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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

ON THE COVER this week we have a picture of the wooden rafters on which a tiled roof is sustained. Here the tile has replaced the thatch, but that is because of the fears of fires and of the cost of replacing the thatch once in three or four years. Tiles like bricks are locally produced, but they cost a great deal compared to thatch and mud walls. What the peasant needs is low-cost housing which he can erect himself. The mud comes from mother earth and that thatch from the palm trees he of his neighbours grow--coconut, palmyrah, kitul and talipot. Mud walls are as fire-proof as bricks and in regard to thatch we began the story of how Mr. Koppoola Rao of Andra Pradesh in India has made a discovery of treating thatch to make it fire-resistant. Last week we began the story of his discovery and his desire to make it available to poor rural folk without big corporate organisations making millions after buying the patents from him. To continue the story from the **Hindu** report, the first major application of this solution was undertaken in the Payakapuram colony abutting Ajitasinghnagar on the outskirts of Vijayawada. "It has been planned to rehabilitate about 4,500 families here, who have been evacuated from the slums on the banks of irrigation canals coursing through the town. In the first phase, about 1,200 huts are being treated though belatedly." But more important is how the State Government helped Mr. Rao to achieve his ambition. "The Andra Pradesh State Weaker Sections Housing Corporation, which obtained Rs. 15 Lakhs from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund has passed on the amount as advance to Mr. Rao to manufacture the solution for use in Vijayawada. The Krishna District Collector has placed two tractors, a trailer and a tanker of the Zilla Parishad at the disposal of Mr. Rao for carrying out the job. The Vijayawada Corporation has lent the services of 10 men. Since the houses are already constructed, the solution is being sprayed on the roofs and partition walls, both inside and outside. Mr. Rao has improvised a number of gadgets to carry out the task. The solution in the tanker, mounted on a tractor trailer, is pumped out with a kerosene engine and sprayed with hoses. In another case, the solution is sent into the house manually with a hand pump. A small gadget--which the workers call the Skylab--sends the solution into half a dozen houses simultaneously. Spraying is done in three stages. First a solution which Mr. Rao calls pores enlarger is sprayed to make the pores in Palmyrah thatches bigger and deeper. Then the fire proof solution is sprayed. A little later a second round of spraying is undertaken. Each house requires 40 to 50 litres of the fire-proof solution and the cost which is yet to be worked out precisely will range between Rs. 100 and Rs. 150. According to Mr. Rao, nearly 60 items go into the manufacture of the solution. A feasibility report prepared by the Andhra Pradesh Small Scale Industrial Development Corporation on the fire and termite repellent solution of Mr. Rao mentions the numerous ingredients and additives that go into its making. Picric and salicylic acid, hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, sulphuric acid and minerals sodium bicarbonate, sodium hydroxide, carbon tetrachloride, sodium chloride, silicates, balancers, neutralisers, stabilisers, catalysts, Ayurvedic herbs, shrubs and barks are among its components. Mr. Rao has found that deletion of even one or two ingredients minutely affects the efficacy of the solution. Perhaps it is possible to identify the active repellents but he has no money to continue his experiments. And it does not cost the hut-dwellers anything because the government meets the bills. Mr. Rao has set up a pilot plant to manufacture the solution in Autonagar with funds provided by some missionary organisations. He is also using facilities in Calcutta for some intermediate process like pulverising, freezing, roasting and splintering of raw materials. Mr. Rao now 57, would not mind sharing his secret formula with anyone who is prepared to serve society. But he is against commercial exploitation." **Should the Government of Sri Lanka not make arrangements to make the fire-repellent and the anti-termite solutions available to low-budget house-builders here?**

TRIBUNE

Ceylon News Review
Founded in 1954

Editor: S. P. Amarasingam

Every Saturday

Vol. 25

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No. 49

August 8, 1981
43, Dawson Street,
Colombo 2.
Tel: 33172

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Terrorism In Jaffna

Colombo, July 30 : The media, Sinhala, Tamil and English have handled the fresh outbreak of terrorist activity in Jaffna on the night of July 27/28 with a sense of responsibility that must be commended. Their task was made easier because the TULF leadership unhesitatingly condemned the terrorist attack. A brief examination of the English dailies will show the way the media dealt with the matter--Sinhala and Tamil papers had presented the news in the same way. The **Sun** on Wednesday, July 29 had a front page banner headline SECURITY ALERT AFTER TERRORIST ATTACK. The report stated: "Terrorists mounted a midnight attack on the Anaicottai Police station, gunned down a policeman and escaped with all the arms and ammunition yesterday. A group of persons had hijacked a van on Tuesday night a few miles from the Jaffna town proceeded to gather about 15 people, and come to the Police station which was closed for the night, according to an official government announcement last night. Police Constable Jayaratne who was shot at, succumbed to his injuries. Constables Nazeer, Guruswamy and Police Driver Bandulasena who were shot at, are warded at the Jaffna hospital. The condition of Constable Nazeer was described as critical. He was due to be brought down to Colombo last night for emergency treatment. According to the announcement, some persons from the group had knocked on the door of the Police station. PC Nazeer, the duty officer, who opened a window and looked out was shot at. PC Jayaratne, PC Guruswamy and PC D Bandulasena who arrived at the scene were also shot at, it added. The killing of Constable Jayaratne brings the number of Police deaths through terrorists shootings to 20. According to report reaching Police Headquarters the terrorists removed one sterling sub-machine gun, seventeen 303 rifles, three single barrel shot guns and two repeater shot guns. They also broke open the strongbox and removed 528 rounds of ammunition and three full magazines for the sub-machine gun. As reports of the incident reached Colombo in the early hours yesterday, Army Chief of Staff Brigadier Tissa Weeratunga was rushed to Jaffna. Enroute he stopped over in Trincomalee to pick up Police Chief Ana Seneviratne. Acting Defence Minister T. B. Werapitiya telephoned President J. R. Jayewardene at the Claridges Hotel in London to brief him on the developments. He later presided over a meeting of the National Security Council, which ordered a countrywide alert of the Armed Services and the Police. The Council also studied the intelligence reports and decided on a series of measures. They included the tightening of security at key installations and strategic points. Mr. Werapitiya called President Jayewardene last night to inform him of the decisions taken. CID

detectives have also been flown out to Jaffna. Accompanying them yesterday was senior Assistant Government Analyst M. A. J. Mendis." The **Sun** also had a front-page box: SENSELESS VIOLENCE--AMIR: "Opposition Leader and Secretary General of the Tamil United Liberation Front A. Amirthalingam and TULF President M. Sivasithamparam yesterday termed the attack on the police station as "senseless violence." In a joint statement issued yesterday, they said: "We are shocked by the attack on the Annaicottai Police Station and the killing of a Police Officer during this incident. We cannot condone these senseless acts of violence. We reiterate that political problems can only be resolved through democratic processes and request the people of Jaffna to remain calm. We convey our most sincere condolences to the family of the police officer concerned' ..." and DEPLORABLE SAYS LALITH: "Trade and Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmudali welcomed the TULF statement. He said 'This is an interesting and useful development. Now I hope others who were quick to condemn the incidents before the Jaffna Development Council elections will also be quick to condemn what happened at Annaicottai last night. All incidents of violence must be deplored. Those who deplore one and do not deplore another do not help the situation, Mr. Athulathmudali said.'

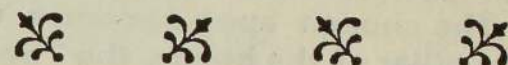
The **Ceylon Daily News** 29/7/81 presented the story in a front page lead: SWIFT ACTION TO CONTAIN BACKLASH: TERRORIST ATTACK ON NORTHERN POLICE STATION: TULF CONDEMNNS VIOLENCE. The report read: "The national political leadership acted swiftly yesterday to ensure that a midnight terrorist attack on the Anaicottai police station where one constable was killed and three more wounded had no backlash anywhere in the country. The terrorists who appeared at this police station six miles out of Jaffna at 00.30 hours yesterday had hijacked a Hiace van a couple of hours before they struck. The police, caught unawares by this terrorist gang which decamped with the station firearms including 17 rifles, 2 shot guns a sub-machine gun and a thousand rounds of ammunition after the shooting, had little chance against the armed bandits who were believed to come to the station on legitimate business. As the first news of the strike reached Colombo the TULF leadership was contacted and an unequivocal condemnation obtained of the violence which Opposition Leader, A. Amirthalingam and TULF President M. Sivasithamparam described as "senseless" A statement issued by these two Tamil Leaders said; 'We are shocked by the attack on the Anacottai police station and the killing of a police officer during this incident. We cannot condone these senseless acts of violence. We reiterate that political problems can only be resolved through democratic processes, and request the people of Jaffna to remain calm. We convey our most sincere condolences to the family of the police officer concerned'. According to the

news reaching Colombo, the terrorists had hijacked the van and gone and knocked at the police station door which was closed for the night. When the reserve constable opened a window he had been shot. A second policeman who also appeared had been shot and two more injured in the melee. Last evening, the remains of the dead policeman PC 13534 Jayaratne, was flown to Katunayake where it was received by senior police Officer before, it was taken for interment at Talawatugoda in the Matale district. The Army's chief of staff, Brigadier Tissa Weeraratunga was flown to Jaffna to overlook security arrangements there shortly after the first news of the attack reached Colombo. According to police sources the attack was clearly a 'hard-core job' and the authorities did not rule out the possibility that the same gang that had gunned down two policemen in cold blood a few weeks ago was responsible for this new outrage. 'Attacking a police station is a new thing for these terrorists. It has only been done during the insurrection', one knowledgeable source said. The authorities were questioning some people about the attack but no confirmed reports were available about any arrests. Police said the gang had broken open the station strong box to reach the ammunition and had grabbed the firearms from their locked racks.

"The National Security Council met yesterday under the chairmanship of Mr. T. B. Werapitiya, the acting Defence Minister. The service chiefs went over all aspects of national security flowing from this incident. A government spokesman said that President Jayawardene was being kept fully briefed. The Information Department issued the following communique about the incident: 'At about 10 p.m. on July 27, a group of persons had hijacked a van a few miles from the Jaffna town. They had been proceeded to gather about 15 people and had come to the Anacottai police station which was closed for the night. The Anacottai police station is situated about 6 miles from Jaffna town. Some persons from the party had knocked on the door of the police station and PC 4689 Nazeer who was on reserve duty opened the window. He was shot at by some persons in the group. On hearing the gunshots, PC 13534 Jayaratne had arrived at the scene. He too was shot as was PC 2472 Guruswamy and PC (driver) 12052 Bandulasena who had rushed to the scene. The group had then broken the strong box at the police station and removed ammunition. They had also removed guns from their lockers. All the injured policemen were hospitalised. Later PC Jayaratne succumbed to his injuries.'"

The **Ceylon Daily Mirror** was even more restrained. It did not even make this terrorist attack its main front page lead story. Whether this restraint and the non-provocative manner in which the news was presented will contain any possible backlash is yet to be seen, but, so far, at the time of writing these

notes no untoward events have been reported. As the TULF leaders have pointed out, terrorism, (like crime), does not pay. And this is more so when terrorism is individual or factional, and not part of an emancipatory mass movement (when it stops being terrorist as such). The TULF leaders have asked the people of Jaffna to be calm. Something more is needed. The climate for terrorists to survive and operate must be ended and this can happen only if there is co-operation between the Government and the TULF to end this terrorist menace that bodes no good either for Jaffna or the country as a whole. There must be give and take on both sides. Passionate rhetoric must be eschewed. And history must not be twisted by either party to score debating points.



MALAY HOUSE—3

Comparisons

By Lim Jee Yuan

This working paper was prepared within the framework and as part of the Project on Sharing of Traditional Technology (STT) of the United Nations University's Human and Social Development Programme, and is intended to serve the internal needs of the University. The views expressed in the paper are those of the author and not necessarily those of the United Nations University. This is the third part in the series and it is a comparison of the traditional Malay House and the modern housing estate house.

THE INCLUSION of services and economics into modern housing design has had its good effects, but has also had side effects. Although, modern facilities and roads are provided cheaply for many people (mainly middle class), housing layout for social interaction, for a more natural environment, and for other human activities is often disregarded. Many of our modern services are centralized--roads, electricity, water, telephones, sewerage and even drainage. They all extend from a centralized source or are drained into a centralized collecting centre. The network of conduits for these services is normally designed as a grid, as this is often thought to minimize cost with the reduction in lengths of the conditions. The simplistic geometrical order of housing-estate/town planning is based on these gross simplifications of services and infrastructural design. Roads, infrastructures, access, number of housing units, and profit have become the primary determinants of housing layout. Housing layout often becomes a physical matter of putting in the maximum number of houses permissible and economizing on the infrastructures, materials etc., irrespective of the users' needs and social implications.

In the traditional Malay villages, things may look more haphazard and unplanned, but within them lies an order determined by the culture of the people. House sites are chosen by religious rituals. A small pail full of water is placed, with certain rituals, on a small plate and left overnight at the chosen site. The next morning the pail is checked to see whether the water has overflowed onto the plate; if it has overflowed or remains at the full level, the site is chosen, but if the water level has fallen, the site is rejected. After the site is chosen, a "kenduri" (a big feast) is held with all the people of the village invited. The kenduri acts as an instrument for socialisation, to acquaint the new resident with the other villagers. The chosen spot becomes the spot for the main pillar of the house, the "tiang seri".

Although the choice of the site may appear primitive and superstitious, its operations may not be so superstitious after all. Nature is given its due respect in this case; nature may have acted its course during the night. The right atmosphere of the surroundings may have warranted the overflow of the water or the water level remaining the same in the pail. The microclimate and immediate surroundings might have played a role in the ritual. After the site is chosen, it is cleared of vegetation. The area cleared is small, only large enough to accommodate the house itself and a small yard space.

THE HOUSE is always oriented to face Mecca, for Islamic religious reasons. This orientation also minimizes the exposure to and penetration of solar radiation, which are not desired in our climate. Somehow, many of these religious practices seem to complement the needs of man and nature. Services and infrastructures do not play an important role in the layout of the houses in the kampong. Accessibility may play an important role in the site of the settlement, but in the choice of site of the house it becomes secondary. Electricity, water, telephone, and even the macadamized roads (usually just one going into or passing by the village) are installed only after the building of the houses. Here the housing layout determines the layout of the electric, telephone, and water lines. This may be less economical, but the priorities are in the right order. Houses are joined by free-flowing paths winding around the houses. House compounds flow into each other. No obstructive physical barriers are used to demarcate territories. The definition of public and private spaces is less clear and they overlap. Social interaction is maximized by the free-flowing public-private areas. Children can play anywhere in the house compounds and in the public places. The kampong is under a huge canopy of coconut and other trees which keep the kampong well shaded and allow use of the open compounds even during the hot afternoons. The community here shares, and is more outward looking.

Houses are not confined by fences and have large openable windows and few partitions. Adequate privacy is provided by the darker interiors and by the distance between the houses.

THE INFRASTRUCTURES and roads of the modern housing estate tend to separate and disintegrate the housing estate, while the infrastructures and paths in the kampong link and integrate the whole village together. The macadamized roads are clearly defined physically and also in use. They are meant for cars and vehicles, not for pedestrians. Conflict points occur when pedestrians cross the road; therefore the definition of the road must be clear. It is marked by paing, the use of different materials, and even a change of levels. Children are certainly not allowed to play here--but no playgrounds are provided, or, if they are provided, they are too far away. Houses are separated clearly by the roads, and their alignment, at least in front and in back, is governed by the roads. The mere size of the roads in comparison to the scale of people and their houses again segregates. The roads of the housing estates link with places other than the housing estate itself. They are supposed to increase mobility between the urban and suburban areas, between home and workplace etc. They have increased people's mobility and their interaction in a more extensive way but have reduced the in-depth interaction of people at the community level.

THE PATHS in the kampongs are made for pedestrian movement and link all the houses in the area. They are unpaved, winding, and poorly defined. They may be less efficient in terms of the physical distances from house to house, but they never segregate or create barriers. The paths crisscross each other but never become conflict points because only people use them. There may be some paths for cars in the village. They are small and narrow and are never really made for cars because the village is not made with cars in mind. These small paths slow the cars down--more effectively than the bumpers put across roads in the housing estates to reduce the speed of cars. The unpaved natural surface of the roads itself integrates with the overall fabric and texture of the village. The system is designed to link up the community for people and not for cars. Cars have to fit into the village--unlike in the modern housing estate, where cars are given high priority.

The housing estates are obviously better provided with modern services and facilities. This is an area in which the kampong is lacking and in need of improvement. The drainage of waste water from kitchens is poor. The waste water is usually just drained out of the house into a pit in the yard. After some time, the pit collects sediment, breeds mosquitoes and houseflies, and smells. Drainage of rain water is natural, through streams and natural seepage through the sandy soil. Toilets are usually

of the decentralized pit type, sited away from the houses. These pit toilets are of two kinds--the more basic shallow open pit, and an improvised pour system. The latter is more hygienic, covered with a toilet bowl and sheltered by a small wooden hut. Water is poured to flush the waste into a pit which is completely covered. Drains, canals, rivers, and the forests are also used as toilets by the villagers. Depending on the centralization and intensity of use of these improper toilets, unhygienic conditions may occur. The problem is usually more acute in the denser villages, like the fishing villages at river mouths and other more suburban villages. In the agricultural village in the countryside the problem is less acute. The water supply is generally adequate in most villages, except in drought seasons for some villages. Water is supplied usually by taps, wells, canals, rivers and even springs. In drought seasons wells may dry up and the villagers may have to use canal and river water for drinking purposes. Cholera epidemics are common during these drought seasons due to the use of unsanitary water from the canals and rivers. Electricity is often supplied to the villages, although not to all houses as some cannot afford it.

To be continued.



DDC ELECTIONS—5

SLFPs Reactions

The SLFP weekly **The Nation** on June 12, 1981 published the following statement under the heading: MASSIVE SWING AGAINST IN UNP DDC ELECTIONS. The full text read as follows: "The United National Party Government has celebrated 50 years of universal adult franchise in Sri Lanka by polling just ONE THIRD of the registered votes at the DDC elections. The UNP mustered every vote it was capable of securing. The Sri Lanka Freedom Party did not contest the elections. The President and the Prime Minister together with other Ministers went the length and breadth of the country pleading with, cajoling and even threatening the people to vote for the UNP. They attacked the Sri Lanka Freedom Party and paraded the government performance since July 1977. They chose to make the election a referendum on the policies, programmes and performance of the UNP government as well as on the present political standing of President Jayewardene and Prime Minister Premadasa. If the voters chose to act contrary to what the President and the Prime Minister were asking them to do, it can only mean that they were deliberately refusing to vote. The fact that a certain number of candidates in each District would become members of institutions misnamed District Development Councils even if only 1 person voted in each District, was incidental to the central issue of

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the present popularity of the UNP. The Prime Minister stated categorically in the course of the campaign that 'if the people approved of the path adopted by the government they should vote for the UNP'. The President exhorted the electorate to demonstrate what it thought of the 'development' activated by his Government and of his trade policies. To come to the polls was a must, for that would be a measure of the Government's popularity while the converse would amount to a rejection of the Government by the people. The table below shows how the voters have answered the UNP call in the sixteen districts in which results have been declared; compared to that of 1977 elections. Jaffna district has been excluded. The fact that only a minority of registered voters came to the polls is significant in this country where over 70% polled in the General Elections of 1970 and 85% in 1977. The swing against the UNP in this DDC elections is 28.13%. On such a swing the UNP would crash to a defeat in a truly contested election today and is certain to suffer a worse rout in 1983. The spokesman chosen by the UNP to analyse the results finds that it has fared better than in 1977 as its percentage share of the total votes polled has increased from 53.8% to 67%. According to this argument, if only 16 people went to the polls in the 16 districts and voted UNP, this party with 100% of the votes cast would enjoy a record popularity through it has only 16 supporters in the country.

"The results in Colombo District are the most telling condemnation of the UNP and all its works. The electorates which comprise the present Colombo District have been UNP strongholds. The President, the Prime Minister, seven Cabinet Ministers, the District Minister for Colombo, one Minister not of Cabinet rank, two Deputy Ministers and the Deputy Chairmen of Committees have their electorates in this District. These personages carried on an intense campaign to get their electorates to vote UNP at the DDC elections. Their combined efforts mustered for the UNP only 29.2% of an electorate of 911,251 voters in the district. The swing against the UNP has been 37.9%. Since July 1977 when the UNP got 47% of votes registered. There could be no clearer rejection of an authoritarian and corrupt regime. How authoritarian the Government could be was proved by the arrest of the Leader of the Opposition at 3.00 a.m. in the morning of the election for the declared purpose of "protective custody" i.e., for no wrong doing. Never before has such a move even been contemplated by a Government in this country. Human Rights? These are for seminars. Even with Emergency Laws declared, the UNP government has proved its inability to conduct elections in Jaffna, and to declare the results. The JVP which failed to secure more than about 10 to 12 percent of the registered votes in any District succeeded in winning some seats only because the low poll enabled them to exceed the 12½% cut off point in the law. Undoubtedly the position would have been quite a different

had the SLFP contested the elections and the total votes polled exceeded 80%. At the Local Government Elections in 1979 it was for this reason that the JVP failed to secure a single seat. The people have

given a call of distress. The Sri Lanka Freedom Party pledges to reorganize itself, avoid past mistakes and come before the people to serve the nation in its need'

TABLE

| | No. of Regd. Voters | Total polled | % polled | UNP Votes | UNP Votes% Registered votes |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| General Election 1977 | 3,934,637 | 3,399,977 | 86.4 | 1,828,000 | 46.46 |
| Development General Elections 1981 | 4,468,473 | 2,229,682 | 49.9 | 1,491,000 | 33.39 |
| Increases Decreases + or— | 533,836 | 1,169,895 | 36.5 | 336,200 | 13.07 |
| Increase/Decrease + or— as a % | 1 | 13.6% | --34.4% | --18.4% | --28.13% |

The Nation of July 10, 1981, published the following article under the heading THE ELECTIONS IN A NUTSHELL: "A skilled pollster specially commissioned by **Nation** to survey the District Councils Election results submitted the following observations:

Perecentages polled by the UNP in 1970 and 1981:

| | 1970 | 1977 | 1981 |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Colombo | 37.9% | 59.3% | 29.2% |
| Matale | 38.2% | 55.3% | 40.3% |
| Kalutara | 30.6% | 53.1% | 29.6% |
| Batticaloa | 37.8% | 33.0% | 22.6% |
| Galle | 34.4% | 46.8% | 30.2% |
| Polonnaruwa | 38.7% | 49.1% | 34.0% |
| Gampaha | 33.2% | 47.9% | 32.2% |
| Hambantota | 37.9% | 48.6% | 30.3% |
| Badulla | 30.7% | 52.4% | 48.1% |
| Puttalam | 38.9% | 48.6% | 30.9% |
| Anuradhapura | 32.4% | 47.0% | 46.1% |
| Trincomalee | 26.0% | 44.8% | 26.8% |
| Mannar | 41.7% | 40.6% | 39.5% |

"His analysis in a capsulated form is that (1) the UNP is faring at the moment worse than in 1970 when the tide swept the Party away from power; (2) the swing away fro the UNP in 1981 is very much greater than swing away from the SLFP during the bye-elections held between 1970 and 1977; (3) the UNP is fast losing its urban base; the UNP is doing for worse in the towns; (4) there has been total apathy; it is possible that traditional UNP voters also kept away from the polls; (5) the results indicated that the minority communities are voting heavily against the Government; and (6) in all local Government elections, held in Sri Lanka from 1956, the percentage of polling was much higher than in 1981."

THE SLFP REACTION to the DDC election results was that the low outturn and a drop in the UNP vote reflected a "massive swing" against the UNP and

wishfully concluded that by implication the votes that were not cast and the spoilt votes were pro-SLFP votes. In its statement, the SLFP rules out the JVP as being in a position to offer any kind of challenge. The SLFP saw in the election results a call of "distress" and pledged "to reorgfanise itself, avoid past mistake and come before the people to serve the nation in its need". There are indications that the SLFP is making strenuous efforts to reorganise itself, but it is still difficult to say whether it will be able to eliminate factional differences sufficiently to become a coherent and cohesive political party before the 1983 general elections. There are, moreover, as yet, no indications that the SLFP is aware of its "past mistakes" to be able to avoid them. For the public to have confidence in the SLFP it should publish a tally of its "mistakes", evaluate them and also show how the party proposes to "avoid" them. This will mean that a comprehensive policy on all matters of current importance has to be adumbrated and explained. The manner and method how such policies will be concretely implemented must also be set out. Mere declarations that the Party will come forward to serve the nation will not take it far.

To be continued.

*Next week: LSSP AND THE DDC ELECTIONS

REPORT FROM PAKISTAN

Militaristic Ambitions

Islamabad, July 20: Can these (F16) planes really attack nuclear centres in India? So screams a headline in Rawalpindi's influential Urdu daily **Nawai Waqt** over an article on the capabilities of these fighter bomber planes which the United States has agreed to sell to Pakistan. F16 planes are better than low flying deep penetration Jaguars, says the article and their acquisition by Pakistan would bring Rajasthan and Kota nuclear installations within

range. There is no official word or how many of these F16 planes, similar to the one Israel used to knock out the Iraqi nuclear reactor near Baghdad. Pakistan hopes to buy with most of the funds provided by its "Islamic friends". Modest estimates in the controlled press put their number at 15. Foreign Minister Agha Shahi himself mentioned at a seminar in Lahore the other day that 36 F16 planes would cost 900 million dollars, but did not say Pakistan would get as many. A guessestimate cannot be made from the budget figures either as the announced military spending of 1.77 billion dollars this year excludes the cash purchases of F16 aircraft and other American military hardware. But newspaper reports hint that Pakistan's shopping list includes Dow missile equipped Cobra helicopters, two dozen missile launchers, thousands of anti-tank guided missiles, tanks and armoured personnel carriers and self-propelled guns. Pakistan also hopes to shop for an integrated air defence system along the border with Afghanistan including automatic radars, Sam's anti-aircraft artillery and night vision equipment and sophisticated C-3 systems.

THE CHINESE PREMIER Zhao Ziyang's visit last month still continues to be a major talking point in diplomatic circles here. There appears to be a great deal of interest in a way that President Zia ul Haq is said to have presented the salient features of Pakistan foreign policy. Having outlined the present state of Indo-Pakistan relations, President Zia had, it is reported, made it known to the Chinese Premier that Pakistan had never felt as sure and confident as now in regard to its position *vis a vis* India: that the support given to Pakistan by the West and China in the political, economic and military spheres and the possibility of getting powerful offensive weapons gave the country the confidence that it had parity with India in armaments and therefore in politics; that Pakistan could now afford to speak to India on equal terms for even today India was enemy No. 1 for Pakistan. President Zia is believed to have asked Zhao to keep in mind the fact that the continuing uncertainty about the present status and future prospects of Kashmir was tied up with Pakistan's agreement with China on the boundary between the two countries. It will be recalled that the Karakoram Highway and other military roads built by China were in the Aksai Chin claimed by India and also in Pak-occupied Kashmir, three thousand square miles of which Pakistan had ceded to China in 1963 although she had no legal right to do so. Zia had, it is said, wanted China not to lose sight of these facts in the course of China's discussions with India on territorial problems. Zia had stressed that the "Kashmir nation must be united under the Green Banner of Islam". He is also said to have expressed his sincere gratitude for increasing all round Chinese aid, especially in equipping Pakistan's military forces and helping in its nuclear programmes and also for Chinese interest in guaranteeing the security, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Pakistan.

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The latest **AFP** and **AP** reports from Washington state that Pakistan might have to wait for a long time for the F16s: "United States Defence Department officials have told a Pakistani military delegation that their country will have to wait for a number of years before receiving new F16 fighter planes. The proposed sale of F16 fighters reportedly was a centre-piece in three days of discussions between senior Defence and State Department officials and a visiting military delegation from Pakistan. The officials, said the US offered no specific number of F16s but that it was made clear the Pakistanis would not receive the first such planes for some years because of previous commitments to other countries and the need to fill up US air force orders." Some Pakistan government circles however are confident that even though some persons in the Pentagon might drag their feet, President Reagan will somehow or other give Pakistan the F16s fairly soon. Yet others think that these reports from Washington, that deliveries of F16 aircraft to Pakistan would be delayed for a "number of years", may be only a "cover up" for intense US activity to arm Pakistan in a big way without unduly arousing Indian suspicions.

POLITICAL OBSERVERS in the Pak capital say that a statement by the Pentagon following the four-day talks the Pakistani defence team had in Washington clearly indicated US intentions. The statement had said: "US presented for Pakistan's consideration cost estimates and delivery times of major defence equipment of interest to Pakistan. Already the first batch of Pakistan's Air Force pilots was in the US for training on the F16s." ... "Familiarisation with any defence equipment meant initial training for handling it. Observers further point out that the Pentagon statement mentioned that "the objective of the visit of the Pakistani defence team led by Maj Ge. Rahim Khan, secretary-general of Defence, was to review Pakistan's security situation in great detail, especially Pakistan's specific near-term and longer-term requests for purchase of US military equipment to strengthen its national defence." The expression "near-term" clearly indicated that US arms supplies would commence within a year or two. Once supplies start, equipment could be poured into Pakistan in massive quantities. The US, no doubt, wants Pakistan to be in a position to talk from a position of great strength to India. This tough Reaganite strategy can turn out to be, according to political circles in Islamabad, a double-edged boomerang that can decimate Pakistan's militaristic ambitions.

From A Correspondant



CEYLON TOURIST BOARD VACANCIES

POST OF DIRECTOR/TRADE STANDARDS

The Ceylon Tourist Board seeks to fill the vacancy in the post of Director/Trade Standards.

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Implementation of the Hotels Code 1973, including the Classification System and also any other Codes that may be introduced in the future relating to the accommodation, catering and entertainment establishments in terms of the Tourist Development Act No. 14 of 1968.
- Implementation of the Travel Agents Code 1973--Registration, Licensing and control of the business of Travel Agents.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Should be around 40 years of age but not over 45 years (except in the case of State Sector employees).
- Should possess a Degree from a recognised University and 3 years experience in a senior executive capacity OR
- S.S.C./G.C.E. (Ordinary Level) Examination with 5 credits together with extensive practical experience in an executive capacity for a period of seven years.
- Knowledge of and experience in drafting, construing and interpreting legal documents will be a distinct advantage.

SALARY SCALE

Rs. 1,600/- 6 x 50/- 7 x 75/- 2,350/- per month. In addition to the special allowances approved by the Government, a further payment of 20% of the agreed basic salary will be made by the Board. (Gross Salary on the initial will thus be Rs. 2,345/-).

The selected applicant may be placed at a point on the scale depending on his/her experience and qualifications.

OTHER BENEFITS

- 1) Employees' Provident Fund contribution of 10% and 15% respectively by the employee and the Board.
- 2) Attendance Incentive Bonus.
- 3) Medical Scheme.

Applicants from Government Departments and Corporations/Boards should apply through the Heads of such Institutions.

Applications giving full particulars and the names of two referees should be sent under Registered Cover, marked "DIRECTOR/TRADE STANDARDS" to reach me on or before the 10th of August, 1981.

**CHAIRMAN
CEYLON TOURIST BOARD.**

**228, HAVELOCK ROAD,
COLOMBO — 5.**

July 19 - 25

DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA AND THE
WORLD COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWS-
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO

CDN—Ceylon Daily News; **CDN**—Ceylon Daily Mirror; **CO**—Ceylon Observer; **ST**—Sunday Times; **SO**—Sunday Observer; **DM**—Dinamina; **LD**—Lankadipa; **VK**—Virakesari; **ATH**—Aththa; **SM**—Silumina; **SLDP**—Sri Lankadipa; **JD**—Janadina; **SU**—Sun; **DV**—Davasa; **DP**—Dinapathi; **CM**—Chinthamani; **WK**—Weekend; **RR**—Riviresa; **DK**—Dinakara; **EN**—Eelanadu; **IDPR**—Information Dept. Press Release.

SUNDAY, JULY 19 : The Mahaveli authorities are exploring the possibility of obtaining skilled Chinese labour to operate heavy machinery on Mahaveli worksites in a bid to keep the project on its rails following an alarming exodus of skilled labour from the far-flung Mahaveli work sites for lucrative West Asian jobs. The President and Mrs. J. R. Jayewardene have accepted the invitation of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to the marriage of the Prince of Wales to Lady Diana Spencer in St. Paul's Cathedral on 29th July at 11 a.m. states a press release issued by the Presidential Secretariat: it adds: "they will be leaving President's House for the Katunayake Airport at 10 p.m. on 25 July; they will be driving up direct to the tarmac to emplane; it will therefore not be possible for His Excellency and Mrs. Jayewardene to meet anyone at the airport; they will, however be free from 9 p.m. at President's House to receive visitors; they will be paying unofficial visits to Paris and Rome on their return journey; they return to Sri Lanka on 10 August" says the press release. Placard-carrying Eelam supporters who shouted slogans and demonstrated opposite the Commonwealth Institute today during a reception in hour of Sri Lanka's Prime Minister R. Premadasa and Mrs. Premadasa came face to face for the first time with over 300 counter demonstrators made up of members of the Sinhala Association; they outnumbered the Eelam supporters and drowned their cries with such slogans as "Sri Lanka says No to Tamil terrorism. Eelam a joke; No to Tamil Racism. Don't try to hoodwink the British by false propaganda". —**SO**. President Jayewardene paid a surprise visit to Kalawewa yesterday to see for himself the various places Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip are scheduled to visit during their tour of Anuradhapura and the Mahaweli H area—**ST**. Government will launch a concerted campaign to counter anti-national propaganda abroad, particularly by the so-called Eelam groups; the acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tyrone Fernando, has set up a separate unit in his Ministry to handle this task; officials in Sri Lanka's diplomatic

missions in United Kingdom, Australia, West Germany, Canada, India (New Delhi and Madras), United States (Washington and New York) have been specially designated to work full time to counter anti-national propaganda; these officials will liaise directly with the new unit in the Foreign Ministry. An "Odessa" type secret network is smuggling Northern Sri Lankan youths into West Berlin in a continuous flow; the intricate network has "agents" who pass youths through a chain of contracts right up to the point where they seek asylum in West Berlin as political refugees from Sri Lanka—**WK**.

MONDAY, JULY 20 : The Ceylon Petroleum Corporation is cracking a whip over the heads of many public sector organisations that have been slow in meeting their bills. Tight liquidity problems in several state agencies including the Treasury are once again threatening the giant urea fertiliser factory at Sapugaskande on which a massive Rs. 2,800 million investment has been sunk. Development Councils in all 24 districts hold their first meetings this morning at 9—**CDN**. West Berlin authorities today said they had found emergency shelter for hundreds of Sri Lankans who had slept for several nights on the concrete platforms of a train station. The price of Lakspray has been brought down by Rs. 1.30 with immediate effect; a 400-gramme packet will now cost the consumer Rs. 13.30. The Government is examining the setting up of a permanent Army Unit in the north vested with investigative and other police powers; this proposal, if accepted by the government will come in the form of amendments to the existing terrorist laws. The Sri Lanka exhibition in London to mark fifty years of adult franchise, an event which is being given top billing by the Government in Colombo, has failed to generate publicity in the British press; there was hardly any coverage to the opening of the exhibition by Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip last Thursday; the only report was a cursory reference on BBC television to the demonstrations outside the Commonwealth Institute—**SU**. Prime Minister R. Premadasa today stunned members of the UNP branch in London when he lashed out at them in a speech full of home-truths; "If the UNP branch in London was formed purely to organise social events and hold receptions for visiting politicians then you had better put down your shutters", the Prime Minister said; Mr. Premadasa was speaking at a reception held in his honour by the UNP branch of UK and Europe of London's Royal Lanchester Hotel; patting the Sinhala Association on its back for the counter-offensive they had launched against Eelam demonstrators on Friday the Prime Minister asked angrily what the UNPers had done; "what has the UNP branch done to prevent Sri Lanka's image being tarnished here?"—**CO**.

TUESDAY, JULY 21 : President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday declined to meet what his Secretariat official described as a "trade union delegation of

female nurses which included a member of the Sangha".
—CDN. The Sansoni Commission's report which strongly recommended against the division of the country will be made available to the public for reading at all Post Office and Sub-Post Offices tomorrow—
CDM. The salary structure of the middle level technical nursing service will be revised and the right of private practice will be afforded to nursing personnel, it was decided yesterday. Sri Lanka's Ambassador to West Germany, Miss Lakshmi Naganathan has been called upon to make her clarifications on her remarks that there was no problem of Lankans seeking political asylum in West Germany—**SU.**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22 : The Government has decided to clamp down on re-employment of retiring public servants on terms that enable them to draw both their pensions as well as the salaries attached to their posts, authoritative sources revealed yesterday. Sri Lanka has been appointed full members of the International Cricket Conference according to one of their spokesmen here today. Sugar made out of palmyrah today is available for sale at the New. show rooms for palmyrah products at Bambalapitiya: this sugar is sold at the same price as imported sugar at Rs. 16.50 per kilo. Prof. A. J. Wilson, Chairman Department of Political Science, University of New Brunswick, Canada, yesterday said that the system of proportional representation should, in his view, be amended to ensure a more democratic expression of the will of the electors; "the district should cease to be the constituency", Prof. Wilson said, adding: "a better result will follow if the whole island is made into a single electorate and the number of votes required to return a member to Parliament is determined by the number of votes cast at a general election divided by the number of seats that Parliament should have"; that would eliminate the large number of votes that were likely to be wasted owing to the present high-cut-off point of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; it would also enable political parties which were at present unable to contest owing to the highcut - off point to contest and secure their due representation in Parliament—**CDN.**

THURSDAY, JULY 23 : Sri Lanka's Prime Minister, Ranasinghe Premadasa, arrived in the GDR today as a West Berlin City Senator accused East Germany and the Soviet Union of encouraging a flood offake Sri Lankan refugees into West Berlin; nearly, 1,000 Sri Lankan nationals have arrived in West Berlin in recent weeks claiming to be fleeing persecution at home; but West Berlin senators have said they are being brought in under false pretexts by racketeers. Parliamentary strategists were busy yesterday mapping their plans for today's motion of no-confidence against the Leader of the Opposition Mr. A. Amirthalingam; the Ministers at the weekly cabinet meeting discussed the motion and it was decided that government MPs would be allowed a free vote at the conclusion of the debate; briefing

newsmen at the end of the cabinet meeting, the Minister of State, Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis, explained that the views expressed by government MPs who would speak tomorrow would be their individual opinion and not that of the government; there are no ministers among the 38 signatories to the motion, all of whom belong to the government parliamentary group—**CDN.** President J. R. Jayewardene said whoever that wins at the next General Election he would continue to be the President till February 1994; according to the provisions of the Constitution, it was he as the President would have to summon the leader of the Party securing the highest number of seats to form the Government; assuming that the SLFP succeeded in doing so, he as the President would have no alternative but to summon Mr. Maithiripala Senanayake to form the Government; there were people who said that they would force him to summon Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike for that purpose; how could that happen? How could people force him to do such a thing? though Mrs. Bandaranaike could go about the country wagging her tongue, it should not be forgotten that she could not even cast her own vote at the next General election, the President said; Mr. Jayewardene was addressing a massive gathering yesterday after he opened the Kirindiwela Housing Scheme in the Dompe Electorate. Fresh allegations against Dr. M. A. M. Jalaldeen, First MP for Pottuvil, were inquired into by the Special Presidential Commission when it resumed sittings yesterday; Mr. A. Lebbe of Batticaloa in his evidence said that he gave a sum of Rs. 10,000 to Dr. Jalaldeen for the purpose of securing a tractor permit; of that sum, he gave Dr. Jala.deen Rs. 5,000 and subsequently the balance Rs. 5,000 was handed over to Mrs. Jalaldeen.—**CDM.**

FRIDAY, JULY 24 : The TULF, SLFP and the only Communist Party member who was present in the House walked out of Parliament yesterday without participating in the no-confidence motion against the Leader of the Opposition Mr. Amirthalingam; the TULF led by the Opposition leader, Mr. A. Amirthalingam walked out first when his attempts to make a personal explanation failed as a result of protests from Government backbenchers; the SLFP members who were present and the Communist Party member Mr. Sarath Muttetuwegama then walked out after the Speaker Mr. Bakeer Markar overruled a motion moved by Mr. Maitharipala Senanayake and Mr. Muttetuwegama on a point of order that the no-confidence motion against the Leader of the Opposition was not within the scope and ambit of the powers of the House and was illconceived and therefore should be ruled out. Mr. Muttetuwegama also said that by permitting this motion to be debated the House is being stultified because even if the Motion were passed it would lead to nothing. Presenting a coldly candid picture of the economic problems facing the country today, Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel yesterday told Parliament that there was no magic

lamp and he was no Alladin; he also made it very clear that the country had to raise "substantial additional resources" and this could be done chiefly by way of new taxation; "the private sector and the affluent classes in Sri Lanka must realise they are living on borrowed time; if we fail they fail; let them not be overwhelmed by too much self-greed, to make a quick fast buck all the time. The young man was just 20 years old; he had chucked his job in a leading Colombo bank, sold his widowed mother's jewellery, plunked Rs. 12,000 on a one-way air ticket and bought another Rs. 20,000 worth of exchange to set off on the great adventure; but yesterday he was back with 84 dollars given him by the Red Cross in his pocket and a look of utter defeat on his face; the money was all gone; so were all the great expectations; this young man was one of the 125 Northern youth who came home on a special flight from Berlin at the expense of the Berlin Senate. Two press conferences connected with the return of the refugees from Berlin were cancelled yesterday; Opposition leader A. Amirthalingam was expected at the first of these while the second was a meeting between Foreign Minister Hameed and the visiting German press; the Foreign Ministry which gave no reason for the cancellation of the press conferences said that a statement will be issued today--**CDM**. Licences of 23 overseas employment agencies have been cancelled by the Labour Department. Prime Minister R. Premadasa arrived in Yugoslavia yesterday for a four-day visit on the invitation of Yugoslav Premier Veselin Djuronovic--**SU**. Sixty-five northern youths who arrived from West Berlin on board a special Air Berlin jet, were detained by the CID soon after they disembarked at the Katunayake International Airport last night security sources said; a police spokesman said that they were interviewed for possible discrepancies in their travel documents; no offence had been committed by them returning and they were released after questioning, he said, thirty one of the returning youths who had gained entry into West Berlin through the East had no passports; they were lost, they said; a further seven were found to be in possession of forged passports and were questioned closely by CID officers at the KIA itself -**CO**.

SATURDAY, JULY 25 : President J. R. Jayewardene and Mrs. Jayewardene will leave for London tonight to attend the marriage of the Prince of Wales to Lady Diana Spencer in St. Paul's Cathedral on July 29; President Jayewardene and Mrs. Jayewardene will pay unofficial visits to Paris and Rome on the return journey; they return to Sri Lanka on August 10. The Ministry of Foreign affairs yesterday gave a dressing down to the authorities responsible for putting on board a flight from Berlin some 25 media personnel from West Germany with no entry documents to Sri Lanka; the Ministry also said in no uncertain terms that it viewed with disfavour the circumstances under which these media personnel accompanied 160 asylum-seeking Sri Lanka youth who were

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being packed off home after their misadventure in West Berlin. The motion of no confidence in Mr. A. Amirthalingam, Leader of the Opposition, was passed yesterday with 121 voting for and two abstentions; Mr. S. Thondaman, Minister of Rural Industrial Development and Mr. Shelton Ranaraja Deputy Minister of Justice did not vote; the TULF SLFP and the Communist Party member in the House, Mr. Sarath Muttetuwegama did not participate in this debate--**CDN**. The Government will not wholly ignore the opinions expressed by Parliamentarians on the No Confidence motion against the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. A. Amirthalingam, Trade and Shipping Minister Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali, regarded as the Government's top political strategist, told a press conference yesterday that Parliament will treat the No Confidence Motion like any other motion passed by a majority vote in the House; right now it would be premature to foretell what exactly will follow from the motion but one thing was certain that the government will not ignore what has been said during the two day debate, the Minister said. The Immigration and Emigration Department will shortly issue foolproof passports printed in France; a thin adhesive film will cover page three of the passport which contains the essential details--the photograph and the signature of the holder, the signature of the Competent Authority and the date of issue and expiry; Mr. M. A. J. Wannigratne, Controller of Immigration and Emigration said yesterday that any damage to the film covering page three of the Passport could be easily detected; the Government has ordered 500,000 passports from France--**CDM**. President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday approved the implementation of the recommendations of the J. W. Subasinghe Commission in regard to salary increases of the armed services and the police. The Treasury is to drastically prune down allocations to Ministries in next year's budget, in a bid to raise funds for a pay increase for state sector employees; the new allocations which have been planned by the Treasury officials will have only a three per cent increase from the existing provisions--**CDN**. Tamil United Liberation Front is yet to reply President J. R. Jayewardene's request for the front to nominate its choice for the proposed commission which is to probe the incidents in Jaffna. Six Sri Lankan youths, who arrived in Colombo on Thursday from West Berlin, were produced before the Fort Magistrate Sarath Gunatilake and remanded till August 7 in connection with allegedly possessing forged passports. West Berlin journalists today rejected a reprimand by Sri Lankan Foreign Ministry that they had travelled to Colombo without valid documents while accompanying a plane-load of Tamil repatriates from Berlin--**SU**.



July 19-25

Forty Seven people were killed and more than 500 injured when two suspended walkways crashed down on people who were dancing to a rockband in a luxurious Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. More than 4,000 people died and 50,000 rendered homeless after torrential rains burst the banks of the Yangtze (the longest river in China) and its tributaries. In London over 300 members of the Sinhala Association (Sri Lanka) staged a counter-demonstration against the placard carrying Eelam supporters. They claimed that might of the 100 million Tamils as against 10 million Sinhalese is a threat to them. In Sri Lanka Tamils enjoy the privileged position of having Tamil as an official language. Six Deputy Inspectors General of Police and six heads of missions abroad are Tamils. Their position is akin to white minority in South Africa and treatment of Indian Tamils are more human than the Vietnamese treatment of Chinese.

The new political party in Britain, Socialist Democratic Party (SDP) showed signs of becoming a force to reckon with after its performance in the Warrington by-elections. This break-away Labour Party members polled 42 per cent of the vote against 48 percent of Labour. Though this is the first election defeat for SDP candidate Roy Jenkins in his 12 elections yet considered the polling to be a great victory. West German Government has approved the sale of two U-209 submarines to India. This would also involve permission for the construction of others in India. According to US Defence Secretary, Caspar Weinberger, the Soviet Union has rapidly deployed up to 300 SS-20 missiles, two thirds of which are aimed at Western Europe and the balance at Asia and Europe. India's former External Affairs Minister and leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party Atal Behari Vajpayee said that his party will organise workers, farmers and students to prevent US wheat from landing in any of the Indian ports.

The leaders of the seven Western democracies meeting at Ottawa have decided to ban all flights of their national airlines to Kabul to compel the Afghan Government to comply with international obligations. In New York, a demonstration organised by minority groups of black and Spanish speaking workers were charged by club wielding by mounted policemen. They were demanding work at building sites in New York. White Unions have been systematically keeping blacks and others out of the construction work. India appears to have declined a US offer of F-16 multirole Aircraft. The offer was turned down because the F-16 aircraft used by US Air Force have F-100 engines whereas the one offered to India was fitted with J-79E engines which were of inferior quality. Stanislaw Kania was re-elected as the First Secretary of

the Polish C. P. Under his leadership Poland avoided major crises and showed to the world how a communist system could re-adjust itself without major shape ups. Soviet Union has expressed her satisfaction of the new leadership in Poland.

The international conference on Kampuchea called for (a) ceasefire in Kampuchea (b) withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from country and (c) holding of UN supervised elections. They formed a Committee of seven consisting of Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Senegal and Sudan entrusted them with the task of finding a solution in accordance with the above accepted principles. The Kampuchean government has condemned the resolution of the international conference and rejected it to be illegal and null and void. Vietnam too had rejected the conference in similar terms. The main actors in the drama were US, China and Singapore. Vietnamese warned that the ASEAN countries by tying themselves to Washington and Beijing's strategy can only harm themselves and the cause of peace and stability in the regions.

Egypt has agreed to send medical personnel and medical supplies to treat the victims of Israeli air raids in Lebanon. This was a sequel to a request made by two members of the PLO National Council. This was also the first official contact between Egypt and PLO since the former entered into a peace pact with the Israelis. The Iraqi President Hussein has offered political asylum to former Iranian President Bani Sadr and members of the opposition parties. King Juan Carlos of Spain and his family will not attend the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer. The chief reason appears to be that the newly married have planned to start their Mediterranean honeymoon cruise in Gibraltar, a place over which relations had been strained between Spain and Britain.

Mohamet Ali Agca, the Turkish extremist, who admitted shooting Pope John Paul was sentenced to life imprisonment. The boundary treaty signed between Soviet Union and Afghanistan on June 16 was declared to be both illegal and invalid by China. China views this to be premature before settling Sino-Soviet disputes. A national front consisting 18 small opposition parties was formed to contest the next Presidential election in Bangladesh caused by the assassination of Ziaur Rahman.

At the Ottawa conference of the seven Industrialised nations, a reluctant Reagan agreed that Western countries need to give priority to increase aid to Third World countries. But a coordinated and broad ranging western strategy was still to be evolved. President Reagan expressed doubts over the plan to pump natural gas from Siberia to West Germany. This will make not only West Germany but also other

NATO countries involved vulnerable. West Germany and France have rejected this as an exaggeration.

The Widow of Pakistan's former Prime Minister Z. A. Bhutto was released after 5 months detention. While **Reuters** suspect that an underground movement is being formed between Bani-Sadr and leftist guerilla groups, the Mujahedine-Khalq, Iranian authorities executed 15 Marxists. The unemployment figures in Britain has risen to 11.8 percent of the total work force. The present figure is at 2,851,623 which some attribute to the present wave of riots in London and other cities around. Ulf Fink, West Berlin Senator for Social Affairs blamed East Germany for encouraging the influx of Sri Lankans by waiving normal travel requirements. He also accused Soviet Union for offering cheap tickets to Berlin via Moscow. West Berlin, at their own expense, has deported many Sri Lankan Tamil youths stranded there without visa etc. But Aeroflot's officials in East Berlin denied the accusation that they were responsible for the stream of Sri Lankans seeking asylum in West Berlin.

The undeclared Israeli war against PLO strongholds in South Lebanon continued unabated. There is difference of opinion between the Defence and State Departments in US whether Begin poses a threat to middle-east peace or not. However White House confirmed that Reagan is firmly committed to the defence of Israel and the special relationship. Towards the end of the week Israel and PLO agreed to a ceasefire and life returned to normal. The National Executive Committee of the Labour Party of Britain has recommended to its annual conference that it should work for the unification of Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic. 47 US Congressmen blamed Regan administration for not opposing the grant of international bank loans to five countries which violated human rights. As the International Cricket Conference drew to a close South African hopes for playing test cricket again have been dashed. ICC has opted to maintain the present status quo. The admission of Sri Lanka to full member status too would have its repercussions on South Africa's readmission. A furore was created when Sri Lankan officials refused to permit facilities to newsmen from West Berlin who accompanied a Red Cross charter flight bringing Sri Lankan political assylum seekers in West Berlin as they did not follow proper entry procedures. This, the West Berlin journalists have denied on their return. The next Commonwealth Summit (CHOGM) will be held in Melbourne Australia in September/October this year. In London a full page advertisement in the **Times** criticised Reagan's foreign policy. Leading politicians, Churchmen and academics said that US in its desire to contain communism has been interfering in the internal affairs of other countries, especially in Central and South America, Southern Africa and Western Asia where US policies run directly counter to the rights

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of these regions to seek changes in social, political and economic conditions. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim feels confident that he will win his third term for the prestigious UN office. The African members of the UN protested against US plans to remove prohibition of military support to Angola. This would embolden and encourage South Africa.



POEM

THE KEY

by the late

Mrs. Millicent Daisy Wallbeoff Jansz

This poem first appeared in the Ceylon Post and Telegraph Magazine's 1917 Christmas Number.

It was offered to TRIBUNE by her son, Dr. H. D. Wallbeoff Jansz.

O beautiful country of hills and dales,
Thy heights so majestic steep
And gently sloping to fresh green vales
Where glide pure rills as on silver sails.
And crystal streamlets leap.

Beautiful land of stupendous heights
And gaps that lie between,
Thy summits are crowned with varying lights
Of morning glory and sunset's flights
And the tea shrubs' glittering sheen.

Beautiful country thy heights are scanned
They are captured and crowned with tea;
Thy gaps are bridged, thy streams are spanned,
And loveliest homesteads on every hand
Say man has mastered thee!

And he speeds along on invention's art
O'er thy valleys and hillsides fair;
E'en distance is bridged, and neighbours apart
Are near, and easy the business mart
When voices fly through the air.

And winding rail-tracks fast speed away
His rich and refreshing store,
The ocean offers a broad highway
And through wind and wave and salt sea spray
'Tis borne to a distant shore—

O beautiful land, thy sons but in part
Have sought and reached their goal!
Time speed them on with the subtler art
That seeks a road to each human heart
To reach a brother's soul.

For hearts are precious and must be sought
 With more earnest endeavour I ween
 Than man's best skill which heights have fought,
 And across dread chasms a way have wrought
 O'er the depths which lie between.

Who then is sufficient for work so great?
 Who willing to strive with man?
 To follow the path be it winding or straight,
 Through sunshine and storm, betimes and late,
 Till he finish the work he began?

Hark beautiful country! Bid thy sons awake,
 For the glories of Christmas dawn,
 Calling weary souls all fetters to shake
 And to the lowly crib glad hearts betake
 Where the LORD of Love was born.

Bid them seek at His Hand that Golden Key
 Which alone all hearts shall move,
 And knowing no waste in its service free,
 To time's furthest end sublime shall be,
 The priceless Key of Love.

Kotagala, Christmas, 1917.



LETTERS

Citizenship And The Vote

Sir,

The feature article captioned "The Hustle At A Racist Disco Sets Off Civil War In Britain" by Rex de Silva in the **Weekend** July 12, 1981 spotlights the marked difference between the Nationality Laws of Britain and Sri Lanka. In the concluding paragraphs of this feature, Rex de Silva states that these people (referring to Asians and other coloureds) who are asked to leave Britain by militantly racist groups like the Skinheads and National Front groups, and I quote: "Are in reality nationals of Britain.... Thus Britain becomes the only country in the world which is keen to repatriate its own nationals." It is common knowledge that some 8 or 9 years ago, Enoch Powell suggested a scheme for repatriation and a financial incentive. Now, some Parliamentarians other than Enoch Powell are advocating voluntary repatriation and a monetary inducement. The feature concludes: "This is a very sad reflection on a country which once stood for racial tolerance and democratic idealism".

The Asians referred to above have lived in Britain for 30 years or less, but Sri Lanka has some "stateless" Asians who have lived here for periods up to more than 50 years. What is their position in Sri Lanka? This year when the country is pending extravagantly on tamashas to celebrate 50 years of Adult Franchise (it cannot be described as Universal) Sri Lanka

has hundreds of thousands of Asian plantation workers of so-called recent Indian origin (Asians, they are undoubtedly) who are subject to a Ceylon Citizenship Act which, it appears, was specifically designed to make it virtually impossible for the great majority of these semi-slaves from becoming citizens of this country. This was passed by the first Parliament of independent Ceylon (vide, **Hansard**, August 19, 1948, column 1733). On the other hand in 1931, the Donoughmore Commission representing as imperial power gave voting rights (with minor restrictions in certain cases) even to its plantation workers, spoken of those days as "coolies". The Ceylon Parliamentary Elections (Amendment) Act of 1949 gave voting rights only to citizens and so these workers who had the vote 1931 lost it in 1948. They now celebrate 33 years of being deprived of their voting rights, with the exception of approximately 200,000 who have become Ceylon Citizens.

Today, in this democratic socialist republic, some five hundred thousand are stateless aliens. As a result of a Pact in 1964 and 1974 bearing the names of two Prime Ministers, a certain number of these hapless people are expected to leave for India as deportees or refugees, since one cannot be repatriates to a country which one has never seen, and a certain number will in the near or distant future be accepted as Citizens of Sri Lanka. The terms of the Pacts that so eminently dictated their future were never discussed with these exploited work folk. They were always merely "counted" and last week in Parliament, there was very much the same attitude (with the exception of the Member for Kalawana) to these estate workers. How do we satisfy the Declaration of Human Rights, December 1948 Article (Article 15—Everyone has the right to a nationality) which was accepted before the Ceylon Parliamentary (Amendments) Act of 1949 and also the 1959 Declaration of the Rights of a Child (Principle 2, The child shall from birth be entitled to a name and a nationality).

When will justice be done, by this Dharmista Government?

Dr. F. K. R. Aluvihare.

290, Park Road,
 Colombo 5.
 15.7.81.

Plantation Raj

Sir,

Your journal of July 18th carried a review by Ariya Abeysinghe of today's best seller on the plantation of Sri Lanka—THE PLANTATION RAJ. As a one time public servant and later an owner of a small tea property, I have been watching with detached anxiety, the goings on, on the Plantations during

before and after nationalisation. I often wondered why someone who knows the Plantation business does not write about what is happening to this vital industry. I waited long enough for THE PLANTATION RAJ to arrive on the Sri Lankan bookshelves. Contrary to my expectations, however, this book was written by a planter and an insider at that. This book was extremely well reviewed by the Sri Lankan press and it fast turned out to be a bestseller. It is for this reason that I cannot understand what Ariya Abeysinghe is talking about in this review of his.

Is he reviewing THE PLANTATION RAJ or is he telling the general public, who read your valuable journal, what a great guy he is? I had read and re-read THE PLANTATION RAJ and I can only state that Malinga Gunaratne has with great dexterity, infused pulsating life into a dry as dust subject like the Plantations. The difference between Ariya Abeysinghe's book and THE PLANTATION RAJ is that the latter is well acclaimed and widely read not only in Sri Lanka but also abroad. Perhaps Ariya Abeysinghe does not know what a writer's greatest duty is to his readers. Admittedly THE PLANTATION RAJ could have been more exhaustive. With the writer's knowledge of the Plantations and his obvious knack for telling a racy story he could have covered wider ground. THE PLANTATION RAJ must be judged for what it is. A book written by a planter for the benefit of the lay reader.

Abeysinghe states in his review that Gunaratne has been meticulous in bringing to life certain incidents. He also goes on to state that the book lacks depth. An obvious contradiction, if there ever was one. What is great about Gunaratne is that he wrote his book and told his story while still being on the Plantations, without mouthing platitudes and showering praise on politicians while in power and tearing them to pieces when out of power. Let there be no mistake. The Plantations in Sri Lanka are better run today than they were say 2 years ago. Those like Gunaratne writing with facility and purpose, may have made some small contribution to this welcome change in Management styles.

I dislike to be writing a review on a review. But THE PLANTATION RAJ could have been less patronizingly treated by a man of Abeysinghe's claimed erudition. Since he also seems to have pretensions to literary pursuits, let him also take a few lessons from Gunaratne. Jargon and prolix language may be the hallmark of the Varsity Don. But to write a readable story is the finest thing that a writer can do to his reader. And only the reader matters. Nothing else.

An Old Plantation Rajah.

Deniyaya,
25.7.81.

TRIBUNE, August 8, 1981

Police And Public

Sir,

It was heartening to hear from retired Superintendent of Police, Jack Van Sanden, through your columns, of the Police Public Relations programmes that he initiated in Jaffna when he was in charge of Police administration in that Division. He did further friendships, although in easier times. That he continues to keep a tab on Sri Lankan affairs from Australia is praiseworthy.

Fostering such relationships being the need of the hour, and in this context, let us not forget two more periods of tranquility that prevailed in Jaffna from a Police point of view. When the present D. I. G. Police, Crimes, R. Sundaralingam was S. P. Jaffna from 1967 to 1972 I believe, he too maintained a splendid rapport with the public and made many spirited efforts in this direction by bringing those in the North and South closer by a pooling and exchange of cultural pursuits in the fields of art and sport to maintain healthy relationships between the police and the two major communities. Even when insurgency reared its ugly head in other parts of the island during this period, the Northern Province continued to remain peaceful with due respect for law and order. Another remarkable achievement of this officer was that he made a significant breakthrough on the caste issue on which he had to take important police decisions. In 1980, when S. P. Kingsley Wickremasuriya (presently in charge of Headquarters Administration) was posted to Jaffna, he too stepped up Police Public relations and a tremendous response and enthusiasm was shown by the people, which I noticed first hand as an observer at some of the relevant meetings held at KKS, Pallai, Chavakachcheri, etc. I reported these facts in the columns of **Tribune** in 1980. It was a significant step at this time, that even prominent members of the TULF, including the present Leader of the Opposition, participated in Police Public relations seminars. It was a pity that with the transfer of this officer, a steady deterioration did set in, and what followed is recent history.

The present Police administrators in the North are placed today in the unenviable position of re-assembling the pieces that have been shattered in the recent rampage. In their in-depth study of the unfortunate holocaust and a corresponding programme of rehabilitation, let them also turn the pages of the Police Division orders made by Messrs Jack Van Sanden, R. Sundaralingam and Kingsley Wickremasuriya—policemen of three different communities, who worked with one aim to make an indelible impression on the people in Jaffna. Politics apart it is only by way of an unrelenting build-up of Police-Public relations that the Northerner would begin to feel secure from now on.

James N. Benedict.

108, Manning Place,
Colombo 6,
20.7.81.

Nut Stealing

By Bwana Rafiki

THEY SEEMED to want me away early at the place where I stayed two nights ago, although there was not a tap on my locked door until seven. So I washed and shaved at another house at their well. Anuradapura was my next stop and I found great changes at the place I visited. One of my two mentors, if that is the word, stays there. It was thanks to him that I decided to do Kandy at that late hour of the day although I wanted to be on the estate that night. I had fifteen minutes to get to the bus stand and a doctor gave me a lift and went out of his way to drop me there, and I caught a private bus that left within minutes. I had to go a few miles out of Kandy to meet the person I wanted, and he was away. There were no buses back to Kandy and I paid what I thought was a lot to hire a car. Well, it happened that I stayed that night in Peradeniya, and I got up at 3 a.m. to catch a series of buses to the estate by 7 a.m.

Nothing disastrous had taken place while I was away. I spent the entire day indoors going over the balance wages for the previous month to make sure there had been no mistakes before writing out the January EPF contributions. The amount of E.P.F for January on my estate alone comes to the staggering figure of nearly Rs. 900/-, of which I pay Rs. 12/- for every Rs. 8/- of the staff and this on an estate of only fifty acres. From this week I have had to reduce the working days per week of two of my staff from five days to two. They were told this last Friday and I hear they took it well. I have had as a result of this to lay off two old retired hands, both women, from the two days of work a week I was giving them to help them along. In the evening the wife of the watcher on the other side of the main road, land that adjoins the river, came running along to say that three thieves were picking coconuts. I dashed off with the gun.

It took me about a minute first to find the solitary cartridge that I have for the gun, and I found it with the help of my factor who remembered better than I where I had left it. We went off on the bicycle, I pedalling and my factor riding behind with the gun. We shouted to one of the milkers to follow us at a run. We left him with the bicycle while the factor and I wriggled through the barbed-wire fence on the other side of the road. I ran as best as I could to the scene of the theft. The thieves had gone by then. They, the same lot or another, as many as about six persons this time were back the next afternoon and they got away with some coconuts. The watcher did not know they had come, but we were able to prove to him that nuts had been picked for the proof

was plain to see. It was the other watcher who had heard the coconuts falling, making a noise hitting the ground. He had his hands full with a buffalo at the time and could not give chase. It was a case of one man against six anyway.

With the greatest difficulty did I finish that last paragraph for I was overwhelmed with sleepiness even though I had just slept having left my writing to get a little rest. The time was 3 a.m. I spent part of the morning interviewing police about the thieving of coconuts on the estate. That was in Colombo. To have done it nearer the estate I thought was pointless. The procedure at the local police station would have kept me there half a day and the entry in the police books alone would have taken more than half an hour. Once our **Grama Sevaka** had taken a dying man to hospital and had to spend the whole day at the police station as a result, for the man after going the six miles in a hiring car had died on admission. We had found the man in a bad way near the estate and the Grama Sevaka was unlucky enough to be passing by at that time.

Yesterday, I should have been at our local planting centre, a town, to meet both the police and the inland revenue people. I asked for that last meeting to be postponed and the police were too busy to give me an appointment. They told me what the trouble was and I quite understood. Back on the estate from Colombo I felt really hamstrung without motorized transport of my own, the problem now being the transport of my milk and the feeding of my dairy cows, for the two were inextricably linked, the key factor being the feed, which of two centres would supply the low-priced cattle food that I had been unable to get for two months. The two milk-collecting centres were six miles away in opposite directions. God solved the problem by taking it out of my hands. A decision had had to be made literally in twenty-four hours. Also, I had a visitor from Kandy, the man I had gone to see.

We were friends more by correspondence for we had met only twice before, and it was my abortive visit to him that had brought him here. He stayed the night. The next day although he had wanted to be away by ten o'clock, by taking him as I had promised to see some of my teak trees that were for sale, we went round all the teak trees that could be sold on the estate, he measuring the circumference of the trunk and estimating the height, the length even of each section of a different diameter, I taking down all the details in a book to be copied down on some paper later to be taken to Kandy, where he said he would be able to work out the cubit feet so that I would have an idea of the price of each tree. I think there were close on forty trees that we measure. So he left late. It had been quite a morning.



Scribbling on Uva

How was it done?

By Gamiya

TWO MEN were chatting inside a tea boutique. Hard by, was what passed for one of the most ancient junction towns in ancient Ruhuna, today's Uva. One was narrating and the other thoughtfully listenings: "In 1963, a man came and built a hut and had a helping hand. Today, 18 years later, this is the tally and upon my word, it is true; he has a building, given over to a Co-operative Store; a paddy mill, a huge house, two lorries, 2 tractors, a Delica, one Hiace Van, one Corolla, one Roadmaster Motor-bike, one pushbike on which the owner of it daily travels back and forth in 'utter poverty'. Then, there was that salesman who planned and planned, and today, where is he? He has risen in the eyes of the world and is the owner of a 12-ton lorry, a Delica, a Massey-Ferguson tractor, a Mitsubishi, a paddy mill, 2 big buildings and a massive house. I am asking you, Punchi Banda, is all this obtained by honest means?"

"Hm! Good question. Difficult to say yes or no".

"Like him there is another man who never won a sweep or found a gem: he rose to indecent heights with his two lorries, 2 tractors (one old, one new), a Morris minor van, a Honda bike, a Mitsubishi van and a Toyota car. Then, see why the youth are unhappy when they see that other one with two tractors, one Hiace Van, another big van, a big tourist bus, two motor bikes and a few sewing machines and a brand new tailor shop now".

"Yes. Some would call it vulgar affluence (or **maanne taane**) "and sali bale".

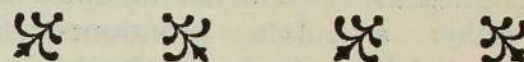
"But, what of R who bought a trailer for Rs. 195,000? He has two tractors, a Minor car and a motor bike. Then see: there is that pavement bookseller whose throat turned hoarse by noon, but who today reigns in regal splendour from a large stationary store and a Gem combine benefit of any combinations but running a sole monopoly in this area".

AND SO, the conversation went on, and I wasn't eavesdropping. When I sent back the tea-kahata with its fly inside it, the tea lad had to make another tea, and that took time and all this came out with its terrible implications of the means of production and all that. The upshot of it was that the narrator was really in a quandary: "Can I do the same? Or should I bow to decency and pay right wages and not hoard and sell our goods at high prices and not pay our workmen? Really, I am worried", said the honest man.

TRIBUNE, August 8, 1981

There is a tide in the affairs of men, said the bard, and if taken at the flood, leads on to fortune. But who can take up cudgels to defend those who have risen to fame on the shame and sadness of others? I left the place in the teeth of deep debate; one asked the other, "What wrong is there if surplus profit is accumulated and out of that, more profit is made?". And the other queried what most wonder about: "Can a man honestly say that there are not ill-gotten gains, if within a few years he earns so much (mentioning all these vehicles etc.) and the rest of the country quietly goes to the dogs".

The dreamy 3rd-century BC junction "town" of B is still there. It has about fifteen to twenty boutiques and a storehouse of history, but you cannot eat history, can you nor drink the grandeur that was Greece and the glory that was Rome.



FILM FOCUS

Mixed Grill

Royalty has been very much in the news in recent weeks, but it would be relevant to move one from Royalty to reality today in Britain where the teenage rioting with its racial overtones are making headlines the world over. While the characteristic stiff upper lips of the Englishmen are loosening, the prim and proper British Bobbys too are on the offensive and the hitherto hidden "chinks" and "slips" are beginning to show with the Thatcher economic doses. Relevantly I would like to refer to a film **The Cross and the Switchblade** starring singer Pat Boone which I saw recently. Based on a true story, which took in the contemporary scene in the United Kingdom, it deals effectively with the behaviour patterns of hoodlums in New York which faces a Reverend David Wilkenson, roled by Boone. This film very vividly surfaces the teenage violence for which a Christian remedy is found by the cleric who does not give up against enormous odds. Basically the film proves that the emptiness of modern youth ought to be filled with some idealism leading to creative and constructive purposes, but for which there will be a tendency for them to go beserk on flimsy pretexts.

NOOLVELI (TAMIL): Reputed Director K. Balachander, who lingered long with his shock themes in black and white films, has entered the coloured era too with a bang. This production too is directed at a permissive society with a provocative theme, with the screenplay, dialogue and direction being by Balachander himself. The story revolves around a not so young couple (Sarath Babu and Sujatha) with a child who move residence and become neighbours to a neurotically impish teenager (Sarita)

with illegitimate origins. An attachment grows, between the trio with mutual glee amidst the intermittent franks and perks of the young girl who too moves under the protective roof of the handsome couple when orphaned by the death of her mother, an ex-actress who collapses straining hard for a comeback. A grave indiscretion in a humanly weak moment suddenly shadows the household and the peals of laughter are replaced by a pall of gloom and a deafening silence which plunges its occupants into misery and leaves them at the crossroads of separation. The intermission of the film is so well placed that the audience is left biting their nails too as to what is in store in the second half of the film. At resumption, Sujatha, the victim of the episode rises to tremendous histrionic heights as only she can portray as she did in "Mayanguhira Oru Maathu". As a novelist and a member of the Censor Board, she preaches righteousness with her morally streamlined pleas and rather articulate pronouncements on decency in married life, till she is chokingly gripped by a domestic situation that runs contrary to her outpourings. She strips herself of these principles in holding her house together. Emotions run sky high as she patiently picks up the pieces of what is left of her marriage and faces her father with a tormenting conundrum which the latter shares with the audience in typical Balachander style. An invigorating dialogue and a rare realism pervades the film which in my opinion should have carried an Adults Only tag, for the story could rape the minds of the young with moral depravity, which is more harmful than plain nudity on the screen. But for this, "Noolveli" is excellent and absorbing, revealing too the potential of Telugu actor Sarath Babu who would enrich the Tamil screen if given the chance. The English connotation to the title of this film is to fences or partitions that are held by thin strings, which could make or break the enclosures they protect--the relevance would be clear as the film unfolds.

VAJIRA (SINHALESE): Its cheaper by the dozen that Sunil Ariyaratna churns out his films and by the law of averages some of them reach a high point in entertainment while others do not. This production however treads evenly, but for the last couple of reels, when the film plunges more towards a formula spell and mars it qualitatively with a routine ending. This is a rich girl (Nandika Gunasekera) poor man (Amarasiri Kalansuriya) love story that blossomed in the classrooms at school, withstood the parental storms and sailed on with catching melodies to a fishing Wadiya finish. A coloured sequence halfway is neatly sandwiched to song, with the camera hard at work. Those who shone besides Shanti Lekka were those on the sidelines--a female buxom madam of the slums who brooked no nonsense on her preserves, with a biting and forthright sarcasm, a Nadarajah dressed character as in Sarungale, who lived on English cliches for a penny and a female domestic who fitted in with ease. The story I am

told is based on a current Radio play. on the weekly air, and the film too slows to this leisurely pace. An average entertainer that shines in parts only, but you can take it on without expecting much, on any dull evening.

MAD MAX (ENGLISH): A Warner Brothers production, which pulls no punches in exposing the brutal and ruthless methods of a gang of mugging mobikers who are on the rampage in a typical American milieu, with very scant respect for human life, law and order. They crash in on the peace of citizens, particularly of the fairer sex on whom they vent their lust and roar away for the next highway rendezvous with the helpless. The cops are outnumbered and outspeeded till the rowdy two-wheelers dare their doorsteps too, when one among them (Mel Gibson) who is hit and hurt the most by the loss of his child, turns around for vengeance and memorable showdown. Single handedly he takes on the gang behind the wheel of his motor interrupter which matches speed for speed and scatters the marauding gang like skittles in a bowling alley. As metal meets metal, the spills and thrills are turned on fact and furious for one's reflexes, and the crumbling of the vehicles have to be seen to be believed. It was full throttle all the way for this full house show for which I just squeezed in.

THE FIENDISH PLOT OF DR. FU MANCHU (ENGLISH): It is Sellers vs Sellers in this release as the late Peter roles dually the diabolical Dr. Fu chasing an elixir for eternal life and the private detective Smith who keeps on the former's trail in eccentric style on the discovery that the British Crown jewels too from part of the ingredients for the everlasting decoction. The whole exercise is in lighter vein and tailor made for the Sellers brand of humour, although on a lower key. If this film was the brilliant Peter Sellers swan song on the screen as advertised, it was evident from his pallor that the countdown had begun.

(Film Focus title in **Tribune** (18.7.81) was Sir Conan Doyle and not Canon Doyle. The typographical error that recurred is regretted).

James N. Benedict

FOREIGN AFFAIRS REVIEW

Race Riots In Britain

By S. P. Amarasingam

I had hoped, this week, to complete the survey of the latest changes in China and examine some of the finer nuances of the diplomatic offensive Peking has launched in South Asia. But the race riots and street disturbances in Britain compel

immediate attention, and China and our sub-continent must wait. Little did I imagine that in less than a fortnight of President Jayewardene's advice to British MPs, who had sent identically-worded telegrams and letters about the Tamils in Sri Lanka, to mind their business that a veritable holocaust would descend upon Great Britain. No sooner the worst ever racial riots hit Britain, President Jayewardene again reminded the British MPs that they should pay attention to the clashes between whites and non-whites in their own country. Britain, he said, which had once ruled the world, was now faced with racial violence at its doors.

How did the race riots in Britain begin this time? The **Press Trust of India** in a vivid despatch from London on July 4, said: "Southall--often described as a mini-India--exploded into racial violence last night as hundreds of 'Skinheads' went on a rampage attacking Asians and invited swift retaliation from them. The clashes developed into a running battle in which the police became involved when they tried to end the confrontation. It was the worst riot since Bristol and Brixton, but unlike the other two where the police were the main target, last night's disturbances were the result of racial attacks by white youths. 400 Skinheads descended, the report continued, on Southall for a pop concert and started attacking elderly Asian women and smashing shop fronts. Asian youths enraged at the sudden invasion retaliated and violent clashes ensued. Molotov cocktails were used freely. One witness said that the Skinheads were handing out leaflets advertising a march organised by a group calling itself the White National Crusade..." And so, the report went on. Who are these Skinheads? They are so called because they shave their heads and go about in shirts, trousers with suspenders and boots. They are notorious for hooliganism and many support the extremist National Front and also freely use the Nazi Swastika symbol. From Southall, the Skinhead attacks on coloured communities moved to Liverpool, Manchester, Hull, Leeds and to practically all major towns where there were large concentrations of non-white people. Independent reports indicate that the trouble had nearly always begun the same way: busloads of Skinheads had come and attacked non-whites, most often with the police looking on with benign indifference. It was only when the coloureds began retaliating in self-defence and street fighting with arson and looting ensued, that the Police had interfered, and sometimes had suffered minor injuries.

As was only to be expected, the reporting by the Western news agencies betrayed a heavy slant. They were not really racial riots, they hinted, but were the outcome of deep-seated economic and socio-political causes. The term "racial riot" was avoided. It savoured too much of apartheid. The following **Reuters** report is typical. It said: "Hundreds of youths, both blacks and whites, ran amok for hours. Conflicting

reports emerged about the cause of the rioting with some observers claiming that the riots had no racial overtones. They stressed that the riots had arisen from a volatile mixture of unemployment, poverty, frustration and sheer hooliganism..." The London **Times** reported that the looters were mainly whites. Most British papers, however, highlighted the attacks on the police and played down the damage suffered by the non-whites. Whilst Labour Party spokesmen blamed Mrs. Thatcher and her economic policies, the Tories wanted more powers for the police and strict immigration control. Judging by the latest speeches of Prime Minister Thatcher and Home Secretary Whitelaw, the Tory Government has decided to use the same police methods it actively uses in Northern Ireland with water guns, rifles with plastic bullets and tanks with CS nerve gas already used by policemen in Liverpool. What, however, seems to trouble the police is that the non-whites have begun to retaliate; and that, through organised street defence patrols. One British commentator has gone on record to say that: "they cannot be expected to be at the receiving end of the stick all the time especially when the authorities do not seem to be in a mood to afford them due protection". Neither Thatcher's appeals nor police action were able to stop rioting from spreading to practically every part of England. And the momentum kept mounting for well over 10 days. Knowledgeable observers, insist, that there was a sinister pattern behind the riots. The Skinhead movement is very well organised allegedly on the model of Hitler's S. S. troops. Their aim is clear--that is to drive the Asians and the Blacks out of the country.

The Thatcher government, however, is anxious to put up a brave front and sweep everything under the carpet--especially with the Royal wedding round the corner. With so many coloured guests and visitors from the Commonwealth, race riots, are certainly not a good backdrop for British prestige. One way out for Thatcher is to make the world believe that it was all due to hooliganism--white and black. But the simple fact is that unrest stemming from discontent is inescapable in Britain today. Unemployment now officially stands at 2.6 million--but unofficial estimates place the figure at over 4 million. Thatcher's monetarist policies have been condemned not only by political opponents but also by nearly all leading British economists. The **Guardian** weekly on April 5, 1981, in an editorial note said: "The condemnation of the Chancellor's monetarist strategy for Britain's economic revival signed by no fewer than 364 university economists demonstrates just how alienated the Government has, now become from informed opinion in this country. The economists' 'Statement on Economic Policy' which calls for a rejection of monetarism and the urgent consideration of alternatives, carries the weighty approval of Britain's most distinguished and fertile economic thinkers..." It is clear, the

Guardian continued, "that a majority of academic economists now believe that monetarism has been tried and has failed, and that the Government should change course. That is not a judgment which Mrs. Thatcher or her Chancellor either can, or should dismiss, lightly. The message itself is that present policies can only deepen the depression and erode the industrial base of the country...." But Thatcher continues to persist in her policies which have pushed up unemployment and high prices to impossibly dizzy heights. The racialists find it easy to put the blame for all such economic ills on coloured immigrants brought into the country to provide cheap and menial labour. Thatcher's Nationality Bill with four classes of citizens has made every non-white a Harijan, and thus opened the road further to Skinhead racialism.

The current riots and clashes between white and black youth on the one hand, and between the white and black youth and the police, on the other, have wiped out, according to observers, the last vestiges of the obsolete myth about British tolerance and liberal attitude towards race relations. This myth was assiduously created, they say, by the British rulers in their heyday of imperial prosperity at a time when they could afford to be graciously patronising to coloured people. Thatcher's shocked comment that she never thought such things could happen in Britain is a poor attempt to save face. Her own policies about the non-white settlers, according to human rights enthusiasts, have intensified racial prejudices fanned by the National Front leader Enoch Powell. There is a great deal of agitation among the British leaders about the law and order situation in Southall and other localities where non-whites have settled in considerable numbers. But it seems they have not yet realised that their law enforcement machinery itself is corroded with racist prejudices. It is admitted by independent observers that the police in Southall and other places extended no protection to the coloured population which was forced to defend itself against a well planned attack: that the police were either indifferent or made a show of acting well after the event in each case: and that with a flourish of impartiality they treated aggressors and victims alike even in making an equal number of arrests. But the saddest feature of the situation is that the mass media has been aggravating racial prejudices through biased comments and distorted and slanted presentation of events and has thereby succeeded in turning British public opinion against non-white settlers. What the latest events have confirmed beyond doubt is the simple and ugly fact that many vital segments of the United Kingdom, including its rulers and police force are turning racist in outlook and are ready to look with equanimity on the indecent activities of Skinheads. Only a few months back the Joint Committee on Racial Violence, comprising of representatives of the Labour, the Conservative and Liberal parties and some leading personalities, had concluded that the "level of racial violence does appear to have

escalated over the last two year's" and that the "Asian community is bearing the brunt of the attacks". The Committee did not stop at that. Its report underlined that "organised attempts" were being made by extreme right-wing political groups to persecute and intimidate the black and the Jewish community", and that several of these "groups had links with their European counterparts". This racial violence against Asians and Africans in the United Kingdom, is, therefore, not an isolated development. The racist National Front and its storm troopers, the Skinheads, have become a great menace to the body politic of Britain. **How the British Government and people will deal with this problem is anybody's guess. I cannot venture an answer.**

—S.L.B.C. Talk. July 17, 1981



USA's "IRON TRIANGLE"

Govt. Linked To Arms' Makers

By Bob Wright

New York, July 28: An "Iron Triangle" of arms purchases, influence peddling, and campaign contributions links the defence industry to the US government, according to a recently published study. The "Iron Triangle" by Dr. Gordon Adams of the Council on Economic Priorities, shows that the eight leading defence contractors have increased their political strength since 1976, and now have greater ability to influence Government officials who formulate defence policy and draw up government contracts. Since 1976, when Congress passed a new Federal Election Campaign Act, the defence industry has organised well-funded and well-organised Political Action Committees (PACs). These Committees have made generous contributions to campaigns of Congressmen on key Committees and in districts with important defence plants, and to those supportive of defence spending. Key decisions concerning the formation of defence policy are made by Advisory Committees to the Department of Defence. Private defence contractors hold key posts on these Committees which often discuss classified information and other matters dealing with research and planning for the development of new weapon systems.

Adams considers these Committees to be "on of the most significant channels of communication between the Industrial and Executive side of the Iron Triangle". Adam's study examines the activities of the eight largest US military equipment producers, Boeing, General Dynamics, Gruman, Lockheed, Northrup, McDonnell Douglass, Rockwell Interna-

national and United Technologies. The five largest spent a combined 16.9 million US dollars to finance their PACs in 1977-79. Rockwell International producer of the controversial B-1 bomber which President Carter cancelled in 1977, alone spent, seven million dollars on its PAC during this period according to the study. Defence Department documents reveal a "Revolving door" employment policy between the department and the defence contractors. Between 1970-1979, 1,672 defence department employees went to work for the private defence industry, while 270 industry took posts at the Defence Department and NASA—the US Space Agency. "This circular flow creates favouritism, a narrowing of perspective in which the private and government interests converge in single vision that excludes a wider perspective", Adams says.

Sales to foreign nations accounted for 10 to 50 per cent of each of the eight companies' total. Records of the US securities and exchange commission show that roughly 400 US companies made "questionable payments" to arm buyers totalling hundreds of millions of dollars in order to maintain and increase these sizable defence contracts. In 1977, the foreign corrupt practices act was passed outlawing payments to foreign government officials. Security and exchange commission hearings discovered that Boeing paid 52 million dollars to foreign arms purchasers between 1970-79, Lockheed made 38 million dollars in payments during the same period. In addition to PACS, the industry has organised a "Grassroots Lobby" to mobilise their thousands of employees and stockholders to pressure their Congressmen on Defence issues. Rockwell spent an additional 1.3 million US dollars on this kind of lobbying from 1977-1979. Adams argues that due to the lack of media attention and Congressional security of how defence expenditure and sales decisions made, they have no way of learning how this "procurement process" works. "There's an underlying strength to this triangle that's exceedingly difficult to confront and exceedingly difficult to change" Adams told IPS. "The iron triangle is iron in the sense that it is impenetrable—it's very hard to get data, to have access". **IPS/Lankapuvath**



URANIUM

Club of five

By Antoine Char

Montreal, July 24 : The "Club of Five" was a cartel organised by Canada, France, Britain, South Africa and Australia during the 1970s to control the price and production of uranium. The cartel operated from 1972-75 and was based in Paris,

TRIBUNE, August 8, 1981

according to government documents released in Ottawa earlier this month. But many of the facts known about the cartel come from the US Transnational Oil Company, Gulf. Six Canadian companies along with 18 Transnational Corporations participated in the Cartel. During its three year lifespan the world price of Uranium rose from four dollars to 20 dollars a pound. Among the international firms were: Rio Tinto Zinc (Britain), Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique (France), Nuclear Fuel Corporation (South Africa) and Electrolytic Zinc Co. (Australia). The Canadian companies participated in the cartel at the request of Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau's liberal government. These companies are now charged with criminally conspiring to fix Uranium prices in the Canadian market. If found guilty they will be liable to unlimited fines.

Reports of the cartel are a politically sensitive issue in Canada because six of the companies involved are publicly-owned. Further, two former senior public officials with the Department of Energy are named in the case. The Canadian government has been forced to reveal some details about the cartel's existence, primarily because the US Justice Department knew of the case. Trudeau argues that the cartel was a defensive measure to stabilize world prices which were falling due to US restrictions on imported Uranium use for fuel in nuclear reactors. "It was the international market we were protecting. There was no law against such an agreement." Trudeau told the Commons last week. With an annual production of 5,000 tonnes, Canada has 25 per cent of the western world's Uranium reserves. After five months of sporadic negotiations around the world, that the cartel was formally established in 1972. Details of the arrangement were finalised in Johannesburg. For purposes of secrecy, the cartel was referred as a "Joint Market Research", Internal documents circulated within the club were labelled "secret", "highly confidential" and "specially confidential". Cartel members were also instructed to stonewall the media and avoid using the word "cartel" in any correspondence. The cartel was kept secret mainly because it would have been difficult for Canada, France, Britain, Australia and South Africa to condemn third world attempts to establish cartels if the "Club" had been made public. "The case of the Uranium cartel could have been used by developing countries as a precedent for creating either producer association or cartels in other commodities", say Larry Stewart, a Research Assistant at Toronto's Queen University Centre for International Studies. "This was especially true as it was a period when OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) members were testing their new-found economic strength", Stewart says.

Moreover, Ottawa's policy of participating in a developed-country cartel firmly contradicted its refusal to join Third World producer associations. During

the 70s, the Canadian government declined, membership in developing nations' producer associations in Tungsten, Copper, Ore, Mercury and Silver. Setting pricing rules, terms and conditions for bids, markets, quotas and penalties for the infraction of rules; the creation of a secret uranium cartel probably did not violate international law, as Canada's premier argues. The "Club of Five" was, however, an attempt by industrialised countries to control a strategical raw material. **IPS—Lankapuvath**



Govt.



Notices

Notice Under Section 7 of The Land Acquisition Act (Cap.460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964.

Reference No :- 3/2/3/5/5/1084

It is intended to acquire the Land described in the Schedule below. For further particulars, please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No 153 (part 111) of 07 - 08- 1981

SCHEDULE

A.G.A.'S Division : Ja-ela
Village : Ragama
Situation : Ward No. 1 Ragama within Ragama Town Council limits
Lot Nos. : 1 to 19
Plan No. P.P.Gam : 267

A. L. S. Malwenna
 District Land Officer of Gampaha District

Kachcheri, Gampaha.
 Date: 1981-7-21

The Land Acquisition Act (Cap 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7

Ref: No. 3/61/205/03J. 76 L. 358

It is intended to acquire the Land/Lands described in the Schedule below. For further particulars please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, No. 153 (Part iii) of 07-08-1981

SCHEDULE

Name of Village etc : Udumulla Village in Udukaha East Korale, Dambadeni Hatpattu (West) D. R. O's Division, Kurunegala District

Name of Land : 1. Narangahakotuwa
 Pillewa, Ihalakotuwa
 Kumbura Narangahakotuwa
 Kumbura
 2. Gallindahena
 3. Habahena
 4. Korossagollahena

Plan and Lot No : Lot Nos. 81, 82, 83, and 84 in Supplement No. 5 in F. V. P. 416

A. George
 District Land Officer
 Kurunegala District

The Kachcheri,
 Kurunegala.
 15th July, 1981

Notice Under Section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act, (Cap. 460) as amended by Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964

Reference No. 3/2/6/45/77

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars, please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, No. 153 (Part III) of 07-08-1981.

SCHEDULE

A. G. A's Division : Wattala
Village : Mabile
Situation : Within Wattala Mabile Urban Council
Name of land : Devatagahakumbura
Lot Nos. : 1 and 2
Plan No. P. P. Gam : 96

A. L. S. Malwenna
 District Land Officer of Gampaha District

Kachcheri, Gampaha.
 Date: 1981-07-21

TENDER NOTICE

PURCHASE OF LOCAL RICE

FOOD COMMISSIONER'S DEPARTMENT

Tenders are invited by the Government of Sri Lanka for the supply and delivery of Rice for acceptance at the Food Department Stores in Colombo, Kandy, Trincomalee, Galle, Jaffna and Kurunegala. Due to a slight congestion in the stores at Badulla where rice has been accepted for delivery hitherto the acceptance of rice at Badulla has been temporarily suspended from the tenders of 5th August, 1981.

Tenders will be called weekly. Tenders should be on forms obtainable at the Office of the Food Commissioner at 330, Union Place, Colombo 2. Tender Forms and Tender conditions covering variety of Rice, Specifications etc, will be issued upto 4 p.m. every working day on payment of a refundable Tender Deposit of Rs. 100/-

Tenders will close at 11 a.m. on the following days:—

12th August 1981

19th August 1981

26th August 1981

Any further information on this matter can be obtained from the Accountant, Bills and Tenders of the Food Department. His telephone number is 27267.

**N. Pulendiran,
Food Commissioner.**

**Food Commissioner's Department,
330, Union Place,
Colombo 2,
23rd July, 1981.**

Rubbishy Teas

IS IT NOT A FACT that from time to time there appears in our "national dailies" news items intended to pep up the sagging spirits of the lower-income bracket folk in our island? That the "spirits" referred to are not what come from a bottle (of Dutch courage) but the "spirits" close to the heart and soul of man--and the stomach? That these sunshine stories in the media begin and end on the front page of news papers? That a reader has sent us a cutting from the **Sunday Observer** of July 5 entitled CUPPA'S PRICE WILL BE BROUGHT DOWN which read: "Tea kiosk and tea boutique owners are to be dealt with by acting Commissioner of Internal Trade, Mr. Damian Perera. They are raking in big money from a cup of tea. Their exorbitant profits stem from the fact that they have not reduced the retail price of a cup of tea—plain or with milk following the reduction in the price of sugar recently by Rs. 1/-. Many of the retailers are serving tea in coffee cups which are far smaller than tea cups and where tea is actually served in the tea cups the cups are only half filled. According to Mr. Perera the retail price of a cup of plain tea averages 50 cents a cup while tea with milk is sold at Rs. 1.25 in the smaller retail outlets. 'I do not agree that these prices are realistic and fair to the public', Mr. Perera said. He added that he was cracking down on sellers of tea indirectly so that the prices would come down. 'I do not want to mention publicly what I propose doing but I can assure that prices will come down', he warned." That it is not known what secret measures the Acting Commissioner of Internal Trade took to bring down the price of a cup of tea in the city's boutiques? That though a month has passed since the stirring proclamation of the Acting (new broom) Commissioner was published, there has been no reduction in the price of a cup of tea? That, if anything, it has gone up by ten cents on the excuse that Milk Board (Liquid) milk is not available and that condensed milk costs more (and milk powder even more)? That newspapers like the **Sunday Observer**, if they publish sunshine stories to boost the image of a particular official, should ask the reporter who brought in this story to follow it up to see if the official's promise has been fulfilled, or at least if an attempt was made to implement it? That if this is not done, it is the credibility of the paper that suffers? That such stories are mainly responsible for the government-owned papers losing credibility with each passing day?

IS IT ALSO NOT A FACT that whilst the price of a cup of tea for the ordinary man in Sri Lanka is going up and up, the price (and the reputation) of Ceylon Tea abroad is going down and down? That apart from the vagaries of market fluctuations and the current global downward trend of prices of primary

commodities produced by Third World countries, foreign buyers are getting chary about buying "Ceylon Tea"? That it is known in the tea trade that several foreign buyers have complained of a "considerable disparity between the chest sample and the purchase sample of estate offerings"? That this has been highlighted by the Eastern Brokers Ltd., in their Tea Market Report dated July 7, 1981? That the relevant paragraph reads: "A number of invoices received from various estates have been rejected by buyers (ex estate lines only) as the chest samples are markedly inferior to the pre-auction samples. As a result those estates have been black-listed and buyers' support not forthcoming. Superintendents must ensure that samples drawn from ex-estate invoices are **truly** representative of the main bulk." That the Chairman of the Colombo Tea Traders' Association, Hema Wijeyaratne, has pointed out that "this is a very serious matter and is tantamount to fraud"? That he also turned the spotlight on one (of the many) instances of such "fraud"? "....Not so long ago, Iraq which buys a large quantity of our teas had experienced this and insisted that the sellers should give them a guarantee that the purchase samples must match the teas in the chests. Since sellers were none other than the two State Organisations, I had to intervene with the special delegation that came out from Iraq in October last year and more or less gave them a personal guarantee that there will be no recurrence of this in future. Representatives of the two State Organisations were also present at the conference held in this regard and were aware of the seriousness of the situation and also the repercussions a repetition would have on our tea exports. Notwithstanding all this, it would appear that once again unscrupulous persons are resorting to this practice and unless deterrent action is taken the good name that we have established over the years will be tarnished"?

That this is not all? That a big exporter of Ceylon teas has registered several complaints about "teas with greenish character during the last two Dimbula seasons It is relevant to mention that our buyers who purchase traditional quality teas during the seasons curtailed their operations at the Colombo auctions due to the unavailability of the traditional charactered teas and turned their attention to other growths. You will agree during the last couple of years true Dimbula/Dickoya quality was not seen and the teas that were on offer were green and were without flavour". That unless Sri Lanka can once again "manufacture teas with true seasonal character, quality and flavour to uphold the image of Ceylon's traditional quality teas", this country will soon lose its markets? That the rubbishy teas, masquerading as quality teas, now being exported will bring ruin to the highest foreign exchange earner of Sri Lanka?



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“SHARING IS WHAT WE OWE OTHERS”

EMPLOYEES SHARE OWNERSHIP TRUST FUND (ESOTF)

In 1970 over 10 yrs ago The Autodrome donated Cycles and Radios to employees and shares to Executives. With a view to extending Share Ownership to all employees, not only Executives, an Employees Share Ownership Fund to be invested primarily in employer coy, and associated coys. was implemented by **The Autodrome, UnionCo and Cyril Gardiner Ltd.** and the Fund amounts to **Rs. 1,000,000 at present.**

The Galle Face Hotel Co Ltd. has also a similar Fund of Rs. 1,000,000.

Employees with over 7 yrs service at all companies would receive benefits of Share Ownership. The employees vote will be cast democratically according to the wishes of the majority of the employees by an employee chosen by them and the vote would be cast on all shareholders' resolutions including capital structure, increase and issue of Bonus shares, alterations to Memorandum and Articles of Association etc.

A similar Fund was instituted at **Millers and Cargills** on a Directors' decision proposed by Mr. Cyril Gardiner and it was publicly announced to the **Hon. Prime Minister** at his office by the entire Board of Directors of Millers and in the presence of all the employees and this was reported in the national press. All documents in respect of approx. 3% bought for Rs. 2. 2M were lodged in December '80 with Grindlays Bank, Cargills Building, at the disposal of the Directors and/or Lawyers and /or Auditors. Other purchases included the initial and conditional payments amounting to Rs. 1,000,000 made to the Directors of Millers & Cargills, namely the Thambiayah family direct and the de Vos family through Messrs. Julius & Creasy. Grindlays Bank advanced the above sum without interest as arranged by Mr. CG. The GM of Grindlays was present when the announcement was made by all the Directors at the office of the Hon. Prime Minister in the presence of all employees.

Mr. Cyril Gardiner who is Deputy Chairman of Hotel Services **Inter Continental** has proposed that about 10% of Bonus shares be allotted for the benefit of Employees of Inter-Continental.

“GIVE BEFORE IT HURTS”

Giving does not make you poorer
Not giving does not make you richer

What we gave, we have :
What we spent, we had :
What we left, we lost :