

News Release

Secretary of
State for
External Affairs



Communiqué

Secrétaire
d'État aux
Affaires
extérieures

No. 165

August 4, 1990.

CLARK CONDEMNS MASSACRE IN SRI LANKA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today expressed shock and horror over the reported coordinated massacre in two mosques yesterday of 140 muslim civilians by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

"There can be no justification for the spate of killings and acts of violence and destruction by the LTTE since the breakdown of negotiations with the government in mid-June," stated Mr Clark. "Resorting once again to force of arms and to terror will not help the Tamil people the LTTE claim to represent and protect."

The LTTE has been conducting an armed struggle against the Sri Lankan government since 1983 with the aim of creating a separate Tamil state in the north and northeast of Sri Lanka.

"A durable solution to this festering problem cannot be achieved through the use of arms. Both sides must resolve their differences through dialogue and negotiation to reach a solution that will respond to the aspirations of Tamils and be acceptable to all Sri Lankans," concluded Mr. Clark.

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