

Police hunt for women suicide bombers. (1993, November 07) The Sunday Observer.

●Tigers plot to kill VIPs, Opposition politico Police hunt for women suicide bombers

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Dastardly plots by the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) to blow up several VIPs at the late President Premadasa's funeral and to assassinate an Opposition political leader were uncovered by the police last week.

They were uncovered by detectives investigating the activities of ex-policeman Muthukumar Mahendran, one of LTTE's key operatives in Colombo with vital knowledge of the Tigers' activities in the city and whose name was linked to the LTTE suicide bomber's kit recovered from the Modera beach early last month.



Muthukumar Mahendran

Joseph Jennet Jeyawathi

Nikkila Pillai Amala Nayagi

According to investigators, who requested anonymity, Mahendran who got his orders directly from the LTTE's intelligence chief Pottu Amman, was in charge of two women suicide bombers

sent from Jaffna to create chaos in the city following the assassination of President Premadasa.

The two women who arrived in the city two months before the bombing of the President were to target VIPs who would be attending the President's funeral.

Their orders were to mingle with the crowds at the funeral and to get near the VIPs before activating the high explosive devices strapped to their bodies, blowing themselves up along with their victims. However, the tight security maintained at the funeral had forced them to abort their plan.

It was not known whether the women left for Jaffna after the aborted mission or went underground awaiting further instructions.

Meanwhile Police released their photographs and identified them as Nikkila Pillai Amala Nayagi of No. 7, Eachamottai, Beach Road, Jaffna and Joseph Janet Jeyawathi of 57, Mount Carmel Street, Jaffna. Investigators said that there was a possibility of the names and addresses being fictitious but requested members of the public with any information about the women in the photographs to contact the Crime Detec-

tive Bureau Headquarters on the following telephone numbers: 696568, 693173, 691500 or 324998.

Meanwhile the arrest of a 24-year-old alleged suicide bomber by the police in

Colombo South last week revealed a Tiger plan to kill a prominent Opposition politician.

The man from Jaffna town had arrived in Colombo in May with orders to build up close links with the politician's friends in order to get close to his target. He had met a top rung of the politician's party several times and had in fact been promised a job in a printing press at the time of his arrest last week by police.

Investigators said that he was trying to "do a Babu" (the late President was assassinated by a man named Babu who built up a close relationship with the President's valet) and had done the spade work well at the time of his arrest.

Police who recovered some sensitive documents from the man's possession said that they expected to make some more arrests soon.

Meanwhile, several Tamil Tigers trained and repeatedly rehearsed in the art of suicide missions for nearly two months in Wadukkodai had left the area according to security sources.

"Some of them had rehearsals utilising dummies," sources said.

It is said that mock rehearsals are done to ensure precision, sources added.