

5 killed in Sri Lanka. (1988, September 7). *The Province*.

The Province Wednesday, September 7, 1988

5 killed in Sri Lanka

News Services

COLOMBO — Five people were killed and at least 20 injured when a bomb exploded in a downtown restaurant in the Sri Lankan capital last night.

There was no responsibility claim but police said it was probably the work of Sinhalese extremists who called a general strike in July that was ignored by

the restaurant's Muslim owner.

"The bomb inside a travelling bag was placed on the counter by a man who quickly rushed out," said a restaurant worker. "The bomb exploded when the manager tried to throw it out."

The Sinhalese People's Liberation Front is waging a terrorist campaign to protest against a peace accord that

gives Tamils a measure of regional autonomy in northern and eastern provinces where they are a majority.

The restaurant stayed open during a strike called by the front July 29, the anniversary of the peace accord signed between India and Sri Lanka to end ethnic violence in the island country. Most Sinhalese-owned businesses remained closed in response to the call.