough to transmit this information to your government, conveying our deep concern about the suffering of the people in the region.

We appeal to your government to take immediate steps for reconciliation and relief and to allow the International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian organisations to provide assistance to the people in the area.

We reiterate our appeal to seek ways to end the fighting and to renew efforts for negotiations and political settlement.

We are making a similar letter to the permanent representative of the Government of India/Sri Lanka.

Assuring you of our highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,
Emilio Castro General Secretary.

UNQUOTE.

RGDS

FRANS ROUWEN CCIA

Task Force on Militarization in Asia and the Pacific
East Asia and Pacific and Southern Asia Committees of the
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA
Room 712, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115
(212) 870-2922

Memorandum

Date: November 12, 1987
To: South Asia Working Group & Selected Sri Lanka Advocates
From: Christopher Candland
Subject: Communications on the situation in Northern Sri Lanka to Governments involved

With information in recent days from the World Council of Churches (WCC) Emergencies Office, from the Christian Conference of Asia, and the Geneva-based human rights group, SOS Torture, the Southern Asia Office has found the situation in Jaffna - as a result of the Indian Peace-Keeping Force's operation - to be grave.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

Following the model of a WCC letter to the Indian and Sri Lankan ambassadors to Geneva, the Task Force Office wrote and sent communications to the Indian and Sri Lankan ambassadors to Washington, DC, the Secretary and the Sri Lanka Desk of the US Department of State, and the Chairpersons of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and the House Subcommittee on Asia and Pacific Affairs.

Details of the situation in Jaffna can be obtained from the Task Force Office, if, in your professional or personal capacity, you are able to send similar messages of concern.

enc: 11/11/87 telex to H. E. Ambassador S. De Alwis
11/10/87 WCC telex to the NCCCUSA

R C A GLOBAL TELEGRAM/TELEX

☐ Cable
☒ Telex

From: Southern Asia Office
Account Number: 12-30

TO: 248312 CYLN UR

YOUR EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR S. DE ALWIS
SRI LANKAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES

DATE: NOV. 11, 1987

THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM TRUSTED SOURCES IN SRI LANKA:

1. AN ESTIMATED 500 - 2,000 CIVILIANS HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE INDIAN PEACE-KEEPING FORCE'S (IPKF) EFFORT TO ROUT THE LIBERATION TIGERS OF TAMIL EELAM FROM THE JAFFNA PENINSULA. THIS COMPARES WITH AN ESTIMATED 70 "TIGER" DEATHS.

Tamileelam Archive

2. AERIAL STRIKES BY THE IPKF IS A CHIEF CAUSE OF THE INDISCRIMINATE CIVILIAN CASUALTIES.

3. THE NEARLY CONTINUOUS 24 HOUR CURFEW SINCE OCT. 15, THE CUT IN ELECTRICITY AND COMMUNICATIONS, THE CLOSURE OF BANKS AND POST OFFICES, AND THE BAN ON TRAVEL IN THE JAFFNA PENINSULA HAS CREATED NEAR STARVATION CONDITIONS. PEOPLE ARE DEPRIVED OF FUEL AND MEDICINE AS WELL. THE WOUNDED CAN NOT SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION AND THE DEAD CAN NOT BE BURIED. RELIEF AGENCIES ARE PREVENTED FROM ALLEVIATING THE SUFFERING.

4. BOTH PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS HAVE BEEN SHELLED BY THE IPKF AND HAVE BEEN FORCED TO CLOSE. DOCTORS, NURSES, AND PATIENTS HAVE BEEN KILLED BY THE IPKF. THUS, CIVILIANS ARE WITHOUT MEDICAL CARE.

5. ADDITIONAL IPKF HAVE FLOWN INTO VAVUNIYA.

6. MASS MURDERS AND RAPES BY THE IPKF HAVE OCCURRED IN THE EASTERN AND NORTHERN PROVINCES.

7. AS MANY AS 400,000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN MADE HOMELESS, THIS DURING THE MONSOON SEASON.

8. DESPITE THE EXTREME CONDITIONS, THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IS PROCEEDING WITH PLANS TO REPATRIATE SRI LANKA REFUGEES "AS SOON AS THE FIGHTING CEASES."

WE ARE DEEPLY DISTURBED THAT INNOCENT CIVILIANS ARE THE VICTIMS OF THE IPKF OPERATION.

PLEASE USE YOUR GOOD OFFICES TO ENSURE THAT:

1. THE INDISCRIMINATE ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS BE HALTED;

2. THE CURFEW BE LIFTED;

3. RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS, ESPECIALLY THE ICRC AND THE UNHCR, BE PERMITTED ACCESS TO ALLEVIATE THE PEOPLE'S SUFFERING;

தமிழ் ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamil Eelam Archive

4. AND THE REFUGEE REPATRIATION PLANS BE HELD UNTIL CONDITIONS PERMIT PROPER AND HUMANE RESETTLEMENT.

A REPLY WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

SIMILAR MESSAGES ARE BEING SENT TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA AND THE US.

REGARDS,
BRUCE A. ROGERS,
ACTING DIRECTOR,
SOUTHERN ASIA OFFICE,
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, USA

TELEX: 234579 NCC UR
CABLE: DOMINICUS NEWYORK

TAMIL VOICE INTERNATIONAL (TVI)
FEBRUARY 1, 1988.

SWEDISH GROUP APPEALS ON EELAM TAMIL PROBLEM

Full text of a letter addressed to the Prime Minister of Sweden with copies to all parties concerned by Svenska Multi-Etniska Foreningen for Sri Lanka (SMES) expressing its concern over the Eelam Tamil problem and calling upon Mr.Carlsson to take it up with Mr Rajiv Gandhi.'As a Swedish based voluntary group which is working towards peace, democracy and ethnic harmony in a united Sri Lanka, we are gravely concerned about the continuing unhappy state of affairs in Sri Lanka.

The expectation that the New Delhi government would restore peace and offer protection to the hapless minorities in Sri Lanka has not only failed to materialise but these so called Indian peace keeping forces have themselves taken up arms against the people of Sri Lanka. **They have lost the trust which the different ethnic groups in the Island placed in them**

While condemning these actions of the 'peace-keeping forces' which have led to untold sufferings to the people, we are also painfully aware that a limited presence of these troops, at least for a short period of time, will be necessary for the task of ensuring peace in that country. For this to be accomplished it is necessary to restore the faith of the people and in our view this is only possible with the help of a neutral peace keeping force of international stature, namely a United Nations peace-keeping force.

We envisage that the Indian troops will work together with the UN peace-keeping forces and set about the task of restoring peace and bringing about normalisation.

A pre-requisite for this process, however, would be the immediate withdrawal of a major part of the Indian 'peace- keeping troops'. In its pursuit of the policy of non-alignment India has on several occasions declared itself opposed to the presence of foreign troops on the territory of another sovereign nation. **We urge Mr.Rajiv Gandhi to apply to his own actions this principle to which not only India but also Sweden and all other peace-loving nations in the world subscribe.**

Our association appreciates the endeavours of Sweden in championing the cause of oppressed people without regard to colour, race or religion. We urge upon you to use the occasion of your forthcoming talks in Stockholm with Mr.Rajiv Gandhi to persuade him that:

1. (a) The only way to restore the people's faith in the peace- keeping efforts in Sri Lanka is to remove immediately a major portion of his government's troops.

(b) To request the Secretary General of the UN to send a United Nations peace-keeping force which would then work jointly with the remaining Indian peace-keeping forces to restore peace and harmony and to pave the way for normalisation. That such a request to the UN Secretary General be made jointly by the governments of Sri Lanka and India — the two parties to the 29th July peace accord which was expected to grant the minorities their human rights while preserving ethnic harmony and security for all peoples of Sri Lanka.

2. That he in turn prevail upon the President of Sri Lanka to take action to fulfil the conditions of the 29th July peace accord, namely,

(a) the declaration of a general amnesty and the release of all political prisoners, both Tamil and Sinhalese, now held in camps in the South of Sri Lanka,

(b) to lift the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) brought into effect in 1979, which allows the government of Sri Lanka to arrest and detain people for great lengths of time without any charges being brought against them before a duly constituted court of law.

3. That he further prevails upon the President of Sri Lanka to

(a) permit the International Red Cross to help the refugees who have been exposed to severe physical and mental suffering in the affected areas.

(b) Grant citizenship without delay not only to the so-called 'Indian Tamils' or 'Plantation Tamils' whose applications for citizenship have been accepted, but also to all the other 'Indian Tamils' whose applications have been rejected despite the fact that they and their ancestors have made enormous contributions to the economic life of Sri Lanka for over a century and that they were born and have lived all their life in Sri Lanka and have known no other land including India to which they are threatened with 'repatriation'.

We end this plea with the hope that you will fulfil the faith of an oppressed people who look to independent nations like Sweden to champion their cause and relieve their sufferings.'

Asian Bureau Australia

173 Royal Parade, Parkville,
Victoria 3052.
Tel. (03) 347 8595. Cable: "People" Melbourne. Telex AA38842sipros.

10th.December 1987.

Mr.G.de.Wangan,
Aide d'Urgence aux Tamoule Refugies en India.

Mr.R.Veidier,
Commission Question Internationale.

Mr.B.Murugathas,
Tamil Co ordinating Committee.
10,rue Pouchet,
75017 PARIS.

Dear Friends,

Best wishes for the meeting on 18th and 19th.I am very sorry I cannot be there.But a sudden attack of flu has meant that I have to stay in bed.I hope something beneficial will result from the meeting.

I suggests that pressure should be exerted on India to allow into Sri Lanka,ICRC,Amnesty and Foreign Journalists.They must be allowed access to the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

தமிழீழ ஆவணகம்
Tamileelam Archive

India must be condemned for the brutality shown against the civilians in the recent offensive. Efforts should be made to encourage India to lift the Gensorship and News restrictions in Tamil Nadu.There should also be attempt to communicate with Politicians in Tamil Nadu in all the main parties,informing them of the Indian attrocities and calling them to act.

Tamil refugees should not be returned to Sri Lanka against their will.The situation there is still insecure and uncertain for Tamils.

The International Community must continue to watch the events in Sri Lanka carefully.

Again my appologies that I am not with you. I will be interested to here the results of the meeting.

David Feith,
Asian Bureau Australia.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TAMILS

A special conference on Tamil refugees was held in Paris on December,18-19, 1987.Forty two delegates representing thirty six non-governmental organisations from Europe,USA and Canada attended this conference.The present situation in Sri Lanka's northern and eastern provinces was discussed and numerous testimonies from eye witnesses heard.

CONFERENCE RESOLUTION

At the end of the two-days conference the delegates passed the following resolution.

The recent news from Sri-Lanka, particularly from the northern and eastern regions reinforce the legitimate fears already expressed in regard to the civilians confronted by daily human rights and humanitarian law violations by the Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF), as well as the other groups on whom they exercise influence.

Contrary to the information provided by representatives of the Indian government, the first victims of violence in the combat to gain control of the Jaffna peninsula are indeed civilians.

Contrary to official denials, numerous testimonies provide irrefutable evidence of unjustified violence by the IPKF - assassination of doctors and nurses in the Jaffna hospital - intensive and systematic bombardment of homes, schools, and temples where civilians had sought refuge. Reports also indicate disappearances, extra-judicial killings and arbitrary detention.

TamileeLam Archive

The situation seems to have seriously deteriorated and the Tamil community lives in a legitimate state of anxiety and fear for the life and security of its members. In this context, the refusal by the Indian and Sri-Lankan governments to authorise the presence of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the Jaffna peninsula is in contravention of humanitarian law.

In addition, the return of Tamils presently seeking protection outside Sri Lanka cannot be considered legal as long as the armed conflict and grave violations of human rights continue in Sri Lanka.

We, as representatives of non-governmental organisations from Europe, U.S.A., and Canada:

a) express our extreme concern with the increasingly restrictive policy put forth by governments in order to block the arrival of Tamil asylum seekers and we ask all governments to respect the international instruments and principles by which they are bound.

b) being aware of the resolution 1987/61 from the United Nations Commission on Human Rights have met in Paris on December 18-19, 1987. We have expressed our grave concern at the deterioration of the situation in Sri Lanka and the insecurity among the civilian population. We call upon the governments of India and Sri Lanka to take the following measures :-

to authorise without further delay, the presence of the International Committee of the Red Cross according to the terms of the Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949.

- to give complete access to representatives of the UNHCR to fulfill their mission of aid and protection.

- to allow international observers into the Jaffna peninsula and the eastern provinces in order to make a complete report on human rights.

- to deter all signatory members of the Geneva Convention of 1949 and the Refugee Convention of 1957, Protocol of 1967, from a refoulment of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka until minimal security conditions are met.

- to permit ICRC and UNHCR and other non-governmental organisations to visit the detainees and prisoners of war.

-to immediately cease fire and commence urgent negotiations with the participation and protection of international observers.

- to revoke the Prevention of Terrorism Act and release all political and other detainees.

His Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar
The Secretary General
The United Nations
New York, New York

Excellency:

I address you in my personal capacity and as Chair of the Emergency Meeting on the Situation in Sri Lanka and the Status of Sri Lankan Refugees held in Paris, 18-19 December 1987. This session was attended by more than fifty (50) persons representing thiry-four (34) non-governmental organizations. I also address you as Chair of the Special Committee formed at that meeting.

As you are aware, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights addressed the situation in Sri Lanka in its resolution 1987/61 of 12 March 1987. Unfortuately, the situation in Sri Lanka has deteriorated dramatically since that time, and now, regrettably, involves the Government of India.

At our Paris session, we heard eye-witness accounts from, inter alia, a European parliamentarian, two doctors from European humanitarian organizations, European journalists, and several clergy of the Roman Catholic Church. These accounts have been and continue to be buttressed by hundreds of direct communications from Tamil and non-Tamil Sri Lankan victims, including refugee groups, local governmental bodies and local Church groups. The accounts provide not only irrefutable corroboration of the facts that we know have been presented to you by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Ealam (hereinafter LTTE), but indicate that violations of humanitarian law by the Indian Peace Keeping Force are even more widespread and grave.

Tamileelam Archive

The gravity of the situation has been further compounded because the International Committee of the Red Cross has still not been able to fulfill its functions as authorized by the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and as urged in the above-mentioned Commission resolution 1987/61.

The purpose of this communication is not, however, to submit documentation of these tragic events, as we expect that you are fully apprised of them. Rather, we seek your attention and guidance to find an immediate end to the intolerable situation.

We are aware that the LTTE have addressed you seeking your good offices--an initiative we heartily endorse. While we are sensitive to the numerous demands made on your time by other serious situations in the world today, we would like to believe that that the Governments of India and Sri Lanka would cooperate with you to seek a just and lasting solution to this long-standing problem with only minimum encouragement on your part. In particular, the Government of India has in the past shown leadership in addressing a number of pressing human rights and disarmament issues in the world, and must now find itself somewhat at odds with its previous laudable endeavors. I am personally convinced that the Government of India did not intend to become the persecutor of the Tamil people in Sri Lanka when it achieved the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord of 29 July 1987, and that it too, finds the current situation as intolerable for itself as it is for the Tamil people of Sri Lanka (and, indeed, for all the

people of Sri Lanka). Because it saw itself, in good faith, the protector of the Tamil people under the 29 July Accord, I anticipate that India will act in good faith to restore that position.

We are also in possession of a communication from Mr. Velupillai Prabhakaran, leader of the LTTE, to Mr. Rajiv Gandhi in which he indicates yet again that the LTTE pledges to surrender their arms and to "co-operate with the Government of India with the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord if Tamil interests are promoted and the Tamil people are protected." I do not find this communication either intransigent or ingenuine. Its open and sincere call for a cease-fire encourages me personally that the excercize of your good offices could yield fruitful results forthwith.

In the event that a cease-fire is not immediately possible, we ask you to encourage the Governments in question to allow the International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations to fulfil their missions to relieve the suffering of the civilian population and to tend to sick or wounded combatants or civilians. We also urge you to call on all Governments who have Tamil and other Sri Lankan refugees to not return (refouler) these persons to Sri Lanka until the cessation of hostilities and until their personal safety can be assured.

Excellency, I trust you will accept our interest and concerns in good faith. We are willing to submit to you documentation we have of the events in Sri Lanka. We know you share our grief over the loss of life, injuries [illegible] all involved in the conflict in Sri Lanka.

Tamil Eelam Archive

Excellency, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

MS Karen Parker
Attorney at Law
Chair, Emergency Meeting and
Special Committee

Lanka Guardian February 1 ,1988.

INTERNATIONAL ALERT — an appeal

(a letter to President J. R. Jayewardene)

International Alert and the Emergency Committee on Sri lanka are deeply aware of the efforts which you and Prime Minister Gandhi have made in order to achieve a long term and peaceful settlement of the ethnic conflict. We are also conscious of the suffering created by the continuation of the fighting and the frustration your Government must feel at the obstacles encountered in seeking to implement the Peace Accord.

It is with these factors in mind that we have prepared the following proposals in the hope that they may contribute to the process and to peace. The suggestions follow intensive discussions by International Alert Representatives in Colombo, Delhi and visits to Madras and Jaffna.

International Alert and the Emergency Committee are convinced that the Peace Accord reached between yourself and Prime Minister Gandhi provides the basis for a long term settlement of the Ethnic Conflicts in Sri Lanka. The Accord has been endorsed by both Government and by Tamil Militants. It has been welcomed by the International Community and by aid agencies as being a positive move towards the solution of problems which have been dividing the Country and destroying life and property and displacing the population both within Sri Lanka and to countries overseas.

Far from bringing peace however, the Accord has so far been followed by renewed violence and conflict between Tamils and the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF). Civilian casualties have been considerable. The LTTE failed to surrender their arms and intensified their violence. The IPKF have been accused of having committed serious violations of human rights against non combattants. In the South, the Sinhalese Extremists have carried out a policy of assasination of those who have supported the Accord.

However, despite the continued violence, the Accord remains the only Agreement upon which to build. The proposals from International Alert are presented as a formula for providing reassurance to those who fear the worst and a programme for those who want to make the process work.

The immediate imperative in the present Military and Political Impasse in the North and the East is the cessation of hositilities and the renewal of negotiations for a political and democratic solution to the civil war which persists. In pursuit of this objeceive, International Alert would like to propose the following:-

1. All parties be asked to agree to open a new dialogue based on the Accord and to agree to the non-use of weapons while the dialogue continues.
2. A procedure be established for the settlement of disputes arising from a breach of the agreement not to use arms and for the settlement of other disputes arising from day to day incidents. Such a procedure could involve consulation with all parties, independent observers nominated by the Secretary General of the United Nations or The Secretary General of the Commonwealth. Observers could also be drawn from the ranks of respected and competent international non-Governmental Organisations?

Whatever mechanism is set up to monitor the cessation of hostilities, two aspects are crucial:

1. That those constituting it must be both competent and command public confidence.
2. That it must have carefully defined terms of reference.
3. (A) The New Dialogue should, among other things, lay down a broad timetable for the holding of elections to provincial councils, including procedures for the gazetting of elections, registration of voters and nominations for elections.

   (B) The Inter-Parliamentary union or other appropriate and respected bodies could be invited to advise and assist technically and impartially in the national, provincial, electoral and referenda arrangements.
4. Militant Groups agree to surrender their arms once a date is set for election under the accord.
5. A phased withdrawal of Indian Troops to be publicly scheduled in relation to the timetable for the implementation of the accord.
6. The International Committee of the Red Cross should be allowed to exercise its functions in accordance with the March 1987 recommendation of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. This was a concensus Resolution supported amongst others by the Indian Government.
7. Governments of countries where Sri Lankan Refugees have sought asylum should be publicly requested not to return refugees to Sri Lanka against their own will but to co-operate with the UNHCR in Sri Lahka in establishing an orderly and supported return to their homes with appropriate assistance in their rehabilitation and resettlement.
8. The entire process could be initiated and invigorated by a week of negotiated peace to permit the vaccination, immunisation and other medical and preventative care for children in conflict areas under the supervision of UNICEF, along lines successfully followed in El Salvador and Nicaragua (Bridges of Peace).

(Continued on page 56)

INTERNATIONAL. . .

(Continued from page55)

9. The co-operation in and committment of opposition parties to the Peace Process is deemed to be of real significance in the creation of an atmosphere of confidence that peace, once achieved, will not be rejected by others in the future.

10. In this context it may be recalled that monitoring the cessation of hostilities is already envisaged by the accord, though this remains to be implemented. Point 5 in the annexure to the Indo-Sri Lankan Agreement of 29 July 1987 reads as follows:

    The Prime Minister of India and the President of Sri Lanka agree that a joint Indo-Sri Lankan observer group consisting of qualified representatives of the Government of India and the Government of Sri Lanka would monitor the cessation of hostilities from 31 July 1987.

Martin Ennals
Secretary General, International Alert.

Dame Judith Hart P. C.
International Emergency Committee on Sri Lanka.

தமிழ் ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamil Archive Project

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU CONDEMNS BRUTALITY

In a communique issued last month, the Asian Bureau Australia suggests that pressure should be exerted on India to allow into Sri Lanka, ICRC, Amnesty and foreign fournalists. They must be allowed access to the Northern and Eastern Provinces. India must be condemned for the brutality shown against the civilians in the recent offensive. Efforts should be made to encourage India to lift the censorship and news restrictions in Tamil Nadu. There should also be attempts to communicate with politicians in Tamil Nadu in all the main parties, informing them of the Indian atrocities, and calling them to act.

Tamil refugees should not be returned to Sri Lanka against their will. The situation there is still insecure and uncertain for Tamils.

The International Community must continue to watch the events in Sri Lanka carefully.

TAMIL VOICE INTERNATIONAL
FEBRUARY 1,1988

SECTION - III

Appeal in World Parliaments.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

222 *AID TO THE JAFFNA PENINSULA*

Sir Russell Johnston

★ 1

That this House notes the probable huge refugee problem and high level of casualties caused by the recent fighting in the Jaffna Peninsula, and the lack of detailed information as to how bad the situation there is; and therefore calls on Her Majesty's Government to press the Sri Lankan and Indian Governments to allow the International Red Cross immediate accesss to the area, so that civilian needs as regards urgent medical supplies, food and clothing, can be independently assessed.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

★ *The figure following this symbol gives the total number of names of Members appended, including those names added in this edition of the Notices of Questions and Motions.*

ADDRESS IN AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT. 20th October 1987.

Mr KENT (Hotham) (10.30)—Tonight I would like to express my concern about the situation in Sri Lanka. I have spoken before about that once tranquil island, formerly called Ceylon, and about the suffering of Tamils who are a sizable ethnic minority on that island. I condemned the racial violence and oppression against the Tamils: I condemned the communal violence incited and orchestrated by the Jayawardene Government. I, together with the rest of the world, was praying and hoping that India would lend its good offices to help to resolve the ethnic problems and bring peace to all communities of Sri Lanka. Finally, on 29 July this year, an agreement was signed between the President of Sri Lanka, Junius Jayawardene, and the Prime Minister of India, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. When the news broke on the accord reached by the two leaders, together with the rest of the world I hoped that it heralded the end of violence in Sri Lanka. Alas, our expectations were over-optimistic.

When in due course I obtained a copy of the agreement, I realised that the accord does not give real autonomy to the Tamil minority, which inhabits the northern and eastern parts of the island. While the accord stipulates that 'all arms presently held by militant groups will be surrendered in accordance with an agreed procedure to authorities to be designated by the Government of Sri Lanka—paragraph 2.9—the accord does not allow the autonomous maintenance of the internal security. Paragraph 2.10 of the accord places the internal law and order maintenance into the hands of Sinhala security forces, the same forces that were until now persecuting, gaoling and murdering Tamil civilians.

Paragraph 2.18 of the agreement proclaims Sinhala as the official language. It seemed to me, after reading the agreement, that it will not resolve the ethnic problems, and it will do nothing else but to postpone the day of reckoning. As Dr Brian Senewiratne remarked in his work '*Sri Lanka—the 1987 Peace Pact*':

> All it has done it to enforce by the use of (Indian) military force, proposals which the Sinhalese Government had previously offered to the Tamils and which they had rejected.

Nevertheless, I still hoped that the agreement at least would replace the violence and allow peaceful negotiations to take place. Unfortunately, it did not turn out to be so. The introduction of some 17,000 Indian troops, armed with tanks and artillery, further militarised the situation. Recent Press reports indicate that the Indian troops are involved in an all-out battle against Tamil guerrillas, completely disregarding the safety of the civilian population. A report in the Melbourne *Age* on 16 October stated:

> Speaking by telephone from the beleaguered city, the President of the Jaffna Branch of the Red Cross, Mr Balasubramanian, said: 'The killing of civilians, mainly by heavy shelling, must end. We're not criticising anyone,' he said, 'We just want to save the community from perishing. The situation in Jaffna is worse than it's ever been. It's a slow process of death'.

Even though the Indian troops sealed off the area and do not allow foreign reporters in, reports leaking out from the area indicate that casualties amongst civilians are high. For instance, the report in the *Australian Financial Review* of 13 October quotes a Sri Lankan military spokesman as follows:

> Asked if Indian troops were using artillery and tanks to support infantry sweeps, the spokesman said: 'They didn't bring those things in just for fun'.
>
> President Junius Jayawardene said yesterday he had sent Sri Lankan troops to eastern areas after guerrillas massacred more than 200 Sinhalese there last week.
>
> Survivors said Indian troops stood idly by during the slaughter, which followed the suicide of 13 Tamil guerrillas in government custody.

The strange behaviour of the Indian forces, standing by and facilitating massacres, confirms other reports that 200 or 300 trained Tamils were brought in from India to commit the atrocities which were then ascribed to the Tamil tigers. Of course, it is hard to find conclusive evidence supporting such reports, but one cannot discard them, especially in view of the fact that the Indian military does not allow access to foreign journalists or international bodies like the red Cross to ascertain the facts.

Partij van de Arbeid

Nicolaas Witsenkade 30
1017 ZT Amsterdam/Telefoon 020-5512155
Postbus 1310, 1000 BH Amsterdam
Telex 11140
Fax 020-5512330

Stichting Tamil Co-ordinating
Committe Nederland
t.a.v. N.Kugathas
Hoefkade 603
2525 LC Den Haag

letter P/10 nummer 20.118 jmw/rvdz datum 28 januari 1988 doorkiestel. 020-5512...

Dear mr.Kugathas,

We acted upon your letter of the 10th of December 1987. Our member of Parliament, Henk Knol, intervened with the Dutch Government. The Government assured him that the developments in Sri-Lanka and the human rights situation in that country have the constant attention of the Government. If necessary the Dutch Government will use bilateral contacts at the European Political cooperation to express its concern.

Tamileelam Archive

Sincerely yours,

Jan Marinus Wiersma,
International secretary.

Knol – BuZa

2878802580

Vragen van het lid **Knol** (P.v.d.A.) over *schending* van de *mensenrechten* op *Sri Lanka*. (Ingezonden 17 december 1987)

1
Berusten de berichten, dat de Indiase militaire interventie-eenheden op Sri Lanka in de afgelopen periode ernstige schendingen van de mensenrechten zouden hebben gepleegd tegenover Tamilburgers op waarheid?[1]

2
Was het in de afgelopen periode aan buitenlandse persvertegenwoordigers en organisaties als het Internationale Rode Kruis, niet toegestaan te reizen naar de spanningsgebieden en gevechtslokaties? Werden zij tegengehouden in de hoofdstad Colombo?

3
Zo ja, welke redenen lagen hieraan ten grondslag? Wat zijn de gevolgen geweest voor de noodzakelijke humanitaire hulpverlening aan de slachtoffers?

4
Bent u bereid, bij gebleken schendingen van de mensenrechten door Indiase militairen, zowel in bilateraal als in EG-verband contact op te nemen met de regeringen van India en van Sri Lanka, teneinde uw ernstige bezorgdheid uit te spreken over deze mensenrechtenschendingen?

5
Bent u tevens bereid op dezelfde wijze de regering van Sri Lanka te benaderen met het verzoek het Internationale Rode Kruis op geen enkele wijze te belemmeren wanneer deze organisaties haar humanitair werk ten behoeve van welke slachtoffers dan ook wenst te verrichten?

---

[1] Zie o.m. India Today van 15 november jl.

SECTION : IV

Eye witness Accounts.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

MASSACRE

SCORES of civilians, including patients, doctors, nurses and other staff were indiscriminately shot dead within the Jaffna Hospital premises by members of the Indian Peace Keeping Force following a confrontation with the LTTE. The following is a sworn account by a doctor:

'At about 4pm, some soldiers walked into the hospital shooting at random. I think all of them were Sikhs since all had their turbans on. Some doctors were relaxing at the doctors' lounge and I tried to get there. But the shooting was very heavy and the people were running for safety. I was thrown on the ground and I remained there for quite a long time, as long as the shooting continued. When evrything was quiet I tried to crawl out to my room and as I did so I realised that I was crawling over some dead bodies.

'I remained in the room till morning. And I hear that Dr.Sivapathasundaram, consultant pediatrician, had come, and I tried to get out of the room. Doctor Sivapathasundram with two nurses was walking with hands raised and shouting: "We are a doctor and nurses and we are surrendering!" But they were shot at point blank.

'Later on we were called out and were asked to remove the bodies. The sight I saw cannot be explained. I wish I were dead. My good friend and colleague Dr. Ganesh had been killed the previous evening. He was in the doctors' lounge and hearing the gunshots he came out of the room and was killed immediately. The other doctors in the room escaped. We were given three hours to dispose of the bodies, and it was an impossible task as there were so many.

'Dr.Sivapathasundram lives about a mile away from the hospital. We begged the Indian officers to hand over the body to the wife. They refused. His children — twins — are both deaf and dumb and what a tragedy! Dr. Ganesh has his mother and sister, and his body was also burned. The other doctor killed was Dr.Parimelalagan.

'On the whole there were about sixty eight bodies: of the hospital staff, were three doctors, one matron (Ms.Vadivalu), two nurses, two overseers, eleven labourers and one ambulance driver.

'We tried to get the identity of those killed, by searching their pockets and cutting away pieces of clothing. It was humanly impossible as there was a lot of blood, mutilation, disfigured bodies etc. Thank God we were not asked to set fire to the bodies. This was done by them near the mortuary, in the rubbish tank, near the entrance, etc.

'On Friday, we attended to some of the injured. There were about 22 of us, including the interns, and we had to do all the work with very few nurses on duty. All of us were strictly forbidden to leave the hospital premises. Today is the 10th. day and I hear that my house has been blasted and I do not know what has become of my parents.

Tamil Times ,December 1987.

THE CASUALTIES OF 'WAR' IN JAFFNA

TAMIL TIMES -DECEMBER 1987.

BETWEEN 10th and 16th, October, 1987.

THE DEAD:

SHELLING

1. Regno Marias Margris Gomez (26), Puthumaimatha Kovilady, Gurunagar, Jaffna. 2. Thambirasa Manivannan (29), 151, Navalar Rd, Jaffna. 3. Arumugam Thambiraga (57), Uchiodai, North, Manipay. 4. Suntharampillai Sivaguru (60), Ward No.1, Allaipiddy. 5. Muthuthamby Arunothayam (04), 16/2, Kailasapillaiyar Kovil Veethy, Nallur. 6. Muthuthamby Rajitha (07), 16/2, Kailasapillaiyar Kovil Veethy, Nallur. 7. Velan Kasipillia (63), 17, 4th Lane, Arasady Veethy, Nallur. 8. Ratnasingam Sathiaama (14), 4th Lane, Arasady Veethy, Nallur. 9. Sinnathamby Jegatheswaran (29), Earlalai West, Earlalai. 10. Sinnathamby Pathmawathy (27), Earlalai West, Earlalai. 11. Sathasivampillai Vimaladevy (28), No. 392, Navalar Rd, Jaffna. 12. S. Sinniah (45), No. 392, Navalar Rd, Jaffna. 13. Edwin Camils (19), 15, Columbuthurai Rd, Jaffna. 14. Nagappan Pasupathy (85), No. 392, Navalar Rd, Jaffna. 15. Pasupathy Yoganandan (30), No. 392, Navalar Rd, Jaffna. 16. Yoganandan Pavani (29), No. 392, Navalar Rd, jafna. 17. Thillaiyampalam Kathirkamadas (37), No.392, Navalar Rd, Jaffna. 18. Maheswarakumar (18), No.392, Navalar Rd, Jaffna. 19. Selvamalar (52), No.392, Navalar Rd, Jaffna. 20. Selliah Kamalam (62), 187/1, Manipay Rd, Jaffna. 21. Selvarajah Selvarupan (01), Kandasamy Kovil Lane, Kopay North. 22. Pedrupillai Thambirasa (51), 23, Rajendra Rd, Jaffna. 23. David Thayan (14), 51, Beach Road, Jaffna. 24. Ambalavanar Kandiah (83), Vairavar Koil Lane, Koddady, Jaffna. 25. Ponnampalam Thuthuthamby (45), Ward No.2, Pungudutivu. 26. Balasundaram Krishnaveny (36), Sinnakandu Lane, Ariyalai. 27. Thangarasa Kanagammah (34), Ponnambalam Lane, Ariyalai. 28. Thangarasa Jeyarani (12), Ponnambalam Lane, Ariyalai. 29. Ashokkumar Ajantha (08), Ponnambalam Lane, Ariyalai. 30. Kppalapillai Kethiswaran (22), 24, Ponnambalam Lane, Ariyalai. 31. Kumaraiah Kamaladas (26), Ward No.2, Nainativu. 32. Volauthampillai Shanmugalingam (40), Nagerkoil Rd, Eluthumadduval. 33. Annalingam Thangeswary (?), 628/7, K.K.S. Road, Natchimar Koilady, Jaffna. 34. Tharmbu Subramaniam (60), Mallakam, Min Lane. 35. Subramaniam Thangammah (50), Mallakam, Min Lane. 36. P. Ahila (15), Mallakam, Min Lane. 37. Kesavan Kopalakrishnan (42), Prambady Lane, Kokkuvil. 38. Kopalarkrishnan Sukumar (15), Prambady Lane, Kokkuvil. 39. Jeyaseelan Kreston (10(, Irupalai; 40. Yoganathan Kandimathy (31), Urelu East. 41. Aseervathan Varutharasa (28), St. Joseph's Church, Kopay. 42. Anandarasa Anushiya (14). Kopay North. 43. Thirunavukarasu Rajmohan (27), Pungudutivu.

SHOOTING

1. Sellathurai Satgunam (55), Kokkan Veethy, Inuvil East, 2. T. Inparasa (25), (Campus Student), Kopay. 3. Ramanathan Prabakaran (22) (Campus Student) Prambady Road, Kokuvil. 4. Kathiravelpillai Manoharan (06), Prambady Road Kokuvil. 5. Thedchanamoorthy Thavarasalingam (45), Prambady Road, Kokuvil. 6. Thavarasalingham Kanagambikai (42), Prambady Road, Kokuvil. 7. Thavarasalingham Tharshini (01), Prambady Road, Kokuvil. 8. Nagalingham Jeevaratnam (25), Kokuvil East. 9. Thamotharampillai Suseela (33), Station Road, Kokuvil. 10. Ponnambalam Muthuthamby (45), Ward No2, Pungudutivu. 11. Ilayavi Pasupathi (52), Tellipalai East. 12. Gunaratnam Gunachandran (20), Ward No.8, Nainativu. 13. Swaminather Thambiaiah (56), Palaly South. 14. M.M. Millis Gilta (48), 6, Ice Pland Road, Gurunagar. 15. Emilin Wervin (18), 6, Ice Plant Road, Gurunagar. 16. Benedict Theresamma (52), 6, Ice Plant, Gurunagar. 17. Ligouri Stence (15), 6, Ice Plant, Gurunagar. 18. Rathinam Muthulingam (44), Muthamil Veethy, Koddady. 19. Kandiah Krishnar (27), 21/2, Amman Road, Kandarmadam. 20. Navaratnam Shanthi (17), Urumpirai North. 21. Kanapathipillai Kumarasamy (45), Alady, Uduvil. 22. Pavilupillai Navaratnam (45), 80, Main Street, Jaffna.

All the above bodies were brought to the Govt. Hospital Jaffna.

From: Eelanadu National Thamil daily, 18-10-1987.

MY MOTHER WAS MURDERED.

By

R. NARENDRAN Ph.D.

Events relating to the tragic deaths of Mrs. Florence A. Rajasingham age 55 years, Mr. Rajasingham Manoharan 38 years and Mr. Rasiah age 65 years at Kokulan Singa Malai, Navatkuli, Jaffna Sri Lanka. On the morning of the 16th October 1987 the inmates had set about their usual chores. After they had breakfast they found some gunshots being fired near the front gates. Mr. Manoharan had requested his mother Mrs. Rajasingham to go to the front and find out what was happening.

As soon as she stepped out of the porch a further shot with someone falling over a bicycle parked under the front portico had been heard. Mr. Manoharan had thereafter come into his front verandah and peeped out through the curtain. On seeing orders being given by unknown personnel at the gate that he should step out Mr. Manoharan had come out begging that he be not shot. However, he too was gunned down. Mr. Rasiah the gardener had soon thereafter come on to the porch followed by the boy through the side entrance. He too was felled with a volley of shots. The boy had fallen on Mr. Rasiah's body.

The assailants seen by the boy were described by him to be in military uniform and heard speaking a strange language. The boy is familiar with the Tamil, Sinhalese and English languages used in Sri Lanka. The assailants had soon after departed under the impression that the boy was also dead. The boy had thereupon jumped over the parapet wall at the back and run through the bush to the nearest occupied house. He was given a change of clothing there and taken to one Mr. Ratnam of Kaithady. Mr. Ratnam thereafter dispatched the message to Vavuniya to my uncle Mesan Kanagaratnam. According to further information received the Indian peace keeping forces had visited the house on the 14th of October 1987 and assured the inmates that they should continue to live in the house and the IPKF would provide protection.

Tamileelam Archive

With assistance of the Sri Lankan Army and Air force I reached Navatkuli around 3.30 p.m. on the 23rd of October 1987. From the Navatkuli camp I was accompanied by the Sri Lankan army personnel and the IPKF personnel to my house. At the neighbours house only a skull was found. It was assumed to belong to the watcher who looked after the house when the neighbour was away in Colombo. Crows were seen attacking the skull. The rest of the bones apparently had been carried away by dogs and other wild animals. At our house the stench was unbearable and the three bodies were found in three different places in the porch. Several crows and a dog were seen in the vicinity of the bodies The position of the bodies conformed to that described by the boy. The entire porch area were covered with thousands of maggots. The state of the bodies and identification were as follows.

Mrs. Rajasingham: The minimally fleshed skeleton was lying nearer the furthest end of the porch when viewed from the side gate. The earrings were yet attached to the skull. One hand was yet covered with flesh and skin. The rest of the body had been eaten by animals leaving the skeleton exposed. Even the hair had been pulled off along with the scalp and was lying about two meters from the body. A white blouse was yet around the rib cage and there was a large bullet hole with a burn mark around it. The dentures usually worn by Mrs. Rajasingham were found loose within the mandibular and maxillary bones of the jaw. The sari worn by Mrs. Rajasingham had fallen off and was lying under the skeleton soaked in body fluids and decaying material. The skeleton was lying parallel to the bicycle with part of her hand over the pedal.

Mr. Manoharan: The body was lying face downwards and closest to the door leading to the verandah. The body was the most intact. The bullet had apparently passed through his face and the wound was infected with maggots. The face was unidentifiable. The rest of the body was bloated but intact and fully clad. The wrist watch was on the left wrist and eyeglasses were seen hooked to the shirt. He was wearing a sarong held in

place as usual by a belt. The left hand was partly raised over the verandah. The body was lying straight without any contortions.

Mr. Rasiah: No flesh nor internal organs were found in the skeleton. Skeleton was lying on the outermost edge of the porch along the path from the back garden and closer to the side gate. Mr. Rasiah was a very obese man in life and it was a revelation to see the relative narrowness of the skeleton. The body was identifiable only by the clothing and a pair of slippers found near the skeleton. The skeleton was identified as Mr. Rasiah largely on the basis of description of the place where he had fallen provided by the boy.

Search of the area between the porch and the front gate did not reveal the presence of any bullet casings. The Sri Lankan army team visiting the site on the previous day had specifically mentioned that "it was assumed that some interested party had removed the evidence." A cursory look at the downstairs section of the house revealed that it had been ransacked. Every drawer and cupboard had been opened and the contents strewn. The bodies were photographed in the undisturbed position using a camera was taken without being handled in any way. Thereafter the bodies were moved individually outside using bed sheets for support and prepared for cremation using branches of trees and dried coconut and palmyrah palms. Each body was prepared for cremation separately and doused with diesel.

The next day, accompanied by the Sri Lankan army personnel, I returned to the house. Inspection of the cremation site revealed portions of the skeletons were yet unburnt. Request was made to the Sri Lankan army personnel to bring some diesel with them from the Sri Lankan army camp so that the leftovers of the bodies could be reburnt. I inspected the house and the garden in the company of the Sri Lankan army personnel. All sections of the house including the upstairs area had been ransacked. The portable stereo system and the 16 inch colour television set were the obvious items missing from the usual places. Other electronic items such as wall clock and blender were yet there. The leftovers from the breakfast of the 16th of October were yet remaining on the dining table in the kitchen. Fish being prepared for lunch on the fateful day was also yet found on the table near the gas cooker. The remainder of the breakfast and the fish was uncovered. The beds were made and the windows and doors usually opened out in the morning were found open. The two dogs were yet tethered to their usual places and were very weak. A goat was found tethered to a tree and was yet alive. Chicken were in their coop, yet alive. The budgerigar in their cages were all dead with the exception of one which was on the verge of death. A close inspection of the house revealed that the ransacking of the house had been carried out by people looking for cash and valuables. No cash was found anywhere in the house and Mr. Manoharan's purse was totally empty. This inspection also left me with the impression that the inmates had not anticipated any trouble on the fateful morning and had set about their normal chores as usual. After collecting the ashes of the three deceased separately, the unburnt portions of the skeletons were piled together and fires were made anew in order to complete the cremation. Thereafter methodical and careful search was made of the front garden and the area outside the front gates for bullet casings. Although no bullet casings were found in the garden, three bullet casings were found among the bushes outside the parapet wall near the front gate. The site where the casings were found was photographed. The Sri Lankan army personnel thereafter identified the bullet casings as those belonging to weapons used exclusively by the Indian army in Sri Lanka. Neither the LTTE nor the Sri Lankan army uses this type of bullets. The Sri Lankan Police are however issued with this type of bullets, but they are not stationed anywhere near the theater of the present conflict. It was concluded by me that the murders had been carried out by the IPKF based on the evidence of the boy who managed to escape and the bullet casings that were found at the site.

College of Agriculture
King Faisal University
P.O. Box 420
Al Hasa 31982.
Saudi Arabia.
November 6, 1987.

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi
Prime Minister
Republic of India.

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

This letter is addressed to you in your dual capacities as the Prime Minister of India and a son whose mother was murdered by uniformed assassins. Despite your exalted position, I am sure you too would have suffered and are probably yet suffering from the trauma of your mother's death. Love and affection for our near and dear, especially parents and siblings, is something that is common to all man kind and which is developed commencing at birth and felt throughout life. The long lasting nature of this bond and its depth are what largely delineates man from beasts.

I am writing this letter as a son and brother whose mother and younger brother were callously murdered by the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) on the 16th of October 1987 at Navatkuli, Jaffna. However, there were no state funerals and national display of grief for them, unlike your mother! The bodies were left to rot and be eaten by dogs and crows! The bodies or whatever remained of them would have yet remained around, had not the Sri Lankan army and airforce helped me to get to the site on the seventh day and cremate the remains.

Tamileelam Archive

My mother was 65 years old and had given birth to 7 children and reared them through years of material hardship and personal deprivation. We children are what we are today largely on account of the sacrifices made by her. There are very few mothers anywhere today who could have suffered more than she did to rear her 7 children as decent human beings. I built the house in Navatkuli, Jaffna, 5 years back for her to live with all comforts. The house was a token of gratitude I felt for what she had done for us. The IPKF has made this very same house her grave! My brother who was 38 years old was a leading citizen of Jaffna, was married 5 years and had two children aged 2 1/2 and 5 years respectively. He had forgone several opportunities to leave Sri Lanka in order to be near our mother. All my other brothers and sisters are living scattered in various parts of the globe. My brother has paid the ultimate penalty for having loved his mother and been thoughtful towards her welfare! How can his young widow and two small children be consoled now? This is a tragedy that will not be forgotten nor forgiven for generations to come.

The fact that both these lives were terminated without any rational reason in a brutal manner and the bodies not accorded the respect due to that of even a hapless beggar on the streets is absolutely unpardonable. The fact that they were summoned out and shot point blank at close range without any questions being asked, under the portico of their own house speaks volumes for the brutality and utter disregard for human life displayed by the Indian army. The right

to life inherent in all the covenants on human rights talked about today, has been most brazenly violated in this instance. How can an army representing what is in reality a Hindu India (Mahatma Gandhi's India) could sink to such low depths is beyond my comprehension. Why couldn't my mother and brother been questioned and taken into custody if they had posed a threat to the IPKF? Why should human life have become so cheap?

Ironically, the very same Sri Lankan armed forces we Tamils had hitherto considered our enemies showed their Buddhist cultural heritage - compassion and brotherhood, at the moment in our history when the Indian forces that had entered Sri Lanka as defenders of the Tamils had turned into their very killers. I will be eternally grateful for the compassionate manner in which the Sri Lankan forces came to my assistance when it was most needed. What I have seen in my own house and the neighbourhood is proof enough of the murderous intent of the Indian army and the immoral manner in which it has carried out its crusade against the LTTE in Jaffna. No amount of press censorship and propaganda could put a lid on the facts for long and the trauma of what has transpired cannot be erased from the collective memory of the Tamils, by providing them free food and medicines! My mother and brother had survived four years of near civil war and had continued to live in the same house despite its proximity to the Sri Lankan army camp. However, they had to die a death even stray dogs do not deserve, at the hands of the Indian forces that had come to ensure their safety. What makes the whole episode all the more nauseating is the fact that these murders were carried out apparently to enable the Indian soldiers to loot the house of its valuables! The missing stereo system and colour television testify to this. The house had been ransacked in search of money and jewels. The location of the house in a sparsely populated area, the nature of the house and the age and social background of the inhabitants would have indicated to anyone with even a modicum of intelligence that my mother and brother did not constitute a threat to the IPKF. The murders had in fact been committed two days after the IPKF had assured their safety!

I can comprehend the finality of death and the impossibility of bringing the dead alive by even the Prime Minister of India. However, I hope this letter will serve the purpose of preventing any more deaths of innocent Tamils at the hand of the IPKF (aptly called in Jaffna "Innocent People Killing Force!!. This is the only useful homage I could pay to my beloved mother and brother. I hope this letter and the enclosed material detailing the events that have transpired would prompt you to initiate action to penalize the guilty and stop the recurrence of such incidents.

With Kind Regards

Yours truly,

R. Narendran Ph.D.
Associate Professor
and, an unconsolable son
and brother.

Indisk lege bekrefter overgrep mot sivile

Dr. M. S. Khan kaller fredsstyrken «peace killing force»



I Sri Lanka: KJELL GJERSETH (tekst og foto)

– Jeg begriper ikke hva den indiske regjeringen tenker på. Det de kaller Indian Peace Keeping Force, IPKF, er noe ganske annet, nemlig: Indian Peace Killing Force. Denne styrken har demonstrert to egenskaper: Evne til ødeleggelse og evne til å drepe sivile. Det er den indiske legen Mohammed Shakil Khan som sier dette til Aftenbladet i Jaffna.

Dr. Khan arbeider for det indiske Røde Kors og kom til Sri Lanka som frivillig. Han oppholdt seg i Jaffna i de blodige ukene etter at offensiven mot LTTE, de tamilske tigrene, startet 10. oktober.

Dr. Khan sier at helsetilstandene i Jaffna er kritiske. Hundrevis av sårede får ikke tilfredsstillende behandling. Han bekrefter påstandene fra både tamiler og sinhalesere i det nordlige og østlige Sri Lanka: Den indiske «fredsstyrkens» overgrep sivile i stort omfang.

– Jeg kan ikke si hvor mange. Jeg er imidlertid overbevist om at det er riktig når folk hevder at bare en av ti drepte er en tamilsk geriljasoldat, sier dr. Khan.

I begynnelsen av forrige uke ble det åpnet for regulær busstrafikk til Jaffna fra hovedstaden Colombo. Det var påfallende å registrere at busmene også var tatoppakket av rekrutter da de forlot Jaffna.

Byens innbyggertall skal nå være om lag 20 prosent av hva det var før de indiske styrkene satte inn sin offensiv. Det betyr at godt over 250 000 har flyktet fra byen. De Aftenbladets medarbeidere oppholdt seg der sist helg var en by tømmende så folk fra nærliggende rundt Jaffna nå flyktet inn til byen.

«Tigrene» har trukket seg ut, og angriper de indiske posisjoner over hele Jaffna-halvøya. Og [illegible] ikke lenger bevæpnet, men sivervakter og lokale vaktstyrker.

«Tigrene» er eksperter på miner. Det paradoksale er at det er i India de har lært dette.

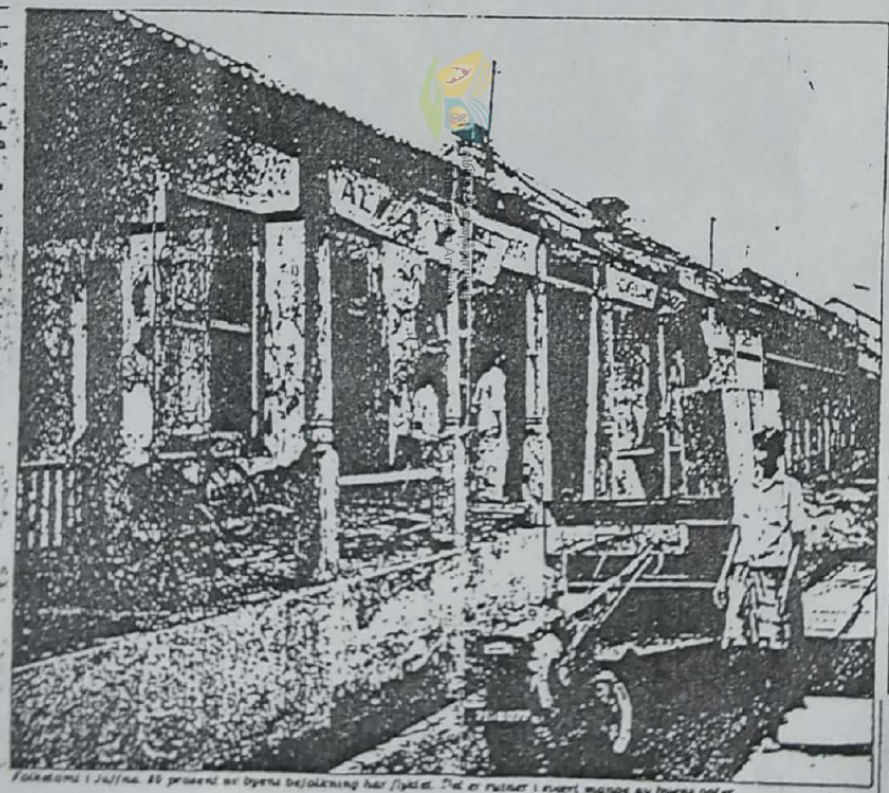
De aller fleste indiske soldater er blitt drept av miner. Ofte 10-15 soldater i samme eksplosjon. «Tigrenes» uoppklarte mineleggingsverk er et av de forhold som gir grunnlag for stor skepsis til de tapende delene av de indiske styrkenes oppgjør. Innbyggerne i Jaffna hevder at India mistet flere hundre soldater i gatekampene der. Også her brukte «Tigrene» miner, etter at de trakk seg unna, kvartal etter kvartal.

365 er offisielt drept, men i virkeligheten kanskje tre ganger så mange. Som tidligere omtalt har kilder i «fredsstyrken» overfor Aftenbladet bekreftet at 900 er drept.

Under kjøreturen fra Colombo til Trincomalee og videre nordover til Jaffna passerte vi titalls flyktningleire.

Både sinhalesiske og tamilske flyktninger hadde med forbausende sammenfall gjort de samme erfaringer og var preget av skrekk for overfor de indiske styrkene. Og i tillegg til felles skjebne: Ikke en eneste hjelp enn matforsyninger som så vidt holdt sultten unna.

De 480 000 flyktningene i Sri Lanka får minimal hjelp. Det gjelder også de sinhalesiske flyktningene fra de østlige områdene. Anslagsvis 60 000 til 80 000 av flyktningene er sinhalesere.



Fiskemenn i Jaffna. 80 prosent av byens befolkning har flyktet. Det er ruiner i svært mange av byens gater.

«Katastrofe-hjelp til Sri Lanka»

Støttegruppe for tamilene ber Norge ta initiativ

Situasjonen i Sri Lanka har dessverre igjen utviklet seg negativt. Fredsavtalen mellom Sri Lanka og India la grunnlag for en politisk løsning på den etniske konflikten i landet. Det er ytterst beklagelig at de stridende grupper har feilet i å følge opp avtalens hensikter.

Den tverrpolitiske støttegruppen for tamilene ser med den største bekymring på situasjonen som nå hersker i Sri Lanka. Den manglende oppfølging av fredsavtalens mål viser seg nok en gang å ramme uskyldige folkegrupper – først og fremst tamilene, men i økende grad også singalesere. Fortsatte krigshandlinger vil gjøre sivilbefolkningen i landet i stadig større grad til den tapende part.

Støttegruppen regner med at departementet allerede har uttrykt de norske reaksjoner på situasjonen i Sri Lanka. Vi kan følgelig bare håpe at forholdene i landet nå må bli normalisert så snart som mulig. I alle tilfeller er det nødvendig med en betydelig innsats for å bygge opp igjen det som er ødelagt – både menneskelig og materielt sett.

Støttegruppen vil be om at det blir tatt initiativ til at Det internasjonale Røde Kors og andre norske og internasjonale hjelpeorganisasjoner kan få mulighet til å arbeide i konfliktområdene. Vi regner med at Den norske regjering gjennom disse hjelpeorganisasjonene fortsatt er innstilt på å yte katastrofehjelp til krigsområdene. Det kan ikke herske tvil om at nøden er stor, og at det nå haster mer enn noen sinne med å få satt inn hjelpetiltak på bred basis for den lidende sivilbefolkningen.

Dersom det skulle vise seg at konflikten trekker ytterligere ut og at situasjonen ikke normaliseres i løpet av den nåværende uiden fremover, bør det fra norsk side vurderes å ta opp forslag om å sette inn internasjonale tiltak gjennom FN. Tanka ved pålegg om våpenhvile og oppnevning av internasjonale observatører som kan overvåke fredsavtalen på nøytral grunn.

Støttegruppen vil også be departementet vurdere om det kan gjøres noe fra norsk side for om mulig å bedre den generelle kommunikasjon med Sri lanka slik at tamilske innvandrere og flyktninger i Norge kan få gjennomprøvde kontakten med sine familier i landet.

Den tverrpolitiske støttegruppen for Tamilene

Harry Freyaland, DLF.
Harald Gammelsæter, V.
Ingvild Hakestad, SV.
Roald Zweidorf, KrF.
Kirsten Matlaen, H.
Svein Alnaker, KrF.
Alf W. Johansen, Ap.

God Jul med

-67-

INDIAN DOCTOR CONFIRMS VIOLENCE AGAINST CIVILIANS.

Dr. M.S. Khan calls the Peace Force = Peace Killing Force in Sri Lanka - KJELL GJERSETH - 4th December, 1987.

I don't understand what the Indian Government's motives are. What they call the Indian Peace Keeping Force, IPKF is something quite different, namely Indian Peace Killing Force. This force has shown two terrible capabilities; ability to destroy and the ability to kill civilians. The Indian doctor M.S. Khan says this to the "Afterbladet" in Jaffna.

Dr. Khan is working for the Indian Red Cross and came to Sri Lanka as a volunteer. He was in Jaffna during the bloody weeks after the offensive against the LITE/the Tamil Tigers began on 10th October, 1987.

Dr. Khan says that he is appalled at the conditions in Jaffna, both health and sanitary. Hundreds of wounded people do not receive satisfactory medical treatment. He confirms the allegations by both Tamils and Sinhalese in the North and South of Sri Lanka that " The IPKF has killed a large number of civilians". "I cannot say how many. However I am convinced that people were right when they claimed that only one of ten killed by the Indians, was a guerilla fighter", says Dr. Khan.

A regular bus-service from Jaffna to Colombo was started from the beginning of last week. The striking feature was that the buses were over-crowded by passengers when they left Jaffna. Only about 20% of the city's population are left from the total number of people resident before the Indian troops began their offensive. This means that over 250,000 people have fled from Jaffna. When Afterblad's correspondent noticed last week-end was that people from the districts were moving into the town!

The Tigers have spread themselves out and attack Indian positions throughout the Jaffna Peninsula. They lay land mines not only on the Main roads but also on other local road nets. The Tigers are experts on mines. The paradox is that they learnt it in India.

Many Indian soldiers were killed by mines, often 10-15 soldiers in one explosion. The Tiger's network of mines and their success give rise to the scepticism about the number of Indian fatalities, admitted by the IPKF. Jaffna citizens claim that hundreds of Indian soldiers were killed in street battles. The Tigers place mines every where after withdrawing from their position.

Officially 265 Indians are dead but the real number could be three times that. An earlier announcement by sources in the Peace Force admitted to Afterblad that over 900 were killed.

During the journey from Colombo to Trincomalee and further north towards Jaffna, we passed tens of refugee camps. Both Tamil and Sinhalese refugees have surprisingly undergone the same experiences at the hands of the Indians and both groups hate the Indian soldiers. They also share a common fate - homelessness.

P.T.O

Translation of the Norweigian paper.

The refugees receive only just enough food supplies to keep starvation out and nothing more. The 400,000 refugees in Sri Lanka receive only minimum help. This applies to the Sinhalese refugees from the Eastern areas, also. An estimated 60,000 to 80,000 of the refugees are Sinhalese.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

SECTION - V

Appeal from the LTTE Leader Mr.V.Prabakaran.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

The Headquarters,
Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam,
Jaffna.
16 th Nov 1987.

True copy.

The Secretary General,
United Nations Organisation,
New York,
U.S.A.

Your Excellency,

We wish to bring to the notice of the international community of the serious and the grave violations of the human rights and the inhuman atrocities committed by the Indian peace Keeping Force forthwith against the Tamil people of Sri Lanka. The situation is very alarming and critical with the large number of innocent Tamil civilians massacred and deserve the immediate and urgent attention of the world community.

You may be aware that IPKF was deployed in the Tamil area following the Indo/Sri Lanka accord to maintain and observe cessation of hostilities between the Tamil guerillas and the Sri Lankan armed forces. At the sta rt the Tamils greeted the Indian forces with great relief. The people hoped that their sufferings would end and permanent peace would return to their homeland.

On the contrary,the situation changed dramatically with the government of India starting a full scale military offensive operation to flush out the Liberation movement. The Indian troops arrived here with the mandate to maintain peace but have been turned into an army of occupation and are engaged in a most ruthless war against our people,continuing unabated,indiscriminate shelling by motor and artillery on civilian targets.Random straffings have taken a heavy toll of civilian lives.More than thousand Tamil civilians senselesly slaughtered and over twothousand injured and over twohundred Tamil women have been brutally raped.Apart from the extrajudicial killings,the Indian troops have cut off the electricity and water supplies in the Jaffna peninsula.The main Jaffna Teaching Hospital has been occupied by the Indian army.The people have no access to medical facilities because of the continuous round the clock curfew.With these military operations for the last three weeks,our people are facing extreme difficulties because of the military offensive operations.There is a ban on public and private transport.The ban on goods movement has resulted in an acute shortage of food and people are facing starvation.

We have brought to the notice of Indian prime Minister of the great tragedy and have repeatedly requested him to call off the military offensive operation.But to our dismay,there is no positive response from the Government of India. Instead the Government of India in collusion with the Government of Sri Lanka have enforced a complete black out of the news of military operations in the Tamil area. Having alienated the local media by ruthless military weaponry,Indian Government is not allowing International reporters to visit the affected areas and talk to the people aimed at covering the military atrocities.In addition to the previous breaches of human rights,India has embarked on a malicious propaganda to malign and discredit our organisation and impress upon the world that the Indian troops are doing a wonderful humanitarian task.We wish to bring to the notice of the United Nations Organisation of the serious military atrocities committed by the Indian peace keeping Force.

On the 21st October 87 at noon,the IPKF stormed into the Jaffna Teaching Hospital and shot dead three doctors and nearly hundred indoor patients who were receiving treatment.Ten nurses were brutally raped and gunned to death.Some of the medical internees were arrested and killed.

..... 2.

On the 22nd October 87,thirtyfive passengers were killed and many injured when a helicopter gunship unleashed rocket mortar on a group of passengers assembled at ARALITHURAI JETTY used for travelling to the nearby islands.

On the 24th October 87,Two young women were raped and killed by 13 men of the IPKF in the presence of their mothers at Sangupitty.When IPKF opened cannon fire at a refugee camp established at Kokuvil Hindu College,40 innocent people were killed and 80 injured.The other refugees were commandered to cut trenches and the corpses buried there unceremoniously.

On the 26th October 87,when a IPKF helicopter launched a rocket mortar at Ponnalai, 5 people were killed and 15 were injured. On the same day when IPKF helicopter attacked a Hindu Ashramam(MISSION) at Alaveddi 14 people were killed 12 were injured.

On the 27th October 87,little past noon,when an Indian helicopter rained rocket mortars at Chavakachcheri market where there was a large crowd of shoppers,68 Innocent people were killed and 45 were injured.

On the 28th October 87,when the refugee camp at Hindu Ladies College was attacked by IPKF with artillery fire,3 children died and 8 injured of whom three were samall kids.

On the 3rd November 87,there was a landing of Indian soldiers at Ponnalai. There was also a helicopter attack the same day.The famous Ponnalai Krishna Temple was one of those places attacked. The refugees there were forced to leave the place.

On the 4th November 87,there was heavy attack by bombers and helicopters on Moolai Hospital and places around were heavily damaged.

On the 5th November 87,too,there was shell attack by artillery and by helicopters.As the result of the attack,besides causing sacrileges to the same Ponnalai Krishnan Temple,the Moolai Teaching Hospital facilities have been deprived to the urgent section of the population of the area.This has affected the victims of the air and shell attacks and now the people have no hospital to go to.There were cases of people dying in the absence of medical aid.Five people have died and several injured because of the attack.A number of houses too have been destroyed.

Tamileelam Archive

On the 11th November 87,fifteen people were killed and 25 seriously injured at Nedunkerni when a helicopter gunship attacked a civilian target. A hospital of the area was also damaged.Patients in the hospital also were injured.This constitutes a serious crime against humanity.It is a human and moral duty of the International community not to allow these atrocities to continue against innocent civilians. (IT CONSTITUTES A SERIOUS VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN CHARTER AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS)

Therefore ,we appeal to your good offices to urge the Government of India to call off the military offensive operations and to seek a solution by peaceful negotiation.

Thanking you,

Yours truly.

(signed)V.Prabakaran.
LEADER.LIBERATION TIGERS OF TAMIL EELAM.

TEXT OF LTTE LEADER'S LETTER TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL, U.N.O.

LIBERATION TIGERS OF TAMIL EELAM(LTTE)

HEADQUARTERS OF LTTE
JAFFNA.
27th NOVEMBER 1987.

THE SECREARY GENERAL,
UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION,
NEW YORK.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE WISH TO REFER TO OUR LETTER OF 16.11.1987 ADDRESSED TO YOU. WE ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR REPLY STATING THAT THE MATTER WAS REFERRED TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF UNITED NATIONS. THE SO CALLED "IPKF" (INDIAN PEACE KEEPING FORCE) CONTINUE RELENTLESSLY IT'S ATROCITIES ON THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN AND EASTERN PROVINCES. THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT INTERVENED IN THE INTERNAL PROBLEM OF SRI LANKA TO MEDIATE BETWEEN THE SINHALESE AND THE TAMILS. NOW THEY ARE TRYING TO GAIN FOOTHOLD IN OUR LAND. INDIAN CIVIL ADMINISTRATORS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT HERE AND THEY ARE BEING ENGAGED IN CIVIL ADMINISTRATION. THE POLICE DUTIES ARE BEING DONE BY THE INDIAN POLICE. MILITARY CAMPS AND SENTRY POSTS HAVE BEEN SET UP WITHIN THE DISTANCE OF EVERY KILOMETRE. MILITARY CAMPS HAVE BEEN OPENED IN THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

JAFFNA COLLEGE	- VADDUKODDAI
HINDU COLLEGE	- KARAINAGAR
ST.JOHNS COLLEGE	- JAFFNA
CENTRAL COLLEGE	- JAFFNA
LADIES CONVENT	- PANDATHTHARIPPU
UNION COLLEGE	- TELLIPALAI
RAMANATHAN COLLEGE	- MARUTHANAMADAM
LADIES COLLEGE	- UDUVIL
ARUMUGAM VIDDYASALAI	
MAHA VIDDYALAYAM	- MALLAKAM
MAHA VIDDYALAYAM	- SANDILIPPAI
MURUGAMOORTHY VIDDYALAYAM	- SUTHUMALAI
RAMAKRISHNA VIDDYALAYAM	- KONDAVIL
SAIVAPRAKASA VIDDYASALAI	- SITHANKERNI
MAHA VIDDYALAYAM	- THIRUVADINILAI AND

MANY OTHERS UNKNOWN TO US IN THE PENINSULA.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

CURFEW HAS BEEN CONTINUOUSLY IMPOSED FOR MORE THAN ONE AND A HALF MONTHS APART FROM OCCASIONAL RELAXATION OF FEW HOURS IN SPECIFIED AREAS IN THE NORTHERN AND EASTERN PROVINCES. JAFFNA PEWNINSULA IS IN DARKNESS BECAUSE OF THE POWER CUT IMPOSED BY THE INDIAN ARMY. CONSEQUENTLY, ALL THE INDUSTRIES ARE AT A STANDSTILL. DRINKING WATER SUPPLY IS AT A STANDSTILL. THE TRANSPORT IS CURTAILED TO THE MAXIMUM AND A FEW VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED TO PLY WITH PASSES ISSUED BY THE INDIAN ARMY. THE PENISULA IS SUFFERING FROM SEVERE FOOD SHORTAGES AND

800,000 PEOPLE ARE ON THE VERGE OF STARVATION. FISHING AND AGRICULTURE ARE AT A STANDSTILL. THIS HAS BROUGHT ABOUT AN ECONOMIC DEPRESSION. MOST OF THE HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES REMAIN CLOSED AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES ARE ON THE INCREASE OWING TO THE LACK OF MEDICAL FACILITIES. INDISCRIMINATE ARTILLERY AND CANNON SHELLINGS ON RESIDENTIAL AREAS CONTINUE UNABATED CONSISTANTLY AND CONSEQUENTLY SEVERAL PEOPLE GET KILLED OR WOUNDED. NEARLY TWOTHOUSAND INNOCENT CIVILIANS HAVE BEEN ALREADY KILLED AS A RESULT OF THE MILITARY OFFENSIVE UNDERTAKEN BY THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT.

FOR EXAMPLE:
ON 9.11.87 FOUR CIVILIANS WERE INJURED BY SHELLINGS AT SANDILIPPAY AND THEY WERE TAKEN TO JAFFNA GENERAL HOSPITAL IN A CAR BEARING A WHITE FLAG. THE CAR WAS SHOT AT BY THE INDIAN ARMY AT NAVALY, THE FOUR INJURED AND THE TWO WHO WERE TAKING THEM WERE KILLED AND THE CAR WAS BURNT.

RAPING HAVE BECOME A DAILY OCCURANCE. WHEN THE PEOPLE BROUGHT THESE INCIDENTS TO THE NOTICE OF THE INDIAN ARMY OFFICERS, THE REPLY GIVEN BY THEM WAS THAT SUCH THINGS ARE QUITE COMMON DURING WAR TIME. AT UDUVIL FOUR GIRLS WERE RAPED BY THE INDIAN ARMY PERSONNEL. WHEN THE PARENTS REPORTED THIS TO MAJOR.PARAMESWARAN AND CAPTAIN SHARMA, MAJOR.PARAMESHWARAN ADMITTED THAT SUCH INCIDENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE AND APOLOGISED FOR WHAT HAS HAPPENED.

ON 5.11.87, THE INDIAN ARMY BROKE OPEN A STORE AT URUMPIRAI AND ASKED THE PEOPLE AROUND TO REMOVE THE THINGS THEY WANTED. WHEN THE PEOPLE GOT INTO THE STORE, ALL THE MALES WERE ORDERED OUT AND THE WOMEN WHO WERE INSIDE THE STORE WERE BRUTALLY RAPED. ONE OF THOSE RAPED WAS A TWO MONTH PREGNANT WOMAN AND THE OTHER IS A SMALL GIRL WHO HAD NOT ATTAINED AGE.

THERE IS A SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF ALL SCHOOLS, HOUSES AND BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS. THE BUSINES CENTRES AT URUMPIRAI, THIRUNELVELI AND JAFFNA BUS STAND WHERE BUSINESS WERE MANNED, WERE PLACES, WHERE BURGLARY COMMITTED BY THE INDIAN ARMY.

IT COULD BE PROVED BY THE SECRET MESSAGE SENT BY A PERSON NAMED CHOPRA TO PALALY ARMY COMMANDER, INTERCEPTED BY US, THAT THE 48 HOURS CEASEFIRE ANNOUNCED BY THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT ON 21.11.87 WAS NOT OBSERVED BY THE INDIAN ARMED FORCES. IN TRINCOMALEE, SEVEN INNOCENT CIVILIANS WERE SHOT AND TWO OF THEM DIED ON THE SPOT DURING THE PERIOD OF CEASEFIRE. THEY CARRIED OUT MANY SEARCH AND DESTROY MISSIONS IN THAT PERIOD AND MANY PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED.

THERE IS NO TRUTH IN THE INDIAN PROPAGANDA THAT FOOD IS BEING DISTRIBUTED, RELIEF IS BEING GIVEN AND THE SITUATION IS RETURNING TO NORMAL. THIS IS BEING DONE TO DECEIVE THE WORLD COMMUNITY AT LARGE.

THEY HAVE SILENCED ALL LOCAL NEWS AND ARE NOT ALLOWING THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS TO ENTER THIS AREA. THERE IS NO TELEPHONE LINKS. EVERY POSSIBLE WAY HAS BEEN BLOCKED TO THE OUT SIDE WORLD NOT TO GET TO KNOW THE TRUTH.

WE APPEAL TO YOU TO SEND A TEAM OF INVESTIGATORS FROM THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO INQUIRE INTO THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE ARMY ATROCITIES. YOU MAY ALSO REQUEST THE INDIAN GOVERNMMENT TO STOP THE MILITARY OFFENSIVE OPERATION, AND TO START NEGOTIATIONS TO SOLVE ALL RELATED MATTERS. IT WOULD ALLOW OUR PEOPLE TO LIVE PEACEFULLY WITHOUT ANY FORM OF PERSECUTION BY THE ARMED FORCES. NO TIME SHOULD BE LOST AS OUR PEOPLE CAN NO LONGER ENDURE THE SUFFERINGS.

THANKING YOU.

YOURS TRULY.

SIGNED.
V.PRABHAKARAN
LEADER, LIBERATION TIGERS OF TAMIL EELAM.

SECTION - VI

Appeal from Stichting Tamil co ordinating committee-nederland.

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

தமிழர் ஒருங்கிணைப்புக் குழு - நெதர்லாந்து

STICHTING TAMIL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE NEDERLAND

HOEFKADE 603 - 2525 LC DEN HAAG - NEDERLAND
REGD NO. S 153779 T. PHONE: 89 43 91 (070)

OUR REF. NO.: A/PP/N/12,7 YOUR REF. NO.: .....

12 December 1987

The Secretary General
United Nations Organisation
New York
U.S.A

Your Excellency,

We refer to the earlier appeal made by our leader Mr. V.Prabakaran on 16th and 27th November 87, copies of which were forwarded by our sister organizations to your Excellency.

We regret to inform that the IPKF atrocities against the Tamil population has not abated at all. The Military activities have been further extended to and intensified in the Eastern province. Again with the unmistakable consequences of death, destruction arson, looting and rape inflicted on the Tamil civilians. Ironically now even Sri Lankan military sources seem to confirm civilian deaths.

Your Excellency would no doubt appreciate the fact that the Tamils living in the North and East are being kept deprived from expressing their opinions, exercising their freedom of movement, association or political rights all of which are basic Human Rights guaranteed by U.N Charter.

By subjecting the Tamil population to indiscriminate violence, harassment and humiliation and also by deliberately exposing them to disease, fear and hunger the Sri Lankan and Indian Governments are committing serious violations of normal civilised behaviour. Both Governments have also failed to honour the Cardinal principle of safeguarding and protecting civilians lives.

The Sri Lankan and Indian Governments did acknowledge and accepte the LTTE as the authentic representatives of the Tamils. The Tamil population overwhelmingly expressed its trust, support, affection and loyalty to the LTTE and its leader V.Prabakaran by assembling in hundreds of thousands at Suthumalai, Jaffna on 4th August 87.

It therefore is an inescapable fact that the U,N should respond to the appeal made by Mr.Prabakaran and act with Urgency to save the Tamils from annihilation.

contd...

We humbly request Your Excellency to,

1. ask the Indian and Sri Lankan governments to refrain from waging war against unarmed Tamil civilians,

2. to send a team of U.N observers to the affected areas,

3. to request U.N aid agencies to render immediate issistance to the Tamils,

4. to request the Sri Lankan and Indian governments to abandon their murderous military approach and instead seek a political solution by opening up negotiations with the LTTE under U.N auspicious.

Thaking you,

Yours sincerely

STICHTING TAMIL CO ORDINATING COMMITTEE NEDERLAND

N. Kugathas

(N.Kugathas)
SECRETARY

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

STICHTING TAMIL CO ORDINATING COMMITTEE-NEDERLAND.

In concluding we appeal to all those,individuals and associations, concerned with human rights,all those who value human lives,all those who feel for human sufferings, all those who are concerned with gross injustice,all those who are in a position to influence the Governments of India and Sri-Lanka to mount international pressure to:

1.Stop the Indian war against the Tamils in Sri-Lanka,bring about a cease fire and political discussions with the LTTE who are appealing for it repeatedly,

2.Get International Red Cross admitted into the north and east of Sri-Lanka to take care of the dying ones,

3.Influence India to practice what it preeched to Sri-Lanka before the signing of the accord,

4.Get International press admitted into the North and East of Sri-Lanka, the homeland of the Tamils,to let the world know what has happened and what is happening,

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive

5.Prevent human rights violations by the Indian and Sri-Lankan armed forces and Para-Military forces against the Tamils,

6.To stop efforts of the Governments of India and Sri-Lanka to impose a leadership of their choice on the Tamils,

7.Allow the Tamils to exercise their right to self determination,

8.Get the Governments of India and Sri-Lanka to accept a third party mediation to bring the bloody war to an end,and

9.Assist with humanitarian Aids to the Tamils to re-build their homeland destroyed by the war , and immediately to save the dying Tamils from death for want of medical facilities and food,Providing Directly and not through the Governments of India or Sri-Lanka.

May we suggest that a high powered pressure group be formed to seek redress for the Tamils,if necessary through the united nations organisation.We thank you,all the participants for having sacrificed your time and other commitments and answered our call.We also thank all those who have concern for the Tamils and who could not,for various reasons,be present here today. thank you all.

NOTE:-(The above appeal was made at the Tamil Duth Solidarity Conference in Amsterdam on the 17th of November 1987)

தமிழர் ஒருங்கிணைப்புக் குழு- நெதர்லாந்து
STICHTING TAMIL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE NEDERLAND
HOEFKADE 603 - 2525 LC DEN HAAG - NEDERLAND
REGD NO. S 153779 T. PHONE: 89 43 91 (070)

தமிழீழ ஆவணக்காப்பகம்
Tamileelam Archive