

2017 FLEES WAR CRIMES CASE IN LATIN AMERICA

JAN

AUG

August 2017

Universal jurisdiction cases for war crimes filed against Jagath Jayasuriya, who is Sri Lankan Ambassador in Latin America. When he flees home, another ex Army Commander suggests Jayasuriya does indeed have a case to answer for torture. Brazil confirms jurisdiction; Chile assigns a prosecutor to investigate.



Jagath Jayasuriya

In charge of the military offensive in the north of Sri Lanka in 2008-9, based in an army garrison notorious for torture.

AUSTRALIA: A SAFE HAVEN FOR WAR CRIMINALS?

2019 WELCOMED IN AUSTRALIA

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAY

Despite well publicised allegations of war crimes, the Australian High Commission and the Department of Home Affairs appear to have granted Jayasuriya a visa.



26 May 2019



Guest of honour at "war hero" commemoration event in Melbourne.



JUN



19 June 2019



Jayasuriya and his wife seen at Melbourne International Airport.



24 June 2019

ITJP & ACIJ write to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) Commissioner requesting an urgent meeting, advising that alleged war criminal may be in Australia and is likely to return.



JUL

AUG

June - August

Police do not grant urgent meeting.



2019 WELCOMED AGAIN IN AUSTRALIA

OCT

1 October 2019

ITJP and ACIJ lodge a formal criminal complaint to the police.

- 55 page draft indictment with over 4000 pages of exhibits.
- testimony from 40 witnesses and survivors.
- Notify police more witnesses also available in Australia.
- ITJP & ACIJ advise AFP, Jayasuriya likely to be in the country later this month.



17 October 2019

ITJP and ACIJ ask whether Jayasuriya will be tracked into country given it is likely he will be in the country in a week but no movement alert is issued.

AFP advise matter is being progressed to the Attorney-General's Office. In November, ITJP and ACIJ write to AG requesting his intervention.



26 October 2019



Photographed in Melbourne



30 October 2019

Photographed with wife socialising in Melbourne.



Jagath Jayasuriya
Thanks for the lovely get together and lunch.

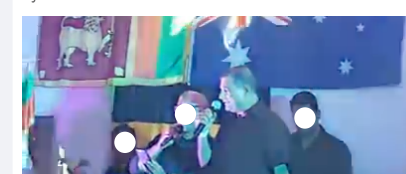
Like · Reply · 2 y

NOV



2-4 November 2019

Filmed singing at a party in Melbourne organised by Sri Lanka Ex Service and Police Association.



2020-2021 INACTION DUE TO 'ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT'

FEB

5 February 2020

Attorney-General responds to ITJP & ACIJ's November correspondence and says AFP need to investigate first.

12 February 2020

ACIJ and ITJP write to police seeking update.

AUG

20 August 2021

ITJP and ACIJ again write to police seeking update.

SEPT

1 September 2021

Australian Federal Police after two years say:

"Unfortunately, this matter was not allocated to an investigations team for review due to an administrative oversight which was not realised until receipt of your recent letter."



2022 CASE DROPPED

31 Jan 2022

Australian Federal Police write to say they will not investigate because inter alia:

- Jayasuriya is not in Australia;
- there is a complaint made on Sri Lanka to the International Criminal Court;
- Sri Lanka set up an ongoing domestic commission of inquiry into war crimes allegations in Jan 2021;
- Australia supports a domestic determined inquiry process.

AUSTRALIAN
CENTRE
FOR INTERNATIONAL
JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL
TRUTH
AND JUSTICE
PROJECT