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## 1,000 arrested in Sri Lanka

*Government censors must approve all news from Sri Lanka relating to public security. They ban reports of violence. Censors deleted part of this story.*

Reuter

COLOMBO

Sri Lankan security forces rounded up more than 1,000 suspected left-wing rebels in a big sweep of Colombo and the provinces during the weekend, a government statement said yesterday.

Guns, ammunition and army uniforms were also seized from rebel hideouts, the statement said.

The search brought to more than 2,100 the number of suspected rebels arrested in the past 12 days, official figures show.

Two weeks ago, the government gave wide-ranging emergency powers to the armed forces and police to detain what it calls subversives. It also closed schools and universities and imposed strict press censorship.

Subversives is the term used to describe members of the People's Liberation Front, which is held responsible for a two-year-old anti-government campaign and a month-long strike by bus workers.

The bus strike was settled over the weekend after the government yielded to worker demands for higher allowances.

The front, mainly youths of the majority Sinhalese community, has called for the resignation of the government.

Yesterday's statement said some of the suspects were seized while they were distributing or pasting up anti-government literature.