

HOT SPRING

Vol. 3

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No. 27

What then must we do?

I sit on a man's back, choking him and making him carry me, and yet assure myself and others that I am very sorry for him and wish to ease his lot by all possible means - except by getting off his back. What then must we do?

Leo Tolstoy

Bring to International Notice War Crimes of Sri Lanka

Voluntary Social Organisations tell ICRC Sequel to Killing of Red Cross Official

Voluntary Social Service Organisations and Non - Governmental Organisations functioning in Jaffna joined in full strength to demonstrate against the wanton killing of the Vice - President of the Jaffna Branch of the Red Cross Society, Mr. Kandiah Puvanendran, by firing from a 'Puccara' bomber plane belong to the Sri Lankan Air Force in Valikamam East on Saturday, April 10.

All voluntary Social Service Organisations' members functioning in Jaffna and members of NGOs assembled at 10.00 am. on Friday, April 16, near the Nallur Kanthasamy temple. St. John's

Brigade, Boys' Scouts, Girls' Guides, Interact and Lion members, officials of foreign based NGOs such as Forut Reddarna. Save the Children's Fund etc. joined in full strength in their uniforms.

Those assembled opposite the Nallur Kanthasamy temple marched in procession carrying banners and placards condemning the killing of Jaffna's Red Cross Branch Vice-President, Mr. Kandiah



Picture showing Voluntary Service organisation members demonstrating in Jaffna.

ARMY MOVE REPULSED IN VALIKAMAM WEST Large scale Damage by bombers and shells

Two persons died and over ten persons were injured when the Sri Lankan Air Force planes and a helicopter bombed and fired and the Sri Lankan Army launched artillery shell attacks targeting villages in Valikamam West as Sri Lankan forces tried to advance towards Pandatarippu.

The news in this connection states that on Thursday, April 15 at 7.30 am. Sri Lankan forces from Forward Defence Lines tried to advance into free areas of Valikamam West with armoured vehicles. Support strike for the Sinhala forces was provided by

Sri Lankan Air Force bombers and a helicopter. The Tigers took on the Sinhala forces trying to advance into free Tamil Eelam territory and fierce battle raged till 12.30 P.M. At 12.30 P.M. The Sri Lankan forces retreated to their earlier positions.

Even after the battle stopped at noon the area was subjected to aerial bombardment and shell attack from the Sri Lankan Army till about 3.30 p.m.

Many buildings including schools, dispensaries, shops and houses have been damaged. Pandatarippu Hindu College was heavily damaged by aerial bombardment. Also Dr. Aththanasar

Central Dispensary and Sri Krishna Dispensary were badly damaged. Pandatarippu MPCS building and Rural Bank building were also damaged. Over 15 shops, village committee office and library at Pandatarippu were damaged. Harriet Winslow Women's Home, and a Christian Church were also damaged.

Two people died. They are Thambiah (65) and Sivatharan (23). Over ten persons were injured including two families whose members were all injured and admitted to hospital.

Many thousands of people from Pandatarippu, Piranpattu, Nitchamam, Panipulam, Vadaliyadaippu and Chulipuram areas were displaced and they had taken refuge at temples, churches and schools in adjoining villages.

GOPIO Petitions U. N.

The Global Organisation of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) along with the National Federation of Indian American Associations (NFIA) and Friends of Indian Society International, has filed a petition in the United Nations seeking effective relief on behalf of Tamils in Sri Lanka.

The Government of Sri Lanka has been made the Respondent to this petition, according to a news published in the Tamil Nation, London.

HEAVY FIGHTING IN VALIKAMAM EAST Sri Lankan Army Retreats After 6 hours Battle

Four civilians, including the Vice - President of the Jaffna Branch of the Red Cross Society, died when the Sri Lankan forces tried to capture further territory in Valikamam East.

The news in this connection states that on Saturday, April 10, about 6.30 am. Sri Lankan forces from the Forward Defence Lines at Idaikadu moved about 2 kilometers supported by six armoured vehicles and air-cover from above. The S.L. Army also resorted to heavy artillery shell attack directed towards the villages in Valikamam East.

The Tigers gave battle and the fight went on for six hours till 12.30 p.m. when the S. L. Army retreated to its former positions. Even thereafter Sri Lankan planes continued to bomb the areas till 2.30 p.m.

As the battle raged between the Sinhala Army and the LTTE, Sri Lankan Air Force bombers including the recently

purchased Puccara and Bell helicopters were engaged in bombing and firing in all adjoining villages. At the same time the Sinhala Army at Palaly launched heavy shell attack directed towards these villages.

Four civilians, including the Vice - President of the Jaffna Branch of the Red Cross Society, were killed. The Red Cross Vehicle which was stationed at Atchuvely to transport the injured was also hit by the Puccara firing from above. The vehicle had been got down from Colombo only the previous week. Over 5 civilians were injured.

About 2000 people from Paththameni were displaced and took refuge in public (Continued on Page 4)

TILAKASIRI AND TAMIL POLITICS

Anuruddha Tilakasiri in his column in the Sunday Observer of 4. 3. 93 has been lamenting about the plight of Tamil politics today. In fact, he was not lamenting but was threatening the so-called democratic Tamil parties especially the TULF and the EPRLF and exhorting them to rescind and reconsider their decision to boycott the Parliamentary Select Committee. His mention of EPDP and the PLOTE, in spite of their role as active fighters along with the Sinhala chauvinist army, looks as if they are of no value or that they have no clout in politics. Tilakasiri threatens that if the Tamil groups don't act the way he is asking them to do, it will result in the Sinhala parties either imposing a Sinhala

solution on the Tamil people and continue with the war indefinitely or to invite the 'fascist LTTE' to the negotiating table.

In either way, the democratic Tamil parties will become completely marginalised.

What, in fact, is Tilakasiri asking the Tamil parties to give up, in spite of the fact, according to him, the Tamil parties have ample reason to be unhappy about the way the two major Sinhala parties conducted themselves in the Select Committee and the consensus they arrived at ultimately? He wants the Tamils not to insist on the merger of the North and

East and also not to be adamant about federalism.

TAMIL HOMELAND

Even according to Tilakasiri, from the beginning Tamil parties and groups from moderates to hardliners, one of the most fundamental demands was the merger of the Northern and Eastern Provinces. But, as far as Tamils are concerned, merger is the basis of all other lost rights which they are demanding to retrieve. It is not a new demand as such. The Tamils are asking that the Northern and Eastern Provinces which constitute their homeland and which was conquered by the Portuguese and subsequently ruled by the Dutch, English and the Sinhalese be returned to them as a whole entity. History, Geography, recent happenings, behaviour of the former rulers, Sinhalese attempt to devour their homeland through systematic colonization, are all facts that the Northern and Eastern provinces are one unit. Even heads of states, in the words of Mr. Thondaman, viz. India and Sri Lanka had accepted this in their Indo-Sri Lanka Accord. How can Tilakasiri or for that matter anybody ask the Tamils to give up their inherent right to live together, without being forcibly divided by others in their own homeland.

EELAM

Tilakasiri is talking of giving up the insistence on federalism. If he thinks that the so-called democratic Tamil groups operating from Colombo, without any base in either North or East, is fighting for federalism, there is nothing wrong for him to persuade them. But the Tamils of the North and East want Eelam which is the demand their genuine representatives, the LTTE, have put forward. Their desire for peace and their willingness to negotiate a settlement should not be interpreted as weakness.

TAMILS UNDAUNTED

The Tamils of Eelam, that is the inhabitants of both the Northern and Eastern provinces, are engaged in a struggle for freedom from the Sinhalese. In that they have suffered in many ways. They have also proved that they are undaunted during the last ten years. They have won battles and had gone more than half-way in their struggle. Any threat by Tilakasiri or for that

matter by anybody will not weaken their determination.

buildings were put to the torch.

What Mr. Tilakasiri is afraid of is that, if the ethnic issue is not settled in the way he wants it to be settled, then there will be the possibility of the Sinhalese parties inviting the LTTE to the negotiating table. Everyone knows that our ethnic problem has to be settled at the negotiating table. But when, is the only question. The LTTE is carrying on its struggle to arrive at a stage where the Sinhalese government, having lost the war, will invite them to the negotiating table. This is what happens everywhere where there is a struggle for freedom. So what Mr. Tilakasiri, through his threats to the Tamil parties in Colombo, is attempting to sabotage the genuine victory the LTTE is going to score in its struggle to retrieve the lost rights of the people of Tamil Eelam. But

IPKF way of conducting elections is also well known. Even after such unfair methods, persons like Amirthalingam went through the back-door to Parliament. In this context how can anyone call these Tamil parties democratic. These strays whom Mr. Tilakasiri is threatening, what right have they to speak on behalf of even one Tamil from the North and East, let alone one whole community?

FINAL SOLUTION

Now, what about the Sinhalese on whose behalf Tilakasiri is trying to hoodwink the Tamils? President Premadasa on behalf of the UNP, has said that he will carefully study the final decision and recommendation of the Select Committee to bring about a final solution to the ethnic problem. Is that Committee still in existence? It is not even meeting. How can such a committee give its final recommendation so that a solution on that basis could be put before the people at the forthcoming Provincial Councils elections. Most probably its next sitting will be after the elections to the Provincial Councils are over. What an easy way to fool the people? Premadasa must be thinking that all the people are fools.

EVERYTHING BAD

What about the SLFP? A recent incident will elucidate its thinking. Mr. Kumar Ponnampalam, a leading lawyer and the President of the All Ceylon Tamil Congress, was invited by the Lawyers' Association of the SLFP to speak on the subject of 'Ethnic Peace and Broken Promises'. The other speakers were Gamini Dissanayake of the DUNF, Victor Ivan, the Editor of the 'Ravaya' and Nimal Siripala, the SLFP Colombo District M. P. Kumar Ponnampalam highlighted the failure to arrive

(Continued on Page 3)

NESTOR PASSES AWAY

We regret to announce the death of our columnist Nestor on Tuesday, April 13.

Mr. Somasuntharam Vanniasingham, retired lecturer in Economics at the University of Jaffna, was associated with 'Hot Spring' from its very first issue and wrote both in his own name and under the pen-name of Nestor. His 'Musings' appeared in our last week's issue. Unhappily he is not alive this week.

His funeral took place at his residence at Tiruvelvely and the cremation took place at the Kokkuvil crematorium the same day.

'Hot Spring' extends its condolences to the members of his family.

OUR READERS SAY

The Jaffna Hindu College Old Boys' Association has been conducting lectures on different useful subjects on every Full Moon Day recently. Many learned persons have expressed their specialised knowledge on various subjects. Whether one agrees with what is lectured on or not, it is an enlightening exercise, when due to the present state of affairs in the country, people are prevented from listening to lectures of an academic nature or going to see an educative film.

All of a sudden a communication was published stating that this routine lecture will not take place on 6. 4. 93 (Full Moon Day). We are at a loss to understand why a good exercise of this nature had been stopped. If the Full Moon day lecture was stopped for any reason other than not to disturb the frolics happening in the Northern courtyard of Nallur Temple in the name of Poet Kampan, the public have a right to know the reason so that remedial measures could be made to resurrect and resume the holding of lectures on Full Moon days.

S. Thiagarajah
Jaffna

COMPETITION FOR WORKERS' DAY

The Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisations (TEEDOR) and Palmyrah-Coconut Resources Development Division proposes to hold a competition in palmyrah tree climbing, making traditional jaggery containers with palmyrah leaves, thatching cadjans etc. in view of the forthcoming workers' day on May 1.

Winners will be awarded valuable prizes. Those wishing to participate in the competition have been invited to contact the nearest Co-conut and Palmyrah Produce Sales Co-operative Society through their respective village production committees.

HUGE IS NOT GREAT!

*Never be ashamed, oh my self,
To stand before the proud and the insolent might
With your eloquent simplicity
Knowing always that which is huge is not great
And pride is always short lived and never everlasting*

*Crown yourself, oh my soul,
With humility that is the very nature of the divine
And the truly wise men and women
Knowing always that which is huge is not great
And pride is always short lived and never everlasting*

*Free yourself, oh my being,
With freedom of the wind of God
And of the hermit who possess neither home nor possessions
Knowing always that which is huge is not great
And pride is always short lived and never everlasting*

— Dr. Henry Victor

Eelam Tamils - a nation - not a minority

Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar, Retiring Bishop of Jaffna giving his Last Charge at the Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna Diocese of Church of South India said that the Tamils are a nation and not a minority.

The Bishop in his charge as the Bishop of this Diocese and I am grateful to God for this opportunity. As I present to you this charge, It is our prime duty to consider two things. (i) We should consider and evaluate the past and give thanks to God. (ii) We should have plans for the future.

As I sat to prepare this charge, I got reminded of the last charge Bishop Kulendran gave 25 years ago. He also considered the past and made plans for the future. That charge was later published as a small booklet. There may be differences between these two, but we are called to remind ourselves of the task that lies ahead of us.

What is God's message to us? *We are called upon to fulfil our local task in the total vision.* What is the total vision? As Bishop Kulendran laid down his office as Bishop after 23 years, the world situation had changed quite a lot. The world of Empires or Imperialism came to a close. It was the end of an era of western Imperialism. But as one form of Imperialism came to an end, another form of Imperialism came into existence. That was the 'Tyranny of the Majorities.' Majorities began to oppress the minorities. Our own situation bears witness to this fact. I still remember the speech of the late S. J. V. Chelvanayagam in this Hall during one of my vacations as a student. He said, 'We are happy that our Sinhalese brethren have got their independence. Now the task of our Tamil brethren is to fight for our independence. That is the goal of our party'.

As he said, we are a nation in this island. There are two nations, namely a Tamil nation, and a Sinhalese nation. Only when this is recognised, we can lead a life based on justice and peace. This kind of feeling is not unique to our country. Many countries do have the same situation. Same is true of ex-Baltic countries like Lithuania and Estonia. This can be said of those who got split from the Soviet Union, for example, Ukraine and Georgia. Similar situation exists in Czechoslovakia too.

The struggles of the Tamils in Sri Lanka is a sign or a symbol of the struggles of

the minorities in the whole world. This is the context of our Church today. The important thing is not to be popular but to fight for justice and work for it. There has always been a difference between the Christians of the Church of South India or of American Ceylon Mission and the other Christians, or even the other Tamil Christians.

It is right for us to discern the vital difference between these. When others consider us as a minority, they want us to join the majority and accept their way. But we are a nation and we are not like the Burghers and the Malays in this island. What I stress is not the division but the concern for our own right for our self-determination. We must strive to get our identity. We are the only people who can defend our own position and their won't be anyone else to do so. It was possible by the Grace of God to explain our position to the World Church during the last ten

years. Organisations like the WCC, and CCA, have understood that the Church of South India is the only Church today which can raise its voice for the Tamil cause.

It has always been an embarrassing thing for me when people in the South identify me as the Bishop in Jaffna. The reason is, they do not like what I stand for or what I represent. But thanks be to God for making it possible for the World Church to understand our plight.

No one would have thought hundred years ago that the British imperialism would one day come to an end. What they finally felt was that it was impossible for them to continue to rule others without their consent. The same will come true one day in our country too. It is in this context of our concern to identify ourselves with the struggle of the Tamils we are called as a Church. The promise of God for all people is a reminder that God does not wish any of his people to live under slavery. This is indeed the

Retiring Bishop's Last Charge

will of God that all of God's people must live a life of freedom.

We may have our own failures and weaknesses, but

at the same time we stood in solidarity with our Tamil people. So it is our task to be present wherever our Tamil people are.

SLAVERY IN INDIA - Says ILO Report

International Labour Organisation in its World Labour Report names Brazil, Dominican Republic, Haiti, INDIA, Mauritius, Pakistan, Peru, Sudan and Thailand as countries where forced labour exists.

The same report also reveals that at the end of the 20th century some 200 million people world over will still be slaves in some form or other and this includes many children.

Slavery according to this report may be more hidden than in earlier times but it is no less ignominious.

Slavery of the most traditional kind exist in some African countries. Debtors, slavery in which a worker's future wages are committed to a master who has lent money to the worker, holds millions of people in bondage in Latin America and South Asia.

One of the worst forms of slavery involves sex. In the whole territory of India, there are sixteen markets for sex slaves. This is found in Brazil, Thailand and other countries too.

Sugar-cane plantations in Haiti employ many thousands including children as slave labour. They are inveigled into with promise of good work and good pay but are in fact kept so poor so that they have no where else to go.

Tilakasiri..

(Continuation from Page 2)

at a political solution to the ethnic problem and also blame the SLFP for its failure in this respect. This led to interruptions and slogan shouting by Mervyn de Silva, a staunch Anura supporter and thirty, others. Finally Kumar Ponnampalam had to be bundled out of the auditorium (SLFP headquarters) in humiliation. Did not the persons who invited Kumar expect such a speech? Or were they so cunning to invite him and then humiliate him? What Kumar spoke was the truth. SLFP is definitely one of the responsible parties to have allowed the ethnic problem to degrade to the extent that it is today. They are not second to the UNP in everything bad. They tore the Bandaranayake-Chelvanayagam Pact before the UNP tore its Dudley-Chelvanayagam Pact. They tampered with the Constitution in 1972 before the UNP did it in 1978. They soiled their hands in the election process before the UNP did. They under the guise of subjugating the JVP killed more than 10,000 Sinhalese youths in 1971 before the UNP killed more than 60,000 Sinhalese in the same way. These along with the recent behaviour in the Select Committee and the ravings of Hela Urumaya

etc. clearly spell out that they are far away in their desire to solve the ethnic problem.

MOTILAL NEHRU

In the circumstances there is no point in any chauvinistic Sinhalese threatening or giving advice to the Tamils as to what they should do. Their contributions can be only detrimental to our cause. No doubt, without threat or advice, there are persons

like Motilal Nehru who will not hesitate to betray the cause of the Tamils. They are capable of pushing away the ladder by which they climbed to certain positions. They pose as 'big and important' people, falsely making others to believe that they are a force to be reckoned with or that they are very close to centres of power and inveigle the powers that are, to given them a 'place'. The powers that be, are also

short of the normal 'intellectual, crowd that is a sinequa non of a ruling regime. Higher rung of the elites, even though they do not want to topple the conservative applecart, nevertheless, do not prefer to mingle too much with the present set-up. Thus there is a dearth of persons. Hence the persons of the calibre of Motilal Nehru are of necessity roped to the band-waggon.

Ilavalai Convent Scores a First

Ilavalai Convent became the first school in the Jaffna District to present students for the English Literature subject for the G.C.E (O/L) examination, re-introduced into school curricula from December 1992.

Two students only sat for this optional subject at the G.C.E (O/L) examination held in December, 1992 and both have passed - one with distinction-making a hundred percent pass.

Miss Jananee Ratnasingham got distinction, while Miss Calista Siluvarajah passed the subject. The parents of the two children have all the praise for the English teacher, Miss M. J. A. Thambinayagam who prepared the children for the examination successfully even without the poetry book (prescribed text) issued by the

Education Department being made available.

By the way, teacher and students, are all displaced

from their village due to Army occupation and the school temporarily functions at Manipay.

Thirumarai Celebrations at Kopay Teachers' College

Thirumarai celebration was observed with all solemnity at Kopay Teachers' College on 2.4.93 under the chairmanship of the Vice-Principal, Mrs. S. Ramanathan.

Sri Ramakrishna Sarada Sevashrama donated 6 volumes of the book (Rs. 2,400/- in value) 'The Cultural Heritage of India' published by the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Calcutta, to the Teachers' College.

Swami in his short speech requested the teachers to go through these books. Today reading has lost its value.

We need very capable teachers for a progressive society. The Sevashrama is anxious to offer a prize for any teacher who could go through these 6 Volumes or at least some of them and give us a review by December, 1994. We are sure to honour that teacher.

These books are given in connection with the Centenary Year of Swami Vivekananda's participation in the Chicago Parliament of Religions in 1893.

The teachers gave various dance and devotional items.

HOT SPRING

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The Impeccable Resolution of the Tamils

Eelam Tamils are presently paying homage to the memory of Annai Poopathy, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of her martyrdom.

When India intervened in the ethnic dispute in Sri Lanka, the Tamils for a while thought that their sufferings at the hands of the oppressive Sinhala regime had come to end and looked upon India as a benevolent neutral mediator who would use her good offices to secure autonomy for the Tamils and they could live in their homeland with security and dignity, managing their own affairs.

Alas, it soon became manifest that India was only looking after her own interests under the guise of being a mediator to the detriment of the Tamils in particular and Sri Lanka in general, and in effect, she had only hastened to stab the Tamil people in the back. Contrary to the moral greatness attributed to her, India did not seem to bother about the absence of righteousness in her actions and let loose her armed forces on the helpless Tamils to cow them down and to get her ill-conceived settlement to be accepted by the Tamils at gun-point.

Tamils were not prepared to forsake their own interests and acquiesce in the unsatisfactory settlement under duress and mortal threat held out by India. They expressed their disapproval in numerous ways but India was unrelenting and continued with her military repression.

It was at this juncture, when prominent citizens were haphazardly arrested and shot in cold blood and the ordinary Tamil civilians were being terrorised, that an ordinary humble housewife from Batticaloa Mrs. Poopathy Kanapathypillai displayed her extra-ordinary qualities and started a fast unto death, putting forward the following two simple and very sensible demands:-

- (1) Halt all military operations;
- (2) Commence discussions with the LTTE to arrive at a negotiated settlement.

These exemplified the feelings of the entire Tamil Nation. Her noble act of coming forward to sacrifice her very life, personified the impeccable resolution of the Tamil People and their high moral spirits, defying the terror that was let loose on them.

The Tamils have suffered immensely as a politically powerless people under the Sri Lankan polity and have faced dangerous disintegration from the racial oppressions of the Sinhalese who control the Sri Lankan State. They have been subjected to foul wars forced on them by human wickedness and have faced cruel sacrifices in their struggle to liberate themselves. They are in no mood to meekly trust anyone; compromise on principles and accept settlements that will expose future generations of Tamils too, to the same dangers and sufferings and humiliations that have been their lot.

It now appears to be the turn of the Sinhalese, who are emulating the Indians to learn their lesson. They are indulging in wishful thinking and flexing their military muscle to deny the Tamils their birthright. They don't seem to realise that no race worth its name will ever submit and surrender to State Terrorism and accept a life of serfdom.

Tamils are entitled to autonomy and statehood. They are not pleading for devolution of some powers at the sufferance of the Sinhalese. They have demonstrated their determination to achieve their objectives in no uncertain manner.

It is high time the Sinhalese take serious note of the two sensible demands made by Annai Poopathy five years ago which are very relevant even now and stop procrastinating the Settlement of the ethnic dispute any longer. We repeat her demands once again.

- (1) Stop military operations;
- (2) Commence negotiations with the LTTE with a view to reaching a Political Settlement.

LTTE Successfully hits Again at Mannar - 5 S.L. Soldiers Killed

Five Sri Lankan soldiers including an officer of the rank of Captain were killed at Mannar when LTTE fighters attacked a Sri Lankan Army truck proceeding from Mannar to Talai Mannar.

The news in this connection states that on Wednesday, April 14, at about 11.45a.m. the Tigers struck at a Sri Lankan Army truck at Konarpannai Olathoduwai junction. The truck was proceeding from Mannar town to Talai Mannar.

The attack lasted for two minutes only. Five soldiers were killed on the spot including an officer of the rank of captain as later admitted by the Sri Lankan government. Two Sinhala soldiers were reported to have escaped with injuries.

The Tigers damaged the truck completely and recovered arms and ammunitions from the dead soldiers. There was no casualty for the LTTE.

Heavy Fighting..

(Continuation from page 1) places in other villages. The Vallai bridge also was damaged. A seventy year old man died on this bridge and three persons were injured in this shell attack.

Ratneswary Vidyalayam at Paththameni was damaged by bombing. Many houses in Paththameni and Thampalai were damaged by bombing and shell attack.

The LTTE said one of its fighters died in action against the Sinhala Army. Government of Sri Lanka later admitted 5 of its soldiers died.

Good Friday & Easter Vigil

Both Protestants and Roman Catholics in Tamil Eelam conducted Special Good Friday Services in their respective churches on Good Friday, 9th April, 1993 commemorating the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Even the on going war did

not deter them from observing their religious rites.

On Saturday 10th April, the Students' Christian Movement of Chundikuli Girls' College conducted an Easter Service at St. John's Baptist Church, Chundikuli in the evening.

NEWS ROUND UP

Monday, April 5

'Puccara' bomber plane attacks Alankerni near Kilali. Merchandise stocked for transport and some shops were destroyed. One report said that the value of merchandise destroyed approximated Rs 10 lakhs.

Wednesday April 7

Sri Lankan Navy attacked civilian passengers at Kilali. Two civilians from Kiri-nochchi died. They were identified as Thangarajah and Kumar. Six others were injured.

Thursday April 8

Gun boats of Sri Lankan Navy fired cannons and shell

from Poonakari - Kalmunai. Fishermen returned homesome leaving their tools of trade.

Sri Lankan Army at Karainagar fired cannons and shells. Shells hit Ponnalai and Chulipuram.

Friday April 9

Tamil villages near Valai-chenai in the Batticaloa District rounded up by Sri Lankan Army. Ten Tamils arrested and taken to Sri Lankan Army Camp.

Sri Lankan Navy fires from 50 calibre guns. Kilali, Kachchai, Ketpeli, Allippalai villages targeted.

Bring to..

(Continuation from Page 1)

Early morning on Saturday, April 10 when Sri Lankan forces started attack in Valikamam East, a team from the Jaffna Branch of the Red Cross Society led by its Vice-President, Mr. Kandiah Puvanendran, went to Valikamam East in a newly acquired vehicle which had only been obtained the previous week from Colombo to rescue the injured. When the vehicle was nearing Valikamam East a helicopter and a 'Puccara' plane were sighted. Mr. Kandiah Puvanendran had ordered the vehicle to be stopped in an open space as it was free from being attacked because it had the Red Cross Flag exhibited for easy identification.

The passengers in the van, all being Red Cross workers, had got down from the vehicle and were standing a little away with their uniforms on in the belief that their uniforms would establish their

identity and that they would be free from attack. But it was not to be so.

Firing from the 'Puccara' hit the leader of the relief workers' team, Mr. Kandiah Puvanendran, and he died on the spot. Mr. Puvanendran, aged 44, was a teacher who held the office of Vice-President of the Jaffna Branch of the Red Cross Society.

Another shot from the helicopter damaged the vehicle too.

Voluntary Social Service Organisations and NGOs functioning in Jaffna, angered by this wanton killing and damage to the Red Cross vehicle even after clear identification took out the demonstration on Friday.

The demonstrators first went to the office of the UNHCR close to the Nallur Kanthasamy temple and handed over a memorandum to the Resident Representative. From there the proce-

Saturday, April 10

Gun fire from Poonakari, Kalmunai and Poovarasantivu Sri Lankan Army Camps on fishermen. Fishermen from Columbuthurai, Ariyalai and Poompukar abandoned their work and returned home.

Sunday, April 11

Sri Lankan 'Puccara' bomber plane throws 3 bombs at Parappukadathan in Mannar District about 10.30 am. Details of loss not verified. Attack at 1.20 p.m. again. Two bombs dropped. Some houses damaged.

Ponniiah Sinniah (33) of Ampanal was injured in Alaveddy North due to gun fire from Sri Lankan Army

ssion proceeded to the office of NGOs consortium where too a memorandum was handed over.

Thereafter the processionists went to the office of the ICRC and then to Jaffna Secretariat. They handed over a memorandum to the ICRC team leader and to the Government Agent of Jaffna.

The memorandum pointed out that the Red Cross official and vehicle were fired at even after clear identification. It was deliberate and wanton. The memorandum pointed out that the attack was a crime under the Geneva Conventions.

The memorandum in particular requested the ICRC to bring to the notice of the international community the wanton crime committed by the Government of Sri Lanka against expressed international law based on the Geneva Conventions.