

LTTE fanatics terrorise United Kingdom

By Tina Edwards

The image of gun toting LTTE fanatics is usually associated with the arid lands of Jaffna or the jungles of the Wanni, but how the LTTE has introduced their acts of despicable violence to the very society that is hosting them and shielding them from the violence they are allegedly fleeing from.

The recent events that unravelled at Warren Farm Sports Center in Southall and East Ham during LTTE functions, have displayed the callous disregard the LTTE have in observing law and order in the land they have adopted as their haven away from the war torn battlefields in Sri Lanka.

The LTTE cricket festival held under the banner of the UTO, a front of the LTTE in the Western World collapsed in to chaos and mayhem when a Tamil gunman opened fire on another Tamil, shooting him in the leg. The shoot out attracted herds of police personnel to curtail the violence and also to disperse the gathering which looked menacing.

There is no doubt that the Tamil cricket festival was organised by the LTTE. There were stalls selling LTTE merchandise which included pictures of their leader Prabhakaran and the LTTE flags. The presence of the LTTE international figure A. C. Shanthan who the police actually questioned, smacks of an active LTTE involvement to say the least.

The youths walking about clad in UTO uniforms exercising their authority would have looked equally at home wearing camouflage green uniforms, carrying AK47's with a cyanide capsule around their neck. To say that

most of these people are ex-LTTE'rs who have claimed asylum here would not be erroneous.

These people have come here seeking asylum, they claim to be fleeing violence, so it is utterly baffling as to why they want to continue to stain their hands with violence and associate themselves with such a violent organisation like the LTTE who have largely contributed to their reasons for fleeing Sri Lanka.

The result of the LTTE gun battle at Warren Farm Sports center brought out to the open the fact that the LTTE have a larger than life presence in this country - a fact that the British authorities have always liked to turn a blind eye to. In the past nothing much was able to be done against the LTTE terrorists who have based their international head quarters in this country and continue to raise funds for their guerrilla war operations in Sri Lanka.

The strata of Tamils who do not support the LTTE's violent actions have been galled by the fact that the LTTE have dared to commit a dastardly crime such as this on the streets of the land they sought refuge and peace from. Surely they come here in search of peace and they should leave their criminal intentions and acts behind and make new lives for themselves here and not become degenerates of this society.

Instead of contributing to the benefit of this society these gun toting, criminal minded people are amply contributing towards plunging this society in to a state of lawlessness with scant regard for human life which also crassly displays ingratitude to their host country. This country is already being used to assist the LTTE in their clandestine acts of drug trafficking, extortion, gun running and money laun-

dering.

More often than not the renegades that are involved in these acts are supported by the state for which honest peace loving hard working people are taxed very heavily to pay for these terrorists to indulge in their criminal activities. This surely is a case of biting the hand that feeds them.

This latest incident is ample evidence that the LTTE is collecting money in the West, this surely must meet the Foreign office criteria required to ban them - that they are collecting money to perpetrate acts of terrorism overseas. This should be the basis for the foreign office to declare the LTTE as a terrorist organisation in this country.

For a long time the foreign office has been dragging its heels in banning the LTTE in the UK on the grounds that they have not broken the law in this country. The free for all gun battle at Warren Farm Sports on the occasion of the LTTE cricket match amidst a hive of LTTE activity is sufficient evidence for the Foreign office to swing in to action and follow their friends across the pond in the USA and declare the LTTE as terrorists and ban them from the United Kingdom. The British intelligence agents or their moles should visit such functions and build up a dossier on the fund raising activities that take place, this should be the evidence the British Government needs to throw the book to the LTTE - fund raising in the UK to sustain terrorism in Sri Lanka.

If the LTTE remains unchecked and is given a free reign to do as they please in this country, the Great British public will see a sinister turn of events. The LTTE are very versa-



tile at learning and teaching new methods of destruction. These people are masters in the art of suicide killing and bombings and who knows if the LTTE are given the liberation to use this country as a base they may even teach a trick or two to the IRA or other middle eastern terror groups keen to avenge retribution

from Britain.

Time is fast running out for the United Kingdom, this country should shed its lackadaisical attitude towards the LTTE and be very vigilant of them and ban them immediately or else Sri Lanka's problem today will be UK's problem tomorrow.