

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. 25X1A20
CD NO.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Greece

DATE DISTR. 10 Mar

SUBJECT KKE and Rebel Army Activities in the Peloponnesus

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1A6a

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1X6

1. Shortly after the arrival of the Greek 9 Division in the Peloponnesus, 3 Rebel Division was ordered to withdraw toward the Mainalon, Parnon and Taigotos areas under cover of small, rearguard detachments numbering approximately 1,150 men plus an unspecified number of Civil Guards (Laikoi Politophylakoi) whose instructions were to delay the Greek Army in the coastal and plain areas for as long as possible. A force of about 1,000 men under the command of Kapetanios Zacharias was split up into groups of 50 men and detailed to pin down units of the Greek Army along the Corinth-Patras-Pyrgos railroad line (Achaia-Elia and Olympia provinces), and a task force of about 150 men under Kapetanios Chrysanthakopoulos was ordered to keep open the gap between Akrata and Derveni to secure 3 Division line of retreat if evacuation became necessary.
2. In accordance with a Politburo decision, Party political organizations in rebel areas were incorporated into the Rebel Army; the Regional Committee of the Peloponnesus, therefore, ceased to exist as a separate organization and now forms the political branch of 3 Rebel Division headquarters. Party political organizations in areas under Greek Army control were not affected by this order.
3. On 19 December 1948 the political branch of 3 Rebel Division detailed the following duties to all Party political organizations in the Peloponnesus:
 - a. Collection of intelligence on Greek Army movements.
 - b. Acquisition of civilian clothing and identity cards for Rebel Army members forced to take refuge in the towns. Stores of food to be accumulated for the same purpose.
 - c. Organization of evacuation facilities in coastal areas through contacts in shipping or motor firms.
 - d. Rebel Army refugees in towns and villages to be given every assistance in informing saboteur and sniper groups.
 - e. Dissemination of defeatist propoganda and alarmist reports among the local population.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL~~ - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION								
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI										

Document No. out
 No CHANGE in Class.
 DECLASSIFIED
 Class. CHANGED TO: TS S **(C)**
 BDA Memo, 4 Apr 77
 Auth: BDA REG. 77/1763

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A2g

-2-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- f. Exploitation of discontent arising from the Greek Army's security measures and mass arrests.
 - g. Infiltration of Party sections into all refugee camps and organizations.
4. On 20 December 1948 the following instructions were received by the City Committee of Mesolongion which is under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Committee of Aitolokarnania:
- a. Contact was to be immediately established with the Communist organization of Naupaktos* with whom arrangements were to be made to secure safe houses and transit routes along the coast, and especially at Eupalion, Daphni, Antirion, Kryoneri, Platanos, Agios-Demetrios and Paliovouna.
 - b. These places were then to be guarded by small detachments of Party or Rebel Army members who would deal with the reception of evacuated men from the Peloponnese who had been ordered to join 2 Division in Sterea Ellada.
 - c. Ample medical supplies and an experienced nursing staff were to be held ready to deal with the casualties evacuated to western Sterea. Special hide-outs for the more seriously wounded were to be secured.
 - d. Stocks of food were to be collected to supply casualties and evacuated troops in transit.
 - e. Small boats or skiffs were, therefore, to be purchased and made available to 3 Division at short notice.
5. Steps were immediately taken to implement these instructions, and it was agreed that the City Committee of Mesolongion would undertake to provide food, medical supplies, and nursing personnel, while the Communist organization of Naupaktos would provide the evacuation fleet.
6. In a review of the Party political and military situation in the Peloponnese at the end of December 1948, Panagiota Giannaropoulou (member of the former Regional Committee for the Peloponnese) gave the following details:
- a. EAM Panhellenic Youth Organization (Eamike Panellenike Organosis Neolaias - EPON): EPON branches continued to function both in the towns and in rebel territory. Membership totalled approximately 6,000 of whom the majority were either young peasants who had joined EPON to avoid forcible conscription into the Rebel Army, or students who had joined the supplies services for adventure rather than for any ideological reasons.
 - b. National Solidarity (Ethniki Allelengyi - EA): EA organizations in the towns existed in name only and were incorporated in the Rebel Army Supplies Services in Andarte-controlled territory.
 - c. Agrarian Party of Greece (Agrotikon Komma Ellados - AKE): There were no AKE branches functioning in either Government-held or Andarte-held territory.
 - d. Trades Unions: It had proved difficult to bring workers out on strike, but some degree of influence had been obtained among builders and tobacco workers at Agrinion, shoemakers in Aitolikon, fishermen, bakery-workers, shoemakers, and builders in Mesolongion. This, however, was because of the efforts of the local branches of the "Free Trades Union Movement" (Kinema Eleutherou Syndikalismou - KES) than to the work on the Party factions.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET/CONFIDENTIAL~~ - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY~~

~~SECRET~~
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A2g
[REDACTED]

-3-

- e. Reconciliation Committees: Reconciliation Committees had been set up in 16 communities and 268 villages. The presidents themselves of 86 communities had been persuaded to join. In the towns only 14 committees had been established as follows: two in Patras, two in Agrinion, and one each in Pyrgos, Kalavryta, Aigion, Corinth, Argos, Nauplion, Sparta, Gargalissai, Mesolongion and Aitolikon.
- f. Rebel Army: The morale of the main forces was generally high, and they believed that they would be able to hold their positions in the mountains, but there had been a high rate of desertion and surrender among the small, rearguard detachments: over 100 Civil Guards and members of Self Defense Groups (Ombades Autopomynas: OA's) had surrendered, among whom were Kostas Valaseas, Political Commissar for OA's in the Achaia area, and Georgios Stavropoulos, Civil Guard Commander for the Province of Brymanthia.
- g. Arrests: 300 Party members had so far been arrested as a result of the Greek Army's drive, and Christos Karagiannis (member of the Provincial Committee of Achaia, leader of the OA's in Patras and liaison between the City Committee of Patras and the Rebel Army formation in Achaia) had been killed in a battle with the police in Patras. Following this clash, 14 other Party members had been arrested, and with them Mantsoutzas (fma), cashier of the City Committee of Patras and "responsible" for financial enterprises.

25X1A6a

[REDACTED] Comment: It is presumed that similar orders were issued to other organizations in the coastal area to the east of Naupaktos. It is otherwise difficult to understand why reception areas should be chosen so far away from the evacuation point.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY~~

~~SECRET~~