

The Sansoni Commission Evidence

The Story of the Sri Lanka Race Riots 1977

No 6.

Saturday September 23, 1978

Re. 1

Anuradhapura: Morning of Aug. 17, 1977

Alleged happenings as seen by Eye-witness

MOB ARGUED WITH ARMY: ARMY LOST

Mr. G. P. S. de Silva, Deputy Solicitor General, led the evidence of Mr. Chelliah Devasigamany on the seventh day of the Commission's sittings in Jaffna (15th February, 1978). Mr. Devasigamany was the Regional Engineer, Telecommunications Department, Anuradhapura in August last year.

Testifying to the incidents in Anuradhapura on the morning of August 17, 1977, Mr. Devasigamany alleged that he saw from the balcony of his office, people stoning shops and a mob of hundred manhandling two people. A Police jeep came, slowed down and drove off. Later, Army personnel came and tried to disperse the crowd. They argued with the mob and the Army officers also went away. Looting went on unabated.

Here is the complete text of Mr. Devasigamany's evidence:-

CHELLIAH DEVASIGAMANY: Affirmed: 34 years. Regional Engineer Telecom-munication Dept. Jaffna.

To. Mr. G. P. S. de Silva:-

Q: In August 1977 you were the Regional Telecommunication Engineer, Anuradhapura? A: Yes.

Q: How long had you been at Anuradhapura?

A: I came to Anuradhapura in February 1977. I was occupying the Departmental Quarters down Walauwatte Road - about 500 yards away from the railway station.

Q: You have submitted to the commission a letter dated 9-1-78 marked A5?

A: Yes.

'Romanis asked me to stay in'

(Letter A 4 is read out to the Commission)

Q: When did this attack on you take place?

A: On the 17th morning. Early morning - by about 5 a.m. By about 4 a.m. we were able to hear the sound of crackers being lighted.

"We thought they were celebrating some occasion. At that time a linesman by the name of Romanis came and told me that they were attacking the Tamils and asked me not to go anywhere. Some others also came to my bungalow. We were able to

see the people causing damage to buildings. Chandra Stores was being damaged. We saw people running away past my house with goods in their hands. Chandra Stores was near the market. We saw people pelting stones. There were thousands and thousands of people on the road and there was a tense situation.

'Jayasundera took us to his home'

"At about 7 a.m. I was informed that trouble was on. Jayasundera my District Inspector telephoned me and asked me to come to his house. Adjoining my quarters was Inspector Radha Krishna's quarters. I tried to get our departmental lorry to transport ourselves to Jayasundera's house at Airport Road. By that time Jayasundera brought his car.

"I left with my family in Jayasundera's car to his house. While going my wife took her Thali and we left. The other belongings were left in the house. I took the Rs. 500/- cash I had. My family and I went to Jayasundera's house. I left my family there.

"In the New Town there was no trouble. By 9 a.m. I came back to my office. When I came to the office everything was normal and all the officers were there. My office is housed in Willi-

ams Building. I came to office with Jayasundera.

"On 17th August at about 9 a.m. I was at the office. At 9-45 a.m. I heard a big noise and came to the balcony of the office. I saw people throwing stones at Jewellery shops and at Anam's Stores. I was watching the scene. About a hundred people were manhandling 2 people. I saw it from the balcony of the office. I saw the front portion of the Post Office. My office is about 500 to 750 yards away from the police station.

Q: Did you see any police officers?

A: No. At that time there were no police officers. In front of the post office. I saw people running and others trying to assault them.

'Police jeep slowed and drove off'

Q: What happened then? A: By about 10-30 I heard some Tamil people crying and shouting in the same block. Rooms were let out for people in the same block. The Sinhalese people started hitting the Tamil people. The Tamil clerks in my office rushed into my cubicle. They were shivering. About ten Tamil officers who were working in the general office came rushing into my office. They were in a panic; in a state of fear.

"Then I went to the balcony and saw a Police jeep coming. I told my people not to be frightened and that the Police were coming. The Police jeep slowed down there and drove off. The looting was going on. The Police jeep slowed down and then speeded off. I thought the crowd would walk into my office.

'I contacted the M. P. Mr. Herat'

"At about 10-45 I contacted the M. P., Mr. Herat and asked him to do something. By that time the Army people came there and chased the people. Two or three people had an argument with the Army officers and after the argument the Army personnel also went away. I could observe it from the balcony.

Q: Did the Army come and disperse the crowd?

A: They tried to disperse the crowd. They argued with the mob and the Army Officers also went away. Looting was going on unabated.

"I asked some Sinhalese Officers to go out and see if we could go out. Mr. Jayasundera had left me and had gone away in his car. I was helpless. I tried to contact the M. P., to get some help and in the meantime I got a

(Continued overleaf)

MODERN RUINS!



The Old Market, Jaffna.

"Those who do not remember the past are condemned to relive it"

- Santayana - American philosopher 1863-1952

'THERE WAS NOT EVEN WATER TO DRINK AT THE REFUGEE CAMP'

(Continued from Page 1)

message from Jayasundere and I got the help of two or three linesmen. My family was with Mr. Jayasundere. I was asked to remove my spectacles stating that somebody might identify me and then I managed to get into a car. Some people tried to pull me out of the car but I managed to be inside the car. I got to Mr. Jayasundere's house.

Mr. Jayasundera was frightened

"Subsequently, I understand that Mr. Herat got the Army and they came on the 17th, Wednesday. I was at Mr. Jayasundere's house and he was kind enough to collect all the families of the other Tamil Inspectors. We had lunch and dinner.

"In the evening Mr. Jayasundere and his family went round Anuradhapura area and he was worried about our being in his house because the mob was attacking the houses. At about 9-30 p.m., he got frightened to stay with us and he went and stayed in the adjoining house. We were left alone.

"That particular night at about 8-30 p.m., we got a call from the linesmen that the quarters adjoining my quarters which was occupied by Mr. Radhakrishnan was completely broken down. Mr. Radhakrishnan had gone out of the island. On the 17th night we were not attacked.

5000 Refugees in the camp

The following day early morning Mr. Jayasundere went to arrange with the A. S. P., to take us to the Kachcheri which is about 500 yards away from the Police Station. With Police protection we got into a lorry and went to the Kachcheri; to the refugee camp. By 9-30 a.m., I went and met the G. A. I had a conference with the G. A., and the S. P. The G. A. wanted a call to Colombo.

About five to six thousand were in the refugee camp at the Kachcheri at Anuradhapura which is in front of the Police Station. I appealed to the G. A., to arrange transport for the refugees. In the meantime there were about five buses in the Police Station area. The Sinhalese students from Jaffna Campus had come. He said that those students should be taken away.

I told the G. A., that there were women and young children and that those buses could be used to transport them. Ultimately five buses were arranged. I requested the G. A., to allow me to take my lorries in the convoy to Vavuniya.

We had nothing to eat from Thursday, the 18th. We did not have even a cup of tea.

S. P. Liyanage stopped lorries

By 11 o'clock arrangements were made. The S. P. and the A. S. P., had a conference and the convoy left Anuradhapura at 5-30 p.m. There was not even water at the refugee camp. S. P. Liyanage did not allow the departmental lorries to go along with the convoy. He stopped the lorries going with the convoy.

"I appealed to the G. A. and he said, 'I am sorry, I am not S. P.' I appealed to the G. A., to give permission to send my people in my departmental vehicles to Vavuniya, in the convoy. Army officers went in the convoy. Departmental vehicles were not allowed to accompany in the convoy. My subordinates had become refugees.

'BLOODY FOOLS DON'T UNDERSTAND, SAID S. P.'

"By 9 p.m., I think, the Medical Superintendent who was an Army Officer made arrangements with the G. A., and the lorry was allowed to go in the convoy. I appealed to the S. P., when my wife and children started crying, asking him to allow me to go in the departmental lorry with the convoy. The S. P., said, 'Bloody fools don't understand.'

Q: To whom did he mean that?

A: He referred that to me. I was alone with him. I had to wait for five minutes to get the attention of the S. P. I appealed to him to allow me to take a private lorry in the convoy. I was trying to proceed to Vavuniya which is a safer area.

By about 9-30 p.m., there were about 4000 refugees. I approached the Secretary to the G. A., whom I knew personally and requested him to get permission to see the G. A., in the conference room. He went there by 11-00 p.m. and he returned at 12 midnight and stated that there were 10 buses which had come from Jaffna.

On the night of 18th August my lorry was not allowed to proceed in the convoy. By 10 p.m. the Doctors and their families left in 11 cars and again my Departmental lorry was not allowed to proceed in the convoy by the S. P. Mr. Liyanage.

Ten buses had brought the Sinhalese refugees from Jaffna. Those buses were driven by Tamil drivers and that convoy reached at 5 a.m. Then I and my family left Anuradhapura and came and stayed in the farm School for one and a half days.

They took away my car too

Q: Where was your car?

A: My car was in the garage in my quarters on the 17th. I never got back this car. When I came with my family to the Kachcheri on the 18th morning at 11 a.m., I got a message to say that all my belongings had been looted and that my car also had been taken away. They had made use of my car to transport my belongings from my residence. My car No. EY. 8299, Bug Fiat is worth about Rs. 10,000/-. My other belongings I have valued at Rs. 35,000/-. My total claim is for Rs. 45,000/-

Questioning by Mr. G. P. S. de Silva, (contd.)

Q: You learnt that your car was subsequently burnt?

A: Yes. On the 13th September, from the Jaffna Kachcheri they arranged a bus to go and identify the items which had been recovered by the police. I went in that bus to Anuradhapura and found some of my items and identified them at the Anuradhapura police station premises.

"When I asked the OIC of the station for permission to remove my items, he told me that he cannot allow

that because some people were arrested in connection with the looting of those articles and those articles had to be produced in Court:

Exposed to sun and rain

"Subsequently when I was working at Anuradhapura, I went and saw my belongings; some of them were missing and the rest were kept under rain and sun in the courtyard. Subsequently, I gave them the entry number and asked them to hand back some of my articles for sentimental reasons.

Commissioner:

Q: Have you got them back?

A: They said I have to file a motion.

Q: What happened to the case?

A: I don't know Sir. I have a copy of the letter which I had given to the H. Q. I of the police station. He told me to file a motion. I addressed my letter to the H. Q. I on the 27th December.

Q: Did they reply? A: No

Questioning by Mr. G. P. S. de Silva, ctd.

Q: You are producing a claim which you have forwarded to the Social Services Department and also you are producing a letter dated 12th September which you have forwarded to the coordinating Officer, Jaffna A. Yes.

Q: You also produce a letter dated 27th December 1977 which you have addressed to the H. Q. I: Anuradhapura police station? A: Yes.

Commissioner: What is that for?

Mr. de Silva: Asking for those items of furniture which he says are of some sentimental value to him.

Questioned by Mr. Bartlett:

Q: How long have you worked as a Telecommunication Engineer? A: I got my appointment as an Engineer in 1976. From 1961 I was functioning as an Inspector in the Department.

'I cannot work there anymore'

Q: How many years in the Public Service?

A: About 17 years.

Q: When did you secure your transfer to Jaffna?

A: On 1st January, 1978.

Q: I take it that you sought a transfer because of the troubles you went through?

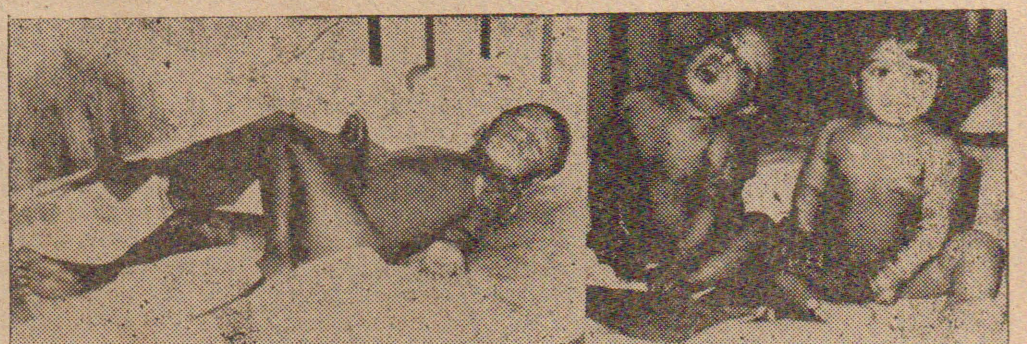
A: Yes, I was the only Engineer from the Department in the Anuradhapura district who went through all these troubles.

"I found it difficult to work in that area. It will not be possible for me to go to that area and work after having gone through these stresses and trauma. As I was an affected Officer I was given a transfer by the department to Jaffna.

"I have two children; the elder one is 8 years and the other child is 4 years. In fact, my children were schooling in Colombo in the early part of 1977. Thereafter, they were schooling at Anuradhapura and with the riots, now they are schooling at Jaffna. They had to go through three schools.

Mr. G. P. S. de Silva: The witness says, Sir, that his certificates of educational qualifications have all been reduced to tatters. (Witness shows the documents to the Commissioner)

Anuradhapura, August 1977: They didn't even know what it was all about!



These tiny victims of burns during the incidents at Anuradhapura in August last year were among the thousands of refugees in Jaffna. Picture taken at the Jaffna hospital.

'POLICEMEN BROKE MARKET GATE: WE FLED THROUGH THE MANHOLE'

Velan Sinnathamby: Affirmed 39 Years, Caretaker, New Market, residing at Villundi Pillaiyarkovilady, Jaffna.

Mr. Kadirgamar: Q. You remember 16th August 1977?

A. Yes.

Q. At about 8 a.m., that morning you went to the market? A. Yes

Q. That was your place of work? A. Yes

Q. You are an employee of the Jaffna Municipal Council? A. From 1959.

Q. On your way to work you were informed that the Police had damaged motor cars?

A. I saw the car in the garage situated at Muneswaram Road damaged.

Q. You went to the market to see whether any damage was done to the Municipal property? A. Yes

'In uniform, but no numerals'

Q. There you found a large number of people and the Police? A. Yes.

Q. Were the Police in uniform? A. They were in uniform but they did not have their numerals.

Q. You gave instructions to the Market Supervisors to close the gates for security purpose?

A. There were three others at that time and I asked them to close the main gate.

Q. There is a Market Supervisor by the name of Pathmarajah? A. Yes.

Q. He proceeded to close one of the gates on your instructions?

A. He also closed the gate to block No. 2

Assaulted with batons & rifles

Q. Before he could close the gate completely was he assaulted by the Policemen?

A. While he was closing the gate he was assaulted. He could not close fast because the people were running up and down. Then the Police pushed the gate and walked inside. While they entered the market they assaulted the people with batons and rifle butts.

Q. What happened to Pathmarajah?

A. Before I could see what happened to Pathmarajah I went to block no 1. I went there and instructed the conservancy labourers there to close the gates. At that time all the people observed the vegetable market on fire.

Q. Was Pathmarajah unconscious? A. Yes.

Q. Then what happened?

A. Then one Christie a market Supervisor, brought Pathmarajah and laid him down in the office.

Q. You went into the office and telephoned the Special Commissioner?

A. At about 9.15 a.m., I telephoned Mr. Sivagnanam

Q. You informed him about the situation? A. Yes I told him that the vegetable market was on fire, that the Police were assaulting all and sundry and that Pathmarajah was badly assaulted and that the people were running here and there.

Q. Did Mr. Sivagnanam want to come to the spot?

A. Then he asked me, "Shall I come there?"

Q. What did you tell him?

A. I told him that it was not safe for him to come there as the Police were using tear gas and were assaulting the people, indiscriminately.

Q. Pathmarajah was taken to the hospital by somebody?

A. I heard that Mr. Yogeswaran, M. P., for Jaffna came that way and Pathmarajah was taken to the hospital in that car.

Q. You had to take whatever action you could to save yourself from Police assault? A. Yes.

'They broke the window panes

Q. What did you do?

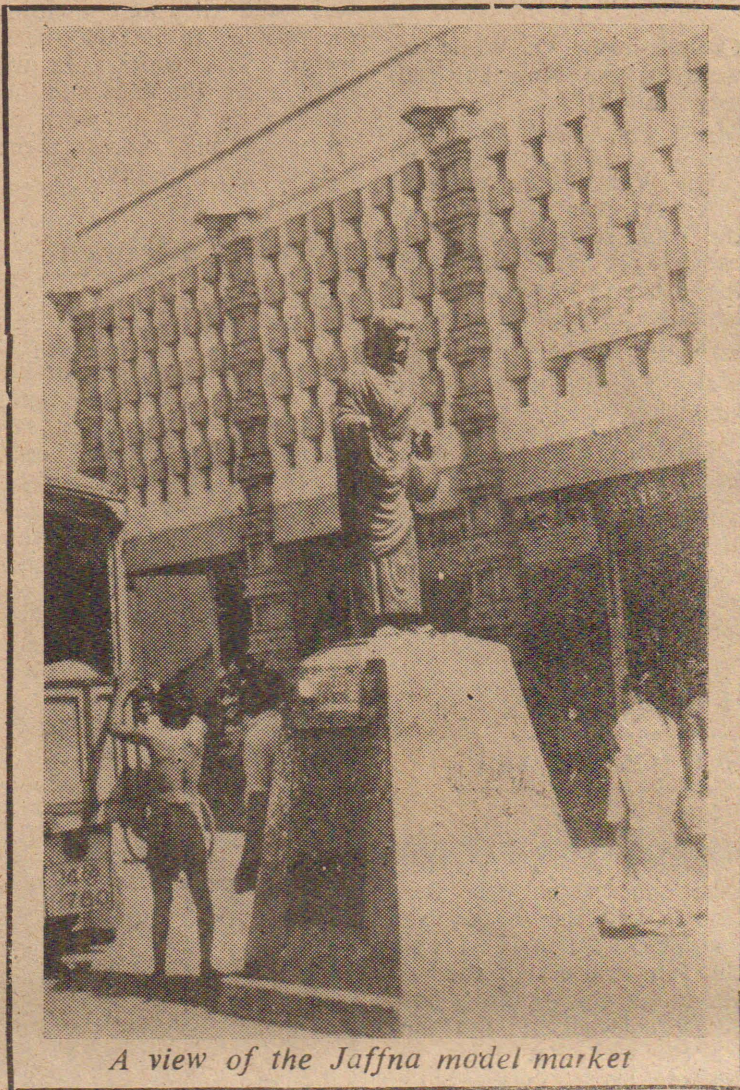
A. At that time the traders who were using the market came running to me I came to the lavatory. There was a manhole. I opened it and kept it ready to make good my escape if they tried to assault me.

Q. When were you able to come out?

A. Then 10 or 15 Police men came there having broken the gate leading to the up-stair block, and then breaking the window panes up-stairs. They were shooting. I saw at that time two or three shops on fire Top Room No. 5, Gowri Stores was being broken. About two or three minutes later I saw that on fire. Then I saw four or five Policemen armed running inside through the main gate.

'We fled through the manhole'

There were about 25 or 30 traders along with me. Through fear all of us went down into the manhole and got on to the drain. Then I came out and telephoned the Commissioner and told him the situation. He told me that he was unable to do anything and asked me to get back home safely. It was about



11-45 a.m. then. At that time there were about 50 or 60 Policemen near the City Bakery round the bus stand. They were guarding the City Bakery.

Then the traders and I came to the road through Kasooriyar Road entrance. At that time Army personnel arrived. There was no member of the public on the road

and there were no policemen. I went first and through fear raised my hands. One of the Army men who appeared to know Tamil said, "Don't fear, we have come to protect you". Then we went along the main road, went through Jumma Mosque Lane, went along Stanley Road and reached home.

Mr. Balasubramaniam:

Q. That particular shop was completely burnt?

A. I came to know that it was completely burnt.

Q. Except the wooden door the other sides were completely cemented? A. Yes.

Q. That was ten yards away from the edge of the road? A. 15 feet from the centre of the road.

Q. There was a six feet broad passage? A. Yes.

Shop burned for 4 hours

Q. How long did it take for the complete shop to be burnt?

A. About 4 hours.

Q. During the four hours did anybody try to put out the fire?

A. When the public tried to put out of the fire they were not allowed to do so by the Police. The Police would not permit the public to put out the fire.

Mr. G. P. S. de Silva: No questions.

C. T. B. Driver alleges:

'Inspector Walter Perera told me to run over bicycles'

VELUPILLAI SELVARAJAH: Affirmed, 35 years, C. T. B. Driver, residing at Keerimalai.

Examined by Mr. Sam Kadirgamar.

"I am a driver in the C. T. B. I have been a driver for eight years. I remember the 16th of August, 1977. On that day I was on duty at the C. T. B. depot at Kondavil. I was ordered to drive a bus to the Jaffna bus stand and at the same time, other buses were also ordered to go to the Jaffna bus stand.

They dropped cycles and ran

"On that day I drove Bus No. 23 Sri 4615. I remember coming to the Victoria road Palaly junction. There I found the other buses halted ahead on the road. Then I also stopped my bus. At that time I saw police officers on the road. I saw them chasing the

people on the road. Those policemen had rifles in their hands. The people were running.

Q. Had some of them, who had bicycles, dropped their bicycles on the road and were running? A. Yes. Then four or five policemen came with the Inspector. Then the policemen put four or five bicycles on the road and the Inspector ordered me to drive the bus over those bicycles.

Q. Do you know the name of the Inspector? A. Yes. Walter Perera.

Q. When you were told to drive your bus over these bicycles, did you agree or did you refuse?

A. I could not drive because the bicycles were on the road.

Q. Then, what did the Inspector do?

A. At that time the policeman who was behind the bus went away chasing some people. Then another police-

man stood on the front wheel of the bus and put his hand to the wind screen and pulled my hand and injured my arm.

P. C. began chasing the public

"He then let go my hand and he also started chasing the members of the public. Then I got down from the bus and ran into a neighbouring house for safety. I hid there for sometime. Thereafter, when the place was cleared, I came out. I made a complaint to the Depot Superintendent, Mr. Thiagarajah. He ordered me to take the bus to the C. T. B. depot which I did. All these police were in their uniform.

Q. Did they have their metal numbers? A. They did not have their numbers.

No questions by Mr. G. P. S. de Silva.

'WHAT S. P. WALTER

SITHAMPARA PILLAI-SATHASIVAM: affirmed, 52 years,

Head Guard, Ceylon Government Railway, Kankesanthurai.

Examined by Mr. G. P. S. de Silva.

Q. In August last year, you were stationed at K.K.S. A: Yes.

Q. Your normal duties cover from K.K.S. to Anuradhapura?

A. Yes. The main train goes to Colombo and we break off at Anuradhapura.

Incident at Punkankulam

Q. Now, you remember, you were the Head Guard working on the train, the mail train which left K.K.S. on the 16th of August, 1977 at 6.15 p. m. ? A. Yes. I was the Headguard to that train.

Q. On this train did any incident take place at the Punkankulam halting place?

A. The train stopped at Punkankulam, that is the halting place next to Jaffna railway station. There was no vacuum to start the train. I found only ten inches of vacuum on the train. I suspected that the communication cord had been pulled. Then I asked my assistant to check on that. My Assistant checked on that and informed me after five minutes that the buffet, that is the restaurant car, had been damaged by unknown persons.

Q. At about what time was that? A: At About 7. 20 p. m.

Q. Then did you yourself go and see what had happened to the Restaurant car.

A. Yes, I left the Under Guard at the brake van and saw myself what had happened there.

Q. What did you observe there?

Shutters broken eatables removed

A. All the shutters had been broken and all eatables had been removed. Only the cutlery and the empty soda bottles remained. The restaurant car boys were not there. The car was empty. Thereafter, I started the train and went to the next station Navatkuli. At Navatkuli I gave a message to the Chavakachcheri police.

Commissioner: Q. How did you give the message?

A: By railway telegraphic message. That message is usually sent through the railway control phone. I sent a message to the Chavakachcheri police. Then I sent a message to the District Superintendent, Anuradhapura railway. I also sent messages to the General Manager of Railways, Colombo and to the Transportation Superintendent, Maradana.

Q: Then you were awaiting instructions from the Chavakachcheri police?

A. When I was going to give the message, all the four car attendants came and told me what had happened.

Commissioner: Q. While you were at the Navatkuli railway station?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q: What did they tell you?

A: At Punkankulam, as the train stopped some more people got there and asked the others to get out of the train as they wished to attack the train and the buffet.

Q: You finally left Punkankulam? A. Yes

Q: You went to Chavakachcheri? A: Yes.

The Chavakachcheri police asked me to proceed to Maradana and get the damage assessed as they had no transport to come there.

'I took waiters into guard's van'

Q. Then the train proceeded? A. Yes. At Meesalai one stone had been thrown and the brake van had been damaged. I took the four waiters of the buffet in my van. — guard's van, At Madawachchi the four waiters said that their belongings were in the buffet and they said they wanted to get them back and went to the buffet. They went in search of their personal belongings.

Waiters threw stones, bottles

Q. At what time did the train reach Anuradhapura?

A. At about 1-25 a. m. on the 17th August.

Q: As the train steamed into the Anuradhapura railway station what did you see?

A. As the train stopped I was in the brake van to hand over the train to the Colombo guard. I gave over the train and got on to the platform.

While on the platform I saw the restaurant car waiters throwing stones and bottles to the up train — the train going from Colombo to Jaffna. There were four waiters who travelled with me in the guard's van. The up train was No. 69 which was on the other line. That train was proceeding from Colombo to Jaffna and it was halted on the No.1 platform. The waiters along with the others were throwing empty bottles at that train.

They shouted saying that Sinhalese had been assaulted in Jaffna and asked the others to attack the Tamils in the Jaffna train. The waiters who travelled with me shouted out that the Sinhalese in Jaffna had been attacked. They asked the waiters in the restaurant car of the other train which was on the other line to attack

the passengers in the Colombo-Jaffna train. The people who had come in my train had got on to the other train and they were inciting the people to attack both trains. The waiters in my train asked the waiters in the other train not to work in the train and asked them not to go to Jaffna.

'Armed policemen were looking on'

I went through the brake van of the other train and went to the office. I saw people being attacked and there were police constables on duty. I went to the railway office and found the people and passengers being attacked. There were armed police officers, but they did not take any action. They were looking on. They were on No. 1 platform close to the main exit. They were just looking on.

pied by the railway employees. We were allowed to retire to the retiring rooms upstairs in the railway station. The mob came there and started overturning the beds in the upstairs bed rooms. I lost my personal belongings also. My belongings were in the retiring room in a basket and the basket was removed with my belongings in it. My personal belongings were worth about Rs. 1000/-.

HEAD GUARD testifies:

Mr. G. P. S. De Silva,

Q. Were you able to identify any of them?

A: I could identify only one.

Q. Do you know the name of that person?

A: Yes, If Your Honour wishes to know the name I can give it.

Commissioner: Q: What is his name?

A. He was the Station Master at Chettikulam. He was killed and Mr. Nadarajah, Assistant Station Master at Anuradhapura was also killed. The Divisional Superintendent called these people and asked them to occupy those rooms. They were attacked in the Retiring Room and they died later.

Q. Where did they die?

A: Mr. Nadarajah died at the Anuradhapura Hospital

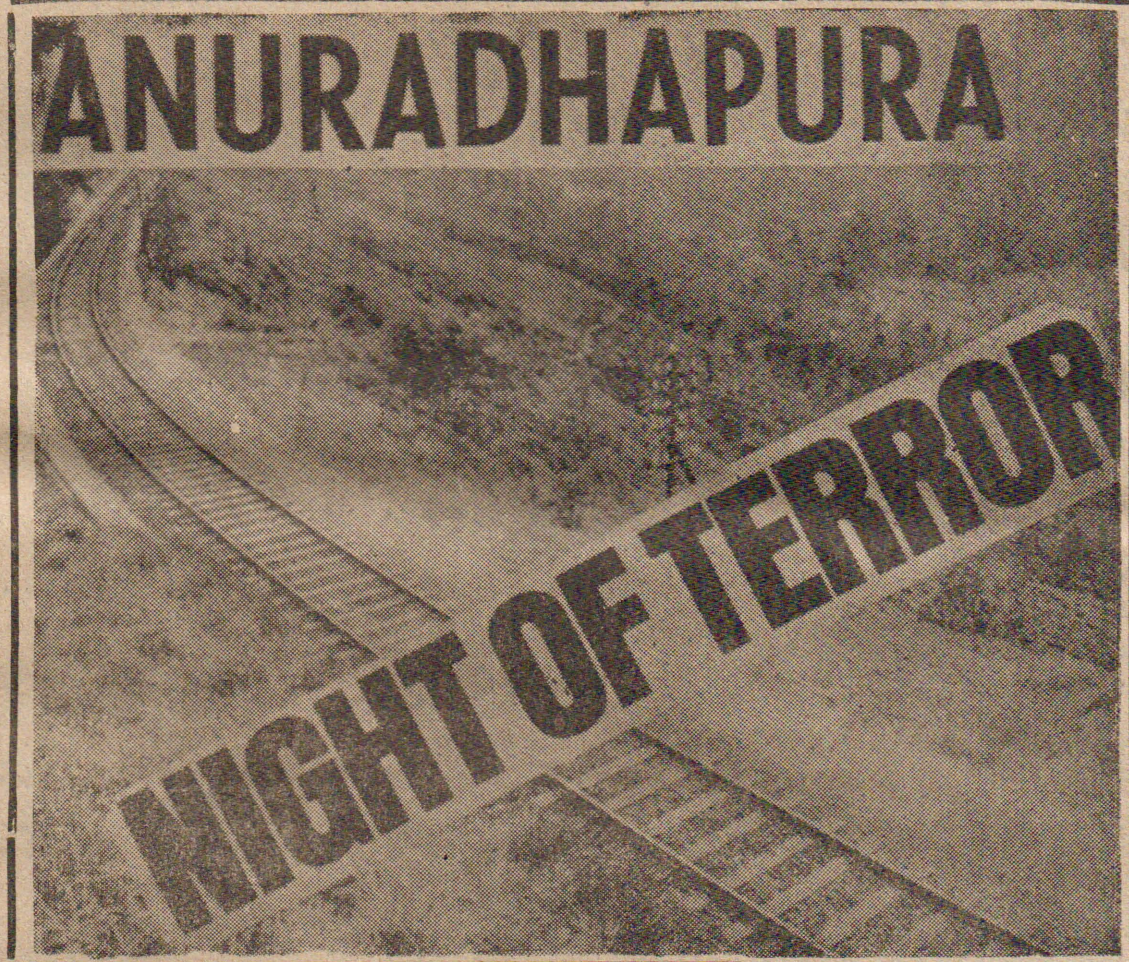
and Mr. Sathasivam died in Jaffna after four days.

Q: Who is Selladurai?

A: He was the Chief Train Controller. He was one of the four who was seriously attacked.

Q. When did the S. P., Anuradhapura come there?

A: He came and introduced himself as S. P., Anuradhapura, after this attack was over and after the injured



The police were about ten in number. Some officers were in uniform and some had batons. Two or three police officers had rifles also. They did nothing. There was tremendous commotion. I signed off at the S. M.'s office and went to the running bungalow. I produce marked A7 the letter dated 14-9-77 addressed to the General Manager of Railways with copies to other authorities.

(Counsel reads from A7)

The District Superintendent was Mr. Gunasekara.

Q: Was the curfew on at Anuradhapura on the morning of the 17th August?

A: I cannot remember.

On the 17th night at 11 p. m. we retired to bed. The running bungalow was occu-

'Samaranayake was bailed out'

A. He is one Samaranayake. He was a cook in the Running Bungalow. In the mob that attacked the people who were in the Retiring Room Samaranayake, the cook of the Running Bungalow, was one. He was arrested, kept on remand for three months and now he has been bailed out.

(Statement read)

Q: What do you mean by "this happened in a minute or two"?

A. This attack took place and everything was over within two minutes.

Q: Who is Sathasivam?

had been removed. We protested to two military officers who were there and requested them to remove us from there

Q: At what time did the S. P., Mr. Liyanage come there?

A: He came there at about 11-15 p. m., on the 17th. He came there with the refugees from Jaffna. There were about six buses which had brought the refugees and we were removed to the Kachcheri in those buses. Mr. Liyanage said that he had just come from Jaffna and what had happened in Anuradhapura was not even a hundredth of what happened in Jaffna and he asked us to complain to Colonel Amirthalingam and not to him.

LIYANAGE SAID:-'

Q: Was he a Colonel of the Army? A: He said that.

Q: Mr. Liyanage was not prepared to listen to any of your complaints? A: Yes.

Q: You left Anuradhapura and reached Kankesanthurai at what time? A: 6 a. m.

Q: You produce a true copy of this letter marked A7? A: Yes.

Policemen in civil, in train

Mr. Kadirgamar: Q: I believe you said that the train drew up at Anuradhapura and you found on the platform some Police Officers who had travelled in the same train? A: Yes. By Train No. 69 some were travelling either on transfer or on relief duty from Colombo to Jaffna. I understand that by Train No. 70 some Police Officers travelled from Jaffna to Colombo.

Q: You took train No. 70 coming from Jaffna to Colombo? A: Yes.

Q: Were there Police Officers travelling in that train?

A: Yes. There were Police Officers but they were not in Uniform.

Q: Did they get down at Anuradhapura? A: A part got down at Anuradhapura.

Q: Did the Policemen who had come from Jaffna have batons? A: No.

Q: Did they have guns? A: No.

Q: All that you say is that those men got in at Jaffna and got out at Anuradhapura? A: Yes.

'Stabbed with, buffet knife'

Q: The attack on your people were in the Retiring Room? A: Yes. Room No.1 and Room No. 5 were on opposite sides. Subramaniam, Ratnasingham and Thomas were there. Mr. Subramaniam was stabbed with the knife used in the Restaurant Car. Thomas was also stabbed with the same knife. The others were attacked with clubs and iron rods.

Q: Injuries were caused to the people? A: Yes.

Q: How many people died? A: Two of them died. They were clubbed and they died. The people who were attacked with the knives did not die.

Q: Give the names of the people who died?

A: Mr. Sathasivam, Station Master at Chettikulam and Mr. Nadarajah, Station Master at Anuradhapura, died.

Mr. Bartlett: Q: For how long have you been Head Guard? A: From 1946 - for 31 years.

Q: You said that from Navaikul Station you got in

touch with the Chavakachcheri Police? A: Yes. I sent a message.

Q: At the time you gave the message those four attendants came up to you? A: Yes.

They said buffet was attacked

Q: Did they complain that they were attacked? A: They told me that they were not attacked but the Buffet was attacked.

Q: Did you personally see the attack on the Buffet? A: No.

Q: You are not sure as to who attacked the Buffet? A: No.

Q: After you reached Anuradhapura you saw those four attendants attacking the up train with empty bottles? A: Yes.

Q: You know the names of those attendants? A: No. I can identify the head waiter.

Q: You also told the D.S.G., that one Samaranyake, a cook in the Running Bungalow was one of the persons who came and attacked the people in the Retiring Room? A: Yes.

Q: You also mentioned that he was arrested, remanded and subsequently bailed out?

A: He is now under interdiction and he has been transferred to Maho. When the period for transfer comes they are transferred. The interdiction is done by the D.S.

'Walter Liyanage alarms us'

Q: "A.7" catalogues in detail what you say and what happened as far as you were concerned on 16th August, 1977 and subsequently until you were taken to the Refugee Camp on the 18th? A: Yes.

Q: Was Mr. Liyanage, S.P., known to you before? A: No.

Q: He introduced himself as the Superintendent of Police and mentioned that he had been on duty at Jaffna and said that what was happening in Anuradhapura was not even hundredth of what was happening in Jaffna?

A: Yes. He came along with another police constable, a Sinhalese Officer and he mentioned this in the presence of the Police Constable and the Tamil Officers who were there.

Q: You were all alarmed and it created a tension?

A: Yes.

THARMALINGAM SIVASUBRAMANIAM: Affirmed. 47 Years, Clerk in the Office of the Superintendent of Health Services in Jaffna.

Q: You were a clerk attached to the S. H. S. Office at Anuradhapura in August, 1977? A: Yes.

Q: How long have you been at Anuradhapura? A: From 2nd January, 1977.

Q: You were residing at Anuradhapura? A: Yes.

Q: On 16th August where were you? A: I was resting.

Q: You have sent a summary of the communication to this Commission dated 30th December, 1977 which you produce marked A? A: Yes.

Examination by Mr. G. P. S. de Silva, ctd.

Q: On the 17th August, where were you? A: I was in the office.

Q: Where is the office situated? A: Just opposite the General hospital, Anuradhapura.

Q: What happened when you were in the office?

8 p.m. we were having a chat. 17 of us were in the office including a child. All of us were from the Health Dept.

Q: Then what happened?

A: Immediately the hospital minor employees came and attacked.

S.H.S. Office Clerk testifies:

Q: About how many of them? A: More than 15. All did not enter the room. A few were standing outside. There was only one door to the room. About 5 or 6 minor employees of the hospital entered the room and attacked. They were armed with clubs and they attacked us with clubs. The attack continued

us were staying in the Medical Superintendent's room.

Q: Thereafter that night, did anybody come to your room?

A: After this incident by about 8-30 p.m. the army came and with the help of the army I was taken to the Medical Superintendent's bungalow.

low. Even after the attack, I was the only person who remained in the room. Some jumped through the window and some ran away.

Q: In your letter, A8, to this Commission, you say a very high ranking police officer of Anuradhapura, visited the bungalow of the Medical

'He said

- ***that he had just come from Jaffna and what was happening in A'pura was not even one hundredth of what happened in Jaffna...***
- ***that Sinhalese people were murdered***
- ***that Policemen were being shot at***
- ***that women were being raped***
- ***Buddhist priests were being attacked...***

A: Looting was going on in the town. I saw people removing the looted articles. I was watching from my office. I heard that Tamil shops were being looted. I was in the office the whole day. On the 17th, I could not get out.

Q: Were you taken to the office of the M. S.?

A: After 4.30 p.m. on the 17th I was taken to the Medical Superintendent's office.

Q: You, along with the other Tamil officers? A: Yes.

Q: Where is the Medical Superintendent's office?

A: About 50 yards away from our office.

Q: Who took you there?

A: One Mr. Nanayakara. That night we were in the Medical Superintendent's office. After dinner, at about

for about 15 minutes. I was not injured in that attack. I hid myself under the table.

Q: What about the others?

A: I saw Sarnapala and Ukkubanda attacking Mr. Sivasambu, the Medical Laboratory Technician.

Q: These two persons who attacked were hospital employees? A: Yes.

Q: Are they working in the laboratory?

A: No. Sarnapala was employed as a minor employee in the S. H. S. office. The other, Ukkubanda, was a labourer attached to the hospital. Later I heard that Sivasambu died. He died downstairs that day. One Velautham and one K. Appar were injured. 17 of us were staying at that time. Six Tamil officers from our office and ten Tamil officers from the General Hospital including one child. 17 of

Superintendent that night and talked to the M. S.?

A: Yes. He spoke to Dr. K. M. K. Wijewardena, M. S. We were all present at that time.

It's a long story, the S.P. said

Q: Who was this high ranking police officer?

A: He is Superintendent of Police, Mr. Liyanage.

Q: You have said in A8 that he spoke in a manner that would rouse the feelings of the Sinhalese people?

A: Yes. He came to the Medical Superintendent's bungalow where we were at about 10-30 p.m. on the 17th. He came and said "Just now I have returned from Jaffna I am feeling sorry for the incidents that occurred in Anuradhapura. If I was present at Anuradhapura, nothing would have happened. I went to Jaffna on duty."

(To be continued in next issue)

CONDUCTOR DESCRIBES HIJACKING: I SAID: 'RALAHAMY DON'T SHOOT!'

SINATHAMY SELVA-RAJAH: affirmed, 43 years. Bus Conductor residing at Kantharmadam.

Examined by Mr. Sam Kadirgamar.

"I have been a conductor in the C. T. B. for the last 25 years. I remember the 17th August, 1977. I was the conductor of the bus which was driven from Navatkuli on that day to Kurikattuwan. There were passengers in that bus. The bus was driven by Ganamuttu James.

'Policemen stopped us at junction'

"After the bus reached its destination and the passengers got down, the bus turned to come back to the C. T. B. depot at Kondavil. On our way, I remember coming to Ariyakulam junction. When the bus reached there, it was stopped by a number of policemen. They were in uniform. They had guns. Then the driver stopped the bus. There were no passengers in the bus but there was a watcher.

Q: What happened then?

A: They stopped the bus and said they wanted the bus.

Q: Did they get into the bus? A: No. I told them that we will give the bus after obtaining permission from the Depot Superintendent.

P. C. aimed his gun at me'

Q: Then what happened?

A: Then one of the policemen aimed his gun at me. I told him "Ralahamy, don't shoot". I was in great fear. Then I got inside the bus. Then all the policemen got into the bus through the front as well as the rear doors. Having got into the bus, they asked us to drive the bus to Sivan Kovil road. The bus driver had no alternative but to drive the bus.

"Along Kannathitty road, opposite Sivan Temple, the driver was asked to stop the bus and the policemen in the bus got out.

Q: Did anyone remain in the bus? A: No.

They broke into Jewellery shop

Q: What did these policemen do having got out?

A: They ran.

Q: Where? A: They ran towards the jewellery shops.

Q: Along that road there are a number of Jewellery shops? A: Yes.

Q: Having run towards the jewellery shop what did these police Officers do?

A: They began to break open the jewellery shops and enter them.

Q: Having done that what did they do? A: They broke the locks and shutters and got inside the shop. They brought the things from inside the shop to the road and they dashed them on the ground. They brought some files and put them on the road and set fire to them.

Q: What else did they do? Did they break up another shop? A: From inside the shop they brought a table fan.

Q: Similarly did they go to another shop and break it open? A: At that time we turned the bus.

Q: Did they break another 2nd shop?

A: At the time we wanted to take the bus the police prevented us from taking the bus. They broke into another shop That was the shop opposite.

They brought a fan & suitcase

Q: Did the police officers bring a suitcase from that shop? A: Yes. They brought a suitcase from the 2nd shop.

Q: They put the fan and the suitcase in the bus?

A: Yes.

Q: The first shop was a jewellery shop and was the 2nd shop also a jewellery shop? A: Yes.

Q: Did they get into the bus and order the driver to proceed to the Naga Vihara?

A: Yes.

Q: Through fear the driver obeyed? A: Yes.

Q: The bus was driven towards the Naga Vihara?

A: Yes.

Q: At Naga Vihara the bus was ordered to be stopped?

A: Yes.

They entered the Naga Vihare

Q: Did the police get down with the things - fan and suitcase? A: Yes.

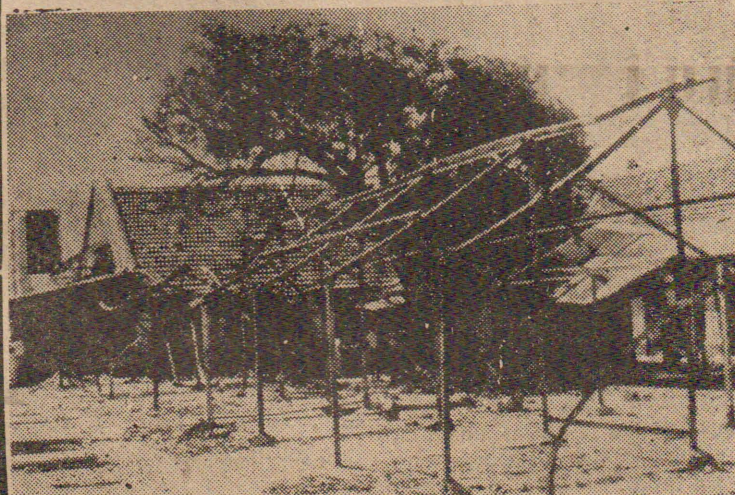
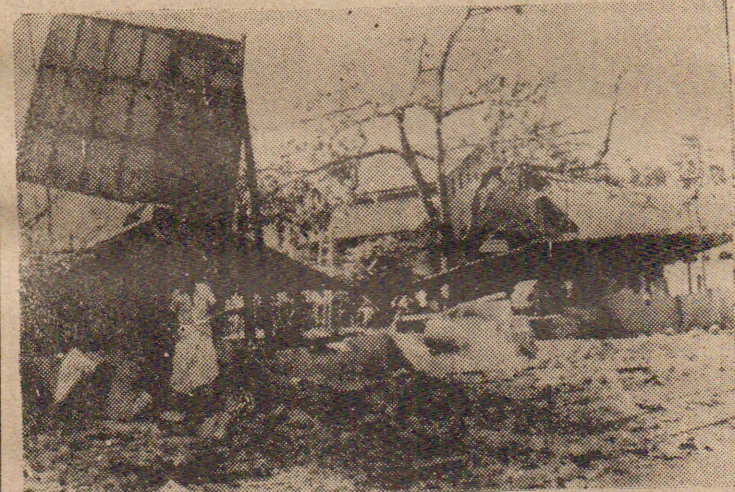
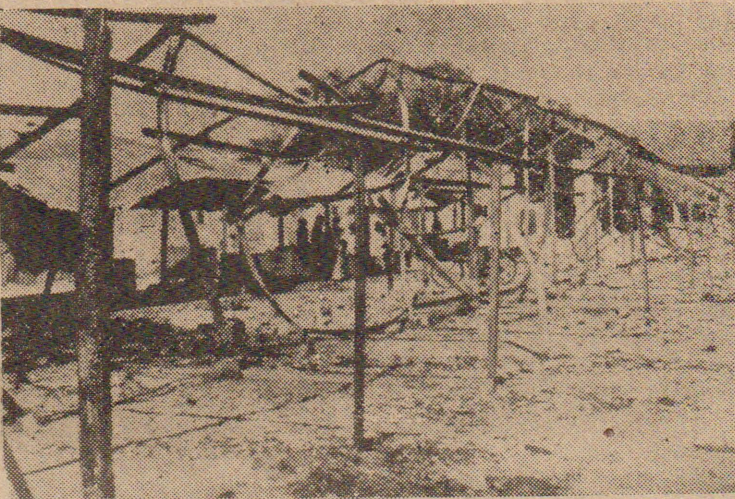
Q: Did you see the police officers enter the Naga Vihara? A: Yes.

Q: The policemen in uniform - were they wearing their regimental numbers?

A: They had no numbers.

Q: Thereafter you made a statement in regard to this incident at the Kachcheri?

A: Yes.



**Jaffna: Some scenes
of alleged
Police destruction
August 1977**

Mr. Kadirgamer: I am calling Mr. Gnanamuthu James.

Gnanamuthu James: Sworn.

43 Years, C. T. B. Driver, residing at Chundikuli, Jaffna

Mr. Kadirgamer: Q: Do you remember 17th August 1977?

A: Yes.

Q: You were on duty driving a C. T. B. bus?

A: Yes.

Q: You were driving the bus from Navatkuli to Kurikadduwan? A: Yes.

Q: You reached Kurikadduwan and was returning to Jaffna? A: Yes.

They were in full uniform

The bus was returning to the C. T. B. depot at Kondavil. The police stopped my bus at Ariyakulam junction. The police personnel were in full uniform, about 15 to 20 of them got into my bus and directed me to proceed to K. K. S road.

Q: Then what happened?

A: As we reached the temple, they ordered me to drive the bus to Kannathiddy. Then they asked me to stop the bus there. Then they all got down and went away.

Q: This Kannathiddy road is a road where you find a number of jewellery shops?

A: Yes. They went to the row of shops on the left and broke the door of the third shop.

Q: Were you able to see that? A: Yes.

Q: Were there some police men left in the bus to see that you remained in the bus?

A: When all these people had got down from my bus, I made an attempt to move the bus. At that time, two or three policemen came running and got into the bus.

Q: That is to prevent you from removing the bus?

A: Yes.

They broke open the shop

Q: Then you say you saw them breaking the door of the shop? A: Yes.

Q: Then tell us what happened?

A: "They broke the lock and opened the door. They went inside. Then they broke almirah and the show cases. They carried to the road the chairs and tables, and dashed them on the road and damaged them. Then they brought the books, ledgers and documents, and burnt them on the road. Thereafter they brought a table fan from the shop. They kept the table fan on the road.

Then they went and broke open the shop opposite the shop which they looted earlier. Similarly, they brought the files, documents and ledgers from that shop to the road and burnt them.

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

'IMPORTANT PERSONS' LISTENED TO BUS DRIVER'S NARRATION'

(Continued from page 6)

From that shop they brought a suitcase. Then they got into the bus along with the suitcase and the fan and ordered me to drive the bus to Naga Vihara junction. Then they got down at the Naga Vihara junction with the fan and the suitcase and ordered me to proceed.

'Policemen looted the shops'

Q: The suitcase was brought from one of the shops?

A: Yes.

Q: The shops that were attacked, were they jewellery shops?

A: Yes.

Q: About how many jewellery shops are there on that road?

A: On both sides of the road there are about 40 shops. The shops that the police officers broke in were jewellery shops.

Q: The police broke those shops and looted them?

A: Yes.

Fan, furniture and jewellery

Q: The goods that they could loot from these shops apart from the table fan and furniture would be the jewellery?

A: Yes.

Q: The looted jewellery had to be put into something and was the suitcase into which the looted jewellery was put?

A: Yes, that is what they brought from one shop.

'They got out at Naga Vihare

Commissioner: Q: How many shops did they loot?

A: Two shops Sir.

Questioning by Mr. Sam Kadirgamar. ctd.

Q: You were ordered by them to proceed to Naga Vihara?

A: Yes.

Q: You had no option but to do as you were directed?

A: Yes.

Q: You did that out of fear?

A: Yes.

Q: When you stopped at Naga Vihara; did all these police personnel get out of the bus?

A: Yes.

Q: These police personnel, were they armed?

A: Yes, all of them had rifles.

In uniform, but no numerals

Q: Did they have their numbers?

A: No. They were all in uniform but not a single man had a number.

Q: Who was your conductor?

A: P. S. Selvarajah.

Q: Was he in the bus-right throughout all these proceedings?

A: Yes.

Q: Can you give the number of the bus that you were driving that day?

A: 23 Sri 2227.

Q: Apart from police officers in uniform, were there other police personnel who had come with these policemen and got into the bus?

A: The bus had two entrances. Some of them got through the entrance which was adjoining the driver's seat and some of them got through the rear entrance. Therefore, I cannot say whether some of them were in civil.

'I was taken to G. A.'s residence'

Q: Apart from your conductor, was the security guard Parameswaran in the bus?

A: Yes, He was also there. At Wellington junction he got down. Throughout, the conductor remained in the bus.

Q: Have you made an entry in a log book or any other book about the looting of the jewellery shops?

A: After getting down from the bus I made an entry.

Q: Did you report the incident to the Depot Superintendent?

A: Yes.

Q: What did he do?

A: He informed the G. A. and the police.

Q: Were you taken to the G. A.'s residence?

A: At about 7 p. m. I was taken to the G. A.'s residence.



Mr. Navaratnam



Mr. Kathiravetpillai

Q: You and the conductor were taken?

A: The conductor was not taken there.

Q: You were taken by your depot manager?

A: Yes.

Did you relate this whole incident to any important person that day?

A: When I made a statement to the depot superintendent, people were surrounding me.

Q: When you went to the G. A.'s residence who were there?



Mr. Ana Seneviratne

A: Mr. Yogeswaran M. P. for Jaffna, Mr. Navaratnam M. P. for Chavakachcheri, Mr. Kadiravetpillai M. P. for Kopay, D. I. G. Mr. Ana Seneviratne, Junior Minister and Mr. Hurulle were there. There were several others also there.

Q: Did you relate this incidents?

A: Yes.

Q: In what language?

A: In Sinhalese.

Q: You can speak Sinhalese?

A: To a certain extent.

JEWELLER SAYS HE LOST RS. 55,000/-

SABAPATHY VARATH - RAJAH: Affirmed: 34 years: Jeweller: Kannanthitti: Jaffna.

* * * *

Q: This business of yours is called Sri Krishna Jewellers?

A: Yes.

Q: Your shop was at premises No. 89/1, Kannanthitti Road, Jaffna.

A: Yes.

* * * *

Q: On the 17th of August you were attending a funeral in the Town?

A: Yes.

Q: You were late to return home?

A: Yes.

Q: Your home is about 100 yards from your business premises?

A: Yes.

Q: On your return home on the 17th August you learnt that your business had been looted and set on fire and a lot of your jewellery and furniture plundered and looted?

A: I got that information at the funeral.

Q: Later on you had photographs taken of your damaged shop?

A: Yes.

Q: You have those photographs with you?

A: Yes. They are marked X,44A to X,44H.

Q: These photographs show your shop and the next door shops which had been broken into, damaged and burnt, and also the entrance to your shop and the interior of

your shop showing the damage caused inside?

A: Yes. Q: These photographs show that the buildings had been severely damaged and the inside had been wrecked?

* * * *

Q: You suffered loss and damage in the matter of stock in trade, furniture and so on?

A: Yes.

Q: What did you estimate your loss at?

A: At about 55,000/-.

(Questions by other counsel: Nil.)

(Mr. de Silva, Deputy Solicitor General hands over to Mr. Kadirgamar a copy of the report sent by Mr. Rudra Rajasingham to the Commission.)

Q: You spoke in Sinhalese because some of the important persons, you thought, would not have known Tamil.

A: Yes.

(To Mr. de Silva, Deputy S. G.

Q: At about what time did this incident occur?

A: At about 1-15 in the afternoon.

Q: About how many police officers entered the bus?

A: More than 15.

Q: Were they all police Constables?

A: Yes.

Q: Have you any idea as to the police station to which these officers were attached?

A: They appeared to be all new men. I do not know from what police station they were.

Q: They attacked the jewellery shops - did they force open the door?

A: They broke the padlocks.

Q: This was not a day on which the curfew was on?

A: There was no curfew on that day.

The Sansoni Commission Evidence

The Story of the Sri Lanka Bus Bomb 1977

Subscriptions: 1 YEAR overseas by Air weekly. £10 Britain EUROPE Singapore Malaysia Africa Middle-East

\$25 USA CANADA AUSTRALIA New Zealand

Rs.80 INDIA Indian

Remittances in favour of:

Ceylon

Newspapers Ltd.

194 A, Bandaranayake Mawatha

COLOMBO - 12

Sri Lanka

"Nothing is ever settled until it is settled right"

- Rudyard Kipling.

The Sansoni Commission Evidence

The Story of the Sri Lanka Race Riots 1977

'KURUNEGALA PLANTER LIVES IN JAFFNA FOR THE FIRST TIME'

15th February, 1978, (Seventh Day) Same appearance as before.

Mr. G. P. S. de Silva, Deputy Solicitor General calls:

CHELLIAH DHARMARATNAM: Sworn, 55 years, Retired Planter, residing at Chetty Street, Nallur.

Q: In August, 1977, you were a planter? A: Yes.

Q: Where? A: At Galgoda Estate, Hindagolla, Kurunegala.

Q: That is about how far away from Kurunegala Town?

A: About 4 3/4 miles away from the Kurunegala Town.

Q: I believe you were having an estate there? A: Yes.

Q: Coconut land or what? A: Coconut land.

Q: You also had a poultry farm? A: Yes.

Q: How long had you been on that land prior to August, 1977? A: I was in occupation for about 6 months.

Bought the estate in December '76

Q: You had bought that estate recently? A: Yes, in December, 1976.

Q: You had a fairly large poultry farm? A: Yes. At that time I had about 600 birds.

Q: You had also fruit trees? A: Yes.

Q: You submitted a letter to this Commission in Pursuance of a notice that was published in the papers dated 31st December, 1977? A: Yes. (The letter is marked A4 and Mr. G. P. S. de Silva reads A4)

Commissioner: Q: What is the name of the A. S. P.?

Witness: A: Mr. Rajeswaran.

Commissioner: Q: A Tamil?

Witness: A: Yes, Sir.

Examination, Ctd.

Q: You have also enclosed a copy of the letter which you sent to the Director of Social Services? A: Yes.

Q: You have sent a letter to the Sub-Inspector, Mr. Seneviratne dated 13th September, 1977?

A: Yes, Mr. Seneviratne, the former O. I. C. Mawatagama.

Q: You mark that letter A4A? A: Yes.

Q: That is Mr. Seneviratne was at the relevant time the Officer-in-charge of Mawatagama police? A: Yes.

Q: Then you received from the Sub-Inspector a letter dated 16th September, 1977?

A: Yes.

Q: Which is in reply to your letter of 13th September? A: Yes.

Q: Thereafter, you received another letter from S. I. Seneviratne dated 20th September, 1977? A: Yes.

Q: And in this letter, S. I. Mr. Seneviratne sends you two money orders for Rs. 1,000/-? A: Yes.

Q: You also sent a copy to the Inspector General of Police? A: Yes.

'I was forced to sell it'

Commissioner: Q: The Sub-Inspector promised to pay you Rs. 3,600/- for the poultry and the pen?

A: Yes, Sir.

Q: How many birds were there? A: Before the incident, there were about 600 birds. Thereafter, I don't know how many birds were there.

Q: Did you agree to part with the poultry, pen and the mash?

A: I had arranged to sell the mash to the A. G. A. Kurunegala for a sum of Rs. 1,200/-. I agreed to sell the poultry pen as I was compelled to accede to his demand as the Sub-Inspector made

A reply to that letter should be obtained immediately).

To Mr. Bartlett:

Q: You had sent a copy of the memorandum submitted to the Commission to the T. R. R. O? A: Yes.

Q: There is a footnote which states as follows: (reads)? A: Yes.

Q: The money orders were on 22.9.77? A: Yes.

Q: You received two money orders for a total sum of Rs. 1000/-? A: Yes.

Q: Have you ever lived in Jaffna? A: No. This is the first time I am living in Jaffna.

Q: For how long have you been a planter?

A: For the last 26 years. This estate belonged to Mr. A. C. M. Ameer. It was taken over by the Land Reform Commission. I purchased my

'Looter Premaratne hit my wife'

Q: Have you abandoned residence in the south?

A: Yes. As a result of the brutal treatment given to me. I asked Premaratne the famous looter to shoot us then and there. He trampled my wife and hit her on her abdomen. He kicked her. I was asked to walk stark naked. A special Sergeant was detailed to arrest Premaratne.

"I reside at No. 84, Chetty Street, Jaffna. I am without any money. I have taken a good number of loans to improve my property and I am still paying them. I have to pay them.

Q: Do you have any other source of income?

A: No. I am unable to do anything.

Q: With regard to S. I. Seneviratne did you offer to sell all your poultry, pens and mash to him?

A: No. It was under compulsion that I had to give them to him. He said that my property would be burnt down and made me to give them to him.

"He exercised pressure on me. After he inspected the property he forced me to give it to him. He said he would pay me Rs. 3600/- in monthly instalments but up to date he has not paid me. I am now without a cent.

'O.I.C.'s POULTRY DEAL'

Q: This is for the mash?

A: Yes.

Q: This letter which you received, A4C of 20th September was after the A. S. P. was inquiring into your allegation that S. I. Seneviratne had removed some articles without your permission?

A: Yes.

Q: What you say is that the envelope in which A4C was enclosed shows that the letter was posted on the 22nd of September, whereas the letter is dated 20th September? A: Yes.

Q: Thereafter you received a letter from A. S. P. Mr. Rajeswaran who was inquiring into your complaint against S. I. Seneviratne dated 1st November, 1977?

A: Yes.

Q: Thereafter you received another letter from Mr. Rajeswaran, A. S. P. dated 19th November, 1977? A: Yes.

Q: You sent a letter addressed to the Superintendent of Police, Kurunegala Mr. Talwatta dated 19th January, 1978? A: Yes.

me clearly understand that the building and the property will be burnt or destroyed if he did not look after them.

To: Deputy Solicitor General.

Q: You have subsequently, after your letter of 31st December (A4) forwarded a statement of the losses sustained by you? A: Yes.

Q: You stated that it was a rough estimate? A: Yes. Sometime later I recovered my account books and I presented an amended statement of my losses. I produce that amended statement of losses as A4H. The amount of loss shown in that A4H is Rs. 94,437/-.

(Deputy Solicitor General Mr. de Silva moves that the S. P. Kurunegala be asked to report on the conduct of S. I. Seneviratne. Secretary to write a letter to the S. P. immediately calling for the report on the action taken in regard to the complaint made by Mr. Dharmaratnam which was followed by A4G.

property in 1976. It was 8 acres in extent and I bought it for Rs. 50 000/-

Q: You developed that property?

A: Yes. I spent about Rs. 60,000/- on the development work - on setting up the poultry sheds, putting up the bungalow and planting the land with Thambili.

Q: The capital invested was Rs. 50,000/- to purchase it and Rs. 60,000/- to develop it? A: Yes, A total of lakh of rupees.

next week

- * Mawanella Hindu priest testifies
- * Fisheries Research Officer's evidence
- * More on Anuradhapura