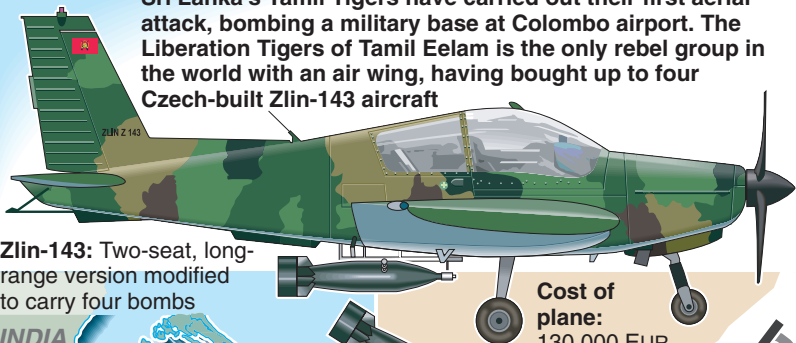


Tamil Tiger rebels launch first air raid

Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers have carried out their first aerial attack, bombing a military base at Colombo airport. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam is the only rebel group in the world with an air wing, having bought up to four Czech-built Zlin-143 aircraft



Zlin-143: Two-seat, long-range version modified to carry four bombs

Cost of plane:
130,000 EUR.
Believed imported in kit-form from Australia



Monday, 00:45:

Three airmen killed and 16 wounded when aircraft attack **Katunayake air base**



2001: Eighteen LTTE suicide bombers launch raid on Colombo Airport, destroying a dozen military aircraft and killing more than 20 people