

"The needs of the various Provinces and their heterogeneous population differ widely according to race and locality... any attempts that may be made to represent the 'People of Ceylon' as forming a single entity welded together, with common interests to an extent sufficient to nullify these differences, is to the last degree misleading and augurs a radical misconception of local conditions and ignorance of the Colony as a whole."

Sir Henry McCallum, Governor, 1909.

Attempted Advance Fails

S.L. Army Retreats With Heavy Loss

ENCOUNTER AT ELEPHANT PASS

The third attempt of the Sri Lankan Army to occupy further free Tamil Eelam territory failed on Wednesday, April 21, when LTTE forced back the moving Sri Lankan Army.

The news in this connection states that on Wednesday, April 21, at 6.30 am. Sri Lankan Army soldiers encamped at Elephant Pass stepped out from their Forward Defence lines near the Elephant Pass Railway station in battle tanks and tried to advance on two fronts towards Karukkaitivu.

Within 800 yards from the Forward Defence Line Sentry points, the LTTE started to attack the Sri Lankan Army which tried to move forward.

As the S. L. Army tried to move, heavy artillery shells were fired towards Tiger positions from the S. L. Army Camp at Elephant Pass. At

entered the Karukkaitivu sea and sent volleys of cannon fire directed towards Tiger positions.

At the same time three bombers and a helicopter belonging to the Sri Lankan

Air Force joined in the battle pounding Tiger positions. But the LTTE held its own and carried out counter-attack against the combined forces of the Sinhala state.

Heavy fighting went on for about 5 hours. The Sri Lankan Army, unable to carry on its push forward, retreated to its position at 11.30am.

According to Government sources two Sri Lankan soldiers are reported to have died in this battle which took place near Elephant Pass. There was no casualty on the LTTE side.

The Government had enforced a curfew in the Jaffna and Kilinochchi Districts but announced its withdrawal in the afternoon, the same day.

Shell Attack in Batticaloa Village

The Sri Lankan Army encamped at Karadikulam in the Batticaloa District launched shell attack from its camp directed towards the village of Alankulam. According to the news in this connection the shell attack started early in the morning at 4.30 on Wednesday, April 21 and continued for some time. Report of details of damage has not been received.



Mr. Pirabakaran being interviewed by BBC Correspondents Chiaka Nwosu and Ananthi Suriyapirakasam.

TAMPERING OF FOREIGN LETTERS CONTINUES

Opening of closed letters still persists in Colombo. Even foreign letters sent to addressees in Jaffna are subject to strict censorship at the Naval Camp in Colombo, prior to being sent to their destinations by ship.

Although an assurance was given earlier to Mr. Sethukavalar, the Deputy Post-Master General of the Northern Province by Mr. Cyril Ranatunge, the former Defence Secretary, that henceforth letters sent to the North

would not be tampered with. This assurance was given in Mid March this year, yet the opening of private letters has again been resorted to.

But now the local postal authorities instead of inviting in writing the addressees of such tampered letters to call over at the Post Office to collect them, the letters are being delivered like the normal mails by the postal Peons. Since the responsible officers attached to the Postal Department are thus passing the 'baby' on to the minor employees, there

has developed labour unrest amongst the minor staff, as they have to face the blame for illegal tampering of foreign mail.

In the meantime even the number of mail bags received

by ship in the North too has dwindled to less than one hundred, whereas normally for the duration of a week, the number of mail bags received by ship should average two hundred.

Picketing by Displaced Persons

Displaced persons from Erlalai, Punnalaikattuvan and Kuplan have not been given dry ration relief from February this year. There are over 940 displaced families from these areas, living as refugees in the Uduvil AGA's division.

These displaced persons are picketing the office of the Uduvil AGA at Chunnakam demanding the restoration of the supply of relief dry rations to them. The picketing is going on for five days now.

Red Cross Work Hampered

Following the wanton killing of the Vice President of the Jaffna Branch of the Red Cross Society, Mr. Kandiah Puvanendran, in Valikamam East on Saturday, April 10 by firing from a 'Puccara' bomber belonging to the Sri Lankan Air Force, the Jaffna Red Cross Society has suspended its activities of providing transport to hospital of injured or sick patients.

It is learnt that the ICRC advised the Jaffna Red Cross Society to obtain clear instructions from Colombo in regard to the movement of its vehicles.

Tamils are Solidly Behind Tigers

I have gone through tens of letters to the Editor, of the Island including that of a lady of 83, and several articles on the subject of the Anglican Bishop of Colombo meeting with Pirabakaran. It is a pity the Sinhalese people as a whole (Vasudeva Nanayakara - one swallow does not make a summer) fail to understand the aspirations of the Tamil People and the acute problems they are facing - problems forced on them by successive Sinhalese from the day this island gained Independence.

Tamils in the South

Several of these Sinhalese say that half the Tamils are living peacefully? among the Sinhalese. Are they really living peacefully? Definitely Not. Black July 1983 is always at the back of their minds. Can any one deny this? They are living among the Sinhalese as second class hostage citi-

zens, fear gripping them all the 24 hours of the day. According to these writers, they are among the Sinhalese because they are frightened of the Tigers. Again a definite no. They are there as they are frightened of the Bombs and Artillery Shells and the fear of the Sinhalese Soldiers in case they succeed in capturing from the Tigers, the area in which their homes are situated. They have not forgotten what happened at Vadamaradchy. A fair percentage of them are in Colombo and its suburbs as Colombo is the commercial as well as the industrial capital of the island. Besides the

island being a unitary state ninety percent of Government offices are in the capital, Colombo and its suburbs.

Some of the writers question the propriety of Pirapakaran bringing in shiploads of arms, while speaking of peace. Is not President Premadasa purchasing Puccara Bombers, Supersonic Bombers and what not, while always saying there will have to be a Political Solution and not a Military Solution to the Ethnic Problem? If Pirapakaran is not armed and ready to repel the invading forces what right has he to talk of Peace?

Genocide

One of the writers says the Rev. Bishop should have sent a bullet through Pirapakaran's brain. The most suitable person to receive this gift in his brain is President Premadasa for as Commander of the Forces ordering the firing of Artillery Shells from Army Camps and Navy Vessels all the 24 hours of the day. Does not this cowardly act kill the ordinary innocent Tamil, destroy his house, destroy his temple, school, market, shop and what not besides playing psychological havoc especially among women and children? This type of war was not carried out against the J.V.P. because the victims will be Sinhalese, his kith and kin. And practically every day this President says aloud that the war is only against the Tigers and not against the Tamil people.

Why do not these writers and the Sinhalese people as whole not see this diabolic crime? One can understand the firing of these shells when the Army is on the move to capture a Tiger held area when the Tigers will be concentrated in the army advancing territory but to do this practically every

Swami Protests

Swami Chidrupananda, the Swami - in - Charge of the Sri Sarada Shevashramam at Point Pedro has sent a telegram to President Premadasa protesting against the killing of Red Cross Vice-President, Mr. K. Puvanendran, and a school boy aged 15 who was killed by shell attack on the same day at Vadamaradchy.

day and at all hours even in the nights is pure and simple GENOCIDE. Here I would like to remind the frantic efforts made by Chancellor Helmut Kohl to punish Eric Honecker for ordering the killing of East Germans crossing into West Germany - luckily illness had saved the latter. Now who is going to punish President Premadasa for this heinous war crime? Has it to be left to Karma only? Unfortunately even the donor countries, in their avarice to continue in a bigger way their trade, are turning a blind eye to this. But one fine morning they may wake up to know that soft-speaking Premadasa has all along been leading them up the garden path. The result will be they will drop Sri Lanka like a ton of bricks. The Tamil nation is anxiously awaiting this day.

East and the Sinhalese

One writer says that even during the Dutch period the Eastern Province was a Sinhalese majority area. His reason for this is that Robert Knox was captured by Sinhalese Soldiers in Trincomalee. It is ostrich like for him to refuse to know that the Dutch had given the Kandyan King a corridor to the Port of Trincomalee to carry on the export of

S. Alagaratnam

his produce in turn for the King permitting the Dutch to trade with the Kandyan Kingdom.

All the Sinhalese leaders from D. S. Senanayake onwards and 99 percent of the Sinhalese officers were hell bent on making the Eastern Province a Sinhalese majority province and President Premadasa is doing his very best to plant more Sinhalese in the East than all his predecessors.

The 13th amendment to the constitution says that when allotting land priority should be given to those displaced by the project and then landless of the District and thereafter to landless of the Province. The 13th amendment prohibits the bringing into one province people from the other provinces. The planting of people in the Eastern province is often done forcibly. Readers will remember the case of the Ambalangoda lady hiding in the jungles of Ambalangoda and filing a case in the Courts through her lawyer requesting the court to order the Police not to force her to go and live in the Eastern province. What is going to happen to the Sinhalese people thus planted when the Ethnic problem is finally solved, as solved it will be though it may take even another hundred years. The Eelam Tamils will not

agree to grant them dual citizenship as the Lithuanians and others have agreed to give the Russians planted in their countries. They with their progeny will have to go back to their Sinhala Rata.

Tamil support for Tigers

I cannot but laugh at one writer saying that the Tigers will not get more than 15 per cent of votes in a fair election. I would like Sinhalese readers to know clearly that 99 per cent of the Tamil people living in Tamil Eelam as well as those living in Sinhala Rata are behind the Tigers and the one percent are the Black sheep that is there in all countries during all ages. Besides 99 per cent of this 99 per cent believe that Pirapakaran does not only do anything wrong but that he does not know how to do anything wrong.

Week of Resurgence

The Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation has announced conducting a week of resurgence in economic activity in Tamil Eelam, between April 24 and April 30.

competitions will be held and prizes awarded for those engaged in all types of economic activity such as farming, gardening, animal husbandry, small scale industries and cottage industries.

PARLIAMENTARY SELECT COMMITTEE

Communication Link Between Jaffna and Vanni

The LTTE formally inaugurated a communication link between Vanni and Jaffna peninsula on Saturday, April 11.

The LTTE communique said that it had inaugurated this service to enable public to communicate important private messages to their relations or friends. Messages could be left at either end to be sent to the other. The message will be delivered to the addressee. Even reply paid messages can be sent.

The communication link will function as if it were telegram service in Tamil Eelam, though there are no telephones.

OUR READERS SAY

PEACE

Much have been written and said about the poor Bishop who had braved his way on a peace mission to the North, like a few members of the Buddhist clergy in the past, who too were targets of criticism then and so too was the late Mr. Kumaranatunge whose popularity rose sky - high after having met the hierarchy of the Tigers, which popularity prompted someone to blow him up.

It has become the pattern of Sri - Lankan journalism that whenever someone from the South makes a genuine effort for peace negotiations he is scoffed at by the so called national press. While on the one hand advocating strongly that peace should be restored at all costs by fluent editorials and middle page articles, these dailies play their tune on a different note when someone down South decides that enough is

enough and calls it a day by braving the ground situation to go to the Northern part of the island. He is hacked and ripped to pieces by articles and editorial comments with cynical remarks and sarcastic vengeance as happened in the case of Minister Thondaman.

Why not these puritans and pundits admit that negotiations should initiate from the end that created this monster which had resulted in the present turmoil by various nefarious thoughts, acts and deeds of the then governments in power.

It is the party that has inflicted injury that should initiate for peace and not the aggrieved. The aggrieved party will never yearn for peace but would always be bent on revenge for all his sufferings due to the inflicted wounds.

So what is wrong in some broad-minded folks getting together and having a go when the government in power had failed in its attempt for the past so many years to find a political solution.

A. R. Subramaniam
Vavunia. Mahalingam



Courtesy : Eelanatham

Sinhala Chauvinism bares its fangs

Sinhala Buddhist chauvinism has once again bared its venomous fangs. Mr. Mangala Munasinghe who is the chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee appointed to recommend a solution to the ethnic problem, true to his Sinhala Buddhist elitist stand, has suggested that the East should be separated from the Tamil homeland and rehabilitated so that there would be peace. He has indirectly said that to achieve this aim the Tamils should be militarily defeated. We can guess to what extent the Sinhalese are vying for the Tamil Eastern Province.

ANAGARIKA DHARMAPALA

After all, what can anyone expect from Mr. Mangala Munasinghe. He is expressing the wishes of the Sinhala Buddhists. He is the grand-nephew of Anagarika Dharmapala who was the person who sowed the seeds of communalism in Ceylon. In his 'Roots of ethnic problems', Mr. Thirunavakarasu has said that as far as Anagarika Dharmapala was concerned, except the Sinhalese and particularly the Buddhist, all other people living in Ceylon were aliens. His main targets were the Christians, Muslims, Indians (particularly South Indian Tamils), drinking of alcohol and beef-eating. He gave life to the dead Dutu Gemunu in order to attack the Tamils. He praised Aryan culture, love for Sinhala language and Buddhism. Only those people who came within this ambit were described by him as 'sons of the soil'. This

man is an ancestor of Magala Munasinghe. Outwardly, these people preach socialism but at heart they are the worst chauvinists. He is heading a Committee to find a way to solve the ethnic problem by peaceful methods. But he is recommending a military solution by which he says that the Eastern Province should be taken off from the Tamil homeland forcibly and 'rehabilitated' in order to bring peace to the country.

ALL SINHALESE

It is in this connection that we should view the letter sent by K. Srinivasan who is supposed to be the Member of Parliament for Jaffna. He suggests that the PSC should go to Jaffna and have talks with the LTTE who are the representatives of the Tamil people. Mr.

S. Thiagarajah

Srinivasan who is more or less a permanent resident of the United Kingdom, visits Colombo off and on. On those occasions he makes a big publicity stunt by saying this or that. Or is he his master's voice? Recent interviews given by Mr. Thondaman too seem to suggest such a note. Whatever it is, the PSC is 'All Sinhalese'. Will the Sinhalese agree to anything reasonable? It is not in their blood. It is like flogging a dead horse. Sinhala parties like to prolong the present state of affairs. The ethnic problem for them is like the beggar's sore. No doubt, they will undertake some covert moves to show the world that they are interested in some solution.

Moves like Bradman Weerakoon meeting this or that Tamil group operating in

Colombo and offering certain proposals, are like dangling the carrot in front of the donkey. These offers are not worthy of consideration nor will the Sinhalese agree to anything reasonable. The Tamils need not beg from anyone to get back what is theirs by right.

INNOCUOUS

Any Tamil group or for that matter any Tamil who does not have a root in Tamil Eelam, could support and lick the boots of the Sinhala chauvinists but they should desist from talking politics concerning the Tamils of Eelam. Recently, Sitharthan, son of the late Mr. V. Dharmalingam former M. P. for Manipay, has given an interview to the BBC. In it he has stated his group had given up the fight for Eelam. He also said that if the present fight went on for another five or six years, the Tamils would then become an 'innocuous minority'. He has used the word 'innocuous' which means harmless. One does not know what he means by saying that the Tamils will become an 'innocuous minority'. Does he think that the Tamils are now a harmful people? Is it for the sake of making Tamils harmless that he and his group are militarily supporting the chauvinistic Sinhala army? These persons can very well shut-up and keep quiet without making themselves fools in the eyes of the Sinhalese and the world. They can very well

concentrate on the Provincial Council election like the EPDP and help the government to hold a 'democratic' election in the seven Provinces by directing their guns against the Opposition and see that the U/P comes back to power in those Councils, if serving the master faithfully is all that they know.

FLAME OF FIRE!

The directions rocking
The wicked perishing
The Hapless famishing
Flame of freedom!
Thou assumed a form gigantic
To usher in an era dynamic.

Thou remained indestructible
For all the cataclysm inevitable
Thou steadily stood invincible
For all insidious hostility implacable.

The thirst of the nation you did know
To quench it readily you did vow
Thy life added a new dimension to the freedom struggle
To the brute strength of traitors you did not truckle
In the air "Time" finds thy charm and grace
In water "Thamil" delights in thy warm embrace
In food "Right" feels thy florid face.

Poignant is our plaintive song
The memory of "Poopathy" stretches long
Beyond the ken of the elements of the universe
And beyond the realms of imagination,
So vast a terrain does it traverse.

Indited by Kasthuri.

Translated by Sivasubramaniam.

Mahabharatha the Epic - Is it a reality now?

The Mahabharatha is not mere epic; it is a romance, telling the tale of heroic men and women and of some who were divine; it is a whole literature in itself, containing a code of life; a comprehensive philosophy of life. The Mahabharatha has moulded the character and civilisation of one of the most numerous of the world's peoples. How did it fulfil - how

is it still continuing to fulfil this function? The Dharma is the base which like a golden thread runs through all the complex movements in the Epic; by its lesson that hatred breeds hatred, that covetousness and violence lead inevitably to ruin - that the only real conquest is in the battle against one's lower nature.

Duryodhana told his father, "Do not worry and tremble

about our safety. We know how strong we are. Our victory is certain. Yudhishthira giving up all hope of Kingdom, only begs now for five villages. We have eleven divisions and the Pandavas will not receive a needle point of territory". In that excitement that prevailed, the Court broke up. Krishna's mission at this juncture was to arrive at a peaceful settlement. Krishna turned to Duryodhana and said; "You are the descendant of the noble line. Pursue the path of dharma. Your present thoughts are unworthy and befit only men of low birth. On account of you, this famous line is in danger of being destroyed. If you listen to reason and justice, the Pandavas themselves will install Dhritarashtra as king and you as the heir-apparent. Make peace with them by giving them half the kingdom" Bhishma and Drona also pressed Duryodhana to

agree to Krishna's request, but Duryodhana's heart could not be softened. Dhritarashtra intimated the court that all their efforts had failed as Duryodhana was obstinate. Krishna left the court and conveyed the news to Kunti. Krishna felt war became a certainty. Now we

REASONS FOR OBSTINACY

Karna always boasted that he would slay the Pandavas because of miscalculation about the strength of Pandavas. Likewise the borrowed planes and second-hand weapons is the cause of this unwillingness for peace on the part of the rulers.

SWAMI CHIDRUPANANDA

will just ponder for a moment about what is happening in and around us.

NOT A NEEDLE POINT OF TERRITORY

The people in power are not at all interested to give the Tamils the traditional homeland - the North and East. Why are the rulers obstinate and adamant? They have to be like that only because they are going to be wiped out from their pedestals. This is a prediction in accordance with the epic Mahabharatha.

MANY MISSIONS HAVE BEEN A FAILURE

Many missions which have come here and the emissaries so sent, have never been sincere in their approach. Krishna stands apart in his mission to bring about peace. Lord Krishna had no axe to grind. What happened to the Select Committee? It was a big bluff.

We are forced to voice our feeling because the sufferings of the poor people including myself for the past three years, have made us all paupers. Now the time has come to grant the Tamils their reasonable demands and ensure peace for all.

Prophetic Words of Thanthai Chelva

April 26th marks the 17th year of the death of Thanthai S. J. V. Chelvanayakam.

Speaking at the 1st National Convention of the Ilankai Tamil Arasu Kadchi (Federal Party) held at Trincomalee in 1951 he declared:

"Even if we cannot achieve our objective during our time, we are duty bound to carry on the struggle and hand it over to our next generation. Our people may be blessed with noble and rare heroes after our time. Let us at least be their precursors"

HOT SPRING

VOL: 3 Sunday 25th April 1993 ISSUE: 28

WHOSE PROBLEM?

The BBC is reported to have commented that the Parliamentary Select Committee (PSC) has turned out to be a Sinhala Committee.

One does not know whether the comment was spurred by the telephone interview Mr. Mangala Munasinghe, the Chairman of the PSC, gave the BBC.

Mr. Mangala Munasinghe has told a BBC questioner that the war must be won in the Eastern Province by clearing it of 'terrorism' and peace restored. It should be followed by rehabilitation and development works. He said he believed that peace could be restored in large parts of Ceylon by this.

What he meant by all this rigmarole is that the Tamil homeland should be divided. He probably was imagining that he was speaking in diplomatic language!

We have had no doubts at anytime as to what was going to be the outcome of the deliberations in the fraud called the P.S.C. But the P.S.C. was President Premadasa's shield and cover to do nothing to solve the problem - reminiscent of the All Party Conference and what not.

Nevertheless the appointment of the PSC was made out to be an honest attempt on the part of President Premadasa to find some solution to end the current war. Regretably even some well-meaning outsiders believed all the hoax of the Sinhala imperialists - forgetting the fact that the Parliament was the instrument which the Sinhala imperialists utilized to consolidate and extend their rule of the Tamils.

We have never found fault with the Sinhalese people as a race. They are as good as any other but their politicians - the chief of whom were and are in Parliament - always plotted to establish Baudha - Sinhala imperium over all peoples and throughout the island.

As a matter of fact Sinhala politicians vied with one another for votes using the Tamil phobia as their sheet-anchor and the more communal a Sinhala politician was, his chances of election were the better secured. In these circumstances it would be sheer madness for anybody to expect any solution from a select committee of the Sinhala parliamentarians more or less represented proportionally to the parliamentary strength of each party in parliament. The mere fact that there are some Tamil members too in the Select Committee matters not at all for even some Tamils are in the parliament too.

However the audacity of Mr. Mangala Munasinghe in presenting a report exposes all the hollowness of the claim of the PSC to work out any solution. Who wanted the PSC and whose problem does the PSC hope to solve?

According to reports, the PSC has recommended the division of the Tamil homeland and devolution of subjects on the Indian model. The Tamil members of the PSC have not accepted the majority view and some have even pulled out of the PSC. In this context how did Mr. Munasinghe purport to forward a report on behalf of the PSC? After all, he should have said that President Premadasa's 3 Cs have no place whatsoever in the PSC and presented no report at all!

Mr. Munasinghe by presenting a report which did not have the blessings of even the Tamil members of the PSC is only providing another armour to the spread of Sinhala imperialism.

If Mr. Munasinghe or for that matter anybody else believes that they can fool the Tamils, they are sadly mistaken.

Skeletons in the Indian Cupboard?

Employees of the Chavakachcheri Urban Council who were digging the ground to erect electric posts were shocked at the discovery of human skeletons, skulls and rags of clothes and even jewellery. This happened on Tuesday, April 20.

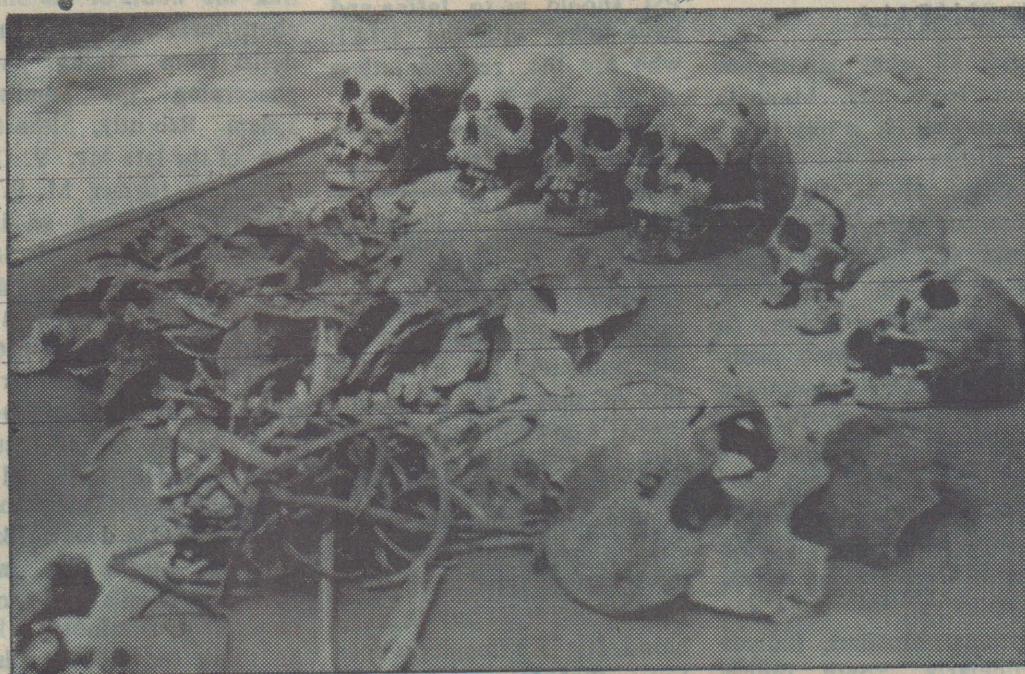
The shock and amazement was the greater because these were unearthed not in a cemetery or other lonely or abandoned area but right at the centre of the town in the Chavakachcheri Model Market.

Immediately the first pieces of remains were accidentally

found, the Chavakachcheri Police was informed. The police arrived and the digging continued in their presence.

In all, six skulls were found. There were other bones as well as pieces of clothes and some items of jewellery worn by ladies including Thali (symbol of wedlock), ear-rings and rings. Also a holy thread was found bundled in a small parcel.

This area was under occupation of the Indian Army during 1987. A Brahmin temple priest and his family were reported to have disappeared at Chavakachcheri during this period. Investigations are afoot to determine whether the skulls and other skeletons belonged to that priest and those of his family. The skulls also had bulletmarks.



A picture of the skulls and bones unearthed at Chavakachcheri.

NEWS ROUND UP

April 12 - Monday

Sri Lankan Army encamped at Kalmunai fires at fishermen out for fishing in the Jaffna lagoon. One fisherman named Santhiyapillai Jeyam of Navanthurai North was severely injured in the leg and has been admitted to the Jaffna hospital. About 15 fishermen went out fishing on three boats. Santhiyapillai Jayam was one of them. Other fishermen returned safely with their boats abandoning their work for the day.

Sri Lankan helicopters fired from the sky over the villages of Kattuwan and Erlalai for about 20 minutes. Damages have not been verified.

Sri Lankan Army at Karainagar started firing towards the sea at Ponnalai. Damages not verified.

Battle broke out between the S. L. Navy and the Sea Tigers at 9.30 P.M. when S.L. Navy tried to attack civilian passengers. Sea Tigers carried out a relentless attack and sent S. L. Navy back to their positions. Thereafter the S. L. Army fired at civilian passengers from the coast.

Heavy artillery shell attack from Palaly Army camp directed towards Thondamannaru,

Paththameni and Idaikadu. No damages reported.

April 13 - Tuesday

A 'Puccara' plane belonging to the S. L. Air Force bombed thrice in the villages of Irrattakulam and Katkanthakulam in the Murunkan Division of Mannar District about 8.00 a.m. Damages not verified.

Confrontation between Tigers and Navy at Kilali. Following the battle Sri Lankan Navy sent volleys of cannon fire directed towards the coast. No damage was reported.

At the auspicious time of 7.45 p.m. when New Year began according to Hindu calendar S. L. Army at Valikamam North fired 5 shells which exploded at Alaveddy and Tellippalai. This was followed by firing from sentry posts of the Forward Defence Line of the Sri Lankan Army at Valikamam North. No damages reported.

April 15 - Thursday

Artillery shell launched from Palaly hit Panipulam, Chulipuram and Kattupulam in Valikamam West. An elderly person named K. Thambiah (age 62) of Piran-

pattu died on the spot when a shell exploded near him

April 16 - Friday

Sri Lankan planes bomb Parikarikandal in Murunkan Division, Mannar District. P. Palunaki (age 50) died. One house was completely destroyed. Many houses were damaged.

Sri Lankan Army rounds up the village of Makilavedduvan in Batticaloa District. Three Tamils were arrested and taken to Army Camp. They are P. Pakiarajah, S. Selvarajah and S. Manoharan, all of Makilavedduvan.

April 18 - Sunday

'Puccara' bombers dropped 8 bombs in Periyapandivirichchan, Kattaiyadampan and Murunkan areas in Mannar District. Damages not known.

Sri Lankan Navy fires at fisherman engaged in fishing at Munai in Point Pedro. One fisherman, S. L. Mariyanayagam (age 40) was injured in the leg when a bullet hit his leg, piercing the boat. He was admitted to the Manthikai Hospital.

Artillery shell from Palaly directed towards Thondamannaru. No damages reported.

New Era Publications Ltd.
267, Main Street, Jaffna