

SPECIAL ISSUE — SRI LANKA

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CANADA'S PERIODICAL ON REFUGEES

"When in doubt and the leaders confuse you by divided counsel, go out into the street and see what the people are doing."

Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg

In January of 1985, I visited the north of Sri Lanka and was ejected from Jaffna by the army before I could extensively survey the scene. I did have the opportunity to interview many Tamils and army personnel, in the north, however. The articles are preprinted here.

The response to those articles was overwhelming: 159 phone calls, numerous personal visits by both Tamils and Sinhalese at my home and office, and a large number of letters, some of which we have reprinted. This issue focuses on Sri Lanka. In addition to my *Star* articles, letters and my analysis of the response of callers, we have also included a more in-depth article on Sri Lanka. An article by David Matas on the plight of refugees claimants is particularly applicable given the increasing numbers of Tamils claiming refugee status in Canada.

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