

HOT SPRING

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AGGRAVATING CONFLICT

Rapid Sinhala Colonisation of Tamil Homeland

News from Colombo states that the Government is bent on carrying out rapid colonisation of Tamil areas with Sinhalese which will worsen the Sinhala - Tamil conflict further and complicate efforts to find peaceful settlement of the conflict through negotiations even by Third parties.

Mr. K. H. S. Gunatillake, the Director of Mahaweli Authority, is reported to have told pressmen that 3000 Sinhalese families would be settled this year in the Batticaloa District. According to Mr. Gunatillake one thousand three hundred and fifty Sinhalese families from Kuliya-pitiya, Gampaha, Kalutura, Hambantota, Ratnapura, Nikawaretiya, Randenigala and Kegalle areas have already been selected for settlement in the Batticaloa District.

Mr. Gunatillake has also said that the settlement of Sinhala families in the Batticaloa district was retarded by the activities of the LTTE but now according to Mr. Gunatillake, the Army is able to provide greater security and the Mahaweli Authority proposes to settle the three thousand Sinhalese families in the Batticaloa District this year. Mr. Gunatillake has also said that many facilities and incentives would be given to these Sinhala colonists of the Tamil area.

Another report says that the Sri Lankan Government is taking steps to settle 1300 Sinhalese families in Pavatukulam in the Vavunia District. Already military and civil officials have visited the proposed area of settlement and within months the Government proposes to settle 1300 Sinhalese families in Pavatukulam giving them financial and other assistance and incentives to settle down in the Tamil District of Vavunia.

Tamils charge that the Sri Lankan government is hell-bent on colonising Tamil areas with Sinhalese in an effort to change the demography of the Tamil homeland and make the Tamils a minority in their own homeland. This Sinhala conspiracy started in the thirties under

subterfuge of agricultural development. It was opposed by the Tamils from the beginning. However, the same process of Sinhala colonisation of Tamil areas is being undertaken by the Sinhala government now more openly and with military might and protection. Sinhala colonisation of Tamil homeland is a matter on which the Tamils will never agree to any compromise. The rapid moves of the government to colonise Tamil areas with Sinhalese will inevitably lead to a worsening

109 Civilian Deaths in 3 Months

One hundred and nine Tamil civilians died in the first quarter of this year between January 1 and March 31.

67 out of the 109 were victims of Sri Lankan Navy attack at Kilali sea. 21 were victims of shell attack. Twenty one others died as a result of aerial bombardment.

of the current conflict and further complicate matters and prevent settlement by negotiation even with third party help and assistance.

ANNAI POOPATHY COMMEMORATIONS IN SPITE OF ARMY PRESSURE

A seminar was held at Thumpankerni Katpaka Vinayagar temple premises in the Batticaloa District on March 25 to commemorate Annai Poopathy who fasted unto death and breathed her last in the Mamankam Pillayar temple premises at Batticaloa during Indian Army occupation of Tamil Eelam in 1948.

Large numbers of people participated at the seminar

which was addressed among others by the LTTE representative.

At the end of the seminar the main road at Thumpankerni was repaired by the people rendering voluntary service.

The Batticaloa report also said that despite S. L. Army pressure in Batticaloa District, large numbers of people attended the seminar.

Mini Camp Destroyed at Manal Aru

LTTE attacked and destroyed completely a Sri Lankan mini Army Camp at Manal Aru on Friday, April 9.

The news in this connection states that the LTTE attacked the Sri Lankan Army mini-camp between Kent Farm Army Camp and Ceylon Theatres Army Camp at Manal Aru on Friday, April 9 at about 8.15 am. The mini-camp was put up to provide security to Sinhalese families settled in this area.

Sri Lankan troops from the two main camps at Kent Farm and Ceylon Theatres Camp rushed for relief with tank and helicopter equipped with cannon for support action but other groups of of Tigers attacked them too. There was heavy artillery shell fire directed towards Tiger positions from the Kent

Farm and Ceylon Theatres Army Camps.

The battle lasted for 45 minutes at the end of which the LTTE collected a haul of arms, ammunitions and other military - ware from the mini camp and destroyed it completely.

The LTTE announced, it estimated 20 Sri Lankan soldiers killed and also said that ten of its own fighters died in action. The Sri Lankan Govt. has admitted 19 Sinhala soldiers including an officer as killed in this combat.

Lightning attack in Mannar Island Bridge

In a lightning attack on Sri Lankan Army at the bridge leading to the Mannar island, the LTTE successfully killed three Army men including an officer, recovered their arms and destroyed the Jeep in which the Army men were travelling

The news from Mannar in this connection states that on Monday, April 5 at 10.38 p.m. the LTTE attacked a Jeep belonging to the Sri Lankan Army. The attack took place on the bridge connecting the Thallady Sri Lankan Army Camp and the Mannar Fort Sri Lankan Army Camp between Kari-chaddi bridge S. L. Army Sentry post and the big bridge.

The attack took place with lightning speed that it was over in one minute.

Three Army men died on the spot including an officer of the rank of lieutenant. The Tigers recovered arms and ammunitions from the Sri Lankan soldiers killed in this attack.

The Jeep in which the Army men travelled, fell upside down into the sea and was completely destroyed by the LTTE.

This is the third attack carried out by the LTTE in an area which the Sri Lankan Government claims to be under its control.

CORRECTION

In the article (book review) titled 'PAST TRADITIONS AND PRESENT STRUGGLES' by BRAMAGNANI appearing in page 2 of last week's issue of HOT SPRING at column 3 para 2 a printer's error has occurred.

The para should read as:

'The non-violent (ahimsa) and armed mode of political struggles have been the propelling force that underlie the formation and the evolutionary development of Tamil nationalism. In this aspect, at a particular historical period the the 'Thamil Arasu Kadchi' (Federal Party) headed by Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayagam contributed considerably to the growth of Tamil nationalism. This contribution has to be assessed within the context of the historical conditions, compulsions, and external situations of that given period'.

The sentence in bold types was left out inadvertently during composition. The error is regretted.

INVITED TO TRAVEL BUT KILLED ON WAY!

— Jaffna University Students' Union Protests

The Jaffna University Student's Union handed over a memorandum addressed to President Premadasa to the G. A. Jaffna as reported in our last week's issue. Here is the full text of the memorandum:

At about 6.30 p.m. on 24.03.93, 30 students from the University of Jaffna were at Kilali waiting for the boat service to proceed to Vavuniya, Colombo and Trincomalee for participating in the 'Mahapola' Scholarship celebrations, on invitation by the authorities. There were also a few more students to see them off.

At that time Navy boats fired towards that area shell like projectiles which burst near our students. As a result Gnanasooriyar Wilson Nicholas, a first year medical student of our University, was killed on the spot and two students of the Arts Faculty were seriously injured.

We hereby register our strong protest at this wanton killing and attack by an arm of the government specially on students on their

way, on invitation, to a function conducted by the government.

All are aware that travel through Kilaly is prohibited. Not only being aware of but also being the promulgator of such blockade, the government required the students to travel to various places outside the Peninsula to receive the Mahapola. When people are prohibited from leaving the Peninsula, how could the students be expected to attend the function? We are therefore forced to conclude that by this year's invitations in spite of the blockade, the government expected the recipients to contravene or ignore the prohibition. It is in this context that the students undertook such a risky journey, as they would otherwise lose its benefits. Those from

Jaffna who could not attend the function at Matale last year have still not received the Scholarship, although assurances were given to us to restore same. Many other repeated assurances made to us about several of our needs too are not yet fulfilled.

This incident shows the government's utter lack of concern about the people of Jaffna including its University students. If only the government had decided to award the scholarships in Jaffna to all our students irrespective of their district of origin, we would not have lost such a precious life.

We are even made to suspect whether they were purposely attacked after inviting them to travel out. The government must bear the entire responsibility for this death. Unless it gives an acceptable response and takes immediate remedial measures to stop such murders, we will be compelled to embark upon a more meaningful and effective struggle by the student population here.

This is not the first occasion of killing of innocent civilian travellers across Kilaly Lagoon. Knowing clearly well that they were civilians, the

forces have purposely and repeatedly killed countless persons during the past few months. Almost daily human corpses are being washed ashore there.

Such killings cannot be accepted even under conditions of a war; but are classed as war crimes or crimes against humanity by not only the international community but also by the many right thinking and just people in our own land including Sinhalese. We do not have to remind you that records of such crimes are being maintained in various places for appropriate action in due course.

Everyone accepts that passage in and out of our Peninsula is a sine qua non for us here, and it is the Government's responsibility to make a route available to the public. If for any reason or under any circumstances, Kilaly is the only route available to the public, then the very rectitude and acceptability of or the expectation of compliance with its prohibition becomes questionable.

A further and more serious question follows whether killing of innocent and helpless civilians can be accepted by any civilized society as a method of ensuring compliance with any law, more so with such questionable laws.

If we are considered co-citizens of this country, we have to be provided with all the means to equality in

benefits, laws and security. We cannot accept the treatment meted to us as if we were better dead than alive. The "sense of humanity" in us boils revulsively at such treatment. We cannot admit our people being killed daily.

We, therefore, submit the following demands to you as the executive President of this country.

1. A proper explanation or response has to be provided for the death of our fellow student.
2. Provide a free and safe passage for the people of Jaffna Peninsula by either opening the Pooneryn Road or by lifting the ban on travelling through Kilaly lagoon.
3. Order the stoppage of the wanton killing and maiming of innocent civilians and destroying of property by blind and indiscriminate shelling and bombing.
4. Stop the wrecking of our educational resources by lifting the ban or control on:
 - a) Kerosene, much required for night studies, laboratory work etc.
 - b) Stationary, printing paper and allied materials,
 - c) Bicycle and its parts as it is the only means of transport available to us.
5. Lift the economic blockade or control of food and medicines whereby our people en masse are slowly dying and many are actually dead.

Both go hand in hand

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam
And their fight against Sinhala Chauvinism
To liberate their homeland Eelam
From the clutches of Sinhala imperialism
Have now drawn the attention
Of people of many a nation
Every action of theirs carefully noted
And in the media widely reported
To see their dear motherland freed
They offer their precious life indeed
Their cause of course noble
But the course opted terrible
Full of hazards to be faced
And hurdles to be passed
In spite of all obstacles
They march to shatter the shackles
Their determination unshakable
And their dedication inestimable
The valour and bravery shown
Surpass every boundary known
All the words are powerless
To depict their feats marvellous
But for the malicious politicians
That bother only of elections
And not the ailing nation
Or of the suffering population
People from all walks of life
And from all nations in strife
Irrespective of caste or creed
Race or religion sex or age
Hold them in esteem high
For the price they pay so high
They are real freedom fighters
Whom the people trust as saviours
They are with the people
And with them are the people
Both go hand in hand
To see the enemy out of land.

— Quaker

MUSINGS BY NESTOR

AFFAIRE RONNIE DE MEL

Relation between the present President Ranasinghe Premadasa and Ronnie de Mel was at one time most difficult. Ronnie de Mel in his capacity as Finance Minister, has criticized the wasteful expenditure of the war without making any comment on the nature of the war for obvious reasons. He then resigned and went abroad. Charges were framed against him within the bounds of criminal jurisdiction. De Mel did not appear in court pleading that there was risk for his life if he came to Ceylon. The public naturally made its own guess of the source of risk to de Mel's life. Nothing is known of the fate of the Case. Rumour has it that the case was withdrawn. Then came the news that Ronnie de Mel would be returning to the Island and that further he would accept a Cabinet portfolio. It was mentioned that the other senior Minister would be downgraded. This talk went on for a long time; and now comes the news

that Ronnie de Mel is returning to London.

If the charges against Ronnie de Mel were worth framing, they should be properly investigated by the judiciary. The Charges were against a Minister and were framed by the Attorney General. The Attorney General must have personally studied the matter.

If they were not adequately provable, they ought not to have been framed. If there was prima facie case, only the judiciary should dispose it. Really the Supreme Court must issue a Rule on the Attorney General if he proceeds to withdraw the charges. There are many other matters for gossiping in this connection but the cavalier treatment of the courts by filing very serious charges against a Minister and then withdrawing them is a serious reflection of the judicial function.

JAYALALITHA'S SEAT IN THE LEGISLATURE

We, in the North-east of that Island called Ceylon are not only subjected to economic sanctions but we are also denied news and

information. It is reported in the Tamil Press that the famous Subramania Swamy who has been politicking in various political parties, had sent a Petition to the Governor some six months ago. The gist of the Petition appears to be a complaint that Jayalalitha is some sort of Partner or Shareholder in a business concern which has entered into a contract with the Government of Tamil Nadu. The Petition was not acted upon by His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu for over six months. Now he seems to have forwarded it to the Commissioner of Elections for necessary action.

We always thought that once the Nomination papers of a candidate are scrutinized, objection heard and accepted or over ruled and candidate's Nomination Paper is accepted, the Elections are over and the Candidate gains the seat in the Legislature, the Commissioner of Elections ceases to have any further functions in regard to the candidate's seat in the Legislature. Thereafter anybody who has evidence in his hands to challenge

(Continued on Page 3)

After the Cold War several ethnic groups in Eastern Europe got separated and became independent states. Because the Cold War ended, it was expected that the oppressed ethnic groups all over the world could become independent. But outside Eastern Europe this was not possible. One of the important reasons for this is the interests of America which has assumed the leadership of the world.

American interest is also involved in the ethnic groups of Eastern Europe separating and forming themselves into independent states. At the same time ethnic groups not being able to become independent states in the world arena, is also due to the influence of America. Another reason for this is the interests of regional powers and their dominance.

The end of the Cold War has produced a flexible state of affairs among the oppressed national ethnic groups. But this flexibility does not mean that the oppressed national ethnic groups could obtain solutions in the manner suitable to them.

It is good to analyse the realities of this situation in the light of the circumstances that existed at the time the Cold War ended. During the Cold War, the two Superpowers, America and the Soviet Union, apart from justifiability or otherwise, if one supported one point of view, the other opposed it.

It is necessary we should understand the substance of the Cold War from the perspectives of the Third World countries. In the first meaning, it is war directly or indirectly fought between super-powers for their own interests. This Cold War couched in fine language by the Westerners, even though a Cold War for the First world countries, it was a Hot War of fire to the Third World countries. The Cold War of the First World countries erupted into big wars in the Third World. When looked at directly, the Hot Wars that erupted in the Third World because of the Cold Wars of the First World countries, resulted in military stabilization of the military balance in the First World and also helped them plunder the resources of the Third World.

At the same time when looked at indirectly, because of the wars the economic and technological resources of the Third world countries were retarded and pushed back. Thus on account of internal conflicts and wars among the Third World countries themselves, the top intelligentsia of those countries instead of using their brains to develop their economy and technology, turned to

war. As a result productive forces of the Third world countries lagged behind and could not develop. The standard of the finished products too fell short. Therefore the products of the Third World countries could not compete on equal terms with those of the First and Second World countries.

Third World countries easily turned into markets for the First and Second world countries and continued to remain so. This profited the Super powers who were engaged in the Cold war.

The Cold War has ended because of several reasons. But the interests of the First and Second World countries continue to maintain the non-development of the Third world Countries.

M. Thirunavukkarasu

America, the Super power, which is heading neo-colonialism in the world, wants to ensure the perpetuation of the problems in the Third World countries for its own ever continuing interests. The problems of the national ethnic groups, their internal and external wars are the instruments which help the continuation of the problems and conflicts in the Third World countries. These problems as a whole would not be defeated nor could they be solved.

It is in the interests of America to keep them alive. According to particular circumstances, national ethnic problems might attain certain special features. Even then in general, America likes to perpetuate these problems.

In the manner that America is forced to take contradictory positions in national ethnic problems according to certain existing circumstances, it is also possible that due to logical historical developments, favourable results can be achieved by oppressed ethnic groups.

In the same way there have been realistic instances where America for its own interests

Musings....

(Continuation from Page 2)

the eligibility of the person concerned to be in the Legislature, has to file an Election Petition in the Judiciary. It is for the judiciary to adjudicate on the Petition. The Commissioner of Elections has no judicial functions to perform in respect of the membership of a person who has been elected to the Legislature. The news that this petition questions Jayalalitha's eligibility to continue in Parliament is being raised in a Petition addressed to the Governor and is to be adjudicated by the Commi-

America Invited Indian Army into Ceylon

instead of keeping a problem as a problem, goes beyond it and acts against oppressed ethnic group very unfavourably. Therefore, while we think of a general approach, we should consider that there are realistic instances where actions have been taken this way and that. By analysing the circumstances and realities of an oppressed ethnic group, we could understand the realistic truth that could occur beyond this common trend.

America wanted the Baltic States to separate themselves from the Soviet Union and gave its help because the Baltic States with sea front boundaries separating themselves from the Soviet Union would result in weakening its basic strategic importance. But even though America greatly desired that the Islamic Provinces of the Soviet Union not to separate themselves from the Soviet Union, logical situation did not favour same and as realities too did not favour such a situation, they finally separated themselves. In this situation America had to recognise provinces separating themselves.

When one considers the fact that America has not recognised the demand for a separate state by the Kurdish people from Iraq, it is clear that it has no regard for the right of self-determination of national ethnic groups. That is why in the wake of the end of the Cold War it is not possible to say that it will recognise the struggles of the national ethnic groups. Even inspite of the fact that the American troops are stationed in the Gulf and inspite of the fact that a major attack was launched to weaken Iraq in order to keep the balance of power in the region and in order to continue to maintain the

de-stabilization of Iraq, America does not want to solve the Kurdish problem.

It is in this broad background that world's ethnic problems and their internal and external developments should be analysed.

America wants to handle the ethnic problem in Ceylon according to its above said international strategy and according to regional set-up. According to this America wants the Ceylon's ethnic problem to reach normalcy from boiling point. But according to the present circumstances it does not want that to be settled in favour of the oppressed people. For this, its political, international and commercial interests are the chief reasons.

In such a situation containing its own interests as far as Ceylon is concerned, it should give preference to its relations with Colombo. But to bring the ethnic prob-

lem to normalcy, it has to impose certain pressures on Colombo also.

India which is angry over the struggle for Eelam that is going on in Eelam and against Liberation Tigers, thinks that normalcy will enable the Tigers to sustain their position and therefore does not want to have a state of normalcy.

India will not like America's above named strategy to succeed wholesale in Ceylon. At the same time America will not fall out with India wholly with regard to matters concerning its interests in Ceylon. It is in between these two lines that America's Ceylon's strategy will lie. Western world showed a slight tightening in the issue of arms to Ceylon. But Russia is prepared to supply the necessary arms to Ceylon. It is suspected that behind this willingness of Russia, there is the hand of India.

(Continued on Page 4)

ROYAL POWER IS EPHEMERAL OR THRONES ARE TRANSIENT

Who are you to ban
Crossing our Lagoon?
Is it your law
To keep us marooned.

Are we things senseless.
To lie low listless.
Are we like you? Premier!
..No..

In 1983 our struggle budded,
Like a flash of lightning;
Then you went on a rampage sickening,
In 1983 too a recrudescence of

communal rancour and outrage

Stunned and staggered
We shuddered at the sight savage;
Now,

We face the music with courage;
"Blood for blood, tit for tat"

"No"
Are we devoid of prudence.
To descend to revenge with impudence?

In the Kurunagar sea
You bathed in the blood of Tamils
Yet again a blood bath in Kilali!
Are you not really uncivil?

Premier!
Are we ordained to be chopped
Like firewood?
Don't you disdain
Such inexpiable sins.
As gall and wormwood?

Premier!
Please have the grace.
To do one thing
Know something about Cholan - Our king.
Who meted out justice to a cow.
Killing his only son he did love
Of an eternal truth be cognizant
Exalted positions are evanescent.

Indited by Kalaiyan

Translated by Sivasubramaniam

ssioner of Elections is really strange news. It is good that the High Court has promptly issued an Interim Order instructing the Commissioner of Elections not to take any action until the matter is examined in Courts. On the 26th of January every year a big worthy appears on Television and radio and speaks in glowing terms about the Constituent Assembly and its mighty performance but these worthies take care to hide the fact the constitution of the "Federal Republic of India" is 95 per cent a carbon copy of the Government of India Act of 1935.

HOT SPRING

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Democracy Distorted

The repression of the Tamils by the Sinhalese in this Island is being done under the guise of and in the name of Democracy. The Sinhalese in their avid racial arrogance and obsession have found in the term 'Democracy', a convenient tool to camouflage their racial impropriety.

Although Democracy is a system that has proved its worth in reflecting the dignity and equality of all human beings, to the Sinhalese it only means rule by the permanent racial majority!

They being in larger numbers, couldn't care less about the rights and interests of the Tamils who they saw are a minority. The claim of the Sinhalese to majority status and the relegation of the Tamils to minority status itself, is a relic of imperialism imposed only after 1833 by the Britisher.

The Tamils are a distinct people constituting a nation from time immemorial, a fact which the Sinhalese are trying to ignore in an ostrich-like manner.

The voting rights enjoyed by the Plantation Tamils, since adult franchise was introduced in 1931, was removed by the Citizenship Act of 1949 by the abuse of the racial majority in Parliament enjoyed by the Sinhalese.

Again, it was the crude Sinhala majority that was in display, when the Sinhala Only Act of 1956 was passed in Parliament despite the unanimous opposition of all the elected representatives of the Tamil homeland in the North and East.

Whether it is State-sponsored Sinhala Colonisation of Lands in the Tamil homeland; media-wise standardisation for University admissions to deprive Tamil students of their higher education, use of armed forces to keep the Tamils in subjugation—all these oppressions are serious abuses of the state power at the disposal of the Sinhala majority.

The very Sovereignty and territorial jurisdiction over the whole Island, assumed by the Sri Lanka government are themselves constructed on a fraudulent premise—alleged authority of the people. The voters of the Tamil Northern and Eastern Provinces did not endorse the call for a mandate sought at the General Elections of 1970 to change the Constitution and thus the Sri Lankan Government has no legitimacy to encompass the Northern and Eastern province.

In fact, the conflict now raging in this Island, arises from this legitimacy crisis.

The Tamils, who found themselves in the Sri Lankan Polity without ever having opted for it, were time and again betrayed by a succession of Sri Lankan governments which are governments of the Sinhalese, for the Sinhalese, and by the Sinhalese. All the efforts of the Tamil Political leaders to secure even a minimum of their due rights through peaceful parliamentary means, had failed due to the intransigence of the Sinhalese who never hesitated to abuse their majority in Parliament and the efforts of the Tamils had been rebuffed with racial violence and military massacres.

It was this realisation of the incompatibility of the Sinhalese and Tamils under a Single Sri Lankan Polity which prompted the Tamil Political Leader, Mr. S. J.V. Chelvanayakam, to announce in Parliament his abandoning all endeavours for a Federal Constitution and of his intention to strive for re-establishment of the Separate State of Tamil Eelam. It is for this very same reason that the present generation of Tamil youth have taken up arms as a last resort and are waging a liberation struggle.

Democracy is only a rhetorical banner for the Sinhalese under the Unitary Constitution to trample the rights of the Tamils which the Tamils are not prepared to tolerate any longer. The Sinhalese cannot succeed in fooling all the people, all the time and continue to flaunt and impose their distorted version of democracy on the Tamils at gun-point.

It must be realised that it is the Baudha-Sinhala-only mind set of this Sinhalese that had left the Tamils with no alternative but to seek their own redemption outside the Sri Lankan Polity. The establishment of a separate State of Tamil Eelam will not only save the Tamils but will also rescue Democracy from maltreatment and distortion it receives at the hands of the racially prejudiced Sinhala politicians in their desperate attempt to perpetuate their illegitimate rule over the Tamils.

Tigers Drive Back Sri Lankan Army

LTTE gave battle and drove back a contingent of Sri Lankan Army who tried to move from their positions at Kattuvan into free Tamil Eelam territory.

Sri Lankan soldiers at Kattuvan in Valikamam North sentry moved about 200 yards from their positions on Sunday, April 4 early morning at 7-30. They tried to move into free Tamil Eelam territory.

The LTTE opened fire and a battle ensued at the end of which the Sri Lankan soldiers retreated. Thereafter the S. L. Army at Palaly began shell attack. A helicopter was also engaged in

firing from the skies. One civilian was injured.

One Tiger fighter died in this battle. The S. L. Army is believed to have sustained heavy loss which however was not estimated.

Seminars on Conservation of fire wood

The Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation (TEEDOR) is conducting seminars at schools, offices of Rural Production committees, Co-op. Thrift and Credit Societies and other organis-

ations about the need to conserve fire-wood.

The Energy Division of TEEDOR has invented the double oven system which the TEEDOR says is effectively designed to produce maximum heat with minimum use of fire-wood.

NEWS ROUND UP

Tuesday, March 30

S. L. Forces at Poonakari resorted to shell, cannon fire and gun fire attack targetted towards Allipalai, Karukkativu and Thattuvankotti.

Sri Lankan Army enforced curfew in Mannar island, under its occupation. Rounding up and search operations were reported to have taken place.

Wednesday, March 31

S. L. Army, Navy and Air Force carried out attacks in Vadamarachy area. The S. L. Army from the Palaly camp fired artillery shells. An Air Force heli shot from the air and threw grenades. The Navy resorted to cannon fire. Places affected were Valvetiturai, Udupiddy, Ilakanawattai, Ilanthaikadu and Thondamanaru.

A number of persons were reported injured including R. Selvarajah (46) and K.

Kulam (35) who were seriously injured and admitted to Hospital. Some houses and Ilakanawattai Katpaka Vinayagar Temple were damaged.

Thursday, April 1

LTTE attacked a group of Tamil gangsters at Nochchimodai Sri Lankan sentry points, killing six and recovering arms and ammunition and one dead body. The LTTE also destroyed two sentry points of the S. L. Army.

S. L. Navy fires at fishermen in the Pasaiyoor-Ariyalai sea. Fishermen jumped into the sea and escaped. They returned homes without doing any fishing.

S. L. Army at Elephant Pass resorted to heavy shell attack directed towards Allipalai and Masar villages. Cannon fire from Naval boats took place about 8.00 p.m.

S. L. Army at Palaly launched artillery shell attack directed towards Valikamam West. The firing which started about 8.30 p.m. lasted for an hour.

Saturday, April 3.

A young boy, M. Manmatharajah, who tried to meddle with an unexploded S. L. Army shell at Kilavikulam in Palamodai. Vavunia died when it exploded.

Father of Three Shot Dead

Sinnathamby Nathan (aged 40), a father of three children was shot dead by the Sri Lankan forces at Kadatkarachenai in the Trincomalee District. This killing took place on Monday, March 22.

America...

(Continuation from Page 3)

By obtaining armament help directly from Russia or through it, India hoped that the morale of the army which has become a force in politics could be boosted and make it not interested in a peaceful settlement of the issue. In the realities of the logical circumstances, it is clear that there cannot be a peaceful settlement of the ethnic issue in Ceylon. Even in spite of it, there are political forces that are ever wakeful to see that even some circumstances that would lead to a peaceful settlement do not materialise.

America which was openly and fully on the side of the Sinhala oppressors, is now talking of normalcy. This normalcy is given an appearance which resembles that it is favourable to the Tamils. In the political deal with

India in respect of Ceylon, America's strategy of normalcy is of an experimental nature. But if we observe the historical procedure, this strategy of normalcy of America in some way or other will be detrimental to the interests of the Tamil in the long run.

In the 1980's in order to make use of the contradictions between India and Ceylon to its advantage, America specifically stood on the side of the oppressive Sinhalese against the Tamils. American influence grew very much in Ceylon. This paved the way for the Indian army to come to Ceylon. Even though America was on the side of Ceylon, it could not prevent Indian military intervention in Ceylon.

But in the 1990's American strategy has changed. It is attempting to use the contradictions between the

people of Eelam and the Indian government to its advantage. In both, whether in the first instance or the present instance, the objective of America is on the side of the Sinhalese government.

If we analyse the long run political perspective and outcome from same, America had been responsible for ruining the ethnic problem by very solidly standing on the side of J. R.'s administration. In actual fact, America is the cause for the coming of India (Indian Campaign) to Ceylon. India is not afraid of opening its doors for America into its country. At the same time, India does not stomach the growing American influence in Ceylon. In this game between the Governments of India and America, it is the Tamils who get trodden.

Courtesy: Eelanatham