

## US welcome initiatives in Sri Lanka. (1994, November 04). *The Observer* .

### THE OBSERVER 4.11.94 US welcomes peace initiative in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Nov. 3 (Lankapuvath) A TOP US State Department official has said that the Clinton Administration welcomes Sri Lankan government's peace initiative to resolve the North East conflict.

People's Alliance Member of Parliament M.M. Zuhair who met high ranking US Government officials during a visit to Washington recently, told *Lankapuvath* that

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs Timothy Michael Carney had said when they met in Washington on October 20. "We noted that discussions had commenced between the Government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE in order to find a solution to the ongoing war in Sri Lanka. We welcome the efforts of the Sri Lanka Government in this direction. The US and the Clinton Ad-

ministration are delighted by the prospects for peace in your country."

Associated with Tim Carney in the discussions were Bob Frasure, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs and Marshall P. Adair, Director Regional Affairs of the State Department.

"The US Government welcomes the direct talks initiated by the Sri Lanka Government with the,

LTTE, and wish the talks all success. A negotiated settlement of the problem will bring in much needed peace to your country," Tim Carney said.

Mr. Zuhair told the officials that he discussed this matter not in his capacity as a Government MP but as a representative of the people.

Mr. Zuhair was a member of a 5-member international delegation of Parliamentarians which

visited the US at the invitation of the American Muslim Council and met with State Department's top officials, US Congressional Aides, professional staff members of the Foreign Affairs Committee and the George Town University's Centre for Christian Muslim Understanding.

The delegation comprised Prof. Najimuddin Arbakhan, MP and leader of the Welfare Party of

Turkey, Mr. Rasheed Al Frahan MP and Former Minister of Kuwait, Mr. Muzaffar Ahmado Hasimi, Member, National Assembly of Pakistan and Mr. M.M. Zuhair, Member of Parliament of Sri Lanka.

The delegation also raised several matters relating to the plight of the people in Bosnia, Azerbaijan, Algeria, Kashmir, Palestine, Iraq and Libya.