

Setback, says Tamils. (1994, September 25). *Sunday times*.

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Tamil political parties have expressed fears that the LTTE attacks in the past few days could hamper the peace initiatives taken by the government.

EPDP spokesman, M. Chandrakumar said the LTTE attack on the Navy patrol craft off Mannar was a set-back to the peace initiative.

TELO Secretary M. K. Sivajilingam said the stage was set for peace talks and a genuine attempt was being made to end the war, the LTTE launched this attack apparently to gain the

upperhand. It had created bad opinion in the minds of the peace loving people, who were expecting a breakthrough soon, he added. A PLOTE spokesman said the LTTE might by this attack be demanding a ceasefire which it had been seeking for some time. It might also be that by attacking the Navy, the LTTE was saying it did not want any naval patrolling in the Mannar area, thereby making it easy for LTTE supply ships to smuggle weapons at strategic points, he said.