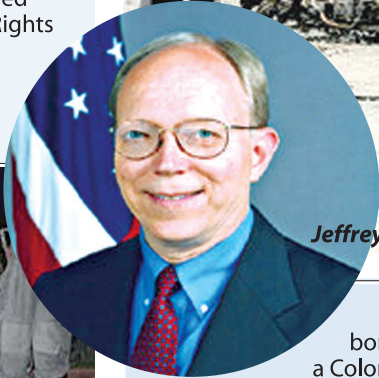


Terrorism in the guise of liberation – 50

■ Some prominent world leaders do not practice what they preach on terrorism. Though they often preach on eradication of terrorism and for a worldwide attempt to eliminate terror outfits across the globe, only a few of them have demonstrated it practically.

■ Championing the human rights of terrorists would only support and encourage terrorist groups the world over. The UN Human Rights Council should only respect the human rights of civilians and not that of terrorists, either directly or indirectly.

■ Any further action against a sovereign state such as Sri Lanka at the UNHRC would set a bad precedent and infuse fresh hopes for global terrorism. The US-led resolution against Sri Lanka at the UN Human Rights Council earlier this year only undermines the herculean efforts of the Security Forces who risked their life and limb to liberate thousands of civilians.



Jeffrey Lunstead

■ **Jan. 6, 2007:** An LTTE suicide bomber detonated herself inside a Colombo-Matara passenger bus at Peraliya, killing 16 passengers and injuring over 50 people.

■ **Jan. 7, 2000:** An LTTE suicide bomb attack killed Industries Minister C.V. Gooneratne in Dehiwela.



Bomb attack on Minister D.M. Dassanayaka

■ **Jan. 7, 2006:** Fifteen Sri Lankan Navy personnel were killed in a suspected suicide attack by the LTTE on a navy gunboat outside the Trincomalee naval harbour in the Trincomalee district.

■ **Jan. 7, 2009:** A minor blast occurred in Mount Lavinia along the railway track behind S. Thomas' College. No casualties were reported and the police and STF conducted a raid in the area following the night blast.

■ **Jan. 8, 2007:** A school bus was set on fire by the LTTE cadres after forcing out its occupants near Hindu College, Jaffna. The bus was burnt to provoke schoolchildren into violence.

■ **Jan. 8, 2008:** An LTTE roadside bomb killed National Building Minister D.M. Dassanayaka at Thudella, Ja Ela.

■ **Jan. 8, 2008:** A suspected parcel bomb placed in a telephone booth opposite Lake House roundabout, Colombo and adjacent to the Regent flats injured nine people. It exploded minutes after Air Force Commander Roshan Goonetilleke passed the location.

■ **Jan. 10, 2006:** United States Ambassador to Sri Lanka Jeffrey Lunstead has warned the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam to stop its violent activities and return to peace talks.



Fr. Mary Bastian killing

■ **Jan. 10, 2009:** The LTTE desperately tried to prevent a mass exodus of civilians from un-cleared areas of Mullaitivu, even going to the extent of shooting those defying their orders, as demonstrated in the killing of seven civilians in the Wannu. More than 200 civilians sought refuge with the Security Forces.

■ **Jan. 11, 2008:** A blast at the Colombo Fort railway station caused minor damages to the railway station. The public panicked after hearing the explosion. One person who was injured was admitted to the National Hospital.



■ **Jan. 12, 2001:** An LTTE terrorist threw a hand grenade in a crowded market in Jaffna, killing three Tamil civilians. The intended target of the terrorist was unclear.

■ **Jan. 12, 2006:** Nine sailors were killed and eight injured in an LTTE claymore mine blast in Chettikulam on the Mannar-Medawachchiya road. The incident occurred at the 18th mile post in Chettikulam. The sailors were travelling in three buses from the Pandukabhaya Navy Camp at Punewa.

■ We salute Sri Lanka's Security Forces for providing a safer today for all communities to live in peace and harmony.



GRAPHICS BY MAHIL WIJESINGHE



■ When Tiger terrorists mercilessly killed hundreds of thousands of innocent people, hardly any of these godfathers of human rights were there even to speak a word on behalf of Sri Lankans who had been at the receiving end of terrorism.

■ This is the 50th in a series of graphic stories by the **Sunday Observer** on the anniversaries of those indiscriminate and inhuman attacks.

■ **Jan. 6, 1985:** Catholic priest, Fr. Mary Bastian was killed by LTTE terrorists in Vankalai, Mannar.



Colombo-Matara bus bombing