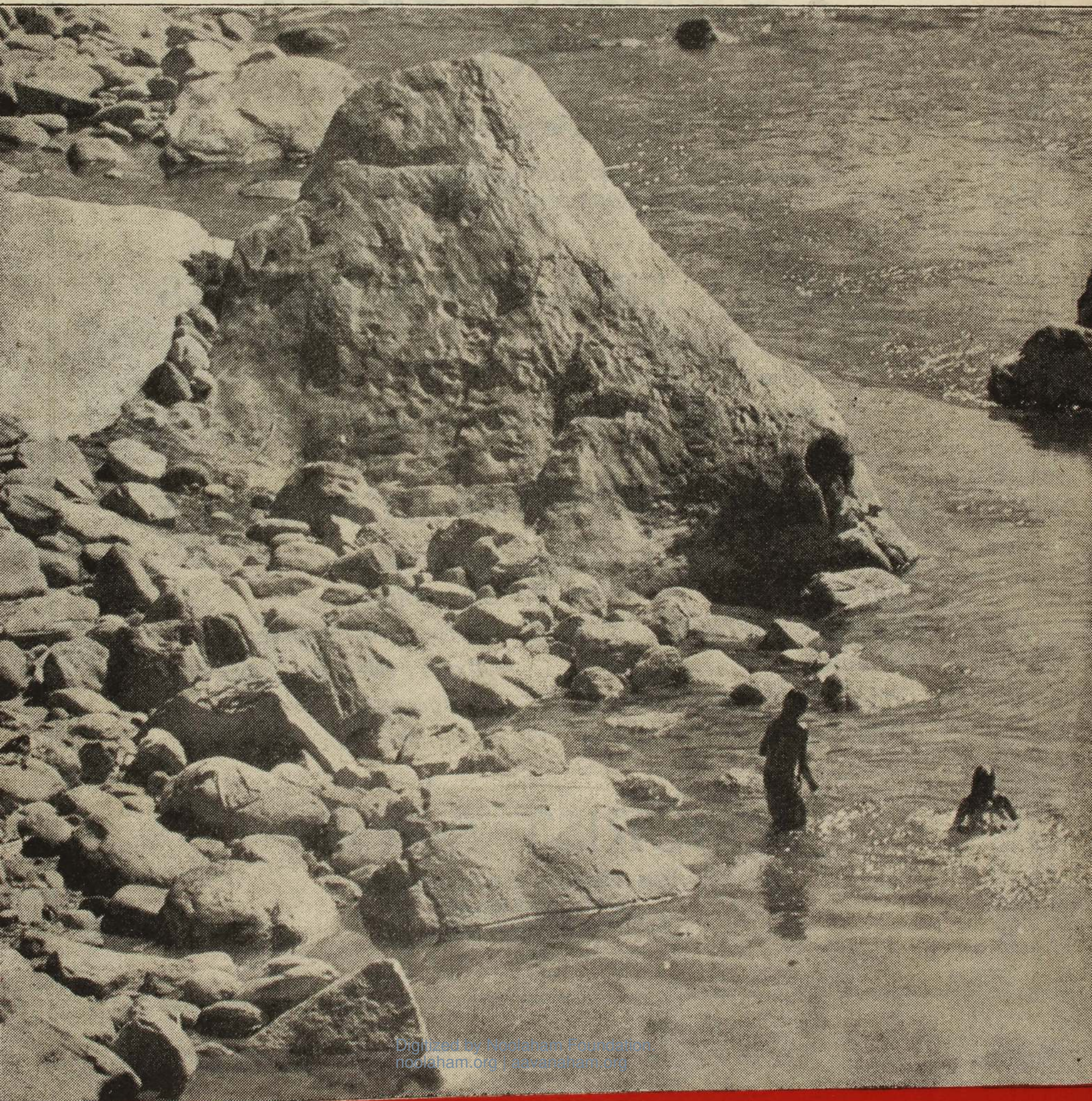


TRIBUNE



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TRIBUNE

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

ON THE COVER we have a picture of a part of our fast eroding coastline. Minister of Fisheries, Festus Perera must be congratulated for setting up a Statutory Authority to safeguard our coastline. It has not come a day too early. If such an Authority had been placed in charge of our sea front ten or twenty years ago, this country could have escaped many of the problems it now faces on this score. Apart from the territorial waters which now extends 12 miles we have an economic zone that extends 200 miles. The Authority has much to do and a vast area to cover and we hope that it will follow a dynamic and positive policy. We are confident that Minister Festus Perera will push it along into intense activity, but once such an Authority is set up it is the business of the Authority to push itself along and not await Ministerial prompting at every form. The Authority has been vested with vast (and necessary) powers. These powers should be exercised with judicial rectitude. But apart from protecting and conserving the environment which has now been entrusted to the Authority, the Government has an equally important task in ensuring that our coasts are not used by smugglers not only to bring in contraband but also to take away narcotics and other goods without going through the regular ports in conformity with the Customs, Trade and Exchange laws of the country. The fact is that the island today is a smuggler's paradise. Many people still do not realise that a vast invisible income is collected to the smuggling fraternity, especially its higher syndicates, from the entreport smuggling trade which now has much of this island's economy in its grip. Whether this vast network of smuggling can be curbed, controlled and brought down to proportions that will not undermine the economy within a reasonable length of time is problematic. The smuggling mafia, as in all countries where such an underworld operates, has powerful political connections, and unless these links are smashed, the smugglers will get away not only with murder but billions of rupees that should rightfully accrue to the Treasury and the people of this country. We live in dangerous times and troubled days. The problems of Sri Lanka are small compared to what other countries face. Take the United Kingdom: under Thatcher's benign rule it has become a frontline state in the nuclear area. Scientists have worked out some of the consequences of a neutron bomb being dropped on London. The entire population of that great city could be exterminated by 15 to 20 small neutron bombs delivered by Lance carriers. Buildings within 200 meters of the bomb's impact will be destroyed. All living things within a circle of 800 metres will be paralysed within five minutes, and will die within 48 hours. People living within 1,000 meters of the impact will die within 4 to 6 days. The chances of survival of people living at a distance of 1,200 metres are extremely slender. Their death will occur within a few weeks. At the distance of 1,400 metres the ray will still be deadly for 50 per cent of the people. But there are leaders in some countries, who having built themselves radiation proof shelters deep in the underground, think that they can rule the world with limited nuclear wars. While some countries are on the brink of a nuclear conflagration, in Sri Lanka, political circles are concerned about a snap poll. The *Lanka Guardian* of 15.9.81 has ventured to suggest that a snap poll may be held sooner than expected.: "The Government, it said, will soon introduce an amendment to the election law to permit the Presidential election to be held at any time the President so decides. Right now it must take place after the parliamentary elections". Will there be a snap presidential election before the parliamentary? Will a nuclear bomb be exploded in Europe or elsewhere soon?

*Milk *Politics *UNP

Elsewhere in this issue we have drawn attention to the fact that this country imports over Rs. 500 million worth of milk products annually in spite of the billions of rupees invested in the livestock and milk industries in the last three to four decades. Our mass media—papers, radio and TV—now have a superabundance of advertisements pushing the sale of milk powder. Liquid milk—pasteurised and sterilised—has virtually gone out of the market. Yoghurt which was once plentiful has disappeared. Unless the government does something quickly to bring our livestock and milk industries back on the rails under a single authority with proper management skills (and not hand them to foreigners on disadvantageous terms) the economy of this country will be buried under the mountain of milk powder imports.

In this connection, we are tempted to reproduce a prestige advertisement entitled THE AMUL CODE OF CONDUCT published in Indian papers by the Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd., with headquarters at the now famous village of Anand: "As you know, we are a co-operative of 850,000 dairy farmers dedicated to the cause of the white revolution. At the time when the multinationals said it was not possible to make baby food from buffalo milk, we took up the challenge at the behest of the Government.

"For years now we have been saying frankly that mother's milk is the best for babies. In all our advertising. In so many words. Meanwhile, a controversy raged worldwide over the harm wrought to infant health, especially in the Third World by the unbridled promotion of breastmilk substitutes by the multinationals. Investigative reporting showed that the sales tactics used were not entirely scrupulous. Sales personnel dressed as paramedical staff (e.g., nurses) did village-to-village selling. New mothers were lured to the bottle by the barrage of free samples in hospitals. Even some doctors were persuaded to prescribe breastmilk substitutes. Such efforts were particularly successful in milk-poor countries in Asia and Africa.

"Then, UN agencies like the World Health Organisation and UNICEF entered the fray. A Code of Conduct was adopted in May 1981, in Geneva. In essence, it aims at combating infant malnutrition owing to the improper and unwarranted use of

breastmilk substitutes. Its main premise is, nothing should be done to discourage a mother from breastfeeding her baby."

"AMUL's - CREDO—(Amul is the brand name under which the Federation's products are marketed) has always been in whole-hearted agreement with, the spirit behind the WHO Code. But, in India milk has been a cultural tradition from time immemorial. Boiling milk before use is very much a part of this usage even for illiterate village women. Also, only about 2% of the babies in India are bottle fed, while the remaining 98% continue to be breast-fed.

"As leaders in the baby food industry in the Third World we have once again taken the lead to spread the good word about mother's milk. Already, our advertising actively promotes the benefits of breastfeeding, and, for those mothers who are forced to bottle feed because their milk is insufficient, our advertising gives detailed instructions on the hygienic way of doing it so that the ill effects of improper bottle feeding (diarrhoea and malnutrition) may be nipped in the bud.

"Soon we will also make major changes in the design of our baby food tins so that the superiority of breastmilk is boldly told. They will also describe the hygienic method of bottle feeding should the need to do so arise. Thus, in order to counter the paucity of public health care in the country, both our advertising and packaging will disseminate information on the proper use of breastmilk substitutes. After all, the best milk for your baby deserves to get the best deal. Especially from us, for whom milk has been a white crusade all along the way."

IN SRI LANKA, there have been only half-hearted administrative attempts (really advertisement gimmicks) to pretend that government supports the WHO code. For the rest, the sellers of milk powder—including government's trading organisations—are fast burying the nation in an avalanche of advertisements to sell milk powder. Very soon the people of this country will forget ordinary liquid milk. It has virtually disappeared from the dietary of ordinary homes. Whatever little is produced is snapped up by the smaller hotels, tea boutiques and eating houses—liquid milk is far cheaper than powdered milk.

President Jayewardene who is now compelled to devote most of his attention to the next budget and the consequences of the communal disorders should pay attention to the problems of the livestock and dairy

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industries. Handing over the entirety of this sector to foreign companies will, in the long run, only increase our import bill. Milk, like rice, is politics, and in the difficult financial times ahead, the burden of over half a billion rupees, a year will be a burden this country cannot afford.

President Jayewardene must step into the livestock and dairy sector in the same decisive way he has dealt with the recent aberrations that had stemmed from communal extremism. He has condemned this outburst of racial violence mainly directed against the Estate Indian Tamil population in the Ratnapura District. Addressing the 45th Annual General Meeting of the Ceylon Planter's Society recently he said: "...that it was a prime factor in good government that citizens living under the government have the protection of the law irrespective of race, caste or creed...a few days ago in several estates in the Ratnapura District estate labourers had been subjected to violence and merciless harassment by—I am ashamed to say—people of my own race. We are taking stern action to see that those responsible for those activities are dealt with by the law according to law....." Referring to the recent incidents on the estates President Jayewardene said: "I am ashamed that this sort of thing should have happened in this country during my government and I do hope that home guards—we might change the name—which we want to create in these estates with your cooperation will prevent this sort of thing happening in the future...."

The President has not merely made speeches. He has acted. He has started a dialogue with the TULF. And in the UNP itself he took stern action. On September 16, on the eve of his birthday, the UNP Working Committee adopted a tough line to ensure discipline in the Party. The *Ceylon Daily News* of September 17 reported: "The UNP's Working Committee yesterday decided to expel Dr. Neville Fernando, the Panadura MP from the Party with immediate effect. The expulsion decision, taken at a meeting chaired by President J. R. Jayewardene at 'Sri Kotha' last evening, can lead to Dr. Fernando losing his Parliamentary seat. Under the new Constitution of the Republic, a MP expelled from his Party also loses his seat. A successor is nominated by the Party. The affected MP, however, has an appeal to a Select Committee or the Supreme Court. Dr. Fernando was present at the 'Sri Kotha' yesterday but did not attend the meeting. It was evident that the UNP, which had required explanations from five party MPs for violating the Party constitution and the code of conduct for MPs was taking a hard line to ensure discipline within

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its ranks. The MPs concerned—Dr. Fernando, Messrs G. V. Punchinilame (Ratnapura) G. Premachandra (Mawathagama), Sunil Ranjan Jayakody (Polgahawela) and D. M. Chandrapala (Kundasale)—had been asked to show cause why they should not be expelled from the Party for violating the UNP Constitution and the MPs code of conduct. Three MPs, Messrs Premachandra, Jayakody and Chandrapala had agreed to withdraw in Parliament certain remarks they had made there—they had done so on September 23 in Parliament (Ed.).

UNP Secretary Harsha Abeywardena, according to the *CDN*, said in a statement: "They have now written to the Speaker withdrawing their remarks and the Working Committee decided not to take action against them". Mr. Punchinilame who lost his post as Deputy Minister of Regional Affairs for his failure to be present when the President and Prime Minister visited his riot-torn constituency has sent a letter explaining his absence. This matter has been referred to a disciplinary committee. The UNP Secretary's statement also stated. "Dr. Neville Fernando, MP for Panadura, who had sent a letter to the Lake House group of newspapers criticising government action to be published under his name was summoned before the Working Committee on a previous occasion and warned. Thereupon he had withdrawn his statement and apologised. Subsequently, he had made another speech on September 5 criticising the government, party and the leader in public. When he was asked to explain his conduct, he had sent a letter of explanation, changing a few words in his speech and not the text. The Working Committee decided that the explanation submitted by Dr. Fernando was very unsatisfactory and that his speech is a violation of the code of conduct and the party constitution, and therefore, decided to expel him with immediate effect.

"Dr. Fernando told the *Daily News* that the UNP Chairman, Mr. N. G. P. Panditharatne, had suggested that he resigns his seat. 'I did not agree to that. Why should I resign? 28,000 people voted for me and I have always conducted myself honourably as a Member of Parliament. I have not stooped to bribery, corruption or victimisation', Dr. Fernando said. He said that he had certain Constitutional rights regarding his membership of Parliament consequent to his expulsion from the UNP and he would explore these. UNP sources said that the Panadura MP had behaved in a most indisciplined manner. When he was taken to task for one infringement he had apologised and then proceeded to repeat the offence. The suggestion that he resigns from Parliament was made in his best interest but he was unwilling a high-ranking UNPer said". Subsequently, it is learnt that

Dr. Neville Fernando had decided to appeal to a Select Committee and not go to the Courts.

PRIME MINISTER PREMADASA has also come out very strongly against looters and other anti-national elements who use communal slogans for their nefarious activities. At several meetings he had stressed that looters and criminal elements who had caused the recent disturbances will get no quarter from government. He said those elements had also caused the loss of a few lives of innocent, helpless persons. "Over that calamity the heart of President J. R. Jayewardene, my heart and the heart of this government has bled".

In all his recent speeches the Prime Minister had stressed that the government had worked earnestly to see that all communities live like brothers and sisters in this country. The constitution of the country did not differentiate Sinhalese, Tamils, Muslims or Burghers. Before the Consitution they were all equal citizens. The Prime Minister had also pointed out that in 1977, the government had solved the language problem: Sinhala was now the official language of the country and Tamil was a national language along with Sinhala.

In regard to the recent disturbances, he was concerned that certain unscrupulous persons had taken the opportunity to do adverse propaganda against Sri Lanka in India, namely, that the Tamil citizens here were continuously harassed. Any one who knows the real situation would agree that the propagandists had spread fictitious stories for their own private ends. One of their aims was to put the two countries at loggerheads. The Prime Minister has repeatedly emphasised that the friendly ties between India and Sri Lanka went down to ancient history. In fact, their own ancients had come from India. Lord Buddha and his doctrine people loved and and revered here had also come from India. No one could and would be allowed to weaken the ties that existed between the two countries.

Some other members of the Cabinet too have spoken strongly against the hooliganism, arson and looting indulged in by anti-national elements under the smokescreen of communal extremism. But the silence maintained by some others have evoked comment in thinking political circles.

FILM FOCUS

Adults Only

Pinhamy (Sinhalese), *Alauddinum At putha Villakkum* (Tamil) and *Jungle Book* (English) are films that have been released recently as welcome relief to our children, who were being kept away from cinemas by the *Adults Only* tag. One had only to sit those films out with the little ones to hear their reverberating peals of laughter, rocking the cinema—a rare experience these days. Flipping the coin over in this context, I was at a newly renovated cinema recently and trooping out of it were several youngsters who had had strong doses of Adult fare in this film full of violence while all the posters and advertisements boldly proclaimed that the film was for *Adults Only*. I questioned one of them as to how he obtained entry in the first place and pat came the reply. "Its easy uncle, you just have to pay full fare for the ticket and no questions will be asked". Half rate tickets being taboo for such films, the ban is thus overcome to hoodwink those who enforce it. Now that the practice is widely accepted in most cinemas, there are exceptions too for I noticed at the Empire the other day, none were able to creep through this loophole and many youngsters were sternly turned away—the film being *Betsy*. This film as many would know, would have been poison for children, although for adults it carried many lessons in morals that disgrace and embrace big business and route it the barnyard way—incest being a firm peg that *Betsy* hung on to, when this film gets around the provinces, this column wishes that its adult assessment would be strictly enforced.

A prize winning letter has come the way of this column and it is being reproduced *in toto* to stress the magnitude of this problem. "In recent years a plethora of *Adults Only* movies have been churned out. These films on account of their bedroom and rape scenes, draw large crowds, but these crowds are seldom made up exclusively of adults. Visit any theatre where an A movie is being screened and one is bound to find a generous sprinkling of non-adults—mainly teenaged boys. These youngsters no doubt gain admission with the connivance of theater authorities who are interested in boosting their ticket sales, than in safeguarding the morals of these highly impressionable children, on whose immature minds such films are bound to exercise a most deleterious influence. What is required is strict vigilance, the respective authorities (there appears to be none in Sri Lanka regarding this matter) to check this non-adult infiltration, and the prosecutions of the cinema authorities who permit it." *If the Censor Board rates a film for adult viewing, the fiat must be*

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observed and respected by exhibitors and must not be circumvented or treated as a dead letter deliberately. Those surprise checks by the Investigations Branch of the National Film Corporation must be given teeth to ferret out such mal-practices as well and impose deterrent fines on the spot for each case detected, whenever non-adults are spotted at *Adults Only* shows. It has been uttered very meaningfully by the German Poet Goethe that "children, have so sharp a scent that they detect everything—the bad before all the rest". How true, but how dangerous to their mental growth.

ALLAUDINUM ATPUTHA VILAKKUM (Alladin and the Wonderful Lamp) A dazzling production in colour, with a few liberties taken on the well known Arabian Tale, this film is directed with an eye on the box office by I. V. Sasi who adds maximum animation effects to give a Walt Disney touch to the film. It also brings together two popular actors in Kamalahasan and Rajni Kanth who are at the crest of their careers. This of course has brought in the problem of, which of them should be the villain to appease their respective fans and a neat compromise is arrived at when both take on the roles of heroes of curtains, leaving behind an aging bad hat in Gemini Ganeshan. And now to the story, the rub of which as most of us know is in the rubbing of a coveted magic lamp, that turns on a geni, for whom no request is impossible. In the title role is Kamalahasan as Alladin who hurdles many horrors at the direction of a wicked and wile magician (Manohar) to come by the lamp in a cavernous chamber. The giant of the lamp—and how well actor Asokan plays it—rattles a kingdom to drop its Princess in the love lorn lap of his master. Many travails and intrigues abound in the place, and for a moment Rajni Kanth as the General vies for the hand of the princess (Jayabarathi) till he fails in a trial of strength—the confrontation packing a surfeit of tension packed action on horseback. The costumes and dance combined in excellent camera artistry would have cost the film a million or more. I viewed this film at the Lido (Jaffna), where families were trooping in, quite oblivious to the receding tensions that were visible outside, while Kamalahasan takes on the role with gusto with one eye on the gallery patrons and the on children, Rajni Kanth tends to overact. Sri Priya in a secondary role as a lady in waiting tends to steal a march over Jayabarathi, but both revel in the colour they are bathed in. But for one adult sequence which could have been scissored off, the sand dunes the quicksands and the sand storms, with the camels humping over them in the sunset were captured convincingly. Spectacular all the way, this film is a must for the family.

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FIST OF FURY (English): Bruce Lee, the late master of the martial arts, unleashed more fury in death in this film, which I viewed at the immaculately resurrected Regal Cinema in Jaffna. Lee slices through the film with his raging fists like a sword sliding through butter. He is on a trail of vengeance, tracking down a gang who have brutally done in his favourite school teacher. He chops and cuts them down like matchsticks and hangs them up a peg to leave the local policemen aghast and guessing. He also displays acting ability to wear many disguises as he battles on single-handedly. The furious climax should be raw entertainment for the Belted fraternity who are religiously devoted to Karate as a self defence art, devoid of weapons. The dubbed dialogue and the story are childishly clear, and its not for children but for *Adults Only*—a restriction that is being observed more in the breach than in its observance around most cinemas where this film has been a capital box office draw. Of Karate, I note the following prescribed as a self defence measure even for women. "Men and women, especially, those in big cities are now learning judo and karate to protect themselves from roadside romeos, smugglers and burglars. These martial arts can protect you from many a bazaar today. Therefore it is wise to acquire the elements of these arts to live and move about confidently". So there you are, see its brilliant exponent Bruce Lee in action, but be wary of going with him all the way! You could be in serious trouble!

JAMES N. BENEDICT



How Useful ?

New Delhi, September 23: Questions about the effectiveness of the Commonwealth have come to the fore with the Heads of Governments of the Organisation scheduled to meet in Melbourne from September 30 to October 7. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who will represent India at the Conference, left here today for Melbourne, where she will arrive on September 28 after visits to Indonesia, Fiji and Tonga. A "free" association of countries which share a former colonial link with Britain—and little else—the Commonwealth now has 44 members, including 25 Republics and 15 Monarchies, scattered throughout the globe. India, which accounts for over sixty percent of the population of the grouping, was an early and enthusiastic supporter of the Commonwealth link. Even now there is no desire to snap the link or attach less importance to it than so far. There is, however, a feeling that the developed countries which are members of the Commonwealth are tending to take more and more difficult positions vis-a-vis the goals of self-reliant, economic development of the majority of the Caribbean, African and Asian members and their efforts to preserve and strengthen their political sovereignty and territorial security. It is also felt that the developed countries associated with western geopolitical designs and strategies from the core of the opposition of the "Northern" countries to urgently needed structural reforms in the International Economic and Monetary Order.

INDIAN SOURCES note that the Commonwealth Summit, being held in Australia for the first time is taking place at a time when the process of detente is undergoing reversal, with Britain, nominally the head of the Commonwealth, supporting the assertion of western military and economic presence in the Indian Ocean and the Arab Gulf. Though such questions are not raised at Commonwealth meetings, they set sections of the Commonwealth against each other, and the resultant strains are bound to be reflected in the behind-the-scenes discussions even if they do not come into the open. Though not on the agenda, questions about Afghanistan and Kampuchea are expected to be raised, no less divisively than at the regional meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government in New Delhi last year. Mrs. Gandhi, according to sources here, will state the Indian point of view on the importation of cold war tensions into this region. They expect her to give "a practical and realistic orientation to the discussion" on these questions.

India is aware of Pakistan's reported desire to rejoin the Commonwealth which it quit on the arrival of Bangladesh on the scene. Mrs. Gandhi, in pre-conference interviews to Australian newspapers, stated that India could not favour the move because it follows the American and British efforts to set up Pakistan as a frontline state in the new western geopolitical strategy. She told the *Sydney Morning Herald* that the US arms deal with Pakistan was the first towards establishment of American bases in Pakistan and making that country the west's policeman in the Gulf region in place of Iran. It is noted here that Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridat Ramphal has said that readmission of Pakistan is not on the agenda and that, 'since this is the first time such a matter will be arising (in informal consultations), I expect the Commonwealth leadership would want to consider wider questions of policy and procedure before dealing with any particular case'. He has been quoted as saying that while there could be a beginning along these lines, "I would not expect it to take the process all the way". If any member raises the question formally, India is likely to make its position quite clear and follow the consequences.

Another very sensitive issue which is bound to come up is the situation in Southern Africa and specially South Africa's obduracy on Namibia and the threat it posed to neighbouring countries. Reports from London suggest that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is wary about such questions being raised, especially after her experience at Lusaka two years ago when there was considerable pressure for Zimbabwe's independence. In the field of International Economic relations, India does not expect a helpful meeting of minds between the developed and developing countries of the Commonwealth. While Britain and Canada, which participated in the Ottawa limited summit, follow the line developed there, India and other developing countries want urgent structural changes in the International Monetary Institutions, change in priorities and agreement on a definite time frame for the North-south dialogue. /PS—Lankapuvath.



Sept. 13 - 19

DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA AND THE
WORLD 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—Janadira; SU—Sun; DV—Davasa; DP—Dinapathi; CM—Chinthamani; WK—Weekend; RR—Riviresa; DK—Dinakara; EN—Eelanadu; IDPR—Information Dept Press Release.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13: A set of tough new laws titled the "Dangerous Drugs Act" is to be presented to Parliament shortly in a bid to arrest the incidence of narcotic trafficking in the country which has brought Sri Lanka international notoriety; in terms of these new laws it will be mandatory on the part of a Court trying any person selling or offering narcotic drugs to a minor to enforce the maximum sentence. The Colombo Fire Brigade is to set up sub-stations in Galle, Negombo, Kotte and Mount Lavinia—SO. The Minister of Education, Mr. Ranil Wickremasinghe, is examining the question of permitting children of Sri Lankans who had lived several years abroad to study through the English medium, on their return to the land. Political circles are speculating whether Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party is now wooing the leader of Mahajana Eksath Peramuna to form a united front—ST. Sri Lanka is now well on its way to hosting a major narcotics problem while its law enforcement agencies remain handicapped due to the low priority given to drug abuse Programmes by the government. Sri Lanka will soon have a bilateral labour agreement with Saudi Arabia which will afford protection to Lankans employed there. An award on the lines of the Pulitzer Prize is to be made annually for journalists and newspapers from next year in Sri Lanka—WK. The newly established Crime Detection Bureau is making investigations in regard to the terrorist activities carried out in the North; this Bureau established on the advice of the National Defence Board is being headed by Colonel Denzil Kobbeka-duwa—VK.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14: The title to nearly 2.5 million acres of land, presumed to be owned by the State but which is in dispute would be resolved during the next four years; this programme initiated by Lands and Land Development and Mahaveli Development Minister Gamini Dissanayake is expected to establish ownership of about 500,000

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acres this year. Police have so far received over 1,000 complaints relating to the recent disturbances from various parts of the country; these include incidents of arson, murder, looting, rape, robbery and theft, reported from Ratnapura, Balangoda, Pelmadulla, Kahawatta, Nivitigala and Embilipitiya; a police spokesman said there may be several persons affected by the recent violence who have not yet made complaints to the police—CDN. Home Guard Units are to be set up immediately on an islandwide basis; these units which will comprise representatives of all communities will function directly under the Government Agents and Superintendents of Police of the 24 districts. President J. R. Jayewardene's 75th birthday will be celebrated on a grand scale island-wide on September 17—CDM. The dialogue between the United National Party and the Tamil United Liberation Front to examine "all questions in dispute regarding the Tamil community and to "end racial tension and restore peace and harmony" will resume on Wednesday. CID detectives are to probe a series of claims made to the Insurance Corporation of Sri Lanka on matters arising out of the recent wave of violence, looting and arson; the probe has been initiated by the Ministry of Trade and Shipping to ascertain whether organised attempts had been made to submit spurious claims. Sri Lanka has sought Saudi Arabian assistance to the tune of 500 million US dollars for the country's development programmes for next year. An excess of untrained and ill-trained English teachers and the gross maldistribution of the qualified and competent ones, have been identified as chief reasons for the failure of English teaching in the majority of schools throughout the island; recent sample surveys conducted by the Education Ministry in selected districts have revealed that 50 percent of the schools have no English teachers at all, while the competent teachers are concentrated in the urban schools. Interrogation of the suspects arrested by Police in connection with the recent wave of unrest has brought forth evidence that points to a secret movement having organised the attack—SU. Consideration is being given to Export chillies, onions, potatoes, black gram and vegetables, fruits etc., where there is excessive production; this is being done to protect producers who produce large quantities of these items and sell them at very low prices; this consideration is being made jointly by the Ministry of Trade and Shipping, Ministry of Agricultural Development and the Ministry of Cooperatives—DP.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15: Draft legislation to prohibit the sale of land to foreigners other than GCEC (Greater Colombo Economic Commission, and FIAC (Foreign Investment Advisory Committee. projects is now ready for the consideration of the Government. A large number of persons ineligible

for food stamps benefits have been cashing in on the scheme, while many people entitled to the benefits are not receiving them, an evaluation report of the scheme undertaken by a government agency has revealed; this survey, the most comprehensive study done on this subject was undertaken by the Food and Nutrition Policy Planning Division of the Plan Implementation Ministry; it covered 15,560 households countrywide; this amounted to 1 percent of the country's households. Mr. Hiran W. Jayewardene Attorney-at-law and Special Advisor to the UN Law of the Sea Conference, has been appointed to head the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency that has just been set up by the Fisheries Ministry.—*CDN*. A group of Government politicians are to face disciplinary action over matters arising out of the recent outbreak of violence. Government's future food subsidy programme would have to be chosen from three major policy options—introduction of a rationing scheme based on one or two basic commodities, restructuring of the present food stamp scheme or abolition of the food subsidy schemes in lieu of cash payments; these recommendations have been made to President J. R. Jayewardene by the Food and Nutrition Policy Planning Division of the Ministry of Plan Implementation which recently conducted a full evaluation of the food stamp scheme.—*BU*. About 75,000 students will get the opportunity of seeing Her Majesty the British Queen Elizabeth; these students will take part in a ceremony at the Galle Face Green.—*DP*.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16: The Government yesterday decided to shut down the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation's Nylon-6 plant at Sapugaskande which promises to be a massive white elephant adding further dead weight to an already beleaguered budget. A five rupee increase in the guaranteed price for paddy which will offset a 30 percent increase in paddy fertiliser prices was announced by Mr. E. L. Senanayake, Minister of Agricultural Research and Development yesterday.—*CDN*. The Government of Thailand, with the concurrence of the Government of Sri Lanka, has decided to appoint Mr. Anat Suwanwihok as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to Sri Lanka, in succession to Miss Ampha Bhadrarwick. The political correspondent of the official weekly organ published by the Maithripala-Anura SLFP Group has alleged that the former Premier, Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike connived with American and West German interests to break up the United Front Government and oust the LSSP.—*CDM*. Tamilnadu's Opposition and DMK leader Muthuvelu Karunanidhi was arrested yesterday, hours before he was due to lead a demonstration opposite the Sri Lanka Deputy High Commissioner's Office in Nungambakkam; two of his former Cabinet Ministers, P. Tharmalingam (Local Government) and P. Naranayasmamy (Agriculture) were

also arrested as Police cracked down on demonstrators. The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) has agreed to fund three local level planning projects involving a total cost of 60 million rupees; the projects will be undertaken in Karadeniya (in the Galle district), Patha-Hewaheta (Kegalle District) and Deraniyagala (Kandy district)—*SU*. All government employees who were affected by the recent violence and who had gone to their home towns have been requested to report for work tomorrow Thursday.—*VK*.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17: President J. R. Jayewardene told Cabinet yesterday that he had requested the Prime Minister to attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Melbourne; the President will not be making the trip; Mr. Jayewardene said he had decided to stay back to oversee the budget preparations as well as to sort out some problems connected with the recent disturbances. Deputy Defence Minister T. B. Werapitiya will head a 8-member committee that will work out the mechanics of the unarmed homeguard scheme already announced by government. The UNP's Working Committee yesterday decided to expel Dr. Neville Fernando, the Panadura MP from the Party with immediate effect; the expulsion decision taken at a meeting chaired by President J. R. Jayewardene at Sri Kotha last evening, can lead to Dr. Fernando losing his Parliamentary Seat. A 7.7 percent decline in fertiliser use countrywide has been noted in the first seven months of this year; Mr. Raja Kuruppu, Director of the National Fertiliser Secretariat said yesterday.—*CDN*. President Jayewardene will decorate the Service Chiefs and some senior officers of the Army, Navy and Air Force at an Investiture Ceremony to be held at President's House at 10 a.m. today.—*CDM*. Government yesterday decided to continue the State of Emergency; a gazette notification extending it by one month was expected to be issued at midnight by President J. R. Jayewardene; more than two million acres of state land now held, under lease will be given over to the allottees. Cabinet decided yesterday.—*SU*. President J. R. Jayewardene announced yesterday that he has written letters to certain deputy ministers and government members of Parliament calling for their explanations regarding certain provocative speeches made by them in Parliament and outside; after making this announcement at the Cabinet Meeting yesterday the President said that good behaviour and control should prevail in the party at all levels and that the party will collapse otherwise.—*VK*.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18: The Malaysian government has taken control of a British based plantation company that has shown a strong interest in developing palm oil cultivation under the Mahaveli projects; the company, the Guthrie Corporation, went under Malaysian government control when

a London stockbroker and a well known merchant bank scooped up enough stock of the company, to give Malaysia's national equity corporation, Permodalan Nasional Bhd (PNB), a majority holding beyond 50 percent. Although Lakspray in 400 gram packs is the cheapest milk powder available in the market today, it was not moving fast, the CWE's Deputy Chairman, Mr. K. Sittampalam said yesterday. The long-awaited Institute of Fundamental Studies, the brainchild of President J. R. Jayewardene was born at Ward Place on his 75th birthday—*CDN*. Did the Milk Board dispose of large quantities of milk on the eve of the dissolution of its Board of Directors? A high level probe has been ordered to find this out; according to authoritative sources the probe is a sequel to questions raised at Ministerial level. The Government of Republic of Tunisia has decided to appoint Mr. Ahmed Abderraout Ounaies as First Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary with residence in New Delhi. The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic has decided to appoint Mr. Bayaryn Jarglasaikhan as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in succession to Mr. Badumtaryn Baldoo—*CDM*. Government is to introduce new laws to protect children and young persons from exploitation; the incorporation of these laws into amendments under the Children and Young Persons Ordinance follows representations to the authorities regarding the high incidence of child exploitation, especially child labour and child cruelty. "I shall remain the Member of Parliament for Panadura and a loyal member of the United National Party. I shall exercise all rights afforded me under the Constitution," Dr. Neville Fernando said yesterday; he said that he was consulting his lawyers and would institute necessary action according to procedures laid down in the Constitution. Prime Minister R. Premadasa yesterday said that Sri Lanka history and civilisation all pointed to the fact that Sri Lanka was part and parcel of India and condemned the harassment of the Indian labourers on the country's plantations recently as a "deplorable act" *SU*. District Development Councils will be given authority to give instructions to all Government Departments in the districts; it is reliably understood that the government has agreed to this on principle—*DP*.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19: On an average, about 1,000 qualified and experienced motor vehicle drivers are leaving the country every year for employment abroad especially in oil-rich West Asia a recent survey undertaken by the government indicates. The Food Department yesterday abolished the cross-subsidy scheme under which bread prices were being kept down on sugar profits and announced a Re. 1 per kilo cut on its sugar price and a 40 cents increase in the price of a loaf of bread; the decision to feed the country

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this bitter-sweet pill was taken following this week's budget discussions when the Food Department was told that it must break even on its operation and not expect any budgetary support—*CDN*. Customs and Central Bank statistics have now revealed that there has been a marked shift in the pattern of imports since the first flush of liberalisation of imports in November 1977; the share of consumer goods imports such as food and drink, textiles and consumer durables have declined from 38 per cent to 29 percent. An armed gang yesterday held up a prison van transporting six remand prisoners to the Point Pedro Magistrate's Court, killed three of them, injured two and allowed the sixth to escape; they were all suspects in the Kambarmalai murder case which is now under non-summary proceedings in the Point Pedro courts. Sri Lanka's gross national product recorded an increase in 1980, but the increase fell below the growth rate for 1979, reflecting corresponding effects on almost all spheres of the country's economic activities, the Central Bank has reported. *SU*



WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

September 13-19

SOUTH ASIA

INDIA: Tamil Nadu observed a day of mourning (in protest) for the atrocities committed by the majority on Sri Lanka Tamils. However IMK under former Chief Minister Karunanidhi continued its demonstrations even later and sought arrest. Karunanidhi and two of his former ministers, along with DMK supporters were arrested when they were due to lead a demonstration opposite the Sri Lanka Deputy High Commission in Madras. 20,000 un-employed youths staged a demonstration in New Delhi demanding jobs. India is unable to make progress with her oil explorations due to lack of foreign funds. The controversial Essential Services Maintenance Bill was successfully carried through in both of Houses of Indian Parliament arming the government with wide powers to control strikers. Indira Gandhi comfortably survived a no-faith motion brought against her government by the opposition parties. Sri Lankan Minister of Rural Industries, Thondaman observed in New Delhi that it was a happy augury that Tamils in India have begun to show interest in Sri Lankan tamil affairs but that should not lead to any violence. Foreign Ministers of India and Bangladesh agreed to take immediate steps to resolve the disputes, especially that of New Moore Island. **PAKISTAN:** Pakistan International Airlines (PTA) dismissed another 580 of its employees including pilots and engineers in an attempt to cleanse the service. Pakistan announced that it had accepted military and economic aid to the tune of 3.2 billion from

the US. Pakistan announced its willingness to enter into an agreement guaranteeing non-aggression and use of force between them and India. The issue of Pakistan's re-entry into the Commonwealth was a subject of discussions in India and Australia. Pakistan's only daily newspaper the *Muslim* ceased publication at least temporarily when the management failed to solve a labour dispute with its Employees. **AFGHANISTAN:** The official organ *Bakhtar* charged that it was US that used inhuman chemical weapons in Afghanistan and denied that the use of its by her soldiers as flagrant lies. *Reuters* reported that ex-Afghan soldiers have been absconding to avoid the new call up for service. **BANGLA-DESH:** Bangladesh government sacked 553 striking bank employees and warned others of similar action.

SOUTH-EAST AND EAST ASIA

THAILAND: Thailand accused Vietnam for using chemical weapons in Kampuchea. **VIETNAM:** Vietnam's Foreign Minister described the agreement reached by three Kampuchean groups as unrealistic because these groups were more concerned about liquidating each other. Vietnam has denied that its troops in Kampuchea and Laos were using Soviet supplied toxic chemicals. **JAPAN:** Japan has promised to double its aid to lease developed countries to 0.12 percent of its GNP in the next five years. **CH/NA:** China is not very happy over US-Taiwan relations Act which also allows American sales to Taiwan.

WEST ASIA :

ISRAEL: The Deputy Prime Minister of Israel said that his Government has planned to set up more Jewish settlements on the side of the occupied West Bank. Prime Minister Begin returned after a ten-day visit to US. He said that the strategic co-operation accord reached with the US was aimed at containing Soviet expansion. **IRAN:** 44 candidates have applied to contest the Presidential election to choose a successor for the assassinated President Ali Rajai. Mr. Rajavi, exiled leader of the Mujahedin said that Khomeini's life has been spared so that he can be tried for his role in the current bloodshed later. Iranian authorities appear to have executed 150 prisoners in one day. Mujahedeen People's Organisation held five demonstrations and clashed with revolutionary guards. **SAUDI ARABIA:** Oil Minister Ahmed Yaman, has reaffirmed that it will not bow down to OPEC countries' pressure to raise its prices.

EASTERN EUROPE

SOVIET UNION: Soviet Union has rejected Egyptian charges that it has plotted against its government as a blatant lie. British Labour Party leader Michael Foot visited Soviet Union. Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev told Michael Foot

that the Soviet military strength was ahead of US. In responding and retaliating action against Egypt for expelling her diplomats Soviet Union has expelled Egyptian military attache and his 10 member staff. **POLAND:** Solidarity Union leader rejected that his Unions ever preferred to go "capitalist". Polish were told that Kremlin views the labour unrest in Poland as a anti-Soviet insurrection.

WESTERN EUROPE

FRANCE: The French National Assembly passed a decentralisation bill that would provide for a directly-elected regional councils. This has the effect of dismantling the Napoleonic system which concentrated power in Paris. France abolished capital punishment for civilian and military offenders. **UNITED KINGDOM:** Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher sacked six Ministers—three of them of Cabinet rank—for being critical of her anti-inflationary economic policies. Lord Thorneycroft, Chairman of the Conservative Party too had been removed from his post. The Liberal Party has decided to forge an electoral pact with the newly formed Social Democratic Party. The Arab and Islamic community living in the United Kingdom will enjoy the service of the "Arab Chronicle" to be launched shortly. British divers have recovered 272 Soviet Gold bars from a British warship sunk by the German submarines off Norway during the Second World War. **BELGIUM:** Nearly 200,000 300,000 men will take part in the autumn "war games" of the NATO forces in Europe. **WEST GERMANY** US Secretary of State Alexander Haig faced angry anti-war demonstrators in West Berlin. Haig suggested that there was evidence to suggest the Soviet Union and its allies have been using chemical weapons in Laos, Kampuchea and Afghanistan. Souvenirs of Adolf Hitler, a water colour by Hitler and a silver tea pot and napkin used by him were withdrawn from a Munich auction. Commander of the US army forces in Europe, Gen. Frederick Kroesen escaped an attempt on his life in Heidelberg (West Germany) The West German police suspects Baader-Meinhof group for the attack on the General. 10 hijackers who hijacked a Polish airliner to West Berlin surrendered.

AFRICA

EGYPT: The Egyptian government has cancelled the visit of Israeli chief of staff Lt. Gen. Raphael Eitan and its own chief of staff to Israel as a protest against a statement made by the former. Eitan said that there are troubles in Egypt and it is possible that President Sadat will go and everything will come to an end. President Sadat had vowed that he would follow up the crackdown on religious and political dissenters with strong measures to eliminate all forms of indiscipline. Egyptian newspapers published accounts of Soviet plot against the Government. The Egyptian government ordered the *Le Monde* correspondent to leave the country

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within 3 days. 4 Soviet diplomats a Hungarian diplomat and 4 Soviet journalists were involved in the plot. Egypt has 15 percent of world ores of niobium and titanium. Soviet Envoy Vladimir Polyakov, and six others of the Embassy were declared persona non-grata and ordered to leave the country. Last of the 1,000 Soviet experts too have been advised to terminate their contract immediately and leave Egypt. The Cairo police for the third time clashed with anti-government Islamic fundamentalists after Friday's prayers. **SUDAN:** Libyan bombers based in Chad have bombed areas of Western Sudan. **LIBYA:** The leaders of the "Steadfastness and Confrontation front" constituting Syria, South Yemen, Algeria, Libya and PLO met in Benghazi to devise ways and means to counter US-Israeli strategic co-operation plan. **CHAD:** Chad government forces drove away Egyptian and Sudanese forces and recovered the town of Guereda.

AMERICAS

UNITED NATIONS: The UN General Assembly voted 117 to none for a resolution imposing comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa for blocking the Namibian independence. The Western trading partners of South Africa, including the Contact group members US, Britain and France abstained. Mr. Ismat Kittani a senior Iraqi diplomat was elected as President of the UN General Assembly. Israel and Iran have attacked his election. The out-going President of the UN General Assembly had said that the papers churned out by the UN would safely pave the way to the moon. The UN General Assembly for the third consecutive year accepted the credentials of the Khmer Rouge insted of Heng Samrin regime by a vote of 77 to 037 with 31 abstentions. **UNITED STATES:** The sale of AWACs radar planes to Saudi Arabia has no link with the Strategic cooperation envisaged in Middle East. Before a decision is made on the sale of AWACs to Saudi Arabia the question of hte stability of Saudi Arabian Monarchy and its threat to Israel was discussed in the US Senate. US Under Secretary of State Walter Stoessel confirmed Alexander Haig's assertion in West Berlin that they had evidence of Soviet Union poisonous mycotoxins being used in indo-China and Afghanistan. President Reagan decided to cut his defence budget by 13 million dollars. According to an official of the US State Department Namibia should gain her independence next year 51 of the 100 US senators were opposed to the sale of AWACs (radar planes) to Saudi Arabia. Reagan administration's proposal is likely to killed as both Houses were opposed to the sale. **CUBA:** At the Inter-Parliamentary Conference held in Havana, diplomats of China, Britain and United States staged a walk out when President Castro criticised their government.

TRIBUNE, Ocotber 3 1981

A BRIEF NOTE

Dr S. A. Wickremasinghe-2

By T. Duraisingam

THIS IDEA of the sale of Suriya Mal on Poppy Day was taken over in 1933 by a group of Leftists and the Suriya Mal Movement functioned as an anti-imperialist organisation working for the upliftment of the people. Mrs. Doreen Wickremasinghe was elected first President of the Suriya Mal Movement. Dr. S. A. Wickremasinghe, S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike and S. Somasundaram, who acted as Trustees for the Suriya Mal Fund, announced through the press that the fund was to form a nucleus to further and promote the casce of National Independence through (1) the establishment of scholarships in industry, agriculture and art; (2) the translation of literature into Sinhalese and Tamil and the encouragement of the production of original works in these languages; (3) the encouragement of Swadeshi enterprises and other national propaganda. These monies collected by the sale of Suriya Mal was utilised for the above purposes. During the malarial epidemic of 1934 the members of the Suriya Mal Movement collected monies from the public and helped the villagers, who suffered during this epidemic, by purchasing and distributing among them medicine and food. It was under the direction of Dr. Wickremasinghe the Suriya Mal volunteers dispensed medicine to the victims of Malaria in the Kegalle and Kurunegala districts.

With the second State Council elections approaching in 1936 the socialists in the Suriya Mal Movement, who were up to then functioning in an unorganised way formed themselves in December 1935 into a political party, the Lanka Sama Samaja Party. At the first public meeting of the Party held on 21.12.1935 at the Lorenz College Hall, Colombo, Doctor Wickremasinghe spoke on the abolition of social and economic inequality and oppression arising from differences of class, caste, race, creed and sex. "Political subjection meant poverty and that was the problem they had to tackle", he said. Today they had in Ceylon the worst poverty and also rich men which meant that there was economic inequality. The attitude of some of the Buddhist leaders was that some were born rich and some born poor on account of "Karma." If there was a cause for poverty there must be a way of removing that poverty and that inequality. That was the problem they had to tackle, the greatest problem that the world was faced with. Continuing he referred to caste inequalities and inequalities resulting from a belief in different creeds. In a socialist society she said such inequality was impossible. He worked untiringly for the Party. He was on its Executive Committee, and one of its most active propagandists and workers.

In the 1936 elections all the leading bourgeois leaders of the time concentrated their efforts in the Morawaka electorate and defeated Doctor Wickremasinghe. After the elections he continued his work for the upliftment and relief of the oppressed and for strengthening the Party. On 26th August 1936, he left for England. He stayed there till end of 1938 where he further developed his connections with the international working class movements of Europe. He was widely known and respected in the British working class movement. "Doctor Wicks" was a well known figure at meetings and conferences. He himself organised a number of conferences, and was responsible for creating in England public indignation at the appalling conditions of estate labour in Sri Lanka. Doctor Wickremasinghe returned to Sri Lanka on 18th December 1938. All the progressive people of this country welcomed his return. On his return, he resumed his work among the workers and peasants in active cooperation with the other members of the Lanka Sama Samaja Party. Unfortunately, by the end of 1939 the disruptive theories of Trotsky spread among some members of the leadership of the Party. At the 4th annual conference held in December 1939, the Trotskyites in the Party manoeuvred to get a majority in the executive which was amenable to them. Then at an executive committee meeting held in February 1940, a resolution condemning the 3rd Communist International was passed by a majority vote. After this the Party organs were filled with a spate of anti-Soviet and Trotskyite propaganda. This major change in Party policy, without consulting the membership at a general meeting, was opposed by a large number of leading members. The majority in the executive committed replied by expelling four members of the executive committee, namely Doctor Wickremasinghe, M. G. Mendis, W. Ariyaratne and A. Gunasekera. Thereafter they expelled a large number of other members among whom were Rev. U. Saranankara, A. Vaidialingam, D. P. Yasodis, T. Duraisingam and K. Ramanathan.

DOCTOR WICKREMASINGHE together with the expelled Communists set up headquarters at the Workers Club, 61, Hultsdorf Street, Colombo. They built trade unions, organised Marxist study classes among the workers and issued newspapers and socialist publications. After a few months—in November 1939—they held a conference at No. 333 Negombo Road, Peliyagoda, and formed the United Socialist Party, the precursor to the Communist Party of Sri Lanka. Since the Communist Party was founded on 3rd July 1943, Doctor Wickremasinghe has been in the leadership of the Party either as General Secretary or as President. He has been, for several decades, a member of the legislative assembly of our country. At the Morawaka by election held in the 1940s he was elected a member of the State Council by a majority of 23,823 votes

which was, at that time, the highest majority taken at an election. Subsequently he was elected to the Parliament and for a period of over twenty five years he has been a member of Parliament.

Dr. Wickremasinghe is one of the leading personalities of Sri Lanka who has been always in the forefront in the struggle for world peace. He is a Vice-President of the Sri Lanka Peace Council and a member of the World Peace Council. He has attended many international peace conferences including the World Congress of Peace Forces held at Moscow in 1973 and in which Leonid Brezhnev delivered his famous speech on the maintenance of world peace. In a speech delivered by Doctor Wickremasinghe on "Asian Security as a Contribution to World Peace", at a National Seminar held by the Sri Lanka Peace Council, he said: "More than half of mankind lives in Asia. The peoples inhabiting this continent have for centuries shared the same destiny. In keeping with the traditional policy of "divide and rule" the colonialists encouraged regional, national and religious strife in this area too. This policy reached peak intensity following the Second World War when it became clear that political independence for the peoples of the continent was certain and close. As a result, the past quarter of a century was marked by armed conflicts causing misery for many millions. The imperialists sought to weaken the newly independent countries and to instigate separatist movements and to create border disputes. Ever since the Second World War, this vast continent has been an area of friction, tension and dangerous conflicts. The events in this part of the globe have been jeopardising world peace." He then described the various problems faced by the different countries of Asia "traceable to the time, of colonial division of Asia". Continuing his speech he said that "the real road to others but the road of good neighbourly co-operation between all the states concerned. Security in Asia can only be ensured by the joint collective effort of her people. All countries in Asia, irrespective of their social systems can agree, as essential minimums to the common objectives, such as renunciation of the use of force in international relations respect for sovereignty and the inviolability of frontiers, non-interference in internal affairs and broad development of economic and other kinds of co-operation on the basis of full equality and mutual benefit".

In his long and fruitful life, there were times when Doctor Wickremasinghe had to face stress, strain and difficulties, including terms of imprisonment, as a result of his political activities. But never has he wavered in his convictions nor has he faltered in his struggle for independence, socialism and peace.

Concluded

TRIBUNE, October 3, 1981

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--G. P. Malalasekera in The Pali Literature of Ceylon
Colombo, 1928 p. 25.

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at

Anuradhapura

with Appendices and Notes

by

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DIRECTOR,

Sri Lanka Construction Industry Training Project.

Family Planning

By R. Kahawita

TODAY the world is confronted, on the one hand with the natural increase of population which is expressed as "population explosion" and on the other with a world surplus of food like wheat, butter, milk, corn, sugar etc. The Problem of those who are in possession of nature's gifts to man is not how to distribute the surplus, but to reduce the mouths to eat the surplus, to give a reasonable price support to those who produce the surplus, keeping a sizeable margin or profit for himself and how to keep what he has? The answer to the one is 'Family Planning' and to the other burn or dump the surplus into the sea so that they do not come back to the market. "Family Planning" is a non-barbaric generic term for various means, methods and acts adopted to prevent the life process taking place after the creative act is consummated. They include such violation of the Natural Law as abortion, induced evacuation or miscarriage, condoms, pills, and other gadgets designed to prevent the life processes after the act—an act Nature has devised for procreation only. Notwithstanding how, when, and where the prevention takes place, what is being done is contrary to nature and there must be consequences.

WHAT THESE CONSEQUENCES are, are yet to be discovered or understood. Nevertheless the methods are advocated, accepted, practised or even given legal status by the progressive sectors of the human society. And more or less compulsorily imposed on the lower or back-ward strata of the human society. This group, to whom the message of family planning is taken, has never asked for a solution to the problem of their numbers. Their eternal request has been for food and money to buy it. All they ask is for bread and a place in the sun. But "the well to do" say the cause is population explosion; "not enough living space," "not enough food"; "shelter and clothing", for the numbers increasing. "So let us arrest population growth", which is running around two per cent per annum at the global level, a necessity to maintain Nature's own designs for the human race. Nature never meant these to be the limitations for procreation. She has, her own way of controlling population growth where man is only a helpless witness and a victim not a participant. Man has taken over the responsibility of population control purely to have the cake and eat it. A couple of weeks back in a country, where there is a 95% Catholic Christian population, in a referendum "whether to legalise abortion or not within three

months of Pregnancy" the people voted in favour of abortion. One begins to wonder, whether the Christian conscience is taking excessive liberties of the Sacrament of confession—commit a sin, confess, and be absolved—thereafter follow the same path again. The Christian era commenced with the Roman Massacre of the Innocents. We imagine it will also end with the massacre of the unborn—child—also a Roman edict. Against this "The New Rodd a couple of week's back legally banned abortion. Abortion endangers the life of one partner only while the other escapes both the risk and responsibility. Nature never meant this to be so".

IN LOWER LIFE nature has a rhythmic way of regulating the numerical growth of the species, taking into consideration even the mortality factors at birth. Humans too were subjected to the same natural law until "Eve tempted Adam to eat of the forbidden fruit". Here again nature stepped in. Once the erring couple was expelled from "the Garden of Eden" for their misbehaviour, nature gave them "a free will" and "a conscience". A gift given, not to use against the Law Giver, but to face problems and be responsible for having shared the forbidden fruit, which is shared by both for the development of the species; not for "pleasure". An act to sanctify procreation, so that the species can be maintained and select those needed for her designs. It is the task of nature to select the Moron, the Imbecile, the Idiot, the Ordinary, the Intellectual and the Genius from the many according to the needs to continue the development of the species. Man has no control over the Spiritual Quality of the result of his act nor its attainment nor what he should be. It is nature's prerogative. Nature never intended to give a licence to go against the natural order of procreation. The endowment of a "Free Will" was not a freedom to go against nature, not to rise against her designs. It was given to understand nature and make use of such understanding for the betterment of the species, guided by one's own conscience. Both "Free will" and "Conscience" go together; a privilege and a supremacy not given to any other living being

Notwithstanding this sacred endowment to man yet year in year out, "Family Planning is being put on a war footing" as if increase of the species is the most dangerous enemy of the beginning of life which starts with the consummation of "the act of pro-creation". However, because of the Free-will gifted by Nature to man, man, many who indulge in this act rather than be responsible for the bringing up of a new life into the world, advocates "family planning—a short cut to the life process. Why? "Not enough food," "not enough living space". "too much of a bother to the two participants" are the answers. The act

as degraded to the satisfaction of carnal desires in man, these reasons are entirely man's fabrications. Nature deemed man to find a solution to his own problems and not to go against her. Use the same tools nature has endowed man to understand her and make use of them for the betterment of nature's most important handiwork "man" and not destroy him at the beginning of life. "Family Planning" is a short-cut solution to that problem. Finding of living space, food and shelter for the increasing numbers due to his own acts is his own problem. If he must indulge in the act the numbers must increase. From among these numbers, nature will select who could continue with the designs nature has ordained for the future of man. But man wants to keep what he possesses. Often more than what he needs—so that he can enjoy what he has gathered and not share what he has in excess in the spirit of "Love thy neighbour as thyself". In other words he will sacrifice several lives to retain what he possesses. Wars among nations are that. Abortion is also that. And what parades as Family Planning is no less. It is organised action against another life after indulging in the creative act.

To be concluded



ENVIRONMENT—1

Energy Crisis

By Richard A. Dias

CAPITAL-INTENSIVE, high-energy consuming technology—non-renewable resource depletion—environmental pollution—ecological imbalance; these form the constituent elements of the development syndrome today. Each of them has had a bearing on the other, triggering-off a chain-reaction that has set mankind on a collision course. The ultimate outcome may be the virtual annihilation of the human species and every other conceivable form of life from the face of the earth. Is a sprawling wasteland, littered with death, disease and destruction, the legacy, modern man will leave behind to posterity? Man's acquisitive instinct, his insatiable consumerist appetite, an exponential population growth, coupled with sophisticated technological devices fashioned to mulct dry his natural habitat are all conniving to make the Silent Spring a universal phenomenon. However plausible these causes may be, it is in the socio-economic context of the present situation and the historical circumstances that determined it that one will be able to make a more proper assessment of this predicament. The chief beneficiaries of the present pattern of development have

been the metropolitan countries of the First World through their surplus extraction of the peripheral countries of the Third World by resorting to the purchase of raw materials at greatly depressed prices. By making these raw materials the key components of industrial processing not only is their inherent value enhanced but the latent selling price of their finished products is also increased. And they are then sold to the very countries from which the raw materials would have been extracted, at an unconscionable margin of profit. It is a kind of double taxation with a vengeance. No better example of this pernicious form of exploitation is found than in the drug industry where Trans-National Corporations generally rule the roost. Had there been a more equitable sharing of the surplus extraction, the 72% of the world's population that constitutes the Third World would not have been subjected to the agony of living in hunger and poverty. That the developed world of 28% should have the advantage of having a GDP of 80% while the remaining 72% of the developing world has to be satisfied with a mere 20% provides eloquent testimony of the grave historical injustice perpetrated on the then colonial and now-neo-colonial periphery by the affluent West.

JUST AT A TIME when the Third World is about to make a debut into the world market and even make inroads into the traditional domestic market of the First World, not only are protectionist barriers erected, but authoritative bodies such as the Club of Rome and the Committee that prepared "Global 2,000" have begun to caution us against what would be in store for the Third World if it were to follow the Western pattern of development. This dilemma is succinctly stated by Pyon Choon Hahm, "It is a supreme irony of world history that the concern for environmental pollution on the part of the industrially advanced portion of the globe is now being thrust into the path of industrial development of the underdeveloped world, which has finally succeeded in forging a commitment to ethnological salvation of its own. It is as if the industrialized world had purposely taunted and humiliated the underdeveloped world into abandoning its non-industrial cosmology in favour of a more European and technologically oriented world-view in order now to frustrate and disappoint the third world's new commitment to development. Unless and until the actions of the rich countries demonstrate clearly their determination to de-industrialize, the poorer countries' reaction would only be that they will industrialize first and control pollution when they can afford to do so." (from STUDY PAPER 5 published by the then Study Centre for Religion and Society). Is the present pattern of development pursued in Sri Lanka conducive to the protection of our natural resources and environment? What are the ecological implications involved in the denudation of our forests in the Mahaveli and

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elsewhere; in the indiscriminate felling of our trees to supply timber to the booming construction industry, in contaminating our waterways through industrial effluent without any let or hindrance particularly in the Free Trade Zone; in the high-pressure agricultural practices that will be put into effect in the proposed Agricultural Free Trade Zone; in polluting our air by the large volume of carbon monoxide that is emitted from the increasing number of motor vehicles; in despoiling the sea that surrounds us through the "effluent of the affluent" that come to reside at our tourists hotels that dot out seashore. Are these no indications that Sri Lanka too is heading for an environmental crisis of unprecedented proportions the like of which it had been spared up to now? Would not the free play of market forces give free rein to the acquisitive instincts of the entrepreneur, local or foreign who is generally impervious to environmental problems? What then is the way out of this crisis for Sri Lanka and also other countries?

As for as Sri Lanka is concerned priority has to be given to the establishment of an Environmental Authority with overriding powers to intervene wherever our environment is threatened. It should be so constituted not to make it a pliable instrument in the hands of vested interests, be they political, commercial or otherwise. Even if it were to be armed with such powers, its efforts will be nullified unless our entire development model is recast on the basis of common social good and not private profit. Implicit in such a change is the awareness of the close relationship environmental pollution and energy consumption have with each other, within the framework of the development strategies and the socio-economic goals of the country. If our environmental problems are to be brought within manageable limits there has to be a comprehensive package or policy decision designed to change the pattern of both our consumption of energy and the type of technology used for development.

To be concluded....



GRAMA SASTRA—44

Uva Scribblings

Wheat and Rice

By Gamiya

Religion is not too far away from people who wish to live good lives. When the Hyde Park heckler challenged Vincent McNabb: "Oh what has religion done to me? You have had two world wars and all that, and now can you say that is christia-

nity", said McNabb, "It is known that there has been water on this earth from the beginning, but also well known that some people's necks are still dirty; religion has not failed man, but man has failed his religions". This *Grama Sastra* is being written in the *Bak Mahe* (bhagyavantha or Blessed month of the harvest). After the planting of thala (gingelly) in January-February; after the night-round harvests in lamplight and in song, talk and dance, with human feet, hooves of the buffalo and with tractors, the roots of their existence where cult, culture and agriculture meet—the Sinhala-Tamil New Year festival: Fireworks closer to the towns, but in the remoter villages, a quiet, reflexive, majestic preparation for it. How much the preparation of rice keeps people together, family affair that it was and even now is, to great measure despite the inroads made on it by some men and their machines, some individualists and their pesticidal pests born of greed rather than of the 'green revolution'.

Patrick Geddes was a conscientious officer of the 1921 British regime. Entrusted with a feasibility report on Ceylon and Colombo, he seems to have done an excellent job of it. You may not agree with everything he says, but if you look at it dispassionately, you will even come to think of meditating and reflecting still more deeply upon it. In fact, a christian friend of ours from Italy said: "How is it that Asia is a rice-cultivating area, and its christians still use Mediterranean wheat and bread for the altar, made from that individualist wheat? It is incongruous to get the family group to make the rice, and to use wheat-bread from a foreign culture". What provoked him to say this? Here is the text: "Beyond machines and even money are the men who use them and make them; yet men and their ways, their whole social type are deeply determined by the kind of work they do. Take first an illustration from agriculture. Rice and wheat are not simple cereals botanically different with cultures agriculturally different, with different economic returns and profits, but they are also of different food values physiologically as is here being increasingly realized for the varieties of rice imported. So far, well, but beyond this, the sociologist is increasingly realizing as the momentous and significant difference between the two (wheat and rice), is their historic and even contemporary social influences as at the very foundation of the contrasted civilisation of the East and West. Wheat with its individualistic farming, rice with its family farming and its collective water organisation, are respectively among the most fundamental causes in the origins of Western and Eastern civilisations, they respectively are, Nearly every form of manufacture, every staple of agriculture has its own civilisation value and influence; so has every form of economic activity and construction. Man is thus not only making goods but also making

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his own good or evil and these, in countless ways, which the rudimentary economics and politics of the recent and modern age have hardly begun to consider, which indeed they substantially ignored for the most part before the war (World War I), which this ignorance largely helped to lead up to..." (Geddes Report, Ceylon Sessional Papers, 1921, page 33).



ANTIBIOTICS

Are we taking too much?

By Dr. Anil Chaturvedi

THROUGHOUT MAN'S HISTORY there has been a popular belief that sick persons should be fed on noxious substances. But now natural products have been repalced by synthetic chemical and micro-substances. The most spectacular advances have been made in the treatment of infection and some parasitic diseases. Pneumonia, septi calmia, typhiod fever, venereal diseases, tuberculosis leprosy can now be treated effectively as can malaria, and amoebiasis. This has become possible after the advent of chemotherapy and antibiotics. Exactly 50 years ago Alexander Fleming reported the discovery of a natural substance, produced by a micro-organism, which killed other micro organisms. It was produced by the mould *Penicillium Crysogenum*; so he called it pencillin. Fleming was unable to isolate enough of it in a pure state to enable him to find out its true value. It was a group at Oxford University, led by H. W. Florey and E. Chain, who continued to investigate penicillin and who, in 1940 showed that in man it was nontoxic and an extremely effective antibacterial agent.

Penicilin was the first antibiotic to be widely used and when its remarkable properties in treating infectious diseases were realised efforts to indentify other antibiotics were stepped up. Streptomycin was discovered in the USA in 1942 by S. W. Waksman and his colleagues. Streptomycin is still the drug chosen for treating tuberculosis, though it is often combined with others to prevent resistant bacteria developing. When the sulphonamides, synthetic antibacterials were introduced in the 1930s they were widely and successfully used to treat gonorrhoea and certain streptococoal infections. But it was not long before the sulphonamides became largely ineffective against those infections. In gonnorrhoea, which is transmitted exclusively by person to person contact, resistance emerged and was spread rapidly by the patients and their contacts. The widespread use of sulphnamides

to prevent streptococcal infections and rheumatic fever soon caused resistant strains of streptococcal to emerge, which proved fatal in many cases. In both of these instances the subsequent availability of penicillin was effective. But in gonorrhoea the original marked susceptibility of the causative organism gradually declined; strain with greater resistance appeared, needing larger doses of pencillin for last few years strains of gonococci completely resistant to pencillin have emerged.

THE DANGERS of uncontrolled use of antibiotics are recognised today and many hospitals have adopted policies based on restricting their use, often on a rotating basis, the most powerful agents being reserved for cases where life is at stake. Antibiotics have been over consumed in recent years in our country to such a large extent that certain bacteria have developed resistance against antibiotics commonly used for dysentery and preventing typhoid and pneumonia. A resistant bacteria "*Salmonella typhi*" caused typhoid fever in Evuakulam Kerala in 1976 and spread to Madras, Madurai, Belgaum, and Bombay 1978. This variety to typhoid was found to be resistant to Chloromy phemicol, used to kill typhoid germs. There are about 1,800 types of *Salmonella* which cause mild forms of food poisoning but they could become highly dangerous if they develop resistance. This happened in Delhi in 1976-1977 when mortality rose meonatal (death rate in the first month of life of a new born) to very high proportions due to resistance strains and infection of *Salmoneller* new port. Similarly, an increasing number of "*taphyllococens owrens*" (pus producing organisms) is now insensitive to penicillin G. In come instance bacteria have been found to be resistant prior to the availability of antibiotics while in others, the resistance seems to have become prominent only after the drug had been used for a varying period of time. As a rule, organism resistant to a particular antibiotc, tend to be resistant in all other chemically relatetd antibiotics. Bacteria, unaffected by Tetracycline, is usually unresponsive to chlorietra cycline, Oxytetra cycline and demeltryculur tetra cycline.

THE SITUATION is so alarming that unless serious and strict measures are taken we may have to go back to the pre-antibiotics era. According to Prof. V. Rama'ingaswamy Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research, there is need for a national policy on the use of antibiotics. To start with those antibiotics which show less resistance should be preferred over those antibiotics which show less recistance should be preferred over those antibiotics which have acquired resistance. All major hospitals should have a microbiology department where antibiotics should be tested for culture against the disease producing organisms. After the proper culture and sensitivity tests are conducted only then these antibioticc should be

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used in that particular disease. A combination of drugs instead of a single one has less chances of causing resistances. It is not uncommon to find people taking antibiotics of their choice for treating simple conditions like sore throat which could have been cured by saline gargle and Vitamin C tablets. Not only people start treating themselves and discontinue the drugs on their own. This insufficient dosages of antibiotics and their frequent use is also an important factor in an individual developing factor resistance against them. The main cause of resistance in these antibiotics is due to the fact that these drugs are indiscriminately and dangerously consumed by most of the people. These drugs are being freely prescribed to people with minor ailments like flu, diarrhoea and dysentery and sore throat. Combinations of antimicrobial agents may diminish the speed with which bacterial resistance to any of the drugs in the mixture develops.

—Patriot, New Delhi.



BRITAIN

Neutron Abyss

By Vladimir Simonov

The London T. V. marked the anniversary of the A-bombing of Hiroshima by a rerun of Stanley Kramer's famous film "On the Beach". You remember, of course, how the film shows San Francisco after a nuclear war? How the man from submarine ardently wishes to find at least a work in the city utterly sterilized by radiation. The generator at the power plant continues to work. So does the radio transmitter. Except that there is not a single live being left who could depress the telegraph key except for the empty Coca-Cola bottle precariously balanced in the wind. In the second part of the film the submarine surface in Tilbury, the port of London. A daring fellow clad in an antiradiation suit manages to make it to Trafalgar Square. Everything is all right. Admiral Nelson continues to guard the peace of this lifeless city from atop his column. The fountains continue gushing. And the sides of the stone lions, polished by the millions of one-time warm palms, are shining. Kramer's film does not have any second part. But I am sure that quite a few Englishmen are previewing it today in their mind's eye. Their country might very well become the first neutron sword-bearer to the USA. Washington is anticipating that the Tory government would come up quickly with an answer in the affirmative to the request on opening the doors of its deposits for the N-Bomb. Preliminary accord was reached on this already

at the time when Margaret Thatcher visited the USA in winter. These assumptions acquired the nature of fearsome veracity after the three-day visit made to London by Caspar Weinberger, the US Secretary of Defence, and his talks with John Nott, his British vis-a-vis. Both of them declare that the N-bomb was not discussed at all. However, one would rather believe in Mary Magdalene's chastity.

WE MAY AS WELL REMEMBER that the British Prime Minister managed to convince the new US President that their hearts were beating in unison in regard to the "tough" foreign policy. At the time already both sides spoke with approval of the "higher radiation weapons". Today, after Reagan's neutron decision, London, quite logically, became the *rara avis* in Western Europe. Because Britain is the only country which hailed officially that which the others regarded as an impermissible threat to European security. After that the visit by Weinberger to London became inevitable. *The Guardian* wrote that "the Americans believe that the key to the deployment of the neutron bomb in Europe is a decision by one of the main NATO allies to equip its own forces with the weapon and British is the obvious choice." And the harmony among the top brass is not only reason for this. As it turns out, exists one other harmony—the harmony of standards. The Generals had been quite farsighted when they had armed the British Rhine Army with the Lance missiles and M-110 howitzers—the very same for which the neutron warheads have been designed now. As people here think, the Rhine Army itself is like a powerful troop carrier, with the aid of which the N-bomb can be hauled onto the territory of West Germany, even if it doesn't want this so very much. Caspar Weinberger tried to charm the Britons. He roamed among the royal guardsmen in their tall bear hats, and smiled dazzlingly at cameras. Still, all this made the impression of *deja vu*. Britain was again being gently prepared, just as it had been in the case with the cruise missiles deployment, to play the part of the first sheep which should lead the NATO flock into the neutron abyss. This fear paralyses some, but it also urges others, and, happily, they are in majority, to stage antineutron protest manifestations of unprecedented forcefulness. The other day, I came across a young Londoner, in the same Trafalgar Square whose face was covered with soot in the form of the emblem of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. He wishes to live a long time, be a grandfather and have grandchildren whom he would be able to bring on Sundays to this square with its fountains. Four lions look condescendingly at us from their pedestals. In the third year since the coming of Mrs. Thatcher's government they should feel clearly superior to mere mortals. The lions, you see, still have a chance to survive in a neutron catastrophe. They are made of stone.—APN.

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Angola

What is it—another act of aggression, an isolated military action, or an undeclared war waged by South Africa against Angola, its neighbouring sovereign state? General Magnus Malan, Minister of Defence of South Africa, gives assurances that it is neither the first nor the second and certainly, not war, appealing to the Western public not be put the label of aggressor on South Africa. The General talks about the "right to pursue SWAPO terrorists". However, they are called in Africa, and justly so, patriots who are fighting for the liberation of Namibia from racist oppression and from unlawful occupation by the Pretoria regime. **The UN and the Organisation of African Unity have long since recognized SWAPO as the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people.** So, what right does the General talk about? Obviously, about the right of the racists armed to the teeth to resort to terror against the fighters for national liberation. But this struggle has been sanctified by the UN Charter.

What is happening now is a permanent aggression against sovereign Independent states—Angola, Zambia, Tanzania, Mozambique Botswana and Zimbabwe. And the unannounced war against Angola was started in 1975, immediately after its independence was proclaimed—without any right to start it, of course. This war is on the West's conscience. Last year the major bank in the USA, Western Europe and Japan gave South Africa loans to the tune of more than 850,000,000 dollars. And the sum total of these loans is placed at 12,500 million dollars. The bulk of the financial injections is used to beef up the racists' military power. Without the Western loans, technology and direct and indirect arms deliveries to South Africa in circumvention of the UN sanctions, the racist state would hardly have been able to commit outrages and acts of terrorism. But, supported by the West, South Africa not only keeps on as before, but cynically talks about its right to do so.—APN.



For Egg and Milk Production

By Dr. M. L. M. Salgado

WITH TODAY'S SOARING COST OF LIVING, there is an alarming deficiency of Protein, particularly in the diet of the majority of people of Sri Lanka. Barely a decade ago, the cheapest source of dietary protein was an egg or a tin of mackerel which then cost 90 cents. An egg then cost barely 25 cents. In fact before 1960 or so Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) used to import a considerable amount of eggs from India. But since then, particularly in the Chilaw District, where Roman Catholics predominated, and there were no religious scruples, the breeding of poultry for eggs grew up as an extensive small farmers industry, with back-yard deep litter poultry development. Most poultry farmers were small scale entrepreneurs managing 100 to 200 layers. The People's Bank gave them loans on easy terms and the country soon became self sufficient in eggs. It was most layers that poultry farmers kept rather than broilers for the table. The Department of Agriculture gave advice particularly in disease control and vaccinated birds on nominal charge. The feed (Layer's Mash) at that time were supplied to some extent by the Oils and Fats Corporation (Egg Max) and also be a few private suppliers and the BCC. At that time the mashes were prepared on certain formulations: (a) the carbohydrate was mostly supplied by condemned flour from the granaries; (b) the proteins and fats from Coconut poonac; (c) minerals supplied on locally available formulations. Similarly rations for Milk production were also supplied by these same sources and supplemented with pasture and fodder grasses cultivated on Dairy Farms. Today the cost of both Poultry Feeds and Dairy Feeds and their availability have become very difficult due to both cost and shortage of supplies at reasonable prices. The price of eggs has reached a very high level beyond the resources of the majority of the people who most need them. An egg which cost no more than 75 cents has now risen to over one rupee and more often Rs. 1/10. Similarly milk prices have been increased by the Milk Board.

IN AN ARTICLE in the *Madras Hindu* (18.2.1981), there is a note published under the name of Dr. P. Arumugam of the Madras Veterinary College that gives a list of "Balanced Feeds for Fowls", and the composition of such feeds as "Layer Mash", "Grower Mash", compounded out of locally available materials. The composition of 100 kilos of such feeds is given consisting of maize meal, jowar, rice polish, gingelly poonack and fish meal. together

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with mineral mixtures. Of the locally available rich protein feeds suitable for both poultry and milk productions today in Sri Lanka is Wheat Bran which is produced in abundance by the recently established Prima Flour Mill at Trincomalee. When the establishment of this mill was contemplated, it was the *Tribune* that pointed out that by permitting the total exports of Wheat Bran, the country would be deprived of a most valuable Feeding stuff.

According to the *Sunday Observer* of (22.2.81,) for Sri Lanka's requirements 2,000 million eggs are required annually. Yet egg production stands at 430 million eggs annually. According to the Consumer Finance Surveys of 1953 and 1973, conducted by the Central Bank, egg consumption has increased from 1.0 percent to 1.2% an increase of only 0.2% in 20 years. Also of 91.2 percent of the total of eggs available for consumption, 15.1% is said to be consumed by the sector receiving an income exceeding Rs. 800 per month. While the tourist industry absorbs only 3% of the total egg production. It is stated that this quantity though relatively small in comparison with the total egg consumption of the country, is instrumental in keeping prices high as noted by Chandrasiri of the ARTI, since most tourist centres are located mainly in the chief cities which also happen to be sales points determining egg prices.

THE PRICES OF ANIMAL FEED have shot up about 100 percent by April 1978. In fact Layer's Mash of the Oils' Fats Corporation rose from Rs. 1,300 per metric ton to Rs. 1,900 resulting in the poultry farmer being nearly wiped out. Later there was a revival with the reduction of about Rs. 500 per ton. But poultry feed has also been in short supply. Now rice bran is also used in compounding Poultry Mixtures, but supplies are diverted to the Oils and Fats Corporation and the private feed suppliers are unable to enter into competition. In fact recently it was announced in the press that the Minister Thondaman has even approved raising the price of Rice bran by nearly Rs. 400 per ton. Rice bran is not equal to Wheat Bran as the table below shows:

	Dry matter	protein	Fibre Car- bohy- drates	N- Free	Fat
Wheat Bran	65%	78%	31%	72%	68%
Rice Bran	61	65	25	79	77

In the manufacture of flour, from 20 to 30 percent weight of the wheat grain remain as Bran. Wheat which is in most countries used as a Feed for Dairy Cows is a palatable feed and also has a mild laxative action mixed with concentrates, fairly high in

protein, and rich in Phosphorus. On the other hand rice bran is not so nutritious and also has the disadvantage in that its oil becomes soon rancid and is frequently distasteful to animals. It also contains rice hulls which is highly siliceous and gritty.

Unlike in India where, according to Dr. Arumugam local dry grain cereals such as Jowar and Millets are used in Poultry mashes, we in Sri Lanka do not have an adequate supply of such grains. It is reported that the Oils & Fats Corporation is on the look out for nontraditional feeding materials such as cotton seed and kapok seeds, soya and cow peas. There should be a concerted effort to encourage the cultivation of such cereals as Kurakkan and Maize as also millets as a Yala crop where paddy cannot be cultivated under rain-fed conditions. Hybrid maize is hardly cultivated in Sri Lanka, unlike in India where very high yields have been obtained from introductions from America. Kurakkan is however grown only as a Chena peasant crop for subsistence and rarely for sale. In fact I remember that 50 years ago when I was at Cambridge, Kurakkan and millets were imported from East Africa as the main component of Poultry feeds.

Chandrasiri in his recent study (ARTI) has suggested that a new National Poultry Products Authority should be set up to look after the burden of eggs and other ancillary marketing activities, and for improving broiler production. Whatever it may be, we must see that the best part of the wheat milled in Sri Lanka is utilised locally, and not permitted to be exported as at present so that the prior needs of poultry farming and dairy farming can be given priority. This is also a matter that the Nutritional Committee of the Ministry of Plan Implementation should initiate. If properly organised there is every possibility of producing locally our Feed supplies for both dairying and poultry, in such a matter that there are no shortages of supplies of Feed and that at a price which would permit egg production at a figure at which the middle class consumer can afford. It should not be forgotten that eggs form a protective food, as also milk, particularly for the growing generation.

We should also endeavour to utilise the Milch Buffalo as a cheap source of milk as in India in the much advertised Bombay Milk Scheme. Buffalo milk contained 7 percent fat compared to 3.5% in milk from meat cattle. The buffalo milk can be toned down to 3.5% fat and supplied cheap. The Sheet Anchor of Nutrition is based on cheap milk and cheap eggs and it is time even at this late hour to give utmost priority to the production of these two basic dietary items of our children's diet, if we are planning to have a healthy nation.

Low Neutron Threshold

By Gennady Gerasimov

Moscow, September 25: When does a heap of grain disappear? If there were 20,000 grains (or 20 kilotons) and only 1,000 (or one kiloton) was left, could we say that the heap disappeared? This sophism borrowed from classical logic, though turned upside down, recreates the arguments now in progress concerning the influence that the American decision on the production of neutron weapons may have on the chances of a nuclear war flaring up. As I think, the neutron weapons are especially dangerous precisely because they erode the boundary from which the "heap", i.e., a nuclear war, starts. Official Washington regards its step as a contribution to the concept of deterrence. It is assumed that the existence of neutron anti-tank weapons will avert a Soviet armoured offensive. The existing tactical nuclear weapons would, supposedly, not necessarily stop such an offensive, since the Soviet side might not believe in the West's resolution to resort to a full-fledged reply in case of a limited "challenge" because the West, in its turn, would restrain from this step for fear of full-scale escalation. The neutron shells and missiles remove these fears offering battlefield weapons. The discourses on a Soviet "Tank push" are very much far-fetched, of course. But without them the entire deterrence concept, built up on the groundless and malicious interpretation of the Soviet intentions, would collapse. Well, for the sake of argument let us, for the time being remain within the context of the deterrence concept. Because the madness of each paranoic is logical in its own way.

ALEXANDER HAIG, the US Secretary of State, declared that the N-bomb raises rather than lowers the nuclear threshold. He referred to the deterrence concept as proof—deterrence, allegedly, is all the more impressive, the more battleworthy this or that weapon is. This is a covert revision of a Western-made theory. Deterrence takes support not in the combat readiness of separate weapons systems. As the *New York Times* reminded its readers, nuclear weapons boiled down to making war so fearsome that nobody would dare to start it. The neutron weapons, which are so terrible for their victims (that's why it gives rise to such pronounced moral indignation) make unclear war as a whole, because of the trend towards miniaturization of nuclear weapons, or at least theoretically, less fearsome—why it is just an anti-tank weapon, that's all. However, let us consider some versions of a tank attack. If the enemy knows that he will be met by neutron missiles and shells, then why should he wage war according to someone else's script? He might decide to

begin with a tactical nuclear strike at emplacements of neutron weapons.

Another version of transfer of quantity into quality, or the same question as with which grain does a heap begin? The enemy develops his own neutron weapons and this stockpile grows. A neutron war starts. With which missile or shell should we consider it to be a nuclear war? Now, let us approach the question from the point of view of the methodics proposed by Lothar Ruehl, a spokesman for the FRG government. He recommends: We must answer the question, whether the introduction of a new nuclear weapon raises, lowers or leaves unchanged the nuclear war threshold, traveling from the premise that all types of nuclear weapons must serve the purpose of deterrence rather than the purpose of hostilities. According to this criterion, neutron weapons for deterring Soviet tanks are unnecessary. These tanks had been already "deterred" (and in the real world they did not think of attacking) from attacking for many years, when they numbered 1,000 more than now, since 1,000 tanks were pulled out in a gesture of goodwill, which the West preferred not to notice. Egon Bahr, Ruehl's countryman, member of the SDPF Presidium, writes: "To make believe that we have discovered the large number of tanks only now and that we were defenceless for 20 years, until the invention of the neutron weapons—means to be deluding the public". Therefore, neutron weapons are superfluous from the point of view of the deterrence concept. But it does beget the dangerous illusion of the possibility of waging a neutron war without it developing into a full-scale nuclear war. This means a departure from the deterrence concept and drawing closer on the limited nuclear war concept. Charles Henru, the Defence Minister of France, says authoritatively that "the concept of neutron weapons supports the hypothesis that the USA and the USSR could engage themselves in a limited nuclear war in Europe". Besides that, the Lance missiles and the shells for 203 mm howitzers are just the beginning. Other dimensions and calibres, targeted at city dwellers instead of tank crews, could be made. "Who can provide the guarantee", asked Rodrigo Karazo, President of Costa Rica which is so far-distant from Europe, "that the first neutron bomb would not be dropped precisely here?"—APN.

APARTHEID

Record and Reality

The political situation in South Africa which had never been stable has now reached the point of being explosive. That was the opinion of Alfred NZO, General Secretary of the African National

TRIBUNE, October 3, 1981

Congress of South Africa, in an interview given to a "*Moscow News*" correspondent. The indigenous population has the right to live only on 13 percent of the country's territory. Eighty percent of Africans are constantly on the verge of famine, which results in a high child mortality rate. Africans are subjected to indescribable oppression; beginning with June 1980 and up to June 1981, 114 people were handed and the number of victims killed by torture and humiliation in the dungeons of the racist guards had reached over a 100, according to official information only. The SAR holds first place in the world as to the number of persons held under arrest. Out of every 100,000 citizens 440 are jailed. In the past months the country saw a wave of strikes, mostly at enterprises of automobile and mining industries. The strikers who came out with economic demands like wage rise, improvement of working conditions and lower taxes, have declared their protest against the system of apartheid proper. The advance of the political struggle went along with the enhanced combat actions of the national liberation forces. The patriots have made several attacks on energy centres, communication lines and police precincts.

Question: What was the reaction of the authorities?

Answer: South African racials, in their drive to strangle the national liberation movement, have escalated the policy of terror and repression inside the country. Participants in demonstrations against celebrations in connection with the 20th anniversary of the so-called white republic held in SAR's major cities, were subjected to particularly cruel prosecution. On the other hand, they talk about the apartheid's reforms, in reality, what is meant here is a cosmetic makeup of its facade.

Question: You were talking about the Pretoria regime's terror against its own population. What is going on in Namibia?

Answer: The Republic of South Africa has refused to fulfil, in defiance of the will of the African continent, and the entire world community, UN Resolution No. 435 on the procedure of granting independence to Namibia. Pretoria's policy towards that country is essentially equivalent to a neo-colonialist concept: to go in order to stay and to rule Namibia with the assistance of its obedient puppets, whose power it is trying to consolidate in the government. For that purpose Pretoria has allowed itself the prolonged negotiations with the so-called contact group of the West (US, Great Britain, the FRG and Canada) demanding still more concessions. A new policy of non-alignment is now being developed by the racials for the future independent Namibia, with the principal

objective to retain the new state in the Western orbit.

Question: Is it possible to talk about a certain new African policy of the United States?

Answer: President Reagan's African policy, similar to that of the former US Administration's, is aimed at undermining the unity of the continent's independent states and it has now become tougher. The US has included Africa, due to its natural resources like other regions of the world, in the sphere of its "vital interests. Accusing the USSR, Cuba and other socialist states of interference in the internal affairs of the Third World countries, the United States supports SAR's racist regime and its aggression against the neighbouring independent states. Apart from that, other plans are being nurtured in a drive to expand NATO's responsibility, sphere, the US has come out for setting up a new military alliance in southern Atlantic (SATO). In these plans the SAR is given a leading role. The creation of that alliance would make it possible to bypass the decision of the UN Security Council—to impose an embargo on arms supplies to the SAR—and would open up Western war arsenals for Pretoria's use.—APN.



PAKISTAN

Soviet Union Is Important

The Soviet Union is the most important factor in Pakistan's security arrangements, according to an article in the latest issue of the influential Pakistani weekly, *MAG*. Author Nasir Hyder says that over and above its "long stick" of a "threat of instant devastation", the Soviet Union "holds a carrot.... which is its final diplomatic trump". This, the article suggests, could take the form of Soviet assurance to safeguard present and future security interests of Pakistan in all circumstances. It says the Soviets are the "only power in the world which can actually provide a cast iron shell of security for Pakistan against frictions on its western borders and threats from the East. Presenting the other side of the picture sketched by some Indian writers on the "Soviet card" that Pakistan is playing—simultaneously with the "American card"—Nasir Hyder refers to "rumours that Soviet-Indian relations, are passing through a sour if not a sorry phase". She argues that "the pro-Moscow CP (Communist Party of India) has disowned Mrs. Gandhi and is actively participating in agitations against her... Mrs. Gandhi desisted from attending the 10th anniversary celebrations of the Indo-Soviet Friendship Treaty in Moscow last month, and the date of her proposed visit to the Soviet capital keeps on being shifted".

At the same time she says it will not be in Pakistan's interests to keep the "pseudo crisis" in Afghanistan going.

The latest Afghanistan proposals "practically disarm Pakistan of its stock arguments against talks with Kabul and brings a political settlement within the range of practical possibility...." It suggests that Pakistan may be prevented from agreeing to talks by the Reagan administration which has built up an entire world policy structure resting on the slippery slopes of an Afghanistan pseudo crisis, blown by the media to cosmic proportions. "The slightest possibility that 'this crisis might be defused without a universal largesse of F16s could be disastrous for the US administration'. The United States is trying to build up a 'whole edifice' of a consensus in the region with seemingly pro-Arab, pro-Islamic overtones. This, it suggests, may be to help the sales of 'trillion dollars worth of deadly goods to countries which may never need to use them except against wrong foes conjured up by an overwrought imagination'. The structure of US policy in the area rests on the pseudo crisis in Afghanistan, and Pakistan will keep it going only at great cost to itself.

The publication of these views at this juncture is interesting in view of other reports suggesting that the United States is more anxious than Pakistan to rush arms and planes to keep it from accepting Soviet assurance and agreeing to "defuse the Afghan crisis". US Assistant Secretary of State James Buckley was quoted as telling the House Foreign Affairs Committee that Pakistan refused "in the face of Soviet pressures to accept the legitimacy of the puppet regime in Kabul". He was also quoted as saying that Pakistan has "demonstrated an admirable willingness to stand by principles and assume the considerable risks of Soviet displeasure". At a colloquium organised by MAG in the office of the Jang group of newspapers, an American professor gave his views of the US role in the region before an audience of Pakistani scholars and journalists. Dr. William E. Griffith, Professor of Soviet diplomacy at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Boston, was quoted as saying that the United States is not likely "to take a position almost wholly in favour of Pakistan and against India...", because Washington tends to view Pakistan not from the sub-continental frame but that of the Gulf. He cautioned them against expecting "a strong anti-Indian position" even from the Reagan administration. In his view, South Asia, particularly India, has become less important for the United States because of the priority shift towards other areas, particularly the Middle East. For the reason, he said, there has been an increase in Pakistan's importance for the United States since there has been a "tendency there to hink of Pakistan for geo-geographical regions

essentially as a country next to the Gulf and Middle East rather than as a major power in South Asia". Dr. Griffith is quoted as saying that the Soviet Union "will never decide to invade Pakistan" and that it is "most unlikely that the Soviet-Indian relationship would be broken..." IPS—Lankapuvath.

PHILIP NOEL-BAKER

Militarism is Madness

THE DECISION of the Reagan administration to embark on the production of a neutron bomb is a new fit of militarist madness, said prominent British public figure Lord Philip Noel-Baker, Nobel Peace Prize winner, in an interview with *Izvestia*. He said that the neutron bomb was the most evil and the most ruthless weapon. U.S. strategists allege that through the use of neutron weapons it would be possible to avoid a total nuclear war. But this is a deception, a dangerous illusion. All the glib talk about "local" and "admissible" nuclear wars does not reflect some true state of affairs but rather the madness of U.S. generals for whom the whole of mankind is a guinea pig. Philip Noel-Baker further said that the world was facing a conspiracy of madmen. Those madmen are the military industrial-complex whipping up the arms race, the generals obsessed with the illusory hope of winning a nuclear war, the mass media serving them by spreading such illusory hopes. These madmen are prepared to destroy the whole world and culture to achieve their man-hating objectives. Lord Baker stressed that the onslaught of militarism could be halted. In his view the best defence against it was through disarmament while the best defence was a general and complete disarmament.

In a reference to the Soviet-American relations at the present stage, Lord Noel-Baker said that President Brezhnev's initiatives were very much to his liking and that he was resolutely opposed to statements and initiatives of President Reagan. Noel-Baker's explanation for such an attitude was quite simple. The fact is that Brezhnev proposes that military budgets be cut while Reagan increases them, Brezhnev proposes to curb the arms race while Reagan whips it up, Brezhnev proposes a fruitful dialogue at a summit level while Reagan is doing everything to sabotage it because he strives to substitute a diktat from positions of strength and military superiority for equal negotiations, Brezhnev insists on ratifying the SALT-2 Treaty while Reagan wants to undermine it, Brezhnev is against the development of the neutron bomb while Reagan has recently ordered its production. Lord Noel-Baker said that in his opinion the above mentioned was quite sufficient for understanding as to who bears the blame for the deterioration of the Soviet-American relations. —*Izvestia*.

TRIBUNE, October 3, 1981

Govt.



Notices

The Land Acquisition Act, (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964 - Notice under Section 7.

Ref No. EA/4/301

Ref No. 3/62/553
J.76 E.33

The Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964 - Notice under Section 7.

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 161 of 02.10.1981

SCHEDULE

Name of Land :- Panikkiyawewa
Name of Village :- Kudagalgamuwa village in Kudagalboda Korale, Kurunegala D. R. O's Division, Kurunegala District.
Plan No. & Lot No :- Lot Nos 1 and 2 in P. P. KU. 986

The Kachcheri,
Kurunegala,

07th Sept., 1981.

A. George
District Land Officer
Kurunegala District.

The Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964 - Notice under Section 7.

Ref No.

It is Intended to acquire the Land/Lands described in the Schedule below. For further particulars please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 161 of 02.10.1981

SCHEDULE

Name of Land :- Thimbirigahahena Thalgal-mulahena
Name of Village :- Wagurowela village in Pitigal Korale, Pannala D. R. O's Division, Kurunegala District.
Plan and Lot No :- Lot Nos 20 and 21 in Supplement No. 7 in F. V. P. 262

The Kachcheri,
Kurunegala,
09th Sept, 1981.

A. George
District Land Officer
Kurunegala District.

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars, please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 161 of 02.10.1981

SCHEDULE

Name of Land :- Welewatta alias Tuppa-higewatta
Situation :- Situated in the village of Kalawamodera, in the D. R. O's Division of Kaultara Totamuna South, Kalutara District in Western Province.
Plan and Lot No :- Lot Nos 1 in P. P. K. 1780

Kachcheri,
Kalutara
17th Sept, 1981

M. V. P. Silva
Assistant Government Agent,
Kalutara District



LETTERS

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor," and must include the writer's address and signature. Priority is given to letters that are brief and do not request anonymity. Letters may be abridged. We are unable to acknowledge all letters, but value the views of readers who submit them.

*Smugglers *Billion

IS IT NOT MATTER OF CONCERN that whilst scientists are being subject to inquisitorial inquiries for opinions they have expressed in the national interest—even retrospectively in regard to government documents published earlier—smugglers are getting away with “blue murder” by cheating the state of millions of rupees? That nearly everybody (except a few) in the private sector wants to make quick money and this is being done by diddling Government? That what is even more alarming is that a new logic to say a certain quantum of smuggling was beneficial for the country is being quietly put forward in VIP circles? That it is argued that smuggling within certain limits was permissible as it helps the growth of the economy? That the boom in smuggling is held out as one major reason for the current upsurge in Sri Lanka’s economy?—That there is not the slightest doubt that the smuggling sector has boomed—not only because of what is smuggled in but what is thereafter smuggled out to neighbouring countries like India? That Sri Lanka has now earned a reputation as an entreport centre for smuggled goods—not merely narcotics but all kinds of consumer goods? That in Colombo and other urban centres shack-like shops have proliferated selling transistors, television sets, cameras, cassettes, clothing, toys and food? That smuggled goods come into Sri Lanka not only through the three of four regular ports but also along the entire coastline? That it is difficult to calculate the quantity so smuggled? That the loot however, is visible everywhere? That what is amazing is how smugglers get away with it? That late in the day, according to news reports, the Customs, Police, Army Income Tax and the Exchange Control authorities want to get together to squeeze the pockets of the new rich who have become millionaires without paying a single cent of tax? That many knowledgeable people feel that the measures now being planned by the authorities may turn out to be a case of locking the stable doors after the horses have bolted? That only a small fraction of this new rich flaunt their ill-gotten gains to attract the attention of the authorities? That the quieter and more discreet surface their wealth into acceptable bastardy un-obtrusively through Black Money Amnesties, or Bearer Bonds or Certificates of Deposit? That the rich, especially the new rich are daily getting richer, while the not-so-rich and the poor are being further pauperised? That something must be done to check this process? That if this is not done, a social upheaval of unimaginable magnitude can be expected to erupt within the next decade?

IS IT NOT A FACT that the import of dairy products in 1980 had cost the country a fantastic amount of money? That the total adds up to over half a billion rupees? That the breakdown is as follows:

	kgs.	Rs.
Full cream	13,444,674	337,448,027 00
Infant	381,356	15,959,000 00
Butter	43,800	3,338,000 00
Cheese	839,175	26,009,000 00
Ghee	165,245	6,438,000 00
SMP 1.5	26,995	767,671 00
	989,000	27,442,477 00
	1,527,000	26,539,572 00
	2,690,116	72,625,312 00
	200,682	3,315,400 00
Condensed	1,221,821	16,528,749 00
	240,920	2,800,000 00

That we have not yet been able to get the figures for the first six months of 1981? That the imports for 1981 are likely to be higher than in 1981? That now on an average nearly Rs. 3 million worth of milk and dairy produce are being imported every day? That this means that for a year this country needs over Rs. 1,000 million (or Rs. 1 billion) for importing what could easily have been produced in this country considering the amount of money invested in the livestock and dairy industry in this country in the thirty years and more? That for over two decades *Tribune* has been spotlighting the problems of the livestock and dairy industry in the hope that this country would become self-sufficient in milk products? That we must admit that we have signally failed to have any impact on the industry or the government? That this country has the climate, the grass and the space for a prosperous livestock and dairy industry? That after fifty years—the Senanayakian efforts to upgrade our livestock had started in the early thirties—the country has to find nearly a thousand million rupees to import milk and dairy products? That apart from the difficulty of finding this money next year and in the years after that the real tragedy is that matters are going from bad to worse? That in the last decade the national herd, which should have more than doubled, has halved? That animals have gone to the butchers because owners could not afford to feed them? That as a result of this, the country has had to invite a multinational on a 60/40 basis to run its condensary? That rumours have it that the multinational is now demanding a 80/20 basis (in its favour) for a projected malted milk factory? That all we can say is AMEN?



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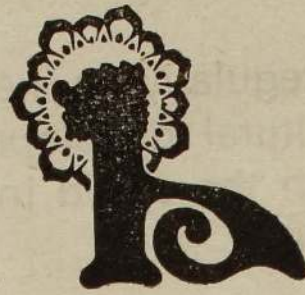
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