

Hot Spring

Vol. 4

05th December 1993

No. 08

Achievement Everywhere But Flouted in Sri Lanka

"That no one shall suffer arbitrary interference with his correspondence is one of the principles embodied in Article 12 of the Declaration of Human Rights proclaimed by the UNO. Both the Universal Postal Union and the International Telecommunication Union are concerned with this principle. (Continued to Page 4)

We March on the Path Lit by Our Heroes

"The creation of an independent sovereign state of Tamil Eelam is the only and final solution to the Tamil national question. We stand on strong moral foundation and fight for a just cause. We are aware of the Himalayan impediments we face. But our success depends on our own efforts, strength and determination. We proceed on the path cleared and lit by our martyrs." So said Mr. V. Pirabakaran, in a speech made over the Voice of Tigers Radio, minutes after midnight on the early hours of November 27, to mark the Heroes' Day.

The full text of his speech is reproduced below:

My Dear Beloved People of Tamil Eelam.

Today is Heroes' Day, the day in which we remember our martyred heroes, who were the historical architects of our national freedom movement.

Today, we cherish in our hearts the memories of our heroes who have transformed our nation from the conditions of bondage and servitude into a realm of liberty where a fierce struggle for liberation is being fought. It is our martyrs

who have internationalised our inalienable right to a homeland with the dictum that "our land belongs to us."

Not a Day of Mourning

Heroes' Day is not a day of mourning, nor a day of sorrow, of weeping and lamentations. It is a day of national resurgence, a day we pledge and commit ourselves to the emancipation of our nation.

Our heroes have sacrificed their lives for a just cause. Their demise does

not constitute an ordinary event of death. Rather, their death signifies a profound spiritual aspiration for national freedom.

Our martyrs die in the arena of struggle with the intense passion for the freedom of their people, for the liberation of their home-

Leader Pays Homage



land and therefore the death of every martyr constitutes a brave act of enunciation of freedom.

From the tombs of the dead martyrs who lie at rest in the womb of our soil rises the cry for freedom. This cry for freedom is the articulation of the will and determination of more than six thousand martyrs, which underlie the motive force behind our liberation struggle.

Only Solution- Independent Sovereign State

The history of our liberation war continues as blood-spilling politics. From the birth of our movement until now, within the space of this lengthy struggle though we have encountered

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LTTE Attack in Trincomalee Eight Sinhala Soldiers Killed

Eight Sinhala soldiers including an officer were killed at Poonagar in Mutur, Trincomalee District, in an attack carried out by the LTTE.

The news in this connection said that on Thursday

December 2, morning, the LTTE attacked a group of Sinhala soldiers on patrol duty. The attack took place at Poonagar in Mutur, Trincomalee District.

The Government of Sri Lanka said that eight soldiers

including an officer were killed in this attack.

The LTTE also recovered arms, ammunitions, and other military ware in this attack.

There were no casualties on the LTTE side.

Heavy Cannon Fire by S.L. Navy Many Boats Damaged

Two Sri Lankan Naval Gun Boats which suddenly appeared on the sea off Thondimannaru in Vadamadachy carried out heavy cannon fire towards coastal

residential areas for about fifteen minutes.

This incident occurred on Thursday, December 2, about 7.30 a.m.

(Continued to Page 4)

A Request to UN on Human Rights Day

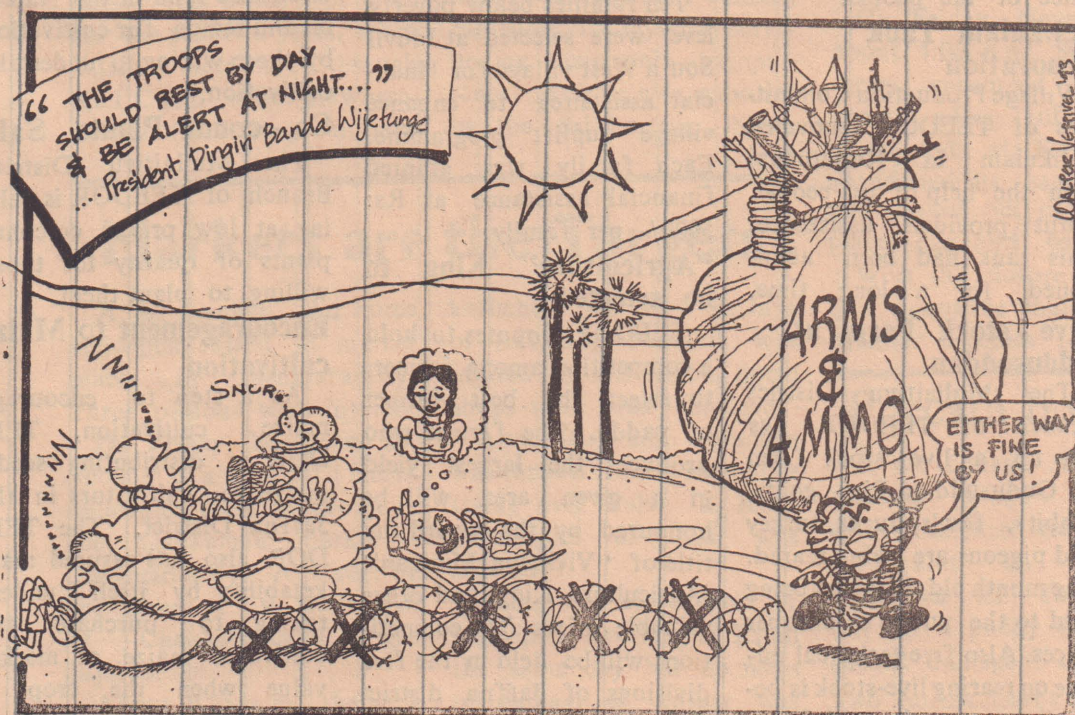
Tenth of December, 1993 marks the 45th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

On this memorable and hopeful day I propose, on behalf of 'Hot Spring' readers, the following resolution for the urgent and anxious consideration of the UNO:

"The people of Tamil Eelam do hereby request the General Assembly of the United Nations Organisation on this memorable 45th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to affirm the inalienable right of the people of Tamil Eelam to self-determination and national independence in a united Tamil Eelam, as well as the legitimacy of their struggle by all means at their disposal, including armed struggle, against the illegal occupation of their Territory by Sinhala Shri Lanka".

I am emboldened to make this appeal because there is UN precedence for such resolution.

A Reader





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GO AHEAD

We have news from Mannar that the Sri Lankan Army encamped at Chilawathurai and Kondatchi in Mannar have closed both camps and gone away.

Sometimes after LTTE over-ran the Mankindimalai Sri Lankan Army camp, Sri Lankan Army camps at Nanattan and Adampan areas - also in the Mannar District - were closed down by the Sri Lankan Army.

The withdrawal of the Sinhala forces from Adampan and Nanattan areas helped the return of the villagers to their villages from the refugee camps to which they were forced to seek shelter, when the Sri Lankan Army invaded their villages. We later received reports that these villagers had taken back to their normal occupation. Normalcy there is returning thanks to the withdrawal of the Sri Lankan Army.

The latest closure of the Sri Lankan Army camps at Chilawathurai and Kondatchi will produce like consequences in the several villages in and around Chilawathurai and Kondatchi. In other words the withdrawal of the Sinhala armed forces from the Tamil homeland will help the restoration of normalcy in those areas. If normalcy is restored, Government Ministers and President shall have no need to go and tell the Sinhala people that but for the war, they could spend all revenue on development. If the Government wants to spend all monies on development, it is within their power. They have just to stop the war and this can be achieved by closing down the Sinhala military camps in the Tamil homeland. The LTTE cannot attack the Sri Lankan Army when the latter is not in the Tamil homeland.

The Government also pretends that it carries on the war to relieve the Tamils in the Tamil homeland from LTTE 'dictatorship'. That claim is one without any foundation.

The Tamil homeland only suffers at the hands of the Sinhala forces and at the hands of the Government of Sri Lanka and have also suffered at the hands of the Indian Army. No Tamil in Tamil Eelam has appealed for protection to the Government of Sri Lanka. Therefore it is a spurious claim.

The Government must give up its pretensions and withdraw all its military complexes from the Tamil territory. That is the surest way to avoid death and destruction.

There is the added advantage. The closure of the military bases from the Tamil homeland would mean two things at the same time. (1) The stoppage of war. (2) The emergence of the necessary climate for political discussion.

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe, in pathetic attempts to retrieve from the bad political positions to which President Wijetunge leads the Government, was heard to say that the 'doors' are still open for negotiations. If he can persuade his government to follow the examples at Nanattan and Adampan and lately at Chilawathurai and Kondatchi, he will certainly be convincing.

Perhaps the Government thought that it would lose nothing but would gain everything by the closure of its armed services camps at the places mentioned. We make bold to say that it would be a truism to state that the closure of all armed forces camps from the Tamil homeland will be a precursor to the solution of the nationalities problem without recourse to arms and by negotiations.

The Right to Bear Arms

In his speech to the Tamil Nation, on Tamil Eelam National Heroes' Day 1993 (27 Nov), Mr. Velupillai Prabhakaran made one thing clear: "We have always kept the doors to peace open. However if the Sinhala state insists on pursuing a military action against the Tamil Nation or its people, those doors will close - permanently."

Peace.
Talks.
Settlements.
Agreements.

These have all been tried before, and so far all have failed to date. Why?

"The Tigers must lay down their arms as a prelude/condition to any negotiatio-

ns", says the Sri Lankan government. This was also emphasised by the Indian government and also by any other government or organisation "interested in helping to solve the problem."

S. Chandran

The Tigers have always refused to lay down their arms, explicitly stating their reasons. They always have done. They always will refuse.

"The LTTE are unreasonable." cry the Sinhalese, on hearing this.

"The Tigers are intransigent"

Quite the contrary. It is the condition (demand?) that arms be surrendered that

is unreasonable! Not, the Tigers' response.

It is the insistence that this condition be met that shows intransigence.

It's interesting to note that no one has ever asked the Sri Lankan military to lay down its arms prior to any negotiations. And why not?

Because the Sinhala armed forces are the national armed forces of the state of Sri Lanka they have a right to bear arms.

Right! No question about that. By the same token the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam is the National Army of the Tamil Nation and Protector of its people. They too have the right to bear arms. So, there can be no question about anybody laying down arms and that's final!

S. L. Navy fires cannon 2 Fishermen Killed 1 Injured

Two fishermen were killed and another was injured when Sri Lankan Navy fired cannon from a speed boat in the Kalmunai sea. This happened on Thursday, November 25, about 5.00 a.m.

Some fishermen from Jaffna were fishing in the Jaffna lagoon near Kalmunai in Poonakari area about 5.00 a.m. on Thursday, November, 25, when Sri Lankan Navy men who came in a speed boat started firing cannon at the fishermen.

Lucas Jesudas (36), a father of one child, and

Malacias Thevathas (38), a father of seven children, both from Navanthurai, who were engaged in fishing died as a result of the firing. Kulam, a brother of the deceased Thavathas received severe injuries in one of his hands and is admitted to the Jaffna Hospital.

The other fishermen abandoned their fishing and returned home. The fishermen said that the Navy boat was seen coming from the direction of Vettukadu and was later seen moving towards the same area after firing at the fishermen.

WOMAN DIES OF Midnight Shell Attack

A woman named Muthuthamby Ambikathevy (age 48) of Mylankadu, Chunnakam died when a shell launched from the Palaly Sri Lankan Army, exploded at Mylankadu in Chunnakam.

The incident took place on the midnight of Friday, November 26. When people were fast asleep a shell from the Palaly Sri Lankan Army camp hit a house at Mylankadu about 12.00 midnight. Mrs. M. Ambikathevy, the occupant of the house, was killed. Another woman, Srikanthan Yogeswary was injured.

TEEDOR NEWS

Maruthadikulam Tank Renovation

The Village Production Committees of Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation (TEEDOR) have renovated the Maruthadikulam Tank with the assistance of the people.

Velikulam Tank Renovation

Village Production Committees of TEEDOR renovated Velikulam in Kudathanai with the help of the people. Forut provided assistance. This tank had been abandoned for a long time.

Live - stock Farm at Oddusuddan

The Mullaitivu District Branch of TEEDOR has put up a live-stock farm at Oddusuddan. Pigs, goats, rabbits, fowls, ducks, turkey and pigeons are being reared. One month old chicks are being sold to the public at cheaper prices. Also free technical advice on rearing live-stock is being given to people at this farm.

Road Repaired

The main road in the Kopay colony was repaired and renovated by TEEDOR on voluntary - service basis to mark the beginning of the Heroes' Week. A distance of 200 meters was thus repaired. In terms of money the work concluded is worth Rupees one hundred and twenty five thousand.

Financial Assistance at Inuvil

Ten families below poverty level were selected at Inuvil South West village for financial assistance to enhance village uplift programme. Each family was granted financial assistance at Rs. 5000/- per family.

"Agriculture" King to be selected

TEEDOR proposes to hold a competition among farmers to select the best farmer of paddy. The farmer who produces the largest yield in a given area will be honoured by the award the title of "Vivasaya Mannan" (Agriculture King) and other valuable prizes. The competition will be held in the five divisions of Jaffna district and shall be determined by

the production from 1993/94 'Perumpokavelanmai' (Manavari cultivation) Those willing to participate in the competition are requested to send in their applications to the TEEDOR office before 5.12.93.

Uncultivated land distributed for cultivation

The Vavunia Division Branch of TEEDOR has distributed uncultivated and unutilized land in the Nainamadhure region for cultivation by those willing to undertake cultivation.

Co - count Plants Sale

The Mullaitivu District Branch of TEEDOR is selling at low prices co-conut plants of quality for those willing to plant them.

Encouragement to Maize cultivation

As a step to encourage maize cultivation, TEEDOR is distributing seed - maize to cultivators in the Jaffna District. The TEEDOR also has assured marketability by itself undertaking to purchase the cultivated maize at market value when the crop is harvested.

S. L. AIR FORCE BOMBS SCHOOL

TEACHERS - STUDENTS INJURED

A Sri Lankan Air Force Supersonic jet carried out air-bombing at two places on Friday, November 26. In one place the target was a Girls' School!

About 10.30 a.m. on Friday, November, 26, a S.L. Air Force Supersonic jet suddenly appeared and dropped two bombs at Kalasalai Road in Tirunelvely. The houses of Sivapatham and Vijayaratham were badly damaged. Two persons K. Selvanayagam (21) and M. Murugesu (68) were injured. One of Murugesu's legs was severed.

Immediately following the attack on Tirunelvely, the Supersonic Jet bombed Kokkuvil. The target at Kokkuvil was the Sri Ramakrishna Saratha Ladies' College. Two bombs were dropped at this school.

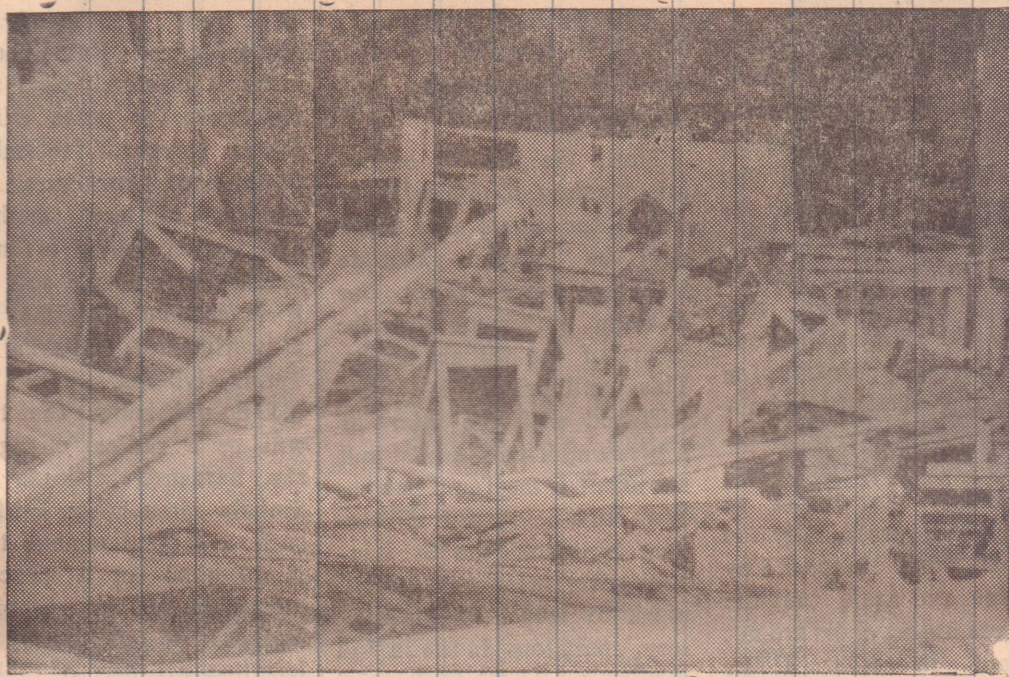
The Vice-Principal of the school, a teacher and some students, six in all, were injured. A portion of the school was razed to the ground. The Science laboratory was damaged. The furniture of the school, free book for distribution among children and some documents were damaged.

The Principal of the College later told reporters that when the sound of the plane was heard teachers and children rushed out of the school building to take shelter underneath nearby trees. The teachers and students who were the last to rush out of the classrooms, were injured.

The Vice Principal of the school, Mrs. T. Sri Patkunam, a teacher, Mrs. Rajaratnam and four students, Ambikapathy, Sumithra, Ajanthini, and Akalya suffered injuries.

Five other houses in the vicinity were damaged.

SUPER-SONIC HITS SCHOOL



A picture of some of the class-rooms damaged at Kokkuvil Sri Ramakrishna Saratha Ladies' College by Super-Sonic Jet Bombing.

Yet another case of "Involuntary Disappearance"

A youth named Kulasingam, a resident of Gurunagar, Jaffna, was arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy two years ago, while he was engaged in fishing in the Jaffna Lagoon between Gurnagar and Mandativu.

The Sri Lankan Government Forces which kept mum for the past two years, when inquiries were made through the I.C.R.C. about the whereabouts of Kulasingam, have

now informed his parents that no such person by that name was with them and further informed his parents that, if so required, arrangements could be made to obtain a death certificate.

Kulasingam's parents have expressed their concern regarding the mystery surrounding their son's disappearance, after he was captured by the Sri Lankan Navy.

Markets are the Targets

A Sri Lankan Air Force helicopter fired at market places in Thenmaradchy. Three persons were injured.

On Friday, November 26, about 9.20 a.m. a Sri Lankan helicopter fired at people in the Kodikamam market at Thenmaradchy. A trader by the name of V. Nadarajah of Changaththanai was injured.

About 9.25 a.m. the helicopter fired at the Chava-

kachcheri market. R. Jaya of Kaithady - Nunavil was injured in this attack. Some shops were also damaged.

About 10.00 a.m. a grenade was thrown from a helicopter flying over Palai. K. Kirupanayagam of Palai was injured.

There was also report of helicopter straffing at Kilali the same day but no news of damage or injury was received.

BURY THIS ANGER

The atrocities committed by the 11th Division of the American Army on the innocent people in the village of Mylai during the Vietnam war had been spoken of and reviewed many a time. That story happened on 16. 3. 1968. Almost a generation has gone by since then. But in 1993 a book

has been published in London under the title "Four Hours

in Mylai" A book review on it has been recently published in "Frontline."

An army's conduct is being reviewed under the name of denied justice. The Japanese Prime Minister has publicly apologised after fifty years, for atrocities committed by the Japanese army in Korea during World War II. This happened recently. Why do we recapitulate these incidents here?

Can the atrocities committed on the innocent public by the Sri Lankan Army under the garb of suppressing "Terrorism" be forgotten? Can these incidents be put under the carpet?

When there is direct confrontation or when Army camps are attacked, the Armed forces are running wild. What are the consequences of their anger?

What do the bombings of temples, churches and hospitals against all norms of war indicate?

Media View

Not being satisfied with the bombing of the Kach-

cheri, Church and hospital area in Jaffna, the Kilinochchi hospital and church too have been bombed.

Is this the way in which the doors of peace are kept open?

Why did Government leaders and Army high-ups trained abroad in military academies forget that incidents of this nature, would nurture permanent rift, enmity, and hatred between the races?

Should they not forget at least the lyric: 'Don't get angry, don't fret and foam'.

Editorial: Eelanadu -
17. 11. 93.

FISHERMAN KILLED

A fisherman named Somu Kunam (28) was killed when Sri Lankan Army personnel fired from sentry posts in in Valanthalai, Karainagar, on fishermen at work in the Ponnalai sea.

The incident occurred on Sunday, November 21, at 5.15 a.m.

Fishermen who escaped injuries and returned safe home said that many of

them were engaged in fishing at the time when Sri Lankan Army men in ambush on the Ponnalai Karainagar causeway opened fire on them. They ducked into the sea and escaped injuries.

The dead fisherman Somu Kunam is a refugee from Karainagar who had been living at tholpuram after the Sri Lankan Army occupied his village of Karainagar.

S. L. ARMY VACATES 2 CAMPS IN MANNAR

36 Villages become Free of Reign of Terror

The Sri Lankan Army vacated two of its camps from the mainland of Mannar District. The camps were earlier sited at Chilavathurai and Kondachchi.

On Friday, November 26, about 4.00 p.m. Sri Lankan Army encamped at the coastal village of Chilavathurai and at Kondachchi abandoned its camps there and moved out of the two places bag and baggage.

With the closure of these two camps the mainland of Mannar becomes free from

the armed forces of the Reign of Terror of the Sri Lankan government.

Earlier the Sri Lankan Army closed down its camps in Nanattan and Adampan areas after the fall of the Sri Lankan Camp at Mankindimalai. The villagers of Nanattan and Adampan and

surrounding villages are now back at their villages and are engaged in farming now.

With the removal of the Army camps from Chilavathurai and Kondachchi about 36 small villages become free of the Reign of Terror. People of these villages are expected to return to their villages soon.

LTTE's Mannar District Commander, Mr. John, told the Voice of Tigers Radio that the forces based in these two camps are expected to replenish the killed Sri Lankan soldiers at Poonakari.

Puccara bombs

A Sri Lankan Air Force Puccara plane bombed Chavakachcheri area about 6.00 a.m. on Monday, November 22. The bomb fell in a paddy field and caused damage to the crops. Two houses nearby were also slightly damaged.

Bomber, Heli Attack at Vadamaradchy

Two Sri Lankan Air Force bombers bombed Valvettiturai in Vadamaradchy on Friday, November 26.

The incident occurred about 9.30 a.m. on Friday, November 26. Myliyathanai area in Valvettiturai came in for bomber attack. Some houses

in the area were damaged.

A few minutes before the bomber attack a Sri Lankan Air Force helicopter hovered over the areas of Kambarmalai, Myliyathanai and Valvettiturai and fired 50 calibre guns in residential areas.

THOUSANDS BRAVE WEATHER

Silent Protest March Against State Terrorism

A mammoth silent procession was taken out from the destroyed St. James' Church, Gurunagar, Jaffna under the leadership of the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. R. M. G. Nesanayagam accompanied by Hindu and other religious leaders. The procession went along the main routes in silence and handed over a memorandum to the local Team Head of the ICRC, protesting against aerial bombing of churches, temples, schools etc. to be forwarded to world countries.

The silent procession started from the ruined premises of St. James' Church, Gurunagar at 9.00 a.m. on Friday, December 3rd. The Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Nesanayagam and other leaders wore black badges. Many had their mouths gagged to indicate the silent nature of the procession.

The procession wended its way to the office of the local ICRC and Rev. Fr. Nesanayagam on behalf of the processionsists handed over the memorandum to be

transmitted to all countries of the world.

From there, they marched towards the Kachcheri, again going through the main thoroughfares and reached the Kachcheri premises about 12.00 noon.

Rev. Fr. Nesanayagam handed over the memorandum to Addl. Government Agent for transmission to President Wijetunge.

Rev. Fr. S. J. Emmanuel, the Vicar - General, who spoke on the occasion said that S. L. Government sought to suppress our non-violent struggles for our rights by

resorting to violence. We are thus reluctantly compelled to wage an armed struggle.

The Sri Lankan Government speaks of virtue but does quite the contrary. It even wants to destroy the education and culture of the Tamils. Hence the bombing of schools, libraries and even temples and churches.

Continuing Rev. Fr. Emmanuel said that the Tamils only wanted their rights. They do not seek to deprive the Sinhalese of any of their rights.

Siva Tamil Chelvi Thangammah Appakutti and Kam-

pan Kalagam Jeyaraj also spoke.

Mrs. Pathiniammah Tissanayagam, the Addl. Govt. Agent who received the memorandum agreed to transmit it to President Wijetunge.

Thousands of people braved the weather to participate in this silent procession to protest against Government violence and terrorism.

HEAVY...

(Continued from Page 1)

The firing was aimed at fishermen fishing in the coastal waters. Fishermen jumped into the sea and escaped unhurt. The S. L. Naval Gun Boats thereafter fired at coastal residential areas.

Some fishing boats were damaged by the cannon fire.

We March on the Path Lit by Our Heroes..

(Continued from page 1)

innumerable problems, trials and tribulations, we have not deviated from our basic political ideal. We are firmly convinced that the creation of an independent sovereign state of Tamil Eelam is the only and final solution to the Tamil national question. Our position is well known to our enemy as well as to the world.

The Tamil political parties which obtained the mandate from our people for the establishment of an independent state, and the Tamil armed groups who pledged to fight an armed struggle for political independence have already given up their cause and betrayed the Tamil people. It is only our liberation movement that continues to abide by the principles to which it is committed.

We are fully aware of the Himalayan impediments that we have to face in achieving the objective of an independent Tamil state. We are also aware of the forces that are opposed to our objective and how they would respond. We are also conscious of the modes of intervention that might arise from the hegemonic designs of the regional power, and from the strategic objectives of the Super powers. Whenever such interventions occurred we courageously faced those challenges. We stood by our principles even when we were pushed to the brink of destruction. We were not shaken by the violent storms unleashed against us by dominant forces.

Just Cause - Strong Moral Foundation

We are standing on a strong moral foundation. We are fighting for a just cause. Our political objectives conform with international norms and principles. Our people are eligible for the right to self - determination. They

have the right to statehood. Under international law this right cannot be denied. We must be firm in the cause of our struggle since truth and justice are on our side. Only when people are firmly and resolutely committed to their cause can they win their freedom.

We are fully aware of the fact that the world is not rotating on the axis of human justice. Every country in this world advances its own national interests. It is the economic and trade interests that determine the order of the present world, not the moral law of justice nor the rights of people. International relations and diplomacy between countries are determined by such interests. Therefore we cannot expect an immediate recognition of the moral legitimacy of our cause by the international community. But at the same time we must continue to agitate for that recognition. The world is constantly changing and there will be unexpected changes. At a particular conjuncture the international situation might change favourably to us. At that time the conscience of the world will be conducive to the call of our just cause.

Success Depends

Solely on us

In reality, the success of our struggle depends on us, not on the world. Our success depends on our own efforts, on our own strength, on our own determination. The moral legitimacy of the cause alone will not lead to victory. We must be strong, firm in our convictions and skilled in the art of war.

Forty Years' Old Problem

Our enemy the Sinhala chauvinistic regime, is not prepared to resolve the problems of our people on the basis of justice and fair

play. The Sinhala government wants to resolve the problem through the means of violence. Because of the ruthless militaristic approach of the Sinhala racist regime the Tamil ethnic problem continues unresolved for the last forty years. During this lengthy duration of time our people fervently hoped for justice but what they encountered were death, destruction and intolerable suffering. Our people have begun to realise more profoundly the political truth enunciated by us, time and again that the Sinhalese ruling elites are not prepared to offer a fair solution to the Tamil problem through peaceful means.

Our movement has never been an impediment to peace process. We offered many opportunities to the Sri Lankan State. We participated at various peace talks from Thimpu to Colombo. But the Sri Lankan State refused to put forward any substantial set of proposals to the Tamil question. Instead of seeking a peaceful means it is determined to resolve the problem in the battlefield.

Since the outbreak of hostilities in June 1990, our liberation organisation kept the doors for peace open. Whenever we announced our readiness for peace talks and extended our hands of friendship, the Sri Lankan government refused to respond positively. It also rejected our persistent call for the creation of a congenial condition of normalcy by effecting a cessation of hostilities and lifting the economic embargo. Instead of creating a condition of peace the chauvinistic regime intensified the war and brought havoc and destruction to our people. Finally, it attempted to portray our freedom struggle as a phenomenon of 'terrorism'. Further-

more, it made public pronouncements that there is no ethnic problem.

Govt's Belligerent Militarism

Thus, the Sinhala chauvinistic ruling elite has firmly closed the doors for peace with the arrogant attitude that they could crush our freedom movement with the might of the military power. This militarism is now stiffened with the aim of aggressing Tamil lands and subjugating the Tamil people. With this belligerent militaristic approach, the Sri Lankan government has devised plans to launch major military operations in the Jaffna Peninsula. Faced with this critical situation, we decided to launch counter - offensive operations to inflict a severe blow on the enemy.

Our successful operations at Mankindimalai, Pulopallai and finally at Poonakari effected a severe blow to Sinhala militarism. In these operations, Poonakari battle was historically important. This battle has shown a new dimension of the developmental stage in the LTTE's military power. We have impressed upon the Sinhala chauvinists that the LTTE has the military capability to penetrate and destroy, with lightning speed, even the well - fortified military complexes. This operation has shown to those who belittle the ethnic problem - the colossal nature of the ethnic conflict. In these battles more than a thousand Sinhala soldiers have been killed. This will be a bitter lesson for those Sinhala militarists and chauvinists who dream of invasions and expansions on the Tamil soil. Those who run the administration in Colombo should realise the disastrous consequences of the military approach.

Ruthless Militarism will Mean Closure of Doors of Peace

Unlike the Sinhala government we have not closed

the door for peace. We have not obstructed the peace process. But I should make it absolutely clear that the doors for peace will be closed forever if the Sinhala government continues its ruthless military methods and launch major offensive operations on our soil or if it continues reckless and indiscriminate attacks on Tamil civilians.

I do not believe that there will be a radical change in the hardened attitude of Sinhala chauvinism. Without such a radical change there is no hope for a peaceful resolution of the problem. Because of the rigid and hardline attitude of Sinhala chauvinism, the creation of an independent state is the only path open to the Tamil people. We have no alternative other than to proceed along that path.

Our liberation movement continues to tread along this path in its journey towards its goal.

It is a difficult path, full of thorns and stones, infested with carnivorous animals and poisonous reptiles. Yet we travel along this path.

Our martyrs have travelled along this path. They went ahead of us as our guides. By clearing the obstacles they smoothened the way and lit up the path. Let us proceed along this path illuminated by our martyrs that leads us to our goal of freedom.

Achievement...

(Continuation from page 1)

UPU has proclaimed "the principle of freedom of postal transit across countries" and the ITU endeavours to ensure "the secrecy of international correspondence." - A Standard of Achievement Everywhere. But Flouted in Sri Lanka.

New Era Publications, Luckshmi building, Dutch Rd, Kalviyankadu, Jaffna.