English Media Exposés

HILTON PROMOTION IN 1960's

Ceylon Observer - 26, 10, 1968 THE OBSERVER TUESDAY OCTOBER 26, 1993

HOTELS INTER- frontage. A state of the acquisity Colombo had been NATIONAL Ltd. who "If Hilton's want to too decision. National to the acquisity made to understand that are going ahead with the Ceylon Hilton project will not be able to make a ded, they can lease the large profit on the resale, land from the CWE. But of the Steuart Place, the site would be Crown Colpetty site on which land. We do not want to leave the possibility open for it to be blocked the hotel was originally intended to be built.

· Government · will · acquire the land. The Ministry of State

Lands Ministry requestmachinery be made .

A spokesman for the Ministry of State said today that the CWE will be the purchaser of this fouir acres of valuable

build their hotel on this site as originally inten-

out and re-sold in small

lots". According to this resterday wrote to the spokesman Hotels International Ltd. will get the price they paid the Church of Ceylon for the land. Government valuation : procedurs takes the most recent

sale price into account. That would mean that

Hotel site is to be shifted to the property on which the South Wing of the Galle Face Hotel now stands. In parliament on

Soysa, MP for Colombo South raised the questhe Hotels Internatoinl's Director to re-sell the" land they purchased

from the Church. their mon land had been bought low figure' (approx-Hotels Internationa Ltd. imately Rs 4.5 million) will now only break even. after the Bishop of dled".

The Hilton which was the site was required for to come up on the Hilton a national purpose - Now the hotel site was

being shifted to "the

backyard of the Galle, Face Hotel*, Mr. Soysa said. He said that he was Tuesday. Mr. Bernard told that Hilton's would get about Rs. 10 million South raised the ques-tion of the decision of land for which they pald Rs. 5.5 million two years

ago. That would mean that they would double

their money in two Mr. Soysa said that it from the Church at a was an ugly word to use, but he thought the church had been "did-

HILTON PROMOTED IN 1980's SUN Friday, September 21, 1990

HILTON PROMOTED IN 1980's

The case of the missing storeys

Justice Ameen Ismail. - (0) The plaintiff in this ?
The order was in re- case, Mr. Niha Sri Amespect of petitions for leave, rasekere is a Director and to Appeal and Revision filed by Mr. Nihal Sri Amerasekere, a Director, owning company of the and a shareholder of .. Hotel Developers (Lanka) Ltd., submissions on ' whose behalf were made by Mr. K. Kanag-Isvaran,

Mr. Amerasekere is a Chartered Accountant who was closely associated with the early phases of the hotel project.

His action is based on

the contention that while DAILY NEWS, SATURDAY JUNE 17, 1995 Director of

Shareholder of Hotel Developers (Lanka) Ltd., the hotel and one of the defendants. .

The other defendants are Mitsui and Company Ltd., of Japan, Taisei Corporation and Kanko Kikaku Sekkeisha Yozo Shibata & Associaties, two other Japanese firms," Mr. Cornel I., Perera, . Chairman and Managing Director of the owning company, Mr. F.G.N.

In consequence, the building that finally emerged was not the one orginally envisaged and the original plan cannot be found.

After the hotel opened for operations, he says, Mitsui & Co. submitted profitability projections computed on 452 guest rooms. When queries were raised at this point and it was pointed out that the building lacked several storeys as per the original plan, an amended profitability projection was submitted, computed on 387 guest rooms,

Court issues interim injunction on Mitsui & Co.

Hilton hotel construction agreement

Mr. P. Navaratoarsjah QC He submitted that the who supported the septilication and second defendants had pracoriginal approved architectural dant Hotel Developere Lanks there were only 20 floors and or three directors of the count without a mazzanine floor. THE ISLAND Friday 28th April, 1995

Hilton Hotel Project probe

Despite persistent urging there was PGESISEEN URGING URGING WAS including the ground floor and no mezzanine floor in the main building. The original architectual plan provided for a building 274.6 ft tall. But on the unauthorised amended plan, the height of the building is 233.9 feet. Other main differences pointed out in the enginger of the building is 233.9 feet. The original architectural plan had provided for 19 floors of guest rooms, while the unauthorised amended architectural plan had provided for only 17 floors of guest rooms. continued silence — witness

Board took no positive actio

Hilton hotel project probe

Soza were not made

information to the Finance Indicate that "no ground exists" Amount to the Constitution of the Standby, Shortly, thereafter I THE ISLAND, Wednesday 28th June, 1995

Probe into malpractices

Choksy and Paskaralingam took all

Original plans of the Hilton Hotel missing

By M. J. M. Zavock and Madbubashinee Dayahandara.

The original plans for the Hilton Hotel building submitted in 1983 to the Urban Development Authority were missing from the UDA files, witnesses said before the Special Presidential Commission sitting a DAILY NEWS, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 1990

District Court issues injunction, enjoining order

Hilton Hotel short of floors?

The plaintiff, Mr. Nihal Sri Amarasekera, Chartered Accountant, has filed the report of a local architect/engineer, Mr. Shelton Wijayaratna, that the original architectural plan provided for 23 floors including a mezzanine floor, but the unauthorised approved architectural plan has only 20 floors

floors of guest rooms.

The original architectural plan had provided for

456 guest room bays, while the unauthorized amended architectural plans had provided for 408 quest
room bays plus a further 17 auest soon bays quest DAILY NEWS, FRIDAY MAY 19, 1995 * 87 rooms.

the Hotel Developers Board, on the authority of the

directors of the company.

The enjoining order and Interim Injunction has been issued on Mitsui and Co. Ltd., Taisei Corporation and Kanko Nikaku Sekkeisha Yozo Shibata and Associates.

According to the plaint, the Mitsui/Taisei Consortium had said on or about 30.10.85 that a fire had occured at their site office and all documents had got burnt. They had said that their principals in Tokyo had sent copies of all documents and drawings and the hotel construction work had recommenced

The plaintiff has averred that he had discovered in March 1990 that these drawings and documents had been replaced by the Mitsui/Taisei Consortium principals, and were not in conformity with the original approved architectural plans which were part and parcel of the construction agreement.

He had found that while profitability projections of

the hotel had been made on the basis of 452 guest is, the hotel's monthly statements reflected only

Contradictory report on fire by CDB Fort

By M. J. M. Zarook and Daryll de Silva The report of the Engineer, Crylon Electricity Board nized the physical check objected in amended plan incore with intensit was opposed in 1992. The report of the Engineer, Ceylon Electricity Board check objected in amended plan incore with intensit was opposed in 1992. The report of the Engineer, Ceylon Electricity Board The report of the Engineer, Ceylon Electricity Board and the Control of the Engineer, Ceylon Electricity Board The report of the Engineer, Ceylon Electricity Board The Engineer, Ceylon Electricity Board The Report of the Engineer, Ceylon Electricity Board The Report of the Engineer, Ceylon

Corporation at Hilton Hotel site by SI Gilbert Kalupa-

The letter stated: With reference to your letter dated

Ford Rhodes given time to file objections Hilton HOTEL CASE

The Colombo District
Court, has granted the pushners of Ford Rhodes Thomnand Co. Ltd. Soldinar of
hotel Developers (Lanka,
Command Court and Soldinary of
hotel Developers (Lanka,
Command Court and
Court has granted and Kn. Seneviratio, owning company of Colormbo Hitten, time until May 2.

Mr. Amerasekera, a profession to an
action field by a former discto fiel their objections to an
action field by a former discto field by a former disc-

Hotel Developers restrained from tabling accounts

District Judge, Colombo, P. Wijayaratne, has issued an enjoining order restraining Hotel 1 Developers (Lanka) Ltd. (formerly Lanka Japan, Hotels Ltd.), the owning company of the Colombo-Hilton Hotel from tabling and adopting the account for the year ending March 1990 along with a specified note No. 19 at their annual general meeting which was scheduled for January 17 or at any meeting thereafter until the plainitifs application for an inteript injunction was finally determined.

In this case the plainitif Mr. Nihal §74 Ameresel-

In this case the plaintiff, Mr. Nihal Sri Ameresek-

ere of Sri Vipulasena Mawatha, Colombo 10, a business and management consultant has cited Hotel Developers Ltd as the defendant.

Developers Lid as the defendant.

The judge also issued notice on the defendant company returnable on March 11 to show cause why the plaintiff's application for an interim injunction should not be granted.

Mr. P. Navaratnarajah, QC with Mr. P. Naguleswaran and Mr. A. A. M. Illiyas instructed by Messrs

de Silva and Perera appeared in support of the plaintiff's application.



Auditors have not performed their duties — Witness

THE ISLAND Thursday 4th July, 1991

Attorney General represented owning company

In our news report granted an Enjoining under the heading Order, Restraining Miles Objections filed against sul Company Limited the Enjoining Order", from receiving payment "Order on July 9", to build the Hotel Hilappearing in "The Issue on of Colombo, the Innel" of July 2 we failed Hotel Developers to state that the Owning (Lanka) Limited too Company of the Colombo Hilton, The trained from making Hotel Developers any payments to the (Lanka) Limited, was Japanese Companies, tepresented in the Hil-The notice of application Hotel Case, heard tion Jor, issue, of the

DAILY NEWS, SATURDAY APRIL 22, 1995 **

THE SUNDAY TIMES, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 03, 1991 Hilton case: stay order on payment

Colombo has issued interim injunctions staying payment by Hotel Developers (Lanka) Ltd., the owning company of the Colombo Hilton Hotel, on any financial claims

The District Court of

director/shareholder in the owning company, who claimed that the construction lacked many of the features specified in the original plans on the basis of which the project was approved and pro-

made by three Japanese ceeded with.

DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 06, 1991

AG's dept opposed inspection of Hilton project

(By M. J. M. Zarook and Daryll de Silva)

Mr. Nihal Sri Amaersekera, Chartered Accountant and Advisor to the Ministry of Finance said vesterday before the

matter, it has been pointed out that there has been growing public concern in Japan over frauds involving Japanese Special Presidential Commission that he made an application to the District Court to impact the Hillion Hosel project therefore, would like DAILY NEWS, MONDAY APPEL OR, 1995

SPC on malpractices by Govt Bodies

We resisted mortgage of Hilton Hotel building to Japanese - Witness

When Hotel Developers (Lanka) Ltd could not meet the loan instalments on the Hilton Hotel project, the Japanese Consortium of Mitsui Taisei suggested a debt rescheduling agreement which included the mortgage of the Hilton Hotel building to the Japan-

This plan was stoutly resisted by Dr. A. C. Randeni, the government nominee on the Board of Directors and himself said Mr. Nihal Sri Amaresekere, Char-tered Accountant and Advisor to the Ministry of HEISLAND Wednesday 1st January, 1992

Mr. Nihal Ameresekere, a Manage-ment Consultant writing to "The Island" details out a number of instances wherein he had complained to the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Colombo

Douglas Premaratne PC acting Solicitor General in the inquiry into matters relating to the Hilton Hotel project and acts of commission and omission by

government and public bodies in this connection.

The Special Presidential Commission comprises
Justice Priyantha Perera (Chairman), Judge of the Supreme Court, Justice Hector Yapa, Judge of the Court of Appeal and High Court Judge, Mr. F. N. D.

Stock Exchange against violations of the existing laws by certain public quoted

Here is an excerpted version of his. letter.

Judge issues interim injunction in Hilton case

Colombo District Judge Mr. P. Wijayaratne (now, High Court Judge) has rejected the objections and issued an interim injunction restraining three Japanese firms (of contractors and architects) from deman-

(of contractors and architects) from demanding or receiving any monies whatsoever in connection with the construction of the Colombo Hilton hotel building until the final determination of the action.

An interim injunction was also issued restraining Hotel Developers (£Lanka)

Limited from entertaining any demand for chaims on paying out any monies to the three Japanese companies.

DAILY NEWS FRIDAY MAY JL 1996 **

the Defendants' statement, that they have performed their part of the con-tracts and the willingness shown by the company to accept the same, as set out by the Defen-dants, cannot be accepted as the basis for payment.

Accordingly, what should be actually considered is, whether, the position of the company in relation to the said matters i.e. whether, the position taken concerning the whether, the position taken concerning the agreements entered into with the 1st to 3rd, Defendants, is adverse to the interests of the shareholders of the company, or else,

Treasury chief Paskaralingam rejected requests for physical check of Hilton - Nihal Amerasekere

THE ISLAND Wednesday 2nd August, 1995

Commission to appoint panel of architects to check Hilton Hotel project plan

by Assumpta Alles
National List MP and
former Director Hotel
Developers Limited,
HOLJ K. N. Chokey,
HDL Chairman and
Managing Director Cor-

The Island Sunday 5th June, 1994 Rs. 11,000 million held up by court injunction

Japanese concerned about Hilton case

The Japanese government has expressed its Colombo, Mr. I. Hashiment has expressed and hashing hashiment has expressed and hashing hashing

Japanese concerned... continued from P1

Mr. Amereschere furth- THE ISLAND Wednesday 2nd November, 1994

Allegations against Hotel Hilton baseless

The action filed in the District Court of Colombo The action filed in the District Court of Colombo
by Nihal Sri Amereckere, a share-holder of Hotel
Developers Limited against the contractor, architects
and other directors of the Hilton Hotel was taken up
so since this may delay the trial in this case which is
sons connected to the before Mr. I. M. Liyanage District Judge, Colombo, for a ruling on the plaintid?s further pleadings, Mr. K. Kanageswaran PC submitted to Court that the original motion sought permission to file the further idings together with the request that the answer filed by the 4th Defendant (Hotel Developers-Limited) be rejected or returned for amendment. However, he stated, that he now only wanted to file further pleadings and was withdrawing the request everybody. that the 4th defendant's answer be rejected.

Mr. Shibly Aziz PC Additional Solicitor General who appeared for the '4th' defendant Hotel Additional Solicitor General. Developers Limited submitted that it was unfair for 4th defendant from answering plaintiff's further

Mr. Aziz further stated that the 4th defendant company, did not consider it appropriate to support either of the parties in the original answer in view of the serious and grave allegations of fraud, collusion and irregularities in the building of the Hilton Hotel. Moreover, the plaintiff had purported to bring the action to safeguard the interests of the company. A careful and thorough examination conducted thereafter into these allegations had clearly shown that the allegations were totally baseless and unfounded and based on a misconception entertained by the

Mr. Aziz submitted that the hotel was built in Mr. Arts submitted unto the coord me.

Accordance with the agreement reached between the demand for claims of parties and the plans, and that there was no three Japanese companiustification at all for the plaintiff's allegations of

fixed for a date in March this year. fixed for a date in March this year.

J. R. Jayewardeno regHowever, he categorically reserved the right to ime are to come under
controvert the plaintiff's allegations at the invostigation for fraud
appropriate stage. Mr. Aziz also pointed out that this and corruption flor. course of action was necessary in view of the fact that alleged kickbacks re-foreign firms are involved in this matter and policy colved from a Japanese considerations required that this action should be multinational, once the concluded as early as possible, in the interest of proposed permanent

Accordingly, the judge permitted the further and Corruption is set pleadings subject to rescription made by the up, informed Bribery Additional Solicitor General

In this case the plaintiff Mr. Nihal Sri Ameresekera partment sources the plaintiff to now urge that only the plaintiff a cof Sri Vipulsorm Mawatha, Colombo 10, a chartered further pleadings should be accepted and deprive the accountant and a shareholder of Hotel Developers of Sri Vipulationa Mawatha, Colombo 10, a chartered Ltd. has stated that the original architectural plans for

the Colombo Hilton provided for 23 floors including a mezzanine floor but the unauthorised approved architectural plan had only 20 floors including the ground floor and no mezzanine floor in the main building

There were also other differences in the building with regard to the number of guest rooms etc.

The District Court has already issued an interim injunction restraining the three Japanese firms of contractors and architects from demanding or receiving any monies whatsoever in connection with the construction of the Colombo Hilton building. An interim injunction has also been issued restraining Hotel Developers (Lanka) Ltd from entertaining an demand for claims or paying out any monies to the

Hong Kong based account of Deutsche Bank AG between April 1984 and December 1984 for alleged special favours it had obtained In connection with the Hilton Hotel project in Colombo, official

Colombo, offic sources disclosed. c) The exemption of import duties on all materials and equipment for the Hilton Hotel. d) The exemption of all corporate and other quested by Mitsui.

Alleged Hilton kick-backs to be probed

The Attorney General, by his letter dated 6th March 1984, had categorically stated that no exemption from import Duty could be granted to the Colombo Hilton under the

Consequently, former Minister of Constitutional Affairs K. N. Choksy — a very powerful personality in the United National

Colombo had been granted, costing the government around Rs. 650 million.

The Customs (Amendment) Law No. 35 of 1974 empowers the Minister of Finance to grant such exemp-tions, only if he deems it expedient in public interest to do so. The then government elso issued state guaran-tees, under which the alleged claims today

Party governn THE ISLAND Saturday 2nd November, 1991

Embarrassed President wanted suit withdrawn

Mr. Nihal Mr. Nihal Sri Amerasekera told the Special Presidential Com-mission sitting at the BMICH yesterday, that when he filled action in the district court and obtained district court and obtained an enjoining order preventing payment to the Japanese consortium of Mitsui Taisei etc, Mr. R. Paskaralingam secretary to the ministry of finance, informed him that President Premadasa

was disturbed and wanted him to consider withdr-

awing the action

Case against Hotel Hilton contractors

Interim injunction restraining drawing of payments issued

by Chitra Weerarathne

The District Judge of Colombo, Mr. I. M. Liyanage, recently issued an Interim Injunction, restraining Missue and Company Limited, Tsizel Corporation and Kanko Kialibi Selsishah Yoro Shibata and Associates, Architects and Designers, from drawing any payment from Hotal Developers Lanks Limited for having constructed the Hilton Hotel of Colombo.

structed the Hitton Hotel of Colombo.

The Petitioner in this case is Mr. Nhall Sri Amerasekera, a Director of Hotel Lanks Developers Limited (the owners of Hitton Hotel Colombo).

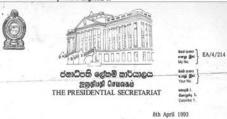
The Petitioner Mr. Amerasekera in his petition, requested the District Court to grant him:

(1) an Interfum (injunction restraining Mitsulf sisei Consortium and architects the 1st, 2nd and 3rd defendents).

dants by themselves, their representatives, servants and agents or otherwise from demanding, claiming

enjoining orders in the same manner and issued the Notice of Instein Rejunctions,

The Objections that were filed by the Defendants, and the submissions made by the learned Counter, on behalf of the parties, became the subject of this inquiry. When considering all the Objection, submissions and legal positions, the position that is clear, is that, the 4th Defendant Company which is the other party to the Agreements, in respect of which the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Defendants on a right to receive mories on such Contrasts, 4d not contest such an application. However, the subject of the agreement mainly addoced herein was, that the Palindft, who is a Shareholder of the Company, sees this, as an attempt by other Shareholders and the Parties, who are showing interest concerning the Company, and who are exercising the influence, that they have pained in Society, acting together with the Company, to prevent the raising of the questions connecting the matters of the work in connection with the Contrast, the Prospec-



I am writing with reference to your letter dated 9th March 1993, addressed to His Excellency the President on the above

I have been directed by His Excellency to refute your claim my reply dated 5th February 1993, sent to you on His llency's instructions contained "false and untrue statements."

His Excellency has further directed me to inform you that.

for the reasons set out in the aforesaid reply dated 5th February 1993, and

uest for action by His Excellency is inappropriate and

2. Minny (K H J Wijayadasa), retary to the President

Mr Vasudeva Nanayakkara Member of Parliament for Ratnapura District, 143/3, Kew Road, Colombo 2,

Vasudeva writes to Minority shareholder rights

Director-shareholder to appeal to S.C.

SC to hear application for special leave to appeal against AC order sous his species to by, Chris Westerning , Contractors of Intern Combo Combo, operal The order of Mr.P. Who money and receiving are the placed in the Combo Combo, operal The order of Mr.P. Who money and receiving are the placed in the Combo Combo, operal The order of Mr.P. Who money and receiving are the placed in the Combo Leave to appeal that species to the Rever to appeal and the Rever to appeal the Rever to appeal the Source Court Com of Appeal, species Court Company (Richard Source Court Company Leave to appeal the Source Court Court of Appeal, species Court Court of Appeal Reverse Court Court of Appeal, species Court Court of Appeal species Court Court of Court of Appeal species Court Court of C against defiant majority

President on Hilton

Who he paids involved

Who he paid with the paid to the p

Director, Hilton Hotel Alleged defaults in Hilton construction granted special leave

Files further pleadings

We have Subbandu

A very rate and extreme between the Destrict Court of Colores and obtained between the Destrict Court of Lawrence Court of Colores and obtained Lawrence Court of Lawrence Court of Colores and obtained Lawrence Court of Colores and obtained Lawrence Court of Colores and obtained Lawrence Court of Colores and Colores and Colores and Court of Court

ttd. Its Directors or agents. The Injunction also restrained the Hold Developers Lanka Limited or its Director mited or its Director claims on payment or making any payments of the Japanese Contractors and their Architects for construction works Hilton Hotel of Colombo.

Historic Supreme Court Judgment in the

Hilton Hotel Case Shareholder wins legal right to institute action on behalf of a company and in its right in exceptional circumstances

THE ISLAND Sunday 10th January, 1993 **Landmark Supreme Court Judgment**

Establishes unique legal right of a shareholder to sue on

Hilton Hotel judgment in C'wealth Law Reports

don'ts from 'demanding cere any more properties of place in the Commonwealth Law Reports of th

Legal experts view Hilton Hotel case judgment as historic

person seeking justice he said, should not be processed from any and third distinguistic were concerned, not you cannot not make the processed from the distinguistic were concerned, not you cannot not make the processed from the distinguistic were concerned, not you cannot not not processed from the distinguistic were concerned to the processed from the distinguistic way.

"... but for the interim injunctions, the 4th Defendant Company, like Pyrthus offers the bottle of Asculum in Apulio, and the processed from the proce

Commission allows settlement with Japanese firms on rescheduled payments



DAILY NEWS SATURDAY JULY 1ST, 1995

Hilton Hotel dispute settled

Hilton Hotel dispute settlement with Japanese consortium helps govt. save Rs. 10,200 million — Prof. G. L. Peiris

SPC on frauds and irregularities

Airbus, Hilton affair get top billing

Historic Supreme Court.... Install

Hilton Hotel case

AG directed to prepare papers for

settlement