

Government to probe burning of Jaffna library. (1994, October 17).
The Island.

Govt. to probe ^{THE ISLAND} burning of Jaffna Library ^{17.10}

By Franklin R. Satyapalan

Government has decided to appoint a commission of inquiry to probe the 1981 burning of the Jaffna library and identify those responsible for this misdeed, authoritative sources said.

When the four-member government peace delegation deliberated with LTTE representatives in Jaffna last week, the Tigers called upon the government to appoint a commission to probe the torching of this invaluable library.

Some senior representatives of the armed forces will represent members of the government delegation when they meet the LTTE again ten days hence for the second stage of peace negotiations, these sources said.

Despite the government having released 13 Tigers detained at Palaly military base in the north the LTTE has expressed dissatisfac-

tion over this move as it believed these persons are innocent farmers and fishermen taken into military custody on suspicion, from around the base, sources added.

One of the government negotiators, Secretary, Ministry of Aviation, Information and Tourism, Lionel Fernando had visited the grave of his mother who died in 1984 in Jaffna. Mr. Fernando was the GA of Jaffna during that time. Laying a wreath he observed a few minutes in silence.

Mr. Fernando also visited the Nallur Kandasamy Kovil and prayed for peace.

A large gathering of people had approached him to spotlight shortcomings in health, education, travel and employment spheres.

Although LTTE ideologue Anton Balasingham received members of the government peace delegation on arrival by helicopter in Jaffna he didn't participate in the talks.