Registered as a Newspaper

Rs. 3-00

Saturday Review SRI LANKA

Vol. 4 No. 30 12th October 1985

FOR CLEAR
PHOTOSTAT COPIES
&
TYPING
Contact
KLEEN KHUT
"KLEEN KHUT"
239, POWER HOUSE ROAD,
JAFFNA
Tel. No.: 22823

HOME-AND-HOME MATCH AT VVT!

What really happened at Valvettiturai on Monday (7th October)?

The State-controlled 'Daily News' of Wednesday gives the official version and it runs: "Security Forces on Monday night repulsed an attack by terrorists at Valvettiturai, Defence Ministry sources said yesterday. The source said the terrorists arrived in two vans, a car and two motor cycles and fired at soldiers guarding the helipad on the coast. The soldiers fired back and terrorists fled after the Navy gunboats guarding the northern coast joined the battle which lasted one hour. There were no casualties among the security forces, the Ministry said".

Well, that is the official version. But everyone here including the Security Forces, knows what really happened at Valvettiturai on Monday.

About ten soldiers from the Thondamannar base, who were in civils at that time, had stopped a mini-van close to the Vallai junction, off loaded the male passengers, took into custody a youth who tried to run away and drove off towards Uduppiddy junction. At Uduppiddy junction they chased some youths who happened to be there and created a small commotion. Shops immediately put up their shutters. People who were in the market and in the vicinity ran helter-skelter. From there they proceeded towards Valvettiturai Junction. From the junction they turned westwards and drove in the direction where the Valvettiturai camp is sited. They had just passed the Amman Temple, which is close to the camp, when the sentries in the Valvettiturai camp thinking that the 'BOYS' had come opened fire. The soldiers in the van returned fire, and started reversing the van towards the temple. They stopped the van near the temple, jumped out, hijacked some bicycles from passers-by and rode away from Valvettiturai to Thondamannar via Uduppiddy junction.

In the midst of the exchange of fire a helicopter too started opening fire and Navy boats started shelling the area. About four or five are reportedly injured and one is said to be missing.

Later, the SATURDAY REVIEW learns, personnel from the Valvettiturai Army Camp took charge of the van and drove it into their camp.

This Home - and-Home Match has been transformed by Defence Ministry sources into a fierce battle between the Army, Navy and Air Force on one side and the Terrorists on the other!

Perhaps, the Daily News — the Government's keep —caught up these days in the spirit(s) of the 150th anniversary of Royal College thought of this farcical episode as another Royal—Thomian match?

PARLIAMENT'S TRIBUTES

Government and Opposition speakers paid glowing tributes to the late Mr. V. Dharmalingam, ex—M. P. for Manipay and the late Mr. M. Alalasundaram, ex—M. P. for Kopay, when Parliament met on Tuesday.

Trincomalee Refugees

About 107 families from Trincomalee were reported to have come to Jaffna between 3rd September and 3rd October. These families have been accommodated in camps at Valvettiturai, Polikandy, Anaicoddai, Thalayady, Nagarcoil and Navaly.

ENLF Nominees In Monitoring Committee

Two of the nominees of the Eelam National Liberation Front, Professor K. Sivathamby, Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee of Citizens Committees and Mr. K. Sivapalan, President of the Trincomalee Citizens' Committee have been added to the Monitoring Committee which the Sri Lanka Government has set up to oversee the cease-fire.

The ENLF had suggested several other names too. Some of them are: Mr. Sarath Muttetuwegama, Communist M. P. for Kalawana; Mr. Edmund Samarakody, a Trotskyite politician; Janab Abdul Majeed, ex M. P., for Muthur, a member of the Opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party; Mr. Bala Tampoe, a leading lawyer and leader of the Ceylon Mercantile Union and Ms. Kumari Jayawardene of the Department of Political Science, University of Colombo.

Earlier, the Sri Lanka Government took a hard line and said that it would not change the composition of the three-man committee to monitor the cease-fire. The three government nominees are: Messrs. Abdul Cader, M. Sivanathan, Godfrey Goonetilleke.

Apparently friendly persuasion by the Indian Government has led the Sri Lankan government to change its mind and accept some of the nominees of the ENLF.

BRIGADIER'S ASSURANCE

The Valvettiturai Citizens Committee, headed by its President Professor K. Sivathamby, met Brigadier Hamilton Wanasinghe regarding the VVT incident.

The Brigadier gave them a sympathetic hearing and assured them that there would be no further repetitions of such incidents.

Jungle Lions

400 Police recruits who have been given exhaustive military training in commando fighting, jungle warfare and other modern military aspects will join the Police force in the Northern and Eastern Provinces shortly according to a lead story in the ISLAND (10th October, 1985).

Release ALL Political detenus in Sri Lanka jails

Saturday Review
SRI LANKA

No. 118, 4th Cross Street,
P. O. Box 122
JAFFNA.

Telegrams: SATVIEW

EDITOR
GAMINI NAVARATNE

Subscription Rates inclusive of local postage and foreign Air Mail Rate

Sri Lanka
Annual — Rs. 170/-
Half-year—Rs. 85/-

India
Annual — Rs. 225/-
(Indian Rupees)

Singapore / Malaysia–
Annual — U. S. $ 30

All other Countries
Annual — U. S. $ 50

Cheques payable to
New Era Publications Ltd.

Advertising Rates
Contracts — Rs. 15/- per col. centimetre
Casual — Rs. 20/- per col. centimetre

Citizens' Committees Hope Detenus' Grievances Will Be Redressed

Professor Karthigesu Sivathamby, Chairman, Co-ordinating Committee of Citizens Committees who headed the delegation that visited the Welikade Jail writes to Mr. A. P. Hapudeniya, Secretary, Ministry of National Security:

Before placing before you some of the grievances of the detenus, we wish to express our thanks to all the officers - especially Mr. Pahalage (Inspector CID), Mr. Wilson (Jailor Tamil Ward), Mr. Dharmadasa (Deputy Commissioner of Prisons), and Mr. Balasuriya (Asst. Secretary National Security)—who responded with great warmth and enabled us to go through with the procedures without difficulty.

The permission granted to those detenus who were seen that day, to speak to us for ten minutes has enabled us to know of some of the hardships faced by them.

We feel it our duty to bring them to your notice to enable you to redress them. The grievances are:

i. non-release of those already recommended for release by the Advisory Board.

ii. continuing to keep in detention beyond the 18 month period without either indicting them or releasing them; detention now being done under the regulations governing Emergency,

iii. not counting the period of time the detenus were kept in the various army camps for the 18 month-period very often the 18 months count seems to start with the time they are brought to the prison.

iv. occasional attack on some of the detenus by some officials (not those who are supervising the wards) while the deternus were taken out,

v. not serving detention orders on all those who are being kept in detention,

vi. the paucity of staff proficient in Tamil to get the documents ready for matters relating to prosecution etc.

vii. the insufficiency of the food served.

Letus thank you for the following assurances you gave us:

i. an unimpeded flow in sending letters to and from the detenus and their relatives,

ii. permission to allow books for those detenus who are preparing for examinations,

iii. providing us, as soon as possible (within about 3-4 weeks) details of the exact number of those detained and where, after checking with the police and other authorities,

iv. taking efforts to speed the process of indictment or release (the delay now being at the level of the Attorney-General),

v. allowing batches of twenty parents once in 7-10 days time to see those who have not yet been seen by their relatives; (arrangement to be done through G. A. Jaffna)

vi. Allowing visits for each of the detenus once in every two months (arrangement to be done through G. A. Jaffna).

We are sure that you would soon redress the grievances of the detenus and help us by instructing your officers to comply with the assurances given.

Copies of this letter had also been posted to: His Excellency The President, The Hon. Minister of Justice, Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Attorney-General, the Commissioner of Prisons and the G. A. Jaffna.

ARMY IN TOWN

The Army which had been confined to 'Jaffna Fort' moved out in' some force' on 2.10.85. There was no 'firing' on the road but there were some 'checks' and some youths were reported to have been 'arrested' and taken for 'inquiry'.

Mourners' Day

Jaffna is planning to make 24th of this month a day of mourning. It's the U.N.Day as the "SATURDAY REVIEW" reported in it's last issue.

Member countries of the United Nations which have recognised and accepted the Charter of Human rights including the right of every nation to self determination are continuing to violate those very rights in Namibia, Palestine and Sri Lanka. Since the U.N. condones it by remaining a spectator without providing proper devices to prevent such wanton violations by its member countries, Jaffna gives the lead in planning to make the U.N. Day a day of mourning.

NOT THE NEWS

When the public complained to the doctors in Jaffna that their current preoccupation with the Private Medical College was becoming stale, the doctors promptly met and brought out a report on the high intake of cholestrol and the attendant risk of heart attack amongst certain sections of society, that lack besides other forms of exercise. The Mother's Front took alarm and in an emergency session resolved that all husbands who do not help in housework and gardening must be made to walk. It is now reported that most doctors are walking to work.

★

A government spokesman was questioned by reporters about the alarm in local and international circles over the gross imbalance in Sri Lanka's budget resulting from the ethnic conflict. In replying the spokesman struck a buoyant note saying, "this will undoubtedly hasten the arrival of the Buddhist Reich which will last a thousand years. The Americans will run Trincomalee for our protection. They will also remove our forests for timber and plant instead VOA transmitters. The Japanese will catch our fish. Multinationals will grow sugar. The British will put up cricket stadiums and run by-elections for entertainment. And except for malcontents like Tamils and Leftists who will provide coolie labour the rest will withdraw into monastries, with the begging bowl kept in trim, compliments of the IMF and the western aid consortium".

★

Diogenes, long missed by the SR readers, is back in Ceylon. It turns out that he had too much of that stuff and fell asleep in a plane bound for Timbuctoo. Timbuctoo officials in a statement have disclosed that he has been giving them much useful advice and the delay in processing the necessary papers for his repatriation was because they could not get a word in. The SR has sent its hounds to trace him and will report soon.

★

Readers contributions are welcome to this Column.

TEARFUL STORY

A 12 year-old girl named Nesamalar who is now in a refugee camp at Puliyankulam had this story to tell—"My mother is at Maharagama Hospital and has not yet returned. I was staying with my father at Nedunkernikattu Poovarasu when security forces came there. They took my father into custody and he has not yet come. Now I am left with my younger brother." This family is reported to have come from Nuwara Eliya 4 years ago and settled there.

FATE DECREES NIRVANA

Mr. K. Sundaralingam (33) was a Security Officer attached to the C. T. B. Depot at Vavuniya. He is reported to have left by bus with a Sinhala brother officer to meet his fiancee in Jaffna. On account of persistent explosions and bomb blasts they were forced to get down near the Buddhist Vihare in Vavuniya. On 30.9.85, the Sinhala officer's identity card was scrutinised and he was allowed to proceed. Similarly Sundaralingam too was allowed to proceed and then shot. So it was a rendezvous with death and not with his prospective wife!

Sri Lanka's 2 Years of Bloodshed: What Next? – 2

(*Continued from last issue*)

THE TAMIL GROUPS

After the July 1983 ethnic attacks in which hundreds of Tamils died while thousands of others were beaten, assaulted and raped or lost much of their property in Sri Lanka, the impact of these events has led to the political climate in South India to change dramatically. Most of the groups were able to set up political offices and camps in India and the presence of a large refugee population made activity much easier. Arms were obtained in quantity and quality from Indian and other sources and organised training launched on a large scale. The Palk Strait separating India and the Jaffna Peninsula was routinely navigated by a flotilla of high-powered boats. The base camps of "the boys" was beyond the reach of the Sri Lanka Army. All of this is now common knowledge.

Politically, too, significant new developments began to take place. The problems of having to deal with each other in the open in Madras, the need to tread the delicate balance of power between Colombo, Madras and New Delhi and above all the need to provide realistic answers to the Tamils of Sri Lanka who were the daily victims of Army reprisals and economic chaos, all combined to contribute to a process of rapid maturing on the part of the Tamil militants.

The sledge hammer effect of the rapid events has done to the Tamil militant groups what years of political education could not do and they have begun to shed their mere youthful militancy and mature politically.

The most vital developments that have occurred are:

a) the formation of a United Front, incomplete but at least a crucial first step.

b) the shifting of ideological focus from narrow nationalism ("Eelam") to a more comprehensive programme.

The coming into being of the United Front of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) and Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS), marks a new and important stage in the consolidation of radical Tamil politics. It is indeed a great weakness that because of the sectarianism of the LTTE the other major group PLOTE has been excluded, though the other three groups have succeeded in maintaining a working relationship with PLOT outside the UF.

Brief characterisations are inadequate and may even be misleading, but detailed analysis of each separate group is not possible within the confines of this article. For the purposes of this commentary and review of politics in Sri Lanka though, a brief characterisation is unavoidable.

The LTTE, or Tigers, is and has been the most active military contingent. Starting with isolated acts of terrorism in the 1970s, to full scale attacks on the Army and Police in the 1980s, the Tigers have developed essentially as a movement in which the military view takes precedence over the political. The Tigers have further constraints.

RADICALISATION THROUGH STRUGGLE

Radicalisation through struggle rather than ideological depth or education marks the movement and the occasional Marxist or socialist rhetoric of Dr. A. S. Balasingham counts for far less than the organisational grip of V. Prabhakaran and

by **Kumar David**

the inner circle. If one wants a label, at the risk of sounding rhetorical the best would be "radical petty-bourgeois fighters against the oppression of the Tamil people."

BREAK - AWAY

PLOTE, led by Uma Maheswaran, is an early break away from the Tigers resulting from personality and political conflicts. PLOTE is much more broad-based and mass politicised than the LTTE whom they scornfully refer to as empty hit-men. Unfortunately for PLOTE, it is the hit men who have in the past caught the imagination of starry-eyed Tamil youngsters. The relationship of power is changing now as PLOTE's political work and propaganda, publication of several newspapers and the pirate radio station all of which is said to have built a large political base for it in Jaffna. This conjecture however remains untested because under the prevailing conditions of military terrorisation of the North none of the normal manifestations of political support for a movement can be observed.

One thing is sure, PLOTE's radio station, with its non-sectarian Sinhalese broadcasts, addressed also to oppressed sections of the Sinhalese, is something of a hit in Sinhalese areas.

The third major organisation, EROS is the most politically developed and ideologically sophisticated. The leadership is mainly Marxist though of no one particular school; the strength on the ground is mainly in the Eastern Province and the organisation is more involved in systematic political work than in "hits" although recently the need to put pressure on the Government has been recognised.

EROS is the only movement which has clearly recognised the need for integration of the plantation workers as a part of the Tamil struggle and has successfully built strong organisational structures in the plantations. The movement has a strong expatriate presence and has published several books and documents both theoretical and agitational.

Since EROS has, more successfully than any other group, integrated the perspectives of the Tamil nationalist struggle with the general needs of a more fundamental change in Sri Lanka politics and the struggle for democratic rights in Sri Lanka as a whole, it is the most likely contact medium through which the unity of the oppressed Tamil nation and people of Sri Lanka may be achieved.

It appears that EROS was instrumental in pulling off the United Front and that its political maturity will help it dominate the Front's political line. It is doubtful though whether the UF has achieved any co-ordination of military tactics as the recent Anuradhapura massacre of civilians by a pro-LTTE (or ex-LTTE) faction appears to illustrate.

All the other Tamil militant groups are considerably smaller and do not actually represent a truly independent programme or ideology. As such they will remain marginal or will fuse into one of the longer groups, several possibly moving very close to EROS in the coming years.

It is on the basis of the UF that the militants will approach the negotiations that are to follow after the 18th June cease-fire. The TULF, the old time political party of the Tamils, will of course be present but it is little more than political dead wood now, unless the UNP or India attempt to revive it and use it as a ploy in the negotiations. Even if the present cease-fire and negotiations in Bhutan were to break down, in the future process of a political solution of the national question the UF and its extensions will remain the key factor, on the Tamil side.

DOES INDIA CALL THE TUNE?

It was inevitable that India, the major regional power, would be drawn into issues surrounding the crisis and near collapse of a strategically - placed neighbour like Sri Lanka. The feelings of forty million Tamils in South India with emotional and linguistic ties has provided much sympathy and concrete support for their much-abused brethren across the Palk Strait. This has, however, further complicated the Indian Government's otherwise purely strategic perspectives. Yet any simplified understanding of the possible Indian role can be a deadly serious error.

Initially India's role was that of haven for refugees and big brotherly pressure on Sri Lanka to rein in the forces of Sinhala chauvinism gone mad, as in July 1983 for example. The UNP reacted at first with virulent anti-Indian hysteria and thought that U.S and British support as well as the exploitation of the regional anti-India stance of Pakistan and Bangladesh could be used to establish a countervailing power base. It became quickly clear that the Sri Lanka Government had greatly overplayed its hand. Neither the U.S. nor Britain saw much in it for them in the strident anti-Indianism while Pakistan had much to risk in any attempt at direct intervention in Sri Lanka given the prevailing mood in India, not only among the Tamils, but in the North as well.

Indian displeasure with the Jayewardene Government goes back to national and international issues dating to the time of the formation of his Government and was constantly aggravated by continuing disagreements on international issues. Given the angry mood in India after the 1983 riots, it was actually a very simple step for India to provide succour and support for the various Tamil liberation groups. The political and military centres of all the movements have now established themselves in South India and a complex and somewhat cloak-and-dagger nexus has developed between these movements, the main political parties of Tamil Nadu and the security sections and political leadership in New Delhi.

(*To be continued*)

ANTIBIOTICS: IRRATIONAL USE

by Dr. T. Vinayagamoorthy

Antibiotics, the novel drug have been in use for the last four decades to curb infection caused by a group of micro-organisms, known as bacteria. These organisms are responsible for most infectious diseases such as typhoid caused by **Salmonella typhi,** dysentery-**Shigella,** cholera - **Vibrio chloreae,** tuberculosis - **Mycobacterium tuberculosis** etc. in man. Different groups of antibiotics such as ampicillin, sulphonamide, choloramphenicol and rif - ampicin etc. are used in human medicine to cure such diseases Apart from human medicine antibiotics are also used in veterinary medicine to curb infection caused by bacteria to farm animals and pets. Antibiotics are also used both in human and veterinary medicine as prophylactic agents. In certain major operations and tooth extractions antibiotics are used as a preventive measure usually for a day or two However, in veterinary medicine eg. in poultry, antibiotics such as terramycine is incorporated in to the drinking water usually during an outbreak of epidemics. However, antibiotics are seldom or never used in agriculture because it is not economical to use these drugs to control bacterial diseases in plants. However, there are instances eg. in orchid culture as well as in tissue culture where antibiotics are used for treatment and as prophylactic agent respectively. Antibiotics are ineffective against other micro-organs such as virus, fungi, moulds and algae. Recently antibiotics have been found to be effective in the treatment of the common protozoal disease - malaria.

Even though they have a selective action on bacteria they do produce undesirable effects on various human tissues, usually at higher concentration. Thus all antibiotics have a toxic level beyond which they produce harmful effect on human cells. That is why drugs are given over a period of few days so that concentration of antibiotics are maintained at a certain concentration at the given time and care is taken not to increase its concentration beyond the toxic level. Simultaneously the number of bacteria is reduced in the blood and is removed completely over a period of few days by such time the symptoms of infections also would have ceased to exist. However in spite of these precautions, reports have shown that frequent use of antibiotics or the use of antibiotics for longer periods by an individual could harm organs such as liver, stomach, bone marrow. The aminoglycocides could affect many vital organs such as liver-cirrohsis, stomach perferation, Tetracycline is known to cause cirrohsis and in certain cases increases dropping of the hair. Chloramphenicol has been reported to cause leukaemia-(blood cancer). Thus it is of utmost importance that antibiotics should be used very rationally in cases where it is absolutely essential. To help the physician to conform to the above criteria certain guidelines are provided following laboratory testing. One of the main guidelines to the physician is the guide line sensitivity test. This test involves the isolation of the causal organism from the clinical sample obtained from the patient's urine, blood, cerebro spinal fluid, pus, stools etc. Following the isolation they are idntified and they are tested against a wide range of antibiotics on sterile petri dishes to assess which one of the antibiotics is most effective. The report usually gives the chance of more than one antibiotic and it is left to the discretion of the physician to choose among the effective antibiotics.

Presence of antibiotic resistance genes among bacteria occurred long before the introduction of modern antibiotics. Their origin among these organisms still remains obscure. During the 1950s and early part of 1960s few studies were carried out in various parts of the world. Together with these results and the clinical experience, more generalization of antibiotic resistance patterns were discerned and adopted throughout the developed countries which were "blindly" accepted and followed by third world countries. It was deep rooted in medical profession that the resistance patterns of different bacterial species is fixed, and that there is valid reasons for generalization. i.e. An infection caused by **E Coli** in the urinary tract should be sensitive to sulphonamide. This generalization is not true any more. There is another generalization regarding the causal organism. eg. Most of the urinary tract infections are caused by **E. Coli**, which again is not true. The medical practice in Sri Lanka and I hope in most of the developing countries function according to most of the so called "generalization." One of the reasons, the medical personnel claim is that there is no laboratory facility for testing and the testing of clinical samples is expensive and that they have to depend on these generalizations to "serve and save" the masses.

Antibiotic resistance genes are present in the bacteria either in the main chromosome or carried by extra chromosomal elements known as R-plasmids. The incidence of these resistance genes among various genomes are mainly depending on the antibiotic load in the community. These R-plasmids do not have any species barrier and they could spread to unrelated bacterial species exhibiting respective resistance. Further, they occur in more than one copy per bacterial cell therefore the magnitude of resistance is also more, Further, antibiotic resistance genes could be borne by a transposon which is a piece of DNA that could undergo non-homologous recombination with another DNA. i.e. possible illegal crossing or they are referred to as jumping genes. Thus antibiotic resistance genes are located in a mobile DNA unit that could spread to various other genomes and to various other unrelated bacterial species.

MEDICAL IMPLICATIONS

The main pattern of such a situation is that the sensitive pathogenic bacteria such as **Salmonella typhi, Shigella sonnei** etc. if they pick up an R plasmid carrying resistance to ampicillin, chloramphenicol etc. then the treatment of such diseases with the conventional antibiotics becomes different. Secondly, the less harmful opportunistic organisms such as **Serratia, E. Coli, Klebsiella** on acquiring such R-plasmid could bring about chronic infections. Further most of the hospital borne infections or the nosocomical infections are mainly caused by these less harmful bacteria carrying R-plasmid. Finally, the use of antibiotics among human and farm animals eliminate the sensitive normal intestinal flora and selects the resistant bacterial strains. These strains under poor sanitary conditions spread to other individuals in the community. Thus they form a reservoir of antibiotic resistant genes from which other individuals could acquire bacteria carrying the resistance genes. Such bacteria when they come in contact with the pathogen could transfer these resistance genes to them.

REFUGEES POUR INTO MANNAR

Due to the high tension prevailing in Vavuniya District, refugees from Neriyakulam, Pavatkulam, Cheddikulam, Illupaikulam and Rambikulam have started migrating to Mannar from 15th of August 1985.

The Government Agent of Mannar and the recently inaugurated "Mannar Association for Relief & Rehabilitation" (MARR) are jointly looking after the basic needs of the refugees.

At the moment two refugees camp have been set up in Mannar. Pesalai camp consists of more than 900 inmates and Madhu camp has more than 1500 inmates.

M.A.R.R. has come forward to help the Government Agent and his staff by distributing Ration food items, medicine, drinking water, milk food, clothes and utensils obtained from various social and religious organisations.

pecial mention must be made of the "volunteers" who with hardly any rest dedicate their best service in all forms for the refugees.

Mannar Association for Relief and Rehabilitation makes a speciaf and urgent appeal to those concerned to donate essential drugs, infant milk food, used or new clothes to the children in these camps. Due to new arrivals of the refugees there is a strong possibility for a new camp at Thiruketheeswaram or Thalvupadu. Due to the fuel shortage in the district, Electricity, Water supply and Transport have come to a halt.

Due to fuel crisis in Mannar District 85 Yala threshing and oncoming Maha 85/86 ploughing had affected the farmers tremendously.

THE TASTE OF PARADISE!

We publish excerpts from a report on Sri Lanka and the state of communal violence by Alan Missen, Senator for Victoria, Australia and Chairman, Australian Parliamentary Amnesty Group.

Following my visit to Sri Lanka in June 1984 as Chairman of the Australian Parliamentary Group of Amnesty International (and the report then presented), I decided to spend three days in Sri Lanka on the way to the meeting of the Emergency Committee on Sri Lanka in Rome. I also added to it one day for talks in Madras with leaders of the TULF (Tamil party) now in exile. In this assessment I assume awareness of the contents of an excellent background paper presented by the Secretary-General, Martin Ennals, to the Meeting.

It should be stressed that there have been a number of deaths on both sides since the coming into place of the cease-fire. These may have been reported in the outside press but they have only partly been reported in the Sri Lanka press. Evidence indicates that some such incidents were caused by Sri Lankan military forces in the Eastern area (an area of particular difficulty) and that some other attacks are apparently attributable to Tamil groups that are not among the major bodies that will be in the negotiations at Bhutan.

There is exhaustion on both sides, but the action of the President and his advisers in proclaiming an end of violence by the end of the year, in claiming success (and there by keeping his Sinhalese Opposition, the Bandaranaikes, out of the action and uninformed), and the constant threat of immigration on a substantial scale by Sinhalese in Tamil areas do not look good omens for success.

We must work on the basis that the cease-fire is a short opportunity to be seized, that pressure must be brought to bear and that, if it fails, the subsequent position will be considerably worse and cynicism and extreme forces may well take over.

I am already concerned at the real dangers of the President's truculent attitude expressed in his interview given to "The Sun" of the 26th June 1985, which he believes will solve the problem. He is insisting that he will carry his undisclosed terms through the rather unrepresentative Parliament. (It is true that he has in his pocket the "resignation" of each Government MP, but there is real danger that the Opposition may call on the support of strong Buddhist Clergy in the country to upset these ideas)

There is at present some doubt as to whether the proposed settlement will address itself to the real issues: Foreign Minister Hameed claims that matters were 95% solved at the constitutional talks last year. The calling off of these talks is a matter of buck-passing between the parties, but clearly the Sinhala clergy and MPs would not accept the President's earlier proposals.

Talk of devolution must be defined. If the President has in mind only the cosmetic District Development Councils without real financial power or the right to consolidate into Provincial Councils (with the powers of the Indian or Australian States), then this is no solution. It is believed that the Government may go so far, if pushed to obtain a settlement. This seems to be a view held among Tamil sources. Whether the settlement will be subject to a referendum remains to be seen. If it is to be carried by referendum and not subject to abolition by any subsequent governments, then obviously a very good selling job must be undertaken to persuade the Sinhala electorate.

Such a settlement must face up to major issues such as control of law and order by Provincial forces, control of immigration, control of land tenure in the hands of Provincial Forces (This is a subject of real disquiet, heightened by threatened settlement of Sinhalese in Tamil lands, and the development of the Mahaweli water scheme without changing the ethnic balance of communal forces in the Eastern Zone). The right to the use of all the national languages, education system, etc., will need to be clarified.

I am constantly reminded of the assessment of the situation made by Father Paul Caspersz to me in Kandy last year. The majority Sinhalese, though an overwhelming majority in numbers, suffer from a minority complex. They have an exaggerated fear of India, particularly of the 50 million Tamil Nadu residents a very few miles away. They are easily roused by the necessity of preserving their Buddhist Sinhala way of life, are afraid of the Tamils who, after all, have lived side by side with them for over one thousand years yet they see them and describe them as "foreign" Tamils. They see the use of language as a method of achieving equality or superiority in their own land. On the other hand, the Tamils, particularly the Sri Lankan Tamils as distinct from the more recently arrived Indian Tamils (the estate workers) who hold a very tenuous position, have a majority complex though a small number (less than 13% of the total population. They place too heavy a reliance on India to protect them and Tamil "tigers" or guerillas see violence as a successful way of attracting world (and Indian) attention. It leads them to advocate Tamil Eelam as a separate state and has led to a decline in the support for moderate Tamil leadership.

The present realism and intervention of India can only help to solve the tension and, one hopes, solve the real problems of living together on one island. Cyprus stands as the other and most impractical solution of a problem of two people cohabiting one small island, backed by military force.

The attempt to keep down the number of industrious Tamils in the Government's service, in law and medicine, etc., and the use of the language (Sinhala) to achieve this has led to a burning resentment by Tamil youth. The system of Sri Lankan democracy leaves much to be desired, with harsh laws, similar to South Africa's, muzzling of the local press and intolerance of minorities (one both sides), a system of Presidential control, the extraordinary one sided nature of the voting system-the one-sided Parliament made worse by forcing out the Tamils MPs - and the long-extended term of Parliament - all make for an unhealthy form of "democracy". The rise of violence has been consistent and in the last year the number of civilians killed by Tamil guerillas rose to over 250 (from 12 the previous year) showing a constant growth, The failure of the French in Algeria and the USA in Vietnam to defeat guerilla forces-though many times superior in numbers and fire-power-must be a constant lesson as to the folly of a military solution.

The disastrous effect on aid programs (nations are unwilling to provide money when it cannot be spread evenly in Tamil areas), the collapse of tourism, and the bad name gained by Sri Lankan throughout the democratic world are obviously of worry to Sri Lankan authorities. Not sufficient worry for them to reply to or attempt remedies for any of the Reports of Lawasia International Commission of Jurists, International Amnesty, and the British Parliamentary Human Rights Group, to name a few organizations making serious allegations concerning human rights violations over recent years. Sri Lankan leaders complain bitterly about distortion in the foreign press, but make no attempt to answer allegations or to allow them to be reported in the local media.

The rising tide of violence from an undisciplined army whose excesses are not punished, and whose offending officers have on some, occasions been promoted by Government, and from the counter-punching by Tamil extremists makes the prospects of a quick settlement rather remote. International pressure must be brought to bear to create a change of attitude by all parties. Undertakings I was given last year by Foreign Office officials and public servants engaged in human rights that legal delays would be overcome and trials would proceed, have not been honoured The rule of law is under serious challenge and the Supreme Court plays but a minor part in enforcing constitutional guarantees.

I have discussed with various authorities certain international action that ought to be taken and suggest the present (non—exclusive) conclusions. (Outside the Government, action along these lines is warmly supported by many of my interviewees. In this sense international involvement is desirable, probably crucial to securing realistic solutions.

UN Commission on Human Rights. Approximately 18 months ago the Sri Lankan delegation turned aside a suggestion of intervention by this Commission by promises, many of which have not been attended to. Further attempts to involve the UN Commission have been unsuccessful.

I believe the SIFEC organization should take every step to see that the events in Sri Lanka are investigated and, more importantly, that a high-powered delegation should go to Sri Lanka, consult all parties. and use the international machinery to secure compliance with the human rights commitments of the Government. The last resolution before the Commission was not seconded I hope that Australia, as a member of the Commission, will now see the wisdom of pressing for international inquiry and arbitration.

The work of International Red Cross and other non - government organizations must be allowed inside Sri Lanka. While thousands are homeless and injured, and 150,000 Sri Lankan citizens have fled abroad, it is inexcusable that

(*Continued on page 7*)

SOME STONES; SOME THOUGHTS

Editor
SATURDAY REVIEW

The Ministry of Plan Implementation was a prestigious one with a complement of trained and experienced staff set up to accomplish a vital function within the country's planning system. Had it continued to concern itself with the objectives for which it was established even after 1977, it could have become a valuable apparatus in the management of this government which is obviously losing its grip on the economy, and worst, the country.

The Ministry had every prospect of being able to obtain a broad range of accurate information on every sectoral plan, lead projects etc. and could have ensured that overall performance ratings based on balanced assessments of key aspects of the economy were placed before the Cabinet. Thus, it would have come to occupy an important place within the inner sanctums of the Government. Instead, it renounced quite willingly these objectives and drifted from subjects that were vital and sublime, to minutia that are ridiculous.

In this curious assemblage of subjects there is the population division fostering the sterilisation of our women because over population is seen as the only reason for poverty.

The Fertiliser Division on the other hand usurps the functions of the Department of Agriculture and engages in "drawing room Suite" extension work with its TV programs on the false assumption that the use of fertiliser is the only ingredient for increased crop production. The Nutrition Division organises the singing of lullabys on Radio in order to popularise breast—feeding, while the Statistics Division comes up with figures that explain why undernourished women in 50% of our households are unable to breast feed; the Training Division holds regular seminars for almost the same set of government officials on the finer points of grass root and sub—national planning techniques, while its Regional Development Division in Colombo by—passes any such planning and assembles a couple of sectoral component projects in consultation with Line Ministries under the magical term integrated Rural Development Projects, which in fact are neither Integrated, Rural nor Developmental; they are based on the priorities in Colombo and approved in the capitals of the West, **without** any consultation with Pradeshiya Mandalayas, Gramodaya Mandalayas, the village awakening program of the Prime Minister, and worst of all, without the participation of the people for whom it is supposed to be done.

The Children's secretariat has it's perennial crop of seminars in 5—star hotels while remaining silent on the increasing exploitation of children as labourers or "items" for satisfying the depraved desires of the local and foreign affluent quite contrary to our 5—star democracy; the Progress Central Division sees economic growth and prosperity all the way, while the Ministry's Food and Nutrition Division reports show that the economy is doing well while the people are faring badly. The Procurement Division integrates and coordinates with perfection all local and foreign purchases and tenders connected with Ministry Projects while its National Development Lottery or Cassino Division offers those outside the tender ring of National Development, also a chance of "procuring" assets here and abroad.

The level to which the Administrative and intellectual pursuits of the Ministry have dropped astonish public servants, the general public not so the UNP government, which has made this Ministry or rather down graded it to be the propaganda arm of the party caucus. The part it played in the propaganda campaign during the Presidential elections and the Referendum is far too well known. Hitler died 4 decades ago but the lesson he taught on how to use bullets to repress the people and intensive propaganda to brain wash their minds appears to be haunting the minds of the present Administration. Hitler selected the notorious Dr. Goebells to be in charge of propaganda and Dirty-Tricks — who is the Jayewardene Government's Doctor Goebbels?

Winged Bean

LETTERS

WHY DIVIDE?

Editor
SATURDAY REVIEW

Reading the lengthy article of Dr. R. W. C. Thambiah in the SATURDAY REVIEW of 3rd August 1985 and the letter in the SR of 7th September 1985,I wish to make a few comments as contributory part of my own observations.

Dr. Thambiah says, "Muslims live all over the Island. There is a large presence in Galle, and I have heard Galle, called a Muslim Town. Nobody has suggested that therefore the southern province is not a Sinhalese area. There are also Muslims in many parts of the South. Beruwala has a strong Muslim presence. All these remain Sinhalese areas".

If that is so why can't the Tamils do the same? Here of course he makes a distinction. There are two kinds of minorities, an ethnic minority and a national minority. The Muslims are according to him an ethnic minority and the Tamils are a national minority.

He says the people living in a country can claim nationhood if they meet the following four criteria. They (1) live in a common territory large enough to be viable, (2) They have a common economic life, (3) They have a common language, (4) They have a common historical psychological make up. Don't the Muslims form a national minority if they are qualified with the above four conditions?

Dr. Thambiah is trying his best to assuage the fears of the Sinhalese. The bogey of separatism of which he speaks and dividing the country came NOT from the Sinhalese. Another bogey, that if the Tamils are given autonomy they will separate and link up with Tamil Nadu. It is true that the Sri Lankan Tamils have had a separate identity. But the Sinhalese do know that they are A MINORITY in the view of the world's eye and in the light of all the recent happenings is not this bogey in the hearts of the uneducated and simple Sinhala people a reality?

By experience all of us know whether Tamil or Sinhala that an ounce of practice is better than five pounds of theory. Deeds and NOT words will help all the minorities whoever they be to live together in peace and happiness.

Fr. Matthew G. E. Silva

Boragas.

THE WONDER PALM

The Palmyrah Palm (Borassus Flabellifer) of Sri Lanka is a wonder palm. The palm grows 60 to 70 feet with a stout black trunk and fan shaped leaves at its crown, and is indigenous to the dry regions of Sri Lanka, India, Burma and Africa. The potentialities of the palmyrah palm are almost close or more to the coconut palm, if it is tapped on the right lines with the help of scientific methods. George Herbert a foreigner who had visited Sri Lanka in earlier times have pithily put it about the coconut palm:

" .....The Indian nut alone is clothing, meat trencher, drink and can, Boat, cable,sail, mast needle all in one." But labout the palmyrah palm a kavi of old mentions of the 801 uses of it-only a Jaffna man will attest to its truth! It is traditionally connected with him and enters into his home and has been part and parcel of his everyday life.

The palm could be used for a major industry, which would mean employment opportunities for many. Interest should be taken to revive the immense economic pottentialities of the tree: food, beverages, arrack, mats, baskets, fans and umbrellas, carpets and brooms and ornamental boxes are few of the items.

The jelly of the fruit is squeezed out and made into special toffees or jam. The seeds collected and buried in heaps below ground in September and dug up after 4 months of germination and is called 'kilangu' could also be preserved for an year if well dried for aliment. The boiled shoots or 'Kilangu' are turned into sweet balls to which jaggery, and coconut are added.

"Kool" is a very substantial porridge to which vegetables, greens, fish, crabs; and shrimps together with appetising ingredigents are added, and it is one of the alluring meal of the Jaffna man - a speciality of a savoury dish it would be to any foreigner to relish in our tourist hotels!

The sweet toddy is full of stamina and would be a wonderful appetiser. The copious sap obtained from the spathe of the palm is called toddy. It is fermented and distilled into arrack. The unfermented juice is boiled down for making sugar and jaggery. The tree could be tapped for 3 or 4 months twice daily and 3 to 4 bottles of juice could be got per tree.

Let us bless the Palmyrah Palm

— Victoria Joseph

IN LIGHTER VEIN

TOM TOM, HONKY TONK & BOOP de BLOOP

Tom Tom, Honky Tonk and Boop de Bloop, members of the Committee on Spurious Affairs in the village of Ortaiveli were holding earnest deliberations. Ortaiveli (Fence with holes) had been given its name after it had acquired a girl's school. The highest and the wealthiest in the land sent their daughters to Ortaiveli Girl's College (OGC) to learn such skills and graces as would befit those women destined for the highest society in the land.

The matter which currently engaged the minds of the Committee was the complaint made by Dame Bumpity that her luscious jack fruit to the flesh of which she had been looking forward that afternoon had been stolen from the tree.

"We must issue a statement unequivocally condemning this heinous crime", said Boop, "otherwise my wife will not give me any peace".

"The matter is not that simple" said Honky "If the thief was that layabout Tin Can, whom I suspect, he will take offence and will start dumping his rubbish at my doorstep. At my time of life this will be an intolerable inconvenience."

"But look", went on Honky, "the Greek sage Heraclitus told us that opposites are identical. Thus theft is the same as non-theft. This is easy to prove. A thing say this key", he said wagging a key, "which disappears from here must reappear somewhere. Therefore appearance is the same as disappearance. And hence opposites are identical. We may conclude therefore that the jack fruit was not stolen."

"This will not do", said Tom handling a patch on his back. This patch held haunting memories for him, of the time when he went into OGC and climbed on a soap box in order to deliver his party's earth shattering message. When he started gesticulating, the girls mistook him for a pop—star and he barely managed to get away through a hole in the fence tearing his trousers which got caught in barbed wire. You just could not tell with pop—stars these days. One year they may be hairy and skinny. The next they may be plump and bald.

"If the jak fruit had merely disappeared", went on Tom, "Dame Bumpity will be after us to find where it reappeared. And this may yet get us into trouble with Tin Can."

"Why not subject this to a dialectical anaylsis," said Tom tapping the right side of his head with his first finger, "now you have the thesis disappearance and the antithesis appearance. Thus you will have the synthesis nothingness or non-existence as Heidegger concluded after Hegel. Therefore the jak fruit does not exist and our problem is solved," concluded Tom banging his fist on the table.

At that moment Tom's wife Pink Panther came in bringing them tea. "If Dame Bumpitiy's jak fruit does not exist, yours too will not exist at lunch time," she said threateningly.

"You need not take me that seriously Pinky dear", replied Tom trying to force a smile," "if I had been taken more or less seriously I would not have been a University don for the last twenty-five years."

"What would you have been if you had been taken more seriously?", asked Boop raising his chin.

"The Soviet foreign minister", replied Tom sternly.

"What if less seriously?" joined in Honky rubbing his hands.

"The President of the United States", came the reply.

At length, several cups of tea later, the Committee isssued its statement. "Ye citizens of Ortaiveli are no doubt aware of the painful deprivation to which Dame Bumpity is subject this fine Sunday afternoon. Having looked into the pros and cons of this matter from every angle and having given due consideration to every point of view, we are compulsively, irrevocably, dispassionately, and conclusively driven to the view that the complaint was indeed made in excellent handwriting. Whoever is responsible for this action must observe the minimum courtesy of showing cause and must understand the implicit and explicit aspects of such an act. Depriving this good lady of her jak fruit on a fine Sunday afternoon, has caused her progressive impulses to be dampened, thus giving unsolicited aid to the forces of reaction."

A little later Dame Bumpity approached the bold trio briskly. "Thank you ever so much, "she said, "I have just had word that Tin Can is coming to return my jak fruit. Your statement, though I could not understand it, must have put the fear of God into him."

As soon as she reached home she saw Tin Can leaving her jak fruit on her verandah and walking away.

"I expect your conscience was pricked when you saw the statement," said Dame Bumpity.

"I know of no statement", replied Tin Can blankly, "Pink Panther promised me two of Tom Tom's fruits if I return yours. She wants to deflate Tom progressive enthusiasm by depriving him of jak on a Sunday afternoon. His meetings are becoming inconveniently long with every dialectical turn of his mind."

—Rajan

THE TASTE OF PARADISE

(*Continued from page 5*)

International Red Cross is denied entry, particularly in view of recent deaths and burnings in the Eastern Zone where citizens survive in incredible squalor. Other non-government organizations, including aid and Church groups (and particularly Buddhist groups) should be encouraged to enter the country and play their part. Sponsored visits including a visit by this Committee, should be undertaken and by business and trade union leaders who should investigate the scene.

Aid programs. Despite the resistance of aid-giving countries to be involved in internal racial matters, the fact is that they are so engaged in Sri Lanka and their aid is assiting the myopic attitude of the Sri Lankan authorities. The world banking group should be encouraged to take a mor realistic view of what they are doing. Pressure by India USA, Japan, and West Germany, all responsible aid-givers or powers concerned in the success of Sri Lanka' should use their good offices to intervene.

Support for local human rights groups. Members of such groups in other countries should assist organizations in Sri Lanka working for human rights, legal aid, and in ethnic studies. Independent assessment of the extent of the denial of human rights is called for.

Peace keeping force. While this offends the susceptibilites of the Sri Lankan government, the raising of an International Force to re-establish law and order confidence in police obligations may be necessary on a temporary basis. At the very least, the commitment of India and International bodies to the permanence of the settlement is an essential prereqnisite to success.

The use of a mediator or mediators should be offered in facilitating moves towards a workable state and a restoration of confidence by all sections of the population.

Overseas refugees. Action must be taken to secure the return to their country of most if not all of the 150,000 Tamil Sri Lankan citizens displaced by communal violence.

It will require that they be accompanied by Indian or other international persons to secure their return without victimization.

The folly of racial violence. Its parts in the break-down of a working democracy in Sri Lanka, and the enormous economic cost, must be brought sharply home to the people of Sri Lanka of all backgrounds, and this three months breathing space used by responsible world leaders and world human rights bodies in achieving a lasting solution.

Saturday Review SRI LANKA

Re-play Of Old Scenarios?

The army which was confined to its barracks in Jaffna ever since the June 18th cease-fire has now begun to move out.

Army patrols have carried out search operations in Kilinochchi, Kayts and on the Pannai causeway.

The sudden emergence of army patrols has begun to cause fear and unease among the people.

Will there be a replay of old scenerios?

BLOOD-LUST

Who cares for the so-called cease-fire?

The fire started in the Eastern province has engulfed the North too-it seems. On 2nd October early morning, the Security Forces had landed at Pirapanthanaru - three miles away from the Mullaitheevu - Paranthan main road, in the Mullaitheevu district. Five Helicopters were said to have been used to transpart the soldiers there.

Peasants, farmers and some youths from the Educated Youths' Agricultural Scheme in Visuvamadu, numbering about 50 were shot dead, at Visuvamadu, Pirapanthanaru and Tharmapuram. Most of the men who had been killed were the early settlers of the Visuvamadu irrigation and colonising scheme that flourished in the Sri Lanka Freedom Party years of 1972-1976.

According to some escapees from this recent massacre, at Pirapanthanaru alone 20 people had been arrested, hand-cuffed tied to trees and blind-folded. Then soldiers sprayed bullets and killed them.

Later 20 bodies were found in the jungles, identified and cremated by the villagers. The list of the persons killed will appear in our coming issues.

At Mulliawalai in Mullaitheevu district on 5th October Security Forces opened fire and killed 6 civilians. At the time of going to press four of them were identified as T.Sundaralingam, S. Balasingam, K. Selvam and K. Thevarajan.

This had happened in the early hours of the morning. Soldiers from the Oddusuddan base were on the way to Mullaitheevu and reportedly shot at a motor bike but they missed it. Later they arrested 6 civilians from nearby spots and shot them. With this the total number of casualties in Mullaitheevu district is 57.

As usual the government has issued a statement in which it stated that terrorists had been killed.

India Revokes Deportation Orders

Dr. A. S. Balasingham, ideologue and spokesman for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), who was deported along with Mr. S. C. Chandrahasan by the Indian Government, is back in Madras.

The Indian Government decided to deport Dr. Balasingham, Mr.S.C. Chandrahasan and Mr. N. Satyendra on the grounds that they were road — blocks in the way of the smooth progress of the ill — fated Thimpu talks. Mr. Satyendra left India before the deportation order could be served on him.

Mr. Chandrahasan's Satyagraha at an American airport forced India to take him back. Now Dr. Balasingham is back. It won't be long before the other member of the trio, Mr. Satyendra too is back in India.

These deportations sparked off massive protests in Tamilnadu and the North and East of Sri Lanka.

Printed and published by New Era Publications Ltd., 118, Fourth Cross Street, Jaffna, on 12th October, 1985. Registered as a newspaper at the General Post Office, Sri Lanka, under Q J 101.

DETENUS AT WELIKADE

This is the fifth list of Tamil political detenus at Welikade that we have received.

89. S. Pathmanathan (Eelathunathan), 11/12, Power House Road, Trincomalee.
90. S. Vinayagampillai, Ward No. 6, Sampaltivu (Trincomalee)
91. S. Santhaseelan, Ward 1, Nilaveli (Trincomalee).
92. K. Amirthalingam Ward 4, Nilaveli (Trincomalee).
93. S. Sabeskaran, Ward 6. Nilaveli (Trincomalee).
94. S. Amirthalingam, Ward 5. Nilaveli, (Trincomalee).
95. K.S. Punniamoorthy, Alankerny, Kinniya, (Trincomalee).
96. K. Sundaralingam, Puthukudyiruppu, Tampalakamam, (Trincomalee).
97. K.A.B. Arunatheva, 57, Main street, Trincomalee.
98. S. Alagaratnam, Kunchaddapanthiddal, Tampalakamam, (Trincomalee).
99. K. Sivakanesh, 733, West Colony, Tampalakamam, (Trincomalee).
100. S. Easwarabawan, 'Bhawan Repair Centre' Tampalakamam, (Trincomalee).
101. T. Kugathasan, School Street, Gopalapuram, Nilaveli, (Trincomalee).
102. M. Alponsus 1154, Palaiyootru, Trincomalee.
103. A. Sivalingam, Koodampuli, Tampalakamam, (Trincomalee).
104. V. Thirumaran, c/o A. Vadivelu, 26/1 Division, 10, Trincomalee.
105. T. Tharmalingam, Palampoddaru, Tampalakamam, (Trincomalee).
106. P. Puvanendran, c/o P. Nagarajah, Ward No.6, Sampaltivu, (Trincomalee).
107. V.S. Thayaparan, 77/5, Thirugnanasampanthar Street, Trincomalee.
108. Dr. N. Sathiamoorthy, 338, Anpuvalipuram, Trincomalee.
109. S. Nadarajah, 6, Sea View Road, Trincomalee.
110. S. Thiurnavukkarasu, 732, West Colony, Tampalakamam (Trincomalee).
111. S. Mathivannan, Nayanmarthiddal, Tampalakamam (Trincomalee)
112. M. K. Markandu, Puthukudieruppu, Tampalakamam (Trincomalee)
113. N Selvachandran, 69 Fatima Road, Trincomalee.
114. S. Nanthakumar, 61 Main Street, Trincomalee.
115. M.P. Arulthas, 162/3 Orr's Hill, Trincomalee.

News Briefs

WANELA POLICE STATION ATTACKED

The Police station at Wanela in the Trincomalee District was stated to have been attacked by militants in the early hours of 7th October. Official sources state that the "Police station (about 32 miles from Kantalai) was damaged and some of the attackers would have been injured because they had left behind blood stained clothes, an empty gelignite box, 2 SMG' magazines, electric wire and a car battery which were recovered at the site.

SHOT AT HOME

Marsalin Philip (45) who had been residing at Wattala for some time was allegedly shot dead on 5.10.85 around 12.30 p. m. at his residence in St. Sebastian Street. He had been married at Kopay. Police are reported to be making inquiries as to the motive for the killing, which was not immediately available.

830 MILLION FOR SECURITY FORCES

Parliament passed a sum of Rs. 830 million on 8.10.85 for Sri Lanka's Security Forces. The approximate break up of the amount for the various services is as follows :—

380 million — Air Force, 210 million — Navy, 210 million — Army, 10 million — Police.

WORSHIPPING DIDN'T HELP

Krishnapillai Jeyarupan (25) who was a colonist at Visuvamadu was admitted to Jaffna Hospital with gunshot wounds on his hands and legs. "I worshipped the forces with both my hands but yet I was shot on my hands and legs." Providentially he had escaped death and lived to tell this tale.

DE - HOUSING SCHEMES

It was Prime Minister Premadasa's dream to create a house-owning democracy. This dream of the Prime Minister was being shattered by the persistent acts of vandalism perpetrated by 'men in khaki.' A statement to this effect is reported to have been made by Mr. P. Samithamby at a meeting of the Batticaloa Catholic Association presided over by Mr. Prince Casinader.