

HOT SPRING

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WHO TAUGHT WHOM?

"When the Army argued for a negotiated settlement after the fall of Jaffna, the political authorities, advised by the intelligence and Ministry of External Affairs officials smarting under the imagined insult the LTTE had meted out to them by escaping from their tutelage, refused to accept this course and wanted the militants to be taught a lesson. Who taught whom a lesson is something that history will judge."

Manoj Joshi reviewing books by Lt. Gen. S. C. Sardesh Pande and Lt. Gen. Depinder Singh. Front Line -13-3-92

DEVOTEES SHELLED

Commission of Inquiry

According to Colombo reports a Committee of Inquiry has been appointed by the Government of Sri Lanka to inquire into the shell attack on Vattapalai Amman temple and the killing of Hindu devotees including infants and Red Cross Society Volunteers.

Red Cross Men & Infants also Killed
Gruesome Murder at Temple Festival

The Sri Lanka Army encamped at Mullaitivu launched artillery shell attacks directed towards the Amman Temple at Vattapalai on Monday, May 18 - when thousands of Hindu devotees had congregated at the temple for the annual Pongal festival.

The report in this connection state that the Vattapalai Amman temple situated about 2 miles away from Mullaitivu Army Camp along the sea beach is a Hindu temple of antiquity where an annual Pongal festival is held. Hindus from all parts of the island congregate at Vattapalai Amman Temple for this annual event.

This year the festival took place on Monday, May 18 on the heels of the Buddhist Wesak festival. Towards noon shells launched from the Sri Lankan Army Camp at Mullaitivu exploded first near the beach and the large crowd became panicky and started running from the temple premises. Many people were injured in the stampede that followed.

One shell exploded near a bicycle stand and ten persons died on the spot. Five others died while being rushed for treatment.

The Red Cross was on duty at the temple premises in connection with the festival. Two Red Cross Volunteers - Shanmugalingam (46) and Rajanimal (19) died. A third female nurse volunteer of the Red Cross Society R. Suganthidevi suffered serious injuries.

Also killed as a result of shell explosion is one Navaratnam (36) and his two year old infant daughter

Bomber Attack at Kumburupitty

Two Sri Lankan Air Force planes are reported to have bombed the Kumburupiddy area in Trincomalee District while at the same time a Sri Lankan helicopter was engaged in extensive firing of the area. The incident occurred on Friday, May 22.

Yugaranee. Navaratnam's wife was admitted to the Jaffna Hospital with serious injuries. Another child of the Navaratnams who was also injured lost one of her arms. Mrs. Navaratnam was unconscious and on recovery

asked for her husband who had died on the spot.

The injured devotees were admitted to Hospitals in Jaffna and Puthukudiyiruppu.

It is also learnt that a Red Cross society vehicle was damaged.

The Sri Lankan Army has said that the Army did not fire shells towards the temple but shelled a Tiger camp and killed some Tigers.

The Hindu Federation has severely criticised the wanton attack on the temple premises and said the Army action is consistent with the previous history of destruction of Hindu temples by the Sri Lankan Armed forces.

Another report adds that the Temple authorities had earlier informed the Army of the impending festival.

Artillery Shell Attack and firing

Sri Lankan Army encamped at Mandaitivu launched shell attack directed towards Pannai, Kottadi and Navanthurai areas in Jaffna on Friday, May 22 evening. The shell attack was followed by gun firing. The shell attack continued till the early hours of the night.

Musings of Mr. Meddle



Army says that they hit a Tiger Camp and not the temple at Vattapalai

— News

But weapons don't have a mind of their own to commit genocide.

AS DELHI BANS LTTE

JHA ENGAGES IN ARM - TWISTING
LTTE CHARGES INDIA OF INTERFERENCE

As the Government of India announced a ban on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and Indian High Commissioner in Colombo indulged himself in swift arm twisting of the Sri Lankan Government by press-interviews, the LTTE charged the Delhi Government of interfering in the internal affairs of foreign countries. In a statement released to the Press on Friday, May 15, the LTTE denied having ever interfered in the internal affairs of India and countercharged Delhi of such interference in foreign lands.

The LTTE statement also said that the Delhi government was trying to suppress Tamil national consciousness in Tamil Nadu itself.

The following is the full text of the LTTE statement:-

India has declared the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam as an illegal organisation and banned it. We are not surprised at the Indian action which has been based on a consideration of narrow Indian interests and immediate political gains. We consider this action as part of the

chain of betrayal continuously indulged in by the Government of India against the just national struggle of the people of Tamil Eelam. By this action India has alienated its only friendly force in South Asia - the Tamil Eelam nation. This is a very saddening matter. This short-sighted and hurried action lacking diplomatic skill may in the future only be detrimental to the geo-political interests of India.

(Continued on Page 6)

Centenary Celebrations of Swami Vipulananda

The Jaffna Municipal Council will hold a three day celebrations in commemoration of the centenary celebrations of Swami Vipulananda, the Hindu missionary scholar who chaired the Tamil Department of University of Ceylon.

Swami Vipulananda, a Science graduate from Karaitivu, a village in Batticaloa South later turned to be a Hindu missionary. He did lot of research in Tamil Studies. His book on a now extinct musical instrument called the YARL won the Swami great acclamation here and abroad.

He has written several other books.

A three day book exhibition will also be held by the Jaffna Municipality at its Nallur library where the works of Swami Vipulananda and books on Swami Vipulananda written by others will be kept for the public to see.

The book exhibition will be opened by Miss Thangammah Appakutty, the religious worker and President of the Tellipalai Durgai Amman Temple Trustee Board on Sunday, May 24. The exhibition will be opened for three days from 9-00 a. m. to

3-45 p. m. beginning from May 24.

The other programmes including speeches and recitals of songs composed by Swami

Vipulananda will be held daily for three days beginning at 4-00 p. m. on May 24 at the Nallur Naval Cultural Hall.

THE TRUE FACE OF INDIAN DEMOCRACY

News from India state that an order has been made that the proceedings in the Rajiv Gandhi murder case should not be made public.

Lot of false propaganda had already been made by the Indians that the LTTE carried out the killing.

The recent order wants to keep the trial secret as much as the investigations had been!

The Madras Hindu and the Brahmin Establishment

Let me present a scenario in the vast Dravidian land, known for its antiquity and conservatism. A non-conformist revolutionary who espoused agitational techniques, unfamiliar to the entrenched ruling class gets a cold shoulder.

The ruling class consists of two types: (1) The Establishment, who are aliens to the Dravidian land, but garbed with military and intelligence arm; (2) The Brahmin Brown Sahibs, who control the Press and other law enforcement agencies.

The non-conformist revolutionary was born to a 'class', considered as 'low-caste' by the Brahmin Brown Sahibs. The revolutionary's idea of agitational techniques received only a rebuke from the majority in the Madras land. Only about 120 people identify with the revolutionary and provide the founding emotional support to him. To make matters worse, this revolutionary never stood for any election and canvassed for votes like an ordinary politician.

No, I am not writing about 1992 and Velupillai Prabhakaran. I refer to the year 1919, and a revolutionary (with the name Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi) who came to Madras Presidency for soliciting support for his agitational technique - civil disobedience. The Brahmin Brown Sahibs, who did not mind Gandhi then (and who don't mind Prabhakaran now) are the same - the owners of the Madras Hindu establishment.

At the beginning of 1919, Mahatma Gandhi was an "outsider to India's political establishment". Though his satyagraha campaigns against the British in South Africa did make Gandhi a recognizable figure, the highest Congress Party leaders had yet to admit him into their cabal. Gandhi, a non-conformist, did not wait in line for a formal admission. He captured the leadership from the lethargic bosses of the Congress party, using his organizational skills.

On March 17, 1919 Gandhi arrived in Madras city to campaign for his opposition against the Rowlatt Bills. He went on a tour to five towns - Tanjavur, Tiruchi, Madurai, Tuticorin and Nagapattinam. And when he left

Madras on March 28, only 120 people in the whole Madras Presidency did sign his satyagraha pledge. Only 120 people out of a total population of the then 20 million. Compared to the LTTE's current support in Tamil Nadu, Gandhi was in a worse situation then.

According to David Arnold's 1977 book, *The Congress in Tamil Nadu; Nationalist Politics in South India, 1919-1937*, while in Madras, "Gandhi had suggested that a proscribed book should be printed and circulated to the satyagrahis in defiance of the law". When the publishers of the Hindu were requested to undertake this effort, "they protested that they have invested one or two lakhs in their presses and that confiscation would ruin them". David Arnold had further observed that, "The Gandhians had limited access to the press in Tamilnad. Of the four principal English dailies in 1920-21, three - Mail, Justice and New India - were persistent, often vociferous, opponents of non-co-operation. The fourth, the Hindu... would not risk govern-

ment displeasure and the possible confiscation by too daring an editorial policy."

Gandhi had hoped that after the Nagpur Congress in Dec. 1920, "the Hindu would swing over to non-cooperation, for it was an extremely influential paper among the western-educated in the Presi-

C. P. Goliard

dency, but its support was never more than lukewarm", according to David Arnold.

Well, if the then ownership of the Hindu could not come to grips with Gandhi's ideals then, it is no wonder that it cannot agree with the message of LTTE. Not only that, the management of the Hindu, is at pains now to paint the LTTE as a "foreign terrorist group". Let me comment on what the Hindu had stated editorially in its February 29 International edition.

1. The Hindu: "Unless Tamil Nadu comes to terms with the painful reality that the picture of the LTTE militants as brave freedom-fight-

ters and martyrs is a grotesque distortion of reality, the shadow of the Tiger will never lift from this shore".

Comment: The Hindu acknowledges indirectly that despite its concerted campaign to discredit the LTTE militants as "terrorists and fascists", the Tamil Nadu people are not buying this line.

2. The Hindu: "India cannot afford to appear indifferent to the implications of the horrifying conclusion that the Tigers killed Rajiv Gandhi. The sense of outrage over this appears conspicuously lacking..."

Comment: It seems, that only the Hindu has concluded that "Tigers killed Rajiv Gandhi", while the rest are not really sure about this. The Hindu itself acknowledges that "the sense of outrage... appears to be conspicuously lacking". I wonder why? Is it because, the public are not so dumb as to believe what is printed in the Hindu? The identity of the female assassin is not yet revealed. Without this basic information, the malicious conclusion of the Hindu that "Tigers killed Rajiv Gandhi" is just a journalistic equivalent of the old Indian rope trick.

3. The Hindu: "The LTTE maimed India when they killed Rajiv Gandhi".

Comment: Holy cow! India was not maimed by the selfish motives of petty politicians who had thrived by uttering homilies to the revered name Mahatma Gandhi, but by the LTTE, according to the Hindu. In the same Feb 29th issue, the Hindu ran a commentary entitled, "True democracy eludes Congress (I)". Another feature, in the same issue told the recent revelation in the Swedish newspaper Dagens Nyheter, that an executive of the Bofors Company had acknowledged the kick back payments made to Rajiv Gandhi for arms selling contracts. It appears the Hindu is oblivious to the maiming of India carried out so effectively by Congress Party politician & the stench emanating from Rajiv Gandhi's questionable deals.

One may confront me by saying that the Hindu is right in opposing the LTTE, because the Tigers are espousing violence, in their freedom struggle. If this be the case, then how can one explain the opposition of the Hindu to Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence campaigns, in its early phases? Isn't it nothing but hypocrisy?

At least, in one aspect, we can identify the similarity between Mahatma Gandhi and Prabhakaran. Both came from outside the Brahmin class, and to the Brahmin, leadership by non-Brahmin talent is an anathema.

By Courtesy: Tamil Nation

OUR READERS SAY

Recruitment of Public Servants According to the Ethnic Ratio

Dear Sir,

According to the newspaper reports and the Government gazette, it is surprising and saddening to learn that the Railway will recruit engine drivers according to the ethnic ratio of the country.

It was the Burghers of this Island who volunteered with some Britishers to handle the trains, when Railway was introduced in 1865 by the British rulers. The local people declined to serve the trains as they were afraid to see the trains and to travel in malaria infested regions. The first train was run from Colombo to Ambepussa. Plenty of men were brought from India to man the railway. Thousands of workers died of infectious diseases during the extension of the railways to many parts.

In this connection I wish to mention a specific case

as to how ethnic system will be a failure and sometimes impracticable. When the Fire Brigade was formed by the Municipality, Colombo, it was the Malays who passed the hurdle test. En masse; defeating all the other races. The then Municipal Commissioner commended their performance and enlisted them to do a sincere piece of work. There was no complaint at all about their selection. Their descendants are still serving the fire brigade. Similarly, the Malays are good in music. They are mostly seen in the Police, Army, Navy, Air Force Bands still. I am not praising them. I am only trying to prove that every race has some talent.

Hence, I earnestly request all people of good will and divine love to protest against the proposal of ethnic ratio recruitment system which will still aggravate the

already tense situation in the island. Let the respective trade unions, particularly the railways, to allocate certain percentage of jobs for their, next of kin, as reasonably done in the past. It is common in every country.

Vyavilan. J. Arulanandam

Paradise Robbed

The Editor,
Hot Spring'
Sir,

A friend of mine who came from Colombo brought me a copy the Island - A news paper published from down South. It was unfortunate that I read it and got disturbed. Late City Edition of 28th April, 92 of this papers editorial was written under the above heading: The editorial lamented thus: - For the younger generation there will be no paradise. The older folks still living have been the last comfortable generation.

This is becoming depressingly evident all around us. For the young of today there will be no rain, no forests, and in any event no place to go. In the old

days anybody in this country could up and trip to any part of this country. No more, the North is out of the question. The East is risky.

There are the western, the North Western, the North Central, the Central, the Uva, the Sabragamuva and the Southern Provinces. But what is there in these places any more? The forests have been raped, the desert is being brought into paradise."

I remember a latin phrase - 'Quem jupiter vult perdere dementat prius' - whom jupiter wishes to destroy he first makes mad - I do not know Mr. Editor, whether you will agree with me - If I say that the Tamil Sinhala problem in this paradise, is daily aggravated by the editors of many news papers originating from Colombo. They are experts in pinching the child and rocking the cradle. They don't care a damn for the future of Sri Lanka.

If a married couple can't live together with peace and if there is distrust, disrespect and discrimination - the final

(Continued on Page 5)

Give A Taste of the War to the Sinhala Chauvinists

Sinhala chauvinists have taken the Tamils in this Island for granted. This is the treacherous response of the Sinhalese to the Tamil people who in good faith joined the Sinhalese people in erecting a single country 'Ceylon', on emerging from British Colonial rule. Their irresponsibility is such that they have shown scant respect for the good governance of the Island as a whole and are revelling in racial politics. The Political Power in the hands of the Sinhala politicians is tantamount to a garland of roses in the hands of a bunch of monkeys. Instead of forging ahead, mobilising man - power resources to accelerate the growth of the country, it was set on a debilitating course of internal strife and made an object of ridicule the world over. All the dreams of the Tamils to help build a prosperous country flowing with milk and honey were shattered and instead death and destruction were heaped upon them. Instead of milk and honey flowing, it was the 'Tamils' blood and tears that have been made to flow. Ironically, all

the atrocities are being done in the name of Buddhism!

Old Fox and Evil Genius

A review of the activities of the Sinhala politicians will reveal their ludicrous attempts to deny the Tamils of their inalienable rights, rob their homeland, oppress them in many ways and distort the true status of the Tamils in this Island. It is as part of this distortion game, the Old Fox, J. R. Jayewardene, the evil genius that he is, that he advanced the "opposition to the merger of the Tamil Northern and Eastern Provinces" as the reason for the UNP objecting to the Bandaranayake - Chelvanayakam Pact. It is not that the Sinhala politicians are unaware of the fact that the Tamils are the indigenous people of the entire North and Eastern Provinces. In fact, it has been their obsession to colonise Sinhala settlers in the Eastern and Northern province, and make the Tamils a minority in their own homeland.

Sensible political formula

Any sensible person thinking objectively from the long-term interest of the entire Island would have realised that the wise thing would have been to evolve a Political Arrangement whereby the Tamil people could have exercised their self-government in their homeland and the Sinhalese people likewise in their own homeland and the energies and endeavours of both nations would have been directed towards a better standard of living for both peoples. Such a political arrangement would not have precluded the Sinhalese living in Tamil homeland with the Tamils or the Tamils living in Sinhalese homeland among the Sinhalese.

The depth of racism in which the Sinhalese people are engulfed is such that they have shown a lack of capacity to think objectively and are hell-bent on oppressing the Tamils even to the extent of endangering their own Independence.

Machiavellian policies

One is astounded by the silly reasons being advanced by various Sinhala politicians against the merger of the Northern and Eastern provinces. In their wishful thinking they are simply following the false lead given by the

evil genius. In fact this merger issue is a distraction created by J. R. and he has been clinging on to it to cover up his misdeed in sabotaging a possible settlement to the ethnic problem as far back as 1957. A close look at the strategies adopted would reveal that he had always created a new controversy without solving a problem, to detract and tide over a pressing issue. The Sinhalese politicians in their avid racial obsession which they are harping on this issue, betray an inability to recognise realities.

A Referendum - for whom?

Again, the talk of a Referendum on the merger issue, under the infamous

Mayavan

J. R. - Rajiv agreement in which both J. R. and his Accomplice, Rajiv in defrauding the Tamils, were both trying to outsmart each other, is a misnomer. In terms of established international practice, in such a Referendum or Plebiscite, only the indigenous people of the East can participate and not the Sinhalese who were settled there under state-aided Colonisation Schemes.

Yet, it is being made out as if the Sinhalese settlers can vote in such a Referendum.

Churlish and irresponsible

There is a saying that Nero was fiddling, while Rome was burning. The

churlish and irresponsible behaviour of Sinhala politicians reminds one of this saying. The Tamil people have realised that no meaningful settlement can be reached with Sinhalese leaders. As a last resort, the Tamil Nation has embarked on a liberation struggle. They are making great sacrifices and are undergoing immense hardships in the process of liberating themselves from the clutches of the Sinhalese. They have at last got a charismatic leader in Velupillai Pirabakaran on whom they have absolute faith and who has the clarity of thought and the tenacity to pursue his objective that the Tamils have rallied behind him. While he is carrying on a classic liberation struggle putting to optimum use the limited resources at his disposal against a formidable enemy, it is becoming clear to many Tamils that he must not any longer continue the struggle as a defensive one. The war must be taken to the enemy's doorstep. Presently, it is the Tamils mainly and to a lesser degree the poor Sinhala soldiers who have joined the Army to earn a living, are bearing the brunt of the war and experiencing the horrors of the war. The Sinhala chauvinists must be given a taste of the war.

It is only then that they will abandon their ostrich-like stand and accept realities and facilitate an early settlement. If they are permitted the present luxury of indulging in racial politics with the lives of other peoples without any risk to their lives, they will end up mortgaging liberties of both the Sinhalese people and the Tamil people to a scheming foreign power who covets the whole Island.

Since we are fighting....!

*From 1560 onwards
We lost our "DOMS" gradually
And now we are fighting
To win back our "DOMS" from Lanka...
"KINGDOM"!
"FREEDOM"!!*

*Since we are fighting
For our ruling rights etc.
We have been linked
With several "LINGS"
And some of them are...
"SHELLINGS"!
"KILLINGS"!!*

*As we are struggling for freedom
Lankan Government has compelled us
To live in these "CITIES"---
"SCARCITIES"!*

*As Lankan Government has cut down
The supply of this "CITY"...
Our cities and towns are in the dark
Our industries, developments etc.
Have been disturbed and destroyed
For the last several years...
"ELECTRICITY"!*

*As we are fighting for our freedom
And due to Lanka's inhuman actions
Our "ROWS" are increasing
In our home-land daily...
"SORROWS"!*

"SARAVANAS"

Three Tamils Chopped to Death

Report from Trincomalee states that three Tamils were chopped to death by the S.L. army encamped at Eachilam Patti in Muthur.

The incident occurred on Thursday, May 14.

According to the report the S. L. soldiers encamped at Eachilam Patti rounded up the villages of Verugal, Muthuchenai and Kalvedduvan and carried out a house to house search operation.

During the process of this search operation the soldiers were reported to have chopped three Tamils to death.

The deceased persons have been identified as Ganesh Sivakaran (21) of Verugal, T. Kirupan (47) of Muthur, and Kanapathipillai (45) of Sampoor.

It is learnt that last named deceased Kanapathipillai is the head master of Muthuchenai School. It is also reported that soldiers looted the houses in the area.

The report further adds that on the same day the S.L. soldiers encamped at Sampoor and Kaddaiparichan rounded up Kadarichenai, they were reported to have burnt a shop and two houses.

10 Tamil Civilians Arrested

Sri Lankan army encamped at Periyapooratheevu, Vellaveli, rounded up the villages of Thumpankerni, Ghandipuram, Navatkuda and Katchenai in the Batticaloa District on Thursday, May 14.

The Sri Lankan Army arrested ten civilians. They are K. Yogarajah (19), A. Kumarsingham (22), S. Arasaratnam (20), K. Yogarajah (27), M. Singarasa (20), T. Nanthakumar (14), M. Shanmugam

(20), N. Sundaramoorthy (18), S. Ulaganathan (24) and R. Ananthan (16).

The arrested persons were taken to the Army Camp.

K. Thavarajah (24) of Thikkodai was injured and admitted to the hospital when the army opened fire during this incident. It is also learnt that one LTTE fighter and a LTTE supporter died in this incident.

Presidential Election 1982

Writing in the issue of the "Hot Spring" of May 10, 1992 under the caption 'Jayawardene Buddhism - not Theravada Buddhism', M. Thirunavukkarasu refers to a political bargain made by J. R. Jayewardene and A. Amirthalingam and goes on to say that 'J. R. J. knew that if the Tamils voted against him in the Presidential elections of 1982, he would not be able to win. He therefore thought that if the Tamils abstained from participating in the voting he would be able to obtain more than 50% of the votes. He thus decided that his primary task was to ensure that the Tamils abstained from voting. Accordingly he entered into an understanding with the then leader of the opposition, A. Amirthalingam that the TULF should boycott the election.'

BOYCOTT

By this boycott, if J. R. J. succeeded he promised to act favourably towards A. Amirthalingam. Thus A. A. was coaxed into calling a boycott of the election. This plan helped J.R.J. and Prof. Arasaratnam has brought this into focus in one of his books says Mr. M. Thirunavukkarasu. Further he adds that statistics prove that had the Tamils voted at least for Kumar Ponnambalam, J.R.J. would not have obtained over 50% of the total votes polled in the first round....

J. R. J. hoped for his victory mainly from the Tamil people by their abstention and non-participation at the polls. In this respect, A. A. did J. R. J. a good turn."

Now one must stick to the cause the Tamil people have taken at the July 1977 elections on the mandate sought for and obtained by the TULF to restore and reconstitute the lost state of Tamil Eelam and on the basis of that overwhelming support given by the

Tamil Eelam voters one must judge A. A.'s somersaults.

"SEND ME TO MENTAL HOSPITAL"

The Tamil Eelam people gave the TULF a mandate to restore and reconstitute the lost state of Tamil Eelam. They had no desire to intervene in the internal politics of Sinhala Rata. A. A. himself had said earlier at a public

Consistently with that demand A. A. should have left Sinhala Rata also alone. It should have been immaterial for the Tamils as to who rule Sinhala Rata - UNP, SLFP or any other.

If as Mr. Thirunavukkarasu says Mr. Amirthalingam had actually boycotted the Presidential election the total votes polled would have dropped

to boycott the Presidential elections but simply stated in a press release that it was not participating in the election. No public meetings were held in Northeast to explain to the people the reasons for the intended non-participation. When the Tamil voter was perplexed whether to participate or boycott, A. A. instead of advising the voters

What did the TULF do?

Reception accorded to the TULF at Ramakrishna Hall in Colombo that he should be sent to the Mental Hospital at Angoda if he stood for any future elections held by the Sinhala state.

Consistently with his statement A. A. should have boycotted all elections held thereafter by the Sinhala state. He didn't do that. The Tamil demand was 'Leave us Alone'.

further. But A. A. not only did not call for a boycott of the Presidential election but also in a quiet way persuaded some of his supporters to vote for J. R. J. How did he do this?

VIRAKESARI PHOTOGRAPH

In the first instance the TULF did not ask the Tamils

actually deserted them by leaving for Taiwan during the election campaign. He returned a few days before the

Venthan

date of poll and appeared in a photograph with J. R. J. and S. Thondaman published in the "VIRAKESARI" on its front page two days

prior to the Presidential election. The note under the photograph stated that the management of VIRAKESARI was presenting a cheque for Rs. 60,000/- to the Jaffna Library Reconstruction Fund to the President. On either side of J. R. J. in this photograph were A. Amirthalingam and S. Thondaman.

What would have been the general impact on the Tamil voter of this 'VIRAKESARI' photograph - just two days prior to the elections? Can any one say that A. A. either boycotted the elections or did not participate in it?

It was Dr. S. A. Tharmalingam, Kovai Mahesan, Eelavenathan and others who actually campaigned for the boycott of the Presidential election and not Mr. A. or the TULF.

The TULF and its leader Amirthalingam must be condemned for not getting the Tamils to boycott the election totally for after all the election was to elect a President for Sinhala Rata.

A Vital Pledge for all on Earth

"Recognising the people's actions towards nature and each other are the source of growing damage to the environment and resources needed to meet human needs and to ensure survival and development."

I PLEDGE to act to the best of my ability to help make the Earth a secure and hospitable home for present and future generations"

The basic purpose of this Pledge campaign all over the world is to give all persons on Earth the opportunity to confirm their commitment to act to the best of their ability to help make the Earth a secure and hospitable home for present and future generations. In doing so it will call their attention to the "Earth Summit". The manifestation of awareness of the United

Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)' 01 June to 12 June 1992, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and its purpose should provide an important base of public interest in and support for participation in the Summit on the part of leaders of Governments and non-governmental organizations.

The Pledge campaign is therefore considered a vehicle for mobilizing public awareness about UNCED and for initiating a broad based popular movement in support of the Earth Summit and, ultimately, in support of the wide-ranging programme which will need to be implemented in future years, at all levels of society, to place nations and people on the path to sustainable development. This Pledge must reach as many people as possible throughout the world since the principal aim of the campaign is to elicit as many individual signatures as can be obtained.

It is proposed to initiate this campaign here with the

ceremonial signing of the Pledge by distinguished gathering on 01 June 1992, which will be followed by the signing of the general public and students continuously till 12 June 1992 inclusive, through 'Launching pads' or distribution mechanisms as suitably organised by the UN Association - Jaffna Unit (UNAJU) in collaboration with the MILKWHITE sponsored by the South - East Asia Centre for Environment and Development (SEACED).

The presence at Rio in June '92 of many Heads of state or Government will undoubtedly give considerable visibility to UNCED and add significant political weight to the decisions that it will take. However, for it to become reality, sustainable development will require, in the long run, not only policy and institutional changes by governments and national and international organizations but also, as importantly, changes in the behaviour of people in all walks of life.

We therefore sincerely welcome all on Earth - Governments, Government organizations, NGOs, Universities and Educational Institutions, and all Community Groups irrespective of

whatever political, cultural or religious affiliation, to participate and show concern in the protection of the planet and help make the Earth a secure and hospitable home for all.

- SEACED -

Six Persons Arrested in Chettikulam

S. L. Army at Chettikulam Camp moved into an adjoining village Christavakulam about five hundred yards away from the camp and arrested six civilians there.

This incident occurred on Wednesday, May 13.

Fishermen Arrested

Seven fishermen from Kadalchenai in Muthur who went to obtain permits for fishing from the S.L. army were arrested by them.

The arrested persons are T. Thavaputhalvan (17), I. Kamalanathan (22), S. Parameswaran (23), S. Jeevarajah (19), S. Thavarajah (22), M. Mathirajah (19), and M. Jesurajah (22).

This incident occurred on Tuesday, May 12.

EAST IS TAMIL

The fact that Church at Kachchaitivu was under the administration of the Jaffna Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church was taken into consideration by the Government of India and Sri Lanka and Kachchaitivu was handed over to Sri Lanka.

Trincomalee and Batticaloa Districts came under the administration of the Jaffna Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church. This establishes that the Eastern Province belongs to the Tamils and is part of the Tamil homeland. Therefore, the Sri Lanka Government should recognise the fact and accept Northeast as Tamil homeland.

Rev. D. J. Amalavanar, Bishop of Jaffna, C. S. I. speaking at the Jubilee Celebrations of Rt. Rev. Dr. Bastiampillai Deogupillai, Bishop of Jaffna.

If Scotland may go free Should Eelam have not been a fact already ?

The London Guardian (Weekly) of February 9, 1992 published an article titled 'Scotland and the state of the union.' The article quoting voting figures in Scotland saw in it the trend for Scotland to go its separate way.

The article is being reproduced to show how enlightened opinion takes seriously voting patterns.

From 1947 - 1977 there were eight parliamentary General elections held in this Island. The North and East jointly and severally voted against the Sinhala party that was elected to power at each election. Even votes for both Sinhala parties - UNP and SLFP - together reflected the fact that both parties together could not win the confidence of the Tamils. The voting figures increased a little for both Sinhala parties only as a result of Sinhala colonisation and carving out of even Sinhala electorates in the East.

The voting figures are as follows:-

Year of Elections	Party Returned to Power	Percentage of votes in NE (Tamil Eelam) polled by party elected to power
1947	UNP	11.36
1952	UNP	13.9
1956	SLFP	NIL
1960 (March)	UNP	1.8
1960 (July)	SLFP	6.3
1965	UNP	9.5
1970	SLFP	12.1
1977	UNP	17.3

In this context it is very unfortunate that the international community has not thought it fit to recognise the right of self-determination of Tamils yet. Does not the voting pattern reflect a consistent will of the Tamils for a separate polity?

Guardian Article

If by the end of the century Scotland becomes independent - and that is something no level-headed observer should now rule out - we could well look back on a poll last week for the Scotsman newspaper as one of the principal milestones along that road. According to this 50 per cent of the Scottish electorate now wants to go it alone, a 13 per cent increase since September last year; 27 per cent backs a devolved assembly within the UK (down 14 per cent since September) and 19 per cent (unchanged) would like to preserve the present system.

This is only one poll. It was taken at a time of particular turbulence, after a debate in the Usher Hall, Edinburgh, and the declaration by the Sun (in Scottish editions only) in favour of independence. There is also a big discrepancy between those who say they back independence (50 per cent) and those who would vote for the Scottish National Party in a general election tomorrow (26 per cent). One reason for that can be seen in replies on the two or three issues which voters think will weigh with them most when they vote. Forty-two per cent say unemploy-

ment and lack of industry; 36 per cent the National Health Service; 34 per cent the poll tax and local government finance; 23 per cent each, education and the economy.

Just 12 per cent, only 1 per cent more than in May 1987, say a Scottish Parliament, devolution, home rule or independence. That should, though it probably won't, dampen SNP euphoria. Even so, support for the SNP is increasing. At 26 per cent, it is 7 points up on September, and 12 points up on the last election. They have much more momentum than anyone else. And certainly of the two coalitions which took the stage at the Usher Hall, Labour and the Liberal Democrats, supporting devolution on lines thrashed out in the Scottish Convention, look to be fading while the all-or-nothing coalition (the SNP and the Tories) gains ground.

Officially there is no such coalition, no common ground between the party of independence and the party of the union. But in practical terms there is. Both are telling the Scottish people; there is no middle way. You must either stick with the present system (with tasteful minor refurbishments) or

break the link with London entirely. In so far as any logic can be detected in this strategy, it seems to be one of call-their-bluff. Offer the stark choice: all or nothing, and then, when independence becomes the front runner, start applying the frighteners.

Parade the appalling fate which awaits the Scottish people if they break the protective embrace and go out into the cold. Remind them of the subsidies in which kindly White Hall envelops them. If it comes to a referendum (and that is clearly a party of the Tory calculation) they should get the message and start backing down. But it is also an each way bet. If in the end, Conservatives may be telling themselves, the Scots vote to end the union, that might carry some advantages; a substantial saving in subsidy; the end of Scottish representation at Westminster making endless Conservative majorities look almost inevitable.

Such devilousness would at least make better sense than the present official line - the constant wooden pretence that the union is working well, when everyone knows that it isn't. Three times in 13 years the Scots have rejected Conservative government, but have got it anyway. They may soon, however they vote, get dose number four. In steadily growing numbers, they judge that unacceptable. It is no use saying, as some Conservatives do that it is simply an incidental quirk which has always been in the system. These things used not to happen. You have only to look at the figures to see how the world has changed. Through the forties and fifties, the voting pattern in England and Scotland was

Air Attack at Kaddayar Kulam

Three Sri Lankan Air force planes dropped bombs in the residential area at Kaddayar Kulam in Vavuniya on Sunday, May 17.

Report in this connection states that at about 6 a.m. and 8 a.m. on Sunday morning three S.L. Air Force planes twice dropped six or more bombs.

The bombs hit many houses which were damaged and one house was completely damaged. Helicopter also fired in this area.

uncannily close. The party which led in Scotland led in England too. It was only in the seventies that the gap opened wide. In 1966, the Conservative vote in Scotland was five points below the Conservative vote in England. In 1970 - the first post-war contest when Labour won Scotland, but the Tories won Britain that discrepancy had widened to 10 per cent. By 1979 it was 16 per cent, in the last election, a yawning 22 per cent, with Labour finishing 18 points ahead of the Tories in Scotland while in England it trailed them by 17 points. Once England and Scotland were politically one country. Today they are plainly two.

The resulting sense of injustices might have been tempered by a fairer electoral system. We might still have had elections in which England favoured one party and Scotland another, but not with such crushing results; and certainly not with consequences like the poll tax. It is frequently said in Scotland that no Scottish assembly would have sanctioned the poll tax; but no representative UK parliament would have passed it either. Yet a fourth Conservative

term would rule out the electoral reform option too, as on present evidence it would rule out every other accommodation, preferring to rest on the doctrine that Westminster Might is Right.

That is the message that is reaching voters in Scotland. It urgently needs to be changed. It is too late for the sort of imprecise hints of something a shade more acceptable some time beyond the election which was all Ian Lang, the Scottish Secretary could offer on the World At One last week. He ought for a start to abandon the line which some of his Cabinet colleagues certainly don't accept, that there can be no wider autonomy short of independence. It must surely be clear to him now that the Scots are beginning to swallow that message and to apply it in ways very different from those its authors intend. As it is, if the process now under way ends in destroying the union, then the party which says that it stands for the union will have proved to be one of the principal agents of its destruction.

Paradise....

(Continuation from Page 2)

solution is dismemberment. Oppression can't go on for ever.

If there is no appreciable change in the very near future in the present situation, it is imperative that there will be two nations Sinhala and Tamil, not in the distant future. This is indeed inevitable. Every problem has a solution. The ethnic problem in Sri Lanka, can't evade a solution. The

administrators, at least by now know where the shoe pinches. Any delay, may result in Mr. Varatharajah Perumal staging a come back to Sri Lanka - who knows he may be planted in the Presidential Chair, by our worthy neighbours, as I see no reason, why he and his aides should be harboured, at very heavy cost. How this gentleman was made a Chief Minister for North East is an open secret.

M. Kanagalingam.
Meesalai.

3 Tamils shot dead at Kathiraveli

The S.L. army men who came to clear road blocks killed 3 Tamil civilians and arrested 4 others at Kathiraveli in Batticaloa.

This incident took place on May 7th. The deceased are Selvam Paramanathan (23) of Batticaloa, Ganeshan Siva (23) of Verugal and Kirupa (32) of Kathiraveli.

The arrested persons are Kathamuthu Muthiah and his two brothers Kaliraja Rajan and Velupillai Mylvaganam.

SPORTS

Cricket

Donald Ganeshkumar Tourney reached the semi-finals stage when Centralites

(Chocs.) beat Patricians S.C. and Kokuvil C.C. beat Old Golds.

Scores:-

Centralites 287 all out
Patricians 83 all out
Kokuvil C.C. 86 for one
Old Golds 35 all out.

These matches were played at the Central College grounds on 16th and 17th respectively.

Jolly Stars Trophy

Jaffna University beat Grasshoppers in a Thirty over Cricket Match played at Jaffna Hindu College grounds on 17-5-92.

Scores:-

Jaffna University 198 for 7 in 29 overs
Grasshoppers 148 all out in 28.2 overs.

Football

Singing Fish beat their arch rivals St. Anthony's by 2-1. It was 2-0 at lemons. It was a well contested game. Mr. Sebastianpillai with Messrs Francis and Thambi-nayagam officiated.

HOT SPRING

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A Matter for World Concern

While the Government of India stunned the world by its decision to ban the LTTE, the Indian High Commissioner in Colombo through his interviews to the Colombo Press has revealed the real intents and purposes behind India's spurious action which will no doubt cause consternation among all civilised peoples in the world.

The LTTE is not an Indian organisation. It has no functions in the sub-continent. It is an organisation functioning in Tamil Eelam.

Delhi's decision to ban a political organisation functioning outside the limits of its own territory is a gross interference with the internal affairs of other countries. Delhi has violated the UN Charter. Nor is this the first time that Delhi has defied international norms.

If the New Delhi decision to ban the LTTE is unique and novel and a gross violation of international norms accepted by civilised world as governing principles of international relations. Indian High Commissioner in Colombo has issued veiled threats to the Colombo government reiterating Delhi's decision to ridicule the world.

Mr. Jha's Press interview makes it clear that the Delhi does not want the Govt. of Sri Lanka to have any discussions with the LTTE. Delhi knows fully well that she shall have no role to play in such negotiations and if happily some good results flow from such talks she shall have no opportunity to continue to control the Island's destiny through fifth columnists. Anyway the Delhi challenge is addressed to the Sri Lanka Government and we shall not venture to say how Sri Lanka would or should react.

Curiously enough while the world is aghast at Delhi's open defiance of norms of international conduct, the parties directly affected by the Indian move seem least surprised.

Already Mr. Bradman Weerakone, President Premadasa's advisor, on International Affairs, has said that the Delhi decision was not surprising. Similarly the LTTE in a statement released at Jaffna, while expressing no surprise at Delhi's decision, sees in it an attempt by the ruling class in Delhi to gird Tamil Nadu with shackles against any possible resurgence of Tamil nationalism there. Delhi's ruling coterie is a small class of the Indian people and oligarchical fear of democracy is understandable.

In any event what should be of most concern to the international community is Delhi's blatant and gross defiance of international norms.

Holy Day for Buddhist Destruction Day for Tamils

S.L. Armed Forces on Destruction Mission

On the Buddhist Holy Wesak day of May 17, the Sri Lankan Armed forces carried out indiscriminate attack on various parts of Tamil Eelam as reports indicate.

May 16 and 17 are Public Holidays in Sri Lanka. These days are considered holy days by Buddhists who believe that Lord Gautama Buddha was born on a Wesak Full Moon Day, attained Enlightenment on yet another Wesak Full Moon Day in a subsequent year and finally passed away also on a Wesak Full Moon Day after some years. Wesak is celebrated by the Sinhala Buddhists in a grand scale in Sri Lanka.

While Baudha Sinhala land was celebrating Wesak Tamil Eelam people were desperately running to save their lives when the Baudha Sinhala Army and Air Force were engaged in a campaign of destruction.

AT MARUTHANKERNY

On the morning of Sunday, May 17, Sri Lankan Air

Force bombers bombed Maruthankerny in Vadamaradchy east. Five houses were damaged. The Government Dispensary also was damaged. On the previous Thursday too Sri Lankan bombers bombed the identical areas and the incident being fresh in the memory of the residents, they all ran for safety shefters and thus escaped personal injuries but heavy damage was caused to property by the bombs.

AT VAVUNIA

At the same time Sri Lankan Air Force planes in Vavunia undertook a destruction mission journey and bombed the areas near Nöchchimoddai in Vavunia District for four hours. Helicopters of the Sri Lankan Force too were engaged in firing and rocket attack. Reports from Vavunia indicate large scale loss of property due to this attack. The report also says that the areas around Kattayarkulam in Vavunia was also subjected to aerial bombardment.

SHELL ATTACK

At the same time in Jaffna Sri Lankan Army encamped at Palaly and Mandaitivu launched artillery shell attacks from their camps. The shells exploded miles away. Some shells launched from the Palaly Army Camp exploded at Thondamannar and shells fired from Mandaitivu exploded near the Jaffna Fort and Kottady areas. No deaths were reported.

Faith Carried Us to Victory

"We kept faith with ourselves and with our allies. That faith, that Unity, have carried us to victory through dangers which at times seemed over-whelming"

Extract of a broadcast speech by His Majesty, King George VI on 8th May, 1945.

As Delhi...

(Continuation from page 1)

India has made a completely false and baseless allegation against our movement to say that we have given military training in Jaffna to some youths from Tamil Nadu and instigated divisive trends in Tamil Nadu. There is no truth in these allegations. It is the Indian Government that gave military training to many hundreds of Tamil youths, provided them with weapons and instigated violence against the Sri Lankan government. It is the Indian Government that tried to fulfil its geo-political interests by making use of the Tamil youths as pawns in a game of chess. At that time the Government of India did not consider these activities as illegal.

It is the Indian Government that interfered in the affairs of the Tamil National problem and thus in the affairs of a foreign country.

It is the Indian Government, that sent an army of aggression under the garb of a Peace Keeping Force to the Tamil homeland. It is the Indian Government, that declared war against the Liberation Tigers and thus sought to crush the national liberation struggle of the Tamils.

It is the Indian Government, that killed ten thousand innocent Tamils. In totality, therefore, it is Indian Government and more especially the Congress (I) Government of India that interfered in our domestic problem and caused far reaching effects. Having thus committed grave and historical faults against the Tamil Eelam people today the Indian Government is charging our movement with interfering in Indian affairs. This charge is mischievous.

The Delhi Government says that the Liberation Tiger movement is posing a great threat to the national security of India. There is no truth

in this. The Liberation Tigers never functioned as an anti-Indian force. At the same time the Liberation Tigers did not even think of disrupting the national unity of India.

India in fact does not fear the Tigers. India fears Tamil national consciousness and the national resurgence of the Tamils. Indian Govt. considers the Tigers and the Tiger leader Prabhakaran as the revolutionary symbol of awakening Tamil nationalism. It is for this reason that India has banned the Tiger movement and is endeavouring to taint the Tiger leader, Mr. Prabhakaran.

The Delhi ruling class believes that it can frustrate the gestating Tamil nationalism in Tamil Nadu by banning the Tiger movement which is a Tamil Nationalist liberation movement functioning in a neighbouring land. Therefore this ban on the Tigers has to be construed as shackles imposed on the national consciousness and national resurgence of the Tamils of Tamil Nadu. The responsibility to break these shackles rests with the people of Tamil Nadu.

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EIGHT S. L. ARMY MEN KILLED

Arms & Ammunition Recovered

In two separate attacks the LTTE carried out - one at Naruvilikulam in the Mannar District and the other at Manal Aru the LTTE killed eight S. L. soldiers and recovered their weapons and a large quantity of ammunition and other military ware.

The news report says that the LTTE attacked a group of Sri Lankan soldiers at 5.30 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, the LTTE captured a S. L. army

21 near Naruvilikulam and killed 6 army men. Others who numbered 11 were injured and ran back to the camp. The LTTE recovered lot of arms, ammunition and other military ware. There was no casualty on the Tiger side.

In another lightning strike carried out by the LTTE at Manal Aru also at 5.50 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, the LTTE captured a S. L. army

sentry point. The sentry point was between Ceylon Theatre S. L. Army Camp and Munthirikaikulam S. L. Army Camp.

In this attack which lasted only for two minutes, two S. L. soldiers were killed and many weapons, ammunitions and other military ware recovered by the LTTE. Other S. L. soldiers at the Sentry escaped to camp with injuries.

Two LTTE fighters died in this attack.