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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

WE HAVE RECEIVED BOUQUETS AND BRICKBATS because of that experimental changes we have introduced in the structure and contents of *Tribune* to meet the challenges of the current period characterised by a proliferation of dailies as well as weeklies (and fortnights). Many of them reflect Opposition opinion and concentrate on exposing waste and corruption in high and low places. All this has added to catalytic ferment in the political life of this country. We have received bouquets about our *Sportscope* especially from people who are unable to have access to all the papers for sports news. Our Sports Chronicle is fast gaining adherents among those who want to keep abreast of sporting events. Readers have also praised the frank and forthright comments of *Allrounder*. *Sportscope* is attracting a new class of reader for *Tribune*. Our *Agricultural Digest* has produced enthusiastic and warm response from a very large number of readers. But many readers want hard hitting and constructively critical articles on all matters pertaining to agriculture. They do not want this section to be a mere purveyor of information—though such information is essential they say—but they want articles to provoke thought and action. We will certainly pay heed to it and such articles and comments will increasingly appear not only in our *Agricultural Digest* but even on other pages of *Tribune*. The section entitled the *Foreign Scene* is only bringing together articles on foreign affairs presenting information and points of view not generally published by other papers in this country. *Mahaweli Forum* has received many brickbats especially from the knowledgeable who say that much of what we have published was "stale". But *Tribune* readers abroad have welcomed the publication of basic data about Mahaweli. We published these statistical details as a foundation to enable our readers to make informed comment and also help them take an intelligent interest in the controversial and hard-hitting articles to follow. But the biggest brickbat we have received—especially from some of our older readers—is that they miss the articles on the political and economic affairs of the day. To this we must plead guilty. We had concentrated on building up our new sections and had neglected *Tribune's* well known forte for comment on matters political. This sad default, though unfortunate, is only temporary. We have in fact been planning, a new and lively *Political and Economic Affairs Section* and this will become all the more important in the election year ahead. We may even increase the pages of *Tribune* to deal fully with all matters that are likely to come up in this crucial period. We are also conscious that more and more among the young now want to read English (in addition to their mother tongue)—not merely to get employment but also to increase the scope and vista of their knowledge. *On the Cover* we have a picture of village belles, or young ladies in the garb of village belles. Many may think that these young women are interested only in dancing, clothes and matters strictly feminine. Talk to them and they will pepper you with questions on current political and economic problems that will shatter your equanimity. *Tribune* was asked by one damsel with a disarming smile why there are still 7½ million people (in 1½ million households) who have to get income support from Food Stamps. Why should nearly half the population of the country be below the poverty line in spite of the vast expenditure on the Free Trade Zone, the various projects and Rs. 4 billions in remittances from the export of manpower? These are questions the Government will have no answer. We ourselves will make our comments from week to week.

Election-On The Horizon

The President recently announced that the Parliament will be dissolved in July 1983 at the end of its full term. The Prime Minister has also repeated this in a speech. The general elections must be held within four months of the dissolution and many believe that they will be held sometime in August or September. Some have suggested that the general elections may take place after a sunshine budget early in November. But whatever the speculation about the date of the elections, all political parties are gearing themselves for the fray.

The UNP is off to an early start whilst the non-government parties appear to have many problems of an individual as well as a collective nature. The UNP has begun to streamline its propaganda machine and is seeking to avoid the mistakes committed by the SLFP in 1977 in handling the official media—*Lake House* and the *SLBC*. The UNP now has the *Times* as well as *Rupavahini*. The *Sun/Dawasa* group which was silent during the 1977 election (because of its closure under Emergency Laws) will now assist the UNP by adopting the postures of an "independent group". The new *Island/Divaina* group is openly campaigning for the SLFP (S), in particular, as well as the Opposition Parties, in general. This, according to some cynics, is mainly to boost its circulation as well as satisfy the pique of its owner who is said to be temporarily disillusioned with the ruling hierarchy of the UNP. There is a belief in some quarters that it will not be difficult for the UNP, at the appropriate time, to neutralise the *Island/Divaina* group or even win its support.

The UNP election campaign has so far been based on its record of performance in many sectors—Mahaweli, Housing, UDA, Open Economy, FTZ Employment and the like. The Mahapola scholarship and the Swarnabhoomi Foundation are also likely to be used as propaganda beacons. In addition to these, the President has launched a campaign to eliminate "corruption" in the higher ranks of the UNP. Anura Daniel was called upon to resign as an MP and E. L. Senanayake from the post of Minister (after a feeble attempt to save him by switching Ministries). Rumour has it that another three or four MPs may be asked to resign on the ground of attempts to smuggle contraband for underworld syndicates. Smuggling through customs is not the only kind of corruption alleged against UNP VIPs. The President has set up a high-powered Committee of the Party to inquire into complaints of corruption and see whether prima facie cases existed. **If the UNP succeeds in penalising even a handful of the corrupt in the UNP and if it goes further and deprives some of them of their civic rights,**

it will have a lot to crow about, and partially neutralise the sympathy that the deprivation of civic rights has generated for Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike.

The main opposition party, the SLFP, continues to present a picture of total disunity. The two main factions SLFP (S) and SLFP (M) are as far away from each other as ever. The attempt to bring about a mother-and-son combination under the umbrella of SLFP (S) has not met with the success expected. A "Gang of Four" in the SLFP (S) is said to be anxious to keep Anura out of the SLFP (S) and the *Island* reports that the gang has even opened negotiations with SLFP (M) for a new alignment against a mother-and-son combine.

As for election propaganda SLFP (M) is still on a low key whilst the journals of the SLFP (S)—which are said to be under the control of the "Gang of Four"—concentrate on allegations of corruption rampant in the higher echelons of the UNP. Mrs. Bandaranaike has repeatedly talked of anti-UNP unity and has endeavoured to bring four or five parties together—as she did on the May Day rally. But this "Gang of Four" prevented Anura from speaking from the platform on that day. And when the mother and son were on the same platform at a meeting at Ratmalana the gang boycotted it and its rallies of its own in other places. Anura has gone on a holiday to the USA and Canada (nobody knows why.) But it is believed that the Gang of Four are not likely to change their tactics as a result of Anura's trip abroad.

In the meantime, the CPSL which earlier did not want any truck with the SLFP (S) issued a call for an anti-UNP **no-contest** agreement which would include Mrs. Bandaranaike, Anura and the SLFP (M) in addition to all other parties and groups offered to the UNP. The CPSL statement did not explain how the no-contest agreement was to be worked out in the system of proportional representation on district lists. **Whether the strategy of no-contest pact which was practicable under the Soulbury Constitution of 1946 or even the Sirima-Colvin Constitution of 1972 will be possible or feasible under the 1978 Jayewardene Constitution is doubtful. A new strategy has to be evolved and there are no indications that even a start has been made in this direction.**

In the North, the TULF has to cope with the extremists who may not have the mass support to edge the TULF out. In the East, the extremists do not seem to have the roots they have in the peninsula and in some parts of Vavuniya. The TULF (a little belatedly) has declared war on "violence" but what kind of impact this will have is hard to envisage at this stage. But on a national scale, the TULF is not likely to join an anti-UNP front (as it was inclined to do a few years ago). It will most likely play an "independent

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role" and lean heavily on the UNP which now faces a threat from the Sinhala Bala Madalaya that has raised racialist slogans under an anti-UNP umbrella.

Such cries have always been raised in the past whenever a solution to the Sinhala-Tamil problem was in the offing. This time President Jayewardene has met the racial propaganda of the Sinhala Bala Mandalaya (it will be interesting to know who financed its expensive motorcade to Anuradhapura and the big rallies in that city and in Kandy) squarely in a frontal manner. He has refuted the logic of racialism, threatened action against rabble rousers, and has promised support to the Sinhala Bala Mandalaya if it kept out of politics and confined its activities to religious and cultural affairs. It is yet too early to say what impact this will have on the Sinhala Bala Mandalaya.

The CWC has raised a hue and cry, probably with some justification, that the Bala Mandalaya racialist slogans may lead to a blood-bath in the plantation areas. The Cabinet has already authorised the President to invoke the Public Security Act if an "emergency" should arise. **There is no doubt that the UNP has to curb (control or satisfy) the racialists and extremists among all communities if it wants to derive the benefits of its economic policies to improve living standards among the different communities.**

In spite of repeated declarations by government spokesmen that the General Elections will be held only after July 1983, many opposition journals continue to repeat what they have been saying for over 2½ years—that there will be snap general elections anytime and that the Presidential election will precede the parliamentary elections. Knowledgeable political observers do not see any compelling reasons for the UNP to rush into a snap election or bring forward the Presidential election.

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OUR POLITICIANS

Take over A New Role

By R. Kahawita

OUR POLITICIANS have assumed a new role in recent times. They have become "lay preachers" or what the Christian Church calls "Catechists". May it be a political meeting, may it be a prize-giving, may it be a stone-laying ceremony, may it be a trade union meeting, may it be cutting the first sod or even at a "portfolio change-over" ceremony, they never fail to exhort the people to lead a "life of Dhamma". They all have their own interpretation of "pancha

seela". This kind of religious preaching is a new phenomena peculiar to Sri Lankan politicians only. They have thrown out the Venerable Bhikkus to the background and the politicians have taken over their role. The Bhikkus are in the background to chant pirith and recite the "gathas" only. When they are not required for this, they take to procession as we saw on May Day parades.

Preaching and propagation of the religion have become a new function of the present regime. It is peculiar to UNP party members only. We do not hear or read of this kind of thing happening anywhere else in the world. Of course that is no reason why we should not do it and collect yet another "first". It may be that elsewhere they are still following the old saying—*let the dog do what it is expected of it "go bark" and not the donkey to do what the dog is expected to do.*

It is difficult to understand this new role of our politicians, when there are so many problems, that affect the "material man", to be solved. We expected our representatives to solve these problems for us when we entrusted out "supremacy" to them in 1977. There may be several reasons why they are following this path. It may be like Rev. Heber, they have discovered from their giddy heights that "man is only vile in this Paradise on earth" and therefore he must be brought back to a path of righteousness before his material needs are provided.

Or it may be that our people are helping the drug addict tourists to commit suicide by taking over-doses of drugs while we collect the stained money? Or they have reached a temporal NIRVANA during the five years of being a privileged elite and that they now desire the people also to reach the spiritual NIRVANA" before their temporal needs are satisfied? Or unlike a Saint Anthony, have they experienced all the temptations in their seats of power and have succumbed to them and do not want their voters fall a prey to the same temptations.?

There may be many more explanations like this. We have not got the psychic power yet to enter the conscience and find out their inner motivation for this new role. In our ignorance, to us the whole thing looks, as ridiculous, as the propaganda slogan of the Ministry of Plan Implementation—"mother's milk is the best for your baby". To them the two udders a woman is endowed with are just ornaments or instruments of a temptress and not to suckle the offspring. This is the kind of thing our people are fed with daily when what they want is food to sustain them before they reach the nirvana of the politician. *Our people are not morons not to understand what they want, and how we have failed them in providing these within their earning capacity.*

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Cinema & T.V.

If healthy relationships are not maintained between the Cine and Television media, certain delicate and embarrassing situations may occur. To pick out one recent example that surfaced unexpectedly were the events that led to the suspension of the weekly telecasting of South Indian tamil films that had proved very popular on the *Rupavahini* schedules, so much so they were eroding the relevant cinema collections one day in the week. This however, is not the point at issue, as much as the fact, that these video cassettes of full length Tamil films, were commercial ventures sponsored by a well known Jewellery establishment, getting closer to this weekly exercise, it surprises this column that *Rupavahini* was ignorant of the fact that unless royalties were paid to the producers of these films the whole process took on an illegal character for such video shows were being frowned on already by the National Film Corporation. To be more explicit, would it not have surprised our local producers, if Sinhalese films were telecast on Indian TV without the due royalties being paid, as done locally now. Such video telecasting was always considered illegal by the NFC and this column is aware that the Police were requested, particularly in the North, to raid venues where the more recent tamil films were on TV for a mere song—in the neighbourhood of just Two rupees for two films. With the Police turning to more urgent problems, this menace has become rampant, not only in the North, but in Colombo and other parts of the country as well. To come back to the point, this column hopes that wiser counsel, will prevail and due caution exercised in such commercial ventures, and that Tamil films will be back on TV soon after the procedures are regularised. Both *Rupavahini* and *ITN* should be alert to such situations alive also in their formative years to piracy and plagiarism in programmes that might take them unawares and lead to legal tangles.

This column wonders in this context, whether the local Television bureaucrats are aware of the existence of a UNESCO centre in Paris, which is instrumental in counselling both Cinema and TV projects particularly in the third world countries. In the words of its General Secretary John Pierre Brassard, "this body is devoted to the progress of Cinema and TV in all perspectives around the world, where TV is in a nascent state of development. All the international organisations, devoted to these two media, belong to this Council. Besides various professionals, including actors, technicians, producers, radio and TV personnel, and even film societies are part of this body. There are twelve members at the executive level and it is exclusively financed by the UNESCO for carrying out its objectives. These include the

organising of Seminars symposia, workshops etc. on various aspects of Cinema and T.V. Even training programmes are occasionally planned by professionals belonging to these two media and the venues for such activities are in rotations for maximum participation." This column has always held that Cinema and each other and what better opportunity can there be but to apply for membership to this UNESCO Centre, to enrich the two medias locally, if this has not been done already.

NORTH SEA HIJACK (English): A hijack on the High seas is the excellent and entertaining menu that is dished out in this Universal Production, that glitters with the histrionics of three of the finest actors, in Roger (James Bond) Moore, James Mason and Anthony Perkins from the word go to a suspense packed climax. Hollywoods man of steel, Moore, roles a tough Commando trainer Ffolkes, and he is matched by the Iron Laid of No. 10 Downing Street, Margaret Thatcher (Faith Brooks). Together they bust up a gang of hijackers, masquerading as journalists, who hold three oil vessels named Esther, Ruth and Jennifer, to a ransom of 25 million pounds in mixed currency for delivery in just 24 hours. The drama commences when the bunch of tough terrorists led by Anthony Perkins as Lee Kramer, enter an oil supply vessel and direct it at the points of deadly weaponry, to a mid-sea oil production platform in the Norwegian waters. The crisis descends eventually on the Thatcher Government who get into an emergency huddle and summon Ffolkes for a solution as the countdown ticks on menacingly. Ffolkes and his frogmen trained to a split second activity take over operations, while the blackmailers on board the Ruth finger nervously with the button that would blow up the vessels in the drama to Kingdom come, if a false move is monitored by them at any stage. The Admiral of the British Fleet (Mason) too closes in on the scene of the high tension drama for negotiations and a nerve racking climax follows which is for you to see. The suave and debonair Moore doubles up into his role with an ease, born of the dash he cuts into the Bond films, but with a difference, in that he has a fetish for felinity not for the curvaceous kind, but for Cats and Kittens! Bearded and reinforced with a razor edged tongue, he infuses the much needed confidence on the nery personalities around him while veteran Mason could not have given a more polished performance in his role. Anthony Perkins too as the terrorist chief, thirsting for the millions between the cup and his lip, was edgy enough to carry the audience with him. With Thatcher at the remote controls, as the head of a government that thwarted many such hijacks in real situations, this Hijack drama was spiced with all the emergency decisions that had to be made seconds to avert a massive blow up. Directed ably by Andrew McLagen to a pitch of mounting excitement, from moment to moment, one just cannot afford to miss this excellent film.

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PETHI GOMARA (Sinhalese): Directed by Siri Kularatne, this compact film has in its cast two of the finest Sriyani stars on the Sinhalese screen—Tony Ranasinghe and Amarasena, who give off their best to prevent this formula-lined film from flagging, by their experience and acting abilities alone. It is a simple love story between a surveyor (Tony) who strays into the rural regions with his equipment, and a pretty village belle (Sriyani), who keeps ferrying him more towards her heart, than from shore to shore. As in such a story, emerges the village bully (Mervyn Jayatunga) who sees to it that the romance does not run as smoothly as the river over which it blooms. Back home awaits the surveyor's flirtatious cousin (Sumana Amarasinghe) for his hand, amidst her night-club engagements and the final choice for the surveyor comes easily after a picnic to the village by the folks at home when the truth emerges dramatically to sort things out. Mervyn as the villain cuts it finally into a role that is tailor made for him. Although the camera could have done better in the rural settings, it blurred and weakened yet the appealing story overrides this shortcoming to make it worthwhile family film fare, in just two hours.

JAMES N. BENEDICT

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A CORRECTION

Persian Gulf

Sir,

This is to bring to your kind notice regarding the article titled "Exports—To Arab Gulf" which appeared in your journal dated May 29th, 1982, of Vol. 26 No. 36. All geographic and historical document and the World Map has referred to this Gulf as the Persian Gulf and not as Arab Gulf. The name "Persian Gulf" is an internationally accepted one and the United Nations documents will also prove our statement. In view of this fact, I, on behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran would appreciate if you could refrain from publishing in your articles the name of Arab or Arabian Gulf. Attached is a copy of the UN Charter for your perusal.

Jafar Azarmgin,
Charged' Affaires a.i.

Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran,
Colombo.
1st June 1982.

ANNEXURE

The Secretariat of the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of Iran to
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the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of its note of 23rd February 1971, referring to the use of the term Arab Gulf Emirates" in a document of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation. It is the practice of the United Nations Secretariat to use in United Nations documents and maps the term "Persian Gulf" to indicate the body of water between Iran to the North and East and a number of other countries to the South and West. In doing so, the United Nations Secretariat has conformed to a long established usage followed by publishers of atlases and geographical dictionaries. The document referred to in the note of the Permanent Mission was prepared at the Headquarters of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation in Vienna. The content of the note and of this reply will be brought to the attention of the appropriate officers of the Organisation.

United Nations,
New York
5th March 1971.

Tribune has always been careful to avoid the term "Arab Gulf", but by an oversight we had used the headline used in the *Economic Review* without correction. We regret this error—Ed.

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INTRODUCING

An Indian Paper-Back

THE WHITE FLAG REVOLUTION : AN ORIGINAL in PAPERBACK from MASTERMIND PUBLICATIONS

THE WHITE FLAG REVOLUTION: F. N. Souza: NATURE IN AN ALTERED PERSPECTIVE Sanford Redmond A NEW HOPE FOR MANKIND Jag Mohan: Rs. 35; £ 4; \$ 6. In the context of the information explosion in the world, on May 20, 1980, a definitive, positive and qualitative change occurred in human thought, when a half-page advertisement appeared in the *New York Times* of that day. An unknown, but highly original scientist, *SANFORD REDMOND*, took out a half page of advertisement space to get his concepts of Nature, Universe, Time and Humankind into print. He spent \$ 24,500 to get his new Theory entitled, "Nature in the Altered Perspective", published without anybody editing and mutilating it. "I can afford it", Redmond said, "and I published it because I did not want it to be edited". Through this gesture Redmond did a service to humankind, revealing a new Theory of Nature. A "theory", from its Greek root means a "view" very much like the Sanskrit "darshana". But Redmond's Theory was largely ignored by the scientists and

even the staff of the paper in which it was published.

F. N. Souza, whom Dr. Mulk Raj Anand once described as having "out-rebelled the rebel of Albert Camus", got entrenched with Redmond's new science—and science means knowledge. It was a revelation to Souza that Redmond towered over Galileo, Darwin, Planck and Einstein, including Eastern thought much amalgamated now in the Western science such as the "mahapralaya", great chaos, the Big Bang theory, etc. Redmond has dismissed the Big Bang and the quest for the "Basic Particle" as "no such things." Souza was transformed from a painter-writer into a scientist-philosopher. Branching out from Redmonite concepts on his own in different directions, Souza has established a clear connection between Redmonite "Nature" and "Prakriti" of the ancient Hindu philosopher, Kapila the founder of Sankhya school of philosophy. Kapila had asserted millenia ago that "Nature is the Sole Principle." Souza has now decided to launch a Cultural Revolution for Peace using the WHITE FLAG as its symbol, banner and logo. On May 20, 1981, one year after the Redmonite advertisement appeared in print, Souza and eight others gathered in New York, where incidentally Souza lives, and they celebrated the first anniversary of Redmond's breakthrough in Elitist "weltanschauung."

JAG MOHAN, writer, art critic, filmologist and long-time friend of Souza has joined him to found MASTERMIND PUBLICATIONS, along with LANCELOT RIBEIRO, a London-based painter and a half-brother of Souza and to launch a series of publications on Redmonism and Souzaism in order to turn the course of history heading towards doom and to presage the Golden Age.

This tract containing the full text of Redmond's thesis, Souza's elaborations and Jag Mohan's reflections is being brought out to commemorate the second anniversary of the original publication of Redmond's Theory—on May 20, 1982. The occasion will be used to launch the Cultural Revolution for Peace from New Delhi—the key centre of the Non-aligned Movement and the focal point of the Third World from where the New World Order is being shaped. This manifesto for the White Flag Revolution for Peace should give the necessary stimulus for a common force or mass energy, needed to turn the course of history leading for doom.

YOU, dear READER, are welcome to join forces from any where, anytime for creating a New World embracing the Third World, the West, the Communist, Jewish and Islamic worlds, now all in tension, poised against one another and embroiling the world. But it must hopefully relax under the protocol of the White Flag which means "a cessation of hostilities", "a flag of truce", a "single for parleys", according

to the dictionary and as proposed in this White Flag Manifesto. We must close the deadly "end of the world" prospect of nuclear war through its proper agents and address them in proper terms. You are thus addressed, as you may be one of them.

This book was released by M. Chalapathi Rau at a function held at India International Centre, New Delhi on May 20, 1982 with I. K. Gujral presiding.

Communications are to be addressed either to: JAG MOHAN (B-11/167 Safdarjang Enclave, New Delhi 110029) or to F. N. SOUZA (148 West 67th Street, New York, N. Y. 10023, USA).

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FOR THE RECORD

On The Plantations

TOKEN STRIKE

Answering the call of the Joint Committee of Plantation Trade Unions the Plantation workers and estate staff belonging to 14 Trade Unions decided to stage a Token Strike on the 11th and 12th of May. A few days prior to the strike a 15th Trade Union-- The National Union of Workers --also decided to join the strike. The demands put forward by the Joint Committee of Plantation Trade Unions in connection with this strike were: (1) Extension of all budgetary wage increases to Plantation workers -- (a) Rs. 70 wage increase to all plantation workers and estate staff; (b) Rs. 45/- wage increase announced in the budget for 1982; (c) Wage increase on the basis of Rs.2/- for every point increase in the cost of living index already granted to Government employees (2); Monthly wage for plantation workers; (3) Equal wages for men and women; (4) Reinstatement of all 1980 July strikers.

The Ceylon Estate Staffs Union and the Ceylon Plantation Services Union had taken a decision to engage in a General Strike from 11th May onwards in furtherance of their own demands and their strike was to continue after the 12th of May. This gave an added strength to the Token Strike and helped to create an united front of Estate staff and plantation workers in the context of this struggle. It is also noteworthy that the Ceylon Mercantile Union cilled out its membership at Janawasama offices throughout the country in a sympathy strike on the 11th and 12th of May. Its membership in the Sri Lanka State Plantation Corporation officers also joined in the Token strike in sympathy on the 12th of May (except in Norwood due to a delay in communication through the post).

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The token strike proved to be a historic one and demonstrated the emergence of a deeper unity among plantation workers and also between plantation workers and estate staff than ever experienced before. The objective situation of oppression and exploitation in the plantation areas obviously provoked this massive response to the strike by both workers and staff. Despite the fact that the major Trade Union membership of the plantation workers is claimed by two government-controlled trade unions, it is noteworthy and of deep political significance that thousands of such workers chose to ignore the orders received from Colombo and joined in this common struggle with their brothers and sisters in the plantations. It is estimated that in areas such as Kandy, Dickoya—Dimbulla, Uva, Kalutara and Galle, the response to the strike from plantation workers and staff was about 80%. Such a response was forthcoming despite postal delays in the receipt of notices from Colombo in the case of some Trade Unions. Furthermore there was an intensive propaganda effort by the Ceylon Workers Congress in the days preceding the Token Strike in order to dissuade workers from going on strike. This effort largely failed due to the consciousness of Ceylon Workers Congress workers on many estates who rejected the appeal of their union and joined in the strike in their thousands. The Ceylon Workers Congress officials pleaded that more time be given for concluding negotiations with the Government in regard to wage issues etc. and spoke of a Committee which has been formed and would be meeting on the 12th of May. Nothing further has been heard about the deliberations of this Committee. One lesson is clear from this struggle—that many plantation workers are not prepared to believe in false promises any longer and will not passively continue to suffer exploitation. The state-controlled Radio and Press tried their best to cover up the reality of this strike and sought to mislead the striking workers and the general public. However, Police reports from various plantation areas gave a different picture and the Trade Union offices in the districts and in Colombo have received factual information in regard to the success of the strike. It is obvious that with more preparation and better organisation a greater response among plantation workers would undoubtedly have been forthcoming. The Wesak holidays intervening just prior to the strike resulted in many postal delays and a certain failure in communication between trade Union officers workers and staff.

The last demand of the strikers—the reinstatement of the 1980 strikers—is indicative of deepening workers solidarity among the working class in Sri Lanka. Despite recent attempts by the ruling class to divide the masses on the basis of race this strike is a promising sign of support for workers, outside the estate sector who suffered in the July 1980 General strike. It is indeed a splendid example to the working class of Sri Lanka to reject racist politics and forge a deeper unity overcoming cultural and racial differences.

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The response of the Government to this Token strike is awaited and it would do well not to ignore the demands of strikers and staff in the plantation sector. The patience of workers and staff on the plantations will surely run out before long unless genuine response is made by the Government in regard to these demands.

Jeffery Abayasekera

Hatton,
May 20, 1982.

x x x

Joint Committee Statements

The Hatton Joint Committee of Trade Unions and Voluntary Organisations salutes the lakhs of workers and staff in the plantation areas who heeded the call of the Joint Committee of plantations Trade Unions and engaged in a Token Strike on the 11th and 12th of May. This strike is clear evidence that the plantation sector workers and staff are not ready to passively suffer exploitation any longer. If the Government is sensitive to the reality of this Token Strike and at least pays heed to the reports received from Police stations in the plantation areas, it would do well to respond seriously to the demands put forward by the strikers. In this connection we deplore the part played by the state-controlled Radio and Press in trying to cover up the reality of this Strike and seeking to mislead the striking workers and the general public. Since we live close to these significant events we claim in all honesty that in areas such as Kandy, Dickoya, Dimbulla, Sabaragamuwa and Uva the Strike, brought forth a heroic 80%—90% response from plantation workers and staff. Despite the fact that the major Trade Union membership of the plantation workers is claimed by two Government-controlled Trade Unions, it is noteworthy and of deep political significance that thousands of such workers chose to ignore the orders received from Colombo and joined in this common struggle with their brothers and sisters in the plantations. With more preparation and better organisation we feel sure that a greater response would undoubtedly have been forthcoming. We also note with admiration the consciousness of workers who rejected the intensive propaganda effort of the Ceylon Workers Congress just prior to the Token Strike.

We urge the Government not to delay any further in granting these just demands. Step-motherly treatment to the workers and staff in this crucial sector of our economy can only be counter productive at a time of economic crisis, and would result in the betrayal of all the hopes and promises held out to these workers by the Government.

Besides all right thinking people in the country are shocked that the wage increase granted in the last budget has been denied only to the workers in the plantations. Such an act of discrimination is unworthy of a Government which claims to be a righteous one.

Sgd: A. Ramiah, Ceylon Plantation Workers Red Flag Union; P. V. Kandiah, National Union of Workers; M. S. Narayanan, United Plantation Workers Union; M. Karuppaiah, Democratic Workers Congress; R. M. Kandiah, Ceylon Estate Staff Union; B. W. Wijesekera, New Red Flag Plantation Workers Union; S. Govindrajan, Ilankai Thothilalar Kazhakan; R. Arumugam, Lanka Estate Workers Union; A. K. Arumugasamy, Estate Services Union; J. Abeyasekera, Christian Workers Fellowship; S. T. Thiyagarajah, Hatton Social Action Centre; Rev. Fr. Paul Caspersz Co-ordinating Secretariat for Plantation areas; V. L. Perera, Hill Country Youth Assembly; R. R. Sivalingam; Hill Country Youth Front; Rev. Fr. D. M. Xavier, Bogowantalawa Social Action Group; P. A. Simon Socio-Economic Training Institute Kandy-Hatton Branch.

Hatton,
May 14, 1982.

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May 23-29

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, MAY 23: The University Grants Commission has warned the Vice-Chancellors and directors of the eight universities that according to the Criminal Investigations Department certain elements of the New Left were fanning unrest among the student body—*SO*. The Ministry of Defence is to review immediately the existing Police intelligence services in the country; this is being done following a series of questions raised regarding the activities and effectiveness of this vital arm of law enforcement—*WK*.

MONDAY, MAY 24: The European Economic Community has conceded Sri Lanka a better garments export quota under the third Multi-Fibre Agreement in an agreement initialled in Brussels last week; "We have got better figures than we had earlier despite each MFA being more restrictive than the previous one," Mr. Vincent Panditha Secretary to the Ministry of Textile Industries said yesterday. IGP Rudra Rajasingham will today meet CID and other police brass about seeking the extradition of Prabhakaran and other terrorists arrested in Madras last Wednesday—*CDN*. A group of Tamil lawyers in Jaffna have decided to submit a petition to the Indian Defence Minister requesting him not to hand over Prabhakaran to Sri Lankan authorities; they state in their petition that if Velupillai Prabhakaran alias Prabha and Siva Kumar alias Ragavan, the two noted suspected criminals in the North are handed over to Sri Lanka they are likely to face various harassment—*CDM*. Government's new scheme to increase the value of the Food Stamps and the number of recipients has been shelved; it was to have become effective from April this year but following the unexpected draw off from the Government budget for the distribution of additional Food Stamps to the drought-stricken families it has been stalled. A forty percent increase has been recorded in the provision of rural credit by the banking sector last year under the Comprehensive Rural Credit Scheme and other schemes—*SU*. The Tamil United Liberation Front will observe a ten-hour fast on June 1 at the

premises of the Jaffna public library; the fast, which will commence at 7 a.m. and continue till 5 p.m. the same day is to be observed as a mark of protest against the burning down of the Jaffna Public Library on June 1 last year—*IS*. Out of the 65 Tamil youth detained by the security forces 40 are being considered for release; Government sources however have rejected this proposal on the ground that the reasons set out by the security forces are not satisfactory; at the same time Deputy Minister of Defence T. B. Werapitiya has submitted a report to the President about the youth who have been detained—*DP*. The Chairman, Tourist Board, Mr. H. P. Siriwardene, has instructed all officers in charge of Tourist Hotels and Guest Houses to charge a reasonable and moderate price from holiday-makers—*LD*.

TUESDAY, MAY 25: The ex-MP for Hewaheta Mr. Anura Daniel who was caught importing goods contrary to Custom's regulations and Mr. Mahindasiri Urumalagala who aided him were yesterday fined rupees twenty lakhs each by the Principal Collector of Customs Mr. H. B. Dissanayake—*CDM*. Sri Lanka will make a formal request to India this week for permission to question terrorist leader Velupillai Prabhakaran and his aide Siva Kumaran in regard to a number of serious offences committed here; police chief Rudra Rajasingham leaves today for New Delhi accompanied by four officers of the CID to place personally before authorities there the reasons why this is necessary—*SU*. With the completion of the Swarnabhumi land grants, not a single category of farmers would be known as colonists; this is because they become real owners of their lands said Mr. Gamini Dissanayake, Minister of Lands, Land Development and Mahaweli Development at a mass rally in Mahiyangana on Sunday. The Armed Services in Sri Lanka are in vigil with the hope that Uma Maheswaran the most wanted leader of the terrorist gang may find his way back to Sri Lanka after the gang clash at Pondy Bazaar, Madras. It is made known that in the clash that occurred at Pondy Bazaar, Madras, between Uma Maheswaran's gang and Parabakaran's gang, Uma Maheswaran and his companions Kannan alias Sotheeswaran and Mugunthan were injured—*IS*. The Madras Police have arrested a Sri Lankan citizen of Tamil origin suspected of belonging to the banned "Liberation Tiger" movement after he allegedly fired two rounds from an unlicensed gun to scare away people in Saidapet in South Madras—*CO*. Eighteen female and 32 male students of the Jaffna University have started a three-day fast demanding the release of the University student Appulingam Vimalarajah or that he be produced before a Court of Justice or that he should be permitted to continue his studies—*EN*. Although the SLBC and the Newspapers had announced that Birth Certificates were not needed to obtain passports, many have reported that when they went to the Immigration Department to get their passports the officers had asked for the birth certificates. The

Department seems unaware of this new announcement, it is said.—*ATH*.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26: Homes consuming over 200 units of electricity are getting power bills that have been going up and up since the beginning of this year; the Ceylon Electricity Board confirmed yesterday that a 283 percent fuel adjustment charge has been added on to the April bills of the bigger consumers. Social Services Minister Asoka Karunaratne decided to pay the full sum of Rs. 10,000 as approved by the Cabinet to each of the 701 blind weavers who had opted for this amount in lieu of the income they used to earn when the social service authorities used to purchase their products at a subsidised rate—*CDN*. A joint Indo-Sri Lankan investigative committee is to be set up today in India in a concerted bid to smash the terrorist movement operating in the north of this country. The Minister of Labour, Captain C. P. J. Seneviratne has sought the approval of the Government to increase the rate of interest charged on loans from the Employees' Provident Fund from 6 percent to 12 percent per annum—*CDM*. Sri Lanka's Number one terrorist, Kadirgamar Uma Maheswaran, leader of Liberation Tigers, fell into the hands of the Tamilnadu police in Madras yesterday; the 35-year-old one-time surveyor who was under close surveillance by Indian detectives was nabbed when he tried to escape to the port town of Pondicherry; he had opened fire at the detectives but was overpowered by them; in the ensuing gun duel two persons received gunshot injuries one of them being injured seriously. The National Housing Development Authority's high rise flats at Station Road, Bambalapitiya now being constructed will, be sold for Rs. 100 million to a Malaysian entrepreneur—*SU*. The General Election will be held in 1983; accordingly, Parliament will be dissolved in June next year; President J. R. Jayewardene said this when he addressed a public meeting at Grandpass yesterday—*IS*. The responsibility of either cancelling the competition held on the 15th of this month for the purpose of appointing teachers to Estate schools or to hold a fresh examination for those who could not attend the competition has been placed on the Minister of Education by the President—*VK*. 12,800 bundles of dried fish have arrived at the Colombo Harbour from Pakistan. The Ministry of Food and Cooperatives has decided to sell 37,000 tons of sugar which are stocked in the Government stores at a low price; according to plans a kilo will be sold at Rs. 10/50—*LD*.

THURSDAY, MAY 27: On the recommendation of Mr. Gamini Dissanayake Minister of Lands, Land Development and Mahaweli Development, Cabinet approved a proposal to implement the Nelu Oya diversification scheme at a cost of Rs. 12.5 million. Cabinet also authorised the Minister to undertake feasibility studies in association with the Ministries of Finance and Planning and Agricultural Development and

Research and to prepare investment programs from 1982—1986 for other irrigation projects out sidethe Mahaweli scheme major and minor. Deputy Defence Minister T. B. Werapitiya yesterday cabled IGP Rudra Rajasingham in New Delhi to advise him that the Madras policemen responsible for the arrests of the most wanted terrorists, Uma Maheswaran and Parabakaran, will be entitled to attractive rewards; Uma Maheswaran's arrest in Madras on Tuesday came close on the heels of Prabakaran's arrest in a Madras bazaar the previous Wednesday. Sri Lankan Trade & Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmudali has called for increased joint ventures between firms of his country and South Korea, Korean officials said today—*CDN*. Mr. Anura Daniel ex-MP for Hewaheta and Mr. M. Udumalagala were allowed cash bail in Rs. 10,000 each by Mr. Sarath Goonathileka Joint Magistrate of Colombo—*CDM*. Police Chief Rudra Rajasingham today had a round of talks with high ranking Indian officials at the Intelligence Bureau in the Union Home Ministry in New Delhi; accompanied by officials of the Sri Lankan High Commission and a team of CID detectives, he is learnt to have briefed them on criminal activity by terrorists, particularly by the proscribed Liberation Tigers. The committee appointed by President J. R. Jayewardene to inquire into and report on the payment of compensation in respect of any property damaged as a result of the incidents which took place in Jaffna in May/June 1981 has submitted its report to the President; in its report, the committee recommended the payment of a total of Rs. 22,627,986.30 as compensation for the damages. A 15-year term of rigorous imprisonment awaits Uma Maheswaran the leader of Liberation Tigers who fell into Police hands on Tuesday. Opposition Leader A. Amirthalingam's bodyguard, a CID Inspector, was manhandled by Jaffna university students yesterday; his revolver and identity card were snatched and he was forced out of the campus, reports said. Seven youths armed with guns and swords were arrested by the Point Pedro Police on Tuesday night. The establishment of treatment and rehabilitation centres for alcoholics and drug dependents was approved in principle by the Cabinet yesterday—*SU*. The Committee appointed by President Jayewardene to report on compensation in respect of property damaged during the incidents which took place in Jaffna in May and June last year has recommended that a total of Rs. 22.62 million be paid—*IS*. Preliminary discussions between the SLFP and some Marxist parties to enter into a no-contest pact against the UNP have been futile—*CO*. Kadirgamar Uma Maheswaran who was arrested at the Kumudupoondi Railway station in Tamilnadu yesterday was produced before a court of justice in Madras; the Court made order remanding him for fifteen days—*DP*. Yesterday 36 ships with rice, flour and sugar arrived at the Colombo Harbour, four ships contained 19,300 tons of sugar and two ships contained 11,000 tons of flour—*DV*.

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FRIDAY, MAY 28: Two bullet-riddled bodies were found dumped in a paddyfield at Alaveddy between Kankesanturai and Chunnakam early on Thursday morning in what police believe to be a backlash to the arrests in Madras of Uma Maheswaran and Prabakaran; investigators believe that both dead men, identified as Uriyakumar (29), a cultivation officer and Umakumar (29) a cultivator belonged to a group with connections unacceptable to their killers. Police investigating the attack on the body guard of Opposition Leader A. Amirthalingam at the Jaffna Campus on Wednesday believe that a new left group in the University was responsible; "if there was terrorist involvement, the policeman's revolver would never have been returned", police sources said yesterday—*CDN*. Witnesses summoned to Magistrates Courts in Colombo for bribery cases will be paid batta—*CDM*. Traffic tribunals will soon be set up to hear cases involving traffic offences: this was decided at a conference presided over by President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday. Interest on foreign loans obtained by both the state and private sectors will not be exempt from income tax in future. All loans will be subject to a tax interest of 15 percent Government has decided—*SU*. The 3-day fasting of the 62 men and women undergraduates of the Jaffna University ended when the mother of Vimalarajah for whose release they were demanding, gave them a drink of fruit juice—*IS*. The Rt. Rev. Leo Nanayakkara Bishop of Badulla died this morning at the Kandy Hospital. He was 65—*CO*. The Co-operative Development Department is making plans to close down 1800 CWE sales outlets very shortly as these outlets are running at a loss—*DI*. The 2nd MP for Nuwara Eliya Mr. Anura Bandaranaike left for America, United States and Canada yesterday on a holiday—*ATH*

SATURDAY, MAY 29: Mr. Rudra Rajasingham, Sri Lanka's IGP today said he was hopeful that the Indian government would allow extradition of the activists of the banned "Liberation Tiger Movement" recently arrested in Madras—*CDN*. The arrest of five alleged Sri Lankan terrorists in India has put the Tamil United Liberation Front in a quandary; while members of the newly formed Tamil Eelam Liberation Front have publicly proclaimed their support for the captured youths in India and have urged the Indian authorities not to send them back to Sri Lanka, the TULF has remained conspicuously silent on the issue—*IS*. "Operation Tiger"—an all-out offensive to apprehend members of the two Sri Lankan terrorist groups at war in Madras—has been launched by the Tamilnadu Police; this has been undertaken as Police believe that the conflict between the two rival groups could lead to further bloodshed and endanger the public. The energy unit of the Ceylon Electricity Board has launched a programme to set up solar energyrun television sets in the rural areas which do not have electricity, the Ministry of Power and Energy announced yesterday—*SU*.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

May 23 - 29

ASIA

INDIA: Prime Minister Indira Gandhi will visit the USA and USSR at the invitation of the respective heads of States. Mrs. Indira Gandhi's faction formed a new Government in the Kerala State. Indian Opposition parties criticised Indira Gandhi for changing the election results in Himchal and Haryana States in her favour but Indira Gandhi denied that her Congress had become weak. Marxists were back in power in West Bengal State for the second successive term, a unique achievement in Indian history. The Indian State of Madras was a scene of police action against the "terrorists" from neighbouring Jaffna (Sri Lanka). The Indian police have arrested the ring leaders of the movement hiding in Madras State when they staged a dramatic open gun duel in Madras City. **PAKISTAN:** PLO Leader Arafat was in Islamabad urging Zia to bring peace in the Middle East. **PHILIPPINES:** A three-day Asian Regional Conference against South African apartheid policy commenced its deliberations in Manila. Philippine's Foreign Secretary called for a comprehensive global sanctions against Pretoria to compel her reconsider her segregationist racial policy. At the end of the third day the conference condemned Taiwan and Israel for their military, economic and nuclear collaboration with South Africa. 12 opposition parties have called for the resignation of President Marcos if he wanted to avoid a violent revolution. **JAPAN:** While the anti-war demonstrations held a massive rally in Tokyo Japanese forces were exercising a drill to repel mock invasions of their country. Political observers view this as an attempt to show US that Japan was ready to meet any invasion from Soviet side. **CHINA:** A Chinese trade delegation visited Moscow this week. Observers believe that this may be an attempt to improve Sino-Soviet relations gradually. China said that it would not allow itself to be blackmailed by the US in her military transactions with Taiwan. The modernisation of Chinese military arsenal does not necessarily lead to the acceptance of US arms sale to Taiwan. **IRAN:** Iranians managed to capture the vital and strategic Iraqi occupied city of Khorromshar. Overjoyed by the recent victories Iranians have called for the overthrow of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein as the price for ending the war between the two countries. **IRAQ:** Iraq conceded that it has lost the valuable strategic port town of Khorramshar. Iraq and her supporters fear that a decisive Iranian victory may upset the balance of power in the Gulf area and also would be a source of irritation to the respective regimes in their home-fronts. **ISRAEL:** Israel has warned that it would react with force if the Palestinians continued with

their sporadic attacks on Israel. **SYRIA**: Syrian government played host to a Soviet Deputy Premier and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The opportunity was taken by Syria to attack US attempts to involve her self in the Middle East problems and flood the area with US bases. Syrians too felt jubilant over the recent victories achieved by Iran over Iraq.

EUROPE

UNITED KINGDOM: As the British Naval forces began to establish a beach-head in the Eastern Falklands, Argentina's Air Force mounted a massive attack on them. A spokesman for Premier Thatcher said that Britain was not bent on humiliating the Argentines, all what they wanted was a surrender of Argentine Forces in the Falklands. British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym said that Britain may hold Falklands for another year once it was repossessed. Prime Minister Thatcher has told the Pope that Britain would be willing for a ceasefire only if the Argentine forces left the Falklands. The decision of Pope John Paul to visit Britain brought joy and happiness to the Catholics. Britain had decided to impose severe penalties on all "marriages of convenience". A high Court judge warned that these couples could be charged for perjury, conspiracy or some offence. Britain suffered its worst setback when it lost its destroyer Coventry and the container ship Atlantic Conveyor. Pope John Paul arrived in London for a six-day pastoral visit. The estimated cost of the Falklands war to Britain was 1.8 billion sterling. For Britain this was within the manageable limit. Pope John Paul participated in an ecumenical service with the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Canterbury Cathedral. Pope announced the plans for a new International Conference to iron out the remaining doctrinal differences between the Catholic and Anglican faiths. **ITALY**: Italy opted to stay out of the EEC's economic sanction against Argentina. Though this was a blow to the EEC yet it was justified by the fact that there are nearly 12 million citizens of Italian extraction in Argentina and nearly 1.3 million Italians in Argentina who can vote to elect Parliamentarians in Italy. Though Italy refused to join the rest of the EEC members against the continuation of economic sanction, Italian Premier Spadolini made it clear that Argentinian troops should leave Falklands.

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA: *The Star*, a Johannesburg newspaper, said that South Africa was supplying Argentina with weapons, including Israeli-made ships missiles. **ALGERIA**: The Arab-Steadfastness Front consisting of Libya, Algeria, PLO, and South Yemen declared that Iran was a true friend of the Arabs and condemned the Arab States which took sides with Iraq. They also expressed fear that Egypt may

try to enter the Arab fold through the backdoor by supporting Iraq. **EGYPT**: Egypt has sent military supplies to Iraq. In the meantime Damascus has become the focal point to approach Iran.

AMERICA

UNITED STATES: US Deputy Secretary of Energy told reporters in Paris that his country was still distressed over West European national gas deal with the Soviets. He said that recent discovery of natural gas in the North Sea region could head off the requirement of Soviet gas. US Secretary of State had sent a message to Britain urging them not to humiliate Argentine forces in the Falklands. US and Morocco signed a six year pact which allowed US to make use of Moroccan air bases during emergencies. President Reagan said that his decision to support Britain over the Falkland issue was painful and difficult in the face of Latin American natural sympathies for Argentina. **ARGENTINA**: The announcement that the Pope has decided to visit Protestant Britain while Argentines were at war had caused disappointment but the church officials said it was a part of the pastoral visit. In the meantime, Vatican's Foreign Secretary, Archbishop Achilles Silverstrini, left for Argentina with a message from the Pope that he will visit that country very soon. During the 172nd anniversary of the Argentine Army, President Galtieri said that foreign troops may join the fight against Britain but his country had no weapons for them to fight. **UNITED NATIONS**: At the early part of the week UN Security Council could not arrive at a resolution over the Falkland issue. Britain told the Security Council that it will not agree to any unconditional ceasefire. UN Security Council had thrown back the Falkland issue into the lap of its Secretary General and had requested him to inform the result in seven days. The members of the Organisation of American States, excepting US and three others, called on the Reagan Administration to stop giving aid to Britain in the Falkland dispute and lift the economic sanctions. But the tone of the appeal cannot be said to be effective enough on US. **PERU**: Peruvian President Delaunde said that the UN Secretary General could still bring about a settlement between Britain and Argentina. This may take months but a solution could be found. Peru would not break diplomatic relations with London; it was essential to keep the communication line open in order to reach both London and Buenos Aires

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THE FOREIGN SCENE

SECRETARY HAIG'S

Middle East Initiatives

By Russel E. Dybik

Washington, May 26: SECRETARY OF STATE Haig says the United States is preparing new diplomatic initiatives aimed at resolving three pressing problems in the Middle East—the Iraq-Iran war, the negotiations on Palestinian autonomy and the continuing crisis in Lebanon. In remarks prepared for delivery May 26 to the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations Haig described the Middle East as a severe testing ground for constructive diplomacy. "We must shape events in the Middle East if we are to continue to hope for a more peaceful international order: one characterized by peoples living in peace and the resolution of conflicts without resort to force," Haig said. The Secretary said the United States will always be proud of its crucial role breaking the "cycle of war and hatred" through the conclusion of the Camp David accords. However, he said, the challenges to American policy have multiplied far beyond the necessity to prevent another Arab-Israeli war. Among the factors he cited were: (a) the Soviet Union and its allies have increased their influence, particularly along the sea lanes and vital approaches to the region, with a resultant undermining of regional security; (b) Iran has been convulsed by revolution and turned away from the role of a close American ally and force for stability in the Persian Gulf; and (c) Lebanon has been shattered by civil conflict and the intervention of outside forces, creating a new source of continuous tension.

"These developments required an American approach to the problems of the Middle East that not only continued to press the peace process forward but also enlarged the security dimension of our relations with the states of the area," Haig said. "The United States working with its local friends despite their sometimes conflicting concerns, can be a responsive partner in the achievements of Greater security for all." Haig said the time has come for the United States to take action on three issues: the Iraq-Iran war, the negotiations on Palestinian autonomy and the crisis in Lebanon. "Each of these issues is characterized by a mixture of danger and opportunity. Moreover, they have begun already to affect each other. If we are to succeed in advancing our

goals throughout the region, then we must coordinate our approaches to all of them." He said the 20-month Iran-Iraq war "has brought the region into great danger with ominous implications for western interests."

"There is a great risk that the conflict may spill over into neighbouring states and it has already aggravated inter-Arab relations" Haig said. "It may lead to unforeseen and far-reaching changes in the regional balance of power, offering the Soviet Union an opportunity to enlarge its influence in the process". Haig said that from the outset of that conflict the United States has maintained a policy of neutrality. However, that does not mean the United States is indifferent to the outcome, he said. He pledged a more active US role with other concerned governments in the coming weeks "as efforts are intensified to end this tragic war". He did not elaborate. Haig described the negotiations on Palestinian autonomy as "only one stage of the process: it is opportunity, not a conclusion," he said: ample opportunity is provided in every phase of the five-year transitional period for participation of Jordan and the Palestinian Arabs in addition to "the present partners in the peace process"—Israel, Egypt and the United States. "These arrangements are to reflect both the principle by self-government by the inhabitants and the legitimate security concerns of all the parties involved" Haig said. Emphasising that autonomy is transitional and "not the final word," Haig said, "we must establish a self-governing authority that will enable Israelis and Palestinians to work together" in the occupied territories. He warned against unilateral actions that serve to raise suspicions and aggravate relationships. "Refusal to participate in the talks by those most affected by the conflict risks the loss of the best chance for the achievement of a lasting peace," Haig said. "Autonomy is the vital first step in the historic opportunity to change this situation and to begin the painful but necessary process of resolving the Palestinian problem. A settlement cannot be imposed", he said, "but peace can be negotiated". He pledged the United States delegation led by Ambassador Richard Fairbanks will continue to work closely with Egypt and Israel "as we intensify our effort to achieve success."

Failure to negotiate an early autonomy agreement, he said, would "squander the best chance to act in the best interests of all parties. Inevitably, such a failure will invite more dangerous alternatives. Haig described Lebanon as a "focal point of danger... that might be ignited into a war with far-reaching consequences" with the very existence of Lebanon and the stability of the region at stake. Over the past six "grim" years, Haig said, many of Lebanon's striking achievements have been lost to continued, internecine warfare and foreign intervention. Even the Lebanese-Israeli border, once the most peaceful point of Arab-Israeli contact, has been turned into a battle ground

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between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, he said. "The world cannot stand aside, watching in morbid fascination, as this small nation with its creative and cultured people slices further into the abyss of violence and chaos," Haig declared.

"The time has come to take concerted action in support of both Lebanon's territorial integrity....and a strong central government capable of promoting a free, open, democratic and traditionally pluralistic society." Haig said President Reagan has directed Ambassador Philip Habib, who helped engineer the cessation of hostilities along the Lebanese-Israeli border last July, to return to the Middle East "soon to discuss our ideas for such action with the cooperation of concerned states." - USICA/VOA



GRENADA

A Three-Year Old Revolution

Grenada, the progressive Caribbean island state, celebrated the third anniversary of the popular revolution which freed the country from oppression in March. The present People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada, led by Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, has its roots in Bishop's New Jewel Movement (NJM) which had long opposed the despotic rule of Eric Gairy. For years Gairy had ruled the island with a haphazard ruthlessness—this inconsistency was to be his downfall. On the evening of 12 March 1979, Maurice Bishop and others arrived at the Grand Anse estate near the capital, a place now revered by Grenadian revolutionaries. There were about fifty young men, all members of the NJM, assembled for the planned seizure of power. The men were brought together by Hudson Austing, the present commander of the People's Revolutionary Army. In a swift, well-executed and bloodless operation, the small group, armed with ten rifles, two shotguns, a few revolvers and assorted home-made bombs, took over the Gairy regime's armoury and military headquarters. None of Gairy's frightened troops bothered defending their patron, preferring to flee or surrender themselves. The NJM fighters had broken open the armoury, where FN rifles sent from the Chilean junta were found, and quickly seized the reins of power.

It is hard not to look at the Grenadian revolution without a sense of wonder. It is almost like a fairy-tale revolution, additionally pleasing because it was achieved effectively without much violence. Since then, the tiny island, a former British colony, has faced up to the crudest American threats of invasion and a very real covert US economic destabilisation campaign with defiant courage. Since the revolution,

the People's Revolutionary Government besides having to cope with the ever-present external threat, has had to tackle the difficult task of repairing the economy which Gairy and his henchmen had mismanaged for so many years. The result of this mismanagement was that while, for example, tourism was clearly a major potential source of revenue, no real efforts had been made to develop the airport and hotels essential for the industry. Now the airport is under construction, it is the construction achievement of the revolution to which Grenadians point with the greatest pride, and not without reason. For the airport, which is being constructed with Cuban assistance, is the island state's passport to prosperity and independence. It will make an expansion of the tourist industry a realistic proposition, as well as improve communications with the outside world. The airport is also proving to be a useful source of work in a country where under-employment is a real problem.

Indeed the economic awareness and realism with which the Grenadian government is facing the future, bodes very well for the country's development plans. 1982 has been declared the year of economic construction, just as the previous year had had the different, but equally important theme of agro-industrial development. Like most developing countries, especially those which face persistent US efforts to block international development credits and loans, Grenada is feeling the effects of the world recession. But the government points with pride and confidence to the fact that in the year just past, the economy still managed to grow by two percent. Improved productivity, the objective of the revolutionary "emulation" programme is sure to raise the country's living standards and accelerate economic growth in 1982. Grenada has received aid and support from various countries and the government has praised its Arab supporters, including the Libyan Jamahiriya, for the assistance they have provided. Libya's attendance at last year's conference of solidarity with the Grenadian people was proof of the Libyan Jamahiriya's friendship towards the Grenadian revolution.

But the People's Revolutionary Government still has to face the ever-present American threat. Last year the US held provocative military exercises in the Caribbean, during which a US Marine assault on a small island appeared to observers to be a straightforward dress rehearsal for an invasion of Grenada. The "target island" called "Amber and the Amerdines" was named after a district in Grenada; confirming Grenadian fears. Grenada celebrated its third revolutionary anniversary with special enthusiasm, since the Reagan administration has been free with its opinion that the Bishop government would not survive to celebrate this anniversary. The Grenadian revolution has survived and has confounded its critics by showing itself to be a truly resilient revolution, which will surely be celebrating many, many more anniversaries—IPA.

TRIBUNE, JUNE 12, 1982

Reduced Birth Rate

By Gerd Rauhaus

The Bundeswehr is running out of soldiers; and by the end of this decade it will have an annual shortfall of 80,000 recruits. A still unpublished study concludes that the reduced birth rate because of the Pill could prevent Germany from meeting its commitments to NATO partners. The military planning staff is already looking to its reservoirs; volunteers, women and foreigners. But the study considers it more than doubtful that this will be enough. A year ago, Defence Minister Hans Apel said that the Bundeswehr would face enormous personnel problems. Erwin Horn (SPD), deputy chairman of the Bundestag Defence Committee, says that the Tornado aircraft financing and the shortage of money for fuel are minor problems compared with what is still to face us in the future. A study by the Study Group Alternative Security Police (SAS) consisting of politicians, sociologists and young officers and working in close cooperation with Generals Uhlewetler and Loser, concludes that due to population developments even an extension of the compulsory service from 15 to 18 months will not be enough to fill the gap. The recent increase in births will "have no effect on the draft in our century".

While only 15 years ago there were one million births in this country, by 1978 this figure has almost halved. High ranking Bundeswehr officers are now pressing for a remedy. Bundeswehr Inspector General Jurgen Brandt has therefore urged parliament to extend military service from 15 to 18 months and to include women and naturalised foreigners before the end of this legislative period. But neither government nor opposition are particularly eager to adopt the proposal due to the growing peace movement. The fact is that, to offset the anticipated shortfall in the 1990s, national service would have to be extended by at least nine months and probably even more, says mathematician and sociologist Bernd Grass who was responsible for the demographic analysis of the Study Group. Grass supports this contention with irrefutable figures: only 241,000 boys were born in 1975. Yet the Bundeswehr needs an annual 225,000 draftees if it is to maintain its NATO standards; and, assuming an average service period of seven to eight years, it also needs 35,000 new career soldiers. But experience shows that, after allowing for those found physically or for other reasons unfit for military service, only 75 percent can be drafted.

The shortfall becomes even greater when considering that of those who are fit for military service, 15,000 join the police or the border guards and another 10,000 to 20,000 do voluntary service with the

Red Cross, civil defence fire brigades etc., and are unavailable to the Bundeswehr. By adding 30,000 conscientious objectors, the SAS study arrives at a shortfall at the beginning of the next decade of 110,000 to 120,000 soldiers rather than the 80,000 assumed by Defence Ministry planners. Data provided by the Sociological Institute of the Bundeswehr indicate that only 5,000 to 10,000 women of the right age would be interested in military service. The potential of foreigners is estimated at a maximum of 25,000. Even youth unemployment provides little hope because the low birth rate years that will be joining the labour force in the late 1980s will be needed by the business community; and older jobless can in any event not be counted on in peacetime. All this means that the Bundeswehr will have to prepare itself to compete with industry. Already, the armed forces are short of thousands of skilled technicians, and industry happens to be offering better pay than the State.

German Tribune, 18.4.82.

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DISARMAMENT

Socialist View-2

This is the concluding part of a statement made by Jan Strucka of the Czechoslovakian delegation on behalf of all socialist countries to the Disarmament Committee.—Ed.

The CPD must undoubtedly envisage measures in the field of arms limitation and disarmament the implementation of which would lead towards the ultimate goal—general and complete disarmament. Those measures would contain the following:

1. NUCLEAR WEAPONS: (a) The renunciation of the first-use of nuclear weapons by nuclear States; (b) the cessation of the production of all types of nuclear weapons and the gradual reduction of stock-piles of such weapons up to and including their complete elimination, and the immediate initiation, to that end, of appropriate negotiations with the participation of all nuclear-weapon States. As it follows from earlier proposals advanced by the socialist countries, the cessation of the production of nuclear weapons must include the cessation of the production of means of their delivery and fissionable materials for weapons purposes: as a first step possible stages of nuclear disarmament with their approximate contents could be discussed, especially the content of the first stage, the measures of this stage must comprise the cessation of the development and production of new types of nuclear weapons and new systems of such weapons, at the same time measures must be adopted to strengthen the political and international legal guarantees of the security of States; (c)

the further qualitative and quantitative limitation and reduction of strategic armaments; (d) the conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests; (a) the conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the production, stockpiling, deployment and the use of nuclear neutron weapons; (f) the adoption of further measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and, to that end, the achievement of the universal accession of States to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons with the development of international cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy; (g) the conclusion of a convention on strengthening guarantees of the security of non-nuclear-weapon State, and, as a first step, identical in substance declaration of nuclear powers on the renunciation of the use of nuclear weapons against those states that have renounced the production and acquisition of nuclear weapons and do not have them on their territories with the approval of such declarations by the UN Security Council; (h) the conclusion of an agreement on the non-emplacment of nuclear weapons in the territory of States in which none are now located: the renunciation by States having nuclear weapons, of the further steps aimed at the emplacment of nuclear weapons in the territories of other states; (i) the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world.

2. CHEMICAL AND OTHER TYPES OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION :

(a) The renunciation of the production and deployment of binary and other new types of chemical weapons as well as the emplacment of chemical weapons in those countries in which none are now located; (b) the conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stock-piling of chemical weapons and the destruction of their stockpiles; (c) the conclusion of a comprehensive agreement prohibiting the development and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons as well as agreements on the prohibition of specific new types or systems of such weapons. As a first step towards the conclusion of the comprehensive agreement, as has already been proposed by the socialist countries, the permanent members of the UN Security Council and other militarily significant States should make identical in substance declaration on the renunciation of the production of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons with the approval of such declarations by the decision of the Security Council; (d) the conclusion of a treaty on the prohibition of radiological weapons.

3. PREVENTION OF PROLIFERATION OF THE ARMS RACE ON NEW SPACES EXPLORED BY MAN :

(a) The conclusion of a treaty on the prohibition of the stationing of weapons of any kind in outer space; (b) further measures for the prevention of transforming the other space into sphere

of military confrontation; (c) further measures to prevent an arms race on the sea-bed and the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof; (d) further measures on the inadmissibility of military or other hostile use of environmental modification techniques.

4. ARMED FORCES AND CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS :

(a) The renunciation of the expansion of armed forces and conventional weapons by the permanent members of the UN Security Council and by the countries associated with them under military agreements as a first step towards the subsequent reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons; (b) the reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons; (c) the limitation of the sale and supply of conventional weapons; (d) further measures on the limitation or the prohibition of use of certain kinds of conventional weapons which may be deemed excessively injurious or having indiscriminate effects.

5. REGIONAL MEASURES :

(a) Further extension of the confidence-building measures in the military sphere contained in the CSCE Final Act and the achievement of agreement on new confidence-building measures and disarmament. To these ends the convening of a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe; (b) the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe as well as in other regions of the world on a regional basis; (c) the renunciation of the expansion of the existing military and political groupings and of the creation of new ones; (d) the ending of the division of Europe into military and political alliances and, as a first step, the elimination of the military organisations of the two groupings, starting with a mutual reduction of military activity; (e) the conclusion, among all States participating in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, of a treaty on the non-first use of both nuclear and conventional weapons; (f) the limitation and reduction of military presence and military activity in the relevant regions—in the Atlantic Ocean, in the Pacific in the Mediterranean sea, in the region of the Persian Gulf, (g) the transformation of the region of the Mediterranean Sea into a zone of stable peace and cooperation; the extension to this area of confidence-building measures in the military sphere, an agreed reduction of armed forces, the withdrawal of warships carrying nuclear weapons, the renunciation of the deployment of nuclear weapons on the territories of mediterranean non-nuclear states, a commitment of nuclear powers not to use nuclear weapons against any mediterranean country not permitting the deployment of such weapons on its territory (h) the limitation and subsequent reduction of military activity in the Indian Ocean, the creation of a zone of peace in the region; (i) the elaboration of confidence-building measures in the Far East and to these ends the conduct of negotiations between all interested countries; (j) the conclusion of a convention on mutual non-aggression

and non-use of force in the relations between the States of Asia and the Pacific; (k) the creation of a zone of peace and stability in South East Asia; (l) the withdrawal of armed forces from foreign territories and the liquidation of foreign military bases.

6. COLLATERAL AND OTHER MEASURES :

(a) The conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations; (b) further measures on the prevention of the unauthorised or accidental use of nuclear weapons; (c) measures on the prevention of the possibility of a surprise attack; (d) the accession, by all states which have not yet done so, to existing agreements on the limitation of the arms race and disarmament.

7. REDUCTION OF MILITARY EXPENDITURE :

(a) The reduction of the military budgets of the states permanent members of the UN Security Council and on the other militarily important states in absolute or percentage terms; (b) as a first step towards the implementation of this measure—the freezing of military budgets.

The implementation of the above mentioned measures would assist in the solution of global problems of humanity. First of all one would like to note that the limitation of armaments, and disarmaments of itself a global problem of primary importance. The implementation of measures in this field is the key condition for ensuring international security: it is an important condition for the economic and social development of all states, it is the indispensable precondition for the solution of the problem of the protection and the preservation of the environment and other global problems. A close inter-relationship exists between disarmament and development. Disarmament can and must make an effective contribution to the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and to the establishment of a new economic order which would include the re-allocation of resources from military ends to the goals of development in particular of the developing countries.

The convening of a world conference on disarmament—an international forum with the broadest participation of States—would be of exceptional significance for the adoption of effective measures on the cessation of the arms race. The United Nations Organisation which bears a primary responsibility and plays one of the central roles in the field of disarmament must promote all measures in this sphere. It is important to the UN to be regularly informed on the results of the negotiations on the implementation of the CPD including all disarmament efforts beyond its competence without detriment to the progress of these negotiations. The socialist states have already in the course of this year introduced their relevant working papers based on the provisions put forward in this statement. In doing as we proceeded from the fact that since the

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proposals submitted by the Group of 21 largely coincide with the agreed positions of the socialist countries there is no need for us to submit formulations representing the proposals of the non-aligned countries.

—Concluded

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VOA EDITORIAL

Reagan In Europe

Washington, June 2: President Reagan left for Europe June 2 on a trip that will take him to major Western capitals. Reagan's journey will take him to Paris for talks with French President Mitterrand, to Versailles for the seven-nation economic summit meeting of western industrial democracies, to Rome for talks with Pope John Paul and Italian Government leaders, to Britain where he will meet with Prime Minister Thatcher and with the Queen, to Bonn for talks with West German leaders and NATO meetings and to West Berlin. The President has a crowded itinerary and a solid agenda. His goals are multifold and inter-related. But they can be boiled down to two key objectives. The first is to underscore continuing American concern with strengthening the economic position of the industrial democracies, along with their military resolve and the second is to emphasise American determination to do everything possible to get a strategic arms reduction agreement with Moscow in the Soviet-American talks scheduled to begin in Geneva on June 29. These two aims are inseparable. That was clear from what Reagan said May 31 in Washington at ceremonies honouring America's war dead. The United States, the President told the American people, must now only recognize the value of its traditional alliances. It must also extend its understanding to potential adversaries. That second, and crucial necessity requires a full and realistic appreciation of what Reagan calls the "true and wide Gulf" between political systems that view man as servant of the state and systems that view the state as servant of man. The first view is the Soviet view and it is regrettably, linked with aspirations for global expansion and control.

Knowing the nature of communist ideology need not get in the way of agreements that can provide enhanced safety for both sides—East and West. From the western point of view, military and economic strength sufficient to buttress western resolve are crucial to the task of convincing the Soviet Union and its allies that arms reductions make sense for themselves as well as for the West. Negotiating from strength is not a new idea. It is a proven idea. And it is the core of President Reagan's policy. As an expression of US seriousness on the arms control front the President has made clear that the United

States will refrain from actions that would undercut existing Soviet-American arms control agreements—so long as the Soviet Union exercises equal restraint. He was referring to the SALT II Treaty, even though that treaty has never been ratified by the US Senate, and even though Reagan has openly expressed dissatisfaction with some of its provisions. This is no mere pious declaration. It is a policy designed to emphasize American determination to press ahead with the process of persuading the Soviet Union that what the world wants, that the Soviet Union can itself truly benefit from, is verifiable agreement on genuine reductions in nuclear armaments, East and West—what Reagan has dubbed "START"—signifying "Strategic Arms Reduction Talks". "START" also means beginning—beginning a responsible effort to cut back on the terrifying totals of weapons that threaten the life of the world.

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TRIBUNE

Agricultural Digest

LEST WE FORGET

A Parakrama Bahu Park

By Dr. Andreas Nell

Below is an extract from the **CORRESPONDENCE PAGES** of an issue of the **TROPICAL AGRICULTURIST** published in 1937. This letter on **REPLANTING OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESERVE AT POLONNARUWA** by the renowned historical and researcher Dr. Andreas Nell was dated Colombo, 14th October 1937.

"Sir, It is of interest to note that the Agricultural Department and the Archaeological Department are co-operating in replanting at Polonnaruwa along the restored roads and in the former parks. The beauty and interest of the Archaeological area will be very much enhanced by the addition of flowering trees, and fortunately, these will be in bloom at the time of the greater Buddhist festivals, when thousands of pilgrims flock to Polonnaruwa. Residents and tourists, who visit Polonnaruwa, will appreciate the increase in the many attractions. The list I sent some time ago comprised the twenty plants named in the Mahavamsa as planted in the park named Nandana, 'a private garden laid down in the region close to the King's house. The chronicler describes it with

enthusiasm in his enumeration of the aesthetic activities of Parakrama Bahu (A. B. 1153—1186)—'as one felt that it showed by its beauty a likeness to the (heavenly) pleasure garden Nandana, and by lavishing charm charmed the eyes of men, it received the name of Nandana. Its trees were twined about with jasmin creepers and it was filled with the murmur of bees drunk with the enjoyment of the juice of the manifold blossoms. There *campaka*, *asoka* and *tilaka* trees, *nagas*, *punnagas* and *ketakas*, *sal* trees, *patali*, and *nipa* trees, *mangoes*, *jambu* and *kadamba* trees *coco* palms, *katujas* and *bimbijalakas*, *mallika*, *tamala* and *navamlika* shrubs, and yet other trees bearing manifold fruit and blossoms rejoiced the heart of the people who went thither. Pleasant it was, and with the cry of the peacocks and the gentle twitter (of the birds) it always delighted the people'.

"Since the Polonnaruwa area is to be a 'Sanctuary' where all shooting will be strictly prohibited, it should be possible to restore the peacocks, even the gently harmless deer which once graced the open spaces with their elegant forms; the birds will increase as at Anuradhapura, and their chorus will be once more heard in the early mornings, also as at Anuradhapura where all shooting is prohibited. The charm of the beautiful trees and shrubs is to be obtained by planting; the deer can be obtained by bringing in a few young deer do not leave the place where they were born; the herds at Fort Frederick (Trincomalee) are from a pair introduced by the late Col. Fawcett, once in garrison at the place; this is an encouraging example. It is very desirable to provide Polonnaruwa with a park in which Parakrama Bahu's trees and shrubs will be an attraction, and the best location is the projecting promontory of land west of the road, on which are situated the Resthouse and the Archaeological bungalow. Here was the ancient "people's Park" provided by Parakrama Bahu with a swing pavilion, games pavilion (which the king himself often visited) carpet pavilion, peacock pavilion, mirror pavilion and picture-decorated bathing-pond. This garden "was adorned with tala and hintala palms, was resplendant with naga and punnaga trees and was rich in banana, and kanikara trees'. It is a splendid undertaking by Agricultural Department and the Archeological Department to replant some of the trees and shrubs mentioned in history; the addition of other Ceylon indigenous plants, and even of some later introductions, cannot be reasonably discouraged, I am sure Parakrama Bahu would have done likewise. I venture to give the botanical identifications of the trees and shrubs bearing in mind that the species grown by Parakrama Bahu were such as would thrive in an area in the Dry Zone of Ceylon. The list is subject to corrections."

BOTANICAL AND SINHALESE NAMES OF THE TREES AND SHRUBS IN THE ROYAL PARK AND THE PEOPLE'S PARK AT POLONNARUWA-

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1. 'Campaka' *Michelia champaka*, Sin: Sapu
 (2) 'Asoka', *Saraca indica*, Sin: Diyaratmal or
 Diya ratambala; (3) 'Tilaka', probably *Adenanthera
 pavonina*, Sin: Madatiya; (4) 'Nagas', *Mesua
 ferrea*, Sin: Nagaha; (5) 'Punnagas', *Mallotus
 philippinesis*, Sin: Hamparila; (6) 'Ketakas',
Pandanus odoratissimus, Sin: Mudu keyiya; (7)
 'Sal', *Shorea robusta*, Sin: Sal; (8) 'Patali', *Bignonia
 sawweolens*, Sin: Palol or Ela-polol; (9) 'Nipa',
Anthocephalus Cadamba, Sin: Embul-Bakmi or
 Helamba; (10) 'Mangoes', *Manigifera indica*, Sin:
 Amba; (11) 'Jambu' *Eugenia jambolana* Sin:
 Mahadan; (12) 'Kadamba', *Adina cordifolia*, Sin:
 Kolon; (13) "Vakulas", *Mimusops hexandra*, Sin:
 Kolon; (13) "Vakulas", *Mimusops hexandra*, Sin:
 Palu; (14) "Coco-palms", *Cocos nucifera*, Sin:
 Pol; (15) "Katujas", *Wrightia zeylanica*, Sin:
 Sudi-Idda or Wal-idda; (16) "Bimbi-jalakas", *Momo-
 rdica dioica*, Sin: Tumba-karawila; (17) "Malati"
Nyctanthes Arbor-tristis, Sin: Sepala or Sepalika;
 (18) "Mallika", *Jasminum sambac* (*Nyctanthes
 sambac*); Sin: Pichcha or Geta Pichcha; (19)
 "Tamala", *Jasminum revolutum*, Sin: Samanpichcha;
 (21) "Tala palm", *Borassus flabellifer*, Sin: Tala-
 gas; (22) "Hintala palm", *Caryota urens*, Sin:
 Kitul; (23) "Banana," *Musa sapientum*, Sin:
 Kehel; (24) "Kannikara", *Pterospermum suberifolium*,
 Sin: Welanga; (24) "Kanikara" *Premna serratifolia*
 Sin: Midi.

Note: The slight deviations from Prof Geiger's
 identifications are based upon more extended search
 than was available to that distinguished translator
 of the Mahavanasa. A few instances may be given:
 I have preferred the Palu, the *Mimusops hexandra*,
 for "valukas" because it flourishes in the dry zone,
 and the Pink Palu, *M. elengi* (munamal) chosen for
 Prof. Geiger does less well; I chose the Welanga
 with its very sweet smelling flowers because it is
 indigenous and flourishes in the dry zone whereas the
Pterospermum acerifolium, chosen for Prof. Geiger
 was introduced from Burma only in 1852. My other
 selections are made for familiar reasons; that the
 replanting at the Polonnaruwa Park need to be
 confined to the species in my list; many Ceylon plants
 such as the Ehela, Ceylon Laburnum, *Cassia fistula*,
 flourish in the district and could be easily grown in
 abundance for avenues. The main need is to plant
 at Polonnaruwa all the plants in the above list, adding
 whatever pleases the planter and the people."

**HAS ANYTHING BEEN DONE ABOUT
 THE PARAKRAMA BAHU PARK? CANNOT
 A START BE MADE NOW? IT IS NEVER TOO
 LATE TO BEGIN.**

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TNS MONOPOLIES

Seed & Planting Material

Colonial history is, in part, a history of the European
 powers struggling to win monopoly power over the
 TRIBUNE, JUNE 12, 1982

Third World's botanical treasures. The Dutch ordered the
 destruction of three-quarters of the clove and
 nutmeg trees on the Malaccas in order to concen-
 trate the 17th century spice trade on three islands.
 Dutch smugglers finally smashed Spanish efforts
 to monopolise the cocoa plant in its Mexican homeland
 in the same century. Not to be outdone, French colonial
 authorities in the 18th century offered the guillotine
 to anyone caught taking an indigo plant out of the
 West Indies. However, US raiders finally broke the
 monopoly and set up a trade in the southern states
**Private companies have not lost their enthu-
 siasm for Third World genetic resources. Two-
 thirds of the world's banana germplasm in
 storage is controlled by one company. The same
 firm also has a significant interest in cocoa
 germplasm. Another TNC is an active collector
 of several vegetable types and has one of the
 largest known banks of tomatoes, including
 rare Philippine material.**

It does not appear as though any one—public
 or private—is doing much about sugar beet germplasm,
 but the industry's own surveys show that private
 gene banks have a large share of stored material.
 Interestingly, the sugar beet industry has been alarmed
 at the fast erosion of traditional varieties and, in 1979,
 asked IBPGR to put together a conservation programme.
 IBPGR considered the crop and suggested that the
 beet industry pick up half the cost of a conservation
 campaign. The suggestion was rejected until a few
 months ago, when increased public debate about
 PBR caused them to reconsider.

Most public breeders would agree that private
 firms should be made to divulge the contents of their
 private gene banks and that such banks should be
 subjected to routine inspection in order to safeguard
 rare materials and to prevent hoarding. This is particu-
 larly important now that the IBPGR is developing
 closer ties with industry as it turns to traditional
 plantations crops. In at least six of the 17 new crops
 targeted for IBPGR attention, industry is expected
 to play a major coordinating role. It would seem
 reasonable that the companies concerned be asked
 to disclose fully the nature of their private genes before
 they embark on such a close relationship with a UN
 body.

—Development Forum, March, 1982

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THE TIBETAN PLATEAU

And the Monsoons

It is Tibet rather than the Indian Ocean which causes
 monsoons over South and South-East Asia. This
 is according to Soviet scientists who processed daja

collected during a joint Soviet-Indian meteorology research project. The Soviet scientists believe that the Tibetan Plateau towering above the clouds acts like a natural regulator of the air movements over the entire southern part of the northern hemisphere from Japan to the Sahara. The large-scale atmospheric movements along Tibet's central meridian periodically creates a vast area of low pressure, which is a kind of a frontier separating air masses blowing from sea towards land.

Over East Asia, the body of air in a giant circle reaches the Pacific to become moisture-laden to the saturation point and then returns to bring heavy monsoon rainfall over India and Indochina. The Soviet scientists are also of the view that westward of the Tibetan air frontier, the winds circulate in the Gulf countries and Africa causing duststorms there. Thus, it is precisely the influence of Tibet that explains both the abnormal humidity in East Africa and the aridity in Arabia and Sahara.

The Soviet-Indian cooperation has been significant ever since the first phase of the project was taken up in 1973. The second phase was completed in 1977 and the third and final phase known as Monex in 1979. In the third phase apart from the Soviet Union and India, 44 countries were involved. The Soviet and Indian meteorologists on board research vessels completed studies in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal when the monsoon was in full fury. Data on the origin and development of the tropical monsoon which exercises a great influence on the Indian Ocean countries was collected. In the next few years it is planned to process the collected data and carry out further research. The research subjects include the study of climatic changes and their influence on human activity, determination of connection between the parameters of the atmosphere in equatorial and tropical regions and solar activity, the effects of the Indian monsoon on whether in Asia and in particular, the forecast of droughts—PTI.



150,000 TO THE ACRE

Earthworms

By William Haynes

This article is reproduced with acknowledgements by "The Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife,"

Fishermen each season dangle millions of earthworms in likely waters. No other bait enjoys such popularity with anglers. The fish may, or may not, hold similar views. Christopher Gallup looks at the earthworm as bait for bigger crops. More earthworms, he contends mean higher fertility. In evidence he offers a yield

of 196 bushel baskets of ear corn, in contrast to the 80 bushels his earlier methods produced. His swarming earthworms leave more than eight tons of their casts per acre each year. (The cast is the deposit after the worm digests the vegetable and mineral material which it eats). Then Gallup points to the chemical analysis of these casts. Compared with other topsoil, they contain five times as much nitrogen, seven times as much phosphorus, eleven times as much potash, three times as much magnesium. How does one persuade the earthworms to multiply? Feed them, says Gallup; feed them trash and organic matter. His method is to work everything possible into the top six inches of soil, where, in the lower four inches, the worms do most of their living. Gallup's farm lies among stony hills of eastern Connecticut. Two hundred and seventy years ago when King Philip and his Narragansett braves in 1675 took to the war-path and ravaged that corner of Connecticut, a forebear of Christopher Gallup already had some of the farm cleared.

Fifteen years ago, determined to be successful as a farmer, as he did previously been in Hartford Insurance Company, Gallup began operating the family's ancient homestead. He says, "I went into our little fields with a heavy plow hooked to a 20HP caterpillar tractor, determined to give that old land the works. I plowed deep. I put on lime and commercial fertilizer. I did everything the experts advised. I firmly believed with all its stones our New England soil was good soil. But the best I could get was 80 bushels of corn, in spite of a lot of fertilizer and hard work". Ultimately, Gallup hit on his answer—the spring-tooth harrow plus earthworms. No one, Gallup says, knows all about earthworms. They eat and digest both decaying vegetation and soil itself. Their tunnels carry air and water into the ground. Exactly what happens in the gizzards between their suction mouths and the fertile casts is yet to be found out. A scientist's count indicates that in Gallup's best fields as many as 150,000 worms in habit each acre. A western student believes the worm population on an acre could be increased to ten times that number, enough to bring two and a half tons of digested material to the surface each 24 hours. That's a lot of plant food, in any language.

Gallup figures that four years are needed to build up the worm numbers. Harrowing the trash in helps in the first year to create their food supply. The second year the breeding stock begins to congregate, third it multiplies. By the fourth, the worms are heaving up subsoil in quantity. "Nowadays", he explains, "we get out with the tooth-harrow as soon as the frost is out. That is a good three weeks earlier than we could use a plow, and a couple of weeks before the land could be worked with a disc harrow. Grass and perennial weeds can then be killed with surprising ease." Gallup's cultivating method is to set the teeth of the harrow at the most shallow notch.

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and to go over the field several times. Then he spreads his manure and promptly harrows it in. After each heavy rain he harrows again, both ways, each time lowering the teeth one notch. Frequently people ask, "What about the trash? Doesn't it bunch up?" "and," they add, "aren't your fields dirty, and isn't that litter an A-1 incubator for pests?" Gallup says "no" to both questions. He is, in fact, strongly of the view that "earthworm tillage" keeps down the corn borers.

Early in the spring before a bit of new growth starts, the trash—even heavy trash like corn stubble—is quite tender after having been softened by frost and snow. Warm sun and spring rains, and the worms, hurry its decay. Even at the first harrowing, Gallup says the trash almost never bunches, and by planting time it has disappeared. When he brings a piece of sod into cultivation, Gallup cuts the sod with a disc harrow late in July, and rakes crossways with the spring-tooth. Next he manures heavily and rakes in lightly with the spring-tooth. After five cultivations, he sows rye, and is ready by spring for his regular procedure. You notice at once that he cultivates both in preparation and in regular tillage more often than usual. However, the tractor in high speed can harrow five or six times as fast as plow or cultivator can travel. While the soil is still loose the corn is drilled in rows with a planter, and cultivator with hiller-discs that throw a heavy ridge over the dressed seed. This, he believes, gives extra moisture for germination. Four to eight days later the cultivator with weeder teeth in front breaks down the ridge, destroying any young weeds. When the corn is a foot high the hiller-disc again throws back the ridge. Tractor cultivation continues until the corn is two feet high. Gallup does not use hybrid seed. This spring he will plant selected seed from his 1944 crop, which will be detasseled for growing seed. He will also plant selected corn from his 1943 crop for the pollen rows in his seed plot. He thinks this avoids the disadvantages of inbreeding and gives vigor. "Part of our increased yields," says Gallup, "is due to this kind of seed selection." But the method of cultivation which brings on more earth worms is mainly responsible. Maybe he has something.

J.E.D.B.

On Production

Of the many State institutions concerned with agriculture and plantations, the JEDB is the only one which has regularly sent us reports over a long period of time. We will be happy to receive reports and information from other organisations for publication and comment.

—Ed.

Production in the year 1980 was affected due to adverse weather conditions. The extended drought experienced in the 1st quarter of 1980 was by far the worst in recent years. Severe drought conditions prevailed once again in the 3rd quarter last year especially in Uva and Udapussellawa districts resulting in limited intakes of crop. Weather conditions experienced this year have been more favourable for production. An increase of 14% in the production of Tea has been recorded to end September this year when compared to the corresponding period in 1980. While in the case of Coconut the increase in production amounts to 30%. Crop figures for the last three years are detailed below:

	1978	1979	1980	1981 (to end Sep)
Tea				
kgs. 77,137,948	82,618,462	77,389,563	63,856,130	
Rubber				
kgs. 21,948,946	25,749,111	22,819,482	15,485,389	
Coconut				
nuts. 23,138,644	31,458,715	33,025,859	35,500,673	

On the assumption that the entire crop of tea and rubber produced by the JEDB was exported the revenue accruing to the Government by way of export duty would have been as follows:

	Tea Rs. m	Rubber Rs. m	Total Rs. m
1976 (9 months)	63.7	16.9	80.60
1977 (12 months)	207.1	37.7	244.80
1978 (12 months)	1,233.0	169.0	1,402.00
1979 (12 months)	1,103.3	221.0	1,324.30
1980 (12 months)	812.6	265.7	1,078.30
1981 (9 months)	670.5	159.4	829.90
Total to date	4,090.2	869.7	4,959.90

NATIONAL PRODUCTION

The National production of Tea, Rubber and Coconut and the export earnings from these products in the last four years are as follows:

Year	Tea		Rubber		Coconut	
	Natio- nal production M kg.	Export earnings M. Rs.	Natio- nal production M. kg.	Export earnings M. Rs.	Natio- nal production M. kg.	Export earnings M. Rs.
1977	208.6	3,502.5	146	930.6	1,821	496
1978	198.9	6,400.9	156	2,020.6	2,207	1,271
1979	206.4	5,722.2	153	2,491.6	2,393	1,699
1980	191.4	6,170.1	133	2,590.5	2,026	1,234

**TRIBUNE
MAHAWELI FORUM**

Why The Silence ?

Sir,

The media, especially the official media, is full of sunshine stories about what is happening in the Mahaweli. *Tribune*, in the past, published articles critical of the Accelerated Programme and Mr. Kahawita wrote some classical pieces analytically dissecting the plans to do in six years what was originally scheduled for 30 years. We have not seen such critical and constructive articles in the *Tribune* for sometime.

The *Lanka Guardian* recently reproduced articles published in the UK publications *Consulting Engineer* (by Pauline Doidge) and the *New Civil Engineer* (by Hugh Ferguson). Pauline Doidge has referred to some points Kahawita had raised (without acknowledgement) but this foreign writer briefly glosses over them where Kahawita had dealt with them in depth. Much work has been done in the Mahaweli Project since Kahawita wrote his articles, and it will be good if he brings them up to date. A Sri Lankan like Kahawita looks at these matters with deep love and concern for his country and with an intimate knowledge of what he is talking about. A foreigner spending a few weeks "on an assignment" can at best only get a superficial view of what is at stake.

Pauline Doidge drops a few names of persons she had met. i.e. Minister Gamini Dissanayake, Denis Fernando etc. etc. and quotes brief extracts from what they said. This gives an air of authenticity to what she writes. But I am not clear about what she wants to say: does she think the Scheme is a flop (*Lanka Guardian* says it "turns sour")? Does she think that the Mahaweli has a future at all or does she think it has to be abandoned (either for want of money, or because it is an over-ambitious and over-heated project)? Or is it her purpose only to draw attention to mistakes, difficulties and obstacles? Does she think they can be overcome or remedied? She does not give any answers nor does she seem anxious to give any. Some of what she says is most disturbing. Only persons technically qualified with a full and thorough knowledge of what is happening in the Mahaweli today can comment on Pauline Doidge's article. This article should be put in the proper perspective and context—otherwise it can tend to mislead people.

Hugh Ferguson, on the other hand, is mainly concerned with the technical problems that have

arisen in tunnel making at Victoria. *Lanka Guardian* has also raised questions about "double trouble at Kotmale". Much of it is written in pseudo technical jargon (for the *New Civil Engineer*) and is most baffling to laymen who can suffer "disinformation" by it. Many of my friends think the Kotmale tunnel may cave in any time and the whole project abandoned for lack of funds that may arise from criticism against Stanska in Sweden itself.

Should not one of the many experts and trained publicists in the Mahaweli undertake the job of telling the public just what the "criticisms" made by Pauline Doidge and Hugh Ferguson really amount to?

Colombo,
1.6.82.

T.D.J.

x x x

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Silting Tanks

By John B. Kumarakulasinghe

Though the Mahaweli Project consists of major dams and reservoirs it is interwoven with big and small tanks that were built in ancient times. One of the functions of the Mahaweli Ministry (with irrigation as one of its departments) has been to restore minor tanks. A very formidable list of such tanks have been restored. This has mainly consisted in repairing damaged (or breached) bunds, installing new sluice gates and clearing up old channels (and building new ones where necessary). But we do not know whether de-silting (with proper dredgers) has been done on an extensive scale.

Writer John B. Kumarakulasinghe makes some assertions that even the large reservoirs like the Senanayake Samudra were subject to silting. To the layman such assertions may appear controversial and we would welcome information and comment from our readers on what Kumarakulasinghe has to say. If silting cannot be prevented with the environmental and ecological precautions that obtain at present, what is the future of the entire Mahaweli Project? Would it be necessary to abandon tea and re-forest the entire montane watershed and also have wooded watersheds around every major and minor tank—to ensure that silting of reservoirs and tanks is reduced to a minimum.—Ed.

THE THOUSANDS of Irrigation tanks built by Sri Lankan kings were abandoned, due to silting, among other reasons. Would our modern tanks go the same way? In 1954, R. M. Gorrie of the UN predicted that the Senanayake Samudra (Gal oya then) would silt in thirty years. As a hydrologist,

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he made a study of the catchment area and the watershed, and concluded that the massive extermination of the catchment jungle and the ground cover, would cause erosion on the higher slopes and that consequently, the soil would flow into the Samudra. Then, everybody called him a prophet of gloom and said he was unduly pessimistic. Today 23 years later, that there is conclusive evidence that the Samaura bed is highly silted. R. L. Brohier, a Member of the Gal Oya Board in the fifties, shared R. M. Gorrie's views and supported *inter alia*, that unless immediate reafforestation strategy was put on top gear, silting would happen.

R. L. Brohier's "Ancient Irrigatron Works"—the monumental volumes he has left for posterity tell us that most of the thousands of irrigation tanks of old, became silted, and earned the legend "abandoned village tanks" in our topographical sheets. Any student of Hydrology would tell us that silting is a phenomenon that reduces the capacity of tanks. Taking this hint, a former Minister of Agriculture in the 1956 MEP Government, the late Philip Goonewardene, suggested that dredging of tanks had to be done. Engineers rightly scoffed at the Minister's enthusiastic optimism and what he wanted done was not done as it could not be done. Dredging of tanks is a massive operation and when the number of tanks run into thousands the cost would be a massive charge that our Treasury will not be able to afford it.

The writer, who has been associated with channels and tanks for years has ample hydro-data that silting of tanks is a phenomenon that can be avoided by strategy evolved before the first rains fill new tanks. Once the impounding of tanks begin, any attempt of dredging would be inconoclastic and to use a layman's phrase "a stupid exercise".

SOME YEARS AGO, Minister E. L. Senanayake provided some ninety thousand odd rupees for the dredging of the historic Kandy lake. The money went but the silt did not. A study conducted by the writer of the Kandy Lake, shows that the many silt exclusion traps on the periphery of the Kandy Lake are *stili* silted. When silt traps are silted, silt flows into the Kandy lake and this is happening right now. Once, when the writer asked the Kandy Mayor, Mr. Tilak Ratnayake about this, he took shelter behind statutory inadequacies: in that the Municipal Council could not involve itself in such exercises for which it had no statutory powers to do so. And there is another side to the coin. Does the MC even if it had the statutory powers, have the technocrats to handle this massive technical assignment? It hasn't. Technical work involves technical skill, technical know how and technical remedies.

The Kandy lake's bed level is rising and a time would soon come when the lake itself would be overfilled

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with silt and as an Engineer jokingly told the writer "The lake could become a good playing field". He did not use the word "desert". But the writer does. Kandy Lake's bed level is going up and up and when beds of water repositories go up and up, the repository cannot contain much water. And when there is no water there cannot be a lake. The entire watershed of the Kandy lake—except for the Udawatakelle Forest Reserve, has been shaven off, forest and ground cover—in order to accommodate housing complexes. And those in this housing complex are powerful people today. Their power is such that Kandy Lake and Kandy itself hasn't a chance.

At Giritala, Elahara, Minneriya, the Topawewa, Batticoloa, Pottuvil etc. etc., the tanks are fast silting without jungle and water sheds. And the time would come when these too would have to be labelled "abandoned tanks". The writer in 1954 had foretold such mishaps and more in a series of press articles. The *Observer* (29.7.1954) carried my WHY HAS GAL OYA'S PLANNING POLICY FAILED? The following day Editor Tarzie Vittachi had an editorial "How Green is Our Valley"? Days later the *Times of Ceylon* carried two more articles off the pen of the writer, entitled THIS IS GAL OYA and WHAT HOPE GAL OYA Today 28 years later the writer, raises the same question "What hope for our Tanks?" and supplements it with "Why cannot silting be stopped?"

WHY CANNOT IT BE STOPPED? IT CAN BE—AND THE FIRST STEP IS TO GROW MORE TREES IN THE RIGHT PLACES—Ed.

TRIBUNE SPORTSCOPE

SPOTLIGHT

World Cup Soccer

FOOTBALL, the poor man's game, will get a big boost thanks to the initiative and enterprise of the D. I. G. A. Navaratnam who is the President of the Board of Control for Football in Sri Lanka. DIG Navaratnam who overlooks the Northern Range who took wing recently to the Asian Football Confederation Meeting in Malaysia and later visited Singapore and Thailand had talks with the football authorities of the countries

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which participated at the meeting. These talks were very fruitful, we understand, and footballers and football fans who have been starved of football with an international flavour will soon have the opportunity of watching teams like Pakistan, Hongkong, China and Singapore play here. Kuwait too would have liked to make a visit here but for their World Cup engagements in Spain in June.

Since the Board took over the running of football in Sri Lanka, the game has had a revival thanks to the genuine interest shown by those who had been chosen to serve on the Board. We give below the names of those serving on the Board of Control for Football in Sri Lanka for the benefit of *Tribune* readers. *The Board*: DIG A. Navaratnam (President), ASP Mathangaweera (Secretary), Ranjit Pandithage Charitha Ratwatte, Clement de Silva and J. Goonesekera, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Sports.

Football is one of the cheapest games to organise and play. It does not call for large outlays like for instance cricket, tennis, golf etc. However the Football Board requires money to send teams abroad, equip the players etc., and so any financial help would be welcome by the Board of Control for Football in Sri Lanka.

On the topic of football, the World Cup Tourney for the Jules Rimet Trophy is expected to start off on Monday in Spain. All the teams which have qualified have had several warmup games. These teams have not gone all out to show their actual prowess. They have been taking it easy lest their best players be hit by injuries. Cameroun suffered in this aspect by having their player sidelined due to an ankle injury.

As has been the trend in several other sports in recent times, the World Cup, too was beset by problems due to the Falklands crisis with rumours circulating that the three UK teams, England, Scotland and Northern Ireland, would pull out of the tourney. But for the sake of the game and the tourney, these have only been rumours and the three teams from the UK will be seen in action in Spain. Had the three teams pulled out, they would certainly have taken away some of the glamour of the tourney.

All interest in the coming weeks will be focussed on who will reign in Spain. But considering from and the uncertainties of the game *Allrounder* tips Brazil for the Cup with Argentina the reigning champions and Peru to cause the upsets.

SRI LANKA now in the highly glamorous and highly commercialised world of Test Cricket is expected to meet India in September and Zimbabwe in October. What is intriguing of the Indian part of the tour is that Sri Lanka has been allowed only one Test match. It must be understood that we are now a fully-fledged member of the International Cricket Conference and

should at least be given a three-test series. The Indians afforded this opportunity when we were Associate Members. Why then this discrimination to only one test match on this tour? **We hope the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka will press for a couple of more Tests in keeping with Test status.**

Sri Lanka will however encounter stiff opposition on their tour of Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe are packed with some very promising cricketers. They are also tipped to win the ICC Trophy to be played in England before the Prudential World Cup and qualify to play in the Prudential Tourney next year.

Alan Lamb who was born in South Africa had his burning ambition of playing for England realised. 27-year-old Lamb was named in the England squad to meet India in the Prudential Trophy One-Day Matches and made a successful debut scoring an unbeaten 35 in England's nine-wicket victory in the First One-Day International. On hearing of his inclusion he immediately hit back on his critics who claimed that he should not be selected for England. He said: "Some people may say it is wrong, but the rules allow it and my origins are completely English—my parents were both born in England.... In fact I am more qualified than Tony Gerig (another South-African born player). Tony captained England", said Lamb.

Born in Langebaanweg, Cape Province, Lamb was never taken part in any debate on whether South Africa should return to the International Test cricket scene. Even when the rebel England players toured South Africa he refused to play for Western Province against the Englishmen, Lamb celebrated his inclusion in the England team with a century for his club Northamptonshire against Leicestershire.

THE CLIFFORD CUP LEAGUE RUGBY season that is now in full swing saw another stunning upset in the match worked out during the week end May 28 to 30. Havelocks Sports Club who carried all before them last year and who did extremely well in defeating the high riding and unbeaten Airforce the previous week went down without a fight to the Army at Galle Face. Army 12—Havelocks 6. The Havelocks were apparently complacent after their victory over the Airforce that they allowed the Army to dictate terms and finally come out triumphant. It was the Army forwards who fashioned victory for them and their veteran S. P. Silva who is playing his 18th year of first class rugby had a wonderful game.

The Colombo Hockey and Football Club (CH & FC) who are improving with every game, gave another invigorating display to manacle the Police and defeat them at Maitland Crescent. The CH and Police have always been arch rivals and the home team in getting the better of the Police registered their fourth consecutive victory—CH won 10—4. This game at Maitland

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Place was played on a surface that resembled a paddy field due to the heavy rains and it was a forwards battle because the wet ball could not be handled for the backs to make any moves.

Kandy Sports Club who seem to be easy meat for every team confronting them went down this time to the CR & FC at Longden Place. CR & FC were minus several of their stars but yet found the fluency to get the better of the white shirts from Kandy. However, Kandy must be congratulated for staying in the game.

Year in and year out all of the promising players in the schools in and around Kandy join the elite clubs in Colombo, and Kandy is deprived of those youthful players. We hope that some of the promising school-boys in Kandy will have a change of attitude and throw in their lot with Kandy and help the keep the game alive. Airforce who lost to Havelocks the previous week got back into winning form and downed the Navy. Better rugby know-how enables them to come out with their heads held high. Airforce won 15 - 10.

ALL ROUNDER



SPORTS CHRONICLE

May 23 - 29

SUNDAY, MAY 23: Aravinda de Silva—the D. S. Senanayake Vidyalaya's star batsman brought his aggregate of runs to 906 in the *Daily News Trophy Cricket Tournament*, when he made 79 for the NCC B in their final round game against Matara Sports Club at Maitland Place, yesterday. Aravinda has one match more against the SSC next week to get 94 runs to reach 1,000. NCC made 156 for a wicket in reply to Matara SC's 177. A fifth wicket partnership of 135 between two former Thomian captains P. L. D. Kariyawasam (106) and Mohan de Silva (98) helped SSC to make 309 for 7 wickets declared in their *Daily News Trophy* final round cricket match against Old Dharmapalians at Maitland Place yesterday. At close of play Old Dharmapalians replied with 41 for 3 wickets. SSC 309 for 7 dec; Old Dharmapalians 41 for 3 at close of play. In *School Rugby*, St. Anthony's College beat Kingswood College by 7 points (1 try and 1 penalty) to nil at Nittawala yesterday. At half time there was no scoring. Trinity scored an easy win over Wesley by 16 points (a goal, a try and 2 penalties) to 4 (a try) in the inter-school rugby football match played yesterday at Longden Place. At half time the winners led 9—nil. CH & FC beat Kandy Sports Club by 24 points (3 goals, one drop goal and a penalty) to 6 (a drop goal and a penalty) in the *Clifford Cup Rugby Football* match played yesterday at Maitland Crescent. At half time CH led 9—3. The Havelocks gunned down the high flying Air Force and came out worthy victors by 13 points (one try and three penalties) to 12 (two drop goals and two penalties) in a spine chilling confrontation at Havelock

Park yesterday. Veeman Prematilleke of the Ace Athletic Club won the *Sri Lanka Athletic Clubs* 10,000 metre open race from Mount Lavinia to Galle Face yesterday. The Aces also had the second and third—W. G. Ariyasena and M. H. Wijepala. Bob Willis was the selector's surprise choice to lead England in the two one-day International and three-match Test series against India this summer. China ended Indonesia's supremacy in men's international *Badminton* and began what could well be an era of their own domination by winning the *Thomas Cup* final 5—4 last night.

MONDAY, MAY 24: NCC B led by Tony Nadarajah snatched the lead in the race for the *Daily News Trophy* when they beat Matara SC by eight wickets in their final round match at Maitland Place yesterday. Ceylon Tobacco C beat Hayleys by 5 wickets in a *Mercantile C Division Cricket* match played at the Bloomfield grounds yesterday. Hayleys 68 in 32.2 overs; Ceylon Tobacco C 70 for 5 in 29.5 overs. CR & FC scored an unimpressive 22 points (4 tries, 2 penalties) to nil victory over the depleted Navy team in their first-round *Clifford Cup League Rugby* match played yesterday at Galle Face after leading 10—0 at half time. Figiri Fauz of D. S. Senanayake won the Junior Boys Singles Title at the *Friendship Club Table Tennis* tournament concluded at the Sports Ministry Hall yesterday. Lalith Perera (JEDB) and Shanthi Dhanapala (Oils and Fats Corporation) won the Men's and Women's Singles titles respectively at the *Nationalised Service Novices Badminton Championships* at the Wesley College Hall. Boake House won the *Obeysekera Challenge Shield* at the 60th Inter-House Boxing Championships of Royal College held at the school hall on Wednesday. Morawaka Maha Vidyalaya won the *Boys' Volleyball Championship* at the Inter-School Volleyball Tournament of the Deniyala Education Circuit No. 1, held at the Alapaladeniya MV grounds recently. A twelve-mile marathon race and a twenty mile cycle race were the highlights of the *Kayts Police Area Sports Festival* held in Kayts. China is sending its first sportsmen to Indonesia for 17 years to compete in the *Sixth Asian Table Tennis Championships* opening here tomorrow.

TUESDAY, MAY 25: Nalanda A and B Under 17 cricket teams defeat Thurstan and St. Anthony's Wattala in *Pre-tournament matches* played over the week end. Thurstan 143. Nalanda A 167 for 6. Nalanda B 206; St. Anthony's Wattala 77. Although both Air Force and the CR & FC have 18.0 points each, the Airmen continue to head the table of points in Clifford Cup Rugby for the fourth consecutive week, as they have scored 86 points to CR's 76. This CR are in second position closely followed by Havelocks who had the satisfaction of grounding the Airmen and CH and FC. In fifth place are the Policemen followed by Army, Kandy Sports Club and Navy. Lack of funds has forced Sri Lanka to pull out of the Sixth Asian Table Tennis Championships

which began in Indonesia yesterday. The Sri Lanka Schools Table Tennis Championships scheduled to commence on May 27 has been indefinitely postponed due to the non-availability of a venue. The postponement of the Sri Lanka Under 22 tour to Pakistan from April to end of the year has thrown up a problem for the Sri Lanka Cricket Board. The Board who originally fixed the qualifying age limit for January 1, 1982 has now been compelled to push this age limit back by six months—June 1, 1982.

WEDNESDAY MAY 26: Commercial Bank beat Heath & Co., by 5 wickets in a cricket match played recently at Colts Grounds. Heath & Co., batting first scored 182 all out in 44 overs. Commercial Bank got 186 for 5 wickets in 48 overs. Kalubowila Dilanatharu Sports Club A emerged champions when they beat Golden Arrow Sports Club A of Akurana by 12 runs in the final of the *All-Island Six-A-Side Cricket Tournament* conducted by the Kempton Sports Club of Colombo at Campbell Park on Sunday. Hameed Brothers, Iqbal and Zulfiqar, were the match winners in the inaugural cricket match between Gem International SC and Galle Sports Club played at the Malay SC grounds: Galle SC 64; Gem International SC 57. Hotel Lanka Oberoi trounced George Steuarts by 122 runs in a *Mercantile C Division cricket* match played at the MCA grounds. George Steuart were shot out for 57 in reply to Hotel Lanka Oberoi's 179 for 9 in 50 overs. The *Colombo District School Football Association* will conduct its annual Football Tournament for the under 19, under 17, under 15 and under 13 age groups. This competition is open to all schools affiliated to the Colombo District Schools Football Association. Renown SC scored their ninth successive victory of the season in the *Colombo Football League Division III* Tournament beating Jayabima SC 7—1 at Cambell Park. Lumbin scored a 10 points (1 try, 2 penalties) to nil win over Prince of Wales in a rugby match played at prince of Wales College grounds, Moratuwa yesterday. Royal held on grimly to their 3—point (a penalty) lead in the first half to beat Dharmaraja in a scrappy *Rugby* match at Reid Avenue yesterday. England's former Cricket Captain Mike Brearley said in London yesterday that he was surprised the job of leading the Test side against India had gone to fast bowler Bob Willis. All four seeded teams in the Men's section of the *Sixth Asian Table Tennis Championships* got through their first round matches with cease in the opening night's play at Jakarta yesterday.

THURSDAY, MAY 27: Three matches were played in the *Janatha Trophy Cricket Tournament* conducted by the Sri Lanka Softball Cricket Federation. Results: Oxford Sports Club 1st Innings 108 for 4 declared; GCEC SC 1st Innings 20 and 44; Singer Co. SC 1st Innings 64; Lions Sports Club 130; Singer Co., SC 2nd Innings 94; Lions SC 8 for 2. Only Oxford Sports Club gained an outright win and now they are the leaders of this division having completed all their matches. The Final of the *All-Island Six-a-side*

Soft Ball, Cricket Tournament for the Ananda-tissa de Alwis Challenge Cup organised by the Kotte Diyawanna Sports Club will take place on Sunday, May 30 at Jayawardhanapura Maha Vidyalaya grounds. Sri Lanka Cricket has received yet another boost in the March issue of Pakistan's "*The Cricketer*" Magazine. The cover of the magazine contains a handsome shot of Sri Lanka Captain Bandula Warnapura and in the inset Warnapura tossing with Keith Fletcher to the inaugural Test between Sri Lanka and England at the Sara Stadium. J. A. Wahid of Akurana representing the Kings Cue Association of Kandy was declared the winner of the *National Snooker Championships* concluded at the YMBA tables Borella on Sunday. The Basketball Federation of Sri Lanka has selected 30 players for training in preparation for the Asian Games. *Zimbabwe* has invited the Sri Lanka national cricket teams for a three-week tour there in October this year. The Sri Lanka Cricket Board will in all probability accept the invitation. The Soviet Embassy presented sports goods and equipment worth Rs. 25,000 to the Sri Lanka Government for the development of sports in the island. Sports Minister Vincent Perera accepted the gift at the Sports Ministry yesterday from Soviet Ambassador KirnaSovsky. Contributions received and pledged towards the Sugathadasa Stadium Redevelopment Fund of the Urban Development Authority now total Rs. 4,582,000

FRIDAY, MAY 28: Ananda A and D. S. Senanayake MV A scored victories in *pre-tournament Under 15 cricket* matches. Ananda beat Trinity by five wickets at Pallekelle while D. S. Senanayake beat Nalands A, St. Sebastians Moratuwa A and St. Anthony's Kadugastota A. Ananda A beat Trinity A by 5 wicket. at Pallekelle. Trinity A 76. Ananda A 80 for 5. D. S. Senanayake A beat Nalanda A on first innings. D. S. Senanayake A 235 for 9; Nalanda A 79. D. S. Senanayake A beat St. Sebastians A on first innings with 250; St. Sebastians A 82. D. S. Senanayake A beat St. Anthony's Katugastota A on first innings. St. Anthony's 156; D. S. Senanayake A 162. The *Board of Trustees* of the Sri Lanka Cricket Foundation have appointed Mahinda Wijesinghe as their Executive Secretary. *Isipatana MVs annual sports* meet has been revived after three years by the Principal Mr. Gamini Chandrasekera. The meet will, be held on the school grounds tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. NCC B and SSC A front-runners for the *Daily News Trophy* meet tomorrow and on Sunday in a vital Final Round match on the SSC grounds. A win for either side would enhance their chances of snatching the trophy NCC B last won it in 1964-65 and SSC in 1967-68. The reinforced Havelocks are further strengthened with the inclusion of Orville Fernando in their side for today's battle with Army, who have also made some sweeping changes in their backs for the first-round *Clifford Cup League Rugby* match to be played at Galle Face at 4.45 p.m. Isipatana beat Sathissara by 9 points (3 penalties)

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to 6 (2 penalties) in their *Rugby* clash at Havelock Park yesterday. L. C. Gunatilleke is representing Sri Lanka in the Q. M. Hussain International Rating Nine Round Tournament in Bangladesh. The tournament commenced on May 19 and will end on May 28. Gunatilleke Rating is 2,250. China and Japan maintained their unbeaten record at the *Sixth Asian Table Tennis* Tournament here today, winning their opening Ties in the Final Inter-Group Rounds in both Men's and Women's events.

SATURDAY, MAY 29: Magpek scored an easy victory over Levers B in a *Mercantile D Division cricket* encounter at Vihara Mahadevi grounds. Magpek 268 for 8; Levers 34. St. Benedicts beat D. S. Senanayake A on the first innings in a *pre-tournament Under 17 cricket* match at Kotahena yesterday. D. S. Senanayake 40; St. Benedicts 99. The happiest man at the Galle Face last evening was Major General Tissa Weeratunga. The Army led by John Senadhira pulled off a superb 12 points (2 goals) to 6 (1 goal) win over Defending Champions Havelocks in their first round *Clifford Cup League Rugby* match after the scores stood 6—all at half time. Trinity, revelling in the soft-conditions underfoot, trounced St. Josephs 16 points (a goal, a try and two penalties) to 4 (a try) in their *Rugby Match* at Longdon Place yesterday

after leading 6—4 at half time. St. Peters beat D. S. Senanayake by 14 points (1 goal and 2 tries) to nil in their rugby match at Bambalapitiya yesterday. At half time St. Peters led 4—0. Jawa Lane Sports Club battle Victory SC in the semi-final of the *Mayor's Cup Soccer* tournament of the City Football League on Sunday at the Sugathadasa Stadium at 4 p.m. G. Harinlal, A. Aturupane remained the only unbeaten player after the 11th Round of the *Chess Nationals Premier Division Finals* now on at Borella YMBA. He led the points table with 9½ points out of a possible 11 points—with elder brother Harsha just half a-point behind. Lake House are out to make it 2-nil when they meet J. B. Industries in the second *annual Elle Encounter* at the Sugathadasa Stadium at 9.30 a.m. tomorrow. Kandy Lions trounced Varsity Peradeniya by 35 points (4 goals, 3 tries, 1 drop goal) to 4 (1 try) in a *Upcountry League Rugby* match played at Nittawela. The National Youth Service Council has organised an *All-Island Volleyball Tournament* to be played on regional and inter-regional levels. The regional matches will be played in the outstations and the inter-regional in Colombo in August—all on a knockout basis. Panadura Recreation Club gained maximum points by beating Colombo Gymkana Club B 3—nil in a *Division 11 All-Island Inter Club Tennis Tournament* match at Panadura.

Govt.



Notice

Notice Under Section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act, (CAP. 460) as Amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964

Reference No. 3/2/4/8/825

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars, please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No 195/16 of 03.06.1982

SCHEDULE

A. G. A's Division : Minuwangoda
 Village : Pethiyagoda
 Situation :
 Name of Land. : Kudumberiyagawatta
 Lot No. : 1
 Plan No P. P. Co : Gam 394

Kachcheri, A. L. S. Malewana.
 Gampaha District Land Officer
 Date: 20.05.82 of Gampaha District.

Notice Under section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) Amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act, No. 28 of 1964

Reference No. 3/2/2/11/118

It is intended to acquire the land described in the Schedule below. For further particulars please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No: 195/16 of 03.06.1982

SCHEDULE

A. G. A's Division : Mahara
 Village : Buthpitiya North
 Situation :
 Name of Land : Kongahawatta
 Lot No. : 1
 Plan No.P P. Gam. : 159

The Kachcheri, A. L. S. Malewana
 Campaha District Land Officer
 Date: 26.05.82. of Gampaha District.

CONFIDENTIALLY

A Mt. Lavinia Scandal

IS IT NOT TRUE that there is a hue and cry in the Mount Lavinia area, mainly in UNP circles (now at the receiving end of acidic remarks from others,) about a case of gross "favouritism"? That an old reader of *Tribune*, V. N. D. Gunewardene, from Mr. Lavinia has sent us a long and indignant letter about this matter? That we cannot do better than reproduce extracts from this letter? That as annexures he has sent us photostat copies of letters exchanged between local residents, the authorities and the Company—Fairline Garments (International) Ltd.,? That we will dip into this correspondence, if necessary, in a subsequent issue, but for the moment we will confine ourselves to Mr. Gunewardene's letter? "...We now daily read of the strenuous efforts that are being made by the United National Party to clean the 'Augean Stables' and also of the proposal to set up a permanent committee of the Party to inquire into complaints of corruption among its members. Closely allied to the cancer of corruption is the question of patronage and protection being given to industrial establishments that have flouted and continue to flout the laws of the country and blatantly carry on their unlawful activities with impunity. The residents of Dehiwela-Mount Lavinia Municipality are highly perturbed by the brazen infringements of the law by a firm of garment manufacturers who have (1) set up a garment manufactory in an area reserved for residential purposes and for the promotion of tourism, (without the prior approval of the Municipal Authorities:;) (2) put up buildings without having obtained the (prior) approval of the Municipality thereby creating unauthorised buildings (3) failed to obtain a valid licence before commencing and operating a garment manufacturing establishment in these premises. In this connection it is very intriguing to discover that water and electricity connections were given to this industrial establishment rather surreptitiously by the same local authority—thereby hangs a tale: why are His Worship the Mayor and his minions so reluctant and averse to discussing the affairs of this establishment? Several efforts have been made within the last four years among others by (a) local residents, (b) the Warden of a leading Boy's School adversely affected by the operations of the commercial establishment in question and (c) the Jana Sugathiya which is a welfare society that takes up such public causes, to initiate a dialogue with the Mayor on this subject but such efforts have been of no avail. Representations made by these bodies to the firm that runs the establishment have not had an encouraging response...."

"IT IS STRONGLY rumoured that this garment manufactory has the patronage and protection of a Cabinet Minister. This is probably true as all those

agitating for the removal of the factory from this area, working independently of each other, have come up against a blank wall at every turn and at every level. Appeals made to the President of this country do not appear to reach him to judge by the "crushing" silence stemming from the non-acknowledgement of even registered letters. The problems posed by the presence of this unauthorised industrial establishment in a residential area are becoming more and more acute. The life of the community and of the college located opposite to this manufactory are getting destabilized by the continued unauthorised presence of this establishment. Moreover, the incursion of this industrial establishment into a residential and school area has been affected by violations of the Local Government bye-laws. This state of affairs further strengthens the belief that there are some VIPs of the government in power who place themselves above the law and are able to get away even with murder. *His Excellency the President is admired for his renewed effort (albeit at the eleventh hour) to rid this country of corruption. It is a colossal task and every one of us has a duty to assist him in this unenviable undertaking to be fair by ourselves, our children, the community at large, and the unborn generations of the future. Instead of merely talking of corruption and allied venalities, we must do something meaningful about it.* After all, this is our country. Is it not our duty to remove the muck on our doorstep? Is somnolent supineness an inherent characteristic of Sri Lankans? The tragedy of modern times, the world over, is that so few of us are articulate and by our silence allow tyrants to proliferate. The words of Edmund Burke, the 18th century writer comes to one's mind. "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." Surely we do not lack good men in this country—men who are unafraid to help to sweep out corruption and not sweep it under the carpet labelled "this is not my business" If we adopt the latter attitude we would certainly have failed our country and our loved and dear ones..." That there is no doubt that Mr. Gunewardene's letter should make everyone not only put on his thinking cap but also lend *unstinted support to all those who want to use the broom to clean out the dirt especially in high places? That we will have more to say on this subject—but we will be prepared to publish any statement from the company concerned if any facts set out by Mr. Gunewardene are incorrect?*

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TRIBUNE, JUNE 12, 1982

**MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION
NATIONAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

VACANCIES

Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for the under-mentioned posts in the National Housing Development Authority.

1. POST OF TRANSPORT FOREMAN - GRADE VII

Qualifications :-

(1) A pass in the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination or a higher Examination and possess the National Diploma of Technology (Automobile) together with 3 years post qualification experience.

OR

(2) A pass in the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination or a higher examination together with 6 years experience as a Transport Foreman in a recognised firm or public sector organisation.

2. POST OF ELECTRICAL FOREMAN - GRADE VII

Qualifications :-

(1) A pass in the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination or a higher examination and possess the National Diploma of Technology (Electrical) together with 3 years post-qualification experience.

OR

(2) A pass in the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination or a higher examination together with 6 years experience as an Electrical Foreman in a recognised firm or public sector organisation.

Age Limit: Should not be less than 24 years and not more than 40 years on the closing date of applications.

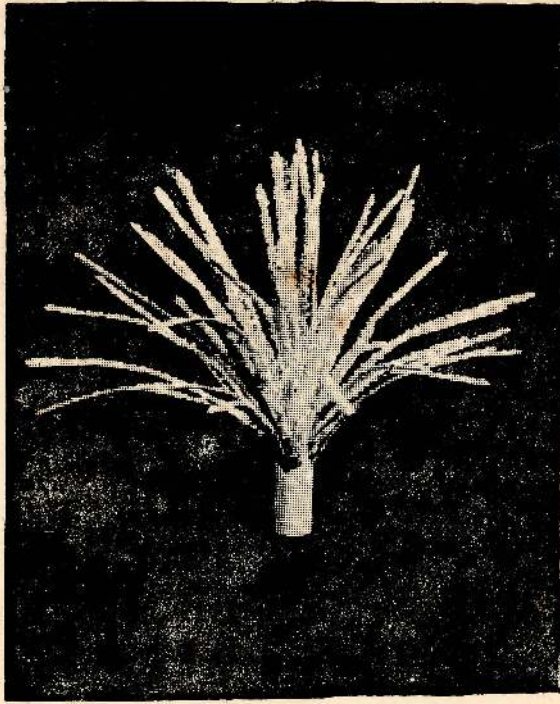
Salary Scale: Rs. 600/-- - 10 x 30/-- - Rs.900/-- per mensem other allowances approved by the National Housing Development Authority will also be paid.

General:

- I. The selected applicants should be prepared to work in *Any part of the Island.*
- II. Applications for the above posts giving full details of qualifications and experience should be forwarded under registered cover to reach the Manager (Personnel and Administration) on or before 21st June, 1982.

Chairman.

National Housing Development Authority,
5th floor, National Housing Secretariat,
Sir Chittampalam Gardiner A. Mawatha, Colombo 2.
9th June 1982.



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