

Search warrant on EPDP headquarters. (1994, November 24). *The Observer*.

# SEARCH WARRANT ON EPDP HEADQUARTERS

By Panduka Senanayake

THE MOUNT LAVINIA Magistrate yesterday issued a search warrant for the Police to examine the premises of the Eelam People's Democratic Party (EPDP) Headquarters at Park Road, Colombo 5, following the abduction and mystery killing of a former member.

According to a senior Police officer, the Magistrate issued the warrant when the EPDP failed to produce before Police several of its members and vehicles allegedly connected to the killing of ex-member Udaya Sooriyakumar alias 'Soori'.

However, Police, who suspect the killing resulted from infighting between rival factions, had given the EPDP time to produce the suspects till 9 a.m. today, before executing the warrant, a senior officer said. The body of Soori, who was abducted on November 1 at Armour Street, was found among the rocks on the beach at the end of Rajasinghe Road, Wellawatte on the morning of November 15 by Police.

The identity of the body, with 16 stab injuries, could not be established at first but an anonymous call to the Wellawatte police on Mon-

day provided information about the dead man and possible suspects involved in the killing.

Investigations by the Wellawatte Crime Detective Bureau (CDB) led to the arrest of two EPDP members who under interrogation allegedly divulged details of the killing of Soori who had apparently been kept in captivity at the EPDP headquarters at Park Road for two weeks prior to the killing.

Investigators had learnt that Soori who was abducted from the presence of a member of another organisation was blindfolded and tied and taken to the Wellawatte

beach on the night of November 14 and was repeatedly stabbed and left to die on the rocks.

A tri-shaw, a motorcycle and a jeep belonging to the EPDP were reportedly used in the incident, according to Police.

Attempts at arresting the others involved was delayed when the party hierarchy promised to produce them and the vehicles used before Police yesterday. However, it was not done and the Mount Lavinia Magistrate issued a warrant to the Police to search the party headquarters when the two men in custody were produced before him yesterday.