

HOT SPRING

Vol. 3

18th July 1998

No. 40

Invincible might to
quell the Mighty

Oh! how comely it is and how reviving
To the spirits of just men oppress'd!
When God into the hands of their deliverer
Puts invincible might
To quell the mighty of the Earth.

— John Milton —

HEAVY AERIAL BOMBING AT KILINOCCHI - POONAKARI

SCHOOL, SHOPPING CENTRE, RESIDENTIAL AREAS TARGETTED

Sri Lankan Air Force carried out heavy bombing in Kilinochchi and Poonakari areas resulting in the death of one person, injury to over 15 persons, damage to shops and houses.

The news in this connection states that about 1.00 p.m. on Friday, July 16, two Sri Lankan planes bombed the Poonakari Alankerni areas.

At 1.45 P.M. two bombers and two Puccaro planes belonging to S.L. Air Force

heavily bombed the Karadipokku area which is a shopping centre. One married man a father of a child named Ponniah died on the spot. Eleven others including an old woman were severely injured. Over ten shops in the area suffered heavy damages.

Thereafter, the planes bombed St. Therasa's School at Kilinochchi whilst the school was in session. Fortunately the bomb that was

dropped within the school premises did not explode and the school children escaped unhurt.

Again the Sri Lankan Air Force planes bombed Poonakari - Nallur area where there are many residences. Two houses were damaged

and four people were injured.

The injured persons at Poonakari are Subramaniam Ledchumy (Aged 45) Subramaniam Lokeswary (Aged 17) K. Sivatharsan (Aged 15) and K. Kuganeswari (Aged 10). The last two are school going students.

LIGHTNING ATTACK IN PUTTALAM

Five Policemen Killed - Many Injured Tigers Recover Arms and Ammunitions

The LTTE carried out a lightning attack on an Army-Police Joint post in the Puttalam area and completely destroyed it.

The news in this connection states that on Thursday, July 15 the LTTE carried out a lightning attack on a joint Army - Police post at Ilavankula Achchamunai in the Puttalam District. The attack which started at 4.00 p.m. lasted for about 5 minutes. The joint Army Police post was completely destroyed.

It is learnt that there were over 15 Sri Lankan armed forces personnel in two houses and two sentry posts. Five Policemen were killed.

Seven others were injured. The LTTE also recovered a haul of arms, ammuni-

ons and other military-ware. There was no casualty on the LTTE side.

Tigers Attack Mandaitivu Sentry Post

LTTE carried out an attack on a Sri Lankan Army Sentry Post at Pannai Road, Mandaitivu on Friday July 16.

The attack started about 1.00 a.m. Two Tigers died in this attack. Sri Lankan Army loss is not known.

Following this attack Sri Lankan forces at various points started shell attack and gun fire directed towards residential and coastal areas. Two shells exploded in the Jaffna town area, One man named P. Raveendiran suffered a leg injury. The Sri Lankan Army firing and shell attack lasted for about an hour.

Civilian Shot Dead

A civilian, named Selvanayagam Marianesan (29) of Vellaveli in Batticaloa was shot dead at Periyaporativu when the Sri Lankan Army and a group of gangsters serving the Sri Lankan Army opened fire.

The news from Batticaloa in this connection stated that on Friday, July 9, a group of Sinhala soldiers accompanied by a group of gangsters serving with them opened fire on the public. This happened about 6.30 a.m.

Selvanayagam Marianesan, (29) a married man with a child from the village of Vellaveli died. Two others were injured.

AERIAL BOMBING IN BATTICALOA

Two bombers and one helicopter jointly carried out an aerial attack for one and half hours in Aandalakulam forest areas in the Batticaloa District on Tuesday, July 13th at 4.30 p.m.

Again the following morning about 6.30 (July 14th) two bombers and a helicopter resumed their aerial attack intermittently in the same area for an hour. No report has so far been

received of any damages caused by these aerial attacks.

Shell Attack from Mandaitivu

The Sri Lankan Army at Mandaitivu carried out shell attacks directed towards the coastal areas of Jaffna town daily last week.

The shells exploded in the coastal and Fort areas. As the shells exploded in the coasts and Fort area there was no damage reported.

S. L. Army in Ambush - Sent Back

Tigers attacked a group of Sri Lankan soldiers in ambush at Vavunia and forced them to retreat.

The news in this connection from Vavunia stated that on Saturday, July 10, Tigers attacked a group of Sinhala soldiers waiting in ambush near Sinnakulam junction,

Nochchimodai, Vavunia. The incident took place about 8.00 a.m.

Following the Tiger attack the Sinhala soldiers retreated to their camp.

At 9.05 a.m. a group of Sinhala soldiers came in three armoured vehicles towards Sinnakulam and started firing towards the Tigers' check point further north. They also launched shell attack.

The report further said that though two shells exploded near Tiger check points, there was no damage.

About 9.30 a.m. the Sri Lankan Army retreated to its position. The Sri Lankan Army permitted public travel to and from Vavunia on that day only after 10.00 a.m.

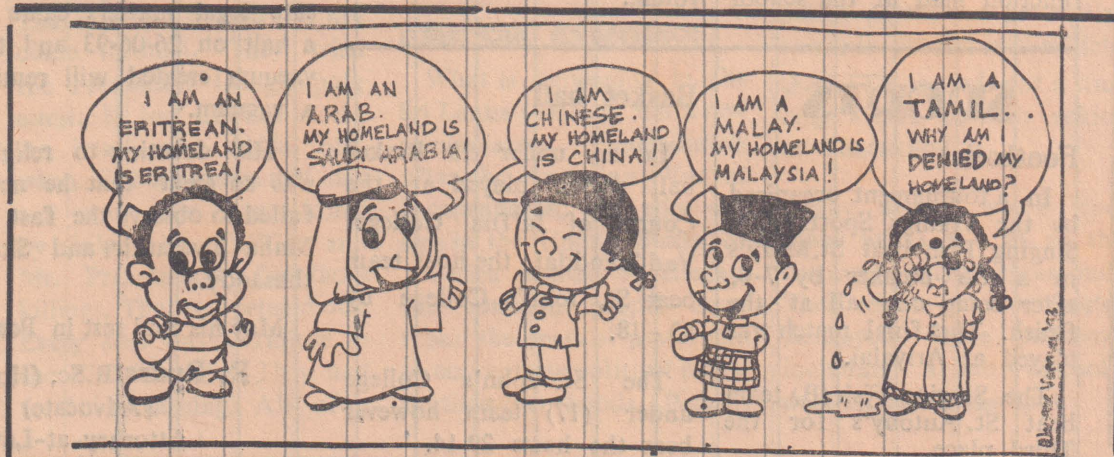
Another report from Palai stated that on the same day the Sri Lankan Army at Elephant Pass advanced from

its Pannai Sentry points at Iyakachchi and was lying in ambush. The Tigers opened fire on the Sri Lankan army in ambush. The S.L. Army was forced to retreat. Thereafter the Sri Lankan Army launched shell attack from its camp.

There was no Tiger casualty in any of these attacks. Army losses are not known.

Civilian arrested

News from Trincomalee stated that K. Shanmugaraajah, a family man from Kiravalkuli in Chenaiyoor, was arrested by the Sri Lankan Army at Kattaiparichchan on Monday, July 12, at 7.00 p.m. and taken to the Army Camp. He has not been released yet.



OUR READERS SAY

LTTE—The Only Hope

It would be a futile exercise to lament over the past. Ample opportunities have been afforded to the Sinhalese to salve the Tamils but the Sinhalese have been optimistic in every sense. More than the lay Sinhalese, the politicians, who were guiding the destinies of the Sinhala race, have misled the masses distorted views of Ceylon History into the belief that the Sinhalese race is supreme and the ruling race over the rest.

Govt. Unconcerned

A man is paid by the state to serve the citizens of the country. The Government Servant has to be impartial and serve all equally. Here, what we find is that some of the Government Servant are full of prejudices and showing partiality.

During this year, our mails from Colombo have become very irregular. Whatever it is, many people depend on foreign remittances to maintain the present cost of living. People in Colombo do not realise how we are living here in the North. Due to the prolonged ethnic, the prices of many articles are very high. The common man and

The eternal quest of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam is to liberate the oppressed Tamil community from the Sinhala chauvinism and therefore on the success-

ful mission of the LTTE, depends the lasting happiness of the Tamils, no matter wherever they may be.

D. Jeevananthan,

Vathiry.

Plight of Orphans

I wish to sponsor the cause of the Orphans who depend on their parents' pension for their living and when both are deceased, i. e. the

father and mother, the child or children who are unmarried or unemployed are destitutes and hence have no means for their day to day expenses. There was provision for these children to receive the pension drawn by their deceased parents but this facility had now been withdrawn and thus several orphans of this category are almost on the verge of starvation.

I learn there is special provision made to pay pensions to orphans who are disabled or mentally retarded at present. But these are only a fraction of the large numbers of orphans.

The Government should consider sympathetically these cases and pay their pensions - at least a reasonable fraction or percentage of the pensions that their parents drew. This will greatly ameliorate the conditions of these unfortunate persons in this category.

A. Perinayakam

the middle class people are living below poverty line. If the economic blockade continues, the Government is the sole authority which should bear this brunt.

Due to the insecure way of travel to Colombo and back, several funerals have to be delayed till the close relatives come to perform the rites. We are indeed helpless as the state machinery has not been geared to solve these handicaps. The more this state of affairs is neglected, the more chronic and beyond repair will be the disease.

Swami Chidrupananda
Point Pedro.

NEWS IN BRIEF

June 28th Monday

Heavy artillery shell attack towards Allipalai and Kilaly sea coast from the army camp at Poonary at 6.00 p.m. The shells fell on the sea coast at Kilaly and exploded. Following this attack for about half an hour gun shots and shell fire continued.

June 29th Tuesday

A fisherman Manuelpillai Robert Sugirthaseelan (32) suffered severe gunshot injuries while engaged in fishing around 1.00 a.m. in the Kalmunai sea. He was admitted to Jaffna hospital in a critical condition.

Artillery shell and gunshot were fired towards residential areas of Kaddaikadu, Vetrilaikerny and Elephant-Pass in the morning as well as in the night.

A naval encounter took place in the Kilaly sea between the Sea Tigers and the Sri Lankan navy around 8.15 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. When the Sri Lankan navy boats advanced towards the civilian passenger boats, a battle ensued between them.

On the withdrawal of the navy, artillery shells were fired from the army camp at Poonakari. One Sea Tiger died in the encounter.

June 30th Wednesday

Sri Lankan Army stationed along the coastal areas of Karaingar, fired artillery shells towards residential areas of Ponnalai and Moolai around 10.15 p.m.

July 1st Thursday

One army man was killed and two others injured, in a land mine attack carried out by the LTTE at Palathuchchenai in the Manaluru area. The vehicle in which they travelled sustained heavy damages. This incident occurred while the army was engaged in a search operation at Palathuchchenai. The Sri Lankan army sources confirmed this news report but failed to give further details.

July 2nd Friday

A report from the joint Operations Command stated that three Sri Lankan army men were seriously injured in an encounter with the LTTE in the forests of Thopigala in the morning.

IS KILALY OUR GRAVE?

Break, break, break
On thy cold grey stones, O Sea;
And I would that my tongue could utter
The thoughts that arise in me.

The southern tide crept up along the sand,
And over and over the sand,
And round and round the sand.
As far as eye could see
The rolling mist came down and hid the land:

Oh, cannon to right of them,
Cannon to left of them,
Cannon in front of them,
Volleyed and thundered,
Stormed at with shot and shell.

Fleet of boats was scattered
Our women and children shattered;
The boatmen did not utter;
Cruel troops were only to slaughter!

O, heart, heart, heart,
O, the bleeding drops of red,
There on the deck my people lay;
Fallen, surrounded by the raging sea.

And never home came they,
The cruel blood thirsty forces,
The cruel murderous forces,
Kill and kill and kill;

Their graves are beside the sea
But still there are others who often flee,
To cross the sea known as Kilaly,
For our troops have power over the sea.

From:- "Newman"
By - S. Jeyanthan

TEEDOR Encourages Palmyrah Planting

The Poonakari co - conut and Palmyrah Production and Sales Co - operative Society has planted 28,300 palmyrah Seedlings in Mulankavil area in the Mannar District during the year 1992.

The Poonakari Multi Purpose Co - operative Society also has got 21,900 palmyrah seedlings planted through displaced persons of Poonakari now living in Mulankavil.

Planting of palmyrah is being propagated by the Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation (TEEDOR) in the Mannar District with the assistance of grass - root public organisations such as the Co - operatives.

Prizes were awarded at a function held at the school

Mulankavil on May 1st for the first three groups of persons who planted the largest number of seedlings as follows:-

1 person for planting 500 seedlings

22 persons for planting 200 seedlings each.

15 persons for planting 100 seedlings each.

There is a proposal to award prizes for 1994, 1995 for those well reared plants.

APPRECIATION OF

Late G. V. Subramaniam J. P. U. M.
Attorney-at-Law & Notary Public

The death of Mr. G.V. Subramaniam the Point Pedro lawyer will be a great loss to many of his friends and his close associates. Whenever there was a difficult problem in the legal nexus, many a person sought the advice of Mr. Subramaniam affectionately called G. V.

G. V. was a model to mankind and a beacon to the young.

He practised the profession as Proctor and Notary in partnership with Late Mr. K. Ratnasingam J. P. U. M. Crown Proctor and Notary. Mr. Subramaniam proved his mettle in the Civil Law and as a Civil Lawyer he had at fingers' end every section of the Civil Procedure Code.

His experience and subtleness in law to solve intricate legal matters came to a halt on 26-06-93 and the vacuum created will remain a vacuum.

His devotion to religion was so great that he never failed to observe the fast on Maha Sivarathiri and Skan-thasaddy.

May his soul rest in Peace.

R. Rudra B.Sc. (Hons)
(Advocate)
Attorney-at-Law.

SPORTS

Football

In a tournament organised by the Vikings Sports Club, Singing Fish beat St. Mary's in a tie breaker by 7-6, after being one all at the finish. This final match was played at Ariyalai.

The Singing Fish (B) team beat St. Antony's for the Third place.

Basket ball

In an under 19 Basket ball match played at the Courts of Jaffna College, Vaddukodai, the host team beat St. John's College by 43 - 18.

The St. John's College under (17) team however beat the hosts 29-14.

The Sinhala elites have started to re-construct and re-structure their camp which was in a state of disorder. The JVP rightly or wrongly got the chance of echoing the anti-Indian voice of the ordinary Sinhalese people. This arose as a result of the autocratic J.R. Jayewardene in selling the island to imperialistic India. With the coming of the IPKF, the JVP came on the road and its writs ruled practically the whole of the Sinhala country. J.R. and his crowd were pushed back. His intention of contesting once again for the Presidency became a dream. Apart from that, all the elitist

sudden and out of the blues, we heard the news on May 1st this year that Premadasa had been assassinated.

Merger

This was a chance that should not be allowed to slip from their hands. The elites in the UNP saw to it that there was no quarrelling among themselves. The power was smoothly passed on to a harmless Kandyan who could be amenable to everything the top elites wanted. He was one time a 'yes-man' of late A. Ratnayake, a powerful Kandyan minister. Slowly pressure was exerted, overtures made, to unite the divided UNP, i.e. to take

of the calibre of Alexander Hamilton who was then the Secretary of the Treasury and who had no liking for the ordinary people, manoeuvred and established a Central Federal Government with huge powers. He was backed by the Northern Industrial Capitalists, and huge Southern Plantation owners with slaves under them. They were prepared to give some share to the common people (only white People) in electing their rulers but saw to it that the Government was removed from them as far as possible. Alexander Hamilton went to the extent of describing democracy as 'poison'. Similarly, our Sinhala elites too

a farce set up to deceive the Tamils and which were rejected by the far-seeing Tigers long ago? Forgetting the fact that the SLFP opposed the Provincial Councils as bartering away Governmental powers to the Tamils. Now she is only talking cheap politics to get sympathy from the people.

Tiger bait

UNP and DUNF leaders have commenced their propaganda among the people to justify their merger. The General Secretary of the DUNF, Premachandra, has stated at a meeting held recently that the need for the merger of their two parties arose because of the necessity to defeat the Tiger menace in the North East and that if they don't do it, they will be left with no alternative other than to grant the North East to Pirabakaran and the Hill country to Thondaman. A UNP Provincial Council Minister speaking at the same meeting, came with another

going on. The point is that both J.R. and Gamini failed to solve the ethnic problem, while they were in power. Now they want another chance. What false reasons they are coming out with, to hide their naked lust for political power once again?

The opportunity and chances of the consolidation of power by the Sinhala elites seem to be bright. But could all these be achieved as planned? We have to take into consideration human weaknesses. Will Hema Premadasa who was used to unlimited power, keep quiet? What about Premadasa-loyalists? Will Anura be such a fool to be inveigled by the overtures of the UNP? Is he such a fool as not to realise that after being used, he will be thrown out like the squeezed lemon? What about Ranil Wickremasinghe? He has tasted political power. Why should he sacrifice the highest goal for a person who had already

Consolidation of

leaders in the UNP backed out from being selected as the Presidential candidate.

Conspiracy

Presidential candidature was thrust on the late Mr. Premadasa. He took up the challenge. Like the JVP, he also took his politics to the people. He too played on the anti-Indian sentiments of the Sinhalese. After he became President he negotiated with the Tigers against the common enemy and all these created lot of confidence among the Sinhala masses in Mr. Premadasa. Not like the JVP which did not have a clear perception about what to do in the future, Premadasa having been used to power and making use of the state machinery to counter all what the JVP did with the help of persons of the calibre of Premadasa Udugampola, managed to defeat the JVP.

Even though like all Sinhala leaders he did not make use of the opportunity which he had, while having talks with the Tigers to bring about a settlement to the ethnic problem, he kept the Sinhala elites whether it be J.R. or Athulathmudali or Gamini or Sirimavo or Anura, in their proper places to the extent that he dumbfounded J.R. and forced Athulathmudali and Gamini out of the UNP. The elites in the UNP attempted something like a Coup de Etat by bringing the impeachment motion. All got baffled and frightened, the way Premadasa reacted. The expected success did not come through. They tried the Premadasa Udugampola stunt. It too did not work. An issue was made out, when Kobbekaduwa and nine top army men were killed by linking the EPDP and Mr. Premadasa for those killings. That too petered out. Every step was a failure to the Sinhala elites. They had to do something. All of a

back those who left the UNP because of Premadasa. UNP executive committee okayed the move. Talks were held in Kandy. Now it is almost certain that Gamini's DUNF is going to merge with the UNP. The understanding most probably will be something like this. D. B. Wijetunge will be President for the remaining period. There after Gamini will lead the UNP. Ranil Wickremasinghe

S. THIAGARAJAH

will remain the Prime Minister. He is young and he can wait for some more time. At least, won't he do a little sacrifice to elevate top Sinhala elites to the real seats of power? Can all these be predicted?

De-link Anura

The Sinhala elites are not satisfied with this alone. They are trying to extricate Anura Bandaranayake too from the SLFP and take him and his followers into the folds of the UNP. With this in view, Dr. Neville Fernando of the SLFP has given notice of a motion to change the Provisions of the Law preventing Members of Parliament crossing over to other parties. If this move comes off, Anura and clique will leave that section of the SLFP that is still a bit progressive. Anura with his take-it-easy attitude and pleasure-seeking foreign sojourns, is an easy bait.

American Experience

What is happening in the Sri Lanka scene is not a new phenomenon. Immediately after the American War of Independence, the elite classes in the United States of America wanted to alienate the common people away from the seats of power and to concentrate political power in their own hands. Persons

do not want politics to go to grass roots level. They might talk big about democracy and even of socialism but will not allow the ordinary man near seats of power. That is what is happening in the South of Ceylon.

Chandrika

Chandrika is now the Chief Minister of the Western Provincial Council. She is complaining that she and her Council are devoid of any power. Lately she has said that she is not being provided with proper security, not even like that what is provided to a Minister. Definitely the Centre will not grant these powers and facilities. The funniest part is that Chandrika is now talking about these. Did she and her alliance not know the Provincial Councils were

Sinhala Elites

reason. He said that there were only two who could solve the problem in the North East. They are one, J.R. Jayewardene and the other, Gamini Dissanayake, and that it is Gamini Dissanayake who is acceptable to India in this matter. Gamini and Premachandra are not new comers to the UNP. They were in the UNP, when the conflict between the Government of Sri Lanka and Government of Eelam, was

left the party? He and his background are not second to that of anyone else. Above all, do these high society men think that the common people are still fools? Many reactionaries thought so to their own peril. Just because there is no proper leadership at the moment for the Sinhalese people, it should not be taken for granted that they will tolerate the present state of affairs for long.

STUNNING ATTACK AT MANNAR

5 S. L. Policemen Killed - Vehicle destroyed - LTTE Recover Arms and Ammunitions

One Sub-inspector and four policemen were killed on the spot in a stunning attack made with lightning speed by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam on Monday 4th July at Mannar. This incident happened within an area under S. L. army occupation.

News from Mannar in this connection states that on July 4th Sunday, while a police patrol was proceeding towards Pesalai in a vehicle, the LTTE carried out a stunning attack on their vehicle at Tharakundu.

The attack which took place at 11.20 a.m. on that day lasted only ninety seconds. The vehicle was completely destroyed. Five policemen including a Sub-inspector were killed on the spot.

The Joint Operations Command has confirmed the casualties suffered by the Security Forces in this action.

The LTTE captured arms and ammunitions in the action and suffered no casualties on their part.

SHORT TERM AGRICULTURE COURSES BY TEEDOR

The Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation is conducting short-term agriculture courses to those who have studied up to the G.C.E. (O/L).

A press note issued by the TEEDOR states that both theory and practical classes are being conducted in general agriculture, vegetable gardening, small grains agriculture and fruit plantation. The next course will be conducted between July 12 and July 23.

The note also says that a small cash allowance will be paid to the trainees during the period of training and certificates awarded at the end of the course to those who have successfully followed the courses. The trainees may also be given preference in the selection of personnel to run TEEDOR's agricultural projects.

Those interested to join the courses have been advised to register themselves in the offices of the Divisional District offices of the TEEDOR.

HOT SPRING

VOL: 3 Sunday 18th July 1993 ISSUE: 40

Scare - Mongering

A report said that Mr. G. M. Premachandra Gen. Secretary of the DUNF had said at a meeting at Ambalangoda that the reason for the DUNF deciding to join the National Government was to bring to an end the war in the Northeast! According to the same report he had also made many other venomous statements to whip up Sinhala chauvinism but of course one cannot expect anything better from Sinhala politicians and let us, therefore, ignore those statements.

Mr. G.M. Premachandra was one of the triumvirate within the UNP that staged an unsuccessful coup d'etat against Premadasa. With all the backing of Sinhala elitists, the DUNF could not make much headway in the recently held provincial councils elections in Sinhala Rata and came only a poor third.

How did the UNP itself perform in the provincial council elections? Wasn't it clear that except in the hill country areas where the UNP owed its success to Minister Thondaman's CWC, the UNP itself did not poll a majority of the votes.

If anything, it is in the interest of the UNP ruling elites to join hands to retain power hereafter and the DUNF-ers are UNP men who could not work with Mr. Premadasa only. Now Mr. Premadasa is no more, the surprise would be, if the UNP and the DUNF do not join hands.

We are really not concerned as to who is where. But it is amusing to see hysterical displays of Tamil phobia exhibited to justify the unprincipled politics of the imperialists.

Mr. Premachandra's only stated reason to join a so-called 'national government' is to bring to an end the Northeast war. Whom does Mr. Premachandra think he is fooling?

The DUNF members were UNPers until 1991. They had worked both under J. R. Jayawardhene and Premadasa. They were with Mr. Premadasa when he had talks with the LTTE. They were with him when Premadasa started the war in 1990. If the people who were in the Government for such a long time from 1977 till 1991, could not prevent a war or stop it, how can they do so now by rejoining the UNP government? Will the DUNF's present leader, Mr. Gamini Dissanayake, set out on another arson campaign in the Northeast to end the war?

The reason given by Mr. Premachandra to rejoin the UNP cannot convince even the Sinhalese people. But Mr. Premachandra makes bold to come out with a reason that is most inconsistent with the truth of the matter.

As far as the Tamil people are concerned, they know very well that all Sinhala parties have always been united in their campaign against the Tamils be it the language issue, colonisation issue, education or employment or citizenship. And together they have caused a war and are continuing it with utmost dexterity. So that, while Tamil opinion is utterly unconcerned as to political alignments in Sinhala Rata which is a purely domestic matter for the Sinhalese, we have to point out that the Sinhala politicians are always whipping up Tamil phobia to sustain their own political positions.

The Sinhalese people must realize that from the fifties onwards, their politicians have been scare-mongering. They have been telling them that they were fighting to save the Sinhala language, religion (Buddhism) and country (Sinhala Rata) though in fact they were trying to perpetuate their imperialist rule over Tamil Eelam.

The scare - mongering may or may not give the desired political dividends in the scramble for power among Sinhala chauvinists but it does not affect the course of history of Tamil Eelam.

A Sinhala Gentleman Says: Separation the only

Answer

The history of the 20th century (I graduated in history from the University of Ceylon in 1946) contains numerous examples of guerilla wars of nationalist aspiration aimed at establishing a separate nation to fulfil a nation's sense of destiny. In every one of them the object has been to expel an

What exists on the island is two countries each with an army of its own. The basis for peace is the recognition of this simple and manifest reality.

alien ruler and establish a state of their own. Without a single exception in the world's history, wherever such wars have ended, they have ended by the fulfilment of the guerillas' expectation of establishing a separate state.

Where such wars have not ended by the establishment of a separate state desired by the guerillas they continue unabated to this day. Some such wars have lasted a very long time indeed. The most stirring of all is the rock-throwing intifada of the Palestinian people who have taken on one of the world's

There are 36 member states of the United Nations which are smaller than the future state of Eelam.

toughest and most dedicated battle-hardened armies, the Israeli army. In none of these cases have the guerillas sued for peace abandoning their goal of a separate state. The belief that the LTTE can be brought to such a pass by the pressure of the Sri Lankan army, so often expressed by press and politicians alike among the Sinhala people, is to display a grotesque degree of ignorance of what is happening daily around them in the world at large.

The clear and unambiguous lesson of history is not that such a war cannot be won by the conventional forces of the state that is trying to maintain the status quo but that they will inevitably lose in the long run. They will not lose because the LTTE will ever be capable of overwhelming the Sri Lankan army; the war will be lost when its costs will become too high in a variety of ways. It is not just the economic costs that will determine the will to continue the conflict; far more are the political

costs of a continuous and unending war. The maintenance and growth of a large army will eventually imperil the very existence of civil government among the Sinhala people. Equally dangerous will be the proliferation of arms among the civilian population due to the inevitable soldiery. Already these strains are being felt.

There is a stark alternative facing the Sinhala people and their government today. It is continuous war and the road to certain ruin both economically and politically on the one hand, or peace with separation into two states on the other. There is no via media. The guerilla forces of the LTTE are as permanent feature of the political landscape as is the Sri Lankan army. There is no country with two contending

ADRIAN
WIJEMANNE U. K.

armies in it. What exists on the island is two countries each with an army of its own. The basis for peace is the recognition of this simple and manifest reality.

We can take comfort from the fact that in every case where peace has been secured by the establishment of a separate, independent, sovereign state after a prolonged guerilla war of national liberation, the peace between the former antagonists has held. Old enmities have given way to new friendships. The foundation of European peace and security today is the friendship between its two oldest antagonists - the French and the Germans.

Another hoary canard is that the island is too small for two states. The LSSP once opposed the concept saying the two small would be "Dwarf" states. The holding of such a belief is evidence that something must have gone seriously wrong with the teaching of world geography in our schools. The island of Sri Lanka is about the size of Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg - the Benelux Union combined. Sri Lanka less the North-East province will be about the same population. There are 36 member states of the United Nations which are smaller than the future state of Eelam.

An equally absurd delusion is the fear that if the State of Sri Lanka is reduced in size by the hiving off of

the North-East, the Sinhala people will be impoverished and that it is worth paying any price including the lives of thousands of our young men and women to preserve it in the state in which the British left it to us. As usual nothing can be further from the truth. The state of Sri Lanka less Eelam will be about the size of Swit-

The state of Sri Lanka less Eelam will be about the size of Switzerland which is the most prosperous state in Europe. It will be 75 times of the size of the Republic of Singapore.

zerland which is the most prosperous state in Europe. It will be 75 times of the size of the Republic of Singapore which, at present rates growth, will have the world's largest per capita income in the year 2000. The Sinhala people will be impoverished not by the shrinking in the size of their state but by the continuance and the unwinnable and inevitably losing war and by the perpetuation of the disastrous policies which have brought it about.

Peace with separation will restore them to the paths of

...Where peace has been secured by the establishment of a separate, independent sovereign state... peace between the former antagonists has held. Old enmities have given way to new friendships.

sanity and humanity on which they have a long way to travel after the tragic debacle of the first forty-five years of independence.

These are the truths that have been withheld from our people and need to be presented to them. I hope you will find it possible to do so.

Courtesy:- Counterpoint
A Ravaya Publication.
May - June 1993

Confrontation in Iyakkachchi Again

Reports from Palai stated that the LTTE attacked and forced back a group of Sri Lankan soldiers who had advanced about 75 yards north of the sentry posts at Pannai, Iyakkachchi.

A cording to the reports the incident took place on Tuesday, July 13 about 11.15 a.m.