



City of Cambridge

7.

IN CITY COUNCIL
January 28, 1985

MAYOR RUSSELL

- WHEREAS: The Tamils of Eelam, who number three million Hindus, Christians and Moslems and occupy eight thousand square miles, live as an oppressed minority in Sri Lanka where the majority is composed of ten million Sinhalese, most of whom are Buddhists; and
- WHEREAS: From ancient times two nations, the Sinhalese and the Tamils, possessed distinct languages, religions, cultures and clearly demarcated geographic territories until the British, who were characteristically oblivious to the differences between these two separate nations, imposed one rule for the purpose of colonial administrative unification; and
- WHEREAS: As was to be expected in 1948 when the British left the Island and two unwilling nations were consequently left under a unitary governmental structure, the majority Sinhalese faction subverted Democratic principles to become the new masters of the Tamil-Speaking people; and
- WHEREAS: In 1972 a new constitution, which reiterated that foremost place should be accorded to the Buddhist religion and the Sinhalese language, was unilaterally adopted without any cooperation or consultation with the majority of the Tamil Representatives in Parliament; and
- WHEREAS: The Tamil people were again not party to the Constitution of 1978, which replaced its predecessor of 1972; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That this City Council hereby urge the President and the Congress of the United States to protest and to utilize the considerable influence and power of their offices to rectify the gross injustices which have been inhumanely inflicted on the Tamils of Sri Lanka; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States and the Massachusetts delegation to the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives.

In City Council January 28, 1985.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 7 members.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk,

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk,

Order # 7 S-M

Mayor Russell re: resolutions urging the President & Congress to utilize the power & influence of their offices to rectify injustices inhumanely inflicted on the Tamils of Sri Lanka.

In City Council,

January 28, 1985

1/28/85
MR
A -M-

C
1/28/85