

Hot Spring

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No. 11

NOVEL IMPRISONMENT

The villagers of Poonagar and Poomarathadichenai in Trincomalee District have been forbidden to leave their villages even to buy provisions by the S.L. Army. They have also been prevented from doing their cultivation. About 400 acres of cultivation has been thus ruined. There are no dispensaries in this area. The ICRC has also been prevented from sending medicine. This novel imprisonment is in force for 21 days now with no prospect of end in sight.

FLOOD PRELIMINARY REPORT:-

OVER 57,000 FAMILIES AFFECTED. HOUSES DAMAGED

According to preliminary reports furnished by Assistant Government Agents in the Jaffna District 57,326 families have been affected by last week's flood. This information was revealed by the Asst. Director of Social Services, Jaffna.

The Asst. Director of Social Services said that a meeting of Asst. Govt. Agents was held at Jaffna Secretariat premises on Thursday, December 23. The preliminary figures furnished by the A.G. AA revealed that 57,326 families have been affected. The number of persons constituting the families have not been obtained. The figure is not final as figures in respect of some displaced persons from the islands after army occupation there and some persons who have come in to the Jaffna District from certain areas in the peninsula falling under the Kilinochchi District have not been obtained.

As floods have not receded in many parts, it has not been possible for the A.G. AA to tell the figures of the number of persons affected. They have only given the number of families. These figures will be obtained through the Grama Sevakas as soon as the floods

recede and the Grama Sevakas are able to visit the areas and assess damages to houses and properties. According to the Asst. Director of Social Services a third of the people of Jaffna have been affected by the floods.

The Asst. Director also said that the affected persons will be issued with dry rations for one week and instructions have been sent to MPCSS unions to provide such relief rations. The question of other compensation will be discussed with government after all details are obtained.

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First Report of Death

In the meantime the first report of death by flood came from Vaddukkodai. An elderly person M. Kanapathipillai (73) and his daughter, T. Rajeswary (47) died at their house at Vaddukkodai, near Adai-kalamthottam Kandasamy temple when the wall of their house collapsed about 11.00 p.m. on Wednesday due to the effects of the flood. The father and daughter were trapped inside the wall that collapsed.

MALARIA VICTIMS DIE

Three cases of death by Malaria have been reported from Thenmaradchy area.

Two of them died on Saturday, December 18. Another person died on Monday, December 20. Earlier, there was still another case of a woman dying of malaria on December 14, also from Thenmaradchy.

Last week, Hot Spring reported the shortage in Jaffna of malathion which is used to control mosquitoes.

30,000 families Affected in Batticaloa

It is learnt that over 30,000 families comprising 125,000 people have been affected by floods in Batticaloa.

According to the report all areas in the Batticaloa District have been affected by the flood.

Paddy fields destroyed-Huts burnt

S. L. Army men from Verugal Camp in the Trincomalee District are reported to have gone to Kalvettuvan and Kaltivu areas and destroyed maize and other plantations. They also set fire to huts of farmers there. Some Tamils are reported to have been assaulted by the army.

The Army is also reported to have carried out search operations in Periyasolai area.

LTTE strikes at Kathiraveli

The LTTE carried out an attack on a group of Sinhala soldiers at Kathiraveli in the Batticaloa District, killing four soldiers and recovering arms.

The news in this connection said that on Tuesday, December 21, the LTTE attacked a group of Sinhala soldiers who had come out on guard duty within 500 yards of the Sri Lankan Army camp at Kathiraveli. Four Sinhala soldiers were killed and the LTTE recovered arms, ammunitions and other military-ware including an AK, LMG. At the same time another group

of LTTE opened fire on a group of soldiers who sought to go from the camp to help the group that was already under attack.

The LTTE said that one of its fighters died in the attack.

Second Visit of Anglican Bishop

Anglican Bishop of Colombo, Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando, will be visiting Jaffna again during the second week of January, 1994. The Anglican Bishop is expected to spend eight days in Jaffna from 7th - 14th January, 1994, according to Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Henry Victor, the Parish Priest of St. Mary's Church, Kopay and Holy Emmanuel Church, Urumpirai, who returned to Jaffna last Saturday from Colombo recently.

This time the Anglican Bishop will devote his time to pastoral work but will find time to inspect the damage caused by aerial bombardment by the S.L. Air Force.

Last time the Bishop came here on a peace mission and obtained the release of two prisoners - of war held by the LTTE as a gesture of good-will. On his return to the South however, he found the climate not so conducive to his peace efforts.

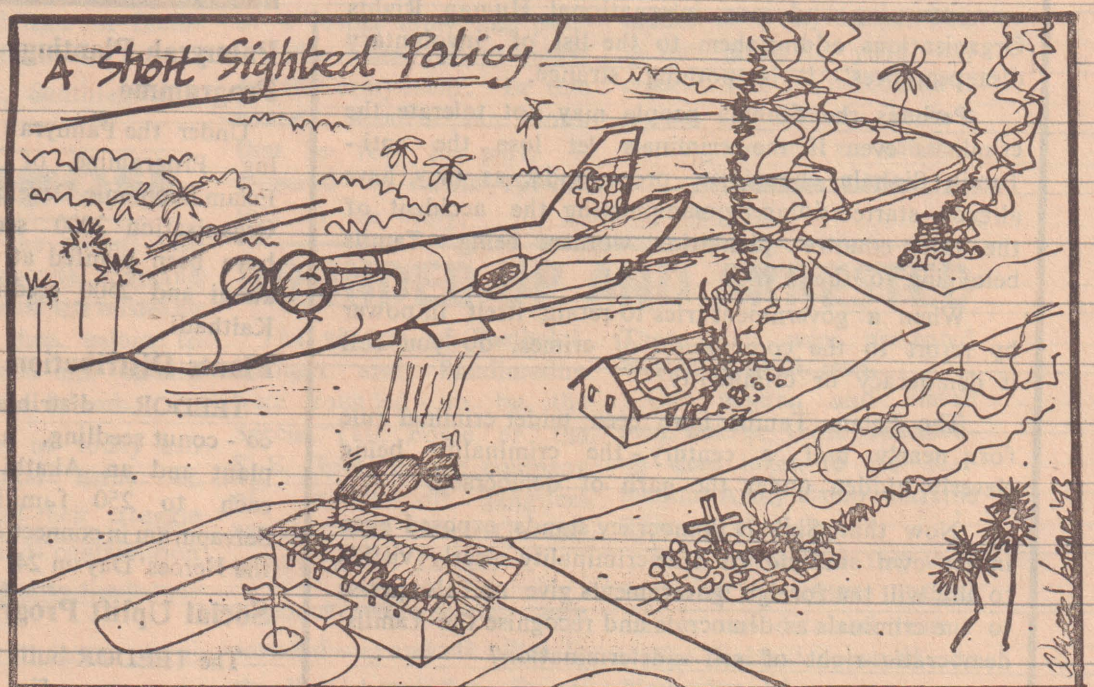
FISHERMAN SHOT DEAD

The Sri Lankan Army and a Tamil gangster group arrested two fishermen at Munaikadu Batticaloa District, shot one of them dead and took the other man to their camp.

The news from Batticaloa in this connection said that on December 19, about 5.30 a.m. two fishermen from Munaikadu were on their way to the Muthalaikudah Aru to do fishing when they were arrested by the Sri Lankan Army and a group of Tamil gangsters. The Army shot dead one

of the fishermen. The name of the fishermen shot dead was Yogan (aged 32), a native of Munaikadu. The man taken by the Army is Vyramuthu Nathan (aged 23) also of Munaikadu.

Nothing is known of the fisherman taken by the army and the gangsters to the Army camp.





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Criminals Stand Exposed

Sometimes back there was news of a member of the Southern Province Provincial Council suddenly disappearing under mysterious circumstances. He was a member of the S. L. F. P.

Then a news item appeared that he had given an interview to pressmen calculated to imply that he was not missing as made out. His wife, however, silenced the dealers in diabolical lies by posing the question why her husband had not gone to see her and their children, if he was not in confinement.

In the heels of this story of the kidnapping from Ruhuna, comes the tale of seven Provincial Councillors belonging to the Ceylon Workers' Congress in the Central Provincial Council disappearing.

Prior to the sudden disappearance of the CWC Provincial Councillors, the differences between the CWC and the UNP had become known to everyone with Mr. Thondaman telling that his CWC members would vote against the UNP Chief Minister in the 100-confidence motion that he was facing in the Council. That meant that the UNP was losing the Central Provincial Council also. It has already lost three out of the existing seven.

Kidnapping is a criminal offence and so is keeping a man in confinement except by the authority of a court sentence. As a matter of fact the celebrated Writ of Habeas Corpus was invented to prevent such arbitrary arrests, kidnapping and confinement without lawful authority.

The criminal law says that not only those who commit a crime but those who aid, abet and who conspire to commit the crime, are all guilty of that crime.

The accompanying circumstances of the incidents of kidnapping clearly prove the ruling UNP leaders to be behind the crime. And circumstantial evidence is enough to prove guilt.

As for the Eelam Tamils, if any of them disappear - and such disappearances have been in thousands amongst the Eelam Tamils with no hope of their ever returning and even international Human Rights Organisations adding them to the list of 'involuntary disappearances' - it is nothing strange.

Perhaps the Sinhala people may not tolerate the criminals even if the criminals let lose the anti-Tamil, Sinhala chauvinist propaganda, as they have already started doing by manipulating the accident of the hill country plantation workers being Tamils belonging to the CWC.

When a government tries to retain itself in power by resort to the commission of crimes, do you call it democracy or criminality?

The Eelam Tamils have been under criminal rule for nearly half a century - the criminality being cleverly hidden under the garb of democracy.

Now that Sinhala democracy stands exposed even in its own soil and its true criminality clearly visible to all, will the foreign governments give up false praise to the criminals as democrats and recognise the Tamils' democratic right of self-determination?

No Christmas Mail this year too!

Since the Eelam war II started in June, 1990, Christians have to forego their Christmas Mails, both foreign and local including those from other Districts. Last Year too, they received their Christmas Greetings sometime during the middle of February or early March this year due to the postal mess created by the Postal Author-

ities in Colombo and the State's armed forces.

Although the Postal Department is the sole authority for handling of postal mails, the armed forces intervene on alleged suspicion that banned items are contained therein and on that account are said to carry out a through checking.

Tampering with private correspondence sent in mail is an offence under the Postal Ordinance. Yet the Postal Authorities do not raise any objection to this sort of intervention by the armed forces. So the people of the North have to forego their Christmas Mails this time too during the Festive Season.

Heavy Vehicles Withdrawn

It is learnt that the Army is withdrawing heavy military vehicles such as battle tanks and armoured vehicles from its camps in border areas of Vavunia.

Reports said that such heavy vehicles from Cheddikulam, Pampaimadhu, Nochchimodai and Mahapachchaikodi have been moved out from there and taken to the Army's main base at Vavunia.

The reports said that while these heavy vehicles were being withdrawn, steps are also being taken to strengthen these camps otherwise.

It is learnt that these heavy vehicles are being withdrawn from border camps to prevent their being captured by LTTE as happened at Poonakari.

Three Civilians Arrested by STF

K. Poopalasingham, S. Kumaran and E. Tharman, all civilians from the village, of Palacholai in the Batticaloa District have been arrested by the Special Task Force of the Sri Lankan Government. The arrested have been taken to the Vellaveli Army Camp.

The arrest of the three civilians took place on Thursday, December 9, when STF personnel rounded up the village of Palacholai, about 5.00 a.m.

The fate of the arrested persons is not known.

Muslim Home Guards Harass Tamils

News from Trincomalee said that Tamils in Muttur area were being subjected to harassment by Muslim Home Guards.

A number of incidents have taken place of assault on Tamils and also incidents of robbery where Tamils have been relieved of their possessions.

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

In the Soccer Tournament organised by the Singing Fish Club, Singing Fish beat Young Henrians by 2-0. This match was played at the grounds of St. John's College and the collections at the gate were towards the Re-building of St. James' Church, Gurunagar, Jaffna which was recently very badly damaged beyond repair during the aerial attack by Sri Lankan Air Force bombers. Mr. Thevarajah officiated.

— Vijayakumar —

TEEDOR NEWS

Palmyrah Planting Programme

Under the Palmyrah Planting Programme of Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation 2000 seedlings have been planted at Chankalai and 2500 seedlings at Kaithadi.

Plants Distribution

TEEDOR distributed a co-conut seedling, a lime plant and an Akathi plant each to 250 families at Selvapuram in connection with the Heroes' Day on 24. 11. 93.

Social Uplift Programme

The TEEDOR built economy - two-way - fire-wood

stoves free of charge for 17 families in the Kopay colony to commemorate Heroes' Day. The Deputy Head of the Jaffna Dist. Political wing of the LTTE presented seedlings for these families for home-gardens.

Incentive for Coir Industry

Ten families with income below poverty line at Nuvavil were given Rs. 4750/- each by TEEDOR to help them to involve themselves in coir industry.

Prevention of Soil erosion

Ten acres of sandy land was planted with co-conut and cadju seedlings at Manal Kadu by TEEDOR as part of the programme for prevention of soil erosion. This programme was funded by the Sea Tigers. Also another 35 acres have been planted with casuarinas

Vadamardchy. Funds for 20 acre plantations were provided by Sea Tigers and for the balance 15 by the Union of Vadamardchy Co-conut and Palmyrah Products Sales Co-operatives. Date seedlings have also been planted as an experiment.

Incentive for Cottage Industries

TEEDOR has provided financial assistance to 18 families of Ariyalai at Rs. 1250/- each to help them in their cottage industries. Similarly at Putur 20 families have been given Rs. 2500/- each. At Irupalai 15 families have been given Rs. 3500/- each for pottery industry. At Pirampattu ten families have been given Rs. 5000/- each for gingilly oil production. 15 families at Kottadi have been given goats.

"TREES"

Nothing in the world
Is so pleasing as the trees
As they dance in the breeze
It makes our blood freeze
Cutting down in hundreds & thousands
Full of flowers, honey and smell
Don't we get from trees?
Lots and lots of birds
Come towards
For colour and shades and seeds.
And what a life of careless ease
Is possible with these trees?
Always remember that these
Are the keys
To win the life of ease
Please, plant more and more trees
As you please
To make our Eelam prosper.

S. SATHASIVAM — Madduvil.

'He was a blind Pilot' Ranil Contributing his Share

ARCHBISHOP ON BOMBING OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH

'The pilot who thought that the great St. James' Church at Gurunagar in Jaffna was a Tiger Camp and bombed it, cannot be anything but blind.'

The Archbishop of Colombo, Rt. Rev. Dr. Nicholas Marcus Fernando, has said so in a letter dated November-30, which he had sent to Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Savundaranyagam, the Bishop of Jaffna.

The Archbishop of Colombo has further said in the letter that he knows the beauty and great height of St. James' Church, Gurunagar and its three towers.

The Bishop of Jaffna to convey his deepest sympathies to the families of those killed and others injured.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Nicholas Marcus Fernando has also informed the Bishop of Jaffna that his Secretary Rt. Rev. Gomes, Bishop of Colombo, has conveyed by letter details regarding the aerial attack on St. James' Church, to the President, Mr. D. B. Wijetunge.

The Bishop of Colombo has further regretted blood-letting throughout the island as a result of the current war.

Sri Lankan Prime Minister, Ranil Wickremasinghe, has announced his intention to adopt a three-stage strategic plan for the resolution of the ethnic problem. He has further announced that he intends to adopt as an example the same strategy adopted by the Britishers during the colonial era to suppress the insurgency in Malaysia.

The utterance of Prime Minister, Ranil Wickremasinghe that he has come to know only now this Malaysian-style approach points out that he is far behind in his knowledge in regard

The attempt to destroy the political base of the Liberation Tigers is also not a new effort. To achieve this end, both the Sri Lankan Government as well as the Indian Government have not failed to undertake all efforts to the utmost. In order to achieve this end not only did they use the Tamil groups but also their own armies but failed. Anyone making similar efforts is bound to fail in their attempts even in the future.

The underlying reason for this is that the political

Media View

base of the Tigers is built on the sure foundation of the Tamil people's right to self-determination and their security. This is linked with the liberation of the Tamil Nation. In this situation, it is not feasible either to disrupt or destroy it. It is because the political base of the Liberation Tigers is strong and morally sound and the liberation struggle of Tamil Eelam as well as Liberation Tigers are able to progressively advance even in the midst of tremendous difficulties. In these circumstances destruction of the political base of the Tigers will only mean an attempt to destroy Tamil nationalism.

Be that as it may. The three strategies that Premier Ranil had found out to suppress the insurgency Malaysia-style are (1) the Government cannot be allowed to become weak; (2) the political base of the Tigers should be weakened; and (3) Tigers should be militarily weakened.

But, out of these three strategies, what has the S.L. Government abandoned up to now or not postponed implementation. From the very inception, when the ethnic problem took the form of an armed struggle, the Sri Lankan Govt was engaged in weakening the Tigers militarily. In fact, at the beginning it functioned with the motive of completely wiping them out, instead of militarily weakening them.

But even after the lapse of ten years, it has not succeeded in weakening the Tigers militarily. On the contrary, a situation has developed where the army commander resigns his post saying that he does not wish to be the commander of a losing army and putting the blame for the defeat on the army itself. In this context, Ranil's plan shows that he for his part, is prepared to inflict further loss on the army.

As the Tamil struggle is justifiable and morally sound, it will not be that easy to protect the weakening of the Sri Lankan Government which seeks to kill it. The Sri Lankan Government will continue to get weaker and weaker as long as it does not recognise the liberation struggle of the Tamil Nation and as long as it continues to seek a military solution to the ethnic problem. In other words, it is impossible to avoid military defeats and economic crises weakening the Sinhala State.

Considered in this light, Sri Lankan Prime Minister, Ranil Wickremasinghe's plan to win on the 'Malaysian model' is a day-dream. This is not going to yield any results. For his part Ranil is trying. Let him try. There is nothing else that we can say.

Eelanatham Editorial:
9-12-93

I am of the firm conviction that the G. 7 Nations are

THE G.7 NATIONS

entirely responsible for the loss of 25 innocent Tamil civilians and the injury to over 70, again Tamil civilians, just by one bombing on the 5th instant at Gurunagar, Jaffna.

Year after year these G.7 nations warn the Sri Lankan government against attacking civilians but year after year these G.7 nations dole out aid asked for by the Sri Lankan government. It is a pity that these G.7 nations have completely shut off all sense of moral values. Is this because

the people who are butchered are only Browns, not Whites? It is a completely unimaginable behaviour of these G.7 nations.

We, the Tamil people of Tamil Eelam, have a long time back decided among ourselves that we, for the sake of dignity alone, if not anything else, decided to suffer the worst that the Sinhala Sri Lankan government would adopt in spite of their great Religion, Buddhism. We, each one of us, are

willing to lose even our very life for the sake of

our freedom, our birthright.

The pity of it all, is that we are hundred per cent sure that the ordinary Sinhalese Buddhist people hate this Sinhala government that is bringing their Race and Religion to complete disrespect among the civilized people of the whole world.

It is high time these G.7 nations wake up and think of the souls of their own people themselves.

S. Alagaratnam
Urumpirai.

It is well known that

FOREIGN AID AND WAR

most wars in developing nations are at least indirectly sustained by foreign aid. If it were not for the latter, the former will fizzle out soon.

Some wars are thrust on the parties and are inevitable. Nations in such pitiable situations will require to be helped.

Most loans or almost all, are obtained by nations in war not as for war, but for development and repair or for alleviation of poverty. It amounts to saying: 'I will fight my war on by funds, you help me for the development on humanitarian grounds.'

It is illogical that a nation should channel money into an unjust war and expect aid for survival.

Though aid may be morally compulsory towards a

wanting neighbour, yet it can be used and should be used as an indirect weapon to stop unjust wars. What is proposed is more than the present practice (very mildly used) of coupling it with preservation of Human Rights. It itself is under heavy criticism by the loanees. Thus the approach has to be well planned. Whether a war is just or unjust or 'anti-terrorist' needs to be decided not by the warring party but by an outside international forum.

This forum or unarmed intervention or influence could be insisted on as a prerequisite at least when considering or granting aid, when the loanee or receiver can be demanded of to submit to just conditions.

Lanka's case but for all and could work out to be a discourager or stifler of unjust wars.

Thus I propose that a world level lobbying be started with the collaboration of others in this direction: 'When a country is at war or in sizeable unrest, whether 'internal' or external, and applies or appeals for foreign aid under any guise, it should be requested (as a precondition) to submit its condition case to a genuine international evaluation and opinion on the situation, including a decision as to whether the war condition is inevitable or not, and if possible, to advise, arbitrate or facilitate a solution.

A. Santhipillai
Jaffna

EELAM - ITS INTENT AND PURPOSE

The Fifty-Fifty policy was meant by its founder to accommodate the Tamils to share as political partners and in the affairs of the State which was brushed aside as division. A Federal concept was yet another offer by the Tamils to manage the affairs of the State as meaningful citizens, but this too was brushed aside as division. If political approaches have been turned down as anti-national,

what is the other alternative available for the Tamils?

The Sinhalese, through political measures have cast aside the Tamils as a subordinate race. When this Island was under British rule, the Tamils acted as a supporting role in restoring its freedom. That was how the Britishers were able to step down and hand over the reins to the Sinhalese and the Tamils as people of one country.

Events in the recent past amply demonstrate that the Sinhalese are of the mistaken notion that they belong to a superior race and should rule the entire Island.

The youths of today can be the national heroes of tomorrow and their struggle for Eelam and contribution can be parallel to the heroes of the past.

D. Jeevanathan.
Vathiry.

ROUNDED-UP AND ARRESTED

The villages of Paethalai, Kannan and Pandimadhu were rounded-up by the Special Task Force of the S. L. Govt. in the company of groups of gangsters working with the Government's armed forces.

About 1000 people were rounded-up and all taken to the Valaichenai Bus Stand.

There they were presented before masked men.

One woman and eleven men out of those rounded-up were taken to the Kalmadhu Army Camp and the Paper Mill Camp.

It is learnt that they were subjected to torture at these camps and detained there.

The incident occurred on November 16.

Christmas 1993 in Jaffna

1. According to Christian belief, God became man by his birth into a refugee family in Bethlehem. He was so born, cradled and brought up in situations very similar to the one prevailing today in Tamil Eelam, that christians surviving today in Tamil Eelam commemorate and rejoice at the Birth of Jesus, not by exhilarating themselves in songs and wine, but by strengthening their hope of liberation amidst cries and tears that Justice will triumph and Truth will make them free.

The political situation of Judea made the Holy Family of Joseph and Mary to be a displaced and a refugee family - to flee from their home, from their village and from their own and to knock at unknown doors in Bethlehem.

The God who chose to become man for the sake of man, for the liberation of man, had no room in the inn. he was not even counted or accepted, leave alone welcome, by man.

2. Even after 20 centuries of Christ's birth, the refusal and reluctance of man to give room for the God, who comes as a refugee and as a stranger, is in no way better. In spite of human progress and plentiful living, there is no room for a brother and sister, there is reluctance and opposition

S. RATNARAJAH

to count the other as equal and dignified. In spite of all human progress and achievements, in spite of all universal and local legislation to safeguard man and his basic rights, in spite of so many good will non-governmental organisations active all over the world, the man of this century is not even a wee bit better than the inn-keeper of Bethlehem, to accept man into his home.

3. And for the Tamils of Eelam it is still worse. Their basic human rights are denied even in the land of their birth. They are not

counted as equal citizens of the land. They keep knocking at the doors of all those agencies for life. Yet even a chance is denied to them.

a) Thousands of Tamils of this land have sacrificed everything they had and sought life in many foreign countries. Youth, who would have excelled in the best universities of the world and who would have brought fame and honour to our race, are now at the doors and windows of foreign nations, knocking and begging for a place in their inn.

b) Lakhs of our brothers and sisters who went to neighbouring India with hopes of being well received as a brother or a sister, are suspected, rejected and forcibly thrown out.

c) The many thousands, who left everything here and sought life in the Capital Colombo and its suburbs, paying exorbitant advances and rents to money-leeches for annexes and shanties are now rounded-up, threatened and money extorted.

d) And in our own homeland and among us, who are left behind, what is happening? For the last three years there have been displacements and influx of refugees from the islands and then from Valikamam West. Our own people have become refugees, hawkers and beggars on our own streets and in our lanes, Frightened by shells and bombs they have left everything, except the clothes they were wearing, and have run into kovils and temples and schools and sheds. But even these sacrosanct have become targets for the State Bombers!

4. People deprived of any shelter thought they could struggle hard and survive in the open. But the rains and the mosquitoes of the season

spared them not. For the last few days floods have ravaged and brought down the mud huts of the thousands of refugees. Without proper sanitation and facilities there is spread of many diseases. Without sufficient food, proper medicine and a warm spot to stretch out, they are shivering and groaning in pain, looking at one another through helpless eyes?

5. Those who were supposed to govern us and provide for our living have become so inhuman and unsympathetic that we have decided to govern ourselves. They will never hear our cries because they prefer not to hear and not to see, in short, to be Deaf and Blind! These days the State helicopters are dropping food parcels to all the flood victims in the Sinhala North and East of Sri Lanka (Anuradhapura and Amparai). In between they fly over Tamil Eelam directing bomber planes and firing at random.

6. But we Tamils who have opted to rule ourselves? and we Christians, who commemorate God becoming man in the birth Jesus? Is there not a message for all of us Tamils in general and for christians in particular?

It is at this hour we must wake up and carry the message of Christmas into every nook and corner of Tamil Eelam.

It is to people struggling in desperation, in hopelessness, in want and misery that we must carry the message of Christmas and give witness to that message in a convincing manner. It is also to people still re-

maining whole and hearty, without death and destruction in the family.

And what is the message that is given to us as the "haves" and "have-nots"? As displaced, dejected and rejected refugees or as those comfortable in their own homes? What is the message given to us as the weeping and wailing families, without our beloved bread-winners as well as those of us who get foreign incomes?

7. God is coming this year into me and into you, into my home and into your home, in the form of refugees and beggars, in the form of disabled and handicapped.

Let us make room for such as these in our hearts and homes. Let us share what we have with the stranger and the refugee. Making room for our brother or sister will secure a permanent home and a homeland for all of us as a people. Sharing our income with the weeping widows will bring us manifold, and a new free life.

8. All the Tamils of Eelam, be they Hindus or Christians or Catholics - they are all in search of an Inn, of a secure place without aerial attacks of the enemy, a homeland where they will be counted, registered and recognized as human beings with rights - right of - self determination, right to live in honour and self - dignity.

All the Inns appear to be closed to them. Has God also abandoned them? No, never. There is a knock at the door which is becoming louder and more desperate. If we rise and respond to that knock, then the stranger and the refugee is not man, but God himself - the God of our Liberation.

Thirty Thousand Affected in Thenmaradchy

About thirty thousand people belonging to 7,500 families have been rendered homeless by last week's flood in the Thenmaradchy Division.

Reports of people being rendered homeless by the floods have been received

from Varany, Iyattalai, Kudamiyan, Mirusuvil, Thavasikulam, Ketpeli, Sarasalai, Madduvil, Meesalai, Vidathatpalai, Usan, Navatkadu, Kachchi and other areas.

Most people have taken refuge in school buildings and temples.

Poonakari Tanks Breached

Most tanks in the Poonakari area were breached consequent to the heavy rains last week. About 1800 families have been rendered homeless.

Most houses and roads are under floods.

People from Nallur, Alan-kerni, Kollakurichi, Palli-

kudah, Pathinipai and Thetkali have been mostly displaced and have taken shelter in schools and temples.

Relief is being provided to the victims with the active help of other people and the Grama Sevakas.

News in Brief

December 10 - Friday

Mrs. Arumugam Indirani who was severely injured, when Sri Lankan Air Force planes bombed Kilinochchi, was admitted to the Jaffna Teaching Hospital for treatment on the morning of 11th December.

December 11 - Saturday

Puccaro planes of the S.L. Air Force carried out aerial attack at Mullikulam in the Mannar District, dropping bombs and firing rockets. No report regarding damages was received.

December 12 - Sunday

Sri Lankan navy fires at fishermen at work in

Savukkadithurai sea near Chulipuram. Firing continued for about half an hour. Fishermen escaped unhurt, swimming back to land abandoning fishing implements. After the two naval boats which carried out the attack left the area, the fishermen went back to sea and recovered their implements.

December 18 - Saturday

S. L. Govt. said that one soldier was killed and two others were injured in an attack on S.L. army sentry posts carried out by the LTTE at Kathiraveli. The report said that the sentry post was completely destroyed.

Ten Thousand Families Affected in Kilinochchi

Reports from Kilinochchi said that ten thousand families have been affected by floods there.

Many houses have come down and peoples' belongings washed away. Many cattle have died.

Many people have taken refuge in school buildings and temples.

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

Munkottai - Completely Submerged Residents Rescued After Two Days

The village of Munkottai in the Chankanai AGA's Division was completely submerged in flood waters as a result of the heavy rain last week.

The residents of the village were rescued after two days by the efforts of the AGA,

Grama Sevakas and other public.

The people of the village have lost all their belongings and houses. They have now been housed in camps and are being provided with relief provisions by the AGA, Chankanai.

Boats Instead of Road Transport

Boats fitted with out-board motors are being used to carry relief provisions to the marooned people at Panditharkudiyiruppu in Ketpali.

Panditharkudiyiruppu in Ketpeli is a small village in Thenmaradchy. It is not an islet and people from the village used the roads on the east and west of the village to have access to other villages and areas.

The roads on both sides are completely submerged by

flood waters and no road transport could be used. The roads look like lagoons, so much so that now boats fitted with out-board motors are being used to reach the village.

The news said that most houses in the village are damaged and people have taken refuge in schools. Food provisions are being taken to the victims by boats fitted with out-board motors.