

TRIBUNE

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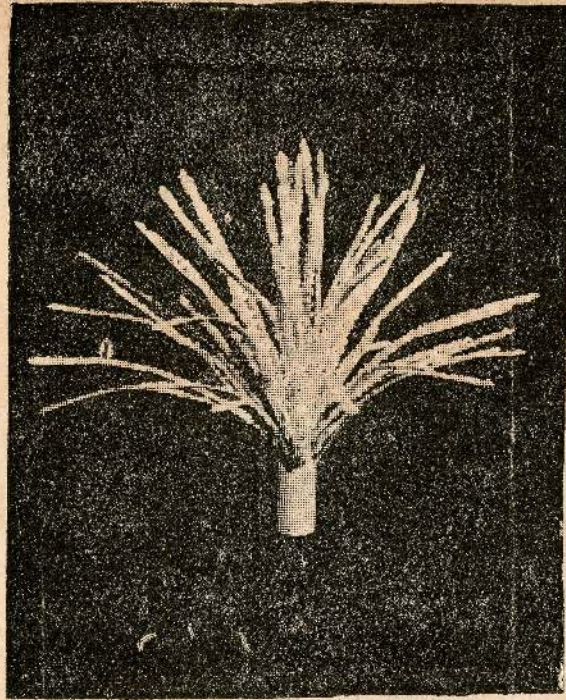
**THE FOREIGN
SCENE**

**AGRICULTU-
RAL DIGEST**

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FORUM**

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TRIBUNE

Ceylon News Review
A Journal of Ceylon and
World Affairs

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

ON THE COVER we have a drumbeat to herald a new chapter in the *Tribune*. We propose in future to pay special and critical attention to developmental activity that we think is crucial for the future of this country. Our *Sportscope* covers areas which are of special importance to the young and it also concerns health of the nation. *Mens Sano in Corpo Sano* may be an old Latin cliché but nevertheless valid at all times especially the present. Our *Agricultural Digest* covers all aspects of agriculture which is the life-blood of the nation. Coupled with it is the *Mahaweli* which symbolises the forward march of agriculture in the current period. We may add other features of special interest as we go on. In this column in our last issue we referred to a visit to the Nattandiya and Kuliypitiya areas. What struck us with staggering impact was the devastating effects of the coconut in what is normally described as one of the most productive of our coconut zones. From conversations on our rounds there emerged one important talking point that surprised us. It was about the tremendous progress registered by the *Coconut Triangle Milk Producers' Co-operative* within a short space of a few months. Starting with a couple of dozen milk producer members the Co-operative now, we were told, had over 4,000 members. We could not get the actual figures because we did not run into any office-bearers of the Co-operative. We were also told that from a daily 200-litre milk collection it was nearly 5,000 litres now and that soon the 10,000 litre mark would be touched. The concept of the Milk Producers, Co-operative fascinated us and we hope to make another trip to study its working. More about this later.

AFTER THE NATTANDIYA-KULIYAPITYA visit we had occasion to travel during the New Year holidays in certain parts of the Wannu, also called the Dry Zone. A few showers—unseasonal and undoubtedly convectional—had fallen in some areas and hopes had risen afresh among the drought-stricken peasants. If the South-West monsoons come on schedule, the Mahaweli water will begin to flow again, and if the North-East does not fail, the peasants look forward to good crop and good money. If there is one thing that last drought has taught them it is that water—even Mahaweli water—should be used sparingly and carefully and there should be total and complete vigilance against the mismanagement of arrogant bureaucratic know-alls who issue orders from air-conditioned ivory towers in Colombo. One question that we insisted on asking whenever we could conveniently do so was "do you think the general elections would be held in August this year as some are suggesting?" The fire-brands said that the "Jayewardene Government will not hold any general election because they fear the wrath of the people." They insisted that only a Revolution can save the nation. This rhetoric was heard often but it is not clear what impact it had on the rest of the population. The Bandaranaike loyalists said that it did not matter when the elections were held because the SLFP would sweep the polls anytime anywhere. Unity will come, they said, and a SLFP victory was a foregone conclusion. But a very large number of the people we talked to said, "It would be foolish to hold elections now. . . . it won't be good for the government. They should have the elections sometime after the next Maha crop. . . . next year May or June. . . ." From such answers it was clear that as at present a sizeable majority in the rural areas want the present government, with all its mistakes and the high prices of basic essentials, to be returned for another term. This appeared to be the real import of the answer. We had deliberately not asked a straightforward question about whom they would vote for or which Party would win. If we did they would have hedged, but the question as we asked did not alert them to be cautious in their reply. If they want the government defeated, they would have said, "the earlier the elections are held the better. . . . we've had enough of this government".

Pre-election Stirrings

With the General Elections due in the first half of next year (or any time before if the Government so desires), all political observers are keenly watching the activities of the Parties likely to participate in the contest. Whilst the leaders of all parties are getting ready for the fray, the voters (or the general public or the common people—as frequently termed) have so far not displayed any special interest in the forthcoming elections. The crowds being drawn to the meetings and tamashas of the different parties, including the big ones, are not massive or impressive. Ordinary people have either become apathetic to the whole pre-election campaign process or find it difficult to become enthusiastic about any of the parties now wooing them.

The UNP has started its campaign in real earnest. The official media has been fully geared to advance the cause of the ruling party, but neither the daily papers nor the electronic SLBC and the Rupavahini have been able to get the necessary credibility to be of much use so far. Amateurishness, overkill propaganda and childish stupidity continue to plague them. Subtlety and finesse seem something foreign to them. The only consolation the UNP can derive is that the papers and journals of parties opposed to it suffer from the same propagandistic maladies, and what is worse they often indulge in stories that boomerang. But they have one advantage in that the Government, its Ministers, MPs and favoured bureaucrats are guilty of so many acts of commission and omission (including large-scale corruption) that there is a great deal of mud to throw and some of it can and will stick (unless of course government starts taking stern and expeditious measures as in the case of Anura Daniel).

The UNP has done much since 1977 to activate the economy to pull the country out of the stagnation into which it had sunk. But it seems unable to put across its achievements to the people. This is no doubt partly due to the overkill tactics of the media supporting the UNP. But more importantly it is the rampant corruption and the inept, highhanded, bureaucratic and red-tape-ridden attitudes and actions of officials that is responsible for much of the hostility and resentment against the Government.

But the Government has so far been fortunate in that the Opposition has nothing concrete to offer except a repetitious reiteration of the government's defaults and misdeeds exaggerated to a point where it loses validity. Furthermore, the disunity and disarray in the Opposition Parties continue to grow day by day.

THE CPSL is only party of the Left that has not split but it is pursuing a policy of isolation on a take-it, or leave-it strategy based on its rather rigid United Left Front tactic. Whilst all other opposition groups,

except the JVP, seem willing to co-operate and even coalesce with the SLFP(S), the CPSL does not want to have any truck with Mrs. Bandaranaike. It is inclined to collaborate with the SLFP(M) but the latter is still torn by internal upheavals. The TULF and CWC too have no splits, but both are likely to cooperate with the UNP.

The State of the SLFP(S) continues to puzzle all observers. It has now accepted the umbrella of a new guardian angel in Upali Wijewardene and his papers *The Island* and *The Divaina*. Upali has succeeded in breaking Anura from Maithripala and a new SLFP (S) unity is being forged. This mother and son combine, after frequent breaks, splits and quarrels, has further detracted from the charisma of both Sirimavo and Anura. Upali's don quixotic tilting at the windmills of "corruption" in his papers (particularly against two Ministers) has drawn a certain number of admirers, but his determination to revive horse-racing (a start has been made in Nuwara Eliya) has brought no credit to the SLFP which was responsible for the ban on racing. Already Buddhist pressure has begun to mount to request the government to end its laissez faire attitude to horse-racing.

THE LSSP is in a bigger muddle than ever—with Anil Moonesinghe splitting away as a new LSSP to operate as a wing of the SLFP. The old guard in the LSSP has sacked Anil, but the latter claims to have sacked the rest. Not much is known of the JVP, but it is the only Left party that is carrying on systematic election propaganda in all the rural areas. Strangely enough, the JVP has begun to attract youth in the Tamil speaking areas in the plantations and in the North and the East. The JVP is not likely to sweep the polls or win a majority, but as matters stand its performance in the next general elections may come as a surprise to many. Its success will be due to the continuing defaults of the Government and the disunity in the SLFP and the traditional Left.

The election fever has not started. The elections still seems a long way off. But one can already see the stormy clouds gathering on the distant horizon.



FILM FOCUS

"Quality Films"

So, the fat of the National Film Corporation is on the boil and being severely tested. All that this column had built up over the years in dribbles came out in one gush at the confrontation that certain prominent film personalities led by Gamini Fonseka had with His Excellency the President J. R. Jayewardene. This however does not mean that this column goes all the way with the representations and accusations made,

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for there was certainly a tinge of chauvinism and egoism lining some of the issues raised. The reference to the erotic advertisements being made, under cover of NFC publicity, must be up-held but that the best from the West should be kept away from our screens carried an air of selective superiority in comment, as to what should be thrust down the throats of picture-goers, is cannot be denied, that sandwiched between some very good English film fare were the trashy and ever bluish stuff that got past the censors. But to dictate to the people as to what their cinemas dish out could have serious repercussions in an Election year. Since cinema is the only entertainment available to the masses, one has to tread carefully in making careless inroads into their sensitivities, which in the long run could prove disastrous. And a handful of film personalities, however eminent in the field they may be, can only express an opinion that should be endorsed by the will of the people before implementation. The axe has therefore to be wielded carefully in weeding out the chaff where imported films are concerned. The acclaimed moves should be allowed to flow in without restrictions. It was indeed consoling that the deputation did not insist on chopping off Tamil importations as well, considering the very large following, these have in our country—besides laying the Golden Eggs for the NFC. Speaking of trashy films it has to be accepted, that for every quality Sinhalese film produced today four to five of the cheaper variety are being churned out. This briefly what this column would like to drive home is that QUALITY should be the watchword whether in Sinhalese, Tamil or English—to give movie-goers film fare worthy of their hard cash.

This column however deprecates personal insinuations of corruption on those who administer the NFC without adequate proof. One should not flay the whip like a blind man hoping that some of the lashes would open the backdoors or corruption. To refer haphazardly to those who hold responsible positions in the NFC as those of a "Class Three category" with puerile motives would be unfair and reaching out below the belt. His Excellency, the President, under whose direct purview films are categorised can be relied upon by his legal background alone, that to root out corruption at any level, proof must be made available. As in the Bible, it must be the onus of accusers, who ride roughly on rumours alone, not to cast the first stones, but to look into the moral and material mirrors, of their past, before turning into little Caesars. This column is for constructive criticism alone as its motto for purifying cinema, and certainly not for the villification of personalities with ulterior motives, for achieving this goal.

SAKVITHI SUVAYA (Sinhalese); This excellent film directed by Gamini Fonseka provides an insight into what probably irritates and annoys this reputed Director—Actor and hands him the axe which he probably grinds against the NFC. This creation of his, which surface slum life, while weaving a worthwhile

story in its slush is certainly worthy of the fifth circuit or even a more prestigious one at that, than which it is doing its rounds now, thus providing a ground for resentment. It is the story of a group of Taxi Drivers, the toughest among them being roled by Gamini Fonseka with distinction, together with Somi Ratnayake Amarasiri Kalansooriya, Wimal Kumar de Costa and Senaka Perera among others, highlighting their common behaviour patterns and comradeship through thick and thin. The sequences move to and fro, from the Taxi Stand to the slums, where they live their simple lives interspersed with bouts of liquor, common ball games, a lashing of vituperative tongues and rounds of gossip that break out into Billingsgate, so well personified brilliantly by veteran actress Shantilekha with her prying eyes, cocked ears and a charged tongue. Respectability invades this group, in the figure and form of Tissa Madugalle, who in search of his last pay packet near the Taxi stand, meets Gamini Fonseka's (Bucket) eye-catching sister (Sabitha Perera), triggering off a romance that ends in tragedy, a class distinction being the cause. Gamini goes on the rampage and the rest is for you to relish on the screen. This film also brings together Gamini Fonseka and Vijay Kumaratunga—as Madugalle—in one of their rare appearances. Realism runs through and through the film so convincingly but the film probably has suffered by slum life and its squalor being spotlighted so well. The corresponding histrionics was of a very high standard as in *Grapes of Wrath* which surfaced the slums, and *Taxi Driver* with Robert de Niro, both English films that won awards by similar themes. So why blame Gamini for the grievance the nurses by the shabby treatment of his films, after long wait in the notorious queue, nostalgically stamped by the brief appearance of the late Rukmani Devi. Forget the film politics that appears to trail the film, and make it a must.

NETCHATHIRAM (Star) Tamil: Moving on from realism to escapism, this film brings together a galaxy of guest stars (Sivaji Ganeshan, Kamalahasan, Rajni Kanth, the late Savithri and Manjula) to protract the course and career of an actress (Sri Priya) who at her zenith of popularity, takes a nosedive by loosening her heart strings to one of her persistent fans—who by comparison looks more her nephew than her lover on the screen. There is an air of slipshod sentimentality in the whole exercise, and of such colourad stuff are these failures from the South Indian film studios made of propped up. In this instance, by bigger stars in the firmament. This film is a clear indictment on the tastes of those who get across the Palk Straits to pontificate on what is good for the Tamil picturegoers. Well the Cinema was packed when I witnessed this show, which by no means spoke for its quality but for the general starvation in new Tamil film fare, which was experienced recently.

Incidentally as I conclude this column, news has reached me that following new Tamil releases,

will be on our screens shortly: NETRU INDRU NALALAI, ENNAI POL ORUVAN, VISVARUPAM, MOHANAP PUNNAHAI, LORRY DRIVER RAJ KANNU, MURATU KALAI, ANBUKU NAAN ADMAI, POLLATHAVAN (already released), THILLU MULLU, RAJA PARAVAI, KADAL MEENGAL, ALAIGAL OIVATHILLAI, MOUNA KEETHANGAL, NENJATHAI KILLATHE, PAIAVANAI CHOLAI, PANNEER PUSPANGAL, ADYRAM VASAL ITHAYAM, ALAGE UNNAI ARATHIKKIREN, AND IRAVIL PAYANANGAL.

James N. Benedict.

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LETTER

National Unity

Sir,

While not for a moment questioning the integrity of your correspondent, the respected Mr. A. C. Nadarajah, the following comments seem appropriate on his "National Unity" (a valuable piece of historical evidence) published in your issue of 13th March, 1982: (1) Is there in Sri Lanka today a concept called National Unity? The British-imposed constitutions of 1947 and 1948 have no legitimacy where the Tamil nation is concerned; less so, the constitutions of 1972 and 1978 which are really home-grown UDIS of the Sinhala nation. It can be argued that British paramountcy over the Sinhala and Tamil nations lapsed with independence in the same way as it did in India vis-a-vis the native princes and their kingdoms at independence. A new legitimacy has still to be created, if at all. Meanwhile the Tamil United Liberation Front reopened the whole question of two states with its Eelam resolution at Vaddukoddai in 1973. (2) Mr. Nadarajah's record of the report of Mr. Bandaranaike's language sub-committee and its compromises for the Tamil language as well as his observation that the fundamental rights of Mrs. Bandaranaike's 1975 constitution "cannot replace Section 29 of the Soulbury Constitution" (i.e., of 1947 and 1948 are beside the point in the light of what is stated in (1) above. Even if for argument we were to accept the compromises of Mr. Bandaranaike's language sub-committee or Mrs. Bandaranaike's 1972 fundamental rights as a substitute for the curtailment of existing Tamil language rights, such a contention does not hold in the context of the South African decision on the Cape coloured Voters' Case of February 1952. The Chief Justice of South Africa observed that Section 35 of the South African Constitution which entrenched the rights of the Coloured Voters in Cape Colony "contains a guarantee of defined rights, not of equivalents. The argument suggests that a spoliator may deprive me of my property with

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impunity if he is prepared to give something of equal or greater value in return".

Dept. of Political Science, **A. J. WILSON**
University of New Brunswick,
Fredericton, N.B. Canada,
April 2, 1982.

Note : The Government of South Africa's defence was that the removal of the Coloured Voters from a common roof to a separate roll did not constitute a disqualification within the meaning of Section 35, as their qualifications as voters remained unimpaired, the only change being that whereas formerly they had the right to elect members to the National Assembly with the Europeans, now they would elect members on their own undiluted vote.

x x x

TASTE OF PARADISE

Changing Politics

By **Jayantha Somasundaram**

Political parties are never passive participants in the development of political systems. And if we subject the United National Party to careful scrutiny we find that it has at times been a good reflection of the political reality of the day. In its first period under D. S. Senanayake it was not quite a political party, since the party system as it subsequently developed was still non-existent. Instead, the UNP was really a conglomeration of individuals who had come together to continue the business of ruling the country. Party structures and organisation were not required since individuals were in a position to deliver no vote-banks especially in the case of those who were "leaders" of minority groups. Charisma was more important than policies. The party reflected the loose fluid political situation which the plethora of independent parliamentarians merely confirmed.

With the emergence of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party there were possibilities for a party system. Bandaranaike tried to promote a two party system with a place for the Opposition. Until fifty six no real consideration had been given to the Opposition parties and the leader of the Opposition. Under J. R. Jayewardene the UNP responded to the changed situation, there developed party structures, organisation and programmes. They became part of a system that was characterised by consensus politics and bipartisan policies. This liberal climate was however short-lived. In the seventies two factors contributed to the

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undermining of tolerance. On the one hand governments had massive majorities at their command and Opposition parties in parliament became marginal and impotent. The political stage took on the configuration of a one-party system. Opposition parties, leaders and feelings were treated as irrelevant. Opponents and dissidents were singled out for discrimination. In 1971 Vasudeva Nanayakkara MP and opposition leader J. R. Jayewardene's son were held in custody without being charged. Chelvanayakam was not allowed to recontest the Kankesanthurai seat for two years. Attempts were made to impound J. R. Jayewardene's passport.

At the outset President J. R. Jayewardene made attempts to restore the dignity of the Opposition, but events overtook him. Mrs. Bandaranaike was disqualified from taking part in politics. Allegations of police and military disregard, even harassment of TULF parliamentarians, have been repeatedly made. A political situation that prevents the Opposition from operating as it would like is hardly likely to be conducive to the tolerance of more than one power centre within the ruling party itself. And yet the UNP has never been as monolithic as its leaders would have us believe.

We now seem to have arrived at an era of authoritarian parties. The propensity for authoritarianism in parties is predicted not only by the availability of large reservoir of power in Parliament. It is more a symptom of the system in crisis. Intolerance is the resource of the insecure. Parliamentary majorities are often illusive and distract us from situation that are in fact fragile.

J. R. Jayewardene is in actual fact preparing the order of battle for the elections—and in elections there is no room for sentimentality. Mrs. Bandaranaike is his only real opposition and she is being made a liability even to her own party and supporters. The bifurcation of the SLFP was the highest dividend that J. R. Jayewardene could have hoped to reap from the act of depriving Mrs. Bandaranaike of her rights.

The mailed fist approach to the July Eighty strike had a comparable effect on the left parties. It accentuated the divisions between them and exposed their weaknesses. The TULF would be the last power centre that has to be destabilised. The current truce with the leadership may accomplish just that by alienating the radical wing of the TULF at the crucial time of elections. During its thirty-six years of existence the UNP has remodelled itself as the political system has passed from a pre-party era dominated by personality politics, on through the interlude of a multi-party system with two centres of power, and now to an era of authoritarian politics. The scenes have kept changing, although those of us in the wings may not have realised it: the drama of power struggle however continues.

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FOR THE RECORD

Code of Conduct

—For Ministers & Public Servants

MINISTERS : The Cabinet on 31.3.82 adopted a code of conduct for Ministers laying clear guidelines to ensure that no holder of ministerial office would be faced with the situations of conflict between duty and private interest. The code of conduct for Ministers was adopted along with the code of conduct for those holding public office. Both codes were prepared by the Law Commission at the request of Justice Minister Nissanka Wijeyeratne and were submitted for consideration to the Cabinet at the request of President J. R. Jayewardene.

The code of conduct for Ministers states:

1. At meetings of the Cabinet and its committees, a Minister should disclose to his colleagues when he has an interest which does or might reasonably be thought to conflict with his public duty as a Minister. His declaration should be noted in the Cabinet records. The Minister should then either indicate that he will not take part in the discussion or else secure the explicit authorisation of his colleagues for taking part.

2. When directing the business of his Ministry or any department, a Minister, whether of Cabinet or non-Cabinet rank, should inform the President of any apparent or real conflict of interest that may arise. The President, unless he asks a Minister to divest himself of the interest, should either arrange for another Minister to deal with the matter or else give explicit authorisation to the original Minister to proceed with it.

3. Apart from the declaration of assets and liabilities made under section 3 of the Declaration of Assets and Liabilities Law No. 1 of 1975 by Ministers and Deputy Ministers such Ministers should disclose to the President the following information:

- (a) beneficial interest of the Minister or a member of his immediate family under any trust and in nominee company with a statement of the nature of operations of the trust or company;
 - (b) any trust of which the Minister is a trustee with the statement of beneficiaries and the nature of the operations of the trust;
 - (c) partnerships and joint venture interests with the statement of the nature of operations;
 - (d) shareholdings under procedure which will disclose the ultimate interests in circumstances where private companies are used as a screen to mask holdings directly or indirectly in other companies.
4. A Minister should divest his shares and similar interests in any company or business involved with his ministry or any department thereof.

5. A Minister should resign all directorships in public and private companies which engage in significant trading operations but may retain directorships in private companies which operate farms or agricultural holdings or investments but not otherwise.

6. A Minister should cease to engage in professional practice.

7. A Minister should cease to be involved in the daily routine work of any business.

Public Servants

The code for public servants states:-

1. An office holder should be frank and honest in official dealing with his colleagues.

2. An office holder should not subordinate his duties to his private interests; he should avoid situations in which his private interest, whether pecuniary or otherwise, conflicts or is likely to conflict or might reasonably be thought to conflict with his public duty.

3. When an office holder possesses directly or indirectly an interest which conflicts or is likely to conflict with his public duty, or improperly influence his conduct in the discharge of his responsibilities in respect of some matter with which he is concerned he should disclose that interest according to the prescribed procedures.

4. When the interests of members of his immediate family are involved the office holder should disclose those interests to the extent that they are known to him. Members of the immediate family will ordinarily comprise only the office holder's spouse and dependent children, but may include other members of his household or family when their interests are closely connected with his.

5. When an office holder possesses an interest which conflicts or is likely to conflict or might reasonably be thought to conflict with the duties of his office and such interest is not prescribed or required as a qualification for that office, he should forthwith divest himself of that interest or secure his removal from the duties in question or obtain authorization of his superiors or colleagues to continue to discharge the duties; transfer to a trust or to a member of the office holders' family is not a sufficient divestment for the purpose. If immediate divestment would work significant hardship, possession of the interest should be disclosed to colleagues or superiors and authorization obtained for temporary retention pending divestment.

6. An office holder should not use information obtained in the course of official duties to gain, directly or indirectly the pecuniary advantage or other benefit for himself or for any other person in particular. He should scrupulously avoid investment or other transactions about which he is or might reasonably be thought to have early or confidential information which might confer on him an unfair or improper advantage over other persons.

7. An office holder should avoid giving the impression that any person can improperly influence him or unduly enjoy his favour.

8. An office holder should not use or permit any other person to use facilities and services such as transport, stationery and secretarial or other services—provided by the State for use only in his official duties, for any purpose other than for and in the performance of those duties.

9. Public officers holding any of the posts or positions mentioned in the schedule to this rule should obtain official assent if they wish to take up employment within two years of resignation or retirement from public employment in the following business or other bodies:—

- (a) those in or anticipating contractual relationship with the Government;
- (b) those in which the government is a shareholder;
- (c) those in receipt of government loans guarantees or other forms of capital assistance;
- (d) those with which the officer's department is otherwise in a special relationship; and
- (e) those associations whose primary purpose is to lobby Ministers, Members of Parliament and Government departments and authorities

Govt.



Notice

Land Acquisition Act, (Cap.450) as Amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act, No. 28 of 1964.

Reference No. 1726

Notice Under Section 7

The Government intends to acquire the land described in the schedule below for a public purpose for particulars. Please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. No: 188/6 16-04-1982

SCHEDULE

<i>Name of Land</i>	: Peeparagu
<i>Name of Village</i>	: Anaicodda
<i>D. R. O's Division</i>	: Valikamam South West
<i>Lot. o.</i>	: 1
<i>P. Plan No.</i>	: Ya 1569.

S.P. Balasingam

The Secretariat,
Jaffna.
25.03.1982

for Govt. Agent.
Jaffna District.

March 28 - April 3

DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWS- PAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO

CDN—Ceylon Daily News; *CDM*—Ceylon Daily Mirror; *CO*—Ceylon Observer; *ST*—Sunday Times; *SO*—Sunday Observer; *DM*—Dinamina; *LD*—Lankadipa; *VK*—Virakesari; *ATH*—Aththa; *SM*—Silumina; *SLDP*—Sri Lankadipa; *JD*—Janadina; *SU*—Sun; *DV*—Davasa; *DP*—Dinapathi; *CM*—Chinthamani; *WK*—Weekend; *RR*—Riviresa; *DK*—Dinakara; *EN*—Eelanadu; *IS*—Island; *DI*—Divaina; *DPR*—Information Dept. Press Release

SUNDAY, MARCH 28 : President J. R. Jayewardene said on Thursday that the law will be common to all citizens; "Whether one was President of the country, or beggar on the streets, the law of the country will apply equally", he said. The UNP is now gearing itself for the General Election due some time is 1983; the party is now busy setting up organisations and moving them to a higher pitch, ministerial sources said—*SO*. Engineers in Sri Lanka are in luck's way; soon they will have the opportunity of training with the Water and Power Development Authority in various centres in Pakistan—*ST*. A casket containing the relics of Gauthama Buddha was discovered by Indian excavators in Baroda, North India, Minister of Cultural Affairs E. L. B. Hurulle said; D.D.G.P. Ladduwahetti, Secretary, Ministry of Cultural Affairs said Indian archaeological experts who have examined the relics and carried out various tests are positive that they are the relics of the Buddha. Millions of dollars worth of Sri Lankan sapphires are being smuggled out of the country to meet the increasing demands of those who are investing in this precious commodity. Eelam propaganda, considered as highly damaging to Sri Lanka's image still continues to be espoused by several northern politicians while on trips abroad—*WK*. What will the TULF do when Parliament meets ceremonially at its new premises in Kotte on the April 29; there is strong pressure on the TULF by its radical members to keep away from attending the ceremonial opening, while some other extremists are pressing for a complete boycott of sessions at the Kotte Parliament by the TULF. Two suspects arrested in connection with the recent hold-up of the Paranthan Railway Station, have escaped from the custody of the Kilinochi Police. The Commissioner of Co-operative Development Mr. P. K. Dissanayake has picked specially selected officers to form "Flying Squads" to check on the sale of essential consumer items by cooperative societies to the private sector instead of to consumers—*IS*. College students collected more than Rs. 2

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lakhs for the rehabilitation of the Jaffna Library on Flag Day—*EN*.

MONDAY, MARCH 29 : Sri Lanka coconut industry is in the doldrums due to the falling price of coconut oil in the world market, a Coconut Industries Ministry spokesman said yesterday; he said the current market price of 450 US dollars (about Rs. 9,250/-) a tonne was the lowest in recent times. The salaries of Milk Board workers have been increased by forty percent and they are now the highest paid State employees, Minister of Rural Industrial Development S. Thondaman said yesterday—*CDN*. A Ministerial sub-committee has recommended the issue of a circular to Secretaries of all Ministries outlining the implementations of the National Language policy of the Government as provided for in the Constitution. Sri Lanka's tourism is to get another boost, when the well-known Neckermanns teams up the local firm John Keels for the construction of an ultra modern Water Sports Club at a point in the South Coast of the island—*CDN*. Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike's Freedom Party has already been placed on a polls footing; while a campaign has been inaugurated to raise funds for the forthcoming elections, her party MPs have been told to present themselves at public rallies. A four-year national plan for the development of Sri Lanka's exports will be submitted for Government approval by June this year; the plan, formulated by the Export Development Board for the period 1982-85 is aimed at formulating a new set of policies and projects to develop supply, marketing and infrastructure for particular export products. All government hospitals face the threat of closure on Saturdays and Sundays if doctors implement a decision to work to a strictly five-day week routine, keeping to the hours of other public servants, in protest against inadequate salaries. The Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) will participate in the ceremonies connected with the official opening of the parliamentary complex at Sri Jayawardenapura—*SU*. Omission of a particular specification in a tender notice of the Ceylon Fertilizer Corporation has resulted in a loss of Rs. 1,343,300 to the Corporation, the Auditor General has noted in his annual report. President J. R. Jayewardene has directed Cabinet Secretary Mr. G. V. P. Samarasinghe to probe and report on the alleged misuse of drought relief funds. "We want peace but from the public utterances of Mrs. Bandaranaike, it seems that she does not want to settle the differences that exist between us harmoniously", Mr. Maithripala Senanayake said at a meeting of the SLFP (M) at the Children's Park Anuradhapura on Sunday—*IS*. The International Islamic Conference held in Colombo during the past three days decided to send a high-powered delegation to bring an end to the war between Iran and Iraq; the delegation comprising members of Islamic countries will proceed to Iran and Iraq shortly—*VK*. The CWE had lost Rs. 3,381,000 in the tenders for the supply of dhall; the Ministry of Trade has to bear this loss—*DIV*

TUESDAY, MARCH 30: Prime Minister R. Peremadasa told a gathering of over 15,000 at the 100-unit Akbar Gramam model village on Sunday evening, that before the government came to power, the UNP had promised to build 100,000 houses by 1983; he could now give them the revised assurance that the government would complete the construction of 150,000 houses by the end of the next year. A total of 5,245 students will be admitted to the six universities and two university colleges for the academic year beginning October 82. The United States government concerned about the circulation of forged US dollar currency in several Asian countries, has sent a Secret Service agent from its Treasury Department to discuss the problem and offer advice on the identification of spurious notes to police and bankers there. DIG Tyrell Gunatilleke has pleaded not guilty to a shop lifting charge preferred against him at the Marlborough Street Magistrate's Court. Mr. Gunatilleke was accused of stealing a bag and tools valued at £ 53.80 from Selfridges of Oxford Street—*CDN*. The customs and CID are conducting separate investigations with regard to the contraband alleged to have been brought into the country, three weeks ago, by a politician from Singapore; they include 28 gold bars, 3,500 wrist watch movements and textiles valued at over Rs. 4.5 million—*CDN*. A new "law and order" division is to be set up shortly to act as a co-ordinating body to facilitate operations among the various specialist law enforcement agencies such as the Alien's Branch, Narcotics Bureau, Tourist, Police Emergency and the Crime Detective Bureau; the new division which would have under it a modern police data bank, is to also provide the base for the establishing of an overall security plan for the metropolis. A special police team was detailed yesterday to investigate a series of child kidnapping last week—*SU*. A penalty of Rs. 6 million has been imposed on a hill country politico for smuggling into the country watches, electrical equipment and calculators in commercial quantities according to informed Customs sources—*IS*. The first case of piracy, attempted on the seas outside the Colombo Harbour this year, has been reported to the Harbour police by the Captain of a German container vessel; in a radio message sent on early Saturday morning the Captain of the vessel Henriette Schule had alerted the Harbour Pilot station that several men who had come in a motorboat had boarded the ship—*CO*. The Singapore government has announced a scheme to be introduced to control the employment of foreigners in Singapore establishments; according to this scheme, Employment Agencies finding employment for foreigners will have to pay a special tax of 30% of the salaries of such foreign employees—*DP*. The Government will stop all imports of cement once the New Cement factory at Kankesanthirai is opened; the factory will be able to supply all the cement needed in the country and will be able to even export cement—*LD*. More than 13,800 Indian tourists have been in Sri Lanka during the past three

months; it is noted that Indians are now visiting Sri Lanka frequently as shopping in Sri Lanka is cheaper than shopping in Singapore—*DV*.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31: Sri Lanka has decided to accord full recognition to the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) authoritative Colombo based diplomatic sources said yesterday; the PLO which has maintained a resident mission here for the past several months, will upgrade it into a full embassy after the formal announcement of recognition. The Government Medical Officers' Association yesterday called out its members on a four-hour protest strike from 8 a.m. against the delay in resolving their salary dispute by the government. The Japanese government is expected to finance a Rs. 3.9 billion project for an ultra-modern airport for Sri Lanka. DIG Tyrell Gunatilleke was found guilty of shop lifting at Selfridges in Oxford Street by a magistrate, Miss Audrey Jennings, at the Wells Magistrate's Court London yesterday. He was fined £ 50 and was ordered to pay a further £ 50 as costs—*CDN*. The young government politician detected at the Colombo Airport, Katunayake, while allegedly attempting to bring several million rupees worth of gold bars and watches into the country was yesterday summoned before President J. R. Jayewardene; this came after the CID submitted a detailed report in respect of the investigations in this connection. Top officials yesterday visited a cave in Kuruwita, Batadolehena following a Presidential directive to submit a report on the 13,000-year-old australoid skeletons discovered at this excavation site—*SU*. Free Trade Zone industry is to be set up in Newera Eliya at a cost of nearly Rs. 100m. Inter Fashion Limited, a 100 percent foreign investment will construct a factory this year and provide employment to over 2,000 people; the factory will produce winter clothing of high quality with specialised fabrics; the agreement was signed yesterday in Colombo. While the TULF has not taken a decision regarding its position on attending the ceremonial opening of the new Parliament at Kotte pressure is being exerted on the leadership to boycott the opening ceremony—*IS*. The Customs have been vested with all powers to take necessary action to control smuggling; the Customs have been alerted and if necessary, they can examine baggages of Ministers, diplomats etc., when they return from abroad; this was stated by the Minister of Finance Ronnie de Mel yesterday—*VK*. The Treasury is taking steps to take surcharge of 25% from every officer in Government Department who have been using government vehicles for their private trips; the Deputy Secretary to the Treasury has proposed to do this—*LD*. The Ministry of Transport has brought a proposal to the cabinet to increase the price of Railway fares; and if the fares are not revised soon the railway will undergo a loss of about Rs. 50 lakhs this year, it is stated—*ATH*.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1: The Cabinet yesterday adopted a code of conduct for Ministers laying clear

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guidelines to ensure that no holder of ministerial office would be faced with the situation conflicting between public duty and private interests. The IGP, Mr. Rudra Rajasingham, yesterday asked the DIGs to come down hard on police brutality and ensure that division heads and other senior officers give high priority to this problem, which has assumed serious proportions; Mr. Rajasingham was speaking at the first DIG's conference to be held since he became head of the force, three weeks ago. The Defence Ministry will today call for a report from the Sri Lanka High Commission in London on the Tyrell Gunetillake case. The politbureau of the Maithri Group of the SLFP yesterday adopted a resolution by 10 votes to 7 to reunite under the leadership of Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike—*CDN*. The Cabinet yesterday approved a new salary scale for medical officers in Government service; the new salaries will be effective from January 1, this year. The United States said at the ESCAP Sessions in Bangkok the Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand have been chosen for initial projects in a new aid programme aimed at promoting a greater role for private enterprise in development efforts—*CDM*. The Government politician at the centre of the "goldfinger" scandal has been called upon to resign; the advice to step down has been made personally to him by President J. R. Jayewardene after he received a report on the inquiry into the alleged smuggling episode. A conference of Buddhist leaders and Buddhist scholars is scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka from June 1 to 6 *SU*. Kuttimani and the other two accused charged with the murder of Police Constable K. Sivanesan will continue to be detained in the custody of the army in the Army Cantonment at Panagoda, according to a directive issued late yesterday evening by the Secretary to the Ministry of Defence; earlier in the day, the high Court judge of Colombo ordered the three accused to be detained in the Remand prisons, Colombo, since their arrest the men had been detained in Army Cantonment at Panagoda—*IS*.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2: Police Headquarters has made a case for the purchase of special equipment, including rubber bullets and stun guns for mob control work. In a statement issued yesterday, Mr. Maithripala Senanayake said that the SLFP's Central Committee decided on March 31 that the party should unite under the leadership and presidentship of Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike. The Government has finalised plans to issue title deeds to over 1,000 long established and developed temple lands which have hitherto been under leasehold. Mr. Hector Alahakoon who took up office as Vice-Chancellor of the Kelaniya campus yesterday emphasised the need for dialogue between those in authority and the students. The Dambulu Oya Reservoir Project has cost the government about Rs. 27 million—*CDM*. The fate of the SLFP (M) leader Maithripala Senanayake and six of his close allies appeared to be in the balance yesterday following the central committee decision on Wednesday

night to accept Mrs. Bandaranaike as their leader under a re-unified Sri Lanka Freedom Party; Mr. Senayake and six close allies abstained from voting on a resolution to re-unify the party under Mrs. Bandaranaike's leadership; they were R. P. Wijesiri MP, Haleem Ishak MP, P. B. G. Kalugalle, S. K. K. Sooriyarachchi, V. P. G. Karunaratne and S. D. R. Jayaratne. Government will shortly adopt tougher recruitment procedures for those who wish to join the armed forces and the police service. A contest on traditional methods of agricultural will be one of the main features in this year's Wap Magul celebrations to be held in Sri Jayawardenapura—*SU*. The Government has ordered Ted Grant, the British MP and militant radical of the Labour Party to be deported from the country with immediate effect; his visa has already been cancelled by the Immigration and Emigration authorities on the instruction of the Government. Sri Lanka is likely to bring about restrictions on the import of English films following strong protests by the representatives of Sinhala film makers, to the President Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, recently. With General Elections scheduled for next year interest is being evinced by the major national parties about possible alliances with the Tamil United Liberation Front—*IS*. At a conference held at the Vavuniya Kachcheri, the Minister of Rural Industrial Development Mr. S. Thondaman said that he would take all necessary steps for the 21,000 people of Indian origin who have settled down in Vavuniya to be made permanent residents of the area—*VK*. The Ceylon Cinema Owners Society have asked the President Mr. J. R. Jayewardene permission to increase the price of tickets; the three groups in the Society are the Ceylon Theatres Ltd., Ceylon Entertainments Ltd., and the Savoy Cinema—*D/V*. **SATURDAY, APRIL 3:** Immigration officials have not yet traced Ted Grant, the militant British leftist whom the authorities have decided to send away; Mr. Grant had entered the country saying he was here as a "business consultant". A joint Standing Committee will be set up soon to bring about better understanding between Muslims and Christians; this is the major outcome of the three-day Muslim-Christian dialogue held in Colombo from March 29—*CDN*. The 2nd SLFP MP for Harispattuwa Mr. R. P. Wijesiri told a meeting in Kandy yesterday that when Mr. Anura Bandaranaike, SLFP 2nd MP for Nuwara Eliya-Maskeliya referred to Mr. Wijesiri's caste the matter ended in fisticuffs; Mr. Wijesiri further said that if the doors of the SLFP were closed to him he had no alternative but to join the JVP as President J. R. Jayewardene also dislaimed him. A highpowered peace mission leaves Colombo on April 6 for Teheran and Baghdad in a bid to end the one and half year old war between Iran and Iraq—*CDM*. Customs will impose a fine of eighteen million rupees on a hill country politician and two other business men involved in the "Goldfinger" smuggling scandal; this is the result of joint Customs-CID investigations establishing their involvement in smuggling into the country over

two million rupees worth of contraband including gold bars, automatic wrist watches and exotic women's clothing—*SU*. Following new developments between the two factions of the SLP the battle for the party headquarters at T. B. Jaya Mawatha commenced again yesterday; on a request made by Mr. Marithripala Senanayake, Police reinforcements were brought to guard the party headquarters.—*IS*. Farmers in the Mahaweli Scheme have stated that the 50,000 acres of Paddy field has been destroyed mainly due to the officers' negligence and not due to the drought; farmers in this area are asking the government to give them compensation for the loss—*DIV*.

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WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

March 27 - April 2

ASIA

INDIA: Wide publicity was given to the fued between Premier Indira Gandhi and her daughter in-law Menaka, wife of the late Sanjay Gandhi, over the latter's attendance at the Lucknow Conference organised by opponents of Gandhi's party. Premier Indira Gandhi will visit the Soviet Union in the course of this year. Too much of prominence was given to Menaka's differences with her mother-in-law which eventually led the former to leave Indira Gandhi's household. Knowledgeable sources say that the dispute between Menaka and Premier Indira Gandhi goes beyond politics and involve financial transactions and personal behaviour of Menaka Gandhi. **BANGLADESH**: Martial Law administrator Lt. Gen. Ershad has appointed a retired Supreme Court Judge, Mr. Justice A. F. M. A. Chowdhury as President of the country. Gen. Ershad announced that Martial Law will be administrated for the next two years and if conditions returned to normal he will return to barracks. Former Deputy Premier and the Minister of Establishment in Sattar Government were arrested for corruption, abuse of power and anti-state activities. **PAKISTAN**: The out-going Indian Ambassador Natwar Singh said that Pakistan should reduce its armed forces by half before it talks of a no-war pact with India. He argued Pakistani Defence requirements have considerably increased since her eastern wing broke away in 1971. Pakistan's foreign office reacted angrily and said that unsolicited advice of the Indian Ambassador was unfortunate and it was up to Pakistan to determine her defence requirements. **SOUTH KOREA**: US Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger said that the US will continue to remain as a Pacific power and was ready to meet any increased threat from the Communist world. It would not only add to its strength but would also help South Korea to be militarily powerful. **CHINA**: The Chinese believe that a fight against capitalist

economic crimes such as corruption, fraud and smuggling was a matter of life and death for the Communist Party. These economic crimes, which were rampant in most of the Asian countries, were viewed as a manifestation of capitalist influence and battle against them was a reflection of a class struggle under changed historical conditions. There was speculation that China may downgrade its diplomatic relations with the US if the latter persists in selling military spare parts to Taiwan. **ISRAEL**: Premier Begin sent Israeli chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren as his special emissary to meet President Reagan and explain current thinking in Isreal. He has impressed upon President Reagan that Isreal would not accept a sovereign Palestinian State on its borders because that would make Israel vulnerable to constant attack. Foreign Minister Shamir appealed to Western European countries not to press the Israelis to make any more concessions to the Arabs which may eventually jeopardise its existence. British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington admitted that it was unreasonable to expect Israel to negotiate with the PLO leadership so long as the PLO abides by its covenant to destroy Israel. It was the view of the EEC and also Britan to persuade the PLO to recognize Israel. Israel faced tough opposition of the Jews to vacate Sinai. Israeli navy prevented extremists landing from the sea in Northern Sinai.

EUROPE

WEST GERMANY: In an interview with a Swedish Television network, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt warned that NATO will deploy new nuclear missiles if the arms reductions talks in Geneva fails. **UNITED KINGDOM**: The British government has issued a document known as "D Notices" to Editors to prevent them from publishing very sensitive and security news. Though this notice was said to be a voluntary guideline the introduction warns the publication of the information covered in the D notice may contravene official secrets. Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani said that the OPEC was preparing a meeting to discuss ways and means to safeguard Nigeria from the pressure of oil companies to cut down her oil prices. Opinion polls forecast that there may be a leadership squabble in the Social Democratic Party with the return of Jenkins to Parliament. The other founders of the SDP feel that a coalition with the Liberals should be led by different people. British government has not denied newspaper reports that some of her naval forces were moving towards Falkland Islands to forestall an imminent Argentine attack. Britain has not confirmed that US was mediating in the disput that has arisen over the ownership of Falkland Islands or dependency of South Georgia. British foreign office refused to comment on news that Argentine's land, naval and air forces have mounted a combined attack on Falkland Islands. **SOVIET UNION**: The cancellation of a trip to Britain by Professor

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Chazov, President Brezhnev's personal doctor, has led to speculations that Brezhnev was hospitalised for some undisclosed health problems. **SWITZERLAND:** An ILO report stated that coal industry was making a fast recovery and may double its production by the end of this country. This would be made possible by the improved technology and less health hazards. If the planned target was attained then coal could provide 20 percent of all global energy requirement. **AUSTRALIA:** A scientific team of British and Australian astronomers have discovered a Quasar, 18 billion light years from earth. This is the most distant and luminous object known to date.

AMERICA

UNITED STATES: The US State Department said that Israelis are aware that a final solution have to be worked out on the status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip according to the Camp David accord. Therefore it was difficult to believe that Israeli actions in the area was a prelude to annexation. The US will continue to sell its arms to Taiwan said Asst. Secretary of State John Holdridge. Defence Secretary Weinberger said in Tokyo that the US will not bow to Chinese pressure and stop selling arms to Taiwan. Nearly 20,000 people demonstrated in Washington against President Reagan's Central American policy options. At the UN Security Council Ambassador Jean Kirkpatrick accused Nicaragua and not US as the destabilising force in Central America. President Reagan said that the recent elections held in El Salvador demonstrated that the country was committed to peace and democracy. The turnout of 80 percent at the General Elections was considered to be a setback for the Leftist guerillas. US Defence Secretary has promised Philippines that America would not abandon its commitments in the Pacific and would maintain its air and naval forces in Philippines at the present level. Doctors have cleared President Regan of a health hazard he complained of. US critics of President Reagan's euphoria over the alleged Soviet superiority in nuclear arsenal have said that the two super-powers were roughly equal. The US appears to have decided on the sale of 60 million dollars worth of military spare parts to Taiwan. **CANADA:** Premier Trudeau condemned the violence on the Israeli occupied West Bank and called for the vacation of all occupied territories including West Bank. Queen Elizabeth II has given her assent to the New Canadian Constitution which transferred all constitutional powers to the Canadian Parliament. A Soviet diplomat was asked to leave the country for trying to buy high technology products. **UNITED NATIONS:** In a speech prepared for the Security Council, the Mexican Ambassador P. M. Ledo announced that Nicaragua and the US have agreed to a meeting next month. The US representative Jeane Kirkpatrick charged Nicaragua with funnelling weapons to El Salvador. The US has denied the Mexican announcement that

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the US and Nicaragua will meet to discuss their differences. The US denied that it has reached a compromise with Third World nations to settle its objections to a draft treaty on the law of the Sea. The UN Security Council has appealed to the Governments of Britain and Argentine to look for diplomatic solution to Falkland Island issue instead of using force. There were confirmed reports that Argentina's aircraft carrier and escort ships were heading towards Falkland Islands. The UN has named an Indian diplomat Brijesh Mishra as UN Commissioner for Namibia. Mishra was considered to be an anti-Western liner. The contact group countries have raised their objections to his appointment as South Africa may use it as an excuse to delay the settlement of the Namibian problem. **EL SALVADOR:** At the elections concluded during the previous week end no single party won a clear majority. President Napoleon Duarte's christians could get only 40 percent of the votes. The Leftist gueril claimed that the US was interfering with the formation of a new government and the fact that the six parties which contested that elections met at the US embassy further confirms this fact. The right wing parties who command 36 of the 60 in the Assembly have formed into a coalition and have welcomed the Christian Democrats to join in a national unity and form a government. Meanwhile President Duarte said that if the rightists were to monopolise power it would spell disaster for the country. **ARGENTINE:** Britain has accused Argentine of a planned invasion of its colony the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic. UN Security Council has decided to discuss the matter while navies of both countries moved towards the disputed Islands. Argentine claims sovereignty over the Flakland Islands.

THE FOREIGN SCENE

APN COMMENTARY

How Many Bombs Does Reagan Need? What?

By Spartak Beglov

Washington's response to the Soviet proposal not to open new channels for the nuclear arms race and to Moscow's decision to freeze unilaterally its medium-range nuclear armaments is, no doubt, a good illustration of "nuclemania"—an obsession with nuclear weaponry. American officials at various levels, includ-

ing the President himself, have uttered a lot of words in an attempt to misinterpret the gist of the new Soviet initiative, to distort the true meaning of Moscow's proposals addressed to Washington. The White House has even ascribed to the new Soviet act of goodwill the intention of "retaining the USSR's military superiority over the United States." The Soviet Union is giving a "stop" signal but the White House is harping on a new "Soviet threat." Normal human logic refuses to accept such a response. In the rest of the world the Soviet initiative is being welcomed as a step in the right direction, as evident from the opinions of Pope John-Paul II and many prominent Western politicians.

What a threat to Washington's interests can be meant if one takes a realistic look at the situation? This is a threat which hangs over the vast plans for the multiplication and qualitative improvement of the US nuclear arsenal. It is the irony of fate that these plans were godfathered not only by military leaders in the Reagan Administration, but also by Reagan's colleagues who are in charge of disarmament problems and problems of control over armaments. This is a "new wave" of the proponents of the cult of nuclear weapons. It is not enough for them that the United States has long acquired the overkill capability, that is, a nuclear potential which can destroy the adversary and the whole life on Earth several times over. By the early 80s the United States had at its disposal 9,000 Strategic nuclear warheads, that is, much more than the Soviet Union, plus 10,000 to 20,000 units of other types of nuclear weaponry (tactical warheads, mines, etc.) The other day Senator Edward Kennedy has asked these politicians who are possessed by "nuclemania": If we can destroy the Soviet Union three, four or forty times, how much do you want to increase this opportunity? In this context the Senator has warned about the threat of the uncontrolled arms race which may really lead to a nuclear disaster.

It is said that the new is the well forgotten old. The new advocates of the American cult of nuclear weapons are trying to revive the 30-year-old bankrupt doctrine of "massive retaliation". The doctrine stakes, first, on the attainment of US nuclear superiority over the USSR and, second, on the admissibility of the first use of nuclear weaponry by Americans. The temptation to "partake of nuclearfruit", that is, to set this devilish machine of intimidation and mass destruction in motion has increased many a time with the appearance of the doctrine of a "limited" (European, Asian, etc.) nuclear war. This explains a new fit of "nuclemania" in the White House. That is why it is not enough for the American leadership to have 20,000 to 30,000 units of nuclear weaponry. It has programmed another 17,000 units, that is, another multiple ability of killing all living beings on Earth.

This explains the sanctioning of production of new means of delivering nuclear weapons ranging from

the B-1 bomber to Cruise missiles. That is why the Pentagon is hurrying to deploy missiles of the new generation—Pershing-2 and Tomahawk Cruise missiles—in Europe. These missiles have a dual purpose: they can implement the idea of a "limited nuclear war" and, at the same time, be a weapon of the first (strategic) strike against the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty countries. Sober-minded people fully realize the lethal danger of "nuclemania". This explains the scope of the movement for a moratorium on nuclear weapons. This movement is gaining momentum in the USA itself from the West Coast to the East and to the capital where over a third of the Congressmen are in favour of a bill on freezing the nuclear weapons of the USA and the USSR. That is why by its misinforming and obstructionist verbiage against the Soviet initiative the US Administration is trying to steam the movement for a moratorium both at home and in many foreign countries. How many new bombs are needed by Reagan? And for what purpose? Why not stop? To halt the arms race now means to bring back the hope that not a single bomb, which is kept in the arsenal, will be used.

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DEFOLIANT SPRAYING

US Fails to Hush up

By Harold Jackson

Washington: The State Department has made strenuous efforts to block the embarrassing revelation that the United States carried out clandestine and illegal spraying of defoliants over Laos during the Vietnam war. It is contained in the draft of an official Air Force history which shows that the herbicides were secretly stockpiled in the early 1960s in breach of the Geneva accords on Indochina. The material was requested under the Freedom of Information Act by a coalition of groups seeking compensation for victims of Agent Orange. In an effort to stop publication, a State Department official told the Federal District Court in Washington that disclosure could "seriously and adversely affect" America's foreign affairs interests. "The US Government," he said in an affidavit, "is presently a party to international agreements prohibiting the use in war of chemical and biological weapons and prohibiting possession or manufacture of biological weapons. The applicability of the agreement for herbicides is a matter of disagreement between the parties." His effort was largely unsuccessful and the substance of the document—a sort of mini-Pentagon Papers—was carried at great length by the *New York Times*. A court battle is still going on over 20 of the 500 pages which have still not been released.

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This latest revelation of America's clandestine activities in Indochina could hardly be less opportune for the Reagan Administration. It has recently carried out an extensive publicity campaign about the alleged use of chemical warfare in Laos and Kampuchea, claiming that the Soviet Union can be the only source of the contaminant known as yellow rain. The history shows that there was a sustained campaign to conceal the spraying in Laos including an instruction to mislead reporters who might ask about it. At one time the US Government was seriously thinking of asking Air Force pilots to wear civilian clothes and to fly planes with false markings. The spraying started in the face of strong objection from the then American ambassador to Laos, Mr. William Sullivan. Some details of the operations may be in the unpublished portions of the history and it is not clear which defoliant was used or how long the spraying lasted. The history shows that in the first seven months there were 200 flights which sprayed 200,000 gallons.

Guardian Weekly, 31.1.82

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POLAND

Fading Hopes

By James Cooke O.M.I.

THE BIRTH of *Solidarnosc* gave rise to new hopes. History was offering communism another chance to improve its image. Many outside its numbered ranks attracted by its mystique, share some of its ideals: a fairer distribution of wealth both within and among nations, greater equality of opportunity, less exploitation of man by man, a society concerned about the unconscionable waste and extra vagance of consumerism in a world where one billion men, women and children suffer chronic hunger and malnutrition. The historical image of communism is unfortunately something else. The excesses of Stalin in Russia and the Gang of Four in China—both condemned by their own successors—ruthless suppression of freedom movements in East Germany in 1953, Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968, the grim fact of the Berlin Wall and intolerance of dissent are too close to us in time to be either forgotten or ignored. The birth of eurocommunism was the result of communists themselves in the western democracies being disillusioned by happenings in Soviet Russia and eastern Europe. *Solidarnosc* is much more than a trade union. It is most of what is sane and healthy in Polish history, culture and Christian faith, bursting out of the surrounding frustration caused by stagnation, corruption and repression. There was no slow period of gestation from conception to birth when the life

of the movement could have been easily snuffed out. *Solidarnosc* suddenly appeared on the scene full-grown soon claiming a membership of nearly 10 million.

THE INITIAL REACTION of the Polish Government to *Solidarnosc* was promising. Its right to exist was accepted, there was dialogue followed by accommodation and some real concessions to the legitimate demands of eastern Europe's first free trade union (Change in Poland. *Tribune*, 21st March '81). If this was the official response, it was not the only one unfortunately. Hard-liners both in the party and the government had their own hidden agenda. Faced with a mass protest movement they had to think of something more subtle than an immediate and open confrontation with *Solidarnosc*. The plan was to annoy, frustrate and harass Walesa and the other leaders in order to drive them to excesses, even revolt. The eventual clamp-down by the state would then have at least the veneer of justification. Events have proved that the tactic was not wholly unsuccessful. No government could be expected to remain passive in the face of strikes and other labour unrest in the midst of a severe winter with shortages of coal, food and other essentials. Poland's former ambassador to Tokyo Zdzislaw Rurarcz, who asked for political asylum in the west, said that he had been instructed as early March to prepare for a declaration of martial law which finally came on the 13th. of December. The conciliatory attitude of the Polish government towards *Solidarnosc*, at least in the early stages, took the wind out of the Soviet Union's sails. But not for long. Moscow's attitude towards *Solidarnosc* hardened early. Beginning with criticism of "extremists" in *Solidarnosc*, the whole movement was soon condemned as a plot against the socialist system hatched in collusion with the capitalist powers of the west. Understandably this soon became the attitude of the Polish government too. To claim that a communist state so tightly governed as Poland could have been subverted on such a mass scale in so short a time by any of the western nations, seems to me an insult to one's intelligence. Before the imposition of martial law on the 13th December, the Catholic Church represented by its Bishops acted as mediator between the state and *Solidarnosc*. Now with the union out of the picture she stands alone before the State as the guardian of the peoples' aspirations and the defender of their rights. This has been the historical role of the Church to which about 90% of the Poles belong, from the time. Bishop Stanislaus, Patron of Poland was killed by King Boleslao in the 11th century, through World War II when Bishops and priests shared the lot of their compatriots in Nazi concentration camps, up to today's crisis. The Polish writer Michnik though not a Catholic himself, says that "The Church in Poland has been the only place where lies and falsehood have not been sheltered. Because of this, the workers have faith in it."

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BOTH THE POLISH GOVERNMENT AND MOSCOW pose the wrong question. The basic problem is not whether communism in Poland is in danger or not but *what the Polish people want*. No system whatever its merits has precedence over a people's free choice. The people are sovereign, not the system and it is for them to freely choose the social organization they want for their nation. The Polish government is one that has been imposed upon, not chosen by, its people. It cannot refer to any free election to prove its legitimacy. Today political power is held by those who do not have popular support, while those who have the support have no power. In a democracy such a situation will be remedied sooner or later by free elections when power will be handed over to those chosen by the people. Historically communism has shown itself incapable of assimilating this into its system so it is left with the sole weapon of repression, as in Poland today. While the authorities are exerting pressure on the members of Solidarnosc to leave their union and swear allegiance to the state, significant numbers of communist party members are handing in their cards. There is talk of over 15,000 who have done so since the imposition of martial law in addition to about 28,000 who have been expelled or crossed off the party list. About two years ago party membership stood at $3\frac{1}{4}$ (three and a quarter) million. It is now believed to be in the region of $2\frac{3}{4}$ (two and three quarter) million. Tadeusz Lomnicki, one of Poland's best known actors, member of the Central Committee and party man for 30 years, was one of those who quit. His belief in the ideals of communism had survived many shattered hopes. The stagnation of the 1970's was proving to be another disappointment when, with the birth of Solidarnosc, he saw again "a chance for socialism in Poland". Turning in his party card he wrote, more in sorrow than in anger "Comrade Secretary, I hereby return my party card.... I cannot do anything else..... Now, 15 months from that time (i.e. the birth of Solidarnosc) I do not feel any internal justification for maintaining that position (i.e. of hope) for I have lost hope in the purpose of all action. How many times can one believe all over again?"

HERE IN WESTERN EUROPE, cutting across all political party lines, there is widespread indignation against the Polish government and Moscow, with a corresponding sympathy and support for the Polish people. The irony of the fact that it was the workers of Poland who led the protest against their government and now face the brunt of the repression, is not lost on the trade unions here. Rank and file members, including large numbers from the communist unions themselves, back Solidarnosc. The Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party, the largest in western Europe, by a vote of 216 to 1, condemned the Soviet Union's negative influence in Poland saying "When one is no longer able to face the protest of the working class and

the people with political means, resorting to military force, this represents a blow at the very cause of socialism. *Pravda* replied charging the Italian communists with a "truly sacrilegious attempt" to discredit Soviet foreign policy. Pajetta, the Italian Communist Party's foreign policy spokesman described the tone of the *Pravda* attack as "aggressive, serious and sad". Now there is a full-blown battle of words between the two parties. French Communist leader George Marchais, loyal to Soviet Russia, approved the imposition of martial law in Poland. But public opinion in France together with pressure from his own party have made him change his stance. At the recent congress of the French Communist Party, Marchais, while continuing to defend martial law in Poland, spoke of a communism in French colours, not dependent on outside models.

AS WAS TO BE EXPECTED the propaganda value of what was happening to Poland was fully exploited by the West. Facing serious and growing unemployment, inflation and labour unrest, it helped to be able to point to a nation of eastern Europe, claiming to be organized by and for the working class, facing serious shortages of essentials, interminable queues, working-class discontent and resorting to martial law to restore "order". The Reagan administration, with its simplistic view of the world divided into good anti-communists led by the U.S. and bad communists under the tutelage of the U.S.S.R., received a propaganda bonanza from the Polish government. Some of this propaganda and hostility towards the Soviet Union were downright annoying. Those who spread it through newspaper headlines and TV newscasts seem to have conveniently forgotten the whole terrible history of World War II. Russia's postwar attitude towards the western nations cannot be fairly assessed independent of this context. The war unleashed by the Axis powers, Germany, Italy and Japan according to the most reliable estimates, left 22 million military and civilian dead and 34 million wounded. Russia's share of this terrible loss of life was $7\frac{1}{2}$ (seven and a half) million of her military personnel killed or missing. This figure which does not include civilian casualties, works out to 1/22 of its 1940 population. Any nation that has gone through such an ordeal has legitimate fears for its own defence. Also to be considered is the ideological struggle between marxism and capitalism in which the former is not the sole aggressor. International capitalism is not only hostile to marxism but even to democratic socialism. The pressure it has exerted on Mitterand's freely elected social-democrat government in France, is a case in point. International capitalism wields immense power which is all the more insidious because it is party hidden. Only the native discount it.

The much awaited speech of General Jaruzelski to the Polish Parliament on the 25th of January had the merit of not being uniformly harsh, totally

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uncompromising and irreversibly final. It raised some hopes: martial law restrictions would be lifted by the end of February; renewal would continue so that there would be no return to the erroneous methods and practices that led to so much discontent; Solidarnosc would be permitted to continue. These hopes were carefully balanced off by corresponding fears: some elements of martial law would remain operative after February in the Industrial field; legislation legalizing martial law (which provided for the suspension of Solidarnosc) would be introduced; Solidarnosc must keep put of politics and be shielded from the political manipulations of the enemies of socialism. Here we are back at the core problem I raised in the article; that of a government which can furnish no proof of ever having had a popular mandate, setting itself up as a defender of a system without consulting the people it governs. In Poland today communism is losing yet another battle for the hearts and minds of free men and women everywhere.

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FARRAGO OF FACT AND FANTASY

About Poland

By William Forrest

WHEN I WAS A SCHOOLBOY in Scotland during the 1914-18 war, reports came to us from south of the border that Russian troops with "snow on their boots" were marching down through England to the Channel ports on their way to reinforce the Allied armies on the Western Front. The troops, we were told, spoke a strange outlandish tongue, but some spoke a little English and when these were asked where they came from they replied "From Russia." Up north we laughed at the credulity of our Sassenach neighbours. For we were sure that the troops in question were Seaforth Highlanders, speaking not Russian but Gaelic, and coming not from Russia but from Rosshire. This childhood memory has been conjured up from the mists of auld land syne by the stories we in the West have been told for the past month about events in Poland. "Tear gas hurled into Polish church . . . suicide pacts in Polish factories. . . . priests arrested and beaten . . . political prisoners kept in the open all night and dowsed every hour with ice cold water. . . ."

These are some of the highlights of life in Poland under martial law as presented to us in Western press reports and broadcasts. And of course the ubiquitous Russian troops, this time hiding their identity under

Polish Army uniforms are also in the picture. But why, one must ask, should the Russians disguise themselves? Everyone knows that there are Soviet troops in Poland—two whole divisions of them. They have been there for the last 35 years, manning the Red Army's lines of communication with the Soviet divisions in East Germany. And they have the same right to be there as the American and British divisions have to be stationed in West Germany. It all dates back to the Yalta conference of February 1945, when Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin redrew the map of Europe and placed Poland, along with the other East European states, definitely within the Soviet sphere of influence. It may be tough for the independent-minded, freedom-loving Poles, but it would have been tougher still for them if the Russians at the cost of 20 million dead, had not crushed the Nazis. For after the Jews and the Gypsies, the Slavs were next on Hitler's list for the gas ovens.

MANY OF THE REPORTS that filtered out from Poland after the imposition of martial law came from a radio "ham", whose messages in morse were picked up in the West seized upon by the media whose own correspondents in Poland were gagged by the military censorship. On Christmas Day the Polish "ham" claimed that striking miners in a Silesian pit had been shot by troops when they rushed to the surface after being dislodged by gas and water, and further, that some troops who had refused to fire on the miners were themselves shot on the spot. That same night the story was passed on by the BBC, without any qualification, to the millions of British television viewers who had just been watching "Gone With The Wind". On December 28, the *London Times*, in a full-dress editorial of the sort reserved for special occasions, quoted "reliable reports" of "the full horror and idiocy" of the happenings in Poland, suggested that "Stalinism seems to have returned with a vengeance and urged the West in consequence to "follow President Reagan's lead" in "taking action now against Poland." Two days later the same newspaper's Foreign Staff reported—on an inside page, at the bottom of a column and without a heading—that "serious doubts have been cast on the reliability of the Polish radio (ham). When he was asked to establish his identity by sceptical American television reporters the call was cut short". ONE IS LEFT WONDERING where the real "idiocy" in the Polish situation lies. Is it not to be found in: (1) Basing one's judgement on Poland on a farrago of fact, fiction and fantasy masquerading as news? (2) Condemning violations of human rights in Poland while ignoring far greater violations in Latin America? (Anthony Lewis points out in *The New York Times* that the Reagan Administration has not uttered a single critical word about Guatemala where, according to Amnesty International a campaign of political murder personally directed by the Guatemalan President has caused 5,000 deaths in three years). (3) Expecting the West Europeans

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to impose economic sanctions on the military dictatorship in Poland while pressing them to abandon economic sanctions against the military dictatorship in Turkey? (The EEC decided two months ago to shelve 650 million dollars of financial aid to Turkey because of the imprisonment of ex-Premier Bulent Ecevit). (4) Striving might and main to overthrow General Jaruzelski when the inevitable consequences would be Soviet military intervention in Poland?

The "Idiocy" in such an approach to the Polish problem has certainly been seen by the Roman Catholic Church in Poland and the Polish Pope in Rome—though in public they would use a more diplomatic word to describe it. And though Mrs. Thatcher is still prepared to follow the Reagan lead the EEC leaders on the whole decline to do so. It now remains to be seen whether they can resist the arm-twisting which is sure to follow.

—*The Guardian*

TRIBUNE

Agricultural Digest

CITRUS CULTIVATION—4

Nurseries

By Dr. Robert M. Pratt

Citrus seedlings, to be planted out as seedling trees, or for rootstocks to be budded may be raised using techniques similar to those used in the nurseries. The soil mixture and fertiliser programs should be such that will promote rapid, vigorous growth. Seedlings to be transplanted must be selected carefully and any that are small or off-type or that have a badly twisted main root must be discarded. It is necessary to plant about twice as many seed as the number of seedlings required.

Soil Mixture : A sandy loam soil such as used in tea nurseries is suitable. It should come from the jungle or where there had been no recent cultivation. Especially it should not have been used previously for citrus, cocoa or rubber. The soil should be sieved, if necessary, to remove roots and gravel. To each cubic yard of the soil should be added the following: *Ammonium Sulphate* 2.5 oz.; *Potassium Sulphate* 7.5 oz.; *Micronutrient Solution* 1 gal. (see (below)); *Triple Superphosphate* 20.5 oz., *Gypsum* 22.0 oz.; Add these ingredients to enough water to moisten the soil mix, usually 15 to 20 gallons per cubic yard. The

superphosphate may be added dry. Shovel (hoe or fork) over the soil until the ingredients are uniformly mixed. A cement mixer may be used if available.

The micronutrient stock solution referred to above contains the following:

Materials	Amount per gallon
<i>Copper Sulphate</i>	2.25 oz.
<i>Zinc Sulphate 22%</i>	1.47 oz.
<i>Manganese Sulphate</i>	0.80 oz.
<i>Ferrous Sulphate</i>	1.25 oz.
<i>Boric Acid</i>	02 oz.

Shake well before adding to the fertiliser mix above. The ingredients will not all dissolve. This soil can be used for both seedbed and containers. It should be fumigated with methyl bromide at 1 ½ to 2 pounds per 100 cubic feet or Vapam at 1 to 2 quarts per 100 cubic feet of soil (Note that 100 cubic feet is a little less than 4 cubic yards. The fumigant is applied under a plastic sheet or tarpaulin and should be left covered at least overnight. A waiting period is necessary to allow the material to dissipate. The length of time needed depends on soil moisture, temperature, and texture.

Seed: Fruit for seed should be picked from well grown, heavy fruiting, disease-free trees. The seed is extracted by making a shallow cut through the rind around the centre of the fruit and twisting the two halves apart. The seeds are then squeezed onto a sieve and mashed free of pulp. The seed should be dried enough to remove surface water but not to dry out the seed. If trouble is experienced with *Phytophthora* fungi carried on the seed it may be immersed 10 minutes in well agitated hot water at 125°F, then aircooled and dried. When fruit is not obtainable on the trees it will be necessary to obtain seed from juice bottling factories. This is not really satisfactory because nothing is known of the parent trees but there is no alternative this time. Seed is preferably planted as soon as extracted. If this is not practical it may be dusted with a fungicide and stored in polythene bags. Arasan or Fermate may be used at 1 tablespoon per quart of seed. The seed should be stored under refrigeration at 40–45°F. The number of seeds per quart of some varieties that may be useful in Sri Lanka is: Lime 5,000; Sweet Orange 2,700; Rough Lemon 6,000, Rangpur Lime 7,000 and Troyer Citrange 2,600. Certified, treated seed of varieties not locally obtainable can be imported from reliable overseas nurseries.

The Seedbed : The seedbed may be enclosed with boards or logs, using the soil mix described above. The size and shape of the seedbed will be determined by the space available and convenience in working.

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To space the seeds evenly, make shallow furrows 2 inches apart by lightly pressing a straight stick or the edge of a small board lightly into the soil to make a furrow 1/4 inch deep. Place the seeds one inch apart, and lightly cover them with 1/2 to 3/4 inches of coarse sand. This spacing will produce 72 seedlings per square foot. Until the seedlings emerge the seedbed may have to be sprinkled every 1 to 3 days, depending on rainfall. It is imperative that the seedlings not be allowed to dry out. After the seedlings emerge the interval may be 7 to 10 days. The important thing is to irrigate evenly and often enough to obtain maximum growth. Never allow the bed to become soggy or dry and baked. Shade may be provided with netting as used in tea nurseries.

Fertilizer may be applied as needed by dissolving 8 3/4 pounds of diamimium phosphate and 2 pounds of muriate of potash per 1,000 gallons of irrigation water. Weeds should be removed as they appear, but in fumigated soil this should not be a problem. Some citrus seedlings branch more than others. It is desirable to produce seedlings with a single straight stem. Sid branches should be removed at intervals. The importance of selecting only true to type seedlings cannot overemphasised. As the seedlings become well grown, those that are small, weak or off-type should be removed. This includes any that have a different leaf shape or colour, or even odour. Plants that are markedly larger should also be eliminated. Although they may appear to be vigorous, they are almost certain to be hybrids, and will not come true to type.

Transplanting : Seedlings may be dug from the seedbed when they reach a height of 8 to 12 inches. If they have been kept growing continuously this should take about 6 months. The seedbed should be moist but not wet. Seedlings are lifted with a long tined spading fork and carefully pulled from the soil by hand. Care is taken to keep root damage at a minimum. The roots should be covered with wet sacking or otherwise protected from drying out. The seedlings are sorted again, discarding any that are substantially over or under the desired size range. Any off-types that were not eliminated in the seedbed are also discarded, as well as those having severely twisted roots (bench root). The selected seedlings are transplanted into polythene tubes or bags, using at least the largest size in ten nurseries. Preferably they should contain a gallon of soil. Transplants should be watered immediately and kept under light shade.

Irrigation and Fertilising : The pH of the soil in the containers should be controlled between 5.5 and 6.5. This can be accomplished by watering with a dilute fertiliser solution, starting within 30

days after the containers are planted. One of the following Alternate Solutions are used :

Chemical Solution A	Amounts per 1,000 gallons					
	Alternate I		Alternate II		Alternate III	
	lbs.	oz.	lbs.	oz.	lbs.	oz.
Potassium Nitrate	6	0	6	0	6	0
Calcium Nitrate	3	4	6	8	0	0
Ammonium Nitrate	2	12	0	0	5	8
Solution B						
Magnesium Sulphate	4	9	4	9	4	9

Solutions A and B are applied separately in alternate irrigations. If they are mixed, a precipitate of gypsum (Ca SO₄) will settle out of solution. Alternates I, II, and III are chosen to match the pH changes in the soil and keep it within the range of 5.5 to 6.5. Alternate I may be used when pH is within range: Alternate II when the PH is approaching 5.5 or lower and Alternate III when it is 6.5 or higher. The pH may be determined by collecting drainage water from representative containers during a thorough irrigation and testing the water with a pH meter or indicator paper. The threes should be ready to plant out, or bud in 5 or 6 months. Budding and handling budded trees will be discussed in a separate Note.

In Conclusion : "Perhaps the most important factor in establishing a successful orchard is selection of the best nursery trees available. No combination of favourable climate, good soil and water can overcome the handicap of inferior trees". (R. G. Platt in *The Citrus Industry*, Vol. III).

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To be continued.

JANATHA ESTATES DEVELOPMENT BOARD

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	Remarks
	April/Dec. (9 mths)	Jan/Dec.	Jan/Dec.	Jan/Dec.	Jan/Dec.	
1. No. of Estates	227	367	392	389	343*	*Amalgamation of Small Estates
2. Cultivated Extent (Tea, Rubber & C'nut) Hects.	73,836	93,950	102,317	102,748	104,741	
3. Employment—No Employed	142,930	164,774	242,550	247,820	231,320	
4. Capital Expenditure on Development of Estates—Rs. in Million	8.0 M.	34.0 M.	64.5 M.	39.1 M.	66.1 M.	
5. Nett Expenditure on New Replanting underplanting—Rs. in million	18.2 M.	28.3 M.	58.2 M.	65.1 M.	86.9 M.	

STOLEN TEA

How Much ?

On the question of the Stolen Tea which we discussed last week, we have received a note by T. Sambasivam. What he has to say is pertinent and relevant, but we would like to have the comments of readers who have a contrary point of view.

THERE HAVE BEEN frequent speculations that considerable quantity of tea is being pilfered from tea estates after nationalisation. The Central Bank in its latest review of the economy (1979) has stated that the general view of the tea trade was that tea pilfered from tea estates is as high as 10%—15% of the total tea production. This would imply that nearly 20—30 million kgs of tea per year are stolen from estates. **This note seeks to examine the extent of the problem: There is a correlation between tea production and tea exports and this is governed by the following equation: Tea production—Tea exports—Domestic consumption+stocks.**

If there is pilfering of teas from estates, the recorded production will have to be under-stated by that extent. In order to estimate the actual production, it would be necessary to consider the statistical reliability of the other terms in the above equation. The exports figure is recorded by the Customs at the point the export duty is levied and it could be safely assumed that this figure is correct as there is no allegation of any smuggling of teas out of this country. The stock levels at the end of each year (in Tea Factories and Warehouses, with Brokers, Dealers and Exporters)

are not available. The figure for domestic consumption does not seem to be an accurate estimate. (The present per capita consumption of tea in the major producing countries are as follows: Sri Lanka 1.52 per head; India .48 per head; Kenya. 67 per head (Source ITC Bulletin). It is therefore assumed for the purpose of this study that the domestic stock levels of tea and the per capita domestic consumption of tea have remained constant throughout.

BASED ON THE ABOVE, the figures relating to the 5 year period prior to nationalisation (1965-1969) have been compared with the period covered by the first phase of nationalisation (1970-1974) and the post nationalisation period (1975-1979). The study reveals that the recorded production during the post nationalisation period 1975-1979 appeared to be under-stated by 5.0 million kgs. per year. This does not necessarily imply that the entirety of 5.9 million kgs. is being pilfered annually from State Estates. The actual volume of stolen teas may be lower than this derived figure for the following reasons: (a) The per capita consumption of tea might have fallen from the level prevalent a decade ago due to the steep rise in the price of sugar; (b) the trading stock of tea with exporters may well be at a level below the pre-nationalisation period in view of the higher finance charges that have to be incurred for maintaining higher stock levels; (c) some of the privately owned estates may be selling their produce through unauthorised channels instead of through the auctions in view of the "waiting period" of 4—6 months involved in the auction system, particularly in view of the liquidity problems faced by them during recent years.

If allowances are made to the above factors, the extent of stolen tea may well be below 5.9 million kgs. per year. The statistics relating to the above analysis is continued in the Annexure.

THE ANNEXURE

Seeds

	(i) Pre-nationalisation period 1965-69	(ii) First phase of nationalisation period 1970-74	(iii) Post-nationalisation period 1975-79
	Annual Ave	Annual Ave	Annual Ave
Recorded production (mkgs)	223.1	211.8	204.9
Exports (mkgs) ²	210.2	197.9	195.5
Domestic supply (mkgs)	12.9	13.9	9.4
Est. population in mid year of each period (millions) ³	11.7	12.86	13.94
Apparent per capita consumption (kgs)	1.10	1.08	0.67
Adjusted Production (mkgs)	223.1	212.0	210.8

Sources: Tea Factory Returns; Customs Returns; ITC Bulletin.

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HOW TO

Dehydrate Mangoes

Raw materials: Ripe mangoes 10-25 firm ripe mangoes; 6 cups sugar (may slightly vary depending on sweetness desired).

Tools & Equipment: Stainless knife; Measuring cup; Finewire mesh; Stainless spoon; Stainless kettle; Bowl; Cellophane; Bamboo tray.

Procedure: (1) Wash mangoes and slice off seeds. Cut each mango half into strips (approximately 3-4 strips per mango half) and scoop out. (2) Add sugar to the mango strips and let stand for half a day or until much of the juice has oozed out. Pour out the juice into a pan. (3) Boil gently (the juice) for about 3-5 minutes. Cool and pour back into the mango strips. Let stand for another half day or overnight. (4) Lay the mango strips on bamboo trays and cover with mosquito netting or finewire mesh to keep off flies. Then dry under the sun for 2-3 days or until surface is considerably dry. (5) *Optional:* Dredge with powdered sugar, then pack in plastic or cellophane bags and seal.

Note: All containers and equipment that will come in contact with the mangoes should be in plastic or enamel to avoid dis-coloration.

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With annual global sales of around \$ 10 billion, the world's seed industry is not all that big. Its export figures pale in comparison to sugar or grain. Yet seed is both the means of production and the end-product for consumption. Seed stands at the beginning of the commodity trail that ultimately leads to inter national agreements on sugar or coffee or cocoa or wheat. Although seldom considered, seed plays a crucial role in the life of these commodities. The state of germplasm storage, as well as the control of breeding material, is of vital importance to the countries that buy and sell the end product for food or insutrial purposes. The real value of seed in international trade is the sum total of the export value of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development entire basket of agricultural commodities.

—Development Forum, UN University, March 1982

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Market Analysis

Selected Crops - I

Tea: The Middle East continues to be a growth market for Ceylon tea and the area absorbs over 40 per cent of the total exports of tea from Sri Lanka (1979 statistics) both in terms of volume and value. The Gulf is one of the areas with most growth potential in the Middle East. Currently, tea exports to the Gulf area remain around 18,000 tons. It is expected that by the end of 1985, the volume of tea exported to the Gulf could be increased to approximately 25,000 tons. In terms of value (FOB) the Sri Lanka earnings could be estimated at Rs. 900 million (approx. US \$ 49 million) from the markets specified above. It is important to note that this area has the best potential for added value for our tea as the major part of our exports to the region are in the packeted form. In 1980, tea exports in packeted form to the Gulf countries amounted to 13 million kilo-grams as against four million kilograms in 1975. This represented 46 per cent of the total packeted tea exported from Sri Lanka in 1980. It is also noteworthy that these countries account for 80 per cent of the total tea bag exports from Sri Lanka—a market segment which has shown rapid growth during the past two years. The above figures reveal a healthy growth in the exports of Ceylon tea. Such a position, however, should not lead us to state of complacency in view of the fact that very resourceful competition from other sources, particularly from the multinationals, has been growing in the past at alarming proportions.

Fresh Fruits : In 1979, imports of tropical fruits into UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Oman amounted to nearly US \$ 50 million. India, Pakistan and Lebanon, were the leading suppliers. Mangoes remained the most popular fruits amongst all varieties. Sri Lanka exports mangoes, avacadoes, pineapples and papaws but so far quantities have been very small. In 1979 the total value of fresh fruit exports from Sri Lanka to these countries stood at US \$ 200,000. The potential for Sri Lanka fruit in the region is very high. Sri Lanka, however needs a more scientific approach towards selection grading and packing of fruits for export as the Industry has become very competitive. Sri Lanka should seriously consider exporting of bananas which have a very bid demand in the area. The consumption in the Gulf area alone is estimated around 50,000 tons a month. The most popular variety are the long bananas which are now imported from the Latin American States, Ivory Coast and of late from Phillipines too. Export business in bananas can be extremely profitable if a substantial volume can be built up. It is vital therefore that Sri Lanka should develop this industry on a large scale and on a scientific basis with proper specialisation in the varieties which are in demand in the area.

—Economic Review

TRIBUNE MAHAWELI FORUM

WHY?

Mahaweli

WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT, or whether we thought the Accelerated Mahaweli Programme was feasible at the time it was mooted, there is no doubt that today it has become a matter of the utmost importance that it should succeed. The Mahaweli Scheme cuts across party lines and communal barriers. It was first talked of in the old Legislative Council in 1911. Some engineers in the Department of Irrigation chartered the first Master Plan in 1933 during the time D. S. Senanayake was Minister of Agriculture in the first State Council. In 1958, when S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike was Prime Minister and Philip Goonewardene was the Minister of Agriculture, the World Bank and other international agencies were persuaded to set up an International Committee to draw a Plan for the diversion of the river and for its fullest utilisation. Much water has flowed under the bridges since that time and the scheme suffered many setbacks owing to the vagaries of sectarian Sri Lankan party politics. Every party wanted to claim the credit for the Mahaweli, and what one party did, the other parties criticised and wanted changes. The agreements arrived at and the work done by the Dudley Senanayake Government (1965-1970) were denoun-

ced by the Srma Bandaranaike Government (1970-1977) and the inconsequential and often partisan changes introduced only delayed construction activities.

The J. R. Government in 1977/78 formulated the Accelerated Mahaweli Plan and proposed to telescope 30 years into a shorter period of six years. It was an ambitious Plan and it was criticised that it was too much to chew all at one go. *Tribune* was sceptical about its practicability and carried many articles pointing out the dangers of such "acceleration". But to the credit of the Jayewardene Government, it must be said that it has been able to obtain finance to start simultaneously three of the five major reservoirs and power generating units—Victoria, Maduru Oya and Kotmale—together with all the other ancillary works. The two other schemes in the Accelerated Plan—Randenigala and Moragahakande—are now being brought into the picture. In spite of the global inflation the work is going on and downstream settlement work has also got going in crucial areas.

There is no doubt that as the sectors of the Accelerated Mahaweli Plan come into operation, they will have a profound impact on the economy and well being of the country. It is in the national interest, therefore, to see that the work is completed with the least possible delay: to see that malpractices, bureaucratic bungling, and stupid mistakes are eliminated and to ensure that the proper perspectives are kept constantly in view.

Tribune proposes in this section to be called *Mahaweli Forum* to examine and evaluate the work already done in the four years and to point out the shortcomings that is presently hampering rapid progress. This week we publish extracts from a foreword by Minister Gamini Dissanayake to an official publication to indicate what the Government wanted to achieve. Our Investigators will visit all the construction sites in the coming weeks and furnish on-the-spot reports not only about the progress of the work but also about the socio-economic (cum political) and ecological implications of opening vast tracts that have been forest for many centuries. We also invite the views and comments of our readers on all matters pertaining to Mahaweli.—Ed.

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MAHAWELI

Perspectives, Projects & Programmes 1982

By **Gamini Dissanayake**

Minister for Mahaweli Development

TODAY, we are locked in an advanced stage of the exciting struggle to harness the potential of the Mahaweli. At the three headworks sites, in Victoria,

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Kotmale and Maduru Oya the tempo of work has quickened while downstream, in widely dispersed areas, a mix of men and machines are deployed on the preparation of land to receive and distribute the harnessed water. A new dimension will be added to this schedule of work in February 1982 when work commences on the Randenigala Project, on the final cascade of the Mahaweli, in the Dumbara Valley. The foregoing works are the basic components of the Accelerated Programme of Mahaweli Development launched under the direction of His Excellency, President J. R. Jayawardene. Estimated to cost a manageable Rs. 8,000 million at 1977 constant prices and Rs. 11,000 million with provision for cost escalations, today, however, inflationary pressures have sent the costs spiralling to a dizzy Rs. 40 billion. When considered in terms of additional agricultural production, power output and employment, the Accelerated Programme is a gilt-edged investment; and indeed, some of its bountiful dividends have already begun to be reaped by the Nation, redeeming the programme's conceptual validity.

THE ENORMITY of the tasks under the Accelerated Programme can be visualised from the fact that the development envisioned thereunder far exceeds the combined irrigation and power benefits derived from all the multi-purpose, hydropower and new irrigation projects undertaken in this country since independence. These included the Kehelgamu Oya—Maskeli Oya hydrel complexes, the Gal Oya multi-purpose project, the Uda-Walawe multi-purpose project, the Rajangane irrigation scheme and the Polgolla and Bowatenne complexes which together formed the base of development activity in Sri Lanka during the last three decades.

CLEARLY, therefore, the Accelerated Programme of Mahaweli Development is a titanic task. Perhaps never before has such a many-faceted and vast undertaking been attempted in our country simultaneously, over such a widely scattered area and scheduled for completion in such a tight time frame. It speaks volumes for our innate skills in hydraulic engineering that we are today, two years after launching out on the construction work of the Accelerated Programme, actually closing in on the Mahaweli. The Nation's interest in the work involved, and popular enthusiasm for it, is an indication of its realisation and acclaim that the Mahaweli Programme is at the core of the whole development effort. Its commitment to the project is evidenced by the hundreds journeying down the valleys to witness the prodigious efforts of our engineers and technicians supported by expatriates in taming the raw, elemental power of the mighty Mahaweli, and its formidable tributaries. Quite apart from the local attention, even foreign interest is focussed on Sri Lanka on account of the Accelerated Programme. This derives from the fact that the Accelerated Programme *per se* is a gigantic multi-purpose

project even by international standards and also because of the wide international involvement in it, from the planning, designing, financing stages to actual construction work using even direct expatriate technical man-power.

SUCCESS in the Accelerated Mahaweli Programme is of the utmost paramountcy to the nation. We cannot afford the luxury of a failure on the Accelerated Programme. Indeed, it was an earnest of its viability that Sri Lanka was able to recoup in four cultivation seasons the entire capital expenditure invested on the Polgolla and Bowatenne complexes, viz., Rs. 400 million from the recovery by value of agricultural production from the 53,500 hectares (132,000 acres) that benefited from the Mahaweli waters diverted to the North Central Province. This apart, it is a comforting thought that the Census and Statistics Department has reported that the average per acre paddy yield in System H in the Maha Season of 1980/81 was a record 93.30 bushels and that the paddy yields from System H have tended upwards since 1977 giving leadership to the drive to make Sri Lanka self-sufficient in rice.

In more ways than one it is in the fitness of things that the core development project of the Government—on whose successful completion hinges the solution of all the major problems confronting the country, viz., self-sufficiency in food, full employment and energy to move the wheels of industry is based on the Accelerated Mahaweli Programme. Fitting, because river basin development which compels man to tame the elemental force of rivers has been our national preoccupation for over two millennia. This resulted in Sri Lanka building many, many years ago some stupendous earth dams, huge reservoirs and intricate canal systems which sustained one of the world's oldest hydraulic civilisations. And there is ample testimony in our chronicles and epigraphical records to show that our ancient tank-buildings monarchs did not merely cast covert eyes on the might of the Mahaweli but indeed, tangled with it, leaving behind engineering structures whose design, and execution excite the wonder of the modern scholar and engineer. And, in taking up the challenge posed by the Mahaweli, Sri Lankans proud inheritors of a legacy of hydraulic engineering traditions are once again grappling with the might of the Mahaweli—this time on many fronts.

Though the Mahaweli Programme is at the core of the development strategy of the Government it is necessary to see it is part of the integrated approach of the J. R. Jayawardene administration. This approach seeks to liberate farming in Sri Lanka from the hang-ups of subsistence agriculture and orient it toward not just self-sufficiency, but an exportable surplus as well. Equally the accent has been firmly placed on getting the Mahaweli hydro-power fed into the national grid and transmitted to energise industry,

which alone can absorb the idle resources of manpower and also push the frontiers of development further into the interior while obviating the use of costly gas turbines and thermal plant.

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DROUGHT

And Mahaweli-I

By B. H. Hemapriya

A great deal has been said and written about the impact the 1981 drought had on the areas in the Rajarata irrigated by the Mahaweli (especially those newly opened up). This article provides some background information. It will be concluded next week.

The drought which has hit System H is severe, though not as severe as the drought of 1956 when even drinking water for settlers in the North Central Province had to be transported by train and bowser. Incidentally, it was the severity of the 1956 drought which accentuated the need for the diversion of the Mahaweli waters to the North Central Dry Zone. The current drought has followed the normal five year drought-cycle. It is not unusual. What was not foreseen was the freak precipitation pattern over the Kala Oya basin during the North East monsoon 1981/82. It blew over the Kala Oya basin as a dry-wind, leaving vast sections of the sprawling Kala-Balaluwewa bone area. The rainfall figures recorded at the Kalawewa and Maha-Illuppalama rain gauges during the N. E. Monsoon illustrate this situation. November 1980—422.2 mm; December 1980, 156.6 mm; January 1981, 57.1mm; February 1981, 10.5 mm; November 1981, 196.1mm; December 1981, 123.2mm; January 1982, 00mm. Maha-Illupalama, January 1981, 57.1 mm; February 1981, 10.5 mm; January 1982, 00mm; February 1982, 00mm.

The cultivation strategy for the Maha cultivation as set out by the Water Management Panel of the Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka (MASL) for System H requires that cultivation of over 95,000 acres if the irrigation specification is undertaken with local rainfall. Supplementary irrigation water issues, specially during the early cultivation period of the paddy crop is from water issues diverted from the Mahaweli to the Kalawewa. This strategy assumed that the Kalawewa, which has storage capacity of 100,000 acre feet is full during the Maha season, as it indeed is normally, for meeting the water requirements in the Yala Season.

During January, settlers in System H are generally treated to the gorgeous spectacle of the Kalawewa spilling over with the run-off from precipitation over its own catchment, supplemented by minimal issues of Mahaweli waters diverted into it from Bowatenna. During this period Mahaweli waters are diverted to Kalawewa to ensure that the Kalawewa levels are high, and that the tank is kept brimful at the end of Maha cultivation season. **During the current Maha season the Kalawewa held only about a tenth of its full storage and was dropping at the rate of 3 inches every day. Settlers under the Kalawewa system including Nachchaduwa, and the city tanks of Anuradhapure had to be issued water from the Mahaweli diversions for the Maha cultivation itself.**

In doing so the MASL took into account the fact that cultivators had invested in the full range of agricultural inputs looking forward to a successful Maha crop in 1981/82. The average per acre paddy yield in System H in the previous Maha—1980/81, was an island record of 93.30 bushels per acre and that yields from System H had tended upwards from 1976-77 since the Mahaweli diversion was commissioned. With the Maha cultivation programme of System H for 1981/82 in disarray on account of the drought, the MASL had to take spot decisions to manage the crisis and save the crop as far as possible with the available water in Kalawewa and that held in minor tanks integrated into the canal network of System H. It may be recalled that by a decision made by the present Government in 1978, some village tanks, mainly along the Right Bank Canal were integrated into the System H canal system.

Mercifully these tanks held some water though as dead storage. This dead storage was lifted by pumping into distributary channels to save crops mainly along the Right Bank Canal, where new settlers, put in possession of their lots since 1980, had not been able to reap a single cultivation. The MASL acceded to settlers' demands for a equitable distribution of the available water, irrespective of whether settlers had sown late or not. While this was a popular decision; it ran the risk of killing the entire standing crop throughout System H.

This is because irrigation canals are designed for water issues at full supply level. If water distribution is attempted over the entire area with limited resources. This risk ratio exists in all other irrigation schemes in Sri Lanka. It is practically impossible to ensure a 100% success in irrigation and hydro schemes, where the key factor is rainfall—which is variable, and cannot be depended upon hundred percent.

To be concluded.....

TRIBUNE SPORTSCOPE

SPOTLIGHT

School & Club Cricket

THE LONG-DRAWN OUT INTER-SCHOOL CRICKET SEASON for 1982 was brought to an end with the conducting of the four big matches between Royal and S. Thomas'; St. Joseph's St. Peters; Ananda-Nalanda and Isipathana-Thurstan. The school season this year was a highly successful one and it also marked the inclusion of schoolboy Arjuna Ranatunga in the Sri Lanka team which toured Pakistan for a three-Test series. The only big match to end in a decision was the "Battle of the Maroons" between *Ananda and Nalanda*. The Anandians, minus their "star" Ranatunga and much the underdogs did well to turn tables on the fancied Nalandians and triumph by seven wickets. These inter-school matches for no accountable reason tagged as "big" have over the years ended in draw and dreary draws and "AlroUnder" offers his congratulations to Deepal Dharmasekera and Roshan Gooneratne skippers of Ananda and Nalanda for their enterprising approach to the game which enabled a decision to be reached. In no other part of the world is there so much frenzied excitement and enjoyment of inter-school cricket as in little Sri Lanka. From around November starts the school cricket fever which reaches frenzied heights by the middle of April. This fever subsides with the working of the schools limited-over competition sponsored by the Maharaja Organisation and organised by the *Times* Group of Newspapers. These big matches, in the past, have witnessed some ugly incidents where some of the old and not-so-old boys, apparently after one too many had to be put behind bars to "cool" themselves. A few years ago also saw the death of a schoolboy who was thrown off a jalopy he and his friends had commissioned to "do" the city on big match day. The policemen on duty who have had their hands full have shown great restraint against these merrymakers. They have at times been forced to act in the best interests of the students. This year, thanks to the timely warnings by the Principals of schools, no ugly or unseemly incidents were witnessed or reported on all bigmatch days.

THE FIRST "BIG MATCH" of the season was the 103rd "Battle of the Blues" between *St. Thomas'*

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and *Royal* at the picturesque Sinhalese Sports Club ground. This "Battle of the Blues" is equal to the famous and time-honoured game between Eton and Harrow. This is the only big one which is played for three days. When S. Thomas' declared leaving *Royal* a target of 166 runs for victory to be made in 85 minutes plus the 20 mandatory overs a decision either way seemed likely. Openers Tariq Marikar and Chulaka Amarasinghe gave *Royal* a blazing start in their quest for victory by putting on 66 runs in even time. Marikar left first for a smart 47 made in 45 deliveries. The Royalists then lost four quick wickets including that of their skippers Sumithra Warnakulasuriya. With seven wickets down *Royal* put up the shutters and the eight wicket pair of Samarasinghe and Hettige played down the remaining three overs and the game ended in a draw. Any way honours go to the Thomians led by Ken de Alwis for the very bold and sporty declaration they made in an endeavour to bring about a decision in this game. *Scores*: S. Thomas 172 and 200 for 6 dec.; *Royal* 207 and 147 for 7. With *St. Peters* setting *St. Joseph's* the impossible task of scoring 153 runs for victory in 20 mandatory overs, the 48th "Battle of the Saints" ended in a meaningless draw at the P. Saravanamuttu Stadium. With the Josephian scoreboard reading 53 for the loss of Ravi and Ashley de Silva in their chase for victory, in the eighth of the mandatory overs poor light signalled the hunt for souvenirs by the Peterites and the game had a tame ending. Josephian skipper Ashley de Silva and Peterite all rounder Ramesh Ratnayake were naturally the drawcards in this game, but surprisingly failed to oblige their many supporters with performance of note. The man who made victory possible for Ananda in the "Battle of the Maroons" against Nalanda was left arm spinner Manjula Thenuwara, with his nagging accuracy was simply unplayable as he ran rings round the Nalanda batsmen in the second innings to return the remarkable figures of 27 overs 20 maidens 19 runs and 7 wickets. Thenuwara thus made a victory possible for Ananda after 16 stalemates. Nalanda went out favourites in this game. The grit and determination of the Anandians finally paid. Fielding only three seniors, Deepal Dharmasekera, Oshadie Weerasinghe and Kapila Jayasuriya they obtained a marvellous victory. *Scores*: Nalanda 107 for 8 dec.; and 119; Ananda 194 for 8 dec.; and 33 for 3. The *Isipathana-Thurstan* "big match" ended in a no-decision with none of the teams showing the inclination to go for a decision. One expected the Thurstanites and Isipathans to follow the example of the "Battle of the Maroons" and bring about a decision. But it was not to be so and yet another "big match" was driven into the limbo of drawn games: *Scores*: Thurstan 233 for 5 dec.; and 100 for 3; Isipathana 166 and 71 for 2.

IN THE MEANTIME the Premier cricket tourney in Sri Lanka, the P. Sara tourney was brought to a finish and Bloomfield Cricket and Athletic Club the reigning champions retained the title after a close

call in earlier round games. The Bloomfielders although retaining the title had their reputation tarnished earlier in the first round game when they lost outright to the Sinhalese Sports Club. After this defeat Shabir Asgerally who took over the captaincy from Bandula Warnapura who left for Pakistan with the Sri Lanka squad did wonders with the limited material at his disposal. In addition to Warnapura, Asgerally also missed the services of spinners, Lalith Kaluperuma and Ajit de Silva and the allround ability of Anura Ranasinghe. But bespectacled Asgerally proved that he is a natural when it comes to captaining a team. By example on and off the field he moulded a depleted Bloomfield side whose morale had dropped after their out right defeat into a match-winning combination. The Reid Avenue club brushed aside most of the other opposition to finally beat the Nondescripts and engrave their names on the coveted P. Sara trophy once again. This is the third time the Bloomfielders have won the trophy. The Sinhalese Sports Club who made a blazing start with an outright win failed to maintain form and finished second. The runners-up too lost players of the calibre of Duleep Mendis, Asantha de Mel, Sidath Weetimun, Roger Wijesuriya and Roy Dias who were with the Sri Lanka team in Pakistan.

AllRounder

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SPORTS CHRONICLE

April 1-7

THURSDAY, APRIL 1: In School Cricket Isipatana will field an inexperienced side in their "Big Match" against Thurstan tomorrow at the Sara Stadium. There are only three coloursmen in the team and Coach Mike Chanmugam said that his biggest problem was fielding, with many vital catches being dropped during the season. Captain Udaya Rajah has not lived up to expectations. The 20th "Battle of Kotte" between St. Thomas and Sri Jayawardenapura MV will be played on the Bloomfield grounds at Reid Avenue on Saturday April 3 and Sunday April 4 play commencing at 10 a.m. each day. The Thomians have played eight matches of which they have won three, lost one and drawn four, while Sri Jayawardenapura have played 13 matches and won one lost five and drawn seven. One advantage held by Sri Jayawardenapura is that they gained experience by playing against several top schools as Nalanda, Zahir, Royal A, Dharmapala MV Pannipitiya and St. Josephs. In the pre-quarter finals of the Lanka Plate Snooker Tournament at the KCYMA Kuberan Fernando of the KCYMA beat club mate Brian Machado who had earlier led by 42 points. There will be a *Basketball Coaching*

Camp conducted by the National Coach Dunçah Jayawardena at St. Anthony's College, Katugastota on April 2 and 3 Renown SC beat Randoli SC 6-0 in a Colombo Football League tournament match played at Campbell Park. The Super Netball Knock-out Tournament for the Mercantile sector attracted a massive crowd both netball enthusiasts and "cheering squads" on the first day yesterday at the BRC grounds Havelock Park. Seven of the English cricketers on the controversial tour of South Africa hid on their plane at London Airport in an attempt to avoid photographers when they returned home today. The other 350 passengers had alighted from the Jumbo Jet when the cricketers eventually appeared their faces covered with baseball hats. Wives and girl friends hid their faces with scarves. A dropped catch at a vital stage of the match proved costly for Sri Lanka and Pakistan won the Third One-day International at Karachi yesterday by five wickets to take the Series 2-1. Sri Lanka 218 (all out in 33.3 overs) and Pakistan 222 (for 5 wickets in 38.1 overs). The Sri Lanka Motor Cycle Club will hold the Nuwara Eliya Road race this year on April 19 with practices on April 17 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

FRIDAY APRIL 2: In School Cricket a trophy—the Father Don George Memorial Trophy—will be awarded for the first time in the Series which stands at ten wins for St. Sylvesters, three for Vidyarthna and ten drawn. St. Sylvesters won the match when it was last played in 1977 under P. Seneviratne while Police Rugby player R. M. Laffir led Vidyarthna to their last victory in 1962. Leading the Sylvestrians this year is all-rounder Anura Halangoda and the Vidyarthna team is being captained by A. Nihal Bandara. Hindu College, Bambalapitiya, comparatively new comers to senior school cricket, will be battling Hindu College Jaffna in their inaugural confrontation today and tomorrow at the Hindu College grounds at Bambalapitiya. The last of the schools "big matches" will be witnessed this week end. Commencing today is the traditional Thurstan-Isipatana clash at the P. Saravanamuttu Stadium, while tomorrow begins the Battle of Kotte between St. Thomas Kotte and Sri Jayawardenapura MV on the Bloomfield grounds at Reid Avenue and St. Sylvester's vs. Vidyarthna clash at Police grounds Kandy. In addition there are three limited over matches which will get under way on Sunday. The Battle of the Saints between St. Joseph's and St. Peters will be played at the Sara Stadium, the Battle of the Maroons between Ananda and Nalanda on the CCC grounds at Maitland Crescent and the one between Rahula MV and St. Servatius at the Uyanwatte Stadium Matara. In Club Cricket the two contenders for the Sara Trophy, Bloomfield and SSC will be at full strength today for their final matches for the 1981-82 cricket season. England will play Five Tests—one fewer than in 1978-79—on their 1982-83 cricket tour of Australia. Yesterday's Supper Netball Championships provided three thrilling games for the big crowd that turned up at the BRC

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grounds. This tournament is co-sponsored by Warner Hudnut (Lanka) Ltd., and the Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd. The quarter final matches of the *Moor Shield Hockey Tournament* conducted by the Sri Lanka Hockey Federation which had been postponed will now be played on April 20, and the semi-final on April 22. In *Boxing* Britain's Pat Cowdell, who last December took world champion Salvador Sanchez of Mexico to 15 painful rounds in Houston, became European Featherweight Champion at London. Officials of the *Wimbledon Tennis Championships* today announced a near-doubling of prize money for this year's event and indicated there was a chance that five-time champion Bjorn Borg would not have to qualify. Brazil's national *soccer* team will play at least two international exhibition games in May in preparation for the World Cup, the Brazilian Soccer Confederation said on Wednesday. India has already selected their team for the international with Sri Lanka and Pakistan for the Paralakemedi Trophy as well as for the *91st Amateur Golf Championships of Sri Lanka* to be worked off at the Nuwara Eliya Golf Club Course from April 23 to May 1. Mrs. Peral Fernando—Mrs. L. Thomas won the monthly duplicate *Contract Bridge Ladies* pairs event held at the Women's International Club.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3: In *School Cricket* the Thurstan-Isipatana Big Match at the Sara Stadium is heading for a draw on a perfect batting strip, Thurstan declared at 233 for 5 in 259 minutes of 66.3 overs and Isipatana in reply were 93 for 1 wicket in 154 minutes at close of play. Arjuna Ranatunge—Sri Lanka's youngest Test cricketer will strengthen Ananda's hopes against traditional rivals Nalanda in the Eighth Limited Over Battle of the Maroons on the CCC grounds at Maitland Crescent on Sunday, the match commencing at 10 a.m. A chanceless unbeaten 90 with two sixes and 12 fours in 106 minutes by skipper A. Kaheethan put Colombo Hindu College in a strong position at the end of the first day of their inaugural Big Match against Jaffna Hindu College at Bambalapitiya yesterday. After dismissing the Jaffna team for 134, Colombo Hindu reached 140 for 3 by the close. The 8th St. Peters-St. Joseph's 50 overs encounter for the Peter Pillai Memorial Trophy presented by Dr. Milton Munidasa will be played at the Sara Stadium on Sunday, play commencing at 10 a.m. In *Club Cricket* The annual cricket encounter between the old members and the present members of Lucky Eleven Sports Club of Gothatuwa will be held at the Madinnagoda grounds on April 11. Reigning champions Yrk Sports Club come out tomorrow to defend the Bandaranaike Memorial Cup in the *Soccer Final* against Ratnam Sports Club at 4.15 p.m. tomorrow at the Sugathadasa Stadium. The final of the 20 over *Knockout Cricket Tournament* organised by the State Distilleries Corporation's Sports Club, Hatton, will be worked off on Sunday April 4 at 9.30 a.m. at Dunbar Grounds, Hatton. The 3rd *All-Island "Soft-Ball" Double-*

Wicket and *Single Innings* knockout cricket tournament of the Sussex Sports Club will be held next month. In *Club Cricket* defending champions Bloomfield who only need first innings points to retain the Sara Trophy were bowled out for 239 by NCC at Maitland Place yesterday. SSC went on a run-spree against Air Force at Maitland Place scoring 339 for 5 off 87 overs at the end of the first day. Tamil Union have already taken first innings points from Moratuwa CC at the Tyrone Fernando Stadium. Colts with a massive 415 for 8 at close of play against Moratuwa CC are now assured of the Rahaman Hathy Trophy Centuries by Beverly Paul and Wirantha Fernando saw Colts go on a run-spree in their final at Havelock Park yesterday. *Sri Lanka*, the "Babes of Test Cricket" were the victims of poor umpiring decisions on their month-long tour of *Pakistan*. Anura Tennekoon, Manager of the team which returned on Thursday night said: "The standard of umpiring has dropped considerably since I was last there in 1974", and Assistant Manager Ranjith Fernando "There were very bad decisions against us. It was so poor that even some of the Pakistani players apologised to us". YMCA's C. M. Naseem entered the Final of the Colombo District *Lanka Plate Snooker Tournament*. He beat Borella YMBA's Sunil de Silva by three framers to one (40-69, 49-48, 77-27, 55-22) in their semifinal. The touring *West Berlin University Soccer Team* were held to a 2-all draw by Kandy CC in a match played at the Police grounds yesterday.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4: In *School Cricket* The Thurstan-Isipatana big match dragged on to a listless draw at the Saravanamuttu Stadium yesterday. Isipatana who were set the target of making 168 to win in 35 minutes plus the 20 mandatory overs made 71 for 2 wickets at close of play. Thurstan 1st innings 233 for 5 wkts dec: Isipatana 1st Innings (overnight 93 for 1 wkt continued). Sri Jayewardenapura's left-arm spinner Samantha de Mel (5 for 26) spun out St. Thomas for 97 in the "Battle of Kotte" which began yesterday on the Bloomfield grounds, Reid Avenue. Even exchanges featured the first day's play in the big match between Vidyarthi and St. Sylvesters which began yesterday on the Asgiriya Police grounds. Vidyarthi were out for 168 and at close of play, St. Sylvesters replied with 122 for 5 wickets. A defiant last wicket partnership of 34 runs between S. Kunananda 42 not out and T. Suresh 18 robbed Hindu College Colombo of a victory within their reach in their encounter with Jaffna Hindu at Bambalapitiya yesterday. Colombo Hindu has to make 37 to win but there was no time for them to bat. Royal College and Bishops' College won the boys and girls overall championships respectively at the *Seventh National Pentathlon Swimming Championships* which ended yesterday at Royal College pool. In *Club Cricket* Bloomfield are the Saravanamuttu cricket champions for 1981-1982. They clinched the issue yesterday, when they shot out NCC for 116

in the first innings, having made 239 in their first innings on Friday at Maitland Place. At close of play, Bloomfield made 73 for 3 wickets in their second innings. Colts who assured themselves of the Reheman Rathy Trophy Cricket title of Friday, are set for an outright win today in their game against Moratuwa Cricket Club. Sri Lanka the new babe of Test cricket, made its tryst with destiny 104 years and 339 days after the first ever Test match was played. It was on March 15, 1877 that the first official Test match was played between Australia and England at Melbourne. Australia won by 45 runs and remains to date the only country to win its inaugural Test match. The Belgium team which is enjoying unprecedented support at home, will kick off the *World Soccer Cup* against defending champion Argentina. The coach is confident his team can reach the second round along with its first day opponent. Algeria, Austria, and Chile can expect short shaft from group two favourites West Germany in the World Soccer Cup finals.—Defending Champions—Havelocks kicks off the 1982 *Clifford Cup Rugby* Football season on April 23 at Havelock Park, when they take on Navy. The Sri Lanka *Schools Girls Hockey* team left yesterday to Hong Kong by Air Lanka to participate at the Asian Women's Invitation Hockey Tournament to be held from 3rd to 10th April. Thailand, Singapore and People's Republic of China are expected to participate. Japan's Miki Oda who plays with a handicap of 4 is to turn professional on her return to Tokyo after the just concluded *4th Asian Women's Amateur Team Golf Championships* for the Queen Sirikit Cup which was played at the world famous Nuwara-Eliya Golf Club Course last week. Miki Oda won the individual title for the second occasion with a total of 220 (73, 72, 75) at Nuwaraeliya, as Australia went on to win the Queen Sirikit Cup by two strokes ahead of Japan for the second consecutive year.

MONDAY, APRIL 5: In *School Cricket* A fine spell of spin bowling by Palitha Liyanage who took 6 wickets for 34 runs off 10 overs; helped St. Thomas to snatch a sensational 13-run win in the last ball of the last mandatory over against Sri Jayewardenapura in the Battle of Kotte on the Bloomfield grounds yesterday. St. Joseph's crushed St. Peter's by 86 runs in the 8th Josephian-Peterite limited over encounter at the Sara Stadium yesterday and regained the Peter Pillai Memorial Trophy making their tally in the Series 5 to St. Peter's 3. St. Servatius scored a narrow four-run win over Rahula MV in their annual limited over cricket match played on the Uyanwatte Stadium yesterday. St. Servatius 203 in 44.4 overs; Rahula MV 188 in 49.4 overs. Nishantha Ranatunge made the winning hit a four through the covers off spinner Kushan Weerasinghe to give Ananda a thrilling one wicket win with one over to spare over traditional rivals Nalanda in their Eighth Limited Over Cricket match on the CCC grounds yesterday. In reply to Nalanda's 193 for 9 in the allotted 50 Overs, Ananda scored 195 for 8 in 49 overs.

St. Sylvester's took up the challenge of scoring 164 run for victory in 20 mandatory. They got to 75 for 5 in 15 overs when bad light ended play and this Big Match against Vidyarthi ended in a draw on the police grounds at Kandy yesterday. The under 15 and under 17 schools Cricket Tournament, conducted by the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association has been indefinitely postponed. In *Club Cricket* the 1981-82 Sara Trophy cricket season drew to a close yesterday with the completion of the final weekend's matches. Bloomfield having retained the Title for another year were content with a first innings win over NCC while SSC who finished second also had a similar result against Air Force. The other two matches completed yesterday saw CCC beat Police by 93 runs and Nomads beat Saracens by four wickets. The fifth match ended on the second day (Saturday) when Tamil Union beat Moratuwa SC by 10 wickets. Moors, Galle CC and Sebastianians won their Reheman Rathy Trophy Final Round matches outright yesterday. On Saturday Colts became champions when they beat Moratuwa CC outright. Ratnam took the *Bandaranaike Memorial Soccer Cup* with a fluent 2-0 win over four-time winners York in the Final played at the Sugathadasa Stadium yesterday. A group of Conservative Members of Parliament had a secret meeting with three of the *English Rebel Cricketers* only hours after their return from South Africa, and as a result, there may be legal action against the cricket authorities. The three players were Geoff Boycott, Graham Gooch and John Emburey. Ghulam Parker, Suru Nayak and Randhir Singh are the new faces in the Indian cricket team to tour England this summer. Mr. Rajsingh Dungarpur will be the manager with Mr. K. Nagaraj the assistant manager.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6: In *School Cricket* the unbeaten Lumbini MV Colombo are confident of repeating last year's triumph in their big Match against Sri Palee, Horana which begins at 10 a.m. today on the CCC grounds at Maitland Crescent. The Eighth Battle of the Centrals between Piliyandala Madya Maha Vidyalaya and Wadduwa Madya Maha Vidyalaya will be played at the Tyrone Fernando Stadium today and tomorrow. The Diyawanna Sports Club of Pita Kotte has organised a *Six-A-Side Softball Knock-out Tournament* as part of their New Year celebrations. This is the seventh year of the tournament and will be played again for the Anandatissa de Alwis Challenge Shield. All matches will be at the Sri Jayawardanapura Maha Vidyalaya grounds Kotte. Three semi-finalists were found in the A Division of the *Halls Super Netball Championships* for the Mercantile Sector, co-sponsored by Warner Hudnut (Lanka) Limited and Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd., at the Colts grounds, Havelock Park, yesterday. Ratnam took the *Bandaranaike Memorial Soccer Cup* with a fluent 2-0 win over fourtime winners York in the Final played at the Sugathadasa Stadium yesterday. El Salvador's already slim hopes of success in the *World*

Soccer Cup Finals in Spain, have been further reduced by the Government's austerity measures. Lack of cash has meant that the El salvadoeran squad for the finals has been cut back from 32 to 18. Sri Lanka's Willie Barsenbach (322) finished in eighth position at the *22nd Amateur Golf Championships of Pakistan* staged at Lahore recently. He was the best of the Lankan players with Dilhan Abhayaratne (335), Ana Punchihewa (342) and Pheroze Billimoria (344) also not faring well as expected. *World Boxing Association* (WBA) Light Flyweight Champion Katsuo Tokashiki of Japan came from behind to punch out a majority points win over Lupe Madera of Mexico in a 15-round title match here International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch said today they had not decided whether professional tennis players could participate in the *1988 Olympic games*. Rippon Balika Maha Vidyalaya, Galle emerged champions beating Sacred Heart Convent, Galle in the final of the *Galle Circuit Under 19 Netball Tournament*, concluded recently. New Zealand number one Ross Norman produced some of his best Squash but still crashed 9-5, 9-3, 9-3 to World Champion, Jahangir Khan of Pakistan in the *British Open Championship* quarter-finals today.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7: In *School Cricket* eleven dropped catches helped Lumbini MV to 217 for 4 declared in 275 minutes off 51 overs on the opening day of their Fourth Big Match against Sri Palee MV, Horana, on the CCC grounds yesterday. Sri Palee were 68 for 4 at the close. Thurstan go out favourites to level the Series and win the W. A. de Silva Memorial Trophy in the Second Limited Over cricket encounter against traditional rivals Isipatana on the NCC grounds at Maitland Place today. The match will commence at 10 a.m. Piliyandala MMV were in a commanding position in their Big Match against Wadduwa MMV They scored 150 and then had Wadduwa MMV tottering on 62 for 9 at the Tyrone Fernando Stadium here yesterday. The match will be continued at 10 a.m. today. The third annual *All-island Softball Double Wicket and Single Innings Knock-out Cricket Tournament* organised by Sussex Sports Club will be held again; entires for the tournament close on May 16 with the Sussex Sports Club, Tewatte Road, Ragama. All semifinalists were found—in the A and B Divisions—in the *Halls Super Netball Championships*, cosponsored by Warner Hudnut (Lanka) Limited and Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited, at the Colts grounds, Havelock Park yesterday. The *National Olympic Council of Sri Lanka* has submitted tentatively entries for 15 sports that Sri Lanka are most likely to be represented at the *Ninth Asian Games* in New Delhi later this year.

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TENDER NOTICE.

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVT., HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION. DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.

Tenders for construction of Office for Medical Officer of Health stage I at Kelaniya will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 A.M. on Wednesday 5th May, 1982.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from District Engineer/Colombo South Engineer before 4.15 P.M. on 30. 04. 82 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 500,000/- and above on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 250/- issued by Buildings Department, Colombo or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

03. Any further particulars could be obtained from the above Engineer.

K.C. Samaraweera.
Director of Buildings.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,
P.O. BOX 504,
COLOMBO 1.

16th April 1982.

• Gold • Milk

IS IT NOT A FACT that a refreshing breeze has begun to sweep on the political front of the ruling party? That the fact that the President had called upon the MP for Hewaheta, Anura Daniel, to resign is a welcome step? That there have been occasions in the past when VIPs had been caught bringing in "contraband" and the matter had been hushed up? That it was the talk of the town sometime ago about four or five bags full of watches and watch parts were consigned to a political VIP as "unaccompanied baggage"? That the VIP had obviously taken the position that the bags had been consigned to him without his knowledge or his permission? That the bags and watches will continue to lie in the Customs—until they are "auctioned"? That in the case of MP Anura Daniel, the bag with Rs. 2.6 million worth of gold ingots. (popularly known in the underworld as "bisquits"), brought in as his personal baggage, was detected at the barrier? That if bazaar rumours are to be given any credence, there were other VIPs who were also caught "red-handed" and who had successfully managed to hush up the matter? That squaring matters to save themselves personally left a lot of mud sticking on the Government, the Administration and the Ruling Party? That though Anura Daniel has now tendered his resignation (several weeks after he was detected with the contraband and, at least two weeks after it was reported that he had been called upon to resign), a large number of questions torment the public? That one question is whether the Government is out to bust the syndicate of rich underworld businessmen who have used "politicos" and VIPs to act as "carriers" or inveigled them into becoming part of the Mafia? That another question is whether due attention is being paid to customs officers and other officials who have helped and continue to help this gang of big operators in their nefarious activities? That young and even old "politicos" cannot afford the capital necessary for such large-scale smuggling? That unless the underworld ring—even if they parade in the most respectable circles and frequent the best hotels and clubs—is brought under control, this traffic will continue and bring disrepute to the Government? That in an election year if the Government can smash or effectively cripple this mafia, it will redound to the credit of the ruling party? That the most important question is that pointed attention should be paid to officials—whether in the Customs or outside—who make this smuggling possible? That in the case of Anura Daniel the story going round is that the "mishap" of the detection would not have happened if a particular Customs officer had been "on duty"? That it is said he was a little late because of a traffic jam or a delay caused by a traffic snarl due to an accident? That not even a

politico, it is said, would take the risk of carrying contraband unless he was assured that there would be no "hitch" at the Sri Lanka end? That the gossip in the corridors is that it was only because of the non-arrival of a Customs officer Anura Daniel was caught with the incriminating goods? That the next question that is being asked is what percentage of such large-scale and brazen smuggling have so far been ever detected? That it those in the know say that it would be as low as one in ten?

IS IT NOT AN EXHILIRATING THOUGHT that this country will soon be self-sufficient in milk? That in an interview in *The Island* (April 18) Minister Thondaman had stated: "*question:* Why aren't we self-sufficient in milk? *Answer:* Sometime back we were depending mostly on imported milk for our requirements. We have now gradually increased our milk production. *Today we are almost self-sufficient in liquid milk, condensed milk and butter.* (Emphais ours) Very soon we will be self-sufficient in powdered milk also. At present 25 percent of the local demand for milk powder is met by the Milk Board factory at Ambewela. The balance requirement is imported and packed by the CWE. Now with the encouragement given by the Government to the private sector, Nestles has already commenced work on its Rs. 430 million milk food project in the Kurunegala district. We should be soon self-sufficient in milk when the factory, which will have a production capacity of 13,500 metric tons per annum, goes into production by mid-1983. We have also improved our milk collection from 130,000 litres per day in 1978 to 165,000 litres today. This is due to the better prices we have been able to pay the producers"? That whilst we are willing to accept the Minister's assurances and figures, we are puzzled with some of the official statistics available to us? That it is agreed that with the population as of now with a 3 oz. per capita intake per day, Sri Lanka must produce, 2,300,000 litres per day? That official figures disclose that the National Milk Board (NMB) had collected 175,000 litres per day in 1975? That in January 1982, the NMB collection was 141,000 litres a day? That the estimated production for 1979 was 316,350 litres and for 1984 513,000 litres? That with the January 1982 figure of 141,000 litres, will the NMB possibly reach the 1984 target when even the 1979 target has not yet been reached? That we are still a long long way to go to reach the 2,300,000 litres a day to make the country "self-sufficient"? in liquid milk leave alone powdered milk, butter, cheese etc. etc? That with these statistics before us we are puzzled as to how the Minister can talk of being "self-sufficient in liquid milk? That self-sufficiency in liquid milk arise only when every child will have the proverbial glass of milk every day, promised by the President? That in an election year, it is dangerous to make promises about "self-sufficiency?

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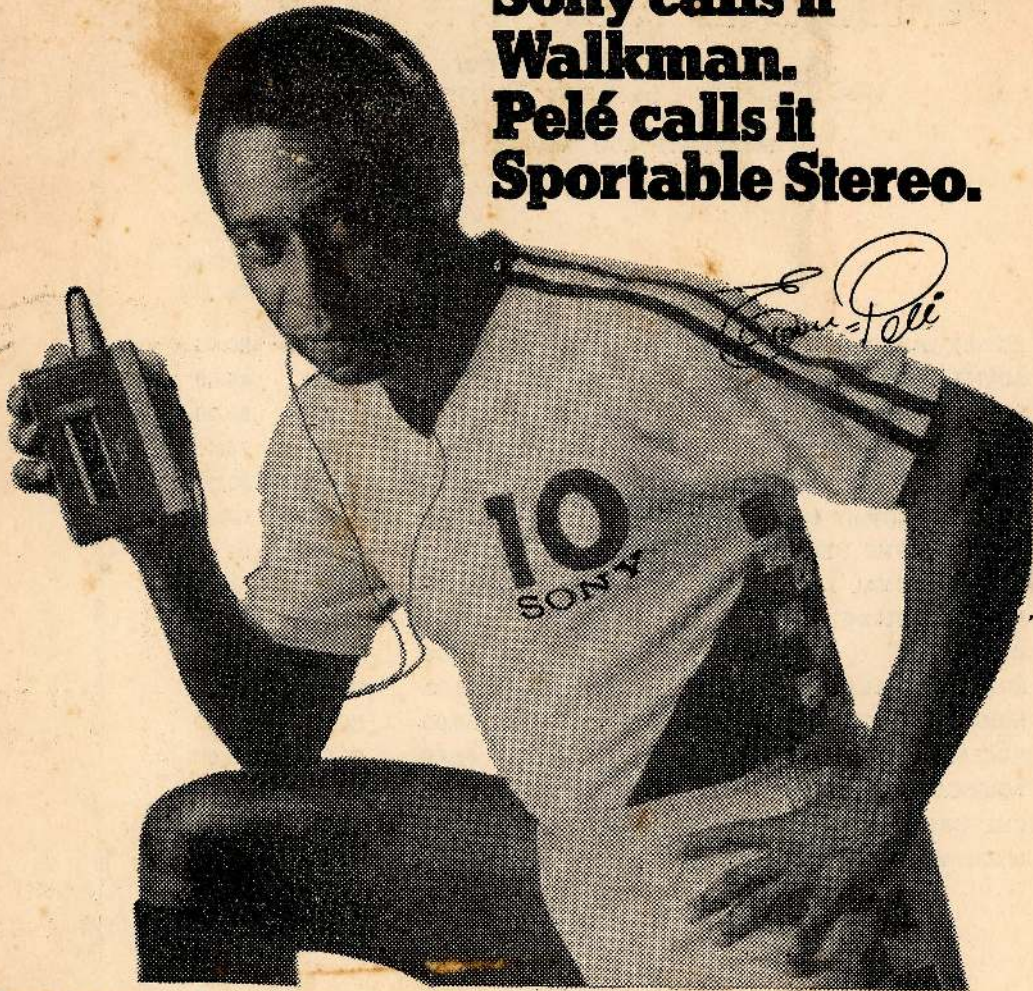
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