

28 Sri Lankans killed in violence as election nears. (1989, February 02). *The gazette*.

28 Sri Lankans killed in violence as election nears

COLOMBO (Reuter) — At least 28 people were killed in separate incidents of pre-election violence in Sri Lanka in the past 24 hours, police said yesterday.

They said 20 political activists and five rebels were killed in the southern areas while three Tamil separatist guerrillas were killed in the northern Jaffna peninsula.

Nine candidates and 250 supporters of various political parties have been killed since campaigning began three weeks ago for the Feb. 15 general election.

Police blame the leftist People's Liberation Front for most of the recent political violence. The front, composed of members of the majority Sinhalese community, has called for a boycott of the election, which it describes as a fraud.