

Army chief wants Brigadier's services terminated. (1994, October 21). *The Island*.

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Army Commander Lieutenant General Gerry de Silva has urged Defence Secretary General Hamilton Wanasinghe to terminate the services of Brigadier Daya Wijesekera accused of helping a certain person to smuggle banned items to Jaffna informed security sources revealed.

In a letter to the Defence Secretary the Army Commander has stated that serious notice must be taken in regard to Brigadier Wijesekera misusing and abusing his power and

position inspite of enjoying the confidence and trust placed in him by the General Officer Commanding (GOC) the now disbanded Joint Operations Command (JOC).

The Army Commander has pointed out that Brigadier Wijesekera had extended undue assistance and privileges to a person with a questionable character in the issue of permits. The Brigadier had been also accused of employing personal staff at the JOC headquarters in the service of this particular 'smuggler' thereby exposing and introducing them

to the corrupt practices in the issue of permits.

Army Commander de Silva has stated in the same letter that Brigadier Wijesekera's actions were unbecoming of a senior officer. Lieutenant General de Silva has urged the Defence Secretary to take action against Brigadier Wijesekera as an example to other officers.

Lieutenant General de Silva has recommended that Brigadier Wijesekera should be removed from all his appointments immediately.

Brigadier Wijesekera is among several other military officers currently employed under the

highly controversial Pay and Pension Scheme.

Lieutenant General de Silva has recommended action against Brigadier Wijesekera following a high level Court of Inquiry.

Informed sources said that Brigadier Wijesekera had been attached to the media section of the JOC at the time of his alleged involvement with this particular person accused of transporting banned 'items' to the North.

Brigadier Wijesekera is currently attached to the Defence Ministry where he heads a special department.