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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
22 April 1967

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Military Takeover in Greece  
(Situation Report Number 4--6:00 AM EST)

1. Athens remains calm. There have been only a few incidents. Security restrictions against telephone communications, commercial air service, and travel within Greece have been rescinded. Most of the politicians detained during the coup were to be released last night, but their release has not been reported.

2. [REDACTED] suspected Communist agents will be arrested; [REDACTED] known dangerous Communist have been rounded up, and all material at some leftist organizations' offices is being confiscated.

1.5(c)  
3.4(b)(1)

3. In his address to the Greek people yesterday, Prime Minister Koliass justified the coup by claiming that the elections--no matter who won--would have led to "bloodshed and chaos" and that the army "intervened to check the march toward destruction one step before the brink was reached." Koliass urged national unity and castigated the "bad demons, demagogues, unconscientious opportunists, and professional anarchists who sought to divide us."

4. Although Koliass promised the country would return to "parliamentarism on a wholesome basis after the consolidation of normality," his remarks reflect a disgust with professional politicians which will make

NOTE: This memorandum was produced solely by CIA. It was prepared by the Office of Current Intelligence and coordinated with the Clandestine Services.

it difficult for the coup leaders to return Greece to its former rulers. The announced objectives of the new government--a just distribution of national income, strengthening the church, achievement of social justice and hastening of economic development--indicate that at least some of the members of the new government regard the coup as more than a temporary expedient to prevent a Communist takeover.

5. On Cyprus, Interior Minister Polykarpos Georkatzis is apprehensive about a leftwing demonstration planned for Nicosia on 22 April by AKEL (the Communist Party). Any such demonstrations or incidents instigated by AKEL presumably would be in protest against the rightwing military takeover in Greece. Georkatzis has interceded with AKEL leaders in an attempt to dissuade them from any such action, and states that if they persist in their plans he will use police and military to put down disturbances.

6. There are no indications that either Turkey or the Turkish Cypriots are attempting to exploit the situation in Greece.