

LAKE HOUSE CONFESSES

Typical behaviour of Sinhala Parties - Destroy Peace Processes

"Isn't Mrs. Bandaranaike caving into the pressures of the radical communalists within her party? Hasn't this been the typical behaviour of the Sinhala parties each time some solution is seen in the horizon, however distant it may be? Will the rivalries of the Sinhala parties destroy the peace process again?"

From Editorial : Sunday Observer, May 31, 1992

Mass Demonstration of Students in Jaffna

Emotional Protest

Against Discrimination

Thousands of students marched through the streets of Jaffna protesting against the announcement made by Higher Education Minister, A. C. S. Hameed that he had decided that the G.C.E (A/L) examination of August 1990 and the special examination of that year for the Northeast held in April 1991 should be treated as two separate examinations. The demonstrating students handed over memoranda to the Government Agent, Jaffna and the ICRC team in Jaffna to be forwarded to the President.

The procession was very long and orderly, the students carrying placards and bann-

ers. They also shouted demands emotionally calling upon the Government to give up its new standardisation policy which would adversely affect the already affected students of Northeast.

It took one hour for the procession to pass a given point.

The demonstrators pointed out that the new scheme announced by the Minister would mean the introduction of a district quota within the merit quota and the indirect reintroduction of standardisation which the Government claims it has abandoned. If the Minister's decision is implemented a drop in intake of students

from Northeast is bound to occur.

The demonstrators also pointed out that the Minister's decision contravenes the rule made by University Grants Commission that any number of examinations held for an year will be treated as one examination for purposes of selecting students for admission to Universities.

The students also pointed out that having held the examination on the rules laid down by the University Grants Commission, the Minister is now laying down rules long after the examinations and even after the answer scripts have been marked and processed.

The students also out pointed that two examinations were held in 1979 because of disruptions in the south but the two examinations were considered one for purposes of admission. Why should Northeast students be treated differently? This is a dear case of discrimination.

The demonstrators demanded that the Minister review his decision and refrain from discriminate actions towards the students in the Northeast.

It is also learnt that Action Committee consisting of students, parents and teachers have been formed to take all possible action to get the Minister rescind his decision.

Major Alagan Dead



Major ALAGAN of the LTTE attained martyrdom on Monday 29 - 6 - 92 at Kattakadu battle front. Thousands surged to pay homage to the killed hero.

MILITARY OFFENSIVE

Heavy Toll of Civilians & Civilian Property

Offensive military operations were launched by the combined forces of the Sri Lankan Govt. on May 28, 1992 allegedly to conquer the Tigers. We reported in our issue of May 31 - the death and destruction caused to civilians at Valvettiturai and Valalai areas. The offensive continues and heavy civilian casualties and destruction of property have been caused. Here are some further news in brief.

At Mathagal a man named Packiarajah (58) suffered injuries when two Sri Lankan bombers dropped 3 bomb in the coastal areas May 28. Packiarajah's house was also heavily damaged.

Five members of one refugee family at a Mallakam Refugee camp and two others there died when a Sri Lankan Artillery shell hit the refugee camp. M. Maheswary (22) her son Uthayakumar (04),

her mother Seethathevi (60), Sellan (50) and his sister Neela (30) - all members of one family died on the spot. Only Maheswary's husband escaped death in the family. Another two persons, a girl named Amuthayini (16) and a man named Ratnam (85) also died. This happened on May 30.

In the bomber attack that took place the same day a private dispensary at Chunnakam, shops and houses were damaged. A mini-van carrying injured persons was also chased by bombers and bombed. Two persons suffered injuries and the Inuvil Hospital near which the van was bombed also was damaged. Over 30 civilians were injured in the day long attack and admitted to hospitals.

Bombers also bombed the co-operative Hospital at Tellippalai and the Tellippalai

Govt. Hospital. Bombing also took place extensively in many other villages of Valikamam North. It is learnt that nine persons died and over 20 were injured.

Artillery shell attack was launched on the Jaffna town also on May 31 from the S. L. Army Camp at Mandativu. And nine persons suffered injuries apart from damage to property.

The month of June began with Sri Lankan bombers bombing Pannalai in Valikamam North, on the morning of June 1, resulting in five houses belonging to civilians being damaged. Firing was resorted to in this area from helicopter gunship.

Reports from Mullaitivu said that are large number of houses had been damaged due to aerial bombardment, artillery shell attack and cannon fire from Navy in the villages of Alampil, Silawattai, Chem-

malai, Uduppukulam and Thenagar and that the people of these areas had abandoned their homes and taken refuge elsewhere. The Sri Lankan Army is reported to have burnt down many huts of poor residents of the village of Alampil.

In Valvettiturai - Athikovil was damaged by cannon fire from Naval ships. Fishing boats were also damaged.

At Alaveddy a woman was injured when the Sri Lankan Army launched shell attacks towards Alaveddy, Pannalai and many other villages in Valikamam North.

Reports from Mullaitivu stated that the Sri Lankan Army launched heavy shell attack on villages abandoned by civilians due to war operations after the operation was called off and people started returning to their villages.

An employee of the Cement Factory at Kankesanthurai was shot dead by the Army when he went to remove his belongings from his house at Tellippalai.

Two fishermen died when Sri Lankan Navy shot at fishermen fishing in the Jaffna lagoon.

Five persons died and over 15 were seriously injured when Sri Lankan Air Force planes bombed Tellippalai, Sandilipay and Pannalai areas on June 10. Of the dead 4 belonged to the same family - husband, wife, daughter and nephew. Another woman died at Sandilipay. A number of children were also injured here.

Sri Lankan Air Force planes again attacked many villages in Valikamam North. Five persons died and over fifty persons were reported injured.

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Prime Minister Narasimha Rao stated earlier that it was fate that resulted in the death of Rajiv Gandhi by a woman functioning as a human bomb. She was raped by the Indian Peace Keeping Force and the determined and courageous woman planned and established sufficient contacts with Rajiv Gandhi's own Congress Stalwarts to be able to wreak vengeance on Rajiv Gandhi. It is meaningful suicide. Justice Verman, who sits as a One-man Commission has stated from the bench that the Congress Stalwarts in Tamil Nadu were not unaware of the risk to Rajiv Gandhi's life. Thanu the human bomb, it is now reported got down from a car belonging to an Indian Congress M. P., when all went to garland Rajiv Gandhi. Then how does Prabhakaran come into the picture? It is, if Thanu's story is true at all, nothing but the vengeance of a courageous and determined woman who was un-

pardonably wronged by Rajiv Gandhi's servants and agents.

A curious legal position is created. Pirabakaran is charged only with the offence of having conspired to murder

the murderer is not an accused. There can be only a conspiracy to murder charge. But this conspiracy took place in Sri Lanka according to Indian Police Intelligence. Hence the case should be in the Courts of Sri Lanka that X, Y, Z did conspire to mur-

Queen Victoria used to make much fuss before she signed the various enactments and other documents which she as the monarch had to sign. Gladstone then Prime Minister found this a difficult task. In fact Queen Victoria had said that Gladstone

was very fond of her husband who made her alternate between confinement and maternity in her life and Disraeli took care to make glowing but irrelevant references to the Prince Consort in the numerous public speeches which she had to make in her capacity as Queen. Disraeli had no difficulty in dealing with Queen Victoria because Disraeli treated Queen Victoria in the correct manner. Cannot Prime Minister Narasimha Rao create and confer on Jayelalitha some empty decorations of which she could feel proud?

Pressmen now refer to Jayelalitha as M/s Jayalalitha. Cannot Narasimha Rao create a new decoration, if necessary and confer it on her so that everybody will refer to her, as say 'Padma Bhushani Jayalalitha?' Narasimha Rao must learn to handle Jayelalitha by catering to her vanity.

Musings by Nestor

Rajiv Gandhi. The actual murderer is no longer alive for a case of murder. Since the actual murderer is not available, the indictment is only one of conspiring to murder. There can be no charge of murder because

der Rajiv Gandhi. Indian authorities should file the conspiracy case in the Courts of Sri Lanka or in some International Court, if there is such a Court.

lectured to her as if he were addressing Parliament. But Disraeli treated Queen Victoria just as a woman, Disraeli once suggested that her title be lengthened to read "Queen Victoria and Empress of India". Queen Victoria

OUR READERS SAY

We pity India - India's Nightmare

India wants the Sri Lankan Govt. to nab Prabhakaran and deport him to India. India must know that Prabhakaran is not on the street or in Sri Lankan Jails.

Mr. Bradman Weerakoon, President Premadasa's advisor on International Affairs seems to have made a statement that Prabhakaran would be deported to India only if and when he is caught.

India has not realized the sanctity and purity attached to the L.T.T.E. Freedom Movement. India must know that no member of the L.T.T.E. can be caught alive. The identification symbol of the L.T.T.E. is cyanide tied round their necks thus symbolising and signifying the stark fact that they are always ready to die for their cause. That there exists a special unit in the L.T.T.E. styled 'suicide squad' merits mention.

They are fighting for a cause. They are determined to die for their cause. They remain true and faithful to their ideals and principles. They stand unparalleled, unprecedented. They are not working to look after a family or to maintain life. They give up everything - their pleasures, pastimes. They depart from - desert their sweet homes - they desert their kith and kin, dear ones and near ones. Theirs

is a case of self sacrifice with devotion and dedication.

We pity India - India is toying with the childish idea of nabbing Prabhakaran alive. India had not realized the truth. It's India's daydream - it's its nightmare.

Yours faithfully
S. Sabasubramaniam
Mullaitivu.

Are We in Hell or Heaven?

I am a retired teacher, leading a peaceful life, all my children are well settled and my husband is a pensioner, an amiable angel. Our only desire is to have a peaceful death in the soil of our birth and to be reduced to ashes.

We are both law abiding and we are not a source of worry to anybody under the sun. Since the arrival of the Indian Army - October 1987, we are undergoing very many hardships in various ways. After June 1990 the Sri Lankan armed forces landed in the North and East, and the atrocities committed by them, in these areas, are beyond expression. Murder, arson, rape and all the sins under the sun are being committed by them and there is none to complain or to seek redress. When all these atrocities are being done by the Government, we can only lodge our complaint to the All Powerful - God. The Sinhalese Government wants the Tamils

to consider them, as the rulers. Freedom was granted to them and to the Tamils. This wrong impression has been imparted to the Sinhalese and they now refuse to agree that the Tamils too are entitled to the freedom obtained.

It is a pity that there isn't a Tamil or Sinhalese politician in the Parliament to protest or prevent the most cruel action of the present Government. We are ordinary people, leading a humble and simple life. What crime did we commit to deserve bombing and shelling at odd hours, disturbing, killing and causing damage to our houses and so on. Action of this nature was not resorted to by the Government, to suppress the activities of the J.V.P. Are the Tamils not sons of the soil? Why is this difference in approach and action?

Late Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranayake brought the Sinhala only bill, just to become the Prime Minister. This not only ruined the island but ruined him as well.

The present day leaders should realise that several lives are being lost, and millions are being wasted daily by the meaningless war. When will the powers that be, realise this?

Meesalaiyal
Meesalai.

President's Veto

Dear Mr. Editor,

I was surprised that President Premadasa had vetoed the proposal to merge the

Northern and Eastern Provinces, in any solution to the ethnic problem. I do not know why he waited so long and also wasted time and money on the All Party Conference, the Parliamentary Select Committee etc. and given hope when he could have made this announcement much earlier. Besides, these provinces stand already merged, but he has bluntly announced there cannot be any merger because of something mentioned in the UNP election manifesto. I wish to ask him whether the Tamils and Muslims are bound by the manifesto of a Party, oriented to the Sinhala-Buddhist cause?

The Tamils whatever their internal conflict have in one voice told him that amalgamation is the most important component of any settlement. I wonder what they have to lose by allowing a North Eastern Province. His idea is that of those who do not mean well by the Tamils and

wish to keep them weak and divided. Though he says this is the most opportune time to end the conflict, there will be no solution without merger and no peace without talking to the LTTE.

I am sorry that people like President Premadasa, J. R. Jayewardene, Mrs. Bandaranaike etc. have not yet seen the writing on the wall. Whether in the former Super power, the Soviet Union, then Yugoslavia, now Czechoslovakia and God only knows where next, the long suppressed ethnic groups have managed to break free of their communal majority rule and become a free and independent people. Surely the Tamils hailing from strong ethnic background are not going to be left behind by these world shaking events.

R. L. Thevathasan
Erlalai South,

Sinhala Admiral's Admiration For Jayalalitha

"Indian support has gone to a great extent to clear the South Indian coastline from Tiger terrorist operations. Both Ms. Jayalalitha's government and the Indian Navy are taking a hardline and increased the patrolling the South Indian coastline to check the LTTE activity across the Palk Strait. Tigers are our mutual enemy. With mutual co-operation we will be able to seal the Palk Straits totally,

Ms Jayalalitha is going all out against the LTTE. Her stand is supplementing our efforts. Her stance is very positive."

Vice Admiral Clancy Fernando, Commander of the Sri Lankan Navy - quoted in Sunday Observer - June 14, 1992.

TELLIPALAI TEMPLE ATTACK:**Unprovoked, Intentional & Destructive****Management Authority Releases Report**

Sri Durga Devi Devasthanam (Managing Authority) has released a report on the bombing at Tellipalai Durgai Amman Temple on 31-5-1992. We give below the report in full:-

The Devasthanam (the Managing Authority), of the Sri Durga Devi Temple wishes to notify that the Temple premises had been subjected to aerial attacks on 31-5-92 between 12-15 p.m. and 12-45 p.m. causing death and destruction.

The attack consisted of:-

1. a grenade throw from a helicopter on a parked

2500 Persons had converged in the temple for safety when it was bombed.

Government Hospital Ambulance vehicle gifted by U. N. H. C. R.

2. Four bombings by the regular bomber aircraft and

3. One barrel bomb from an Avro aircraft.

This temple runs a Children's Home consisting of 67 children. This home has a staff of six persons. Six elderly persons also come under its care. It has a regular temple staff residing within the temple complex.

Besides these permanent residents, the temple has been providing accommodation for 116 displaced refugee families since June, 1990. To add to these, there were persons who had come into the temple premises for safety, persons displaced by the security operations of 30th and 31st May, 1992. In all there were about 2500 persons at the time the incident took place.

Such a vast number was gathered there because this temple has been considered a haven from these types of attacks. On S. L. R. C. and I. C. R. C. instructions, the temple had been flying on the top of the temple tower and at three other prominent places the flag internationally specified to be flown on the top of religious buildings.

The people were taken completely unawares by the bombing. Three died on the spot and three on admission at the Teaching Hospital, Jaffna. About twenty five had been badly injured and about 100 suffered minor injuries.

These bombings have caused destruction to the

- (1) Vasantha Mandapam (the Assembly Hall inside the Temple)

- (2) The Hall, situated on the south eastern side - The Thirumurai Mandapam (the Hall for chanting of Hymns) which houses the office of the President of the Board of

Management, SivaThamil Selvi Thangammah Appacuddy.

There had been also damages caused to the residences

of the temple staff - those of the Chief Priest and one of his assistants.

We are right now, unable to quantify in money terms the damage caused.

Government Hospital Ambulance donated by UNHCR attacked from helicopter.

The worst shock has been that this temple which has been known throughout the North and in the entire Island for its exemplary and pioneer community services had been singled out for such a devastating aerial attack. This has disrupted the community life of the village and has created a great sense of dismay in the hearts of its devotees living in all parts of the country and wherever Sri Lankan Hindu Tamils have migrated.

The attack had been unprovoked and intentionally destructive.

The temple authorities have every reason to believe, that the Government itself is aware of the work of the temple, through the Red Cross Organisations and the state net - work.

It was the confidence that the people had in this temple, the unshakable belief they

had that such a prominent temple will never be attacked, as it had been the case for so long, that prompted the people to seek safety and shelter within the temple premises.

The destruction caused has disrupted life in the temple. We are unable to keep the

Four bombs thrown by bombers. One barrel bomb thrown by Avro plane.

children there and to continue the various community and social services the temple has been running.

A religious centre of such eminence should not be subjected to purposive attacks.

The temple authorities are grieved over the incident. It wishes to urge that suitable action is taken to inquire how such wanton damage can be caused to unsuspecting believers.

We request the I. C. R. C. to take immediate action to declare this as a "safety area" in view of its sacredness and sanctity.

We wish to appeal to the devotees to remain calm and continue to place faith in Durga Ambal, the great

upholder of Dharma and Justice.

Siva Thamil Selvi Thangammah Appacuddy
President

Tall Claims - False Facts**HOW WILL SINHALA CHAUVINISM REACT?**

"A simple gazette notification issued on March, 26, 1992 by President Premadasa, the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces abolished the old Joint Operations Council and established a triumvirate consisting of the Commanders of each of the three armed forces.

The triumvirate planned and co-ordinated all operations, North and East were combined as one single theatre of war.

Within ten minutes of taking off from an air base in the South the two F-7 jets of the Sri Lanka Air Force were firing from the skies of Jaffna. They were over their targets sharp on scheduled time.

Time 6. a. m.

Date May 28, 1992.

Operation Chanda maruthaya in the North and Operation Sath Bala in the East, launched simultaneously by the three forces, were hitting the LTTE targets as planned..."

The above are culled out from a feature article by veteran journalist H. L. D. Mahindapala dramatically presented to the readers of Sunday Observer of June 14.

I am in Jaffna. I see Jaffna from the ground. When Operation Chanda maruthaya started Valvettiturai was devastated.

Apart from destruction of temples, schools and other public and private buildings nine civilians were killed in Valvettiturai. All the nine were non-combatants. In fact one was an eight month old infant. I have yet to know of the death of any Tiger in Valvettiturai on May 28, 1992. The LTTE usually announces death of its cadres. But up to date, the LTTE has not said that even one of its men died at Valvettiturai despite Sri Lankan claims that the forces attacked with precision LTTE targets on May 28.

I suppose the nine non-combatants - including the 8 month old infant would be accounted as killed Tigers by the Sri Lankan Army.

The LTTE announced the death of nine cadres on May 28 but at another theatre of war - Valikamam East. According to news the Army tried to move through villages in Valikamam East to Thondamannar. The LTTE repulsed the move destroying two armoured vehicles of Sri Lankan Army. The Tigers estimated Sri Lankan Army death toll to be ten. As I have not read anywhere the Government's own figures of their dead soldiers in Valikamam East I am inclined to think that the Tiger estimate is very nearly correct. They have stated their own death toll is nine.

Another tall claim made by the Army is the killing of 300 - 400 Tigers at Tellipalai in a three day battle there beginning from 30.5.92. The LTTE said that 8 of their men died at Tellipalai on 30.5.92. On 31.5.92 three LTTE men died. The LTTE estimated over 15 deaths amongst the Sri Lankan soldiers. But 23 civilians died! They were in their

houses or refugee camps or at the Durgai Amman temple. The actual casualty figures of the Sri Lankan Army at Tellipalai is not known. But the Govt. acknowledged the death of 67 of their men including two officers in the three day battle beginning on May 28.

So be it at Valvettiturai or Tellipalai the larger number dead are civilians but something else is being told to the public outside Jaffna.

As my thoughts wandered over the feats of the Sri Lankan Goebels, I was startled into another serious thought - how far will the 'triumvirate' decision to combine the North East as one theatre of war come into conflict with the Baudha - Sinhala chauvinists' vow to demerge the North East - Or will the Baudha - Sinhala chauvinists consent to combining North and East for purposes of destruction but only oppose it, if it were for construction?

Doubting Toms - Beware!

Tamil Eelam is viable even economically

Research Organisation of Tamil Eelam reveals facts and figures on Food production and Agricultural Prospects.

Recently the Research Organisation of Tamil Eelam released a booklet setting out a statistical review of the resources of North Tamil Eelam, the prospects and perspectives. Even though it could not produce a similar survey of the South Tamil Eelam due to the present war situation, an overall picture of North and South Eelam could be gathered and grasped from this booklet.

The title of the booklet is "Our Food Requirements and Production Targets". The release of the booklet took place at "Kailasapathy Hall" at the Jaffna University on 17-06 92 at 3-00 p. m.

Prominent members of the LTTE leadership including Ilankumaran and Yogaratnam Yogi participated at the ceremony. Leading University personalities, Agricultural scientists, Planning authorities and Social workers too were present at this meeting. The meeting as a whole reflected the desire and the will of the people to overcome any obstacles which are in the way of resurrection and emancipation of the economy of Tamil Eelam.

The booklet commences with a note by Dr. S. K. Natchinatkiniyan emphasising the necessity for researches of this nature.

The introduction to this booklet states that Tamil Eelam is possessed of fertile land, abundance of palmyrah, mineral deposits and immense fishing and oceanic wealth. On account of military activities large stretches of land remain uncultivated and other productive ventures abandoned. The declaration by Government of war zones in the sea, army camps along the coastal areas and naval patrolling of the sea around, have restricted and retarded the economic growth of Tamil Eelam. Hence the military activities by the LTTE against the invaders.

The booklet gives a vivid picture of the population in Tamil Eelam. These figures have been extracted from the Census Report of Sri Lanka of 1981. Calculated on the basis of average annual rate of increase, it is estimated that there is at the moment a population of 18 lakhs.

Similarly, taking into consideration the number of people displaced and who have been forced out of their homes, it is estimated that the population of North Tamil Eelam, is around 12,80,000.

As rice is the main staple food of the Tamils, paddy takes pride of place in the Tamil man's life. Out of the entire production of paddy in Sri Lanka, 33% is produced in Tamil Eelam. Annual paddy production in Tamil Eelam is more than sufficient for our needs. Owing to military operations, however, thousands of acres of paddy lands remain uncultivated. In spite of these activities, in North Tamil Eelam itself there is an excess production of rice by 8,600 metric tons, according to the table found in this booklet. This figure is, not taking into account the paddy production in the South Tamil Eelam which was once the granary of the East.

This booklet also speaks about the use and value of

other subsidiary crops. It also emphasises the vast potentialities of the palmyrah and its products. The authors exhort the people to change their pattern of food consumption to suit the war situation and rely mostly on products made out of palmyrah and other subsidiary crops.

According to a table published in this booklet, 56.6% of Sri Lanka's fish production is from Tamil Eelam. These figures have been taken from the Statistical Abstract 1985, 1991 prepared by the Sri Lanka Department of Census and Statistics. Restrictions on fishing due to military activities have resulted in its drop in recent years. This has its chain reactions like unemployment, rise in the price of fish and heavy demand for meat etc.

The booklet shows that in 1983 the production of fish in Tamil Eelam was 104,320 metric tons. This was drastically reduced to 51,996 metric tons in 1990.

The booklet laments the loss of production of milk

(Continued on Page 5)

Thursday, the 11th of June 1992, was just like another "normal" day in this part of our Tamil homeland. I woke up early in the morning with the sound of loud explosions from the direction of the Palaly Army Camp. The only difference was that to-day my home town, a beautiful town by the sea side in Vadammarachy was not the target of the bombings. From the sound of the bombings I knew that the army was on a bombing spree somewhere north west of Tellippalai. I could see the bombers and helicopters covering a wider area and occasionally flying over Vadammarachy area too.

As my kerosene oil fueled motor cycle was left in a garage in Jaffna Town for repairs, I arranged with a friend to give me a lift in his motor cycle to Jaffna. My wife saw me off with her usual look of concern in her face. During the frequent attacks on our town she and our pet dog are the first ones to reach our underground shelter and last ones to emerge there from! It was only a week earlier that our Town was subjected to the usual terror bombing by our Sinhala Masters using even their newly acquired SuperSonic bombers. In that attack over nine civilians were killed including a brother and a sister; a husband and wife, and an eight months old infant.

As I travelled along the road, I noticed the usual large

number of people moving about, ignoring the much publicised curfew imposed by the Sri Lankan Government in the entire northern region. Shops and markets were open. Schools were functioning, farmers were busy attending to their work in the open farmlands all along side the road up to Jaffna town. Cyclists and pedestrians were moving about without bothering about the bombers intent on disrupting their activities and causing damage to life

have mobilised themselves fully to liberate their homeland. These people do not show any signs of being bothered by the loud reverberating sounds of the bombings. They are not interested in fleeing to foreign lands as refugees and living as second class citizens in an alien land. They are displaying remarkable courage and determination to live in their homeland, despite danger, and fight the aggressor who is trying to keep them in subjugation as

Tamils by a racist Sri Lankan Government is somewhat similar to a bull fight where an enraged bull with all its superior strength charges and charges until it exhausts itself and is finally killed.

As I approached Nallur Temple area I noticed groups of ladies in colourful sarees and men and children well dressed going about and realised that the day was an auspicious day and all these

owner's brother's family that got killed at Tellipalai the previous day when the Sri Lankan Air Force planes bombed a house in the vicinity of Thurkai Amman Temple.

I recollected reading in the morning papers how an entire family got killed when the Sri Lankan bombers bombed houses close to Tellipalai Amman Temple and that their badly mutilated bodies were collected from the debris of the bombed out house. This is typical of the arrogant and obnoxious behaviour of the Sri Lankan Armed Forces. It was only a week earlier that the Sri Lankan planes bombed the Tellipalai Thurkai Amman Temple and all the religious leaders and people protested and staged a mass demonstration against this uncivilised act. Instead of restraining their barbarous behaviour the Sri Lankan Air force had displayed its scorn and conceit by again bombing the temple locality. I felt that the down fall of the oppressive Sinhala hegemony was close at hand. The ground realities of the valient and well organised armed resistance that is being waged by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam with the entire Tamil Nation supporting them adds to my credence.

A Page from My Diary

and property. Seated on the pillion of the motor cycle I watched the serene faces of the school children, the seriousness of the farmers in their work, the determination of those males and females both young and old cycling long distances, the truck loads of armed liberation fighters passing by and I could not help admiring the courage and sense of purpose of the Eelam Tamils and feel proud about it. The entire Tamil Nation seems to

second class citizens in their own homeland. Lack of electricity or transport or medicines have not deterred them. All the terror tactics of the oppressor have only increased their determination

S. Selvarajah

to endure the hardships heaped on them and set about with determination to defeat the enemy. In a way the present unjust and stupid war that is being waged on the

people were going to attend weddings in the backdrop of the bombing sounds. I reached my garage where I left my motor cycle for repairs and was taken aback to see the whole place deserted. I remarked to my friend whether this is the only place where the Sri Lankans curfew is being observed. We were startled by the feeble voice of an old man seated somewhere in the compound who told us that it was the garage

COLOMBO POLITICS

To a question put to her in the interview published in the Sunday Times of 21.6.92, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranayake has pointed out that Pirabakaran should be handed over to India. When pointed out that Pirabakaran is a Sri Lankan, she had come out with the idea that first we should ask the State to capture him. After bringing him to Colombo, the question of handing him or not, could be considered. One wonders whether she is in Sri Lanka or in the United States of America, the only country which uses its super-power military might to extradite any person it wants from any country to try in its own Courts. Sri Lanka has not yet attained that stature or 'Super-power policeman of the world' status. Sirimavo seems to have short memories. She had forgotten the agonies her son underwent, when he went in search of the Tigers in the jungles of Wanni to canvass support at the Election in 1989. Even there he was not able to meet Pirabakaran. He had to be satisfied with meeting only the other leaders. She now says that if she were in power, she would hand over Pirabakaran to India. Does she not know the ground realities and realities of life? This explains why she is unable to come to power for the last fifteen years. Some people live in the air. It is said that maturity brings wisdom but here it looks, as if it is the reverse. Probably she thinks that President Premadasa is not handing over Pirabakaran to India out of love for him. He is wise. The moment he crows down to the request of India, he will be scorned by the Sinhalese. It is not that the Sinhalese love Pirabakaran. It is the inborn hatred of the Sinhalese against India. The most important aspect is that first Pirabakaran should be apprehended. Can the Government or Sirimavo or for that matter anyone else in the world achieve this?

Extradition

One can excuse Mrs. Bandaranayake but not Tamils like Kumar Ponnampalam who are analysing and dissecting the law of extradition to find out the possibilities and probabilities of the extradition of Pirabakaran. Kumar Ponnampalam has asked for an opinion on this matter from Lawyer A. H. Ameen. He too has

obliged by publishing his opinion in the Sunday Times.

President's Counsel

Motilal Nehru too has entered the fray. One can only laugh at their exercise in the abstract. These gentlemen very well know the ground situation, the terrain where fighting is going on, the strength and moral determination of the Tigers and the inefficiency of the Armed Forces. Surely they are not fooled by false reports in the Colombo newspapers which say that every day hundreds of LTTE cadres are being killed, and that second rank

Thiagarajah

Tiger cadres have been wiped out etc? Do they by this exercise want to show the government and the Sinhalese people that at heart they also want Pirabakaran to be apprehended and handed over to India?

Moderates see stars

But these gentlemen who must have had some hope about President Premadasa have now learnt a bitter lesson. They have come to know his real character. It is not too long ago that Motilal Nehru said that President Premadasa would rise to the occasion and even at the sacrifice of his Presidency, bring about a settlement of the ethnic conflict. No doubt this must have been told to Nehru by

Premadasa. These moderates must have been deceived by the religious pose President Premadasa gives to the outside world. At the recent meeting he held with the Tamil Groups who are in Colombo, he showed his true colours. At least now these 'moderates' should give up their moderation, reject the groups that lick the boots of the governments of India and Sri Lanka and take a firm stand on the side of those who are genuinely fighting for the cause of the Tamils.

Treachery

The weakness and the treachery of the Tamil groups in Colombo and the damage they are doing to the cause of the Tamils is very well manifested in a speech made in Parliament recently by the SLFP member of Parliament K. B. Ratnayake. Ratnayake knows Tamil and the Tamils. With tongue in his cheek he projects the Tamil groups in Colombo as the real representatives of the Tamils. At the same time he laments the fact they are adamant about their demands, consistently playing the same record. He says that while the two major parties, referring to the UNP and SLFP, are attempting seriously to bring about a settlement of the ethnic problem, the Tamil groups are not serious and are adamant about their demands.

This, he says, in spite of the fact that both these parties have not even submitted their proposals for the settlement of the ethnic problem to the Parliamentary Select Committee. This attitude shows that both the UNP and SLFP are basically one in denying the just demands of the Tamils. This speech, at least, will make the Tamils understand the treachery the Tamil groups in Colombo are doing to the cause of the Tamils. These traitors live by betrayal and for betrayal. Ratnayake's comments also indirectly mean that it is just on the part of the Sinhalese to be adamant in denying the just demands of the Tamils and that it is unjust on the part of the Tamils to fight for their just demands.

"Other Parties"

The latest joke is that these Tamil groups in Colombo are having talks with the "Other political parties." They are, first, the SLFP, the party which brought in the 'Sinhala Only' Act; Second, the LSSP and the Moscow wing Communist Party. These parties took the 'Massalai Vadai' line, when it suited them. They were also participants in making Tamils, Second Class citizens by voting for the Colvin R. De Silva Constitution of 1972; the Third is the party of the son of Philip Gunawardene. They are now advocating

the standardization of the Tamil A/E Students and want to decrease the intake of Tamil students to the Universities. Do these Tamil groups in Colombo believe that these chauvinistic parties will agree to the just demands of the Tamils? Whom are these people trying to hoodwink? They are only hoodwinking themselves and seeking political annihilation.

While the Tamil Groups in Colombo are speaking of 'talks', the Sinhalese (UNP, SLFP, LSSP, CP & MEP) posing to the outside world that they are attempting seriously to bring about a settlement of the ethnic issue, armed forces are besieging the Jaffna Peninsula. Troops, tanks, ships are converged to launch an attack on the Peninsula. It could be a simultaneous attack on several fronts. No doubt, the Tigers are there to repulse and fight back. What are Tamil people going to do? Are they going to stand and stare? It is the duty of every Tamil to join the fight in whatever possible way. Tigers have only their lives to lose. But the Tamils have their lives, property and their lands to lose. They cannot afford to lose all these. Therefore the only alternative is to join the fight alongside the Tigers. It is also not too late for the Tamils living outside the North and East to shed their malingering and double-tongued tactics and openly support the 'boys'. They need not wait and hope that a peaceful settlement will be ushered in by the peace-loving Premadasa or by any Sinhalese parties.

FOUR DAYS MILITARY OPERATIONS

12000 Families Rendered Refugees

Sri Lanka's Armed Forces made another attempt at conquest of Jaffna. A thoroughly planned operation code named "Operation Whirlwind" was launched on May 28, 1992 with the Super Sonic Jets and newly purchased tanks and other armoured vehicles put into action.

The operations apparently were launched to conquer greater Tamil Eelam territory.

In the first phase the operations started with the air bombardment of Valvettiturai and suburbs and was soon followed by a move by the Army to capture more territory in the Valikamam East Division adjoining Palaly Army Camp. The Tigers resisted the Army move and after fierce battling the

Army which moved forward retreated to its position.

The war deceitfully described by President Premadasa and his government as a 'war against the LTTE and not against the Tamil people' does, however, leave more Tamil civilians affected than the belligerents themselves! Operation Whirlwind is no exception to this general rule.

The reason is obvious. The Sri Lankan Armed Forces are keen to attack Tamil civilian targets. The Sri Lankan Air Force is singularly unique in destroying civilian property. Schools, hospitals, temples and churches seem to Sri Lanka Air Force men as Tiger Camps. There is also the other deadly weapon called the artillery shell which is fired from the security of the Sri Lankan

Army Camps towards any place it may go. The artillery shells have no targets. In a densely populated place like the Jaffna peninsula they rarely fail to cause the death or destruction of civilian person and property.

"Operation Whirlwind" had another source of support - cannon fire from Naval ships anchored in the seas. Obviously they too had no targets, and the volley of their fire too helps in the destruction of the Tamil people and their properties.

In phase I of 'Operation Whirlwind' which was under taken in Valikamam East - the Army is where it was originally but has succeeded in rendering people of the villages of Paththamant, Kathiripai, Idaikadu, Valalai and Thampalai homeless,

According to the Tamil Refugees' Organisation (TRO) an N.G.O doing relief work, 2000 families from these

(Continued on Page 6)

Doubting..

(Continuation from Page 4)

also due to military operations, economic blockade, non-supply of electricity, lack of facilities for refrigeration, sterilization etc. The position is the same in regard to livestock too. These are areas which should be given preference and encouragement.

Taken as a whole, the booklet gives a vivid picture of existing resources and the possibility for a self-sufficient economy. What is needed is will-power and financial help from those who can afford and want a self-sufficient and economically viable Tamil Eelam.

HOT SPRING

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Discrimination in University Admission

It is regrettable that once again the Government of Sri Lanka has decided to rob the Tamil students of even the meagre doles in the matter of admissions to Universities.

There was a time when students were admitted to Universities on the basis of merit.

In the seventies Mr. Badudin Mahmud, as Minister of Education in the ULF government headed by Mrs. Bandaranayake decided to take away the chances of Tamil students getting selected for admission to universities on the basis of their merit. This robbery was termed 'standardisation.'

The method of selecting students by way of 'standardisation' came in for high criticism from Tamils. Tamil students who had put in hard work were frustrated. A number of books and articles have appeared since then attributing Tamil students' militancy as flowing directly from 'standardisation.'

After Mr. Jeyawardhene came to power he brought some amendments to the scheme of admission. 'Standardisation' was not abandoned; it was continued. But a percentage was given for merit and a percentage for districts. This new scheme though it did not abandon 'standardisation' permitted a slight increase in Tamil student intake into universities from the 'standardisation' scheme of Mr. Badudin Mahmud.

Mr. A. C. S. Hameed, the present Minister for Higher Education has announced in parliament that the A. L. examination for 1990 held on two occasions to enable students who could not sit on the earlier occasion as the examination was not held in the war-torn areas would be treated separately.

Usually A/L. Examinations are held in August each year. The August 1990 examination was not held in Northeast because of the war. A special examination was held in these areas in April 1991.

After the students had sat for the examination and their answer scripts have been marked the Minister now announces that the two examinations will be treated separately.

According to educationists this would result in the students who sat the special examination having to obtain very much higher marks than their counterparts who sat the examination in August 1990 and consequently there will be a further decrease in Tamil students intake to Universities.

It is learnt that Mr. Dinesh Gunawardhene, M. P. had said that special examination had given the Tamil students more time to prepare for the examination and that question papers at both examinations had similar features.

The first allegation is adding insult to injury. Tamil students had to prepare under most trying circumstances. They had no kerosene oil too and had to study during the day amidst booming of all sorts of deadly weapons of Government. The second ground is hardly the mistake of students, if it was mistake at all.

Twenty years after their first protest the students are again protesting against the same type of discrimination and this shows that unless the state structure is changed the Tamils will continue to suffer discrimination.

Bank of Ceylon Provincial Office TO SHIFT FROM JAFFNA TO VAVUNIA

It is learnt that the Head Office of the Bank of Ceylon at Colombo has decided to shift its Provincial Office located at Jaffna, the Northern capital, to Vavunia,

Vavunia is at the southern tip of the northern border

with the Sinhala Anuradhapura District and the town of Vavunia is presently under Sri Lankan Army occupation. The bulk of the people of the North live within the Jaffna peninsula.

The Bank's Head Office, it is learnt, is taking all

steps to have the Provincial Office at Jaffna removed to Vavunia immediately.

An example of Sinhala 'decentralisation' - commented Jaffna customers of Bank of Ceylon.

11 - 6 - 92:

Full day battle in the Valikamam North when Sri Lankan forces tried to move in three directions simultaneously with air, navy and artillery shell support. Tigers give battle. Tigers estimated 20 Sri Lankan soldiers killed and many injured. Three Tiger fighters died. An armoured vehicle of the Sri Lankan Army was completely destroyed.

12 - 6 - 92:

Tigers attack Police Army patrol near Mamadu in Vavuniya. One Sri Lankan Police man killed.

14 - 6 - 92:

Tigers attack Sri Lankan Air Force men at Kanniyai in Trincomalee and kill four. No Tiger casualty. Tigers also recover arms and ammunitions.

15 - 6 - 92:

Tigers attack Sri Lankan Army at Alampil, Mullaitivu District. Six Sri Lankan soldiers killed. No Tiger casualty. Tigers also recover arms and ammunitions from Sri Lankan Army.

Tigers report two of their cadres dead in a confrontation in the Kayts Division.

18 - 6 - 92:

LTTE attacks Sri Lankan Army and Home Guards on patrol duty at Mathakuvaitthakulam in Vavuniya District. Two Home Guards die. Tigers take their weapons.

Sri Lankan Army sources stated that one of their

Palukamam, Batticaloa District. Six soldiers killed. Arms and ammunitions also recovered. Two LTTE fighters also died.

25 - 6 - 92

Tigers attack Sri Lankan Army at Sinhapura on Polonnaruwa - Batticaloa District. Seven Sri Lankan soldiers and one LTTE fighter dead. Tigers recover arms and ammunitions from Sri Lankan soldiers.

27 - 6 - 92:

Tigers attack and destroy 15 Sri Lankan Army sentry points at Sooduvenhapulam in Vavuniya District and also recover arms and ammunitions. Four Sri Lankan soldiers killed. Four Tigers also die.

28 - 6 - 92:

Army launches new operation code named 'Balave-gaya - 2' in Vadamardchy East. Combined forces called to action. LTTE launches counter - attack. LTTE states that eight of its men died. Sri Lankan Army casualty not known.

WAR NEWS IN BRIEF

soldiers was killed at Amparai when LTTE attacked a patrol party.

23 - 6 - 92:

Confrontation at Kaddaikkadu in Vadamardchy East, Jaffna District. One LTTE fighter dies. Sri Lankan Govt. admits death of two of its soldiers.

Tigers attack Sri Lankan Army at Sinnakanthipuram,

Four days...

(Continuation from Page 5)

villages were rendered refugees. The Idaikkadu Maha Vidyalayam has ceased to function. Details of other destruction to property has still to be assessed.

Operation Whirlwind-Phase II started after a day's break on May 30, 1992. The areas affected were Valikamam North and Valikamam South - West. According to TRO figures 7000 families have been rendered refugees from the Valikamam North AGA's Division. 7 schools in the Valikamam North Division and 5 schools from Valikamam South West Division have been closed down.

People of certain areas near the Palaly Army Camp in the Valikamam North Division were living as refugees in 19 refugee camps in other parts of the Division as their villages had been occupied by the Sri Lankan Army at the beginning of the war in June 1990.

Two such refugees at the Durgai Amman Temple refugee camp died as a result of bombing of the temple. At Mallakam Konapula Vairava temple an entire family of 5 died when that temple was bombed. Only one member of that family who was away at Mullaitivu on the day of bom-

bing escaped to listen to the tale of tragedy that befell his family.

TRO officials said that they are doing their best to rehabilitate the refugees. Their task however is very difficult and onerous because of lack of support from other sources.

Military...

(Continuation from Page 1)

Six people from Pannalai, Pandatarrippu and Ilavalai suffered injuries due to shell attack. Three people from the same family at Tellippalai suffered artillery shell attack injuries.

Mathagal came in for heavy cannon firing and people living along the coastline abandoned their houses and sought refuge elsewhere.

Two persons suffered injuries at Ilavalai when the Army fired at them from Karukampanai.

Also reports from Vavuniya stated that the village of Kaddyarkulam in Vavuniya District was subjected to aerial bombardment June 13.

Reports from Trincomalee stated that Selvan Thangarasa (60) and Kanapathipillai Tharmarajah (38) of Poonakar in Muttur were hacked to death by Sinhalese Home Guards. This incident took place on June 9.

Over ten person sustained serious injuries when Sri Lankan forces stationed at Mandaitivu, Palaly and other places started simultaneous shell attack around many places in Jaffna. Jaffna suburbs, Mathagal, Pandatarrippu and Chulipuram areas were badly affected.

Chavakachcheri, Chunnakam and Vettalaikerni in the Jaffna peninsula came in for aerial bombardment on June 23. In Chunnakam one civilian suffered severe injuries.