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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Greece

SUBJECT Arrival in Athens of Exiled EDA

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- The seven exiled EMA Deputies arrived in Athens in the early morning hours of 9 November 1951, having been transported from St. Efstratios to Rafina by a Greek Government patrol boat, and from Rafina to Athens by a truck escorted by the Gendarmerie.
- 2. On 9 November 1951, at 11:00 a.m., the Deputies visited the EDA Executive Committee at the offices of Democratiki, where they received the congratulations of EDA leaders. The chief persons present and apparently in charge were Constantine Gavrielides and General Stephanos Saraphis.
- In the afternoon of 9 November 1951, the seven EDA Deputies went to the Chamber of Deputies building where they obtained their Deputy badges, identity cards, and salaries.
- 4. On 11 November 1951, an official meeting was held by the EDA Executive Committee and was attended by the seven EDA Deputies and the chief party members. The decisions reached at this meeting were as follows:
  - The formation of a three-man Secretariat of EDA Deputies, composed of Gavrielides, Saraphis and Tsochas.
  - Chief EDA spokesman in the Chamber will be Gavrielides; his alternate will be Saraphis.
  - The EDA Executive Committee will include the Secretariat.
  - EDA policy will seek the immediate release of the three imprisoned EDA Deputies, the release of all exiles, and the granting of a general amnesty.
  - A better organization of EDA will be attempted, so that it will become the only important left-wing party. In this connection, once the party organization is accomplished, a Panhellenic Conference will be held so that EIM may be thoroughly organized in the provinces as well.
- On 12 November 1951, when the seven EDA Deputies presented themselves in the Chamber of Deputies for swearing in, the Soviet Charge d'Affaires was present in the diplomatic box.

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