

Tamil

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**Tamil here to confront
his alleged torturer**

and called the allegations against Weeratunga "innuendo and false rumor" and the work of Tamil separatists.

In a sworn affidavit given in 1982 to the human rights organization Amnesty International, Pararajasegaran says Weeratunga was present and supervised sessions in which he was brutally and mercilessly tortured.

He described being hung upside down for hours on end, being beaten with sand-filled pipes and every other imaginable weapon and being tied in a bag and dragged behind a military vehicle.

"Whenever I was tortured, he was there," the softspoken Baby whispers of Weeratunga. "He threatened me everyday that he would kill me."

The Sri Lankan High Commission's statement notes no allegations against Weeratunga were ever raised in Sri Lanka until after "Canadian public opinion had questioned the credentials" of 155

Tamils who arrived by boat off the coast of Newfoundland this summer.

"The government of Sri Lanka will not flinch from its responsibilities to protect the country's sovereignty and the country's peoples, against the barbaric onslaughts of separatist terrorism."

The high commission admitted 'excesses sometimes take place on both sides' during terrorist attacks, but said the Sri Lankan government has attempted to identify and punish wrongdoers.

Although a confrontation with Weeratunga is not on his hastily-arranged schedule as local Tamils step up their campaign to drive the diplomat home, Pararajasegaran will hold a press conference and meet officials of the Anglican Church and opposition human rights critics Sheila Copps (Liberal) and Howard McCurdy (NDP).

Last week, External Affairs officials said they would carefully study Baby's affidavit and, if necessary, raise the matter directly with the Sri Lanka government.

But Canada's envoy in Sri Lanka again cautioned on the weekend it was not his government's responsibility to investigate the allegations.