

TRIBUNE

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INSIDE — SPORTSCOPE SPECIAL

TENDER NOTICE

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

Tenders for Construction of Water Supply Distribution Net Work, Jaffna Campus, University of Sri Lanka, will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1 up to 10.00 A.M. on Wednesday 28.07.1982.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained From District Engineer / Jaffna North before 4.15 P.M. on 20.07.1982 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 500,000/- and above on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 250/- issued by Buildings Department, Colombo or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

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

K.C. Samaraweera
Director of Buildings.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS
P.O. BOX 504,
COLOMBO 1. 02nd JULY, 1982
TRIBUNE, JULY 17, 1982

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

Tenders for Construction of Anamaduwa Central School (Girls) Hostel, Balance Work, will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 A. M. on Wednesday 21.07.1982.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from District Engineer/ Puttalam before 4. 15 P.M. on 16. 07. 82 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 400,000/- and above on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 250/- issued by Buildings Department, Colombo or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

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

K.C. Samaraweera.
Director of Buildings.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,
P.O. BOX 504,
COLOMBO 1. 01st July, 1982

TRIBUNE

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

TRIBUNE'S" INDEFATIGABLE COMMENTATOR, R. Kahawita now on a holiday in India, sent us a note from Bombay (dated July 5) on the hottest topic of the day. He titled it "We Are Richer By \$ 300,000". This is what he writes: "Thanks to a 'dangerous man', as described by his spouse, we have increased our foreign exchange earnings by three hundred thousand dollars just like that. "The dangerous man' had his own way just for thirty two hours to earn that money, whereas Finance Minister may have to go round the world, spend weeks and months to raise that amount and at the end, his earnings may be in the red when his profit and loss account is prepared to set off his expenditure in collecting the money. This is also much more profitable than exporting 'house maids' and companions to the West Asian countries. We earn quite a lot of dollars from this source too. But these foreign exchange earners do not get the red carpet treatment spread out to the 'dangerous man' who even had a 500-strong cheer-squad to receive him. Violence seems to pay dividends in the modern world. He subjected some 232 innocent victims to a 32-hour ordeal and for this was extended to him VIP treatment with accommodation in a five star hotel. May be for his own security. May be he will be quized and grilled in due course after his Interpol dossier reaches our Police. But the civilized world is aghast by the initial steps taken by Sri Lanka. A dame who went through the 32 hour ordeal says "incredible". Even people in the Third World, even in little Sri Lanka, cannot quarrel with this reaction. From the point of view of some people in Sri Lanka, such crimes may be outside the jurisdiction of our law. After all laws are man made and, in the past, we have earned notoriety by enacting laws after the act was committed and bring the past deeds within the oven-hot laws. Many a citizen has suffered under such retrospective laws. According to our legal luminaries we are a signatory to the international law on 'air piracy' but we have not, by oversight, put them into Our Statute Book. Maybe we never expected one of our boys to have that amount of guts and audacious thinking to make a sky pirate. We have one now, and let us do something before we lose faith with the civilized world. In fact, we have already lost faith in the way we handled the case from the beginning. Was there the need for a Foreign Minister to confabulate with a diplomat for advice on how to act in a situation where several countries were deeply involved? So far as to what had to be done in Sri Lanka, could it not have been handled by the Customs? All they had to do was to question him how he came to bring into the country 300,000 dollars. How did he earn them? What was his source of income and why did he not bring such a large amount of money through a bank, or in Travellers' cheques. On his answers, he could have been detained for further investigations, ignoring what the press had reported about his sky-piracy. If he had no satisfactory answers, he could have been held as a pickpocket on the Air Lanka plane pending inquiries. So many things were possible as to how he came to be in possession of the money. The Customs could have ignored all what was reported in the international mass media and gone on their own lines of investigations and nabbed him. Instead, what did Sri Lanka do? Gave him a right royal welcome replete with cheer squads and accommodation in a fivestar hotel, until we saw sense and classed him as a criminal and locked him up. It matters little what we do not. We had shown, at the start of the drama, a cloven foot for all the world to see."

Sepala • The Lebanon Horror

THE PICTURE on the cover is a daily scene in our toddy-tapping areas. It is not in any way connected, however with Sri Lanka's recent star turn in tightrope walking in the full glare of global publicity when some governmental agencies and also the local media treated the returning hijacker Sepala Ekanayake, with his air-pirated cash of \$ 297,000 (\$3,000 evidently disbursed in Thailand or in the Airlanka plane), as a VIP. The first bloomer was made by the Customs. Ekanayake had declared only \$100,000. But the Customs had found \$297,000 on him. In view of the false declaration, the least the Customs should have done, was to have confiscated the extra \$197,000. They were also no doubt entitled to impose a fine and to seize the entire amount. To make matters worse, the Police assumed the role of guardian angels providing VIP-level escort (even opening vehicle doors) for him. A crowd of toughs from the underworld—to doubt mobilised by the local Narcotic Syndicate—were permitted to mob the "hero" and shout "Jayewewa". He was thereafter provided topdeck accommodation at a five-star hotel—no decent hotel would have given him accommodation except under official blessing. Ekanayake was also permitted to host a press conference, indulge in a spending-spree and a wild orgy of entertainment. In fact our governmental authorities—until the pressure of international condemnation began to mount—acted as his unpaid PRO's.

This was not all. The SLBC in its first news broadcast the morning after what it described as a triumphal return had a soul-stirring piece about the "hero". The daily news-papers went to town about him. They were entitled to cover the story as a sensation with as many "human angle" flourishes they could drum up but to deal with the return of skyjacker Sepala Ekanayake with a nostalgic slant as if it was the second coming of the legendary father of the Sinhala race Vijaya (as some papers did) was a sad reflection on the state of the Fourth Estate in this country. Harsh comments in the international press and protests from the International Air Pilots Association brought a welcome change in the attitude of governmental agencies, the police and the local media. Feeble and apologetic editorials were written in the official media denouncing terrorism on land and in the air. *The simple position is that a hijacker is a hijacker even though he covers his tracks with a sob story about an estranged wife and a child he allegedly dotes on. Italy has every right to deny him a visa in view of his narcotics record. And nobody yet knows whether the "estranged wife" story*

was not part of the bluff with which he pulled off a hijack without any guns or explosives for a sum of \$ 300,000 (a meaninglessly small sum in such transactions) as ransom. For all one knows the entire hijack stunt may have been only a red-herring to cover the despatch of a large consignment of narcotics in another commercial airliner from Bangkok. Everybody's attention would have been on the hijacking and smugglers could have got away with murder. It is also well to remember that the Golden Triangle of the world's narcotics granary lies to the north of Thailand.

Further Sepala Ekanayake, undoubtedly, had the benefit of expert advice about the absence of laws in Sri Lanka about air piracy. That is why he had asked for safe conduct to his "homeland": with a fortnight's "asylum" as part of the package to release the hostages. Foreign Minister Hameed's explanation about the circumstances under which Ekanayake was permitted to return on a "pledge" given by the Sri Lanka Ambassador in Thailand does not sound very convincing especially the reasons for not arresting him on arrival. The moment the hijacker stepped out of the plane after freeing the passengers he should have been arrested by the Thai authorities and deported to wherever he wanted to go or could be sent—if they did not want to charge him. All hijackers usually compel the airline to take them to a country outside the orbit of extradition Laws. Sepala Ekanayake was not a political figure at a high level who could have sought political asylum. He is only an ordinary narcotics courier presently guilty of international air robbery through extortion. The fact that the Thai authorities behaved in a strange manner in dealing with this airplane hijacker is no reason for the Sri Lanka authorities to follow suit.

The moment the hijacker made a false declaration at the Katunayake Customs whatever immunity he enjoyed owing to the "pledge" given to him by our Foreign Office ended. The "pledge" itself has no real or legal validity. Can such a pledge be given to our highway robbers even if they act under a political smokescreen? The question that is being asked is whether the Defence Ministry can give such pledge of safe conduct and nonarrest to notorious highway robbers like Podi Wije of Polonnaruwa or some of the terrorists of the North who indulge in criminal acts. The "terrorists" (the Tigers) of the North are covered by special Legislation (which Civil Rights enthusiasts claim is an infringement of Human Rights and the Rule of Law). But the likes of Podi Wije still appear to have the benefits of all the loop-holes in the ordinary common law of the land. Retrospective legislation has now been rushed through to bring air piracy within the ambit of Lankan law. If air pirate Ekanayake were allowed immunity even for a fortnight (until he left the country) should Podi Wije not have the same kind of immunity if he choses

to bargain with the authorities whilst holding a busload of civilians or tourists to ransom at gun point or with explosives allegedly strapped around his chest? There is much for the government to think about after the Sepala Ekanayake episode, as a result of which, Sri Lanka's international image dropped to rock-bottom. The amends it has sought to make by arresting Sepala and thereafter rushing retrospective legislation to cope with air piracy has the bad odour of governmental ineptitude and ignorance of what goes on in the world outside. No amends can however be made for the way the media official and unofficial, handled the "return" of the "hero". It will be long time for Sri Lanka to live this down.

LEBANON IS still in the news. Under the transparently bogus excuse of fighting PLO "terrorism" the one-time Stern gang gunman Menachem Begin has invaded Lebanon to throw out the Palestinians who had found refuge there after they were thrown out of the homeland now occupied by the Israelis. Lebanon is a horror story in which the most sophisticated of modern arms were used to devastate a country and decimate a population taken completely by surprise. In this connection, it is interesting to see what two staid and conservative papers, one in India and the other in the United States have to say editorially. The Madras *Hindu* stated: "As Israeli soldiers who have left a trail of death and misery in Tyre, Sidon and Damour wait at the gates of Beirut before they lay waste that city too, Mr. Menachem Begin must feel quite satisfied with the way things have been going since he unleashed his War Minister, Mr. Ariel Sharon, on Lebanon. The hopelessly divided Arabs -- in Tunis last week their foreign ministers could not even agree on a joint communique -- have not lifted a finger to save the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, 6,000 of whose members are now trapped in mainly Muslim West Beirut. The United States, whose planes, tanks and guns, the 100,000 strong Israeli invasion force employed in clear violation of US laws which prohibit their use for offensive purposes, has done nothing to prevent either the damage that has already left a million innocent people dead or homeless or the greater destruction that lies ahead if Messrs Begin and Sharon decide to attack Beirut. On the other hand, turning a blind eye to the horror that has been visited on southern Lebanon, a docile Washington has been quick to acquiesce in Mr. Begin's rapidly escalating demands. The Israelis who said initially that they sought only to create a guerilla-free 40-kilometre wide corridor along Southern Lebanon have now decided they want all Palestinians out of the whole of Lebanon." This extract sums up the middle-of-the-road reaction in the Third World to the situation in Lebanon in a succinct way.

The second editorial is from the *Washington Post* of June 27: "Keep in mind, it said, that the prime rationale for the invasion was to substitute a viable

authority -- at first, Israel's -- for the long missing or at least weak central Lebanese authority, so that Lebanon would no longer remain a base of terrorism. On this basis, many Americans initially tended to accept the Israeli invasion, notwithstanding their dismay over its heavy civilian toll. In Lebanon this week, in a true political miracle, a central Lebanese authority was assembled. Leaders of the principal Lebanese communities came together in a 'National Salvation Council', for the first time since civil war shattered the government in Beirut in the mid 1970s. They adopted a plan meant to spare Beirut the catastrophe of a final Israeli assault. It called for withdrawal of Israeli forces to six miles outside the capital, the return of PLO soldiers to refugee camps and the stockpiling of their arms, and the insertion of the Lebanese army as a buffer. In other words, the Lebanese did exactly what Israel had demanded...."

"But" said the *Washington Post*, "the Israelis then spat on them, rejecting the plan and insisting further that Yasser Arafat and the PLO 'core' leadership be expelled to a country not bordering on Israel". We are forced, concluded the *Washington Post*, to several conclusions of which the first is that the Israelis have misled the world about the purposes of their invasion. Dealing with terror seems now to have been the tidiest part of it, although this is the platform from which the Israelis pleaded for sympathy or at least forbearance. Nor was Israel concerned simply with humiliating Syria or with lording it over Lebanon. Its deeper now-revealed intent is to take advantage of a favourable regional opening -- and of Ronald Reagan's inattention or quiet consent, whichever it is -- to impose a Begin-type Palestinian solution. That means destroying the Palestinians as a movement and dispersing them as individuals. A second conclusion is that the Israelis have been unforgettably bloody. There is no conceivable goal that would justify the civilian casualties that a further, full fledged assault on the PLO and Syrians in Beirut would surely bring. That would be the ultimate harbinger in a campaign in which, the wide spread slaughter of civilians has undermined Israel's claim to moral superiority, once its richest political asset in the West. Again, the only thing possibly more astonishing than the ruin Israel has wrought, is President Reagan's silence in the face of it."

This editorial no doubt reflects a trend of thinking in the United States that is not too heavily weighted down by the Zionist lobby. But American collusion with Tel Aviv continues, irrespective of the show of annoyance by President Reagan with Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's insistence on "cleaning out" western Beirut also. Interestingly, the conscience of the Jewish lobby in the United States could not be stirred by the slaughter of thousands in Lebanon. At a fund-raising lunch for Begin at the Waldorf-

Astoria, where a lunch plate was going for a 100,000 dollars each, the Jewish hosts collected 27 million dollars for the Zionist cause in one hour.

A commentator, Edward W. Said, a professor at Columbia University, concluded an article in the *New York Times* entitled "The Juggernaut of Begin's Zionism" in which he examined the impact of the Israeli invasion on other Arab states thus: "Moreover, the other Arab regimes are being asked to choose between the fate of Egypt and the fate of Lebanon. Marginalized and impoverished, Egypt now has lost credibility throughout the Arab world. Lebanon has been incinerated.....". The Professor went on to point out that: "The scope of projected Israeli power has grown well beyond the region. In December, for instance, Defence Minister Ariel Sharon gave a speech outlining Israel's security interests not only in the Arab world but also in Zimbabwe, Pakistan, Iran, Turkey and the whole of North Africa." Such is Israel's ambition.

But to come back to Lebanon the simple fact is that today the PLO may be "down" but is still not "out." It represents over five million Palestinians scattered throughout West Asia and the Israelis cannot wipe them out by hammering the PLO in Lebanon. But Yasser Arafat is realist enough to bow to the inevitable. The PLO has lost the Lebanon battle, but no doubt hopefully looks forward to survival to fight the anti-Zionist war. Rather than see the Lebanese capital totally devastated, Yasser Arafat is reported to have agreed to leave Lebanon but had laid down three conditions: withdrawal by Israeli forces five kilometers from Beirut, partial surrender of arms by the PLO to Lebanese authorities, and safe conduct of the guerillas to a country of their choice under combined US-USSR guarantee. But Israel rejected these conditions. Intense negotiations are still going on between Yasser Arafat, US envoy Philip Habib and Lebanese President Elias Sarkis mainly on the logistics of an orderly PLO withdrawal in a manner acceptable to Israel.

In retrospect it must be noted that history has no other example of an entity claiming the goodwill, support and sympathy of a majority of the world community, the friendship of its immediate neighbours and deep-rooted faith in its cause, being let down so badly at this hour of crisis. At the belatedly-convened Arab Foreign Ministers' Conference in Tunis, there seemed to be more sympathy for the plight of Lebanon than for the besieged PLO and virtually no support for Yasser Arafat's demand for the withdrawal of Arab Ambassadors and bank deposits from the United States and the suspension of Arab dealing with American companies. Regardless of the Saudi Arabian threat of an oil embargo and other reprisals, it is clear that the prospect of a united Arab response in favour of the PLO has been reduced to wishful thinking. On the contrary, there

was enough evidence of support for the demand that both the PLO and Syrian forces quit Lebanon. The Tunis meeting was perhaps the last straw, that must have made Arafat abandon his earlier plans to convert Beirut into a miniature Stalingrad. It is not yet clear where Yasser Arafat proposes to lead his flock. The obvious destination is Syria, but Syria has refused to admit the guerillas because their place was in Lebanon. The choice of Jordan as the immediate refuge is to be ruled out, given the circumstances under which the PLO were turned out of that kingdom in 1970.

Where else can the PLO Palestinians go? The logical (and perhaps in the long term) the ideal destination would be the West Bank and Gaza which is after all the Palestinian homeland for which the PLO has fought diplomatically and militarily all these years. But before Arafat can march in that direction, Israel has to be forced by its mentor, the United States, to be more flexible in its definition of "autonomy" for the West Bank and the Gaza strip. The Israeli settlements there need to be dismantled as was done in the case of Sinai and Palestinian autonomy extended there as a prelude to the establishment of a Palestinian state. Israel has no doubt achieved more than what it set out to do, but after humbling the PLO and divesting it of its military infrastructure, if it hopes that the PLO will cease to exist, it will be mistaken. Over five million restless souls cannot be put down that easily, nor can the Arabs now seemingly indifferent to their cause afford to ditch them for good.

* * *

THINKING ALOUD

Down Dambulla Way

By S. P. A.

I have always been a sceptic of the value of exhibitions and carnivals as adjuncts of political or developmental activities. I have seen many of them during the last fifty years. Most of them have generally been counter-productive and have not yielded the political dividends the organizers had hoped for. In many, if not in the majority, the expenditure had come from government funds and the "waste" involved had caused embarrassment to the ruling party.

I had heard a great deal about the Gam Udawa Exhibition 1982 at Dambulla from persons whose opinions I value. They told me that it was a different kind of exhibition and that I should go there and see for myself what it was and what its impact was on the rural people. I did. I was able to visit the place on the last two days of the Exhibition. I also took the opportunity to go around to a few of the "model villages" recently constructed in the area. I must

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frankly admit that my misgivings that stemmed from what such exhibitions were in the past disappeared after I had spent some time at this exhibition, talked to some of the officials and other people in and around the place.

The first thing that struck me was the clock-work precision with which everything went on. In spite of the vast crowds that had visited the exhibition in the week since the opening, the place was neat and clean, "spick and span" to use a cliché. There were men and women who went round the grounds all the time picking up every piece of litter on the ground. There was a minimum of police officers, but the entire machinery of security, crowd control, the parking of vehicles and whole host of other functions essential in a show of this kind., were in the hands of personnel seconded from the Building Materials Corporation. They were courteous, they did not waive the rules for VIPs and it was a pleasure to go around the 200 odd public and private sector stalls that were neatly set up in the 20 acre grounds. Fifty eight housing units had been built in the Dambullagala Model Village. Each had cost Rs.16,000 and they had been donated by private sector firms. In other model villages, the houses had been built by the National Housing Authority and the cost was being recovered in small rentals from the occupants.

I made some inquiries about the finances and economics of the Gam Udawa Exhibition. All four had been financed by the proceeds of the Gam Udawa (Rs.5 a ticket) and Sevana (Rs.2 a ticket) lotteries. The prizes for these lotteries were donations. This time lottery tickets had been sold for over Rs.8 million (Rs.8,005,300) as revealed by audit before the draw. About two million rupees from this went to subsidise the exhibition and of this the bulk of it went to the Ceylon Electricity Board. The rentals from the 200 odd stalls was not enough to sustain the Exhibition. No gate was charged as the lottery tickets also covered the entrance fee. Judging by the crowds that flocked to the Exhibition, a gate or entrance fee of about Rs..1/- can easily be charged.

The lotteries this year made a profit of about Rs. 6 million and this, I was told, would be credited to the Sevana Fund which now adds up to an impressive amount of Rs.29 million. What the Prime Minister proposes to do with this money is not yet known. But it probably will be used to further the objectives of the Gam Udawa or Village Rewakening Movement.

On the last two days of the Exhibition, the crowds were massive. On Friday, July 2, the count at the gate was over 550,000. On the final day, it was over a million. One has to see the crowds to believe it possible. The queues at the gates were long and persisted until at least 10 p.m. in the evening. People

moved in only where there was standing room inside as people left. And they had come from long distances -- from Batticaloa, Pottuvil, Amaparai, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Kandy etc.etc. -- and not merely from the Matale District alone. They came by special vans, private coaches, cars and chartered buses. Only those in the Matale District were able to come by the regular CTB buses. Nobody had brought them on free transport for a meal.

There was much to see and learn (especially for rural folk) at the Exhibition. There was lots to buy (which otherwise they would have to go to Colombo or the depots in bigger towns) -- tractors, textiles building materials and many other items. And they did buy as statistics revealed. Pavement shops outside the Exhibition grounds had a variety of goods I had rarely seen and there was brisk business. Agricultural produce of the area -- vegetables, mangoes, rice etc.,etc., were bought up within a short time of their being brought. I was also surprised to see that the Mahaweli Ministry had a number of stalls in the Exhibition. This is the first time, I think, that the Mahaweli and the Gam Udawa had cooperated in this way. I have always felt that the Model villages and the Gam Udawa Movement would be inhibited in their scope and growth unless some of the departments now under the Ministries of Agriculture, Food, Trade and others that deal with agricultural production and marketing come under the umbrella of a dynamic and forceful person like the Prime Minister who has shown that he can get things done. The Sarvodaya Movement is helping the Gam Udawa (Village Reawakening Movement) but this is not enough. The crowds were drawn not merely by the stalls but also by the top-class entertainment -- provided by Sri Lanka's best. All these shows were sponsored by private firms mostly from the Matale District.

Everybody I met was all praise for the Building Materials Corporation (BMC) and its live wire Ajantha Wijesena. Whatever controversies may have been stirred up by certain newspapers and other interested parties, about the BMC and Wijesena there is no doubt that the BMC had done a splendid job. I have not seen (in the entire course of my journalistic career) any Exhibition so well organized that ticked over for 10 days without a hitch. The Engineering Section of the BMC had built the stalls and other buildings and these were paid for from the Exhibition Funds. The BMC made a profit from this. I am usually sceptical about Government Corporations and their performances.

I have not studied the audited balance sheets of the BMC (but I am now tempted to do so) but what I have seen of its performance at the Gam Udawa Exhibition 1982 has impressed me a great deal. An idea developed from a remark made by Ajantha Wijesena that BMC lorries returned empty from

different parts of the island. Cannot these be used to provide "cheap transport" to farmers, to start with those in the model villages, to get their produce to markets in the bigger towns or to Colombo so that they can get better prices and the consumers a fairer deal? But I was told that this would violate bureaucratic rules -- that agricultural marketing is the monopoly and preserve of certain government departments which unfortunately have notoriously fallen down on the job. The Gam Udawa Movement and even the Mahaweli Swarnabhoomi Movement will not get on their feet unless a way is found to market agricultural produce. This topic is one of my pet hobby-horses and I will revert to it often in the coming weeks.

Talking of Ajantha Wijesena, the one-hour Gam Udawa film he and Nihalsingha had produced, and which was telecast on July 4 over Rupavahini, was an exciting piece of work. Wijesena has experience as a film producer (Sita Devi) and as a marketing and advertising media man. Nihalsinghe was one of the best with a camera apart from production work. Between them they had done an excellent job that kept the audience interested for one whole hour. The propaganda for the Prime Minister was on a low key whilst attention was centred on the model villages and the people who lived in them. The scenes of opening day of the Gam Udawa Exhibition was done with competence. I was also happy that the Rupavahini telecast this production of a private producer. They should encourage more of such TV productions --and telecast those which reach the required minimum standard.

I also visited a number of model villages in the Dambulla, Habarana and Sigiriya areas. They have certainly helped to open up new areas and bring new hope to villagers who had become "forgotten people" for centuries. But if they are to break out of the stagnation in which they are still buried, their model villages need water for cultivation and marketing facilities for their produce -- nearby tanks will have to be repaired (wherever possible), wells will have to be sunk, windmills or pumps sold on easy terms for pumping water and also assistance in the initial stages to get cultivation off the ground.

The fact that the Prime Minister stayed on in the area for the entire ten days -- except one day when he had gone to Colombo for a Cabinet Meeting -- had created a fund of goodwill for the P.M. He was on the Exhibition grounds every day from about 4.30 p.m. until very late in the evening until the crowds started dispersing. But I am not sure whether the UNP will be able to translate this goodwill into votes at an election. Except for a few UNPers, the others are still weighted down by an urban approach to all problems in the village especially in the distant Wannu. Most SLFP stalwarts are on a better wavelength with the rural folk, and it is time UNP propa-

gandists learn not talk down to the villagers and tell them what is good for them but learn to understand them on the grassroots level. In some areas, JVP campaigners have learnt to do this very well but they have little or nothing to offer. The UNP has a lot to offer but most of its activists do not seem to know how to reach the people on their own ground. This has become very important for the ruling party at this stage. Disenfranchising charismatic opposition leaders (for whatever reason), rushing constitutional amendments and making a snap election even more snappy by administrative strategies can throw an opposition into greater disarray, but real rapport with the ordinary man in the town and village is essential to secure a swing that can provide a secure majority at the hustings.

The elections have been obviously advanced. Foreign donors and investors may want a guarantee that the J.R. Jayewardene Government will continue until the end of this decade before granting more capital facilities to complete on-going projects. At Tokyo, the World Bank and the IMF have obviously asked Sri Lanka to tighten its belt and go on short rations of aid. The only way out is no doubt to demonstrate that the J.R. Government would go on for a further period of six years. The Presidential election, according to all reports, is likely to precede the parliamentary and may come even before the next Budget, if a sunshiny Budget is not possible. But if such a Budget can be conjectured up, the Presidential poll may take place sometime after that. If adequate euphoria is stirred up, as many think it likely the parliamentary elections will follow fast on the Presidential. The outcome of the Presidential election is easily predictable especially with the Prime Minister in charge of the campaign and the logistics. He is a master in the election game just as he is in getting things done in all fields of government activity.

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FILM FOCUS

The Gandhi Film

It was a day to remember when the Sarvodaya leader Dr. A.T. Ariyaratne addressed the Inspector General of Police, Rudra Rajasingham, his Deputies and the Police Brass of the Metropolitan Range at the Police Higher Training Institute at Police Headquarters. His theme was on Police attitudes and the healthy nurturing of Police-Public relations. In turning the searchlight inwards and appealing to the intuitive mental processes of his eager listeners, he withheld no words to call a spade a spade on the poor police image that was prevalent today. He forcefully referred to the Gandhian concepts of respect towards fellow-beings with a loving kindness

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if the Police Service were to rapport better with the public and remain true to their ideals. "Do not stand and stare" but "stop, think and act" was the note on which his cascading words of sincerity fell on the lawmen, who by and large took them to heart. Having had its fill from a backseat of the gems that fell from the lips of this Apostle of Sarvodaya in Sri Lanka, this column naturally turned later to that colossal production on *Mahatma Gandhi* that has created controversy and run into heavy fire in India. The accuracy of its script and the authenticity of the events portrayed are being questioned and a boycott is being planned if these short-comings are not corrected by its creator, Sir Richard Attenborough. While the controversy rages, this column is happy to record, for the benefit of *Tribune* readership, the views of a past Prime Minister of India, Morarji Desai, and a contemporary of the Mahatma himself. He states, "I would resort to Satyagraha if the historical inaccuracies that have cropped up in the Gandhi film were not corrected. I had once read the script of this film and was astounded to find that words which the Mahatma had never uttered in his life had been put into the dialogue. There were also a number of historical inaccuracies which betrayed the facts. Even Gandhi's marriage ceremony has been wrongly featured, contrary to the custom in which he had got married." Desai has also taken umbrage to the state subsidy to this distorted film which had shot up from rupees 5 crores to treble that amount. He adds that an Indian film maker like Satyajit Ray, who would have implicitly understood the philosophy of the Mahatma more than a foreigner, should have undertaken this production. The ball is now firmly placed in Attenborough's court and unless he falls in line, the teeming millions in India may get him into a financial debacle over a film which was his life's ambition. The portrayal of the life and times of India's father figure, in other countries only could prove poor compensation from a box office point of view. It must be remembered that Gandhi's life spurred many men of other nations like Dr. A. T. Ariyaratne to initiate movements based on his righteous and all consuming paths of simplicity and sincerity. It would be a pity indeed if the Mahatma's autobiography in celluloid should prove inaccurate and misleading even in the smallest detail.

RAJA PARVAI (A Kingly Look) Tamil: Actor Kamalahasan has totally committed his heart, talent and money to this film, which is his production under a pseudonym and directed by Srinivasa Rao. The opening titles of the film rolled out rather fast, as if off a scroll, that it was difficult to even identify the Camera man, who has made the whole film a visually appealing one and a joy to watch. The story is one of the heart, where a young and handsome, but blind musician (Kamalahasan), who having resigned himself to his fate wrought on him by a

traumatic incident in childhood, is drawn in love towards a pretty affluent lass (Madhavi), the latter's initial sympathy for him turning to an undying affection in stages. Her Christian parents refuse to understand this strange love for one so severely handicapped, but love conquers all with a very dramatic turn of events at the wedding ceremony when the parentally proposed suitor is left holding the nuptial ring only. While Kamalahasan takes on a testing role with brilliance, Madhavi pairs him well with promise to turn out a tender and sentimentally etched story. But for veteran actor V. K. Ramasamy, the other artistes were all newcomers to the screen. Those picturegoers who expect a "Guru" styled performance from Kamalahasan, will be disappointed for words has gone around that the film was an average if not a dull one. Knowing that this kind of hearsay often puts off many film fans from good productions, I was not surprised when I found the film excellent.

RAHASAK NATHI RAHASAK (Sinhalese): I had a hunch a few years ago when I sat through the Tamil film *Mayanguhiral Oru Mathu*, that some enterprising Sinhalese producer would be tempted to invest in a local version of it, without straying from the main plot. This film released now has proved me correct, which but for a few variations towards the end was a fairly good job of the original Tamil film that inspired it. Directed well by M. V. Balan, the story commences with the frolick some capers of a bevy of female high school students. One among them (Sriyani Amarasena) goes further to taste the forbidden fruit, which is later, soured by an abortion (the *Rahasiyak*) and pays a heavy price in 'black' money for the experience. Leaving the trauma buried in the portals of the schools, in a bond of secrecy with a couple of others, one being a lady doctor (Sumana Amarasinghe) she regularises her life by marrying one (Vijay Kumaranatunga) with parental consent. Let us keep to the secret from now on and turn to the histrionics in the film. Robin Fernando roles the school day acquaintance who deserts his victim unintentionally and Alexander Fernando, the heartless blackmailer, who uses his camera with venom and vengeance to extract money. Together with Vijay as the understanding husband in the gem trade, Robin and Alexander indulge in rationed and rousing Karate bouts in the film without spoiling the story much. The acting honours however were carried by Sriyani Amarasena, who more than most Sinhalese actresses was eminently cut out for this testing role, which launched Sujatha to fame in the Tamil film. This film keeps clean all the way and is therefore fine fare for family entertainment—with a scorching lesson for school going belles!

MEAN MACHINE (English): A Paramount Production that extracts all the HE in the male pin up actor—Burt (Bee/cake) Reynolds, who while in the cooler

turns to Rugby (American styled) to get even with the tough and rough prison guards. For those

who like the rough and tumble of the sport, a satisfying film. It was certainly not for me!

JAMES N. BENEDICT.

Govt.



Notice

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

Ref No. 3/2/6/12/519

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: 197/9 of 07.07.1982.

SCHEDULE

A.G.A's Division : Kelaniya
Village : Hunupitiya
Situation : Within Dalugama Town Council Limits.
Name of Land : Thalagahawatta
Lot Nos : 1
Plan No P.P. Gan : 73

The Kachcheri,
Gampaha.
25th June, 1982.

A. L. S. Malwenna
District Land Officer of
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8

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June 27 - July 3

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

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 27: Sri Lanka's open economy is doing reasonably well; This is the verdict of the Governor of the Central Bank, Dr. Warnasena Rasaputram. Policemen will not be given leave in future to work in the Middle East; a decision to this effect has been taken by the Ministry of Defence. Sri Lanka exported in 1981 gems worth Rs.301,633,658 weighing 231,835 carats.—*SO*. Sharp surveillance is now being maintained along the Northern coastline to prevent arms and explosives earmarked for the Northern terrorists being smuggled into Sri Lanka; the watch along the coast has been called for, after intelligence reports had indicated that attempts were being made to smuggle weapons and explosives purchased by the Lankan terrorist groups which had established bases in South India into Sri Lanka. Women in Lanka are still discriminated against, where employment is concerned, recent studies indicated; this is despite the fact that among the unemployed, the proportion of more educated females is greater than that of educated males. Customs have alerted all officers manning entry-exist points to the country, to keep an eagle eye out for carriers of foreign counterfeit currency—*WK*. Political circles are buzzing with speculation about the Maithripala Senanayake group of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party writing to the Secretary-General of Parliament expelling Nuwara Eliya-Maskeliya MP, Anura Bandaranaike, from the party thus setting in motion a process which could result in Mr. Bandaranaike losing his membership of Parliament; one politician is reported to have openly commented that Mr. Bandaranaike would be out of Parliament by December. Cut and polished precious stones worth almost one million rupees have been reported lost or misplaced from the stock of gems held by the State Gem Corporation—*IS*. A scheme is to be implemented throughout the country to build houses for the homeless through the Gramadhoya Boards; a separate Fund will be started to implement this scheme which has been proposed by Premier R.Premadasa—*VK*.

MONDAY, JUNE 28: A strong lobby is now moving against the considerable number of The
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and Indian gem buyers who have entered Sri Lanka on Tourist Visas and engaging in business here. Mr. Maithripala Senanayake said yesterday that he was still prepared to unite with the SLFP (S) but only on a clear foundation—*CDN*. Sri Lanka has, without the usual fanfare, taken its first step into the nuclear age when the M. Sc. course in Nuclear Science sponsored by the Atomic Energy Authority commenced at the Colombo University; this course will help educate future nuclear scientists on the proposal to use Atomic Energy for the generation of electricity in Sri Lanka. The tourist industry is capable of becoming the country's biggest single income earner even outpacing the earnings remitted by Sri Lankans working in the Middle East, if everyone involved in the industry makes a concerted effort towards achieving this objective, State Minister Anandatissa de Alwis said on Friday—*CDN*. Two female employees were killed and another is seriously ill after an ammonium gas pipe exploded at a sea-food packaging establishment in Mattakuliya yesterday evening. Passengers intending to travel to India on the ferry from Talaimanrar Pier to Rameswaram will in future be required to apply for their tickets on a special form costing rupees two and pay a deposit of Rs. 25, the Railway announced yesterday. Government yesterday imposed stringent controls on the import of transmitting and receiving equipment to the country; the Government's aim is to prevent the use of any electronic equipment that would interfere with Police and Armed Services communication or establish similar communication links, an official said—*SU*. The River Valleys Development Board is drawing up a preliminary estimate to import machinery at the cost of Rs.2000 million while machinery worth Rs.1000 million is rotting in its work sites. While the profits of the Ceylon Hotels Corporation have been reduced by almost 50 percent in the last financial year, the dividend paid to shareholders too has been reduced appreciably. President J.R.Jayewardene said yesterday that if Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike reforms, he will grant her a pardon; addressing a meeting at the Baranaskanda Purana Vihara in Pilapitiya in the Kelani electorate, the President said that Mrs. Bandaranaike had been deprived of her civic rights by the Presidential Commissioner—*IS*. The TULF is to work on a four-point policy to bring under one banner the different Tamil Parties, organisations and bodies in Sri Lanka—*VK*. Compensation will be paid this week to the victims of violence in Jaffna during 30th May and June 2 last year; the necessary money has been forwarded by the Defence Ministry to the Government Agent, Jaffna—*EN*.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29: Sixty percent of the cases heard in the country's courts are being postponed as a result of the non attendance of prosecuting police officers or the failure of the police to produce the necessary documents—*CDN*.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30: The Justice Ministry is now considering introducing a system of suspended prosecutions into Sri Lanka's legal system. A big cheque fraud racket running to over Rs. 1 million is now under investigation by the Colombo Frauds Bureau; the racket barèd when a Rs.482.80 cheque had been altered to read Rs. 182,480, has resulted in CFB detectives recovering over a 100 cheques, money orders and identity cards stolen in the mail. The two big state-owned commercial banks are now considering a possible reduction of their lending rates, authoritative governmental sources said yesterday—*CDN*. Management and development of ports in the South Asian region will be undertaken by Sri Lanka experts under a scheme that has been worked out by the Ministry of Trade and Shipping. Profits of Ceylon Hotels Corporation had been reduced by 50 percent during the year 1981 mainly due to the adverse trends caused by world-wide recession and also a rapidly developing market to the neighbouring Maldivé Island. President J.R.Jayewardene said yesterday that he hoped the flame of idealism originated from the founder of the 100 year old Colombo YMCA movement would remain for another 100 years to guide and serve the people of this country—*CDM*. Sri Lanka's public investment for the next four years (1982-86) will depend on foreign aid commitments, according to Government's public investment programme. The Sri Lankan connection in a massive international counterfeit currency racket was being unearthed yesterday following the identification and the location of the sophisticated process used by the forgers in Singapore. A radio and cassette recorder licensing unit is to be set up shortly in the Colombo Airport—*SU*. He would not go against the United National Party of which he was one of the oldest members; he would always remain a loyal member of the party, said Mr. E.L.Senanayake, MP for Kandy, addressing a large gathering of well-wishers at his residence in Kandy—*IS*. The MP for Trincomalee Mr. R.Sambanthan has expressed sorrow for the fishermen in the Trincomalee district being kept out of the loan schemes—*VK*

THURSDAY, JULY 1: A scheme of national awards for distinguished and outstanding services to the nation was approved by the Ministers yesterday. On the recommendation of Mr. Cyril Mathew, Minister of Industries and Scientific Affairs, Cabinet approved a proposal to negotiate external assistance of Rs.60 million to tackle the pollution problems caused by effluents from the Valachenai Factory of the National Paper Corporation—*CDN*. A Sri Lankan, claiming he had explosives strapped to his body and demanding the return of his estranged Italian wife and their son, was tonight holding 257 people hostage on an Italian airliner in Bangkok which he hijacked with 261 passengers and crew on a flight from New Delhi; the hijacker,

identified as Sepala Ekanayake, 33, has threatened to blow up the Alitalia Boeing 747 aircraft unless his wife and son join him. He is also demanding 300,000 dollars—*CDM*. All lands leased out under the various schemes of the Ministry of Lands and Land Development, if not developed properly will be taken back by Government, Cabinet has decided. Three new political parties have been recognized by the Commissioner of Elections under the new Parliamentary Law; these parties are the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, the political wing of the Democratic Workers Congress and the Nawa Sama Samaja Party; the symbols allotted to these parties are the bell, ladder and the umbrella respectively.—*SU*

FRIDAY, JULY 2: Sepala Ekanayake, the Lankan who hijacked an Alitalia Boeing 747 at Bangkok's Don Muang Airport, arrived in Colombo with his wife Ann and his son Free by Air Lanka last night. Ekanayake had no explosives on him when he left the Alitalia Boeing 747 he had held to ransom at the Bangkok Airport. High-ranking governmental sources indicated yesterday that there were grounds to believe that Sepala Ekanayake who hijacked an Alitalia Boeing 757 had successfully pulled off a massive hoax—*CDN*. Hijacker Sepala Ekanayake was whisked off by a strong police guard from the Colombo Airport through massive cheering crowds at midnight to stay the night at a Colombo Hotel; he was accompanied by his Italian wife, Anna Aldrovandi and his son, Free. The crowds at the airport invaded the lounge and mobbed Sepala Ekanayake as he came out of the Customs area last night; the airport security personnel could not manage the huge crowds that wanted to see the man who hijacked the Alitalia aircraft—*CDM*. "I will share my ransom money with those who assisted me," Sepala Ekanayake, the Sri Lankan who hijacked Alitalia's Boeing 747 in Bangkok said last night; he was carrying with him a brown plastic bag which contained the ransom money totalling 297,000 US dollars. The Ministry of Health was yesterday alerted to the outbreak of diarrhoea in Colombo; this came after 104 cases were reported in Colombo City alone—*SU*. Minister of Finance and Planning Ronnie de Mel making a scathing attack at the Ceylon Tea Traders and the State Plantation sector as a whole at the Annual General Meeting of the Commerce said that he has to go from country to country with a begging bowl asking for aid because the country's highest foreign exchange earner, the tea industry was in the doldrums—*IS*.

SATURDAY, JULY 3: Sepala Ekanayake, the only Lankan to have acquired the tag 'sky-pirate', was unrepentant and quite proud of his Bangkok hijack when he spoke to the *Daily News* on the journey from Katunayake airport to the Inter-

Continental Hotel on Thursday night. Hijacker Sepala Ekanayake yesterday failed in an attempt to deposit his ransom money at the Indo-Suez Bank in Colombo; Ekanayake said he could not do this because he did not have his identity card with him; the bank's manager, who did not want to give his name, said the problem was simply a matter of identification. Italy said today it had asked Sri Lanka to extradite the hijacker who held 261 people on an Alitalia jumbo jet and got away with a 300,000 dollar ransom after threatening to blow the plane up—*CDN*. The police yesterday consulted the Attorney General whether any action could be taken by the authorities against hijacker Sepala Ekanayake; according to informed sources Sepala Ekanayake had not committed a crime in Sri Lanka and therefore no action could be instituted against him—*CDM*. Sky pirate Sepala Ekanayake openly flaunting his loot of 297,000 US dollars, yesterday hosted a luncheon for friends, went on a shopping spree and addressed a press conference in the luxury of the star class hotel where he is staying. Northern terrorists last night gunned down four Police constables and left the others seriously wounded; the policemen all from the Point Pedro Police Station fell victims to automatic weapons which the terrorists believed to have been attired in khaki, fired after ambushing them at the Nelliady junction—*SU*.



WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

June 27-July 3

ASIA

INDIA: India and Pakistan will resume their "no-war" pact talks in August this year. The swollen Brahmaputra river and its tributaries have inundated vast expanse of territory and have rendered 150,000 people homeless. **VIETNAM:** The Vietnamese Council of State was re-shuffled dropping Xuan Thung from the post of Vice-Chairman and General Secretary. The President of the newly formed exile coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea, Prince Sihanouk had warned Vietnam that its people will take up arms against occupying Vietnamese forces.

JAPAN: Mitsubishi Electric Corporation and Hitachi Ltd., have stopped their advertisements in the Japanese Press declaring that they paid a US Consultancy Company for information and they were not aware that they were stolen. In the USA, A Federal Grand Jury has indicted Hitachi Corporation and 17 individuals on the charge there was conspiracy to collect IBM Computer secrets. **INDONESIA:** Indonesian President Suharto has promised to extend political support and technical aid to rehabilitate Kampuchea.

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LEBANON: There were contradictory reports claiming that the PLO has agreed to surrender its arms and leave Beirut. The PLO was hopeful that the US would eventually influence Israel to stop its attack on Beirut and in the event of any further attack the PLO can hold on for sometime. The Israeli invasion of Lebanon has left nearly 900,000 destitute without income or shelter. George Habash, a militant PLO leader denied that Arafat ever thought of leaving Beirut. However judging from the various newspaper reports it could be said that the PLO was seriously considering the idea of shifting its headquarters to Cairo. The difficulty to make such a move was Egypt's insistence that the PLO should be a political organisation and not a military one. **ISRAEL:** The impatient Israelis blamed the PLO for dragging its feet as it was struggling to make up its mind whether to leave Beirut or not. Israel has asked France not to interfere in any way in the talks between the US and the Lebanese Government which were meant to force the PLO out of Lebanon. The Chief of Israel's Army Gen. Rafeal Eitan threatened to use military force to compel the PLO to leave Beirut. He felt that political negotiations were time-consuming and allowed PLO guerrillas to reorganise themselves in the Moslem sector. **IRAQ:** Iraq has announced that it has withdrawn all her forces from the Iranian territory captured during the war 21 months ago. Iraq has reconstituted its Revolutionary Command Council.

CHINA: After 18 years China has started on a new Census of its population. Five million enumerators will work for the next two months to get as complete an account as possible.

EUROPE

SOVIET UNION: The Soviet newspaper *Pravda* said that Reagan had used Haig as a scapegoat for his failure to maintain a steady and consistent policy at home and abroad. The Soviet Union and Jordan have agreed that the Israeli attack on Lebanon was a direct result of strategic co-operation between Washington and Tel Aviv and the Camp David course of separate deals. **FRANCE:** According to a report of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) the aid provided by the industrialized nations has dropped by 4 percent last year. This was partly due to the US which slashed its aid by 26 percent. **UNITED KINGDOM:** Strikers in the government owned public transport systems caused innumerable hardships to 2.5 million daily travellers. The opinion polls in Britain had predicted that David Owen may score over Roy Jenkins, as leader of the Social Democratic Party but he was defeated by more than 5,000 votes. Mr. Roy Jenkins was elected leader of the SDP and he will lead the Party at the next general elections. Jenkin's election pleased the Liberal Party leader David Steel. **WEST GERMANY:** The West German government

of Chancellor Schmidt staved off an imminent budget debacle by entering into an agreement with the other two coalition partners. **BELGIUM:** The EEC leaders' meeting in the midst of strained relations with the US over the Siberia-West gas pipeline deal, Israel's invasion of Lebanon and the resignation of Alexander Haig, all found to have their share of impact on the Community. The EEC decided against imposing economic sanctions against Israel for invading Lebanon. However the EEC has called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and the pull-out of Palestinian guerillas in the West of Beirut. The EEC countries have decided in tough talking with the US administration to press for a change of heart over US embargoes on the use of high technology on the Soviet-West European gas pipeline, European steel exports to the USA etc. The tension, if allowed deteriorate, may upset the Atlantic alliance.

AMERICA

UNITED STATES: The disputes between Secretary of State Alexander Haig and his colleagues, Casper Weinberger, Defence Secretary Clark, National Security Adviser, Mrs. Kirkpatrick, US Ambassador to the UN over many issues led to the resignation of Alexander Haig. The new Secretary of State has said that he had known the President as a private citizen for a long time and would be able to work for him. President Reagan said that it was too early to say whether he would seek a second four year term. President Reagan refused to condemn the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and said that the US was anxious to see that all foreign armies out of war ravaged Lebanon. He also emphasised the fact that the PLO in Lebanon had turned out to be a government within a government with its own army and committed acts of aggression across the border. President Reagan denied allegations levelled against his former Secretary of State Haig that he approved the Israeli invasion of Lebanon as he (Haig) had been promised support for a Presidential bid in 1984. He also denied charges of Arab countries that the US was either a Party or an accomplice to the Israeli aggression of Lebanon.

ARGENTINA: President Galtieri who resigned a few days ago was accused of falsification of documents. He was reported to have signed nearly 101 documents, three days after he resigned his post. The Argentinian Navy and Air Force may join President Bignone's government. The new Cabinet of Major Gen. Bignone includes one officer and nine civilians. A military tribunal has been set up to investigate the performance of the Argentinian military personnel in Falklands.

AFRICA

EGYPT: The continuation of Israel's armed conflict with PLO guerillas in Lebanon has turned the Egyptians against the US. The Government of

Mubarak and opposition parties feel a "let down" by the US and feel that it would be difficult for Egypt to defend Israeli action or the US in the Middle East. Israel's action, they feel, was done with Washington's blessings. **ZIMBABWE:** Premier Mugabe said that Joshua Nkoma had been aware of the attack on his residence and the police have started investigations to find out his role in the attack. Nkoma denied the charges. **MAURITIUS:** According to AP news the exiles of Diego Garcia were leading a miserable existence in Mauritius. The new Government has demanded the restoration of Mauritian sovereignty over Diego Garcia. **SEYCHELLES:** According to the Government newspapers *Nation* the Seychelles Government favoured the turning of the Indian Ocean into a peace zone, was in favour of the liberation movement in Namibia, Western Sahara and in Palestine. Their socialist path too was independent. It was such development that compelled the Western countries to conspire to overthrow the legitimate government in Seychelles.

THE FOREIGN SCENE

AFTER FALKLANDS

Diego Garcia

By Nigel Williamson

AS THE BRITISH FLEET sailed to the Falkland Islands at the beginning of April to defend the right to self-determination of the 1,800 islanders the Foreign Office was writing the final chapter to one of the shoddiest episodes of British colonial history. Two weeks before the despatch of the Task Force, a Foreign Office delegation arrived in Mauritius led by Sir Leonard Allinson. Its purpose was to persuade 1,200 refugees evicted from the island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean in 1971 by the British Government to give up finally and irrevocably their claim to their home in Diego Garcia. The island is now an American naval and nuclear bomber base. **It was purchased by Britain from the Mauritian government in 1967, on condition that it would be used as a communications centre only.** India expressed "deep concern" about this, and proposed that the Indian Ocean should be neutralized and declared a "zone of peace". The Americans, who were by now leasing the island from Britain, declared a "zone of peace" to be a very "dangerous concept". Part of the agreement of the lease was that Britain would depopulate the island, because

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indigenous islanders were regarded as potentially hostile to American plans to build a military base there. Admiral Zumwalt, who shaped American defence policy in the Indian Ocean, made this clear on Granada Television's "World in Action" programme on Monday. "My own personal desire was to have no indigenous labourers on the island because I could foresee the kind of political complications that the Soviets always make when you have that kind of indigenous population, therefore, I strongly advocated that there be none there when we took over and established the base. Plans to build the base were not announced until February 1974, when the outgoing Tory Government announced that it had given permission to the Americans to build a 12-million dollar "communications centre" on Diego Garcia.

WHEN LABOUR TOOK OFFICE A FEW WEEKS LATER, the plans were frozen until the new Defence Secretary, Roy Mason, gave the go-ahead in his defence review to build what he told the House of Commons on July 22, 1975 would be "an austere communications facility, not a base." But it soon became clear that the Americans had other intentions. At a Congressional Committee in March 1974, it transpired that plans were being made to base B-52 bombers, swingwing F-111s capable of carrying nuclear weapons and nuclear submarines and aircraft carriers on Diego Garcia. The costs too began to escalate, first to 60 million dollars, then to more than 100 million dollars. The Labour Government stuck resolutely to its story that Diego Garcia was to be "an austere communications facility," dismissing any information to the contrary as "misleading." Other more sordid details began to emerge. The British Government had originally claimed that Diego Garcia was uninhabited, the eviction of more than 1,200 third-generation or fourth-generation citizens not being made public until September 1975 when *The Guardian* and the *Sunday Times* stumbled upon the story. It was also revealed that the British Government had bought up the Coconut Company, the one employer on the island, and promptly closed it down to facilitate depopulation. On *World In Action* this week, islanders claimed that when they were shipped off Diego Garcia in 1971, they were given only 15 days' notice and were told that if they did not leave they would be shot by the Americans. One eye-witness claims that about 150 islanders were shipped off in a vessel which normally had passenger facilities for only 12 people. By the end of 1971, 426 families, more than 1,200 people, had been dumped in Mauritius and left to fend for themselves in the slums of the capital Port Louis. Although Britain paid Mauritius a lump sum of £ 650,000 in 1972 to rehabilitate the islanders, they did not receive the money for another six years because the Mauritian government could not devise a compre-

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hensive resettlement scheme which satisfied the Diego Garcians.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE insisted that the payment was in full and final settlement, and hatched a secret missile deal with the Americans in which £ 5 million was slashed off the Polaris system sold to Britain to subsidise the costs of depopulation. This deal remained secret until September 1975, and while the Pentagon subsidies continued to the British at least until 1976, British payments to the islanders had ceased with that one-off sum in 1972. All this time, the islanders were living in appalling poverty in the slums of Mauritius. Their condition was known to both Labour and Conservative Governments. In 1976, the Foreign Office sent Allan Prosser, a development officer to Mauritius. He recommended in his report a comprehensive welfare and house building scheme. The Labour Government refused to act upon Prosser's report, fearing that to do so would concede legal liability, with massive claims for damages following. Eventually, one of the islanders Edward Vencattessan decided to sue the British Government. The Foreign Office responded with a second offer of £ 1.25 million to be shared among the islanders on the condition that Vencattessan drop his claim. He refused. By 1981, there was rioting in the streets of Port Louis, the Mauritian capital. Effigies of Mrs. Thatcher were burnt, and prison sentences followed. Several of the prisoners went on hunger strike. In June 1981, the Mauritian Government sent a delegation to London to petition the British Government for more money. The Foreign Office increased the offer by £ 300,000 to nearly £ 1,600,000 and described this as "fair and reasonable". Again it was refused.

FINALLY, the Foreign Office despatched Sir Leonard Allison to Mauritius to resolve the situation. He increased the offer first to £ 3 million and finally to £ 4 million. In return, the islanders agreed to sign away all their rights never to return to Diego Garcia. While this human drama was being played out, plans were going ahead on the island to construct something far grander than the "austere communications facility" promised by Roy Mason. In March 1979, reports from Washington indicated that the Americans were considering setting up a new fleet of warships based in Diego Garcia. In summer 1981, the British Government gave permission for a 1,000 million dollar expansion scheme to base B-52 bombers there, a deep water harbour for American navy carriers, 2,500 servicemen and mid-air refuelling tankers. Work is now going ahead on this expansion, and the financial details are documented in the "construction programmes" section of the American Department of Defence budgets for fiscal years 1981, 1982 and 1983. But the ten-year-old dispute for the island may not be at an end. At the beginning of this month, a new Government was elected in Mauritius. It has demanded an end to

American pressure and to Britain's sovereignty over the island, and threatened to take the matter to the International Court of Justice in the Hague. **Whatever the outcome of that, it is impossible not to compare the episode of Diego Garcia with that of the Falklands. There are only two possible conclusions that can be drawn. If the Americans had wanted the Falkland Islands for a military base, would Britain have treated the Falklanders in the same shoddy way? Alternatively, had the inhabitants of Diego Garcia been white descendents of British stock, they would have been accorded the same attention and priority as the Falklanders. Neither possibility shows recent British Governments, Conservative or Labour, in a very favourable light.**

Courtesy—Tribune, London 23-6-82

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ONE VIEW

Why Haig was Booted Out

Washington: George Schultz, who has replaced Alexander Haig, was the Reagan Kitchen Cabinet's original choice for the State Department. The Kitchen Cabinet consists, according to one listing, of 11 and according to another 13 members who paid for Reagan's campaign, and have since run his administration from behind the scenes. These men, like Reagan, went to small schools and colleges and are self-made multi-millionaires who have had problems with the various tax departments and law authorities. They have never missed any opportunity to divert the resources of the public exchequer for personal benefits. In selecting the President's team, their choice fell on the bright boys serving as top executives in the Defence and Aerospace industries and the Bechtels Corporation in which they have interests and which has often served the CIA in Latin America and Western Europe. Haig was an outsider in this set. He had to be taken because the funds of the Kitchen Cabinet alone had not got Reagan elected to the White House. He owes his election to a coalition of forces, and Haig belonged to the Trans-Atlanticist group of cold warriors which believes in carrying the West Europeans with the US, whereas the men from Bechtels rely on more aggressive tactics in dealing with the allies. Right from the beginning, Haig could not pull on with his colleagues in the Cabinet. He clashed with almost everyone in the Kitchen Cabinet—Treasury Secretary Regan, Defence Secretary Weinberger, National Security Chief, Allen, White House aide Meesad and UN representative Jeane Kirkpatrick. An these were not just personality clashes.

To restrain Haig, the Kitchen Cabinet put William Clark as his deputy. Clark is known as a smooth-talker and double-crosser. His record in these fields has been well documented. He won Haig's confidence by smooth talk and, in the meanwhile, learnt the ropes of the State Department, double-crossing his titular boss at every step. Ultimately he became Haig's rival when he was named to head the National Security Council. Clark and Haig clashed openly during Reagan's European visit and were often engaged in shouting bouts. There were three issues on which they almost came to blows like street toughs. The most important, which seems to have provided the immediate provocation for Haig's resignation, was Clark's charge that the State Department had not put enough pressure on the West Europeans to tighten the embargoes on trade and financial deals with the Soviet Union. On return to Washington, while Haig was away at New York, Clark got the Cabinet to recommend to the President, despite the State Department's opposition that the ban on export of items to the Soviet Union for building a pipeline, should be extended to West European firms manufacturing these items under American licence. Reagan accepted the recommendation and announced his decision while Haig was talking to Gromyko.

The second important issue was the handling of Israel. While the entire Cabinet was unanimous in endorsing Begin's plan for the invasion of Lebanon to create a buffer zone and cleanse it of the Palestinians, the Bechtel boys, led by Weinberger, could not ignore their Arab interests and wanted Israel to be restrained. After Haig's resignation, Israel was forced by the US to honour its fourth cease-fire in Lebanon and give time to Philip Habib to negotiate with the PLO and, thus, pacify the Bechtels' Arab clients. The third issue on which Haig and Clark gnashed their teeth at each other was the change of the US vote in the Security Council on the ceasefire call in the now-ended Falklands war. Differences over these issues burst into the open for two reasons. One was indicated by a White House aide who said that Clerk would not have indulged in a shouting match with Haig unless Reagan himself wanted it. Why did Reagan want his Secretary of State to be humiliated in public? The answer to the question leads to the second reason for the differences within the administration bursting into the open. For months, Reagan had been trying to soften his earlier cold warrior image in preparation for his European visit, and during the visit itself he donned the role of a prophet of peace, although without conviction. This had generated pressures on him from the ultra-right and he wanted his original image to be restored.

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Strong US-China Ties

Washington.: There is no doubt that US-China relations have been clouded for the past several months by the issue of American arms sales to Taiwan. But as the two nations attempt to resolve the complex historical problem following Vice President Bush's recent visit to Beijing it would seem worthwhile to review what to some might be a surprisingly long list of positive achievements in the Sino-American relationship. That's what Deputy Secretary of State Walter Stoessel, the number two official in the US State Department, did this week in a major address in Washington. When President Reagan took office 18 months ago China and the United States were already experiencing the first benefits of nearly a decade of improving relations. Cultural exchanges were flourishing and trade was increasing. Both countries were realizing the strategic benefit of their new relationship in facing a common challenger from the Soviet Union. Despite some initial concern brought about by campaign statements of the then candidate Ronald Reagan, there now is ample evidence that the American-China policy of the 1970s nurtured by Republican and Democratic Presidents alike, continues under the Reagan administration. During the past year, important progress has been made in such areas as technology transfer and consular relations. American and Chinese officials are discussing the possibility of an agreement for peaceful nuclear cooperation. The United States has lifted its prohibition on munitions sales to China. Complementary and parallel Chinese and American views have emerged on foreign policy matters, such as Vietnam's aggression in Kampuchea and the Soviet Union's thrust into Afghanistan. Even where differences do remain in either bilateral or international matters, Chinese and American officials continue to discuss their problems at high levels. This is as it should be for the benefit of both countries, and for other nations as well. Strong relations are not only critical for the long-term security of China and the United States, but also contribute to Asian stability and global harmony. This is why the Reagan Administration believes it necessary that a lasting Sino-American relationship be developed. The United States continues to value a positive relationship with Beijing. Today, as in the 1970s, America recognizes the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China, and acknowledges the Chinese position that there is but one China and that Taiwan is a part of China. If the development of closer ties falters, the only beneficiaries would be Beijing's and Washington's common adversaries.

USICA

TRIBUNE, JULY 17, 1982

Fear of China

Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, 53, has been Indonesia's Foreign Minister since 1978. During a recent trip to the United Nations he discussed with Newsweek's Patricia J. Sethi the roles played by the United States, China and Japan in Southeast Asia and the continuing Kampuchea problem. Excerpts:

Sethi: Is there much concern in Southeast Asia about growing US links with China?

Kusumaatmadja: Frankly, there is. US foreign policy in general appears not to be fully thought through. Sometimes the United States views situations too much in global, superpower terms, neglecting other aspects. For instance, the relationship with China is seen to counterbalance US policy vis-a-vis the Soviet Union; so it is almost a black and white situation. This picture forgets the other nations in Asia to whom China means something else. We hope that the relationship between the United States and China will be counterbalanced by a relationship between the United States and Southeast Asia.

Question: Is there much resentment in Indonesia against postwar Japanese economic power?

Answer: Not as strong as in Thailand, for instance but there is that feeling in Indonesia. That is why we have started to diversify our economic and trade links —especially with Western Europe. We don't want to put all our eggs in one basket — in Japan.

Question: Do you fear Japan's potential as a military force?

Answer: The fear of the military is an issue that will come up only if Japan rearms. And we have indicated to the United States that, in their wish for Japan to shoulder additional military burdens, care should be taken not to give them the policeman's role. It would be all right if Japan is given the role to defend its territory and vicinity but not the role of policeman for Asia.

Question: Is ASEAN split on exactly how to deal with Hanoi?

Answer: There is no basic difference in ASEAN vis-a-vis Vietnam. We all agree that ultimately the biggest threat is China. But the Thais ask about the immediate threat — Vietnam — and because of their geographical proximity to Vietnam they tend to view things somewhat differently. Indonesia is more relaxed because we have the sea between US and Vietnam. Also Indonesia has affiliations with Hanoi in the similarities of our historical fight

or independence. We also have faith in the independence of Vietnam in that we do not believe it will become subservient to the Soviet Union as some other members may feel.

—Newsweek, 28.06.82

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U.S.

On Simla Accord

Washington, July 1: The United States lauded India and Pakistan July 1, on the eve of the tenth anniversary of the Simla Accord. The Simla agreement of 1972 set forth guidelines for a durable peace between India and Pakistan. Under its terms, the two countries agreed to settle all their mutual problems on a bilateral basis and not involve a third party,, both countries also agreed to avoid the use of force in settling outstanding issues. In a statement, the State Department said, "Given our friendship with both parties, we have been particularly pleased by their recent agreement to resume discussions on additional measures which might be taken to strengthen bilateral relations." The Simla agreement was an outgrowth of the India-Pakistan war of 1971 over East Pakistan, later to become Bangladesh. In search of a settlement, then Prime Minister , Bhutto of Pakistan met with Prime Minister Gandhi of India at Simla in July 1972 and the agreement was forged. Following is the State Department statement on the Simla accord anniversary: "The United States notes with satisfaction that July 2 marks the tenth anniversary of the Simla Accord through whicha India and Pakistan have enjoyed a decade of peace. Given our friendship with both parties, we have been particularly pleased by their recent agreement to resume discussions on additional measures which might be taken to strengthen bilateral relations. These constructive efforts serve the common interest of stability and peaceful cooperation, both in South Asia and in the world at large. The United States applauds the far-sighted statesmanship of the leaders of these two great nations as they move forward in the spirit of Simla."—USICA.

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INDIA

Separatist Trends

New Delhi: In an interview with the *Indian Express* recently, India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi expressed serious concern about the fact that extremist forces were trying to escalate tension in the strategically located state of Punjab which

borders on Pakistan. What are these forces? What are they doing? Who is behind them? The facts show that these are the forces of internal reaction and their connections abroad who would like to divide India and put pressure on its government which pursues an independent foreign policy. What are these facts? In March last year a separatist organisation of the Sikh religious community (most of Punjab's population are Sinks) convened a conference where it demanded that the state of Punjab should be detached from India and become a Sikh state called "Khalistan." (The name is derived from the word "Khalsa," "pure," which was given to the Sink organisation by Govind Singh, the Sinks' last spiritual leader, in the late seventeenth century). The separatists claim that their demand for secession is motivated by political and economic discrimination which is allegedly practised against the Sikhs. Meanwhile it is a well known fact that Punjab is one of the more advanced states in India with the highest standard of living in the country.

The Sikh separatists have been maintaining tension in Punjab for more than a year. They provoke clashes with the Hindu community, attack government institutions and assassinate their critics. There is one more circumstance worthy of note. From the very start it has been clear that the Punjab separatist movement is inspired outside India. The *Indian Express* said that the chief initiators and inspirers of the idea of creating "Khalistan" should be sought in the United States, Britain, Canada and West Germany. It is there that passports, post stamps and banknotes of the "Republic of Khalistan" are being printed and aid funds for the separatists are being raised. Allegations have been made that the Sikh separatist groups are directly financed by the CIA. Their leaders live in the United States and Canada. There is no doubt that without foreign support this "movement" would have long fizzled out, for the separatists represent a small group of reactionary elements who do not express the real interests of the ten-million-odd Sikh community.

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SOVIET VIEW

Falsifying Facts

Moscow: "Double falsification of facts", this is how *Literaturnaya Gazeta* describes the assertions of official Washington that the United States cannot assume the obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons the way it has been done by the USSR since the Soviet Union allegedly has in Europe the overwhelming supremacy in conventional armaments which it can use any time. First, there is no "supremacy" while there exists a rough military parity between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO members

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tates, including conventional armaments, writes the newspaper's observer Vitaly Kobysh. *Second*, it is also known in Washington and in other NATO capitals that the Soviet Union is prepared, given the reciprocity of the other side, to assume tomorrow, in addition to the pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, also the obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, also the obligation not to be the first to use conventional weapons. "A clever propaganda move", this is how official Washington summed up the Soviet Union's commitment. This is what their morals and their political outlook are like. This is the approach of traders, of stock market gamblers to the problem on which mankind's destiny depends directly. Is it a "clever move?" Then why shouldn't you take it if only in "propaganda purposes?" They do not want and cannot take it for they cannot imagine their existence without the "final argument" a nuclear fist of mail, the observer stresses—APN.

TRIBUNE

Agricultural Digest

IRRIGATION—5

Answering Your Queries-5

Is capillary movement of any consequence? There is a capillary fringe above and below a perched watertable, but capillary movement in a soil at or below field capacity is of negligible significance. The main loss of moisture is either from transpiration through the plant or three direct evaporation to the air. Water does not move to the roots; the roots move to the moisture, but they will not extend far into dry soils even when moisture is withheld from the surface. Deep rooting cannot be encouraged unless the plants have that natural tendency and are given some inducement in the form of available water to implement it

What is the practical value of test wells? When a test well is sunk through a saturated zone in the soil, free moisture will drain into it and rise to a certain level generally taken to be that of the water table. One test well is not sufficient to give a picture of the watertable position over the whole farm; a grid of wells established and maintained at two to three chain intervals is required. Test wells may be made with a three or four inch post-hole digger, and should be sunk to the saturated zone or a maximum of eight feet. When reading test wells allowance should be made for the effect on the water table of soil type,

climatic and seasonal conditions such as air pressure-temperature, evaporation and rainfall. This is especially necessary when the water table is not far from the surface. The main consideration is soil moisture above the watertable. This can only be ascertained by use of the soil auger. Should the soil moisture be above the wilting point and approaching field capacity, a light irrigation will cause a considerable rise in the water level; given drier conditions in the upper soil much heavier irrigations are necessary to give the same result. A rise in the air pressure causes a fall in the water level, and vice versa. Daily changes in temperature have little influence under field conditions, but seasonal temperature changes are significant enough to warrant consideration. Taken generally the rise of temperatures through spring and summer and the fall through autumn and winter cause a corresponding rise and fall in the watertable. This effect, coupled with reaction to evaporation and air pressure, give a generally falling level through autumn and a rise in spring not altogether associated with soil moisture content. It should not be assumed that the absence of water-table indicates freedom from excess moisture; even with dry test wells it still is necessary to investigate with a soil auger just to be certain of conditions underground.

How can a persistent, high water table be corrected? Under practical conditions a high water table cannot be reduced by evaporation which does not extend far below the surface foot or so, except in soils which crack freely and deeply. Drainage may seem to be the obvious answer. However, it is not practicable on all soils, and many of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas soils do not appear to be suited to tile draining. Until further investigational work has been carried out little can be stated regarding this aspect of reclamation. The one practical means of removing excess moisture is the growing of vigorous, deep-rooted summer growing plants. Deep rooting, however, is not the only requisite in a watering plant; many fine fibrous roots are undesirable so that plugging of the larger soil spaces can be brought about and thus a more even penetration of applied water obtained. Sunflowers are good for dewatering; they have both fibre and tap roots. Lucerne and certain species of *Crotalaria* are used fairly extensively and plants such as maize, sorghum, sudan grass etc., are also useful. Where limited salting has occurred, bokhara clover gives greater success than lucerne, but with excessive salting it is difficult to obtain satisfactory growth of almost any plant. Some of the best plants for the early stages of reclamation of salted land are a common species of *Chenopodium* known as fat hen, couch grass (*Cynodon dactylon*) and paspalum (*Paspalum dilatatum*). A method sometimes adopted, but not recommended is to keep the land empty. This relies on deep percolation and evaporation, and is rather a slow process. Moreover, it may lead to an accumulation of injurious salts just below the surface soil, with serious results.

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Is tillage detrimental to soils under irrigation?

The maintenance of soil fertility and soil structure under normal orchard practice is difficult. However as some tillage is necessary to control weeds, suitable conditions should be chosen for the job to minimise bad effects. When tilled the soil should be friable, not wet enough to puddle nor so dry that it breaks into large clods. Though sometimes difficult, the working of a clean, bare surface should be avoided as much as possible. The aim should be to keep a certain amount of plant cover to act as a buffer between soil and implement. Organic matter, in the form of green and dry stems and roots, absorbs the stresses and weight of tillage. In this way structural breakdown will be reduced and formation of a plough sole made remote.

What is the effect of plough sole? Plough sole is the result of over pulverisation of the soil and loss of organic matter. Irrigation in conjunction with frequent tillage of a bare surface disintegrates the aggregated soil particles and the finer material collects in the soil layer just below the plough depth. This compacted layer reduces aeration and affects the soakage rate considerably. The top diagram on page 20 shows the poor penetration under six furrows after forty-eight hour's soaking. After laying idle for six winter months the same block was flooded by contour check. Plough sole was still present to some extent but it was no longer necessary to resort to mechanical means of correction; it is better to break the packed layer by ceasing cultivation, irrigation and growing crops.

Does tillage conserve moisture? Evaporation occurs from the surface whether it is tilled or not. However, tillage facilitates the movement of air and hence evaporation of moisture and as a result the latter may be extended deeper into the soil. At the same time the main loss of moisture from below the zone of evaporation is through weeds and any operations which control their growth will conserve the available moisture in this zone. In soils liable to deep cracking, blocking of the larger openings will save some of the lower moisture. However, it is better to correct the tendency to deep cracking than to stir the soil surface too frequently. Constant tillage not only destroys soil condition but it also extends the lag in irrigation.

What is the lag in irrigation? The time between the application of water and the response by the tree. Under certain conditions, notably where the soil type impedes the ready soakage of water and temporary water-logging occurs immediately after an irrigation, the lag extends over a considerable time. The effect is the exclusion of air from the root zone and until field capacity is approached and soil air returns there is no response by the tree. It is possible for trees to be in a wilted condition for some time after irrigation. Any practice which tends to hasten the approach to field capacity is to be encouraged.

What is the significance of organic matter? Soil organic matter is a major factor in the formation of soil structure and in the maintenance of soil nitrogen. With more or less clean summer cultivation which is the generally accepted practice, it is probably impossible to prevent the ultimate deterioration of soil structure and soil fertility. Annual winter green manure crops are helpful in reducing the rate of decline. The amount of organic matter they provide is insufficient to prevent soil deterioration. Apart from this direct effect on soil structure and nitrogen supply, soil organic matter is necessary to provide a medium for the development of soil micro-organisms. Moreover, it helps to absorb the stresses of tillage, reduces surface cracking in heavy soils and as a mulch reduces soil temperature and radiation.

Concluded

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"PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT"

To Save Forests

DR. M. S. SWAMINATHAN, Secretary to the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, government of India, called for a review of the national forest policy to ensure ecological security which formed the basis for an enduring national food security system. Dr. Swaminathan suggested a "people's forestry movement" to put an end to the present trend towards indiscriminate destruction of forest which spelt doom to the ecosystem, and an effective blend of public policies and technological and service packages to introduce a new dimension to forest farming in our integrated rural development programmes. Dr. Swaminathan, who was delivering the convocation address at the Southern Forest Rangers College said that the National Forest Policy Resolution adopted in 1952 aiming to increase forest area to 33 percent of the total land area had become a "document of unfulfilled sentiments... Far from expanding the area under forest we are in fact fast losing ground. The adverse consequences of indiscriminate deforestation and shifting cultivation are now manifesting themselves in numerous ways like flash floods, landslides, soil erosion, silting of canals and reservoirs and albedo effects". The damage to the Himalayan ecosystem through extensive deforestation and erosion and landslides promoted by the methods adopted for the construction of roads, mining etc., had become a matter of deep concern.

IF THIS PROCESS was not arrested and reversed before the end of this century, the entire future of Indo-Gangetic agriculture may be in danger. Since the Indo-Gangetic belt had the maximum untapped agricultural production reservoir in the country, their ability to feed 1,000 million people in another

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25 years was linked to the restoration of the Himalayan ecosystem. The mountain ecosystem of peninsular India also needed rapid restoration." Dr. Swaminathan said estimates differed on area of forest land in the country. They ranged from 40 million to 75 million hectares. Indian Agricultural Statistics estimated that 66 million hectares under forests had been exploited for fuel and industrial and domestic uses besides large-scale illicit felling of trees. The methods adopted for construction of hill roads had become the starting point of extensive damage to soil fertility and thereby prevented forest regeneration. The methods adopted so far for meeting fuel and timber requirements had led to a blind alley. "If we continue on this path the remaining forests will tend to disappear by the end of this century and a renewable resource of inestimable value may become non-renewable as a result of desertification." Unless forestry became a people's movement, rather than continue as the responsibility of the Forest Departments, the ecological security they needed could not be provided.

DR. SWAMINATHAN suggested that appropriate public policies for stimulating forests development along the desired lines should be taken up. They should include the provision of fuel and fodder in the minimum needs programme and entrust the responsibility for their supply to the gram panchayats or any other appropriate agency in each block. A scheme to involve school children as well as adults to raise trees in homes, schools, common land, roadside and along railway line should be taken up. He said so far forest research was devoted only to the management of reserve forests and they have not yet developed specific technologies for social and agro-forestry programmes. To strengthen on-going research a national forest survey organisation, a national bureau of forest genetic resources, a coordinated programme for the improvements of bamboo and other under-utilised trees and a coordinated programme for agro-forestry research and development (jointly with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research) would be set up. It was also proposed to establish three major centres of research and development of bamboo in the north, east and south as India as a whole accounted for more than 100 out of the 550 known species of bamboo in the world. Dr. Swaminathan said bamboo farming should be taken up on a large scale to meet the needs of the paper industry. A wide range of services would have to be provided to enable forestry to become a people's movement. Besides arrangements for nurseries of appropriate planting material a dynamic extension service was needed. To strengthen the extension work and manpower development in the forestry is was proposed to set up a Directorate of Extension and Social Sciences at the Forest Research Institute and College, Dehra Dun and open an additional Forest Service Officers College, Hindu

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ENERGY

Biogas

By A. R. Godbole

A community gobar gas plant project is taking shape at Dhaneev in Thana district near Bombay under the auspices of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. The first of its kind in the country, the project aims at supplying gobar gas (Biogas) for cooking and, if possible, for lighting to about 40 hamlets of the village Dhaneev. The villagers owning about 100 cattle have agreed to supply cowdung everyday as feed-stock for the plant. The project, which was taken up by the KVIC about three months ago, has now started producing gas. What remains to be done is give connections to the residents. It is a chain of three gas plants which will produce gas from cowdung, night soil (sewage) and agricultural waste respectively. Each of these plants is capable of producing about 1500 cubic feet of gas per day. The KVIC proposes to construct 12 such Community Plants in the country.

At the starting point the first gas plant will be fed with cowdung. After taking about 70 to 80 percent of gas, the slurry in digester will be transferred to another tank which will produce gas from night soil. For this purpose, about 8 latrines have been constructed and are directly connected to the digester of the new plant. This has to be done because night soil does not ferment properly without addition of cowdung to the slurry, although it gives maximum amount of gas. The slurry from this plant will then be transferred to the third plant which will produce bio-gas from agricultural waste and some plants like hyacinth. Each of these link plants will produce 1,500 cubic feet of the gas or total of about 4,500 cu. ft per day. The project has so far cost Rs. 2 lakhs and about Rs. 40,000 will have to be spent for giving connection to every house in the village. The KVIC has also decided to make use of the surplus gas for running a water pump at village well. Water drawn from the well will be stored in overhead tank and supplied to the villagers through a pipeline. The KVIC plans to instal 20,000 gobar plants this year all over the country. At present about 80,000 such plants are in operation. Eleven thousands of them are in Maharashtra.

—Kurukshehra

DENUDATION

Sir,

I have read with deep interest the articles: "MAN: THE MARAUDER" by Mr. K. Kanapathi-pillai appearing in Vol. 26, No. 34 May 15, 1982 of your prestigious news review *Tribune*. It is a very

useful article. The author has pointed out how man, especially on the Eastern Coast of Sri Lanka has become a true marauder of nature's wealth. The coastal sandy and coral strips are being fast exploited. The time won't be too far when the East Coast coconut estates and paddy land and village settlements will be eroded and invaded by tides, coastal currents, groundswells and waves. It is high time that the Government of this country took cognizance of this destructive exploitation on the part of man and adopted stern steps to arrest this marauding activity.

V. Shri Pathmanathan

Sri Thengam, Kaliodai,
Oluvil, Palaimunai.
2nd June 1982.

TRIBUNE DEVELOPMENT FORUM

IN THE MAHAWELI

The Settler's Problem-I

By R. Kahawita

THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EVOLUTION of a peasant farmer under any development scheme is a most difficult, slow, and painful process. The target is to get the farmer's unit into production in the shortest possible time, using the investments in technical development, social services and all the infrastructure that has gone into the setting up of a viable community. **This country is not new to what is to be expected in a programme of this nature. The nature of the problems to be experienced we became aware of since 1932 and it is going on since then, not only in Mahaweli but elsewhere also. So far the time-table to establish a viable and self-sufficient community have not changed. It is still moving on, at the same old pace and in the same old manner. Why? Because the human material available to participate in the programme is the same as was in 1932.** The scenario has not changed though large sums have been spent and are still being spent to accelerate the process. It is like trying to cut down the nine months' pregnancy to six months. Science may do it, but the result and the after-care are not the same as what nature has ordained it to be. The problem is entirely human. Whether a settler is single or married, we are not nearer the solution. A man can take a wife or discard a wife at will. So civil status is not the obstacle to accelerated settlement and productivity. It is not even the past

experience of a settler or his background that can accelerate production. They may be trained, guided and shown the know-how of using the facilities available to him to make "a living". We cannot expect anything more than that. Yet it is the hardest to expect.

IN THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING NEW COMMUNITIES we must expect nothing but the minimum at the commencement. The target is to anchor the settler to his holding. Forget about the optimum forecast considered in financial viability studies that may have preceded the implementation of project. That target is twenty years away. What is urgent is to achieve the minimum "To wrest a living"—with the resources at the disposal of a peasant. The acceleration is to use these and not their creation. **Who is a new settler and how is he selected? He is selected not because he has capital to invest, not because he understands the problems that will confront him in a new settlement and in a new environment—an environment completely different to where he grew up to be an adult—not because he has proved a success in another walk of life. The planners want a pawn to fit into their chequer-board and so the settler is placed in his square. But without the mastermind to make the next move.** From the peasant's point of view, he yearns for a change; he wants something to do and earn something to stave off hunger; he is unemployed and wants something to do to be a man; he has no land, and he wants space to dig his toes in. And one solution he sees is to get a piece of land and the assistance he expects to get with the land to set himself up as a "Farmer". *What does he know about farming? If he knew, he will not want to change his spots. His experience may be limited to what he has seen around him, or the struggle his family is experiencing season to season. This may be part-time occupation to support them; other times offering their labour to others. From this background the settler enters a new life—to be "a farmer" in a new development scheme, where a government has spent millions of rupees and concentrated all the energies, resources and grants to get through an accelerated technical programme—construction of dams.*

THE RESOURCES the new settler has to achieve his objectives and that of the Planners are his *labour* and may be that of his family if he has already taken a mate. Heretofore he may never have lived a regulated day to day life. His efforts are on and off as and when it pleases him—never led a "disciplined life". And if he is lucky to get a block of land, he will take it but it will be a long time before he changes his attitudes to meet the needs of a regular worker and then be a farmer. It may take him years to adjust himself to a new way of life. And what are the *tools* he has, to work

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his land and to set up a home? Tools, he may have not seen them, nor used them before regularly to earn a living. He has to be broken in and trained into them like training a buffalo to the plough. Whether it is wet or dry cultivations he must have the basic implements to set himself as a cultivator. What are they? Two mammoties, a felling axe, a katty or two, a plough, a pair of bullocks, a levelling board a hand leveller, a couple of buckets, a couple of baskets and so on. In today's context of pricing the cost of his basic implements may be in the region of two to three thousand rupees. What he needs to set up "a home" has been discounted. To ply his new trade he may require anything up to five thousand rupees if his ambition is also to own a pair of bullocks to relieve him of hand digging to prepare his fields for a cultivation.

Assuming that he can muster this capital to take him on the road to prosperity, his march cannot be accelerated unless he is serviced all along the line—like the buckets of water splashed on contesting cyclists in the "tour de Lanka" to enliven them up to the winning post. From the time he arrives on his holding, it is a question of servicing him to get in to his feet. The kind of servicing he needs and expects is more human than material, needing intensive administration by different Organisations manned by trained officers in various disciplines at the level, we now describe as Niladharees. These are the persons who finally filter down to the soil, to advise him on the crops he has to grow. It is at this end the chain fails—the inexperience of the "Niladharees" to guide the settler, his lack of understanding, the human problems facing new settlers, not being able to talk the language of the peasant etc. It is this individual who has to walk and work side by side with the Novice to win the confidence of the settler and anchor him to land. If both are novices the programme of getting things moving will be where it was for decades. This has been the experience, and it is still the experience in many of the recent ventures like Uda Walawe. **It may not be different under Mahaweli where the emphasis has been on the acceleration of technical development. While settlement has not received the same attention and the "push".**

IN SRI LANKA, "a single swallow makes the summer". So, once-a-while load of rice exported or a few hundred kilo-grammes of vegetables and chillies sent to the Middle East countries is the end of the story. Whether they lived happily thereafter is another story which can be related by the farmers but with no one to listen to except their voices. This is what was recounted when a study of progress was made in many a settlement scheme. **There are lots more to be done before we can write Finis,, to the investment plans for an accelera-**

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ted Mahaweli. The "lots more" is to train the settler and fix him to a way of life he never followed before. Like breaking in a wild horse, he has to be trained to a disciplined life and follow a respective routine, not because he likes it but his daily chores demand it, if he is to be a successful farmer. It is all the more difficult for him to adopt a disciplined life because he is independent, he is free to make his own decisions, and carry them out till it suits him or till he gets tired of it. He expects all others to wait till his moods impel him to do what has to be done or to be done. He will begin to realize these through his own experience and hardships he has to go through and endure to reach—not his targets, but the targets set by the planners who moved him to live in a new environment and adopt a new way of life. This is why the struggle is long, over-drawn and slow.

To be concluded.....

x x x

REPORT

Mahaweli and Rice

The case for an urgent study of the demand pattern for rice against the background of rising local production and the asweddumisation of new extents for cultivation both under the Accelerated Mahaweli Programme and the major and minor irrigation schemes was canvassed strongly, at a conference on June 29 in the Ministry of Mahaweli Development presided over by the Hon. Gamini Dissanayake, Minister of Lands & Land Development and Mahaweli Development. *Officials claimed that but for the drought last Maha season, Sri Lanka would have not required rice imports this year, and the normal acreage accretal to production in the country consequent on the normal irrigation output and better farming techniques, has tended upward over the last decade.*

The Minister pointed out that under the circumstances paddy production may, in addition to meeting requirements of self sufficiency, be export-oriented inasmuch as feasibility studies, aid commitments and contractual agreements entered into with foreign agencies under the Accelerated Mahaweli Development Programme provided for irrigated agricultural settlement. The Minister enquired whether the irrigation layout for the new land in downstream areas which had been blue printed mainly for the cultivation of paddy could also be adopted for upland crops, and other crops like sugar cane, cotton etc pasture development. The discussion revealed that the irrigation canals are being designed for all varieties of crops but the drainage system has to be improved if upland crops

are to be grown extensively. *Officials pointed out that varieties of paddy other than those widely cultivated here will have to be grown for export, because the varieties of rice grown locally are not to the tastes of the foreign market. There was a stronger case for a large scale crop diversification programme, officials urged.*

A position paper submitted at the conference pointed out that under the Mahaweli Programme apart from the 65,000 acres of new land developed in System 'H', an additional extent of 123,000 acres are to be developed over the next three to four years in system 'C', 'B' & 'G'. The total area to be developed under the Accelerated Programme is about 300,000 area to be developed under the Accelerated Programme is about 300,000 acres, under Systems A, B, C, & G. Meanwhile under the Lands Ministry's programme about 25,000 of new land will be developed under the Kirindi Oya (Lunugamvehera) and Inginimitiya irrigation and settlement projects. Additionally there are several other major schemes like Muthukandiya, the Gin Ganga Flood Protection Scheme, the rehabilitation of major and minor schemes which will together make a significant contribution to annual paddy production shortly. New varieties of seed paddy, increasing application of fertilizer and improved farm management have resulted in the national per acre yield increasing from 45 bushels in 1971 to about 58 bushels in 1981, and the yields have been boosted significantly by record production under System 'H' of the Mahaweli Programme and major settlement schemes.

At present there were about 1,500,000 acres of asweddumised paddy land and the annual production of rice was in region of 1,500,000 tons. Since 1978 imports have decreased e.g. 334,000 tons in 1979, 190,000 tons in 1980, 100,000 tons in 1981. Imports could rise to about 500,000 tons in 1982 on account of the drought. A drought such as that experienced in 1981/82 could be anticipated in a cycle of about five to six years. **The Hon. Minister directed that in view of the current situation a comprehensive study should be undertaken which would suggest the strategy to be adopted for the future development of available agricultural land.**

Ministry of Mahaweli Development,
500, T. B. Jayah Mawatha,
Colombo 10.
June, 30, 1982.

REJOINDER

Why Mahaweli?

By Ranil Senanayake

THE ARTICLE titled "Why Mahaweli?" (*Tribune* June 19, 1982) does provide much to think about. For instance the opening paragraph stating that Sri

Lanka is endowed with natural resources but continues to be poor in the western sense. Notwithstanding the question "Why should we measure ourselves by external values?" We see that Sri Lanka is not poor in the western sense. Table I demonstrates that. The PQLI of Sri Lanka represented by life expectancy at birth, infant mortality and literacy is as high as Korea, Yugoslavia or Argentina. However, the per capita GNP of these countries lie between 1,400—2,430 US Dollars while the GNP of Sri Lanka is 230 US Dollars. So we see that we can be classed poor only if economic criteria such as the GNP is used as a unit of measures. A person who judges a country's development only on such economic criteria is being insensitive of the well-being of the people of that country.

The reach of history becomes the next thought provoking issue. It seems that the early agriculturist civilization of the West had "acres and acres of farmland beautifully cultivated with wheat, potato and other cereals". This means that their early agricultural civilization began around the 1,500's for potatoes were unknown in Europe until the discovery of the Americas. The observation that the West is blessed with equitably distributed rain through the year allowing farmers to grow crops without experiencing the extreme conditions of rain and drought that we do also raises some questions. Does this mean that the farmers of the West do not have to contend with winter? or that Winter is less extreme condition for crop growing than drought? The thesis that the cooler temperatures of the West allow for a greater work output and that the richer countries have temperatures lower than 20° (c ?) is novel, to say the least. Some of the best agricultural lands in the world have growing seasons temperatures that exceed 30° C. So we will have to mark areas of California, Texas, New Mexico etc. as part of the poorer countries. The blue and red map must be amazing!

It has been said that some people consider Sri Lanka as being born 150 years ago since the formation of the British Raj. Here is a fine demonstration of the adage "Might is Right" This attitude is reflected in the classic statement "The white man came into this country—He had every right to do so because we were a part of the mighty British Empire". Similarly, we may state that "Hitler had every right to do what he did in Poland because Poland was a part of the his Reich". If Might means Right, then the original statement is valid; but, hopefully, we are more civilized than that. There are two statements in the article that are outstanding. "We are trying to walk before we can crawl. We are trying to be self-sufficient before we can export". The statements suggest the story of the two hungry labourers. One says "Why all the food shortages? Were we not almost self-sufficient last year?" Says the other "Ah! But now we are exporting and will need to grow lots and lots more to become self-sufficient". *The Mahaweli may not be a waste of time; but now much of*

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it will be a waste of money? If programmes as poorly thought out as the article in question are implemented, the ramifications will be tremendous. With all the added costs on the dams and the high percentage of 'waste' the cost per unit of electricity is climbing to uncomfortable ranges. Will the Mahaweli project become a case of the blind leading the blind, and will truth and rational thinking be relegated to Voices in the Wilderness?

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TABLE
Per Capita Gross Nation Product and the Physical Quality of Life Index*

Country	Per Capita GNP, 1979 (U.S.\$)	Physical Quality of Life** Index	Life Expectancy (Years)	Infant Mortality per 100 Live Births	Percentage of Literacy (%)
Burma	160	50	50	140	60
Sri Lanka	230	82	68	47	81
Sierra Leone	250	28	44	136	10
Tanzania	260	30	44	167	28
China, Peoples Republic	260	71	65	65	50-70
Uganda	290	40	50	160	35
Madagascar	290	41	44	102	39
Kenya	380	39	50	119	20-25
Cuba	1,410	85	70	27	78
Korea, Republic of	1,480	82	65	47	88
Portugal	2,180	80	69	39	71
Argentina	2,230	85	68	59	93
Yugoslavia	2,430	84	68	36	84
Singapore	3,830	86	71	12	75

*Sources: McLaughlin et al: 156-168; Seneviratne: 391; World Bank: 134-5.

**The Physical Quality of Life Index (P. Q. L. I.) is an attempt to derive a composite of indicators on a standardized scale from 0 to 100. This Index is based solely on three measures of development: (1) the average age expectancy at birth, (2) the infant mortality, and (3) the percentage of literacy. For more information about the P.Q.L.I., see Morris David Morris' *Measuring the Condition of the World's Poor: The Physical Quality of Life Index*.

LETTER

Mahaweli Downstream Development

Sir, I refer to the eloquent "Letter From The Editor" in the *Tribune* of 29 May, 1982 and to the report on System H in the Mahaweli Forum of the same issue. The provision of irrigation and infrastructural facilities and settlement under the Kalawewa left

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bank main canal, Kandalama Wewa and Dambulu Oya reservoir had almost been completed in mid 1977 by the Mahaweli Development Board. At the same time, work under the Kalawewa right bank main canal was in progress. The Accelerated Mahaweli Programme was promulgated late in 1977 and hence it is illogical to count on work in System II as coming within the purview of the Accelerated Programme. In that case, Polgolla and Bowtenne should also be counted as within the Accelerated Programme.

Therefore, one cannot fully agree with your statement "But, in reality, a great deal of work has already been done....together with substantial progress in downstream development and a satisfactory start in settlement plans". Downstream works in the Accelerated Programme have been concentrated in systems B and C. Although much progress has been made in zone 2 of System C, 5,000 ha in extent under the Ulhitiya Reservoir Left Bank Main Canal, it yet remains for a single hectare to be irrigated under the Accelerated Mahaweli Programme.

S. Monoharan

Box 62, Kabarnet,
Kenya,
June 24, 1982.



SPOTLIGHT

**World Cup • Rugger
• Soccer • Wimbledon**

WORLD CUP: The Brazilians whom the whole world and even their opponents were convinced would engrave their name once again on the World Cup, the ultimate in world soccer supremacy, came a cropper. They have been knocked out of the tourney by Italy. This a atonishing victory took everyone's breath away. The Brazilians in their earlier rounds amazed everyone with their magical brand of play which was out of this world. Obviously it was Brazilian complacency that spelt their doom and outsting from even a semi-final breath. Now that Brazilian magic is out of the World Cup it is left to the other teams to provide the thrills and the

glamour the world is waiting for. The Brazilians, the way they toyed with their opponents in their earlier games, were indications of being the only invincible team. But the glorious uncertainties were never better manifested as Italy, who were only expected to offer resistance, turned the form book upside down to kick out the more fancied South Americans. The game was dominated by Italian striker Paola Rossi who smashed in a hat-trick of goals. An outcast for two years due to a betting scandal, Rossi is now a hero in his home country and was bestowed with a knighthood: by his country. A firm even went to the extent of promising him footwear for the rest of his life. Obviously bigger things are in store for him if he shoots Italy to the World Cup.

The Brazilians were stunning in attack and fragile in defence in this vital encounter against Italy and Rossi with the ability to burst through the slightest openings had the defence in shambles and sliced through to hit the ball into the net on three occasions living up to the confidence placed in him by manager Enzo Bearzot. Brazil twice trailed and twice equalised. A draw would have seen them into the semi-finals. But at the end they had to settle for a fate that snatched from them soccer's most glittering prize. Pele--black pearl -- who made his mark as a 17-year old in the 1958 cup final and who is a legend now said about his countryman's performance: "It is hard to believe that Brazil is out. Brazil was the best team in the World Cup and it is difficult to accept they will not be in the final." Brazilian manager Tele Santana, said individual mistakes lost his team the match. "I've always said that Brazil is not an unbeatable team. We made mistakes and they were taken full advantage of", he said.

Barcelona's Rambles Avenue for days an improvised carnival as the Macumba drums beat out the rhythms fell silent as the fans mourned the elimination of their soccer idols. The defeat sent 120 million Brazilians into gloom. The fireworks, tickertape and street samba parties which greeted their previous victories were replaced by quite and long faces. President Figueiredo in a telegram to Brazilian Football Federation (CBF) head Gilette Coutinho expressed his solidarity with the team. "Spirits up -- other cups will come,; the message said. vice President Aureliano Chaves said in a message to Santana: "The team had deserved the applause of the crowd and has dignified Brazilian Football."

Tailpiece: Politics in Sport and how churlish can they get. The England-West German game was shown live on the State-owned TV in Buenos Aires. But Radio Rivadavia, the leading sports station which showed the match did not mention England once during the broadcast. "The other team" and the "Red Shirted team" were how England was described by Radio commentators. TV authorities in the Gulf

countries did not transit the Brazil-Italy match in Barcelona because the referee happened to be an Israeli. The countries affected were Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

SRI LANKA RUGGER :Chandrishan Perera, that explosive winger whose appearance for the CH & FC was eagerly looked forward to by all rugby players and fans, in rugby-crazy Sri Lanka, ran into big trouble along with his club the moment he sported the CH jersey against the Airforce in a Clifford Cup rugby game they won convincingly by 29 points to nil. The Air Force who were very badly grounded by the CH, it is understood, had protested to the Sri Lanka Rugby Football Union that the CH & FC had contravened law 20 of the SLRFU Rules by playing Chandrishan Perera, just back from England without obtaining prior permission from the SLRFU. Law 20 states: "No player shall be permitted to represent a club in any match in the tournament if he is not a resident in the country within the limits of the districts allocated to the club for a minimum period of three months, except with the prior sanction of the Committee. The Committee shall define the limits of the districts allocated to the clubs. The resident /territorial rule will not be applicable to players representing the Police Sports Club, Army Sports Club, Air Force Sports Club, Navy Sports Club and the Universities." Chandrishan Perera played a couple of seasons ago for the CH & FC and returned from England to sport the club colours.

The Tournament Committee of the SLRFU which met to take a decision on the protest from the Air Force, decided that this second round game between the CH & FC and the Air Force be null and void and that the CH will have to forfeit the points won in this game. Having to forfeit nearly 5.2 points could prove costly to the CH FC in & their bid for the coveted Clifford Cup. This CH & FC up to this time were cruising for the Cup that has eluded them for quite sometime. There is no doubt that the CH & FC had flouted the law. A law, once framed is no respecter of persons or clubs. All are equal before the law. The Tournament Committee of the SLRFU which took the decision to declare the said game null and void comprised: Sqn. Ldr. N. B. de Zoysa (Chairman and convenor), Lt. Cdr. S. Ganhewa Mr. D. V. P. Samarasekera, M. Samarakoon and Mr. D. C. Abeyratne. CH's only way out of this predicament in which they would not have been if they had obtained prior sanction of the SLRFU, is to request and hope that they will be granted a replay. If the offending club is convinced that they did not violate rule 20 by playing Chandrishan in the first game, then why did they obtain permission for him to play in the second game? Anyway all rugby players and rugby enthusiasts await with interest the ruling of the Controlling Body.

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With allegations and threats by the old boys of Royal and Trinity the *Bradby Shield Rugby* match between the two schools was in the balance. Eventually it was a happy ending, and a happier one for Trinity when the match was played at Longden Place and the Kandy School won. The Second Leg match will be played at Kandy on July 17. "ALLROUNDER:: who had been following closely the dialogue between the Principals of the two schools and the Old Boys: Organising Committees prior to the match, and the threat that it could be called off, was astounded at all these bickering that went on. While the Organising Committees were playing "pandu" so to say, it nearly put this annual fixture into permanent jeopardy. A game, the old boys of both institutions some of whom have played in this fixture must understand, is played, won, lost or drawn on the field of play and not outside. Had the hullabaloo between the Organising Committees blown out of proportion and the game not played, it would have been a great disappointment to the players of both teams who have been training assiduously for the big event. However Trinity proved the better side and took the first leg 9 - 6.

SRI LANKA SOCCER: WHITHER FOOTBALL IN SRI LANKA—Part 2—is the second anonymous petition doing the rounds, ALLROUNDER is made to understand. ALLROUNDER managed to lay his hands on this anonymous pamphlet and was amazed at the allegations and unkind things in it. The offensive pamphlet contains a blatant attack on the newly-elected Board of Control for Football in Sri Lanka and inquires as to how many elected to the Board are knowledgeable and experienced in this sport. ALLROUNDER is informed that the brains behind this anonymous leaflet is also one who has not played or kicked a ball although he professes to have done so. He seems to have got hold of a few individuals who do not seem to understand the English language, especially the contents of this petition, and are using them for his own ends. We are also made to understand that the originator of this petition was once licking the West German coach's boots (not merely football). It is said that at a social gathering he had once praised the West German coach Burkhard Pape to the point of embarrassing that worthy individual. At this party this man who is also called "weevil" was seen supplying meals in the kitchen of one of our former national coaches with whom he has now teamed up. At one time he had detested this coach. ALLROUNDER hopes that the authorities concerned will take necessary action and have this weevil exterminated once and for all. With individuals of that type in the soccer scene the game cannot and will not improve.

WIMBLEDON: Jimmy Connors of the United States and Martina Navratilova are the new *Wimbledon Champions*. Connors won the Men's Singles title from last year's champion John McEnroe and Martina beat Chris Evert-Lloyd to take the Women's Singles title. The *Wimbledon's Man's*

Event did not draw that much attention this year what with the record-breaking Bjorn Borg deciding to give the event a miss. And with no startling upsets it was no difficult task for Connors and McEnroe to battle it out to the finals. Both Connors and Martina have won the crown before. *Martina* 25-year old Czechoslovakian born American added another crown to those she had won in Wimbledon in 1978 and 1979. For the 27-year old Chris Evert-Lloyd it was the eighth final and the fourth time in five years that she has had to settle for second place. Chris Evert-Lloyd won the crown last year and in 1974 and 1976. After the final Martina said: "You have to be lucky to win at Wimbledon, but a lot of hard work went into this as well. I guess I've always had the talent but I had to work hard too and this year I have. This was more satisfying than in 1978 and 1979, when I was probably relying entirely on talent. But the last two years have taught me you need more than that and working with Renee has taught me a lot about tactics that I did not know. *Mats Wilander* the 17 year old French Champion showed his talents by winning three matches and is tipped to emulate the great champion Bjorn Borg. There were some upsets in both the Singles and the biggest being in the women's. *Hana Mandlikova* of Czechoslovakia went down in the second round to Candy Reynolds of America. *Wimbledon* was marked with better organisers and player-relations. The attendance was down by 40,000 apparently due to rain and transport strikes. 320,383 spectators turned up to watch the play over two weeks. 38 year old American *Billie Jeanking* left the most enduring memory of this year's championships. After a knee and ankle operation she came to Wimbledon seeded 12th and reached the semi-finals.



SPORTS CHRONICLE

June 27- July 3

SUNDAY, JUNE 27: Golden Stars SC Kandy entered the second round of the *FA Cup Soccer Tournament* when they beat St. Anthony's SC Batticaloa by five goals to two at Police grounds, Kandy last Friday. The frenzied roars from the Thoman camp reached fever pitch as their wing three quarter Yohana Wijesinghe planted his second try to make certain of the *Guneratne Trophy*. S. Thomas finally beat Royal by 12 points (1 goal, try and penalty) to 3 (a penalty) after a period of two years in their traditional encounter at Longden Place yesterday. Trinity had a limbloosener before next week's *Bradby Shield* game against Royal, when they beat Ananda comfortably by 24 points (a goal, 3 tries and 2 penalties) to 6 (2 penalties) at Maitland Crescent yesterday. Isipatana beat Wesley by 13 points (1 goal, a try and a penalty) to nil in a *Inter School Rugby*

Football match at Havelock Park yesterday. At half time there was no scoring. Police stole the thunder yesterday when they beat the formidable CR & FC by 20 points (a goal, two tries, two penalties) to 9 (3 penalties) in their *Clifford Cup* return at Police Park; at half time Police led 6 - 3. Kurunegala RFC scored a close 15 points (1 goal, three penalties) to 12 (1 goal, two penalties win over Kelani Valley in their *Up country League Tournament* match played at Kurunegala yesterday. Gampaha beat Kegalle by 6 goals to 2 in the *Inter-district Soccer* losers final played yesterday at Sports Ministry Grounds. Royal College and Ladies College won the Boys and Girls overall championships at the *Sri Lanka Schools Senior National Swimming and Diving Championships* which ended yesterday at the Josephian pool at Darley Road.

MONDAY, JUNE 28: A seventh-wicket partner of 69 run by B.H.Boosa (47 not out) and L.Karunaratne (47) and good bowling by N.de Silva (4 for 39) helped Navaloka SC trounce Sherman Sons SC by 170 runs to gain their 4th successive win in the *Mercantile D Division Cricket* played at the Bloomfield Cricket Grounds last weekend. Navaloka SC 224 in 49.1 overs; Sherman Sons SC 54 in 27 overs. A well compiled 104 by D.Iddamalgoda enabled Carey College to gain an outright win against St. Johns Dematagoda in an *Under 17 Schools Division 3 Tournament Cricket* match played at the Railway Grounds. CH, & FC routed Air Force by 29 points (3 goals, 2 tries, 1 drop goal) to nil in their second-round *Clifford Cup League Rugby* match played yesterday at Maitland Crescent after leading 14 - 0 at lemons and increased their lead at the Top of the Table with 32.0 points with their closest rivals CR & FC (26.8). Colombo won the first ever *National League Football Championship* conducted by the Board of Control for Football by defeating Batticoloa 3 - 1 at the Sports Ministry grounds yesterday.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29: Good bowling by A.Jayatilleke (6 for 12) enabled St. John's Nugegoda to score an easy first innings win over Dharmapala Pannipitiya in an *under 15 Division 3 cricket* match played at Health SC ground Castle Street. St. Johns 126 and Dharmapala Pannipitiya 42. St. Anthony's College, Katugastota beat Dharmaraja on the first innings in and *under 15 cricket* match played at Lake View. St. Anthony's 223 and Dharmaraja 72. The *Under 17 cricket* match between Dharmaraja and St. Thomas Matale played at Lake View ended in a draw. Dharmaraja 212 for 8 and St. Thomas Matale 129 for 5 at close. It was a day of glory for Negombo and the Outstation Schools when Ave Maria Convent took away the coveted *Lake House Challenge Trophy* for the second successive year in addition to taking all the trophies at the *Girls' Athletic Championship* conducted by the Sri Lanka Schools Athletic Association, sponsored by Warner Hudnut

Ltd., and held at the University of Colombo grounds on Sunday. Rajasingham Industries won the *Six Aside Softball Cricket Tournament* with it the *Anandatissa de Alwis Challenge Trophy*.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30: Good bowling by D.A. Wettasinghe (4 for 26) enabled Kottawa Dharmapala Junior School to score first innings victory over Ananda B in their *All-Island Inter-School Under 15 Division 2 cricket* tournament match played at Pannipitiya. Ananda B 76; Kottawa Dharmapala Junior, School 84 for 7 dec. Isipatana B beat St. Johns; Dematagoda by 87 runs in an *Under 17 Tournament Cricket* match played at the Colts grounds. Isipatana B 181 for 6 and St. Johns 94. Mobile Marine Engineering A scored their fourth successive win in the *Mercantile D Division Cricket* Tournament when they easily beat Creasy Darley by 6 wickets in a match played on the NCC grounds. Creasy Darley 88 in 43.2 overs and Mobile Marine Engineering 89 for 4 in 20 overs. Nalanda College became the unbeaten *Division 3 Group Champions* of the *under 17 cricket* Tournament when they beat St. Benedicts College by 72 runs on the first innings at Kotahena on Sunday. Nalanda 1st innings 153 and St. Benedicts 81. Fine performances by Jerome Fernando, Dirk Guinan and Ranil Fernando helped St. Joseph's College, Colombo enter the Quarter - Finals of the *Under 15 Tournament* conducted by the Colombo District *Schools Football Association*. NCC B are the 1981/82 Daily News Trophy Cricket Champions. Nalanda defeated Joseph Vaz Wennappuwa (2-1) in an *interschool under 19 football* tournament match on Saturday.

THURSDAY, JULY 1: The *touring State Bank of India cricket team* opened their tour of Sri Lanka with an easy 64 runs win over a Nationalized Services Cricket Association XI at Moratuwa's Tyrone Fernando Stadium on Tuesday but lost to Ceramics Corporation by three wickets in a match on the NCC grounds yesterday. An unbeaten 100 (11 fours and 4 sixes) by skipper Nalliah Devarajan helped Royal beat St. Joseph's by 3 wickets in their *Under 17 Div. Cricket Tournament* played at the Darley Road. St. Josephs A 153 for 7 and Royal A 210 for 4. Kegalle Youth Football Club beat Singing Fish Batticoloa (4-3) in a thrilling *F.A. Cup Knockout Football* tournament match played on Sunday at the Kegalle esplanade; at half time Singing Fish led 2-1. Lumbini trounced Maliyadeva by 30 points (3 goals and 3 tries) to 4 (a try) in the *Rugby* encounter at Havelock Park yesterday after leading 16 - 4 at half time.

FRIDAY, JULY 2: The *State Bank of India cricket team* scored a 40 run win over the Combined Cement Corporation-Ceylon Oxygen XI at the NCC grounds yesterday. State Bank of India 134 for 9 in 35 overs and Cement Corporation-Ceylon Oxygen 95 in 27.1 overs. Associated Motorways Ltd., beat Mack-

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woods Industries at Vihara Mahadevi Park in a *Mercantile E Division Cricket* match. Associated Motorways 158 in 39. 1 overs and Mackwoods Industries 101 in 39 overs. Law College gained an exciting 24 - 22 win over Medical College in their annual *Basketball match* played at the Colombo University Courts. St. Josephs regained the *Lady Jayatilleke Memorial Challenge Trophy* when they scored a stunning upset win over S.Thomas by 12 points (2 goals) to 7 (a try and a penalty) in the *schools rugger* match played yesterday at Havelock Park; at half time , the Josephians led 6 - 3. CR & FC "Bees:: routed Navy "Dreadnoughts": by 40 points (2 goals 7 tries) to nil in their *B Division Inter—Club League rugby* match palyed at Longden Place after leading 8 - 0 at the breather.

SATURDAY, JULY 3: Ananda College Junior cricket teams scored three wins in the cricket tournament now in progress. Under 17, beat Sri Sumangala on the first innings. Beat S. Thomas B on the first innings. Under 15, Ananda beat Nalanda on the first innings. Ananda tied with Royal A. Maris Stella Negombo too scored successive wins in the junior cricket tournament. Under 17, beat Sri Sumangala, Panadura on the first innings at Negombo. Beat de Mazeond'

Kandana on the first innings. Royal B scored an easy first innings victory over Dharpala in an *Under 17 Cricket tournament* match last week -end. Royal 150 and Dharmapala 79. St. Anthony's Wattala scored three good wins in the *under 15 tournament matches* recently. Beat St. Benedicts B at Wattala, Beat St. Joseph's Grandpass at Wattala. Beat Gurukula at Wattala.

Hentley Sports Club beat Asian Cotton Mills Sports Club by 52 rund in the *Mercantile E Division cricket* match played at the MCA groundgs. Hently 99 in 38 overs and Asian Cotton Mills 47 in 22 overs Police "Griffins": kept their unbeaten record intact with a sweeping 29 points (3 goals, 2 tries 1 penalty) to 6 (1 goal) win over CH & FC "Kabaragoyas" in their *B Division Inter—Club League Rugby* Match at Police Park on Wednesday after leading 9 - 6 at half time. Royal beat St. Joseph's 20 nil, after leading 1 - nil at half time in their *Under 17 Sri Lanka Schools soccer Tournament* match at Darley Road. In *School Rugby matches* Kingswood beat Thurstan by 9 points (a goal and a penalty) to nil at Peradeniya and St. Peter's defeated St. Anthony's Kandy by 15 points (3 tries and a penalty) to 6 (2 penalties)

“ . . . It is to the credit of the people of Ceylon that during two thousand years and more they obeyed this decree and continued to pay their homage to one who was a brave man and just and humane ruler”.
—G. P. Malalasekera in *The Pali Literature of Ceylon*
Colombo, 1928 p. 25.

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*FTZ Cycles *God And

IS IT TRUE that one FTZ manufacturer of bicycles is busy lobbying to sell 1,000 bicycles on the local market? That the gossip in the bazaar is that the Ministry of Industries is likely to consider this application favourably and make suitable recommendations to the G.C.E.C. to authorize the local sale? That it will be recalled that the FTZ was set up primarily, if not completely, for export, to earn foreign exchange? That it is said that when this particular bicycle industry was set up there was in the contract, as in all others, a clause stipulating that all its products would be exported? That it must be remembered that in this country there are firms which have been "manufacturing" -- really, "assembling" -- bicycles for the last 20 years or more? That the liberalisation of trade, which permitted the unlimited importation of bicycles, had adversely affected the local industry and thrown several people out of employment? That there is no doubt that this is the price local industrial firms have had to pay for the benefits of an open economy? That if the present proposal to permit FTZ produced (also "assembled") bicycles, meant solely for export, (with substantial tax benefits, duty-free imports etc.etc.) to come into the local market, it will mean the death of the local cycle "manufacturing" (or assembling) firms? That this would not only further aggravate the unemployment problem but also make a mockery of the concept of the FTZ? **That the Government should look into this matter, and if true, nip in the bud even an embryonic attempt to subvert the purpose and scope of the FTZ? That investors in the FTZ should not be allowed to play a Jekyll and Hyde game in this country?**

WAS IT NOT AMUSING to hear the bloated bureaucrats of the Telecommunications Department carry on a sunshiny propaganda campaign (on the SLBC) of how far Sri Lanka had progressed into modernity by adopting a Frenchified "Digital" system since 1978 or 1979? That it has already cost the country over Rs. 140 million and that to complete it would cost another Rs. 160 million (or thereabouts)? That though the word "digital" sounds impressive and though the "digital" system may be an "advance" in the technological context, the equipment set up in Colombo has brought into operation a system far worse than anything known before? That it is our personal experience—at our residence and in the office—that the service in Colombo and even on an all-Island basis has deteriorated since the "digital system" became operative? That this is also the view of practically all telephone subscribers? That *Weekend's* Insight Team brought this fact out in a most impressive way? That the so-called "auto dialling" system for outstation calls has only marginal

and dubious advantages when the metropolitan system is in such a mess? **That if the "digital" system in theory is really an improvement on what was used earlier, then what is at fault is the equipment fitted in Colombo, that is the French equipment? That this is what is being openly said in political, commercial and diplomatic circles? That the attempt to keep out the Swedish supplier (Eriksons) has aroused public suspicions? That it is felt that there has been a successful attempt to keep out better equipment which might also reveal the weaknesses of the French digital system that is now the plague of Colombo? That we will have more about this telephone mess soon?**

IS IT NOT CORRECT that a story is going the rounds in Colombo about God and our telephone system? That it runs as follows? That President Regan, President Mitterand and President Jayewardene had called on God to find some answers to problems troubling them? That Reagan had tackled God first and ended up with the question: "When will my difficulties end...when will the USA get over its economic and political problems and overcome its global troubles in the Middle East, El Salvador etc. etc.?" That God had thought for a while and then said that the USA could expect a turn for the better in "about 10 years"? That Regan was aghast and disconcertedly said: "...so it will not be in my time...?" The Mitterand had asked a near identical question about the economic, political and military problems that presently beset France? That God, after a little thought, said "... may be in over 13 or 14 years"? That Mitterand, like Regan had mumbled: "...and so it will not be in my time either...?" That Sri Lanka's President Jayewardene had a simple and straightforward question: "God, when will the telephone system in Colombo work properly?" That without wasting even a minute (to bat an eyelid) God had said, "not in my time"? And that was that? That a quip now going round in the City is that God should have told Jayewardene, "ask Mitterand"? That a raconteur has mentioned to *Tribune* that this story and similar ones has been foisted on the heads of Government from the Soviet Union to Samoa, from the USA to Micronesia, at different times? That whatever it be, it is anybody's guess how our digital system will continue to function in the foreseeable future? That nobody is however going to swallow the story that the system does not work because linesmen, repairmen and the like had gone to the Middle East? **That the public can legitimately ask why a new (absolutely brand new) automatic digital system should keep breaking down from the start (like the Gas Turbines of French manufacture)? That in any case repairs should not have arisen so early? That if they did the should have been the responsibility of the supplier during the Guarantee period?**

TRIBUNE, JULY 17, 1982

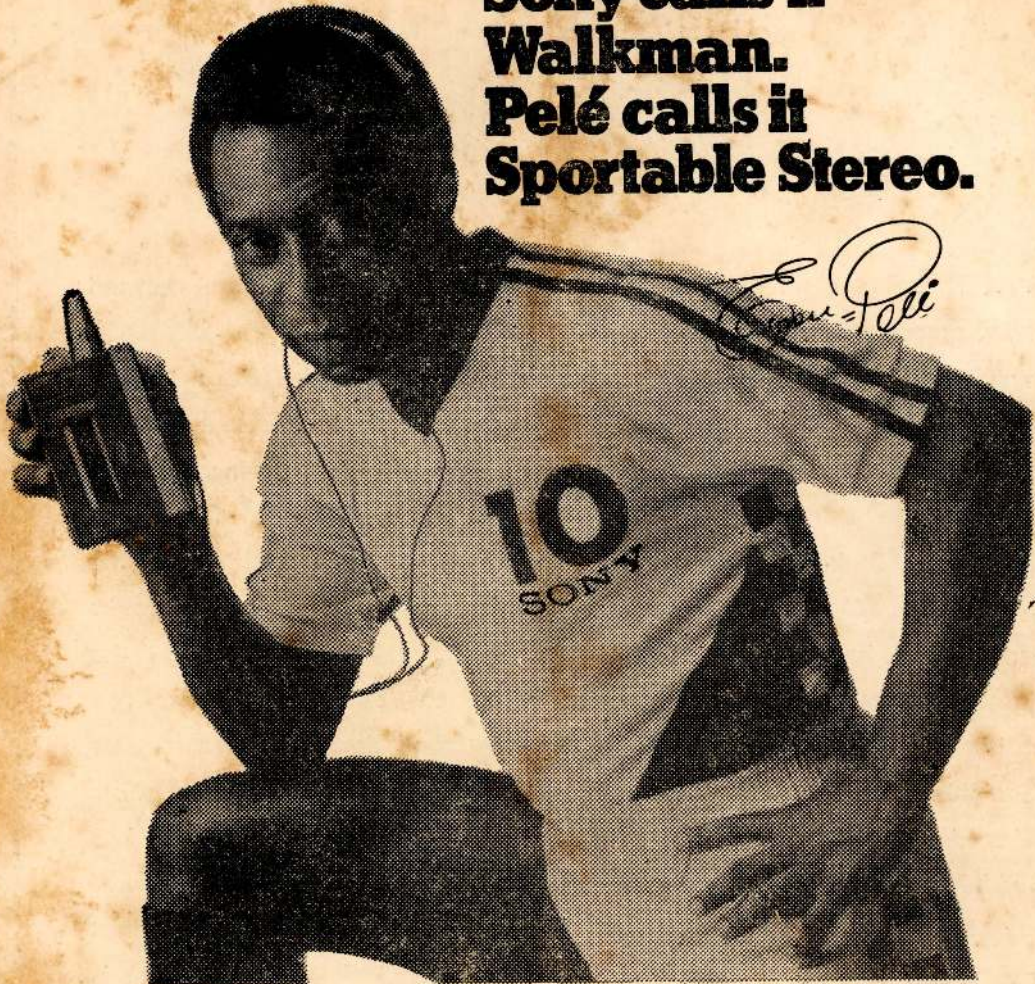
ON BUDDHISM

"... The first great impetus to the spread of Buddhism in and beyond India proper was given by the renowned Emperor Asoka (272-232 B.C.), who was not only himself a practising Buddhist and famous for the rock-cut and monolithic pillar Edicts in which he both expressed his own repentance for previous wars of conquest and enjoined on his subjects the earnest practise of Buddhist ethics, but also for having dispatched Buddhist missions to more distant lands, and in particular by his son Mahinda to Ceylon, where Buddhism more or less in its earliest form has survived to the present day. Later rulers amongst the Kusanas, Guptas and others likewise supported Buddhist doctrines and institutions; but it must not be supposed therefore that there was ever a "Buddhist India" in any exclusive sense of the words or that Buddhism effected any changes in the outward forms of Indian society. The Buddhist layman is a Buddhist in faith and conduct, not by virtue of any kind of institutional revolution; just as, also, in the case of Buddhist art, which flourished from the second century B.C. onwards, there is iconographic adaptation, but no Buddhist style or technique different from that of contemporary Brahmanical or Jaina art.

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