

Date: 10th November, 83

TAMIL INFORMATION CENTREINCIDENTS FROM 21ST JULY 1983.1.0 SYNOPSIS OF PAST REPORTS.

- 1.1 We have been to date reporting on the following : -
The pogroms against the Tamil people in Sri Lanka by "Sinhalese people" and the Security Forces of the Sri Lanka Government.
The invasion by the "Sinhalese people" into Batticaloa and Trincomalee Districts.
The harassment caused to the Tamils and the Tamil Refugees by the Government and the Agents of the Government and the distress and difficulties they are undergoing. About the extension of the Emergency and about the Colonisation policy of the Government.

EVENTS SINCE LAST REPORT.2.0 COLOMBO

- 2.1 The displaced Tamils when they went back to their respective houses to effect repairs, rebuild and occupy were threatened with bodily injury by the thugs of those areas, but these Tamils received no protection of any sort from the Government. Ironically about 35,000 to 50,000 illegal "Sinhala invaders" at Vadamunai in Batticaloa District are being protected by a special police post.
- 2.2 Mr. Thondaman, Minister for Rural Industrial Development in an interview given to P.T.I. has said that the solution to the problem of the Sri Lankan Tamils does not depend solely on a dialogue between the Government and the T.U.L.F. since it is now an international problem.
- 2.3 President J.R. Jayawardene at the opening of the model village in Kaduwela said that the killing of the 13 soldiers in Jaffna is not the cause of the recent ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, as reported in the Tamil Daily, Eelanadu of 1st October, 1983.

3.0 JAFFNA

- 3.1 The Medical Students who are displaced by the recent ethnic violence from the University of Sri Lanka Peradeniya Campus have collectively decided not to attend or sit their examination held on 31st October 1983 due to fear of attack by the Sinhala Students on them.
- 3.2 There has been a free and continuous influx of Tamil Refugees to Kilinochchi where a new Refugee Camp has been opened at St. Anthony's Church Kilinochchi. These Tamil Refugees have come from the up country, Colombo and Batticaloa District where they had been harassed by the Sinhala "invaders".
- 3.3 In Mullaitivu a Newspaper Reporter Mr. Puthisigamany has been arrested by the Armed Forces and detained for questioning.
- 3.4 Valvettiturai People's Bank employee V. Sivachandradevan was attacked by Army personnel and his motor cycle damaged while he was returning home from a Temple. He was admitted to the General Hospital, Point Pedro for treatment.
- 3.5 On the 24th of October 1983 at Polykandy Somasundaram Selvarathiran alias Ravi was arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act by Valvettiturai Police. He was subsequently handed over to the Palaly Army Camp for questioning.
- 3.6 The Navy personnel carried out a house to house search in Karainagar area during the last week of October. The residents were harassed by the Navy personnel, vehicles were stopped and searched by them. The people of this area are living in fear of their lives and their privacy is being rudely invaded by such searches by Navy personnel.
- 3.7 The former President of the Tamil Youth Movement and a Central Committee Member of the Tamil United

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released on the 27th of October 1983 after inquiries.

3.8 It is reported that Dr. A.Tharmalingam the elderly Leader of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Front (TELF) had been released on Friday 4th November 1983. He was arrested on the 18th of July 1983 for sending telegrams to the President and Foreign Embassies condemning the atrocities committed by the Armed Forces against innocent Tamils in Trincomalee during June 1983.

4. TRINCOMALEE

4.1 The main source of income of the residents of Trincomalee is from agriculture. But after the June and July 1983 violence the Tamils are too frightened to start cultivation for fear of destruction by the "Sinhala people" or the Armed Forces.

4.2 It is believed that a ship from Pakistan has unloaded arms in Trincomalee for the Government.

5. MEDIATION

5.1 Mr. G.Parathasarathy the emissary of the Indian Prime Minister Shrimathi Indra Gandhi who arrived in Sri Lanka on Sunday the 6th of November, 1983 has had two rounds of talks with the President of Sri Lanka without any aides and also with other political leaders.

5.2 It is believed that a Joint Communique has been issued by Mr. Parathasarathy and the Government embodying the following proposals to be considered by the Government.

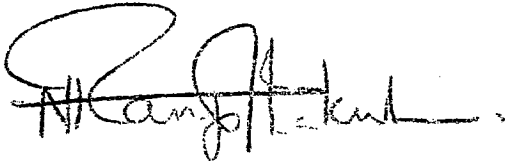
- (a) A necessary pre-requisite of any settlement will be the relinquishing of the idea of a "Separate State".

- (b) The merger of Development Councils will be effected subject to its prior acceptance by the Councils' Members.
- (c) A Referendum will be conducted in every district concerning the proposed merger.
- (d) The administration of the Trincomalee Port will remain a function of the Central Government.
- (e) Problematic areas such as "Language and University Admission" will be scrutinised.

6.0 GENERAL

6.1 A Special Envoy of President Reagan Mr. Dough Walters is in Sri Lanka since 8th November 1983 and the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of China Mr. Gong Defei is also there. The details of their diplomatic activities are not known.

6.2 Mr. Anura Bandaranayake, M.P. for Maskeliya-Nuwara Eliya has been elected the Leader of the Opposition. It is reported that the Prime Minister Mr. Premadasa while welcoming him made the following comment :
"I am delighted that one from our community has been elected to lead the Opposition."



INFORMATION OFFICER.