

Ceasefire announced in Sri Lanka. (1994, November 14). *The Globe and Mail*.

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COLOMBO — The leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam rebels announced a unilateral ceasefire hours after the inauguration of Sri Lanka's new president.

In a message broadcast Saturday over the Tigers' clandestine radio station, rebel leader Velupillai Prabhakaran said the rebels should only retaliate to an attack, military intelligence officials said.

More than 34,000 people have been killed in the Tigers' 11-year war for a separate nation in the north and east of this island off India. Tamils, who make up about three million of the country's 17 million people, accuse the majority Sinhalese of discrimination.

Chandrika Kumaratunga, the former prime minister, won Wednesday's election with a record 62 per cent of the vote on a pledge to end the rebel war.

"We will continue our quest for peace, recognizing that the path is a difficult and tortuous one," Mrs. Kumaratunga said after taking the oath of office on Saturday.

— AP