

Project peace "for a united Sri Lanka". (1993, November 15). *The Island*.

Project Peace
"for a united Sri Lanka"

2066 Kings-Grove Crescent
Gloucester, Ontario
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15th November 1993

The Editor
THE ISLAND
223 Bloemendhal Road
Colombo 13
Sri Lanka

FAXed 11 pgs..

Dear Sir :

Permit me to fill in the gaps in Izeth Hussain's essay on 'Foreign relations as advertisement for Eelam' (30th October) where he makes an effort to use the past (1980s) goings-on in the Diplomatic Mission in Canada, to perpetuate the myth that only Sri Lankan career diplomats "are articulate enough, and intellectually sophisticated enough, to be able to counter the Eelam propaganda and reverse trends of international opinion".

While he has substantiated his arguments with some facts, I beg to differ on his thesis. I have been one of the very few Sri Lankan expatriates in Canada who stood on guard for Sri Lanka under threats to my life, exposing my young family to danger at the height of the ethnic crisis in the 80s. What Hussain has omitted to state was that, while the Mission in Canada stood paralyzed with its ineffectiveness to handle the Eelam propaganda as it was transformed into a 'Crisis Mission' when some of its diplomats and non-diplomats sent from Sri Lanka opted to stay back as refugees seeking greener pastures, the expatriates filled the vacuum much more effectively than the career diplomats ever could have.

'Project Peace' for a united Sri Lanka' (Ottawa) of which I happened to be the Chairperson from August 1983 until July

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