

SRI
LANKA

**SITUATION
REPORT**

SITUATION REPORT

50,000 refugees

There are 50,000 refugees from terrorism in six districts of the north and east, the Ministry of National Security said yesterday. Trincomalee had the largest number with 21,737, Anuradhapura had 15,217 and Batticaloa had 8,517. The other districts were Vavuniya, Mannar and Mullaitivu... (Daily News : 5/12).

State to pay Rs.5,000/-

The Supreme Court yesterday directed the State to pay Rs.5,000/- to Mr. Paul Nallanayagam, president of the Kalmunai Citizens' Committee and a member of the Batticaloa Citizens' Committee for violation of his fundamental right under article 13(2) of the constitution. Justice Colin Thome, with Justices Wanasundera and Atukorale agreeing, held that Nallanayagam's fundamental right had been violated in that he was not produced before a magistrate until three days after the period specified by law. Mr. Nimal Senanayake P.C. argued the case of Nallanayagam... (Daily News : 23/11).

G.C.E. O/L in Jaffna

Over 25,000 pupils of the Jaffna district will appear for their December GCE O/L from December 7 to 16 from 164 centres. About 8000 candidates who applied privately too have received their admission cards and time tables promptly. The Jaffna Vembadi Girls High School is to function as the co-ordinating centre... It is understood that about 4 lakhs of pupils are appearing for this examination from about 2,000 centres in the island on December 7. (The Island : 3/12).

Bank Boss in custody

A manager of a bank in Mannar is now in Police custody for allegedly permitting terrorists the use of his car for subversive activities. Police sources said that this was not the first occasion that the terrorists used the car of this particular bank manager for their activities. The bank manager's failure to inform the police of the use of his car by terrorists, it is alleged, prompted the authorities to take him into custody. (The Island : 25/11).

Estate youth cautioned

The ministry of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali cautioned youths in the plantations against being misled by scheming terrorist agents as they would never be able to win anything through violence but only by political dialogue. The Minister said this when he addressed the final day of the 112th Mahapola held at the Ragala Maha Vidyalyaya in the Walapone electorate recently. (The Island : 25/11).

Blast in Intercity

One carriage of the Jaffna Intercity express was wrecked by an explosion as it was being shunted into the railway yard in Colombo yesterday afternoon. The Rs.4 million luxury coach was a total write-off, the General Manager of Railways told the Daily News. The second such explosion in Colombo (the first was at the Katunayake Airport railway station in April this year), police said it was obviously the work of northern terrorists... (Daily News : 13/12)

Zia's testimonial

Pakistan President Zia-ul-Haq said in Kandy on Wednesday that President Jayawardene, as the elder statesman of Asia, was quite capable of leading the nation on the correct path. He described President Jayawardene as "a man of peace and goodwill" and said the Muslims of Sri Lanka were fortunate to have him as their leader... (Daily News : 13/12)

Film Review I

Colombo (Lankapuvath) — The gross distortions, fabrications and falsehoods shown and uttered in the film "Troubled Paradise" telecast by London's Independent Television Network was absolutely biased in favour of Tamil marxist terrorists with whom the producers lived in Sri Lanka and gave a far from independent version of what was really happening in Sri Lanka, official sources told Lankapuvath. It was a classic example of a marxist terrorist disinformation exercise typical of the Tamil Eelam co-ordinating committee which spearheads terrorist disinformation in the UK and Europe. The marxist narco terrorist body employs international media contractors to spread false propaganda aimed at overthrowing the democratically elected government in Sri Lanka and installing a marxist terror regime here... (Daily News : 13/12)

83,000 stranded

Over 83,000 would-be-repatriates to India are unable to leave Sri Lanka because no transport is available to them. These repatriates to whom Indian passports have been issued by the Indian High Commission in Sri Lanka have been paid their full dues by the Sri Lanka government. The ferry service between Talaimannar and Rameswaram which was suspended in October last year because of security reasons was the main cause for the delay, Deputy Controller, Immigration, in charge of repatriation M.B. Ratnayake said. However, Immigration authorities continue to process papers of stateless persons employed on the plantations and according to Immigration sources, the numbers keep increasing each month. (Sunday Observer : 17/11).

From "forward areas"

The Sri Jayawardenepura General Hospital which celebrated its first anniversary yesterday, has offered to provide its facilities to treat

JAYAWARDENE talks to INDIA TODAY

"We are dealing with murderers" was the headline of an interview with President J.R. Jayawardene published by the New Delhi fortnightly magazine INDIA TODAY in its issue of December 15, 1985. The interview, spread over three hours in two separate sessions was given to the magazine's Assistant Editor Prabhu Chawla and its Madras correspondent S.H. Venkatramani at the President's Colombo residence at Ward Place. Here are a few selected questions and answers of that interview :-

- Q.** But how have they (Tamil militants) been able to maintain their movement for so long? And what is the kind of help they get?
- A.** Help is coming from India. Their weapons are coming from India. We have found their weapons with Indian markings.
- Q.** Why can't you go to the north and talk to the people direct if you say the Tamil people don't want Eelam and thereby isolate the terrorists?
- A.** How do I go there? None of our ministers or members of Parliament can go there. I cannot go there. I can only go in a bullet-proof glass box.
- Q.** But why the massive arms build-up?
- A.** We are doing all this because we are facing threats from outside and within our country. We fear that somebody might invade us, so we must have an arms build-up. We are preparing against any invasion.
- Q.** What exactly is this invasion fear about?
- A.** I don't mean the Government of India. I am sure Rajiv will not do it. If the Government of India wants to invade us, which I am convinced they will not, they can take over Sri Lanka in less than 24 hours and arrest me. But if that happens then all the Tamils living among the Sinhalese will be finished.
- Q.** Are you preparing yourself for the worst?
- A.** I am not fully prepared to tackle Jaffna. I want to finish first with the other provinces. It is not difficult to handle Jaffna. We can cut off food and supplies to the peninsula and flush out the terrorists in a month's time. But will India support our action?

servicemen and policemen injured in the forward areas. Accordingly, 25 seriously injured servicemen and policemen will be moved from the General Hospital, Colombo to Kotte this week. A special ward has been set apart for these men who will come under the care of the Kotte doctors... (Daily News : 2/12).

Decline in Tourism

Mr. Richard Pathirana (SLFP-Akmeemena) said (in Parliament) that the tourist industry which improved some years back had deteriorated. The reason for this was beyond the control of the Minister and his officials. It started with the 1983 disturbances. The decline of the tourist industry had affected the economy and several people had been made jobless... (Daily News : 2/12)

Boom in land prices

Some of the highest prices paid for land in Colombo were recorded when two acres of prime land at Longdon Place, Colombo 7, were sold by public auction on Sunday at an average of Rs.87,500/- a perch. The auctioneer Dunstan Kelaart said it took him just three and a half hours to sell the 28 blocks behind the BMICH belonging to the Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation. He said the bidding was brisk and some 8-12 perch blocks facing the main road went as high as Rs.150,000/- a perch. Earlier, land in this fashionable residential area cost anything between Rs.45,000/- to Rs.50,000/- a perch... (Daily News : 3/12).

Air fares UP!

Airline fares from Colombo to all destinations will go up by 3 to 5 per cent with effect from January 1. This follows acceptance of a recommendation by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the Board of Airline Representatives in view of the appreciation of the U.S. dollar against the rupee... (Daily News - 20/12)

Tamils denied drugs

A consignment of vital drugs valued at over a lakh of rupees is reported to be idling at Anuradhapura. These drugs, which include A.T. injections, bandages, plasters etc. are meant for base hospitals and 42 dispensaries in the Mullaitivu, Vavuniya and Mannar districts. These drugs are reported to have arrived at the Anuradhapura railway station by goods train in September but are idling for over three months while the patients in the above districts are suffering (The Island - 17/12)

State Counsels quit

State prosecutions in a large number of cases coming under the Emergency Regulations and the Prevention of Terrorism Act have

been hampered as a result of the exodus of nearly ten senior State Counsel from the Attorney-General's Department within the course of this year... The Department is now

said to be left with only about nine senior State Counsels to prosecute in the large number of cases filed under the Emergency Regulations and the PTA... (The Island - 15/12)

THONDAMAN MAKES A MOVE



Colombo political and diplomatic sources are reported to be attaching considerable significance to a DECLARATION adopted at a meeting of the National and Executive Council of the Ceylon Workers' Congress held on December 3, 1985, under the chairmanship of its President Mr. S. Thondaman, M.P. who is also a Cabinet Minister in the Government. The declaration is titled : 1986 - A YEAR OF PEACE, AMITY AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.

Here are some extracts from the resolution :-

"This joint meeting of the National Council & Executive Council of the Ceylon Workers' congress held on December 3, 1985, has decided that the time has come to take concrete and practical action to meet the dangers and difficulties that presently threaten the plantation workers as well as the other sections of the population.

"The Ceylon Workers' congress joined the Government of His Excellency J.R. Jayawardene and supported it through troubled times in the hope and belief that it would solve, among other matters, the communal question now popularly known as the ethnic problem. Together with this is the statelessness of 4,00,000 plantation workers of Tamil origin. Eight years have gone by since this government came to power but these and many other problems still remain unresolved. More than anything else people want peace and security and this they do not now have.....

"The CWC believes in non-violence and a peaceful dialogue in the manner taught by Mahatma Gandhi and all the great religious leaders of the world. The first thing that must be done immediately by the government together with all men and women of goodwill in this country is to stop this insane talk about war.

"This talk of war is reminiscent of the cry of Dharma Yuddha - a kind of Holy War - by certain extremist politicians which had led to the holocaust of July 1983.

This cry of Dharma Yuddha was first mooted on page 201 in the book "Save the Buddha Sasana", published by the Seruwila Sacred City Development Society. Is this slogan being raised once again? The question must also be asked whether any person who was elected to Parliament on the mandate of the DHAR-MISTA programme of His Excellency J.R. Jayawardene and now calls for war should not resign his seat and seek re-election, if he so desires, on a mandate for war. The talk of war and the creation of a war psychosis is foolish, self-defeating and suicidal because such a war can only be against a particular community which is as much a part of this multi-racial, multi-religious and multi-linguistic country as any other community.

"Day by day the situation is getting worse. In the circumstances, the Ceylon Workers' Congress feels that it cannot no longer remain a spectator waiting for others to solve the problem facing the nation.....

"Peace, amity and harmony can come about only through a process of national reconciliation. And reconciliation can become a reality only when there is acceptance in thought, word and deed that this island belongs to all communities.....

"The National Council of the CWC has therefore decide to declare the year 1986 to be a year of Peace, Amity and National Reconciliation. From time to time, during the course of the year, the CWC will announce various campaigns to be undertaken to make peace and national reconciliation a reality. Directives will also be issued as to how these campaigns should be conducted.

"For a start, as the first phase of the 1986 programme, the CWC has decided to observe the period from January 14, 1986 to April 15, 1986, that is from Thai Pongal Day to the Sinhalese and Tamil New Year Day as a period of meditation, prayer and meaningful preparations for our campaign.....

(Events from October 15 – November 3 were carried in the 1st issue of the Situation Report)

November 4 :

Monitoring Committee visits Jaffna and are immediately taken to old Dutch Fort housing northern Police headquarters and army base camp. Armed forces escort them to Ashok Hotel only a furlong away. Tamil militants explode bombs in protest, alleging that presence of armed forces is a ruse to prevent members of the public from making complaints of ceasefire violations by armed forces.

4 Muslim Tamils, two of them women, shot dead by Police Commandos at Chenkalady in Batticaloa district. It is feared that many more might have been killed or wounded in the indiscriminate shooting.

Elsewhere in Batticaloa, 2 University students killed and 5 injured when army helicopter strafes Vantharamoolai University premises. 8 others reported missing after the incident.

Also in Batticaloa district, house to house search operation by armed forces at Kovilporativu, Kallar and Padiruppu with helicopter guarding the search.

It is reported from Trincomalee that Assistant Government Agent, Kuchchaveli M.S. Ibrahim and Technical Officer of the Urban Council A. Mahendran who were involved in relief operations for Tamil refugees in the Kuchchaveli area are both missing, suspected to be kidnapped or killed by pro-government forces.

In Jaffna, army men fire around from Ashok Hotel, damaging the Jaffna Clock Tower, a wall of Jaffna Central College and injuring a student of Vembadi Girls' College.

November 5

30 students of Vantharamoolai University College arrested. Govt. states the arrests were in connection with an alleged attack with hand grenades on a Police jeep 3 days earlier.

On the Monitoring Committee agreeing to hear representations from the public without the presence of the armed forces, Citizens' Committees of Jaffna, Valvettiturai and Pt. Pedro make representations before the Committee at Ashok Hotel.

Govt. says a boat carrying 20 persons from India was intercepted off the Talaimannar coast and the occupants taken to Mannar army camp for questioning.

In Vavuniya, 55 civilians taken into custody for questioning.

November 6

7 Policemen and 4 Army personnel killed in 2 separate landmine explosions. The 7 Policemen attached to Seruwila Police —

Sergeant Weralavitharana, Constables Clement Pieris, Pathirajah, Ariyatilake, Amarasiri Wijekoon, Dissanayake and Siriwardena, killed on the spot when a landmine exploded under their jeep at Thampalakamam on their way to Trincomalee. The 4 soldiers were booby-trapped when they were rushing from Vakaraai camp to the aid of the police after the blast. Five other soldiers who survived the blast but were seriously injured, admitted to Polonnaruwa hospital.

National Security Minister says "terrorists riding a motor cycle opened fire at an SLAF helicopter flying from Pt. Pedro to Elephant Pass on the 5th, and when the helicopter returned the fire, they abandoned their bike and fled".

Final year examinations of the Batticaloa University College postponed indefinitely following the arrests of 26 of the students sitting the exam.

21-year old Muslim youth M.S. Mohamed Anwar of Gampola shot dead by Police for failing orders to stop, at the Puttalam junction.

In Jaffna, Tamil militants announce through loudspeakers from Jaffna Central College grounds that although they had no faith in the Ceasefire Monitoring Committee, they will not in any way prevent them from doing their duty, and also ensure that no harm befalls any member of the Committee; they however imposed the condition that security forces should take one particular route coming from the old Dutch Fort to Ashok Hotel where the Committee was sitting. The announcements were made in Tamil and Sinhala to enable the security forces to hear as well.

36 more armoured cars and more ammunition brought to Jaffna from Colombo, by road. Colombo sources refer to speculation in Govt. circles about a possible declaration of Tamil Eelam in Jaffna.

Jaffna report says the usual shopping and preparations for the Hindu Deepavali festival going on in full swing.

22-year old Miss Meena Sivalingam of Mutur who was under detention at Boosa camp charged at Colombo High Court under the PTA for failing to provide information about 4 "terrorists" Anton, Balan, Kirupa and Sudha, between February 1 and March 15, 1985. Proceedings put off for January 10, 1986.

Batticaloa Citizens' Committee protest to President Jayawardene over the transfer of senior Police Inspector Krishnadasan.

Flutter in Dickoya over suspected kidnapping of two tamil youths from Enfield Estate.

All except 9 out of the 200 persons arrested at Periakallar in the Padiruppu electorate on the 5th released.

November 7 :

Private bus carrying 15 Sinhala passengers run into landmine at Morawewa. 5 killed including a couple.

Namawatte Track B village at Gomarankadawela in Trincomalee district from where armed Sinhala "Home Guards" and govt. armed Sinhala civilians were sent to attack Tamil villagers, raided in turn by Tamil militants. Govt. report says 12 villagers killed and 30 houses destroyed.

Army team rushing to the rescue of the villagers run into a landmine on the way. Casualties not known but several soldiers admitted to Anuradhapura hospital with injuries.

Govt. report says three soldiers were injured when "terrorists fired at an army convoy in Paranthan" on the 6th.

More than 25,000 estate workers go on strike protesting at the arrest of 4 students at Highlands College, Hatton.

Monitoring Committee visits Palaly army camp and hear evidence from members of security forces.

Tamil villagers report discovery of partly burned bodies of 9 persons inside a house at Kaddaiparichchan in Trincomalee district. No other details known.

November 8 :

Naval gunboats fire shells in coastal village of Kadalkaraichenai in Trincomalee at dawn. People take shelter inside Sri Varnakula Vinayagar Hindu temple at Chenaiyur. Army personnel move towards Chenaiyur with automatic weapons, setting fire to houses on the way. They take into custody 4 persons — Mahendran Arasaratnam, Venkadachalam, Antony Gabriel and Petersingham Karunadasa, take them to the house of one Thambirasa Kalirasa, shoot to death the first three along with Kalirasa, sparing the life of the fourth man. All four bodies set on fire along with Kalirasa's house. Next, they kill 57-year old Muthulingam Kathirgamathamby, 55-year old Muthulingam Dharmalingam and son Mohanarajah (21). Meanwhile 4 soldiers enter the Vinayagar Hindu temple and beat up the people who sought refuge there, break up some of the statues, desecrate the building, while a helicopter kept hovering low over the temple. (From report submitted to the Monitoring Committee by the Citizens' Committee of Trincomalee)

November 9

Govt. news agency Lankapuwath quoting "security sources" claims that "two Tamil Marxist terrorists" were shot dead today when "a group

Cease-fire Violations

of them made an abortive ambush of a security forces route clearing squad at Elephant Pass". The news agency also claims that security forces "pre-empted a Tamil Marxist terrorist strike today on a village in the Am parai district." The report does not offer any explanation of how in both instances they came to be identified as "Tamil Marxist terrorists".

Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation's Tamil Commercial Service announcer K.S. Rajah who was detained at the C.I.D. Hqs. 4th Floor and at the Boossa camp for four months on suspicion that he had broadcast Tamil songs in support of Tamil militancy, and later released for lack of evidence has now been debarred entry into the Broadcasting and Television stations.

Eight more bodies of Tamil victims of army killings discovered in Sampur, Kaddaiparichan and Chenaiyur in Mutur district, following two days of army terror, by land, air and sea. At Mutur, those arrested include student activist K. Mohanaraj, postal employee Anthonydas, and three women two of whom were a mother and daughter. 150 Tamil families and 650 Muslim Tamil families who have lost their houses and belongings have sought refuge at St. Anthony's Church and Muslim Vidyalaya at Mutur.

November 10

Govt. claims that in the course of a 3-day "combing out operation" in the Trincomalee district, security forces have "killed 33 terrorists", "destroyed four of their hideouts", took in 80 persons for questioning out of which 18 were "hardcore terrorists", engaged "terrorists in a gun battle" after "trapping" them, recovered automatic weapons, shot guns, etc. and "heaps of LTTE literature". The operation, according to the SUN newspaper, was directed by the district's new military co-ordinating officer, Brigadier Harsha Gunaratne. (It is presumed that the information was also given by him.) The paper also reported: "There were no casualties among the security forces".

6 passengers in a private bus plying between Surumura and Kantalai killed at Sittaru after an armed hold-up. 12 others injured, two of them seriously.

Monitoring Committee visits Namalawatte in Trincomalee district to inquire into attack on villagers on the 7th.

"Security sources" tell The Island newspaper that "terrorist attacks" on Eravur and Batticaloa Police stations on the 9th were "repulsed", after a "fierce gun battle which lasted nearly one hour", and "no casualties".

The Island publishes an interview with Indian ex-Lok Sabha member Dr. Subramaniam Swamy given to their correspondent Walter Jayewardene in the United States, quoting Dr. Swamy as saying, inter alia, "The militant movement will go on, since 50 million Tamils

support them. If nothing happens soon, I and some of my colleagues propose to recruit ex-servicemen who are settled down in Tamilnadu and use them for battle in Sri Lanka".

Floods in Jaffna and Kilinochchi. Several thousands become flood refugees. Power supply, telephones and transport disrupted.

Govt. armed forces personnel in civil attire open fire at a van carrying Tamil passengers from Oddichuddan to Jaffna at the 11th Mile post on the Mankulam-Mullaitivu Road, killing on the spot Veerasingam (27) and injuring a 2-year old female child Lochana, a 27-year old woman Rajeswary, and 2 others — Thillaimathan (32) and Sivarasa (32).

November 11

Three dead bodies discovered inside a lorry abandoned on the main road between Umayalpuram and Elephant Pass. It is believed they were among the victims of army firing when an army convoy consisting of several armoured cars and trucks on its way to Jaffna indulged in indiscriminate shooting at several points on the way. Panic spreads in Pallai, Kodikamam and Chavakachcheri areas as news spread over convoy's approach. Schools and shops and offices close and streets deserted by noon.

Govt. says 8 persons were killed and several injured when "armed terrorists" attacked Uksirigama, a village forming part of the Kantalai Sugar Corporation on 10th night, according to The Island. The govt. owned Daily News referring to the same incident says: "Six Tamil civilians were shot and killed in a village at Kantalai by a group of armed men yet to be identified..."

Report from Mankulam says several villagers in Oddusuddan between Mankulam and Mullaitivu are abandoning their homes and shops and moving away, following clearing of the area for expansion of army camp.

Ceylon Workers' Congress official S. Raju complains to National Security Council that acting on false mischievous "information" given in anonymous letters, security forces were taking into custody several innocent estate youth.

Jaffna report says nearly 15,000 families in Jaffna district have been affected by the floods. Colombo and west coast hit by gale winds.

November 12

Monitoring Committee makes a quick unannounced visit to Trincomalee, and fly back to Colombo same afternoon.

Attempt by armed gang to rob the Jaffna railway station foiled by members of large militant group.

Jaffna Government Agent given orders from Colombo not to give any more aid to refugees from Vavuniya, but to send them back to their

district. Vavuniya GA ordered to co-ordinate in the resettlement.

Attempt by an armed gang of ten to rob iron box containing railway cash in the Guard's van of Colombo-bound Yal Devi at Kodikamam foiled by a large crowd of passengers and railway staff.

3 Tamil youths — Ambalavanar Theivendran of Mahiampiddy, Sandilipay, Rathinam Johnson of Palaly and Singarajah Paskaran (Anton) of Hospital Street, Jaffna to be released from the Boossa camp, according to information received by G.A., Jaffna.

November 13

Nine members of the public who happened to be on the road in the vicinity of Lake Road, Batticaloa shot and killed on the spot when govt. armed forces began firing in all four directions in a frenzy, following a landmine burst in which one Sub Inspector and five other policemen were injured. Two of the critically injured policemen, Sub Inspector Govindarajah and Constable Tissa flown to Colombo. Over 30 other persons who were seen in the area including some workmen in a nearby garage taken into custody. Colombo newspapers claim that the 9 members of the public who were killed were "terrorists responsible for the attack". The incident happened while Monitoring Committee was on a visit to Batticaloa.

From Veerachchola, Sammanturai in Amparai district, it is reported that 2 days previously, men of the armed forces in civil attire had walked into the home of Manickam Nallathamby, robbed his wife of her "Thalikody" and other jewellery worth over 12 sovereigns, and cash Rs.5,000/-, assaulted Manickam Nallathamby mercilessly and set fire to both his house and adjacent shop.

Over 100 taken into custody at Iralkuli in Trincomalee district. Women in the age group 16-20 were among 80 persons taken into custody at Mutur and at 3rd Mile Post area. About 46 persons in Koonitivu and 37 in Sampur reported missing over the last two days.

Tourists and non-national newspapermen debarred entry into Trincomalee district. Colombo Railway authorities ordered not to issue any tickets to any foreigners beyond Anuradhapura.

November 14

Retired District Judge N. Krishnadasan and 3 others threatened by armed Sinhala "Home Guards" when they went to inspect damaged Hindu Ashramam and later handed over to army custody, at Uppuveli, Trincomalee.

Nearly 200 Tamil youths and businessmen arrested at Batticaloa, and except for a few who were released within a short time, no information known about others.

Diary of Events

Monitoring Committee listens to representations at Batticaloa for 2nd day.

November 15

Total hartal in most Tamil areas in North and East in response to a call by EROS to observe the day as one of mourning to mark the introduction of the Citizenship Act in Parliament in 1948, which deprived hill country Tamils of their citizenship rights. Govt. cancels train services between Colombo and Jaffna. Shops, schools and even some govt. offices close.

Students of Highlands College, Hatton boycott classes demanding release of 3 colleagues taken into custody by govt.

4 army men injured in landmine explosion at Oddusuddan, flown to Anuradhapura hospital by helicopter and thereafter to Colombo.

Jaffna undergraduate Arumugampillai Sathya-moorthy charged before Colombo High Court Judge K. Vignarajah under Prevention of Terrorism Act with having organised lectures to incite communal disharmony. He refuses legal aid and case put off for December 18.

"Security sources" tell SUN newspaper that they killed "six terrorists including a young woman" at Uyilankulam in Mannar. They also say that 22 other persons including two women terrorist suspects were taken into custody near Toppur in Trincomalee district.

November 16

Four Policemen - Sub Inspector Witharana, and constables Chandradasa, Wickramarachchi and Abeykoon killed in landmine explosion at Bar Road, Batticaloa. Troops open fire in the area killing 9 Tamil civilians, 6 of whom were identified as Senathirajah (46), the Grama Sevaka, Bank employee S. Vellayan (45), a teacher, C. Mahalingam (24), M. Thangarasah (77), V. Muniyandy (25) and S. Vimalaratnam (30). Two other policemen seriously injured in the landmine explosion, flown to Colombo. Following the incident, several houses, shops and a firewood depot at Mamangam Road and Airport Road set on fire allegedly by armed forces in reprisal.

Train services to Jaffna, Trincomalee and Batticaloa suspended.

65-year old woman Thangapathial was killed inside her house and 45-year old Rasamany admitted to Mullaitivu hospital with gunshot injuries in the course of an army search and destroy operation following the landmine explosion on the Mullaitivu-Oddisuddan road yesterday when four soldiers were injured.

Vavuniya G.A. appeals for release of Sinhala teacher Jayaratne and a Buddhist monk and six Sinhala families who were kidnapped by unknown persons at gunpoint at Kokuveli village.

20 Tamil youths in refugee camp at Thanneer Otru in Mulliyawalai in Mullaitivu district taken into custody by armed forces on suspicion.

4 infants reported to have died within two weeks at the Nallur Sankiliyan Refugee centre in Jaffna, deaths caused by pneumonia, and diarrhoea. Fifty families composed of 204 persons, including nearly 100 small children are housed in the centre.

November 17

Batticaloa Citizens' Committee urges Cease-fire Monitoring Committee by telegram to hold speedy inquiry into the incidents of yesterday where several Tamil civilians were killed, 15 houses completely burnt. They allege that bombs were dropped on houses from helicopters.

Unknown number of Tamil youths taken into custody in the course of a search operation by armed forces in three villages adjoining Kinniya - Alankerny, Soorangal, and Vanaru, all in the Trincomalee district.

It is reported from Mutur, Koonithivu and Sampur that several more thousand Tamils have fled their homes and lost their property following terrorising by armed forces and moves are being made to house them as refugees in more schools in Trincomalee.

Six persons killed in Mutur in the course of an army search, and govt. claims all killed were "terrorists". No independent information available.

Unknown armed youths are reported to have broken into the official residence of Vavuniya G.A. last night and robbed several valuables - a Television set, a TV deck, Radio, a pair of Binoculars and clocks.

The G.A., Mr. C. Logeswaran tells the Colombo newspaper, the SUN, that they robbed even his revolver, and accused him of not supplying dry rations to refugees and employing Sinhala watchers at the Kachcheri.

At Chenkaladi in the East, armed youths break into the house of Home Minister K.W. Devanayagam and rob 20 gunnies with paddy, a TV set, cassettes, worth Rs. 65,000/- according to Eravur Police.

244 members of the govt. security forces were killed by Tamil militants between July 1, 1983 and July 1, 1985, according to a written answer to a question raised in Parliament by SLFP MP Ananda Dassaniake. The breakdown according to National Security Minister, was as follows:- Policemen - 116; Army Personnel - 110; Air Force men - 9; Navy men - 9.

Tamil militants lob hand grenades at a private van carrying 8 policemen near Fisheries Corporation building at Valaichchenai. According to Colombo official sources, the van was badly damaged but the policemen escaped unhurt.

Train services to Jaffna, Trincomalee and

Batticaloa suspended earlier to be resumed from 19th. At Mankulam, members of the security forces in civil attire distribute leaflets in Tamil calling the "Vanni Tamils" to free themselves from the exploitation of the Jaffna Tamils. The leaflets are printed in the name of the "Vanni Tamils" (Eelamurasu, Jaffna).

November 18

Colombo reports say that National Security Minister Athulathmudali had two rounds of "useful talks" with Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi at Muscat, Oman.

At Vavuniya, shops put up their shutters in protest at the killing of a well-known businessman allegedly by a Tamil militant group, on the 17th.

Students in several schools in Nuwara Eliya district boycott classes in protest over arrest of 3 students in Hatton.

About 10,000 Tea workers strike in Pundulu Oya in solidarity with 700 workers at Harrow estate.

Culasekera Udayakumar alias Udayan, charged under the Prevention of Terrorism Act with having concealed information about two suspects in the Oberoi Hotel bomb blast - I.P.T. Varadhan and Geethanjali Balakumar.

November 19

Bomb flung at funeral gathering at Hindu Crematorium, Trincomalee, killing Sivapatham (45) an employee of the Port Multi-purpose Co-operative, seriously wounding ex-Naval employee V. Kanagasabai and injuring several others. Because of fear of Govt. armed forces and armed Home Guards this crematorium in the centre of the town had not been used for several months and Hindus had been burying their dead in the Christian burial grounds which was in a safer area.

It is reported from Jaffna that there are 22,000 Tamils belonging to 5,357 families who are now refugees there, from the two districts of Trincomalee and Vavuniya. The figures compiled by the Planning Secretariat, Jaffna, represent the position as it was at the beginning of the month only.

Lorry from Punnalakkadduvan, Jaffna carrying Diesel from Colombo hijacked by armed thugs at Wennapuwa in the south. Driver and cleaner and third occupant escape. Lorry later found abandoned without the Diesel.

Hundreds of Tamil women refugees from villages in Mutur district take out a protest procession against govt. directive to send them to refugee camps in Trincomalee. Procession which started at Kaddaiparichchan stopped by armed Home Guards at Palanagar village. The refugees tell govt. officials that they should be allowed to remain and live amongst the Muslim Tamil villagers.

Diary of Events

Amparai district Muslim Tamils agitated by continuing violence against them, particularly atrocities, deprivation of their traditional lands and incidents of rape against their women by armed "Home Guards".

Mutur Y.M.M.A. appeals to Muslim Tamils to contribute food, clothes, to 6,000 Muslim Tamils rendered homeless in Mutur area.

Veteran politician, Govt. M.P. for Galle Dr. W. Dahanayake asks in Parliament: Why can't we offer the Tamils a government with dignity and a Chief Minister for the North and East?

At Beliatta Home for the Aged, one inmate kills another — Arnolis (65).

November 20

Seven eye witnesses tell Ceasefire Monitoring Committee on a visit to Batticaloa how 8 Tamils were killed at Bar Road, Batticaloa in the course of indiscriminate firing by armed forces. Representatives of the armed forces who also appeared before the Committee concede the incident but they say the shooting was directed at "terrorists" who were responsible for killing 4 policemen by setting off a landmine. Several other victims who lost their houses and belongings as a result of action by armed forces also give evidence.

Rs. 12,000/- robbed from Jaffna Railway station by a gang of 10 armed youths. Two of the youths who were caught by members of the public later handed over to a leading militant organisation for inquiry. Later in the day attempt by another gang of 8 armed youths to rob railway cash in the Guard's van of the Uttara Devi at Kodikamam station foiled by members of the public, but the youth gang however decamp with about Rs. 10,000/- cash from the station office.

Two Tamils kidnapped by unknown persons at Kalmunaikudi village on the Kalmunai-Karaitivu road.

Govt. M.P. for Polgahawela Sunil Ranjan Jayakody, speaking in Parliament, says ethnic

problem could be solved only through war. Launching a personal attack on fellow M.P. Dr. Dahanayake who had suggested the previous day that Tamils should be given devolution of power and allowed to live with dignity, the M.P. says Dr. Dahanayake was a bachelor without a family or children and had probably only another three or four years to live, and his suggestions were worthless.

Senior D.I.G. and Intelligence chief Cyril Herath appointed Inspector General of Police, Sri Lanka.

November 21

It is announced that the ticket counter of the Jaffna railway station is to be shifted to the Durayappa Stadium this week.

Vavuniya civil administration to be handed over to the Govt. military authorities? Strong speculation on this matter following the summoning of Vavuniya G.A. C. Logeswaran to Colombo (Eelamurasu).

Govt. gazettes order prohibiting publication of any news connected with the Monitoring Committee other than what is officially released by the Committee.

November 22

Police Commandos break up peaceful march of nearly 2,000 processionists in Batticaloa protesting against killings, arbitrary arrests, torture of students. Two Catholic priests, Fr. Weber and Fr. Chandra and three mothers who were in the procession admitted to Batticaloa hospital with grave injuries sustained when Commandos tear-gassed the marchers and used clubs and sticks to assault them. Several others including school-girls and women sustain minor injuries. The marchers had earlier announced their intention to hand over a protest memorandum to the Police Superintendent. After the march was dispersed Police swoop on students suspected to have joined the march and take them into custody.

Padaviya Police Station in the Anuradhapura district attacked thrice in the early hours of the morning, according to Police headquarters in Colombo. There were no casualties and the building was slightly damaged they say.

State of Emergency enforced in May 1983 gets the routine extension for a further month by Parliament.

Paul Nallanayagam, President of Kalmunai Citizens' Committee wins fundamental rights case against the State. Awarded Rs. 5,000/- damages by Supreme Court.

Four Tamil youths with shaved heads were found tied to lamp posts at Sittankerny Junction in Jaffna at 7 a.m. with their names and addresses. A poster put up by a large Tamil militant group accused these four of thefts and robberies, and requested the public to untie them after 5 hours since they had accepted their guilt.

Around 1 p.m. in Jaffna army men in mufti emerge from the old Dutch Fort camp in armoured cars, go along the crowded Hospital Street to the Railway station causing instant panic in the bazaar area en route. Loud bomb explosions heard at various city points thereafter, apparently set off by Tamil militants.

November 23

6 soldiers killed and six others injured when the convoy in which they were travelling crossed a mined area near Kokilai in the Mullaitivu district. One govt. version said: "Soldiers in the other vehicles fought a gun battle with the terrorists and repulsed them. As the encounter went on, additional reinforcements and helicopters were rushed to the scene. The injured are to be flown to Colombo for medical attention".

In another incident at Kaluwanchikudy, a team of Special Task Force policemen narrowly escape death, some of them receiving only injuries, when a landmine exploded. Govt. claims that "8 terrorists" were killed in the ensuing encounter.



In a land where Death by Violence is a common occurrence and the names of the victims rarely get obituary notices, here are some "fortunate" few who passed away into the void, duly noticed in Sri Lankan newspapers :-

WIKRAMANAYAKE, Eric Bird — (Queen's Counsel), former Minister of Justice, father of Erica, Elango, Rakkhita (Chairman Air Lanka), Kamala and Balabadra. Cremation 2nd November. 37/2, Beach Road, Mt. Lavinia.

RATNASINGHAM, Vicky (Dubai), husband of Amitha (Dubai), father of Jacqie and Amalie, son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wijesinghe, brother of Selva (Saudi Arabia), Padma (Bahrain), Dharma (Bahrain), Yoga (UK), Mabel and Thava, brother-in-law of Yogamani, Ranjini, Raneer, Vignarajah (UK), Jega, Dallas and Marie, nephew of Rukmanie Anthonypillai and Poomani Selvaratnam. Funeral took place in Dubai. No.29, Pamankade Lane, Colombo 6.

RAJAPAKSE, Cyril — (Eric Rajapakse Opticians), husband of Cynthia, father of Nelum, brother of Eric, Lillian, Charlotte, Felicia, Stella, Matilda, Lillian and Shelton. Cremation 4th November, Kanatte, 34 A, Pamankade Lane, Colombo 6.

A. AMBALAWARNER — (Bala), Managing Director, Neon X, husband of Indra, father of Dillion and Dianne, brother of Geevamany (Manipay), Nesamany (Kalmunai), Thurai (Resources and Management Services), G.C.T. (Boston, USA), Puvi (Guyana), late Pancha (Retd. Navy), Jega (formerly Ceylon Services and Supplies), Wigna (Nilaweli), and Nahula (Mrs. Nagenthiran), son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. W.M.S. Champoe, brother-in-law of Robin and Dr. Deven (Australia). Funeral at Kanatte, Colombo, 16th November. No.10, Dickman's Lane, Colombo 5.

R. JAYAPALAN — son of the late Mr. and Mrs. V.T. Rajadurai of Trincomalee, husband of Parameswary, brother of Baleswary, Thayaparan and Nithianandan, son-in-law of Mr. and the late Mrs. Vaitilingam of Chunnakam, cremated in West Germany on 13th November. 65/5, Ward Place, Colombo 7.

ATPUTHARAJAH — Jayantha Chandrarajan, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Atputharajah, brother of Rajan (Saudi) died 11th November. Interred 13th, Kanatte, Colombo. 4/7, Hotel Road, Mount Lavinia.

DIAS BANDARANAIKE — E.M. (Effie), wife of the late Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, mother of Lakshmini, mother-in-law of late Jerry Kotelawala, sister of late Raneer D'Alwis, Nita and late Chandra. Burial 20th November at Kanatte, Colombo. 36, Castle Street, Borella.

KUMARASWAMY — Mrs. Valliammai Kumaraswamy, wife of the late Mudaliyar S. Kumaraswamy of Batticaloa. Died 18th November. Funeral at Sithenkerny.

WEERASINGHE — Piyadasa, Professor of Mathematics, Moratuwa University. Cremation 20th November, at Galkissa Cemetery. 160/7, Somaratna Mawatha, Bellanwila.

M. RAJANAYAGAM — retired Administrative Officer, Dept. of Irrigation, father of Selvakumar Raja (New York), Bhavani (Agrarian Research & Training Institute), Vathsala (Batticaloa University), father-in-law of Manoharan, Resident Engineer, Dept. of Irrigation, Tissamaharama. Funeral 21st November at Kalladi Cemetery, Batticaloa. No.2, Pillaiyar Kovil Lane, Kallady, Batticaloa.

DEVADASON — Rasanayagam, J.P. retired Chief Medical Technologist. Funeral 27th November, Kanatte. 202 1/7, W.A. Silva Mawatha, Pamankade.

PONNAMPALAM — (Gnani of Kondavil), of Indian Overseas Bank, Colombo, son of late Mr. and Mrs. Suppiah, husband of Sivapakiam (Nagula), father of Vasantharajan, Prabakaran (St. John's College, Jaffna), Pratheepan (Jaffna Hindu College, Anusha (Uduvil Girls' College). Funeral on 27th November at Kaladdy, Sanguveli, Manipay.

PUSHPARATNAM — R., husband of Kamalambikai, nee Kumarasamy, father of Indradas (Nigeria), Chandradas (Nigeria), Shanmugadas (Nigeria), late Satkunadas, Nalayani, Ranjani, and Kanesadas (Saudi Arabia). Cremation at Kombayanmanal on 27th November. 16/5, Kaladdy Ammankovilady, Vannarpannai.

GOONERATNE — Dr. P. Sita Padmini, Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Sinhala, Kelaniya University, wife of Malcolm Gamini Gooneratne (Saudi Arabia), mother of Thushara and Saumya. Cremation on 27th November. Kaluwana Road, Homagama.

SUBRAMANIAM — Mrs. Thangaratnam, relict of A. Subramaniam of Mallakam, mother of Wignarajah (UK), Wigneswari (Brunei), Rajeswari, Sivanathan (S.L.A.S.), Ganeswari, Vivekananthan (UK), and Sarvananthan (UK), mother-in-law of Nadanasabai (Brunei), Thanabalasingham, Wijayaratnam, Jeyalakshmi (UK), Kanmani and Thilaka (UK). Funeral at Mallakam on 27th November. "Lakshmi Vasa", Courts Road, Mallakam.

SARACHCHANDRA — Bandula Sri, Editor Silumina and Janata. Cremation 28th November at Pinwatte. 379, Galle Road, Nalluruwa, Panadura.

VANNIASEGARAM — Eswary, wife of late Dr. C.M. Vanniasegaram (Rtd. S.H.S.), mother of Professor Karunanathan (Jaffna Campus), Sivamany, Thavamany, late Navamany, Iyrani, Dr. Iyngaran, Sivanathan (Baus),

Cremation 30th November. "Sivastan", Mallakam.

ANANTHAR, A.R. — retired C.C.S., ex-Company Director, husband of Ratnammah, father of Somaskandary Anandar (Accountant) and Sivagamasundary, father-in-law of Segarajasingan (Engineer, Water Supply & Drainage Board, Jaffna), grandfather of Rajkumar (Hawaii Campus USA), Renuka (Hindu Ladies College, Jaffna). Cremated on 14th November. No.167, 4th Lane, Pandarikulam, Vavuniya.

THURASINGHAM, T.P.J., retired Insurance Corporation Branch Manager, Jaffna, later Branch Manager, The Finance Company and thereafter Branch Manager of Aitken Spence, husband of Indrani, father of Rohan (UK), Jehan (Bahrain), Dilhan (Canada), Mahan (UK) and Hiran, father-in-law of Sriya and Naomi. Funeral Jaffna 28th November. 22, Kandy Road, Jaffna.

S.A. MARTINUS — Secretary of the All Ceylon United Motor Workers' Union and Assistant Secretary of Lanka Sama Samaja Party. Cremation at Kanatte, 28th November.

SHANMUGADAS — Attorney-at-law, Thalayalee, Kokuvil, Jaffna, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Selvadurai of Kanderodai, husband of Varaluxmi, (Staff, Vaidheeswara College, Jaffna), Funeral on 4th December at Kokuvil.

KARALAKULASINGAM — R.N.S.K. (Keerthi), staff, St. Thomas' College, Mt. Lavinia, son of late Mr. and Mrs. T.A. Karalakulasingam, brother of Karuni, Paki, Chandra, Dr. Rajah (USA), Thambipillai (Nigeria), Rani (UK), and Nimaladevi, brother-in-law of Alam (UK), Peace (USA), and Kaanji (Nigeria), Burial at Kanatte Cemetery, Colombo. 7th December. 82, 4th Cross Street, Jaffna.

KARTHIGESU — Mudaliyar Shanmugam J.P., husband of Gnanasakunthala, father of Dr. Rajendran (UK), Indrany, Balendran, Kulendran (UK), Umarany (UK), Rugarany (UK), Puvanarany (UK), Selvarany (UK), Hareendran (UK), Gnanendran (UK), father-in-law of Dr. Sabapathy, Dr. Indiradevy (UK), Suthanthiradevy, Krishnagowry (UK), Dr. Thangaroopan (UK), Dr. Gunanandan (UK), Navasothy (Australia), Vivekananthan (UK), Gnanam (UK). Died at 40, Barrons Way, Comberton, Cambridge, UK. Cremation UK December 5.

SIVASUPRAMANIYAM — Veeravagu, Retired Judge, Supreme Court, husband of the late Manonmani, father of Dr. Thiagarajah (Krishna), Yogeswaran (Kumar), Sivakumar (Rajan), father-in-law of Ramya, Chavitri and Tamara. Cremation 7th December, Kanatte, Colombo. 4, Horton Terrace, Colombo 7.