

ICRC trying to obtain release of ferry civilians. (1995, September 03). *The Island*.

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While the 'Voice of Tigers' announced that they had seized a ferry belonging to the Eelam Peoples Democratic Party (EPDP) the LTTE would impose some conditions for the release of eight ex-Navy crewmen from the Irish Moana and EPDP members held by the LTTE at an undisclosed location off the northern coast, informed Tamil sources said.

Meanwhile, the ICRC was in contact with the Tiger hierarchy in Jaffna through their resident representative to obtain the release of all civilian passengers without delay.

A senior ICRC spokesman told "The Island" that they wished to remain discrete on the ongoing negotiations with the LTTE as they had always been made a scapegoat whenever a

problem cropped up between the government and LTTE.

When the leader to the EPDP, Douglas Devananda was contacted by "The Island" and asked whether any of his senior military cadres had been on board, he declined to identify them for security reasons and said that the Tigers were saying the EPDP was responsible for the vessel being hijacked.